

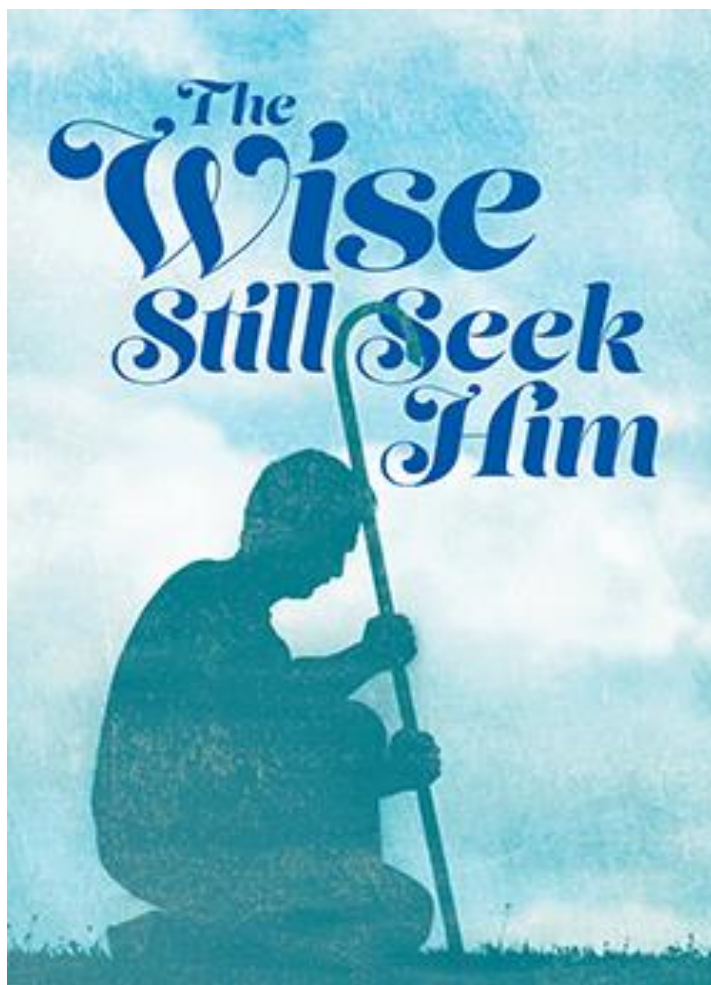
# St. John's Epistle

November 2022

*A Newsletter of*

St. John's Lutheran Church—LCMS  
515 College Ave. W. Ladysmith, WI 54848  
stjohnladysmith@centurylink.net  
715-532-5780

*<http://www.stjohnsladysmith.org>*





### Decisions in Life

**“What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?” (Mark 8:36)**

If you speak to any military leader who has made combat decisions you can see in his eyes that those decisions always came with consequences. They affect the lives of many people; the soldier, his or her fellow soldiers, family, and friends. You cannot help but remember the mighty Titanic when we speak about decisions. When the captain was told that there was a threat of icebergs, he chose to follow the wishes of the ship's owners to try to set a speed record. You all know the outcome of that! Yes, our decisions in life have consequences; not only for us but the people around us!

Our Lord Jesus Christ spoke of a decision that involved life; in fact, eternal life. Jesus said, **“What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul?”** (Mark 8:36) Jesus was speaking about a life of following Him, versus a life of following the world. When we follow Jesus, it requires sacrifices. Sometimes those sacrifices don't go along with our sinful, selfish pursuits. Why is Jesus warning us about this? Because when we begin to follow the world, we move further and further away from Jesus. By moving away from Jesus, it causes problems in our lives as Christians and eventually, it can totally move us away from Jesus.

As brothers and sisters in Christ, we have the great blessing of being able, through the help of the Holy Spirit, of living in the love of Christ. It is so important that we stay in His love. Jesus' love is what guides us in the world. It is given to us

as a free gift by the work of the Holy Spirit. Faith, which clings to Jesus' love, is given to us when we hear God's Word and are baptized. Faith is strengthened when we receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. It's ours as a free gift from God, that is, if we don't reject it.

It's through the help of God that we can make the right decisions that keep us in the faith and live God-pleasing lives. In Jesus' love, we can make proper choices about what vocation to follow, where to live, what schools to attend, where to seek recreation, who our friends will be, and who our spouse might be. In Jesus' love we can say, "**As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.**" (Joshua 24:15) In other words, the question that we should always ask ourselves as we make the many decisions in our lives is "How will the decision I make allow me to best serve my Lord?"

In His service,

Pastor Craig S. Zandi

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### **Notification of Pastor When in the Hospital**

There has been some confusion when people check in or go to the hospital. The hospital will **not automatically** inform your church, or pastor, that you are there unless it is specifically stated in your records. Furthermore, inform your family members to call your pastor. They can also contact the chaplain's office at the hospital and give them the information. Again, don't assume the hospital will do it, because they won't. You must be proactive to make sure your pastor is informed if you want him to come see you. Many times people are in the hospital and he has no idea they are there.

## **ASSISTING FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER**

**Acolytes:** *Ushers*

**Altar Guild:** *Dave & Jamie Werner*

**Finance:** *Jim Kuchta & Tom Rosolowski*

### **Worship Assistants for November**

<b>Sunday, Nov 6</b>	<b>Elder: Sam Barg</b>
	<b>Greeters:</b> Wilson Family
	<b>Ushers: <u>Team 3</u>:</b> Dennis FlaterCaptain, Bob Hauser, Alden Hook, Ray Tousey, Kurt Harris
<b>Sunday, Nov 13</b>	<b>Elder: Darrell Kuchta</b>
<i>Caring &amp; Sharing</i>	<b>Greeters:</b> John & Sue Monnier
	<b>Ushers: <u>Team 4</u>:</b> Chuck Perenchio-Captain, Sam Barg, Dave Werner, John Monnier, Gene Zillmer
<b>Sunday, Nov 20</b>	<b>Elder: Ray Tousey</b>
<i>LWML</i>	<b>Greeters:</b> Gene & Debbie Zillmer
<i>Mites In</i>	<b>Ushers: <u>Team 5</u>:</b> Jim Kuchta-Captain, Gary Drohman, Don Josi, Dave Thompson, Russ Thompson
<i>Gathering</i>	
<b>Thursday, Nov 23</b>	<b>Elder: Sam Barg</b>
<i>Thanksgiving Eve</i>	<b>Ushers: <u>Team 1</u>:</b> Dave Scott-Captain, Dave Kuchta, Tom Rosolowski, Vic Plockelman, Stu Pask
<b>Sunday, Nov 27</b>	<b>Elder: Randy Scott</b>
<i>Stewardship</i>	<b>Greeters:</b> Bob & Helen Patrick
	<b>Ushers: <u>Team 2</u>:</b> Dave Kmosena- Captain, Terry Schar, Mike Kuchta, Jim Rodd, Lee Purdy
<b>Wednesday, Nov 30</b>	<b>Elder: Randy Scott</b>
<i>Advent Service</i>	



**It's hard to believe we are already 9 weeks into the school year! We are making a lot of progress!**

**Our Bible lessons for the month of November will be about Joshua, Hannah, Samuel, and David and Jonathan. We have been learning a few Jesus songs- you can check them out on our Facebook page!**

**Our themes for our short month will be Pets and Thanksgiving. The letters we will learn are H-K.**

**We are looking forward to some Bible Buddy visits!**

**Stop in to say hi and meet our preschoolers!**

# Advent

## Midweek Advent Worship This Is My Son

### Midweek of Advent 1—November 30, 2022

Just as God's people of old waited with faith in the coming Messiah, so is our Advent anticipation of Christmas, as we sing of the Savior, "Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's delight!" (LSB 334:1). Our hopes and fears are real. They can distract us from God's promises. God's promise was from the beginning spoken to Adam and Eve. Salvation would come through the woman's offspring (Genesis 3:15). But it would not be Cain, the son of Adam, nor Ishmael, the son of Abraham, nor Absalom, the son of David. The true Son of Adam and Abraham and David is the Son of God. Our attention and faith thus direct our hopes and fears to God's Son, in whom we receive adoption as sons and daughters in the family of God.

### Midweek of Advent 2-December 7, 2022

Our Advent expectation continues as we wait to celebrate the gift of God's promised Son to be our Savior. Like us, Abraham struggled as God's promise seemed less likely to come about, especially as the years passed into decades. As our faith may at times grow weak, we are tempted to take matters into our own hands, only to discover that our efforts fail. That is one reason we are here again this day, in order that God's Word and Spirit strengthen our faith, even in the face of all doubts, to wait upon God's sure and gracious promises. The true Son of Abraham is the One whom God has sent and designated, saying, "This is My beloved Son." Jesus brings all of God's promises together to make us sons and daughters of God. Believe it. Live it.

### **Midweek of Advent 3-December 14, 2022**

By now, one would think we are getting the message. We often pin our hopes on passing things and even on people who cannot save. God promised to our first parents and then again to our father in faith, Abraham, that one of their descendants would be our Savior from sin and death. Though He was their son, however, it was not yet Cain or Ishmael. God's promise increased to the great king David, whose hopes were dashed with tears at the death of his son Absalom. Faith must hang on to the depth of God's promise. It would be generations before God would finally send His own perfect Son, whose Baptism, suffering, death, and rising would bring forgiveness, life, and salvation to all who are children of God by faith in Jesus, great David's greater Son.

### **Nativity (Christmas)**

We gather to celebrate the ultimate gift of God. This gift was promised at the very beginning of our need for a Savior from sin and from the last enemy, death, and He comes as the offspring of the woman. Yet the Promised One was not the son of Adam and certainly not Cain. Years later, the promise came to Abraham. But it was not yet the son of Abraham and certainly not Ishmael. Still the promise held to the great king David. But it was not yet the son of David and certainly not Absalom. Nevertheless, the promise was fulfilled through the house and lineage of David in the Son of Mary of Nazareth, the Son of God. To confirm this truth, both the evangelists Matthew and Luke give the genealogy—Matthew tracing the promise forward from Abraham, and Luke backward all the way to Adam. John describes the mystery of the Savior as a true human, born of the virgin Mary, and as true God, begotten of God the Father. Let us celebrate the gift in His eternal life-giving flesh and blood with the awe and reverence of the new, eternal life of faith as true children of God.



*The Gift that  
Changed the World*



## What Luther says:

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In a writing (1543) directed against Jewish slanderers of Christ, the Reformer maintains that if Christ were not our all sufficient divine Messiah, our interest in His mother, in Him, nay, in Scripture as such, would be negligible.

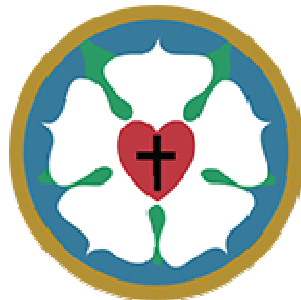
“He who does not believe, or will not believe, that Jesus is the Messiah need not know who or where His mother is. Aye, it were better for him never to have heard one word of Scripture; and even better for him if he had not been born. For God has made everything depend on this Man [Jesus], has directed everything, has turned everything, has given everything into His hand. He who has Him is to have all; he who does not have Him is to have nothing.” (WLS p. 202)

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Martin Luther, therefore directed anxious souls to Christ, and to Him alone.

“As sharers in the faith of Paul we should say: May there perish and be accursed every doctrine from heaven, from the earth, or whencesoever brought, which teaches man to place his confidence in works, in righteousness, in merits other than those which belong to Jesus Christ.” (WLS, P. 202)

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Bake Sale  
Rada Knives  
Grannies Attic  
Christmas Cards  
Greeting Cards  
Quilts & Crafts

**Lunch**  
Soups and Sandwich  
Homemade Pies  
Coffee  
Milk

# Fall Bazaar



Saturday, November 5, 2022  
From 9 A.M. to 2 P.M.

St. John's Lutheran Church  
515 College Avenue  
Ladysmith, WI 54848

**The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**

**Stewardship Newsletter Article – November 2022**

## **What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?**

St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7). *God loves a cheerful giver.* But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel’s God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

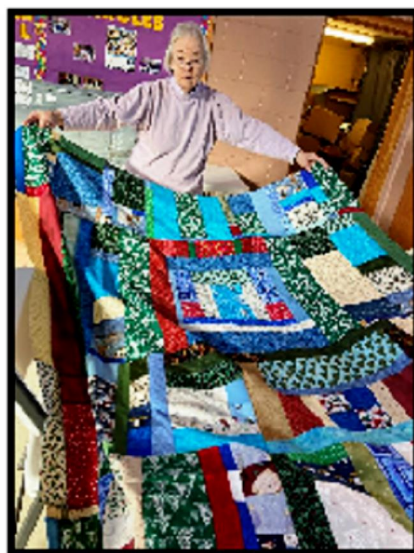
So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It’s the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.




## Quilting News

It's Show and Tell time for the St. John's Quilters! Linda Gustafson shows her beautiful scrap quilt top (left) and Kathy Boehmer shows off her colorful red and blue quilt top (below). These quilts will be assembled and sewn and then brought back to church to be tied! There are more quilts to be tied in the black bags too!

We sent off 50 quilts to Lutheran World Relief on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to Dave and Jamie Werner for taking them to Rice Lake!



# November 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Everything is subject to change. Please check our website (<a href="http://www.stjohnsladysmith.org">www.stjohnsladysmith.org</a>) and/or phone the Church office 715-532-5780.</b>						
		<b>1</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  6:00PM BOCE/YM	<b>2</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  6:30-7:15PM Confirmation	<b>3</b> 7:00AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study at Ladysmith Family Restaurant  8:30-11:30AM Preschool	<b>4</b>	<b>5 9:00-2:00PM Fall Bazaar</b> 
<b>6</b> 9:00AM Worship <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School 11:15 Elder meeting	<b>7</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  11:30AM Ladies Birthday Luncheon	<b>8</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	<b>9</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  11:30AM Evangelism/Stewardship 1:00PM Ladies Group  No Confirmation	<b>10</b>  8:30-11:30AM Preschool	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10:00AM LWML Bible Study 11:00AM LWML Meeting
<b>13 Caring and Sharing</b> 8:00AM Finance 9:00AM Worship +HC (Youth Acolyte) <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School	<b>14</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	<b>15</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  1:00PM FAP Quilt Guild  6:00PM Council	<b>16</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  6:30-7:15PM Confirmation	<b>17</b> 7:00AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study at Ladysmith Family Restaurant  8:30-11:30AM Preschool	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  10:00AM-noon Crafty Stitchers
<b>20 LWML Mites Ingathering</b> 9:00AM Worship & <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School	<b>21</b> No Preschool	<b>22</b> No Preschool  <b>NEWSLETTER ITEMS ARE DUE TODAY</b>	<b>23 Thanksgiving Eve</b> No Preschool  6:00PM Worship +HC  No Confirmation	<b>24 Thanksgiving Day</b> No Preschool	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27 Stewardship Sunday</b> 9:00AM Worship +HC (Youth Acolyte) <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School	<b>28</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  <b>4:00PM Advent Decorating</b> (Potluck supper)	<b>29</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	<b>30</b> 8:30-11:30AM Preschool  6:00PM Advent Service (mandatory confirmation attendance)			

Join in the fun on.....  
**Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Starting at 4pm**  
As we decorate the church for  
the upcoming Advent/Christmas  
season  
Potluck supper to follow



**Help Us "Spruce"**  
**Up the Church!**

## LWML Backpacks for School Children





## Mission Grant Story



## St. Paul Christian Academy Providing Christ-Centered Outreach

**The Littlest and Least of These — St. Paul  
Lutheran Church and Christian Academy — \$42,000**

2021–2023 Biennium  
Mission Goal:  
**\$2,150,000**  
Mission Grant #15  
**\$42,000**

*"Let the children  
come to me; do not  
hinder them, for to  
such belongs the  
kingdom of God"*  
(Mark 10:14b).

St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy in Dallas, Texas, located in a poor community of mostly unchurched families, offers Christ-centered early childhood education, before and after school care, and adult academic and Bible classes. St. Paul Lutheran Church is responding to the needs of families with a Christ-centered merciful outreach ministry. In a community dealing with intergenerational poverty and the challenges that come with it, the Christian Academy is available to help.

This grant is for the renovation of the fellowship hall of St. Paul Lutheran Church to better serve more children and adults in the Christian Academy. The Academy is planning to add on-site and online classes for young adults and parents in academic subjects, health and fitness, as well as Bible studies for new Christians. The grant allows for upgrades to the kitchen to meet state codes which will allow the feeding of the children daily – rather than relying on a catering firm – and to serve meals to parents, parishioners, and the community during special events.

By renovating this older building, the congregation and school can expand its preschool, infant care, before/after school education, and community outreach. It will provide functional space for classes and training programs such as: General Education Diploma (GED) classes, Computer Technology, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes, boys/girls mentoring, health and fitness training, job application and interviewing skills, healthy cooking classes, gardening, financial planning, parenting skills, as well as hosting Bible studies, satellite worship services, family fun nights, and other special programs and assemblies.

With its commitment to excellence, compassion, and faith, St. Paul members, volunteers, teachers, and staff can reach the community, helping change the lives of families by providing a safe and caring environment, healthy food, sound education, and the proclamation of the Good News of the Gospel.

Rev. Dr. Roosevelt Gray, Director, Black and African Missions, LCMS, stated: "Years of prayerful planning and faithful preaching led the congregation to establish St. Paul Christian Academy, the only Lutheran Christian Academy serving the historic Oak Cliff community and the lone African American congregation in LCMS Texas District with a Lutheran Christian Academy."

For more information regarding the work of St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy go to: [mystpauldallas.org](http://mystpauldallas.org).

Learn more about this mission grant at [lwml.org/mission-grants](http://lwml.org/mission-grants)





## St. Paul Christian Academy Providing Christ-Centered Outreach

The Littlest and Least of These — St. Paul  
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*“Let the children  
come to me; do not  
hinder them, for to  
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(Mark 10:14b).*

### Prayer #1

Father, we bring before You the work of St. Paul Lutheran Church and Christian Academy as they serve the Oak Cliff community in Dallas. We ask that You bless the work of Pastor Williams, the teachers, and volunteers serving these children and adults. May they continue to share the saving message of the Gospel as well as provide for the physical and educational needs of these Your children. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

### Prayer #2

Holy Lord, we ask that You bless the mite offerings given to support the ministry of St. Paul Christian Academy to serve the littlest and least of these in the Oak Cliff community. Bless the efforts of Pastor Williams, the teachers, and volunteers as they work to expand the use of the fellowship hall to provide more space for use in the ministry to the children and the community. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

### Prayer #3

Most Merciful Lord, You welcomed the little children as You ministered to your people while on earth. Bless our mite offerings that they may provide the means for St. Paul Christian Academy to minister to the needs of the littlest and least in the Oak Cliff community. We ask this in Your name, Lord Jesus. Amen.

### Prayer #4

Dear Lord, we pray for Your blessing on the mission and ministry of St. Paul Christian Academy as the teachers and others work to provide a safe place and Christ-centered education to the youngest children in the Oak Cliff community. Allow the new fellowship hall to be a safe place for after school activities for the older children and educational opportunities for adults. Bless the mite offerings we give to provide for this ministry. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

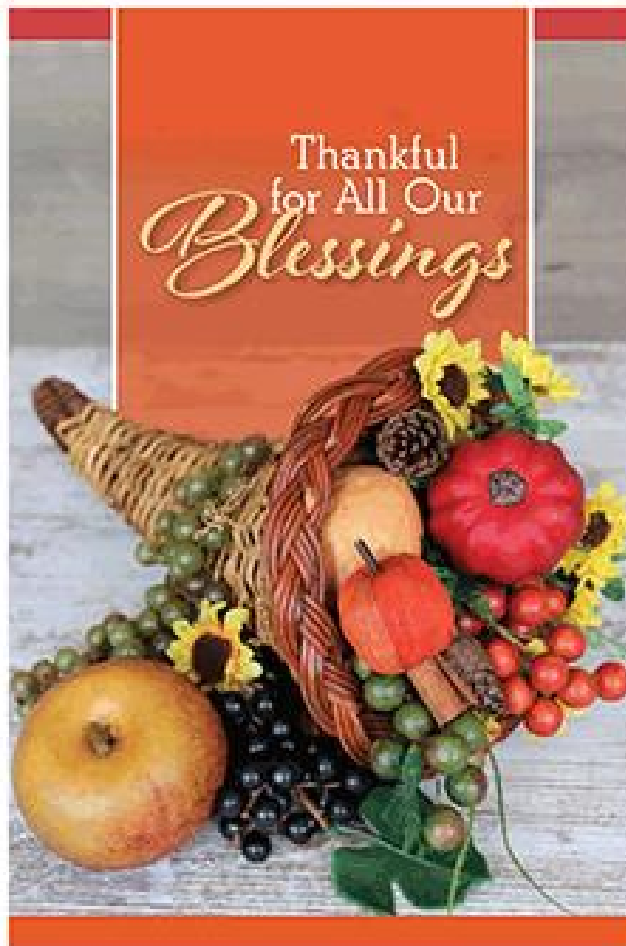
Learn more about this mission grant at [lwml.org/mission-grants](http://lwml.org/mission-grants)





*A Night to Remember*  
**December 2nd,**  
**Ladies, join us for a relaxing evening**  
**of food and fellowship focused on**  
**our Lord Jesus.**

**(Watch the bulletin for more information!)**





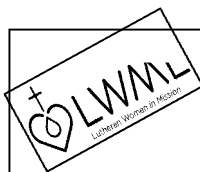
## JOYFUL RESPONSE

JOYFUL Response (e-giving program) is run through VANCO and LCEF. It is now available for use by St. John's members, free of charge to you, as long as the money is taken out of your bank account (no credit cards). This account is for General Operating offerings only, no designated funds. The information and application to enroll are on St. John's website ([www.stjohnsladysmith.org](http://www.stjohnsladysmith.org)). As the Financial Secretary of St. John's, Nancy is the contact person for this program. An account has been set up at LCEF for your offerings to be deposited. Nancy will receive a statement when your offering is received at LCEF so she can enter it on your St. John's offering account. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy.

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### Altar Guild


Kim Grabowski has been asked to be in charge of the Altar Guild. As of now, we are on the same schedule as last year. We are in need of more volunteers to help. It only takes a little time each week to set up the altar. If you are willing to help, please see Kim or Pastor. Thanks



Saturday, November 12, 2022 10:00AM ladies Bible Study. "Lord, Teach Us to Pray" part 2 of 2. All women are invited to attend.

11:00AM Quarterly meeting.

Crafty Stitchers  
Saturday, November 19, 2022  
10:00-noon



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

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Ladies! Birthday lunches aren't just for birthdays; of course birthdays for the month are celebrated, but also it gives us an informal excuse to get together with our sisters in Christ to form bonds and friendships. No invitation needed!

**Birthday Mondays!**

Monday, **November 7th** at 11:30 a.m. at the Ladysmith Family Restaurant.

**All are welcome!**



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Men's Bible Study will be on Thursday, November 3rd & 17th; 7:00AM at the Ladysmith Family Restaurant.

**The *Next* Caring and Sharing Sunday  
is **November 13th****

**This is your opportunity to show you care  
for the hungry in our community by making a donation  
to the Hope Food Pantry or show your concern  
for the hungry children in our community by making  
a donation to the  
Back Pack Program.**

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**Mites are collected on the third Sunday of each month!** Simply deposit your donation in the large mite box when you come to worship. These mites continue to fund district and national mission projects. Check the LWML bulletin board for details on some of those projects. Please let Amy Tousey or Paula Hook know if you have any questions.

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## **Rada Knives**

If you are interested in purchasing Rada Knives, please contact Lorraine Flohr at 715-532-5095

All proceeds go to the St. John's Ladies Aid.

Orders are processed quickly! *They make great Christmas and wedding gifts.*

### ONGOING COLLECTIONS

- ♦ Aluminum cans for  
Preschool
- ♦ Canceled Stamps (LWML)
- ♦ Greeting cards
- ♦ Used eye glasses



Please, leave only  
aluminum cans! We  
cannot take aluminum  
foil, plates, etc.;  
aluminum cans only!  
Thanks for your  
assistance.

## Submit Your Information!

ITEMS FOR BULLETINS are due on Tuesday by close of day each week (unless indicated otherwise in bulletins due to holidays). *Newsletter items are due* in the office no later than close of day on the Tuesday preceding the last Sunday of the month.

E-mail to: [stjohnladysmith@centurylink.net](mailto:stjohnladysmith@centurylink.net)  
(preferred method).

Don't forget that **LARGE PRINT**  
**bulletins** and **newsletters** are available  
for those who need them. ***Contact the***  
***office to get your name on the list!***





1	Vic Plockelman
4	Alice Mogensen
5	Tony Bernard
6	Don Josi
9	Paul McEathron
11	Gavin Boehmer, Jane Burch
13	Millie Baxter
16	Bradley Bernard
17	Ross Stout
19	Elijah Srmeck, Gene Zillmer, Andy Zunker
20	Lindsey Elton
22	Shuree Zehner
23	Shelley Barg
27	Svea Nazarenus, Dave Scott
28	Brooklyn Dailey
30	Kaelyn Grotzinger, Naomi Much



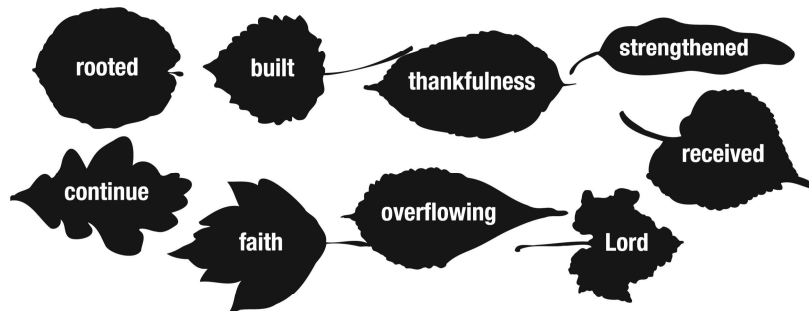
8	Kathleen & Myron Reeves
11	John S. & Robin Kmosena
21	Dennis & Debbie Flater
23	Gene & Debbie Zillmer



## ***Piles of praise***

Every autumn, the ground is overflowing with leaves.  
What does Paul encourage us to overflow with?

*Directions: Use the key to match the leaves and complete the Bible passage.*



So then, just as you \_\_\_\_\_ Christ Jesus as \_\_\_\_\_ ,

\_\_\_\_\_ to live your lives in him, \_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_ up in him, \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ as you

were taught, and \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ .

COLOSSIANS 2:6-7, NIV

Answer: received, Lord, continue, rooted, built, strengthened, faith, overflowing, thankfulness