



St. John Lutheran Church & Preschool

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May we continue to be used by God and share the Gospel with A Heart for Hamilton County







Dear St. John's Family,

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, Pam and I want to say thank you for the innumerable kindnesses, support, and the way so many of you serve our church. Because of both our Lord's faithfulness and yours, what could have been a devastating couple of years has instead been a year of abundant blessings. This is truly a remarkable church for which we are grateful to serve.

But standing at the center of our church life is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We have just celebrated the Word becoming flesh and as we look ahead to 2022, I hold up also the written Word that discloses to us the breadth and substance of our faith in the Living Word. It is the foundation upon which everything is built.

Indeed, despite the many blessings, there has also been much change at St. John, too, over the last year—probably in ways that I can even begin to understand, since I've been a big part of the change, myself. But change is a constant. No part of our lives will endure unchanged for more than a few years, a few decades at most.

Maybe your life has changed dramatically, too, over the past year or two. You've had some of those turns, too. The death of someone very close to you. Divorce. Loss of a job. Failure of a business. An illness or injury. Change happens and, suddenly, life is not the same and never will be again. Everything's different. We try to cope -- sometimes in healthy ways, sometimes in self-destructive ways.

But the Lord our God is unchangeable. He is forever. You can put down your roots into him, knowing that in Him you will never be utterly uprooted again. Therefore, what we need most is God's Word. Amidst all the changes of life, I encourage you to take up God's Word each day. Come to Church and Bible Study. These are things that will never change. They are good for you!

Happy New Year! Joyfully, Pastor Aaron



Finance Update

St. John Lutheran

Statement of Income and Expense by Major Group

November of Fiscal Year 2021 Responsibility: All Fund: 01 - General

		Current Month		Year-to-date	
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income					
00-Group 00		43,843.00	39,975.23	421,548.00	421,508.28
	Total Income	43,843.00	39,975.23	421,548.00	421,508.28
Expense					
04-Board of Outreach		581.00	420.00	9,016.00	3,602.00
10-Board of Elders		16,596.00	18,740.57	155,335.00	123,463.26
12-Board of Education		426.00	1,487.61	15,857.00	10,763.13
13-Board of Trustees		8,115.00	8,015.44	90,912.00	72,822.72
14-Board of Finance		3,769.00	3,869.19	42,709.00	36,813.85
16-Preschool Board		9,101.67	13,237.37	98,532.37	84,102.84
20-Memorial Expenditures		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21-Non-Budget Expense		0.00	0.00	0.00	11,087.47
	Total Expense	38,588.67	45,770.18	412,361.37	342,655.27
	Income Less Expense	\$5,254.33	-\$5,794.95	\$9,186.63	\$78,853.01

Steve Young

St. John Building Fund: Leon & Judy Vernon

Lee & Nora Bottlinger

St. John Building Fund: Luther & Mona Smith

Alvis Eilers

St John Building Fund: Alice & Jerome Pietzsch



being watchful and thankful.

Breakfast and Sunday School Sundays 9:00am

Church Worship Sundays 10:00am (Live streamed on Facebook)

Youth Choir Sunday 11:15am

Quilting Tuesday 9:00am

T Our Military & Families: Ross Bates, Travis Bea

Ross Bates, Travis Beach, Josh Chorenziak, Isaac Jerrell, Krista Jerrell, Matthew Medina, Ernie Mendez, Payden Nolen, Cade Roenne, John Slough, Warren Stanley, Micah Stork, Brennan Stroud, Keith Garrett White.

Our Homebound & Nursing Facility Residents

Focused Care: Kendra Code, Lillye Sanders, Jewell Zimmerman, Geraldine Kauitzsch Hamilton Health Care: Corene Streger, Katherine Hopper Belton: Maxine Wenzel Homebound: Frances Donahoo, Ricky Brown, Artie Peters, Mae Pietzsch, Frances Schrank, Nell Helmcamp, Barbara Jahns, Irene Zaruba, John Schoedel

T Our Members:

Mae Pietzsch - recovering at home from a stroke
Bonnie Williams - diagnosed with cancer
Jewell Zimmerman - stable

T Our Friends:

Oralia Alverado - (Angie Tawater's mother) various health issues

Noland Arbaugh - (Friend of Darryl & Michelle Beach) praying for
complete healing of his paralysis

Molly Beach - (Niece of Darryl & Michelle Beach) suffering from an auto-immune disease

Doyle Billingsly - (Melanie Housden's father) cancer treatments

Bobby Cathey - (Tammy Wagner & Joe Cathey's father) various health issues

Gene DeLoach - cancer treatments continue, declining

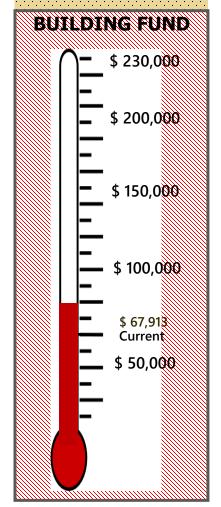
Ronda Hall - (Betty Hardin's daughter) dealing with heart issues

Ossie Scott - (Doyle Robert's Sister) cancer has returned



- **T** For those who grieve -
- **Special Prayers -** Covid-19; Teachers & students; President & Government Officials; Medical Professionals; First Responders & Rescue crews; Fires and firefighters; Rain

Please contact the church office at 254-386-3158 with updates on prayer requests for friends and loved ones. Thank you.





Anniversaries

15th Andy & Jennifer Ivey
20th Jim & Brenda Schrank
23rd James & Betty Tischler
25th Jimmy & Judy Whitt
55 Yrs.

Birthdays

3rd Amalia Knutson

4th H. C. Wenzel

7th Kolten Kunkel

9th Erica Bussey

10th Stephanie Batla

11th Charles Jahns

12th Cooper DeLaGarza

14th Kristen Robinson, John Zaruba

15th Tracy Cox

16th Claire DeLaGarza

17th Jason Bussey

18th Lonnie Kalbas

20th Parker Clowdus

24th Johann Jeschke, Doug Payne

25th Dorothy Schoedel, Cody Tawater

26th Kyler Kensing, Jason Seider

28th Frances Donahoo

29th Kathy Payne

30th Glenn Jones

31st Rockie Heers, Brooke Tomlinson

Baptisms

1st Heath Hopper, Chrissy Hopper

4th H. C. Wenzel

7th Don Tyson, Jerry Zschiesche

9th Joyce Polster

14th David Tyson

17th Roberta Craig

18th Irene Zaruba

19th Bonnye Wenzel

21st Ellie Kalbas

22nd Vicki Marwitz, Connie Nolte

29th Tracy Cox, Melissa DeLaGarza



<u> Speoming</u>

Danuard

Events

2nd - MITE BOX SUNDAY

1:30pm Nursing Home Devotions

9th 11:30am Bd. Of Elders

11:15am Bd. Of Trustees

11th - 1:00pm Glory Gamesters
5:30pm Bd. Of Finance



Music Notes
By Gary Gromatzsky
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling;
All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion;
Pure, unbounded love Thou art.
Visit us with Thy salvation;
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Breath, O breath, Thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit;
Let us find Thy promised rest.
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be.
End of faith, as its Beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver;
Let us all Thy life receive.
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, They new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see Thy great salvation,
Perfectly restored in Thee:
Changed from glory into glory,
'Til in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 1747

His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.

2 Peter 1:3 (NKJV)

After their marriage, Charles and Sally Wesley set up house-keeping in Bristol, England, heading up the Methodist activities there. Later they moved to London so Charles could work more closely with his brother, John. All the while, however, he was writing hymns. There are few stories behind specific hymns because Charles was just always writing them. He didn't need events to inspire him or quiet stretches of meditative time in which to develop his thoughts. He was just always writing hymns, and afterward he had few if any dramatic stories to tell about the occasions for writing them.

Biographer Arnold Dallimore says about his poetry: "He had inherited this gift from his father and although it had undoubtedly been resident in him since childhood, his conversion unlocked it and set it free. During [his] early ministry he says little in his journal about his composing hymns and, indeed, this is true throughout his life. But he had within him virtually a treasury of poetry. He constantly experienced the emotions of the true poet, his mind instinctively invested words with harmony, and hymn after hymn flowed from his pen."

Henry Moore, one of his friends, later described Charles like this: "When he was nearly eighty he rode a little horse, gray with age....Even in the height of summer he was dressed in winter clothes. As he jogged leisurely along, he jotted down any thought that struck him. He kept a card in his pocket for this purpose, on which he wrote his hymn in shorthand. Not infrequently he had come to our house in City Road, and, having left the pony in the garden in front, he would enter, crying out, 'Pen and ink! Pen and ink!' These being supplied he wrote the hymn he hade been composing."

How many hymns did Wesley compose? No one has been able to count them. In all, Charles wrote over nine thousand literary texts of one kind or another, but not all of them should be classified as hymns. Experts put the number somewhere between three thousand and six thousand. Among all of them, "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" is the favorite of many.

Charles's last hymn was dictated to his beloved Sally as he was on his deathbed, in March, 1788. It was short, simple, and picturesque. Predictably, it, too, became a popular one-verse song among the Methodists:

In age and feebleness extreme, / who shall a helpless worm redeem?

Jesus, my only hope Thou art, / Strength of my failing flesh and heart,

Oh, could I catch a smile from Thee / And drop into eternity!

In case you missed our Christmas Services...







Leading Each Deaf Person Into a Relationship with Jesus

Helping Hands for Lutheran Deaf Outreach Lutheran Deaf Outreach — \$50,000



At that time those

who can't hear

will hear what is read

from the scroll.

Those who are blind

will come out of gloom

and darkness.

They will be able to see

(Isaiah 29:18 NIrV).

Lutheran Deaf Outreach has one primary goal: to help deaf people have a saving relationship with Christ. They train both deaf and hearing people to share Jesus with deaf people and their families by working through congregations in their area. Lutheran Deaf Outreach provides resources and training specifically designed for deaf people to learn about the love of Jesus and to share it with others.

One of the biggest challenges for deaf people is the English language. American Sign Language (ASL) has its own structure and placement. Many of the words we use in speaking are not directly able to be signed. All Lutheran Deaf Outreach materials are developed by, with, and for deaf people in a way they can understand and share with others.

Christ told His disciples in Matthew 28:19–20 (NIrV): So you must go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end."

This grant will assist Lutheran Deaf Outreach to expand training by sharing resources, including deaf curriculum, deaf catechisms, theological books, New International Reader's Version (NIrV) Bibles, equipment, and office supplies. Monies will also help pastors and trained individuals lead and coordinate training workshops to reach out to deaf people across America, as well as to families with deaf children.

Further information about Lutheran Deaf Outreach can be found at lutherandeafoutreach.org.

Bible references in this resource come from New International Reader's Version (NIrV) Bibles. This is the version used by the deaf community.

Learn more about this mission grant at lwml.org/mission-grants



January 2 is MITE BOX SUNDAY Watch the W.R.A.P. for meeting times and projects

PRESCHOOL NEWS





The Preschool Christmas Program was a huge success. Thank you to our teachers for making this event possible.



January 2022

St. John Youth Activities



Wise Men Still Seek Him Epiphany January 6

Confirmation Meets

January 9: In addition to our meal and study time, we will complete our annual Service Activity of putting away the Christmas Décor. We could use a few parents to please stay and help supervise.

January 16: Meal, Games Study time. Parent help needed with meal set up, clean up and study time.

Youth Game Night Jan 22

High School Bible Study

January 12

January 26

with Pastor Kalbas

Continuing our study of 10 Commandments



National Youth Gathering Night

All kids and sponsors attending the gathering please make plans to attend this meeting. Dinner, Updates on our trip, Team Building, Bible Study **JAN 19th**

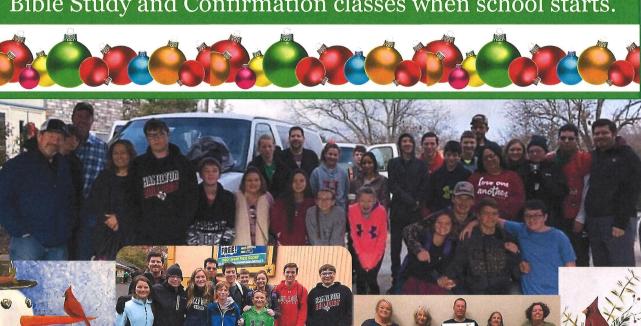


Junior Youth stay tuned for plans regarding your Retreat this Semester.

Advent Meal & Readings, Painting & Coffee Fundraiser, Worship Music & Acolyting, Caroling, Christmas Program, Six Flags, Bags

St. John Housh Hotivisies

Thank you to all our youth and families for making great Christmas memories at St. John. We will return to normal Bible Study and Confirmation classes when school starts.







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Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the
snow: The year is going, let him
go; Ring out the false, ring in
the true.

Alfred Lord Tennyson
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122 Cheyenne Mesa

Hamilton, Texas 76531

«First Names» «Last Names»
«Address»
«City, State Zip (5-digit)»