



St. John's Weekly News

January 19, 2025

www.sjldover.com



Mission Statement:

Understanding that God's church does not have a mission, but rather that God's mission has a church. The people of St. John's Lutheran Church join God in God's mission by equipping for life, encouraging in discipleship, and engaging in service.

LWML MITE COLLECTION— JAN. 19TH

Thank you, again, St. John's Congregation for your Mites donations for 2024. We collected \$2,091.20. Your faithfulness in supporting the LWML Mission Projects is very much appreciated. We will begin again collecting the LWML Mites for the 2025 Mission Grants this Sunday, January 19th.

INTERFAITH WOMEN'S SHELTER

Interfaith Women's shelter is opening on February 3rd!

On Monday, January 20th, they are looking for volunteers to help set up the shelter. Work begins at 9am. If there is another day next week someone wishes to help, they can call 302-380-1059 and let the shelter's staff know.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

Orphan Grain Train will provide you with an opportunity to sort clothes that have been donated, right here at the church. This Tuesday, January 21st, at 10:30am we will be meeting in the basement of the church office. We hope you can join us. If you have questions, please see Roger Hazzard.

STEPHEN MINISTRY MINUTE

Sometimes life gets us down. All kinds of challenges tug at us, whether at work, home or even at church. These challenges wear us out, deplete our spirit and our strength. Day in or day out, especially as a new year arrives, we vow to change. We get up in the morning determined to change our outlook and tackle our troubles. It doesn't take us long though before we start thinking "what's the use" or "why bother"? That's when the devil smiles. That's when we need to turn to Jesus. As Isaiah writes "He gives power to the faint and to him who has no might, He increases strength". Stephen Ministry would like to remind you that prayer is always the answer to what to do first when you don't know where to turn. Prayer will comfort you. If you are in a spiritual funk and could use a Stephen Minister to give you a hand or a listening ear, call Helen Morella, Peggy Angel, or Pastor CJ (302) 734-7078 to find out how a Stephen Minister can help you.

INCLEMENT WEATHER ANNOUNCEMENT

In the event of snow during the week, the church will follow Capital School District with the cancelation of services and events. On Saturdays and Sundays please check St. John's Facebook page and your email. Canceled worship services will take place the following Wednesday. If services are not canceled, but you feel unsafe traveling in the snow, please stay home and you can view worship services live on the St. John's Lutheran Dover YouTube channel.

MLB OFFICERS

The Mission Leadership Board met on Monday, January 13th, and elected officers for 2025. Rick Murphy is president. Steve Siok is vice-president. Don Coffman is secretary. We thank them for their willingness to serve in these capacities. God bless our MLB as they work this year.

DONOR ENVELOPES AND TAX STATEMENTS

2025 donor envelopes and 2024 tax statements are available in the narthex. If you are not able to pick yours up or if you have any questions, please contact the church office.

2025 IS AN EXCELLENT YEAR TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A QCD

If charitable giving is a regular habit, a qualified charitable distribution, or QCD, is a tax efficient way to meet your philanthropic goals. Done correctly, and on a timely basis, your charitable gift won't be taxed, as it would be if you were to take a distribution and then donate the cash to the charity. QCD donations aren't deductible*, but will lower your modified adjusted gross income, which could help you avoid the high-income surcharge for Medicare parts B and D, as well as lower the percentage of your Social Security benefits that is subject to taxes. (*Note that under the latest tax laws, the standard deduction has been doubled, which has resulted in many taxpayers now using the standard deduction, rather than itemizing deductions as in years' past.) With a QCD, the money needs to go directly from your IRA to the charity (or charities) that you select. Check with your IRA Administrator about the procedure; you may need to use a distribution form, or you may be able to write a check from your IRA to the organization. Should you wish to advance this subject by researching and familiarizing yourself with QCD's, ***the time to act is now***. Contact your IRA Administrator, well before year end, and the crush of last-minute requests. Knowing what to do, when to do it, and having the required forms on hand, ready to go at the beginning of the new year will ensure timely processing of your QCD. A QCD can't be a last-minute decision in the calendar year. If you take your RMD before planning for the QCD, it's too late for it to satisfy the required withdrawal. When filing your tax return, report the total distribution on line 4a of your Form 1040. Then subtract any portion that was a QCD and report the remaining amount on line 4b, writing "QCD" to explain why part of the distribution isn't taxable. It's wise to discuss the benefits of QCD's with your financial planner.

PRAYER REQUESTS— We lift the following people up in prayer...

Brian Baird, Helen Morella, Mary Wuller, Julie Sammons and family, The family and friends of Peggy Perovich, Lise Gloede, Jim Hidu, Linda Taylor, Sue Tamburro

<p style="text-align: center;">Happening at St. John's</p> <p>Sunday 9:15am Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30am Bible Study Bell Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>Monday Tuesday 10:00am Devotions at Dover Place Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Readings for Next Sunday</p> <p>Old Testament— Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10</p> <p>Psalm— Psalm 19</p> <p>Epistle— 1 Corinthians 12:12–31a</p> <p>Gospel— Luke 4:16–30</p>	
<p>If you have prayer requests or news to share with the congregation, please call or e-mail the church office by noon on Wednesday for your submission to be included in that Friday's newsletter. Thank you!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">302-734-7078 or secretary@sjldover.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Birthday</p> <p>1/18 David Allgor 1/22 Olivia Fairbanks 2/1 Rick Mohnk 2/4 Jack Smith 2/5 Betty Richard 2/7 Greg Massey 2/7 Luke Harwood</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Anniversaries</p> <p>1/20 George and Debbie Price 1/27 Chuck and Barbara Hadley</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Options for Church Offerings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ Vanco Mobile App⇒ Checks can be mailed to the church or dropped off⇒ Online donations can be made at sjldover.com⇒ Offering plate at services <p style="text-align: center;">Thank you for supporting the ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church</p>