St. John's Weekly Newsletter

November 22, 2026 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.

CONGREGATIONAL VOTERS MEETING
There will be a Voters Meeting following the service this Sunday, November 22nd.

INTERFAITH WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S SHELTER
We are collecting socks (in all sizes) for the women and children's shelter during the entire month of November. A tote is in the Narthex. So far, we have 48 pairs— thank you so very much! You have made many feet happy and many hearts full!—Diane

THANKSGIVING EVE
We invite you to join us on Wednesday, November 25th, at 6:15 pm for a Thanksgiving Eve Service. Our theme for the evening is gratitude for the gifts our Lord has so graciously given us and for the blessing that is our church family. It will be a peaceful time to pause, give thanks, and prepare our hearts for the holiday. Following the service will gather for our annual Pie Social, a sweet time of fellowship. We would be truly delighted to have you with us!

DECORATING FOR ADVENT
Help wanted decorating the sanctuary for Advent following the worship service on November 29th. There will be hot cocoa and snacks for our helpers! We hope you will join us for this fun and festive tradition.

STEPHEN MINISTRY MINUTE
November isn't an easy month for people who are in pain. For one thing, it is the start of the holiday season. Everyone seems to be focused on the joyous season-making plans for family and friend get-togethers. Suffering people feel left out and want to hide from that. To a suffering person, everyone else's life is in control. Everyone is joyfully buying gifts and sharing time with loved ones. Even trying to get through one day at a time is a struggle of conscience for those coping with heartache or personal problems. So, the idea of dealing with Thanksgiving (what does a suffering person have to be thankful for anyhow?) is an inward struggle. If this is you, I hope and pray that you will contact Peggy Angel, Ellen French, or Pastor CJ at 302-734-7078. A Stephen Minister can help you to cope through these tough months.

ALTAR FLOWERS
We thank Lia and Vera Lehenbauer for giving a donation to St. John's in lieu altar flowers for this Sunday's worship service.

Dedication:
To the glory of God for His loving care of our family during our frequent travels this year.

If you would like to sign up to donate altar flowers for an upcoming service, please use the chart in the narthex or contact the church office. Jen-Mor Florist charges $50 for two vases. Please call them at 302-697-3273 to place your order, confirm the price, and confirm that the flowers will be delivered to the church. Thank you.

POINSETTIAS
We have begun taking orders for Christmas Poinsettias! Your orders and dedications can be submitted on our website at https://sjldover.com/poinsettia/ or by contacting Robyn in the church office. Please note each plant is $11 and payment needs to be received by December 9th. Your plants will be available to take home at the Christmas Eve Services.

LADIES ADVENT NATIVI-TEA
Please join us on December 6th at 2:00pm, for our annual NativiTea. Our theme this year is "A Thrill of Hope." It's a wonderful time of fellowship as we enjoy Advent themed festivities and gather together to prepare our hearts for this Advent season. The sign-up sheet is available in the Narthex. Please see Barbara Hadley or Vickie Thompson if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you!

BAKE SALE
Our last bake sale was a great success. We added $405.15 to the Building Improvement Fund. Thank you to all our bakers who made this possible with their wonderful pies. Our next Bake Sale will be on December 20th and the theme is Cookies!

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN
OGT donations sorting will take a break, but we will let you know when meetings will resume. To learn more about the wonderful work OGT is doing and ways you can help, please visit https://www.ogt.org/branches/mid-atlantic/. They are always in need of clothing and hygiene/medical supplies if you have any to donate. Please contact the church office or Roger Hazzard if you have any questions.

OPERATION QUILT GIVEAWAY
It's almost time! Our monthly quilt drawings will resume in December! Linda Barlow has been hard at work creating many beautiful quilts (some are pictured below). If you have never won one before, this time around may be your chance!





Advent and Christmas Eve Schedule

Date	Time	Event
Wednesday, December 2	12:15 PM	Afternoon Prayer Service
	6:15 PM	Soup Supper – hosted by Stephen Ministry, OGT, and Rick Murphy
	7:15 PM	Holden Evening Prayer Service
Wednesday, December 9	12:15 PM	Afternoon Prayer Service
	6:15 PM	Soup Supper – hosted by Gathering Lambs Team and Altar Guild
	7:15 PM	Holden Evening Prayer Service
Wednesday, December 16	12:15 PM	Afternoon Prayer Service
	6:15 PM	Soup Supper – hosted by Social Concerns Ministry and W.I.N.G.S.
	7:15 PM	Holden Evening Prayer Service
Thursday, December 24	3:15 PM	Christmas Eve Service
	6:15 PM	Christmas Eve Service

SERVICE HELPERS

November 22nd	November 25th	November 29th
Usher– Richard B.	Usher– Jeff	Usher– Barry
Reader– Linda B.	Reader– Laurel	Reader– Diane S.
Assisting Minister– Rich P.	Assisting Minister– Barb	Assisting Minister– Steve
Lay Deacon– Vickie	Lay Deacon– Rich P.	Lay Deacon– Jandy
Stephen Minister– Peggy	Stephen Minister– Vickie	Stephen Minister– Mallory

Happening at St. John's 11/22-11/28

Sunday 9:15am Worship Service with Holy Communion
Children's Church
10:30am Congregational Voters Meeting
Monday
Tuesday 10:00am Devotions at Dover Place
1:00pm Women's Bible Study
Wednesday 3:00pm Bible Study at Dover Place
6:15pm Thanksgiving Eve Service
8:00pm Pie Social
Thursday Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!
Friday
Saturday 12-2pm Restore Hope in Jesus Children's Class

Upcoming Birthdays

11/22 Locklyn Terray
11/22 Stephen Siok
11/26 Bob Wolf
11/28 Ric Fairbanks
11/29 Nathaniel Stevens
12/1 Deb Price
12/2 Sharon Allgor
12/3 Vickie Hoover

Upcoming Anniversaries

11/29 Nathaniel and Jandy Stevens

Prayer Requests

We lift the following people up in prayer…

Debbie Mason, Georgette Fox, Bridget Pedone, Carolyn Patterson, The family and friends of Gloria Saatman, Barbara Lavacek, The family and friends of Gloria Paxton, John Larkin, Michael Coglianese, Alice Grunstra, The family of Daniel Pacheco, Melissa and Everett McGuire, Christine Flemming, Courtney Hurst, Tom Rutley, Lloyd Schneiderwent, Clifford Ramminger, Wil Ramminger, Teresa Boyd, Flow Burrows, John French, Mary Nicodemus, Garry Saroukos, Skylar Marisi, Emmalyne Smyser, Rick Mohnk, John Reininger, Donna Mason, Katie Borntreger, Susan Rogers

Options for Church Offerings:

- Vanco Mobile App
- Checks can be mailed or dropped off
- Online donations can be made at sjldover.com
- Offering plate at services

Thank you for supporting the ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church.

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!

302-734-7078 or rgettings@sjldover.com

