



SAINT JOHN THIS WEEK



SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. E. Jon Benson (JonBenson@SaintJohnELCA.org)
 Interim Children, Youth & Family Pastor: Rev. Ben McIntire (ben.mcintire.rev@wisynod.org)
 Parish Ministry Coordinator: Patricia S. Minchin
 High School Youth Leader: Alli VanRoekel (allivanroekel@gmail.com)
 Chancel / Bell Choir Director: Eric Wyler (wyler.eric@gmail.com)
 Pianist/Organist: Joan Ebersold
 Choir On Fire Director: Tracy Frush
 Nursery Attendant: Amy Pedersen
 Children's Hour Director: Judith Devereaux
 Foundation Board President: Ross Jensen (402-681-1383)
 Missionaries: Revs. Colin and Jeni Grangaard
 Stephen Minister Leaders: Mary Lou Hansen (322-7248), Alan Meilike (328-1671) Debbie Plugge (256-5310)
 Pastor Jon Benson (323-7173)
 Office Manager and *The Caller* Editor: Terri Damgaard (TerriD@SaintJohnELCA.org)
 Custodian: Debbie Baird

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/SaintJohnCouncilBluffs ~ Twitter: [ConnectatSJLC](https://twitter.com/ConnectatSJLC)

LEADING IN WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 17 & 18, 2016

	<u>5:30 p.m.</u>	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>11:00 a.m.</u>
Ushers	Bob Hansen	Tim Chew Crew	Roy Adams Crew
Lectors	Linda Fisher	Heather Thompson	
Communion Assistants	Deb Ingwersen	Becky Henkel, Barb Woods	Tracy Frush, Becky Nickerson
Greeters		Kelli & Larry Gann	Deb Ingwersen
Acolytes	Samuel Hovey	Tye Nebel, Ryley Nebel	Ben Brougham

ALTAR FLOWERS – In honor of our grandson Malachi, and our great-nephew Teddy. Given by, Les & Rose Hansen.

***PEOPLE WE HAVE BEEN PRAYING FOR:** Tracy Doebelin, Keith Warford, Nancy Andersen, Leola Poppen, Kent Madison, Ronald Thompson, Betty Stelter, Cindy Jordan, Jason Jensen, Mary Gittins, Debbie Drustrup, Jenny Grap, Derek Ravlin, Junior Boerjan, Robin Jastorff, Rose Hansen, Mary Mauch, Jan Girton

**Names will be kept on the Prayer List for 2 weeks unless the church office is notified otherwise.*

SYMPATHY to the family of ...
John Bissell, who passed away on December 10.

BAPTISM at 11:00
Andersen Dane Boysen, son of Jacqueline & Tyler Boysen.

NEW ARRIVALS
Norma & Joe Gahm have two new great-grandsons!
Kavish Marshall Gahm of Fairhope, AL was born on December 7 and Ace Joel Brown of Ankeny, IA was born on December 8.

SCRIP NOTE – We now have Pizza King cards with an 8% profit! Remember, Scrip is a good way to make your shopping easy and benefit the Church at the same time.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED on Friday, Dec. 23, Monday, Dec. 26 and Monday, Jan. 2

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

3:30 pm Traditional Candlelight Service
with an interactive sermon focused for children and youth
5:30 pm & 10:30 pm Traditional Candlelight Services

CHRISTMAS DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP

Sunday at 9:30am (One Service Only)

FIRST COMMUNION PHOTOS – Pick them up at the table by the bookshelves on Sundays. Thanks to Tom Pagan for taking a great photo.

There will be **NO HIGH SCHOOL MEETING** on Wednesday, December 28. The group will resume on January 4 with a Game Night. Be with the ones you love!

MITTEN TREE – Please bring new hats, mittens & scarves to decorate the tree in the Welcome Center. The items will be donated to children at Bloomer Elementary school and Rocky Boy Reservation in Montana. **The deadline to donate is January 8.**

EARLY BIRD SAVINGS – If you register your child for camp before January 31 you will get a **\$50 discount** for a full-week session. Look for the Carol Joy Holling flyer on the table by the office.

NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY CHOIR will be performing at Saint John on Friday, January 13 at 7:00 p.m. The choir is a 49-voice ensemble, more than half of whom are music majors.

MOHM's PLACE CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVE Tuesday Dec. 20, 4:00-7:00pm - Each year Saint John helps at MOHM's Place with their annual toy giveaway. Areas of serving include: the children's tent where we help kids choose and wrap presents for their parents, serving the meal, helping welcome families, and organizing gifts. There are two shifts: 3:30-5:30 and 5:30-7:30. Feel free to sign up for one or both. Contact the office or sign up on the bulletin insert if you would like to volunteer. Youth and adults from the congregation are all invited to serve. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARDS are available on the table in the Narthex. Thanks to everyone who has already returned their card.

SAINT JOHN T-SHIRTS - There are a few gray 125 Anniversary T-Shirts available for sale \$6.50 each. Contact church office or see Patricia between services on Sunday.

MEALS FOR MAUCHS - Mary Mauch, who is pregnant with twins, has been having some health issues and is on bed rest. If you would like to help Mary & Josh (and daughter Autumn) by providing a meal to them please go to the following website to sign up on the schedule: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/y6zv1e>

ATTENTION CHRISTMAS CAROLERS - We love to have you and want to encourage you to visit us with your music over the holidays. We know it brings great joy to our residents and tenants as well as an opportunity to connect with members of your congregation. We are asking however that you schedule your visit ahead of time with Sarah Norton at Bethany Heights (712-328-8228) and/or Kaily Stanley at Bethany Lutheran Home (712-328-9500, ext. 230). We love to have you come, but we want to make sure we are available to assist you. The residents and tenants love the music and the visits and we like to spread them out if possible. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to hearing your music in the coming weeks.

Last Week's Attendance:

Saturday, December 11	5:30	Celebration of Life Choir
Sunday, December 12	8:30	145
	11:00	<u>225</u>
Total		370

From the Finance Committee:

Last week's offering was \$8295 or 109% of weekly budget.
Year-to-date offering is \$386,791 or 102% of year to date budget.

SAINT JOHN CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

5:30 p.m. Worship with Communion

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 – Fourth Sunday in Advent

**8:30 a.m. Worship with Communion
Choir Cantata "Winter Rose"**

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour

**11:00 a.m. Worship with Communion
Choir Cantata "Winter Rose"**
Baptism – Andersen Dane Boysen

12:30 p.m. Sudanese Worship

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

4:00 p.m. Foundation Board

6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00 a.m. Adult Study

9:00 a.m. Sewing Group

6:00 p.m. Wednesday Meal

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21 (continued)

6:30 p.m. HS Youth

6:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir

7:15 p.m. Advent Service

8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

6:30 p.m. Praise Team

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23 – Office Closed

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24 – Christmas Eve Worship

3:30 p.m. Youth & Family Service

5:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service

10:30 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service
Baptism – Ella Arthea Youngs

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 – Christmas Day

9:30 a.m. Worship

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26 – Office Closed

LEADING IN WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 24, 2016

Ushers
Lectors
Communion Assistants
Greeters
Acolytes

3:30 p.m.
Roy Adams Crew

Madison & Aubrey Stark

5:30 p.m.
Tim Chew's Crew
Phyllis Damgaard
Phyllis & Mike Damgaard

10:30 p.m.
Mike Hahn's Crew
Sarah Boehm
Debbie & Jeff Hamling

LEADING IN WORSHIP ON DECEMBER 25, 2016

Lector Patricia Minchin **Greeters** Katie & David Warner

Acolytes