

# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

[www.stjohnslutheran-muk.org](http://www.stjohnslutheran-muk.org)

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## Weekly News and Notices December 31, 2018

<b>Mon Dec 31</b>	<b>6:30p New Year's Eve Service</b> Office Closed
<b>Tues Jan 1</b>	Office Closed
<b>Wed Jan 2</b>	School Resumes 7:15p Joyful Noise
<b>Thur Jan 3</b>	10:00a Service at Linden Grove 7:00p Ministry Enhancement Committee
<b>Fri Jan 4</b>	-----
<b>Sat Jan 5</b>	11:00a 2nd Annual Backyard Brawl Touch Football Game (Hidden Lakes Park)
<b>Sun Jan 6</b>	<b>8:00a Worship</b> 9:15a SS/BC/Ignite <b>10:30a Worship</b> (Usher 1, 2) Sullivan, Sampson, Olson, Madsen, Vollmer, Stroika, Volkmann, Yets

**1,559 people** gathered over the past week to worship our living Lord:

- 417 people** gathered for the Fourth Sunday in Advent.
- 894 people** gathered over the three Services on Christmas Eve.
- 248 people** gathered for the Christmas Day Festival Service.

### This Weekend's Schedule

- Sunday 12/30 9 am (**NOTE ONE SERVICE ONLY**) First Sunday after Christmas (No SS or Bible Class. They resume 1/6)
- Monday 12/31 6:30 pm New Year's Eve (Different Service from 12.30)

### Pastoral Care During Christmas Break:

- The office will resume normal hours on January 2nd.
- Pastor Bortulin** will be handling hospital calls or any other pastoral needs from **December 28-January 1st. Call/text 262-232-2202 or email [pastor@stjohnslutheran-muk.org](mailto:pastor@stjohnslutheran-muk.org)**
- Pastor Martin will be on vacation through January 1st.

**New Year's Eve Party Cancelled**--Due to lack of people signing up, please note that we will not be having the New Year's Eve Party in the church basement. Please talk to Bill Olson or Pastor Martin if you have ideas to revive this party next year. Thank you!

**Volunteers Needed**--Each month, in addition to a pastoral visit with Word and Sacrament, our homebound and shut-ins receive a visit from a member of our Visitation Committee. These visits are social in nature, and include the reading of a devotion and a prayer. Time commitment is one hour per month. WE NEED A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS. Talk to Pastor Bortulin for more information and plan on attending our 1/21 6 pm meeting for the following month's schedule.

**"Thank You" From the SCRIP Program** - Just wanted to give thanks to the many individuals who utilize the Scrip gift card program and for the volunteers who help sell on Sundays. This year our total sales were \$70,700 and the program returned \$3,500 of the profits back to our Building Fund account; that is an average of 4.95% of this year's sales. In addition, from 2015 thru 2018 this program has made cash payments to the Building Fund totaling \$15,900. Not familiar with how this program works? Contact Julie Bodendorfer (262-408-8084) for more information.

**New Year's Eve Male Singers Needed**--Any men interested in singing an anthem on New Year's Eve should meet in church immediately following the first service on December 23. Meet at the piano. It will be quick so you can still get to Bible Class.

**2nd Annual Backyard Brawl**--January 5th. 11 am - 1 pm. Hidden Lakes Park Vernon. Touch Football. Bragging Rights. Sore Muscles. Chili and Cookies. High school aged and up. Sign up in the Narthex or email [pastor.martin@stjohnslutheran-muk.org](mailto:pastor.martin@stjohnslutheran-muk.org). Contact Pastor Bortulin for more details.

**Christmas Decorations**--We will need some help to take down our Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 6th after the second service. Please stay after to help if you can!

**God's Gift of Baptism:** What if there was a medicine out there that could cure all cancer, all diseases, and all sickness. *Would you use it?* Come, hear what a gift the Bible says Baptism is for us. More than a 'church tradition' but a means to cure and save. Three different classes will be held on the following Mondays:

*January 7th, January 14th, and January 21st  
10:45-11:30 am.*

To sign up, please [click here](#). If you know of someone you feel would be interested you can also tell them to sign up by going to our website [www.stjohnslutheran-muk.org](http://www.stjohnslutheran-muk.org) under Upcoming Events.

**Mornings w/Mommy** - The next session begins January 8th!

*Tuesdays 10:00-11:15 am*

*Wednesdays 8:45-10:00 am*

Cost is \$10 per family. For more information and to register [click here](#).

**A Morning with Clifford** - Join us for a morning of stories, crafts, and photo opportunities with our pal Clifford the Big Red Dog! Where: St. John's Lutheran When: Saturday, Jan. 12th from 9:30-11:00 am.

**School Hot Lunch Volunteers**--We have had two openings come up for anyone interested in helping with the lunch program here at St. John's! If you are a parent or grandparent of one of our students, you will earn two FREE hot lunch tickets each week for volunteering your time. If you have any interest, please contact the church/school office. Thank you!

#### **Activities for Adults:**

- ◇ *Volleyball Open Gym*--Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Cost is free. Contact Vicki Kapke for more information.
- ◇ *Basketball Open Gym*--Mondays at 8:00pm. Cost is free. Contact Jason Hughes for more information.

**Tennis Balls**--If you have any extra tennis balls you would like to donate to the school, we would like to use them for the bottoms of our chairs. Please drop off any donations in the school office. Thank you!

**Free Light Fixture Glass Shades**--There are four boxes of light fixture covers that are free for the taking. These were originally part of a ceiling fan set but are not needed. If you are interested in taking some, please stop in the school.

**Year End Giving**--At the end of the calendar year many people are looking for an extra opportunity to support the Gospel ministry or to show mercy to those in need. Here are some current opportunities:

- **General Fund**—Gifts to this fund are certainly a blessing at any time of the year, as we carry out our ministry here at St. John's. Additionally, out of this fund comes our support of the worldwide ministry of our Wisconsin Synod as well as our support of Wisconsin Lutheran High School, Christian Family Solutions, and Institutional Ministries.
- **Building Fund (Pink Envelopes)**—Our monthly gifts to this fund consistently run short of our monthly mortgage payment. Any extra gifts will help us keep pace with our monthly needs. Additionally, \$35,000 from our Ministry Enhancement has been designated for Debt Retirement. These extra gifts help reduce our principal to shorten the length of our loan.
- **Tuition Assistance (Green Envelopes)** – Our goal is that finances never be the issue that keeps a parent from considering our Lutheran Elementary School and Preschool. In addition to the generous support of our school ministry through our regular offerings, the Tuition Assistance Fund provides additional generous support to families who need it.
- **Wish List**—Regularly the News and Notes list items for over and above gifts on a "Wish List". Gifts to wish list items can be made by marking your gift and placing it in the Sunday offering.
- **Other items to note:**
  - To set up automatic giving, or to change the amount you are currently giving, please contact Treasurer Jim Bodendorfer [jjmuk99@wi.rr.com](mailto:jjmuk99@wi.rr.com) or the Church office.
  - If you are 70 ½ or older, giving a gift from your IRA could reduce your tax payment.
  - Any questions? Either pastor is more than willing to talk about the opportunity to support the Gospel and show mercy through generous, joyful, first fruit gifts.
  - *The earth may hold, her wealth and gold But you my heart keep Christ as your true treasure.*
  - *To Him hold fast, until at last A crown is yours and honor in full measure. (Christian Worship 40)*