

# The St. John's Journal Community Connect

A Monthly publication of St. John's Lutheran Church, Depew, New York

Dear Friends,

Just a quick note to thank you all for your kindness, the gifts, the thoughtful words and cards!

Jenny, the kids and I are so very blessed by such a loving community of faith.

Thank you for always thinking about us taking such good care of us! There really are no words to express your true gratitude for each of you!

Blessing to you and your in 2024!!

*Pastor Cal +*



January 2024



**CONNECTED**  
Christ | Christian Community | Cause  
I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.

**The Mission of St. John's** is grounded in the presence of Christ in God's Word and in the Sacraments. We are called by the Holy Spirit to spread the Kingdom of God through ministering to all of our members and sharing the love of Christ with all people by preaching the true Word of God, providing ongoing Biblical education for spiritual growth and reaching others with God's love in all we say or do.

## Weekly Worship

**Saturday Evening  
Blended  
4:30pm**

**Sunday Traditional  
8:30am**

**Sunday Contemporary  
11:15am**

**Sunday Morning BLAST!  
10:00am**

**Worship Broadcast  
WXRL- AM 1300 / FM 95.5  
at 11:00am**

## January 6th- The Day of Epiphany and the Epiphany Season

The Epiphany season serves as a bridge between the birth of Jesus and his passion. The season begins with the ancient celebration of the coming of the magi, then the Baptism of Jesus, His first miracle at the wedding at Cana and concludes with the Transfiguration. The Epiphany seasons runs to Ash Wednesday and the liturgical colors vary through out the season.



## January Mission and Ministry Prayers

### Media Ministry

Gracious God your word tells us that we are your witnesses to all the ends of the earth. Cast your blessing upon our media ministry as we share your Word of truth through the means and opportunities provided us. We ask your blessing upon our live stream ministry and radio ministry. Thank you for all who watch and listen.

### Council and Elders

We pray for the Leaders of St. John's as they engage in your ministry and support your Gospel. Bless these leaders, give them wisdom, excitement and energy as they serve you. Help them to always look to the cross and crutch on you.

## Lectionary & Communion Schedule



### January 7th, 2023

Epiphany (Observed)  
Is. 60:1-6; Eph. 3:1-12; Mt. 2:1-12



### January 14, 2023

Epiphany 2  
1 Sam. 3:1-20; 1 Cor. 6:12-20; John 1:43-51



### January 21, 2023

Epiphany 3  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Cor. 7:29-31, Mark 1:14-20



### January 28, 2023

Epiphany 4  
Deut. 18:15-20; 1 Cor. 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

## St. John's Weather Cancellations

Should worship services need to be cancelled due to weather the cancellation notice will be posted to the following:

**WXRL– AM 1300 or 95.5 FM**

**WBEN –AM 930**

**WGRZ-Channel 2**

**WIVB-Channel 4**

A Mass email and text message will be sent through our church database. If we don't have your e-mail or cellphone #

**PLEASE PROVIDE IT!!**

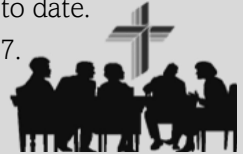
A message will also be posted on the church website– displayed on the “ticker” at the top of the home page.

# December Council Highlights

As reported on 12/11/23

- New Business— Votes counted. New officers elected. Discussion of annual meeting/dinner. Financial report 4th week of January. Discussion about honoring Lois and her years of service.
- Elders— Rod Lorenz— weather cancelations, text alert WXRL, WBEN, Channels 2, 4, 7. Church photo directory end of January for photo shoot. Postcards with holiday schedule. Advertising longest night. Organist is phasing in process.
- Stewardship— Ed Lorenz—working through all cards and working on where to us congregation treasures. Started to reach out to some people.
- Family Ministry— Cheryl Boling— 18 kids attended ice skating and pizza party. Caroling at Greenfields on 12/16. Family Ministry Bowling event, 2/17/24.
- Trustees— Gary H., Guy R., Larry R.—fire alarm system was checked and up to date.
- Board of Education— Kim Lorenz— Fall/Winter mission project ending 12/17.
- Shepherd's Staff— Helana Geisen—63 poinsettias were ordered.

Next Council Meeting: January 15th, 7:00pm



## Financial Director's Report— as of —Budget: \$

	This YTD	Last YTD	Radio Broadcast	This YTD
Giving	\$	\$	Sponsorship	\$
Expenditures	\$	\$	Air Time	\$
Giving over expenses	\$	\$		\$

## Those Serving January 2024

	8:30AM		11:15AM	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>
1/7	Harold Deutschlander	Karen Shafer	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
1/14	Harold Deutschlander	Jamie Bluhm	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
1/21	Harold Deutschlander	Sue Bluhm	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
1/28	Harold Deutschlander	Ed & Deann Lorenz	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik
<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>January Altar Guild</u>	
1/6	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik	Carol & Paige Coffed Wendy Garbutt	
1/13	Tom Stutzman	Tom Stutzman		
1/20	Jim Kless	Jim Kless		
1/27	Amy Krupa	Amy Krupa		

## December Radio and Flower Sponsorships

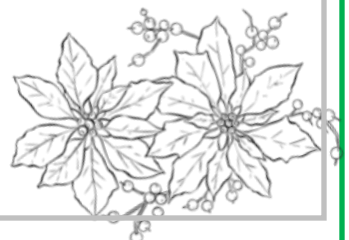
12/3	<b><i>Helana Geisen &amp; Ramona Sietsma</i></b> <i>In loving memory of our father, John Sietsma.</i>	<b><i>Larry &amp; Pat Rindfuss</i></b> <i>In memory of parents, Rich &amp; Kittie Brandenburger and Millie Rindfuss</i>
12/10	<b><i>Karen &amp; Wayne Shafer</i></b> <i>In celebration of our 53rd Wedding Anniversary!</i>	<b><i>The People of St. John's</i></b> <i>To the glory of God!</i>
12/17	<b><i>The Gorski Family</i></b> <i>In loving memory of Ronnie Rich on her birthday.</i>	<b><i>Cindy Kloss</i></b> <i>In memory of my wonderful parents, Ruth and Walter Kloss. Miss you.</i>
12/24	<b><i>The People of St. John's</i></b> <i>In honor of Lois Will and her service to St. John's as the Organist and Choir Director for more than 40</i>	
12/31	<b><i>The Boling Family</i></b> <i>Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and Happy 2024 to our St. John's &amp; WXRL listening families. God Bless all!</i>	<b><i>Linda Bernfeld</i></b> <i>May God bless this world with peace, love &amp; tranquility for the coming new year!</i>



Interested in sponsoring a broadcast or flowers? Openings are available!  
Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board near the church office.  
Full broadcast is \$180.00 (or \$45.00 per line) | Flowers: \$25.00/wknd

## Christmas Poinsettias

The Krupa Family, The Kloss Family, Dawn Smith, Leslie Maciejewski, Mickey Gabriel, The Holtz Family, Sandra Park, Rae Carier, The McNett Family, Linda & Bob Plewik, Marsha McKinney, Harold Deutschlander, Jan & Mike Brown, The Anthony Family, Barb Perry, Kim & Tony Martino, Anne Bovo, Joy Matson, The Boling Family, Tom and Andrea Mudd & Family, The Mudd & Napierala Families, Mary Ann Arber, The Lumb Family, Rev. & Lin Warner, Gary & Barb Geitter.

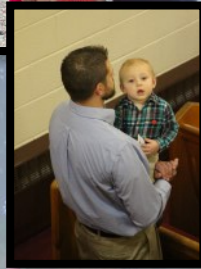




SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRIDAY	SAT.
	1	2  5:30p— Girl Scouts (1)	3	4  10a– Arise & Shine  6:30p—Girl Scouts (3)	5 Office Closed  5p— Scrap- booking Group	6 Epiphany 8a– Men’s Group 4:30p Wor- ship w/ H.C. 8p– A.A
	7 <b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> 8:30a– Worship w/ H.C. 10:00a—BLAST 10:00a—Adult Bible Class 11:15a-Worship w/ H.C.	8 Office Closed  7:15p— Elder’s Meeting	9  6:30p— Girl Scouts (2)	10 Office Closed  7p– Choir 8p– A.A.	11  6:30p—Girl Scouts (3)	12 Office Closed  5p— Scrap- booking Group
14 <b>2nd Sunday after Epiph- any</b> <i>Budget Vote &amp; Elections</i>  8:30a– Worship 10:00a—BLAST 10:00a—Confirmation Class 11:15a-Worship	15 Office Closed  7:00p— Council Meeting	16	17 Office Closed  7p– Choir 8p– A.A.	18  6p—Café 6:30p—Girl Scouts (3)	19 Office Closed  5p— Scrap- booking Group	20 8a– Men’s Group 4:30p Wor- ship w/ H.C. 8p– A.A.
21 <b>3rd Sunday after Epiph- any</b>  8:30a– Worship w/ H.C. 10:00a—BLAST—Morning Program 10:00a—Adult Bible Class 11:15a– Worship	22 Office Closed	23  6:30p— Girl Scouts (2)	24 Office Closed  7p– Choir 8p– A.A.	25  6:30p—Girl Scouts (3)	26 Office Closed  5p— Scrap- booking Group	27  4:30p Wor- ship 8p– A.A
28 <b>4th Sunday after Epipha- ny</b>  8:30a– Worship 10:00a—BLAST 10:00a—Confirmation Class 11:15a-Worship	29  Office Closed	30  6:30p— Girl Scouts (2)	31 Office Closed  7p– Choir 8p– A.A.			

# WE ARE ST. JOHN'S

2024 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY



Many Faces.

Many Families.

connected in CHRIST.

**WE are SO excited TO announce THAT OUR **NEW**  
CHURCH DIRECTORY IS COMING !!!!  
AND WE WANT YOU**



PHOTOS WILL  
BE TAKEN AT  
ST. JOHN'S ON  
January  
18, 19 and 20



Now is the time to sign up!!

Simply Scan the QR code

Or call **855-773-3321** to speak to  
someone from Upstate Images  
and they will be more than  
happy to help you!!!



You can also visit [www.sjlcdepew.com](http://www.sjlcdepew.com)  
for a direct link to our booking page!

## January Birthdays

Jane	Marone	1
Glenn	Stever	3
Carl	Suhr Jr	3
Brian	Barber	4
Kenneth	Menard	5
Janice	Brown	6
Daniel	Herbold	6
Eileen	Kranz	6
Aleigha	Sharpe	7
Cade	Jagielo	9
Susan	Swatsworth	10
Edward	Mau	12
Ella	Bluhm	16
Carol	Pawlak	17
Noah	Boling	17
Clifton	Lee	18
Debra	Wisniewski	19
Robert	Chapman	19
Peyton	Pauly	20
Susan	Reitzel	21
Joseph	Momot	21
Edward	Faltisco	23
Lois	Will	29
Matthew	Garbutt	31

## January Anniversaries

25	John & Catherine Fragale
28	Don & Barbara Loney
31	Daniel & Rebecca Hojnacki

## Youth & Family Highlights

**Congregational Soup-er Bowl & Dessert Bake Off**  
Sun. Jan. 28th, following the 11:15a service. More details to come!

**Young Hearts Family & Friends Bowling Event**  
*Sat. Feb 17th, 1-4pm*- Alden Lanes, 1212 Sandridge. Cost \$4/game - includes shoe rental, pizza, & soda. Pub food & other beverages available for purchase. Sign up available in Narthex



### SAVE-THE-DATES!

Jr. & Sr. High Spring POTL Retreat May 17-19, 2024  
(Fall- 9/27-9/29/24)

Congregational Picnic at Pioneer-On-The-Lake  
Sat. August 17, 2024



Cheryl Boling: 716-704-9324,  
cboling81@gmail.com

Dana Besch: 716-523-3262,  
danabesch@gmail.com

### Holy Grounds



Sign-up on the Narthex Bulletin Board to bring baked goods for Coffee Hour!



Thursday, Jan 18th  
6:00 pm

### Arise and Shine



Thurs., Feb 1st at 10am



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

67 Litchfield Ave.  
Depew, New York 14043

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Phone: (716) 683-3947  
E-mail: [secretary@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:secretary@sjlcdepew.com)  
Pastor's e-mail:  
[pastor@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:pastor@sjlcdepew.com)  
Web: [www.sjlcdepew.com](http://www.sjlcdepew.com)

**Pastor**

Rev. Galen M. Purpura Jr.

**Pastoral Assistant**

Rev. Howard Warner

**Organists**

*Mr. Joe Momot & Mr. Camden Church*

**Contemporary Music Leader**

Mr. RJ Nieman

**ST. JOHN'S OFFICERS:****President:**

*Jamie Bluhm*  
([President@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:President@sjlcdepew.com))

**Elders:**

([Elders@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:Elders@sjlcdepew.com))  
*Rod Lorenz (Chair)*  
*Betty Cavaleri*  
*Harold Deutschlander*  
*Karen Dowdall*  
*John Fragale, Jr.*  
*Jim Kless*  
*Amy Krupa*  
*Barb Perry*  
*Bob Plewik*  
*John Preston*  
*Ken Schabert*  
*Tom Stutzman*

**Board of Trustees:**

([Trustees@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:Trustees@sjlcdepew.com))  
*Larry Rindfuss*  
*Gary Hillman*  
*Joe Momot*

**Secretary of the Council:**

*Susan Vriesen*  
([CouncilSec@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:CouncilSec@sjlcdepew.com))

**Financial Director:**

*Mike Brown*  
([finance@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:finance@sjlcdepew.com))

**Board of Education Chair:**

*Kim Lorenz*  
([BoardofEd@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:BoardofEd@sjlcdepew.com))

**Youth & Family Ministry Chair:**

*Cheryl Boling*  
([FamilyMin@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:FamilyMin@sjlcdepew.com))

**Stewardship Chair:**

*Ed Lorenz*  
([Stewardship@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:Stewardship@sjlcdepew.com))

**Shepherds Staff Chair:**

*Becca Hojnacki*  
([shepherdsStaff@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:shepherdsStaff@sjlcdepew.com))

**Sunday School Superintendent:**

*Chandra Jagielo*  
([SundaySchool@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:SundaySchool@sjlcdepew.com))

**Prayer Chain:**

*Jim Kless*  
([Prayerchain@sjlcdepew.com](mailto:Prayerchain@sjlcdepew.com))

**Radio Announcers:**

*Jim Kless*  
*Karen Lorenz*  
*Darlene Schwenk*  
*Debra Wisniewski*

**Altar Guild Chair:**

*Betty Cavaleri*

**Communion Assistants:**

*Tom Bluhm*  
*Bob Chapman*  
*Jim Kless*  
*Rod Lorenz*  
*John Preston*  
*Guy Ramey*  
*Tom Stutzman*  
*John Sweeney*  
*Howard Warner*

**Communion Deacons:**

*Betty Cavaleri*  
*Deann Lorenz*  
*Jane Marone*  
*Karen Shafer*  
*Lois Will*  
*Caroline Coffed*



St. John's is a  
member  
congregation of  
the LCMS.