

The St. John's Journal Community Connect

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



November 2025



THANK YOU!

Anniversary Committee

-Jamie Bluhm
-Jeff Schuler
-Tracy Lumb
-Jen Anthony
-Laura Tirone

St. John's Staff

-Rev. Blackwell
-Sem. Tony Martino-
-Melissa Dietz-Schall
-Mike Brown
-Camden Church
-RJ Nieman
-Tom Bluhm

St. John's Ministries

-St. John's Choir
-St. John's Praise Band

Anniversary Closing Prayer

Gracious God and God of the ages, We thank you for the opportunities we've been given to reflect, to ponder to praise, and to rejoice in our 130-year heritage and foundation in Christ Jesus as a people of God! How blessed we have been to worship freely and to grow in faith as the Holy Spirit has grounded us in our never changing Christ- all of these years.

Not only that, how truly remarkable our history has been as we consider the countless "saints" both past and present. What a story it has been these last 130 years! The great news of God's love has been ours to share and ours to bear as you have used us to be your hands, your heart and your voice! Thank you for your shepherding and guiding. Thank you for the Spirit filled prompts you have given us. Thank you for never leaving us to ourselves.

What a joy it has been to celebrate our past and present, but help us to remember that our story continues on. The chapters continue to unfold! Use us, guide us, empower us- help us to be bold in the work that you would have us do as we face the next 130 years.

you have begun a good work in us- and for that we are so thankful. Continue that good work in us that lives might continue to be touched by the unchanging Gospel- and bring it all to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Here's to another 130 years! Endure and Persevere- St. John's family.



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION



"One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts".
Psalm 145:4

FOR ALL THE SAINTS

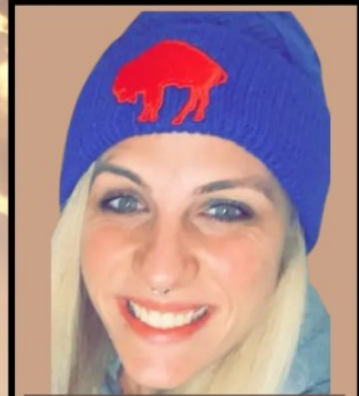
Remembering the Saints-2025 | St. John's Lutheran, Depew, New York



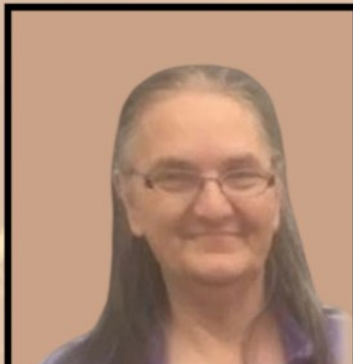
Harold
Deutschlander



Hans
Hartung



Seham
Haj



Lola
Meyer



Toni
Chapman



Deanna
Bickert



Shirley
Morrison

**"Oh what their joy and glory must be,
those endless sabbaths the blessed ones
see! Crowns for the valiant, to weary
ones rest; God shall be all, and in all ever
blest."**

**"Oh, What Their Joy"
Lutheran Service Book #675**



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

Sunday Traditional Worship
8:30am
Sunday Contemporary Worship 11:15am
Sunday Evening Blended
Worship 4:30pm
Sunday Morning BLAST!
September—June 10:00am
Worship Broadcast
WXRL— AM 1300 / FM 95.5
at 11:00am

November Mission and Ministry Prayers

Tri Community— All providing God, you have given us with all that we need for this life and the life to come. Since you use us to serve others, help us to always be aware of the needs of those in our community. We thank you for the ministry of the TRI-COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY and we ask your blessing as they seek to serve the needs of so many in this community.

Stewardship— All that we have is from you and is received from your all providing hand. Gracious and loving God, you call us to be stewards of your Abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously. Bless our Stewardship ministry at St. John's that together we might scatter our gifts as you lead us that our kingdom might grow abundantly.

Lectionary & Communion Schedule

Nov. 2, 2025	All Saints Day Dan 7:1-3, 15-18; Eph 1:11-23; Lk 6:20-31
Nov 9, 2025	22nd Sunday after Pentecost Job 19:23-27; 2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17; Lk 20:27-38
Nov. 16, 2025	23rd Sunday after Pentecost Mal 4:1-2; 2 Thess 3:6-13; Lk 21:5-19
Nov 23, 2025	Christ The King Jer 23:1-6; Col 1:11-20 Lk 23:33-43
Nov 26, 2025	Thanksgiving Ex 15:1-20; 1 Sam 2:1-10, 6:12-15; Lk 1:46-55
Nov 30, 2025	Advent 1 Gen 15:1-6; Rom 1:1-4; Matt 1:1-17

October Council Highlights

As reported on 10/13/25

- New Business— Church received \$10,000 donation from non-member. Decision to designate 10% to a local group in need. Nominations for election 11/2, Election 12/7. Pastor Appreciation on 10/19. Anniversary Celebration 10/26.
- Financial—Mike Brown— Budget planning for 2026. Upgrade to Windows 11 cost approx. \$4,000.
- Elders— Rod Lorenz— 60th Anniversary of WXRL Broadcast. Need a volunteer to manage the children's clipboards
- Stewardship—Ed Lorenz—Sat. 11/22 there is a Sleep in Heavenly Peace volunteer opportunity
- Family Ministry— Jen Anthony— Bowling and Lock-in event for Youth on 11/7/25
- Trustees— Larry R., Joe M., Norm H.— Pipe Works finishing the sanitary sewer work. Elevator repairs complete. Looking for proposals for security cameras for church and grounds. Need a procedure written for turning on the live stream system and sound system.
- Board of Education— Kim Lorenz— Family Service scheduled for 11/16. Fall Mission Project: Serving in Jesus' Name—Compassion International 11/16 to 12/21.
- Shepherd's Staff— Rae Carier— Poinsettia sign up posted. Holiday food through Depew Community Center. Planning the reception after Veteran's Day Service. Shut in list needs to be updated.

Next Meeting: 11/10/25 7:00pm

Dates to remember: Nomination Sunday 11/2, Elections 12/7



Financial Director's Report— as of 10/30/2025 — Budget: \$240,750

	This YTD	Last YTD	Percentage
Giving	\$239,847	\$215,895	Up 11.1%
Ministry Expense	\$235,127	\$226,888	Up 3.6%
Net Income	\$4,720	(\$10,994)	

Radio Broadcast	October 2025
Sponsored	\$7,540
Air Time (cost to WXRL)	\$8,100
	(Loss of \$560 = 3 Sponsorships)

Year-to-Date Giving Statements will be emailed soon!

If you prefer a printed statement, please call the office: 716-683-3947

Those Serving November 2025

	8:30AM		11:15AM	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>
11/2	Barb Perry	Norm Hirschey	Karen Dowdall	Karen Dowdall
11/9	Barb Perry	Sue Bluhm	Karen Dowdall	Karen Dowdall
11/16	Barb Perry	Karen Shafer	Karen Dowdall	Karen Dowdall
11/23	Barb Perry	Helana Geisen	Karen Dowdall	Karen Dowdall
11/26	7:00 pm Worship - Elder: Barb Perry — Lector: Karen Shafer			
11/30	Barb Perry	Karen Shafer	Karen Dowdall	Karen Dowdall
<u>4:30 PM</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>November Altar Guild</u>	
11/2	Rod Lorenz	Rod Lorenz	Jerry Bernfeld Jr. Karen Carwile	
11/9	Bob Plewik	Bob Plewik		
11/16	John Gauthier	John Gauthier		
11/23	Jim Kless	Jim Kless		
11/30	Steve Plewik	Steve Plewik		



Interested in serving as a
Lector?
Sign up on the bulletin
board near the office!

Radio Broadcast Sponsorship
& Altar Flower Sponsorship sheets are up
for 2026!



WE ARE LOOKING FOR
A FEW YOUNG
PEOPLE!!



To serve as Acolytes
During our 8:30am & 11:15am services

SIGN UP IN THE
OFFICE HALLWAY!!



The Chosen Watch Party

Join us on November 8th for the
The Chosen Watch Party
Sign up sheet on the bulletin board
in the Narthex

Questions? Call Barb Perry : 716-983-7064

Holy Grounds

**Volunteer to bring in
baked goods!**



Sign up sheet in Narthex

October Radio and Flower Sponsorships

10/5	Janet Erickson & Carole Pleban In loving memory of Larry H. Erickson on the anniversary of his going home to his Savior (Oct. 7, 2011). Thank you to Pastor Galen, the people of St. John's, and WXRL for broadcasting our Sunday church services. Thanks be to God.	<i>The People of St. John's To the Glory of God!</i>
10/12	Norm & Vikki Hirschey In recognition of our upcoming 43rd Wedding Anniversary and support of family and friends	Susan Reitzel In loving memory of my husband Ernie and how blessed I was to have him in my life. See ya.
10/19	Betty & Joe Cavaleri In celebration of our 42nd Wedding Anniversary and for all blessings received. Ramona Sietsma In loving memory of my husband, Bill.	Brian Thurnherr In thankfulness to God for all blessings received as I celebrate my 69th Birthday.
10/26	Today we celebrate 130 years of Faith and Community with our St. John's Family.	The Herbold Family In celebration of Evan's 26th Birthday and in thanks to God for many blessings received.

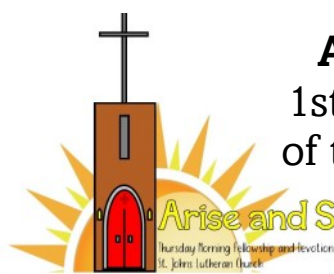
Interested in sponsoring a broadcast or flowers?

Openings are still 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/weekend



Arise and Shine

1st & 3rd Thursdays
of the month at 10am

Arise and Shine

Thursday Morning Fellowship and Devotion
St. John's Lutheran Church

Next Date: 11/6

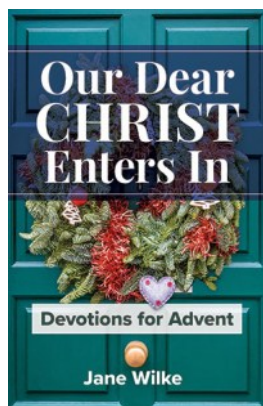


3rd Thursday
of the month
at 6:00pm

Next Café: 11/20

Advent Devotions

Adult Devotions
“Our Dear Christ
Enters In” \$2/ea.



Children's Sticker
Book Activity for
Advent \$2/ea.



Sign-up sheet and
description can be
found on the Bulletin Board in the
Narthex.

Christmas Poinsettias

Sign-up sheet on Bulletin Board.
Order by Nov. 16th!

Available in Red, Marble, Jingle Bell,
& White.

\$9.00/ea. Payment can be put into
the offering plate marked
“Poinsettias”. (*Please do not hand pay-
ments to Elders*).



Thanksgiving Eve WORSHIP

November 26th, 2025—7:00pm
with Holy Communion.

Jennifer	Thurnherr	1
Linda	Plewik	1
Anthony	Martino	3
Karen	Zielen	5
Adam	Jagiello	8
Richard	Sharpe IV	8
Ayla	Jagiello	8
Rob	Redenbach	8
Jay	Hanson	10
Rev. Howard	Warner	11
Barbara	Perry	12
Ella	Liberto	12
Andrew	Garbacz	12
Theresa	Keohane	14
Rochelle	Menard	14
Kaylin	Pauly	15
Susan	Schabert	16
Timothy	Silakowski	17
Jamie	Silakowski	17
Charlotte	Atkins	17
Katie	Burnham	18
Joshua	McFarland-Shields	19
Katherine	Lasky	20
Cecilia	Rowell	22
Dawn	Brennan	22
Barbara	Geitter	24
Deann	Lorenz	26
Irmgard	Hartung	28
Paige	Coffed	29
Helana	Geisen	30

NOVEMBER



2	Gary & Sue Hillman
20	Ed & Delores Mau
27	Norm & Vikki Hirschey
30	Carrie & Mark Schwarzmuller



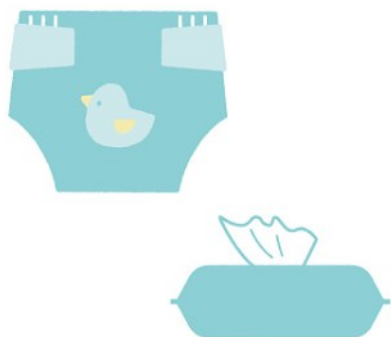


The Care and Share Corner is a room dedicated to providing household cleaning supplies, personal care items and OTC medications at no charge. This is an extension of DCC's mission to provide all residents of Depew with a place to build community, access essential services and feel welcome. There are no income eligibility requirements. Customers may shop once every 2 weeks.

The Care and Share Corner is open during
Community Laundry operating hours:

Monday 9a - 1p
Wednesday 2p - 8p
Thursday 9a - 1p
Saturday 9a - 3p

The Depew Community Center's Care and Share Corner is in need of the following items:



- Personal hygiene items
- Baby Wipes and diapers
 - OTC/first aid
- Cleaning supplies
- Paper products



More details and a tote in the narthex to gather donations
will be coming soon!

Visit depewcommunitycenter.org for more information!

SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
 NOVEMBER						1 8a– Men's Group 8p– A.A
2 All Saints Day Nomination Sunday 8:30a– Worship w/ H.C. 10:00a– BLAST 11:00a—Choir 11:15a–Worship w/ H.C. 4:30p– Worship w/ H.C.	3 <i>Office Closed</i> 7:15p Elder's Meeting	4 5:30p– Girl Scouts #31133	5 <i>Office Closed</i> 8p– A.A.	6 10a– Arise & Shine 6p– Girl Scouts #30984	7 <i>Office Closed</i> 5p– Scrap-booking	8 4:30p– Watch Party 8p– A.A
9 Pentecost 22 8:30a– Worship 10:00a– BLAST 11:00a—Choir 11:15a–Worship 4:30p– Worship	10 <i>Office Closed</i> 7p– Council Meeting	11	12 <i>Office Closed</i> 8p– A.A.	13 6p– Girl Scouts #30984 6p– Con- firmation	14 <i>Office Closed</i> 6p– Girl Scouts #31973	15 8a– Men's Group 8p– A.A
16 Pentecost 23 Family Service 8:30a– Worship w/ H.C. 10:00a– BLAST 11:00a—Choir 11:15a–Worship w/ H.C. 4:30p– Worship w/ H.C. Poinsettia Order Deadline	17 <i>Office Closed</i>	18 6:30p– Girl Scouts #34670	19 <i>Office Closed</i> 8p– A.A.	20 10a– Arise & Shine 6p– Cafe 6p– Girl Scouts #30984	21 <i>Office Closed</i>	22 8p– A.A.
23 Christ the King 8:30a– Worship 10:00a– BLAST 11:00a—Choir 11:15a–Worship 4:30p– Wor- ship 30 1st Sun- day in Advent 8:30a– Wor- ship 10:00a– BLAST 11:00a—Choir 11:15a–Worship 4:30p– Worship	24 <i>Office Closed</i>	25 6:30p– Girl Scouts #34670	26 7p– Thanks- giving Eve Worship w/ H.C. 8p– A.A.	27 <i>Office Closed</i> Thanks- giving Day	28 <i>Office Closed</i> 6p– Girl Scouts #31973	29

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

67 Litchfield Ave.
Depew, New York 14043

Phone: (716) 683-3947
secretary@sjlcdepew.com
pastor@sjlcdepew.com
Web: www.sjlcdepew.com



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

Pastor

Rev. Galen M. Purpura Jr.

Pastoral Assistant

Rev. Howard Warner

Organist

Mr. Camden Church

Contemporary Music Leader

Mr. RJ Nieman

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

Jamie Bluhm
(President@sjlcdepew.com)

Elders:

(Elders@sjlcdepew.com)
Rod Lorenz (Chair)
Betty Cavaleri
Karen Dowdall
John Fragale, Jr.
John Gauthier
Jim Kless
Jackie Kraebel (Alt)
Amy Krupa
Leslie Maciejewski (Alt)
Barb Perry
Bob Plewik
Steve Plewik
John Preston
Ken Schabert

Board of Trustees:

(Trustees@sjlcdepew.com)
Larry Rindfuss
Joe Momot
Norm Hirschey

Secretary of the Council:

Susan Vriesen
(CouncilSec@sjlcdepew.com)

Financial Director:

Mike Brown
(finance@sjlcdepew.com)

Board of Education Chair:

Kim Lorenz
(BoardofEd@sjlcdepew.com)

**Youth & Family Ministry
Chair:**

Jen Anthony
(FamilyMin@sjlcdepew.com)

Stewardship Chair:

Ed Lorenz
(Stewardship@sjlcdepew.com)

Shepherds Staff Chair:

Rae Carier
(shepherdsStaff@sjlcdepew.com)

Sunday School**Superintendent:**

Chandra Jagielo
(SundaySchool@sjlcdepew.com)

Prayer Chain:

Jim Kless

Radio Announcers:

Jim Kless
John Gauthier
Karen Lorenz
Darlene Schwenk
Suzanne Sabadasz

Altar Guild Chair:

Betty Cavaleri

Communion Assistants:

Tom Bluhm
Rod Lorenz
Gary Hillman
Bob Chapman
Bob Plewik

Communion Deacons:

Betty Cavaleri
Caroline Coffed
Deann Lorenz
Judy McMahon