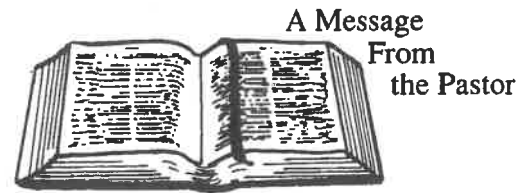




'Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love'



As we end the year 2021 and look ahead to 2022, I share with you this poem as my New Years message to you...

Looking Back And Looking Ahead

This year is ending but that's okay, A brand new year is on the way.
So many memories some good, some bad,
Some make me happy, some make me sad.

But every day my GOD was there, I felt His presence everywhere.
He never left me on my own, It was great knowing I was not alone.

As the new year starts I humbly pray, That I'll be obedient every day.
I want to listen for His voice, And always make His will my choice.

I don't know what the year will hold, But I know His arms will me enfold.
I know I'm safe in His loving care, No power on earth can harm me there.

The year may bring sorrow or pain, But my God will use it for my gain.
He won't forget me, He'll see me through, I'm thankful for all that He will do.

If you haven't met my Savior and friend, Meeting Him is an event that I recommend.
It will be the best decision you've ever made,
Then you, too, can face the New Year unafraid.
(Bob Hefner)

"Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable - if anything is excellent or praiseworthy - think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me - put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you." *Phil 4:5-9*

Wishing God's presence and blessings to you this New year,


Pastor Jeff G. Gavin



We hope you will come and join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM** for our **ADULT Sunday Bible Class** in the lower level of the school building . . . **open question forum - every week.** Frequent media on our large screen tv. **We will practice all Covid 19 precautions for the safety of all our classes. DUE TO COVID, NO REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

Please join us for our **Mid-Week Bible Class** on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the school building. **DUE TO COVID, NO REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

All children in Preschool and up are invited to join us for **Sunday School for ALL AGES** on **Sundays at 9:15 AM** in the lower level of the school building. **DUE TO COVID, NO REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

ALTAR FLOWERS . . .

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, **(or confirm your "standing order")** please contact please call the **CHURCH OFFICE** at **(847) 593-7670** or email Pastor at jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY!**

ALTAR FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS CAN COST AS LITTLE AS \$15! Please **Note:** When you donate flowers for our worship services, you are welcome to bring the flowers home after the 10:30 service.



The Altar Guild is currently looking for additional volunteers who would enjoy preparing and maintaining the altar for worship at St. John. Volunteers are assigned to a rotating team committed to serve 2 months a year to set up for communion, change altar paraments, and to refill the altar candles as needed.

WHEN YOU SHOP . . . PLEASE CONSIDER:

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

amazonsmile

Support: St. John Lutheran Church
When you shop at smile.amazon.com
Amazon donates a percentage of every purchase to St. John
Copy and paste the link below into your Browser to get started:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/36-2387146>

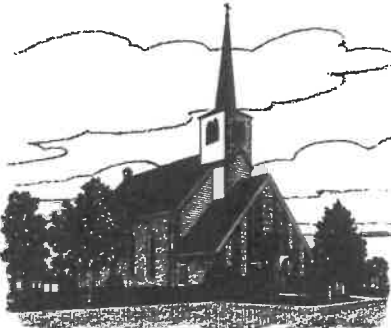
Invite your family and friends to shop AMAZON SMILE
And make St. John their selected charity.

You can also shop from your phone . . . Open the Amazon app,
Go to the main menu, Tap on: Amazon Smile, and Select
"Saint John Lutheran Church as your charity.

◁ ▷ ◁ ▷ ◁ ▷ ◁ ▷ ◁ ▷ **COMMITMENT** ▷ ◁ ▷ ◁ ▷ ◁ ▷

I AM YOUR CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPE

- * I would like to talk with you,
for I am part of your faith life.
- * I may not be familiar to you,
but I can help you be a better Christian.
- * I like to go to church every Sunday,
for I help you to be a partner with Christ.
- * I am very small, but I am vital to the
ministry of your church.

00	JAN 2 2022
	Our St. John Lutheran Church 1100 Linneman • Mt. Prospect, Illinois
	CURRENT EXPENSES . . . \$ _____ MISSIONS and SYNOD . . . \$ _____ _____ \$ _____ Name _____ \$ _____
<small>Rich and poor have this in common: The Lord is the Maker of them all. -- Proverbs 22:2 NIV God loves a cheerful giver. C.P.H. St. Louis, MO Made in U.S.A.</small>	

- * I challenge you to be as kind to God as He has been to you.
- * I am only paper, but I carry the full gift of a generous heart.
- * I am the only "pocketbook" you need to take to church on Sunday.
- * I am not a burden, but the joy of the faithful believer.
- * I am your chance to preach, for I am a silent sermon of your devotion.
- * I am your way of a showing trust and love to your Lord.
- * I am . . . **YOUR CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPE.**

***** PLEASE REMEMBER . . .**

The surest and easiest way to solve any church financial situation is to . . .
Fill and bring YOUR Church Offering Envelope to worship . . . every Sunday!

JANUARY

 BIRTHDAY
GREETINGS

Carmen Hetrea	January 1	Michael Koeppen	January 10
Leslie Raygor	January 6	Chuck Glen	January 10
Thomas Kijak	January 6	Ruby Franz	January 14
Suzanne Travis	January 8	Joyce Hayden	January 20
Ed Pfingsten	January 9	Christopher Klatka	January 23
Joe Nather	January 10	Curt Gerlitz	January 26

If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the Church office for a correction... Thank You!

May God Bless You on Your Birthday



The Altar Guild is always looking for additional volunteers who would enjoy preparing and maintaining the altar for worship at St. John. Volunteers are assigned to a rotating team committed to serve 2 months a year to set up for communion, change altar paraments, and to refill the altar candles as needed.



Another Year is Dawning

Another year is dawning,
Dear Father, let it be,
In working or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.

Another year in progress,
Another year of praise,
Another year of proving,
Thy presence in all the days.

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace,
Another year of gladness,
The glory of Thy face.

Another year of leaning
Upon Thy loving breast,
Another year of trusting,
Of quiet, happy rest.

Another year of service,
Of witness for Thy love,
Another year of training
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning,
Dear Father, let it be,
On earth, or else in heaven,
Another year for Thee.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU . . .

To all who did so much to aid our church this past year. Thanks to our Organist Suyoun Lee and our new Organist Marion Kehrberg, for all their fine work. A thank you also to Jon Tertel who assisted Pastor in so many ways.

Thanks to Joe Schubkegel, George and all who maintained our properties. Thanks to our elected officers and Board members and Committee members who helped direct our ministries.

A Thank You also to one who works hard but is often forgotten, our Secretary: Cathy Schubkegel for all her years of service.

A PERSONAL THANK YOU:

"Lynn and I would like to express our deep appreciation for all the lovely cards, thoughtful gifts and good wishes which we have received from you . . . our St. John Family, during the past Christmas season.

May the Christ of Christmas remain with you throughout this year and continue to bless all aspects of your life.

Pastor Jeff & Lynn

IN THE YEAR OF THE LORD - 2021

The Year In Review

It was a "Year of our Lord" for St. John, as His presence was evident in so many ways.

2021 WAS FOR ST. JOHN, A UNIQUE YEAR II:

- + Covid 19 remained the focus in 2021, as this worldwide pandemic continued to halt or curtail so much of our life activities, including church activities.
- + All the 2020 Covid adjustments in our worship practices continued: Social distancing, the wearing of face masks, Pastor conducting worship without any assistants, our revised way to receive Holy Communion, and shortened services to minimize congregational participation.
- + Since June 14, 2020 we are privileged to offer in-person worship services and Bible Classes.
- + Our website redesign continued to include an updated "News Page", a page for sharing prayer information and a page of worship alternatives for at home usage.
- + We introduced a new fundraiser: "Amazon Smile" and encouraged people to use it for their on-line purchases.
- + Our sister, Circuit church, Good Shepherd Lutheran in Des Plaines, with whom we had joint Ascension Day worship services for a number of years, held their final service on April 25.
- + Our neighbor, the Mount Prospect Senior Living center opened in June and Pastor offered his first Devotion Service that month. Their Grand Opening was held on July 21 during which Pastor and St. John were recognized for our role in making the center possible.
- + At the June Voters Meeting some new "concept drawings" from Church Builders were shown. Reflecting the realities of 2021 (not 2005) they revealed a building addition to our present church for administration, education and fellowship. Copies can be viewed within the church. (This is only a "concept" presented to us and has received no authorization or approval.)
- + Summer seemed to bring us a sense of hope to an end of Covid; the wearing of face masks during worship became optional. – Then came the arrival of the Delta variant and by the end of August new mandates caused us to don our masks again. - And now Covid Omicron.
- + We were privileged to hear the fine musical gifts of our Organist Suyoun Lee, who joined us in March 2020. So it was with sadness we received the news that she would have to leave us at the end of September, to resume her full music duties at the church in Chicago where her husband is the pastor. – We bid her good-by with gifts and well wishes on Sept. 26.
- + For the next seven weeks we conducted worship with "digital music". Pastor edited and prepared downloaded digital audio files which we placed on a laptop computer connected to our sound system. This served us well, with the fine assistance of five volunteers to click on the files.
- + On November 21, Marion Kehrberg, who served Good Shepherd Lutheran, Des Plaines until it's closing, became our new organist
- + Despite Covid, board and voters meeting were conducted on a frequent basis. Information flowed regularly from Pastor to the congregational leaders. And a number of our members returned to worship.
- + Our leaders, board members, our St. John Family members and many willing volunteers worked together to keep the vital ministries of our church going. We appreciate all their hard work and efforts to meet the needs and challenges we faced.
- + We are so grateful to everyone who aided and assisted St John during these challenging times.

It was a unique year of continuing challenges, of joys and sorrows, Bible classes, meetings, worship services and ministries. And it continued to be a year of countless blessings from our Lord. It was all of this and more, for 2021 was a: "Year of our Lord" at St. John.

2021 STATISTICS

Deaths: 3 / Infant Baptism: 1 / Released: 1 / Removed: 4

Membership

Baptized Souls: 400 / Communicants: 224