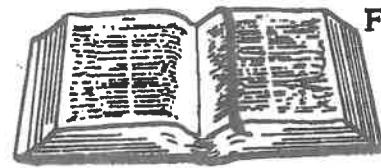




*'Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love'*



A Message  
From  
the Pastor

## TIME FOR GOD

The year 2022 is about over and the year 2023 is ready to begin. But, if you're like me, you look back at 2022 and think, "The year can't be over yet, there's still so much I want to do, I need to do! I need more time!

There doesn't seem to be enough time in the year to do everything you want and need to do. And sadly, sometimes with so much to do and so little time to do it all, we can spend our time on things really not that important and give little or no time for that which is most vital in our life.

**Our time is oh so precious, filled with our own cares.  
But how much of this precious time do we devote to prayers?**

**"Oh Lord, please help me!" we cry in our hour of need!  
But when our lives are going well do we ever pay Him heed?**

**But He'll continue to love us just the way we are, and  
the next time when we need Him, sure enough He won't be far.**

**How long can we continue to live our lives this way,  
letting the Lord watch over us without caring enough to pray?**

**He gave his LIFE for us you know, asking nothing in return.  
His love He gives us freely; it's not something we must earn.**

**So the next time you call on the Lord, and He asks, "What can I do?"  
Say, "Nothing Lord, You've done it all! Thanks, and I love you."**

*There is no problem too big and no question too small,  
Just ask God in faith and He'll answer them all.  
Not always at once, so be patient and wait,  
For God never comes too soon or too late.  
So trust in His wisdom and believe in His Word,  
For no prayer is unanswered and no prayer is unheard.*

In this coming New Year, may we always find enough TIME FOR GOD, as we also heed His Word: 'The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by PRAYER and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.' (Phil. 4:5-6)

*Have a Blessed New Year in Jesus Christ, your Savior and Lord,*

  
Pastor Jeff G. Gavin

# **IN THE YEAR OF THE LORD - 2022**

## **The Year In Review**

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

### **2022 WAS FOR ST. JOHN, A YEAR OF:**

- + Covid 19 and all its new variants remained a presence in society and in the life of the Church, with a number of our members contracting Covid.
- + Covid adjustments in our worship practices continued: the wearing of face masks became optional, yet Pastor still conducted worship without assistants and our revised way to receive Holy Communion has remained in place.
- + 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.
- + The fundraiser: "Amazon Smile" has brought us some additional funding; as we encourage more people to use it for their on-line purchases.
- + Our neighbor: Mount Prospect Senior Living has become a regular ministry opportunity for us. Pastor conducts monthly Devotional Bible Classes and has begun offering Holy Communion to Lutheran residents. A Crafting session was held there by a member and her family. And another: "Christmas At St. John" welcomed residents for a special service before Christmas. The residents are very grateful for our ministry to them.
- + Historical tours of our church and cemetery resumed in 2022 for classes from two Mt Prospect elementary schools. Over a month of mornings at least 400 students, teachers and parents attended these tours conducted by Pastor.
- + Spring began a series of acts of vandalism which continued into the Fall. Broken windows and even entry into the lower level of our school building caused concern for us and the police. These were young kids, as young as 12 years old who did this damage costing us money and the need to install additional physical security measures.
- + It was a year of career milestones for Pastor: 30 years serving St John and 40 years in ministry.
- + In anticipation of a milestone for our St John, a 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee was formed to plan for the celebration of this anniversary on September 17, 2023.
- + We have appreciated the presence of our Organist Marion Kehrberg over the year. That is until on Christmas Eve when she was in an auto accident which resulted in a fractured right arm. Both Christmas Eve and Day were "interesting" services without any musical accompaniment.
- + The first viable Letter of Intent to purchase our school property was received in the Summer. This resulted in presentations to the Village regarding our building plans next to the church. The response from the Village was beyond our expectations forcing us to reevaluate the viability of future construction as we continue our discussions with the Village.
- + Our leaders, board members, our St. John Family members and many willing volunteers worked together to keep the ministries of our church going. We appreciate all their hard work and efforts to meet the needs and challenges we face.
- + We are so grateful to everyone who aided, assisted and supported St John during this year.

It was a year of births and deaths, joys and sorrows, Bible classes, meetings, special worship services, visits, programs and ministries and countless blessings from our Lord.

It was all of this and more, for 2022 was a: "Year of our Lord" at St. John.

### **2022 STATISTICS**

Deaths: 5 / Infant Baptism: 3 / Released: 1 / Removed: 4 / Transfer In: 4  
Transfer Out: 11 / Youth Confirmation: 1

### **Membership**

Baptized Souls: 387 / Communicants: 206



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.

Please join us for our **Mid-Week Bible Class** on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the school building.

**PASTOR** . . . has resumed taking Fridays as his "Day Off". Even though he may sometimes be in his office, he is scheduling no work; so Please do not Visit him, or Phone him on Fridays. If there is a true Emergency, call him on his Cell: (630) 776-2382. Thank you.

### ALTAR FLOWERS . . .

**DUE TO NEW FLOWER PRICES...ALTAR FLOWERS CAN COST AS LITTLE AS \$20.**

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](mailto:jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net) **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY!**



**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**

**amazonsmile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.

**Support: St. John Lutheran Church**  
**When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://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.**



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



### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Along with "Birthday Greetings", we also wish a "Happy Anniversary" to those couples who were married during each month by printing their marriage date.


If you are unsure if we might have a record of your wedding date . . . please contact the church office (847-593-7670, ext 1) with this information. We would like to include all of our married couples and wish to them . . . **"Happy Anniversary"**:

Armando & Marsha Hernandez	January 6
John & Brittany Coleman	January 8
Matthew & Elizabeth Welsch	January 13
Santiago & Laurel Marin	January 14

<> <> <> <> <> **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 1 2023
	<b>Our St. John Lutheran Church</b> 1100 Linneman • Mt. Prospect, Illinois
	CURRENT EXPENSES . . . \$ _____
	MISSIONS and SYNOD . . . \$ _____
	_____ \$ _____
	Name _____ \$ _____
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.	

- \* 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!

In 2023 St. John will celebrate its 175th Anniversary. The Celebration Service will be on **September 17th**, but watch for other, celebrations during the year.



### 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 Marion Kehrberg, for all her fine work. A thank you also to Jon Tertel who assisted Pastor in so many ways.

Thanks to Joe Schubkegel, George, Gary Smogolski 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.

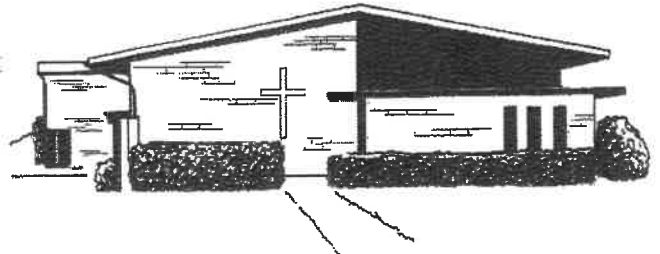
May the Christ of Christmas remain with you throughout this year and continue to bless all aspects of your life.

*Pastor Jeff & Lynn*

# St. John Lutheran Church



*"Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love"*



**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1100 South Linneman Road  
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

**Sunday Services:** 8 & 10:30 AM  
**Sunday Bible Classes:** 9:15 AM  
**Mid-Week Bible Class:** Wed. at 10 AM

**Telephone:** (847) 593-7670  
**www.stjohn-mpil.org**

JANUARY 2023

**FIRST CLASS**  
**MAIL**

*The Contact NEWSLETTER*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1100 LINNEMAN ROAD  
MOUNT PROSPECT IL 60056