

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH THE EAGLE

VOLUME LXIII

DECEMBER 2023

ISSUE Nº 11

Available online @ www.stjohnnorfolk.org

From Our Pastor

My Dear Family in Christ,

The first Sunday in Advent, December 3, 2023, ushers in the beginning of the liturgical Christian Year. So happy new year! The Gospel reading from Cycle B will be primarily from Mark, the earliest and shortest of the four Gospels, supplemented by readings from the other three. It is a Gospel that can be read with profit in one sitting if you choose, as well as a beginning for reading the entire New Testament.

One of the loveliest hymns celebrating the entire Christian Year was written by an English lady named Kate Hankey. She was a tireless and dynamic witness to the Christian faith who put that faith into action and good works.

She was born in Clapham, England, 1834 and died in Westminster, London, England, 1911. She was the daughter of a wealthy banker and was associated with the Clapham sect of William Wilberforce, a group of prominent evangelical Anglicans from the Clapham area. This group helped to establish the British and Foreign Bible Society, promoted the abolition of slavery, and was involved in improving the lot of England's working classes. Hankey taught Bible classes for shop girls in London, visited the sick in local hospitals, and used the proceeds of her writings to support various mission causes. Her poem:

Advent tells us Christ is near;
Christmas tells us Christ is here!
In Epiphany we trace
All the glory of his grace.

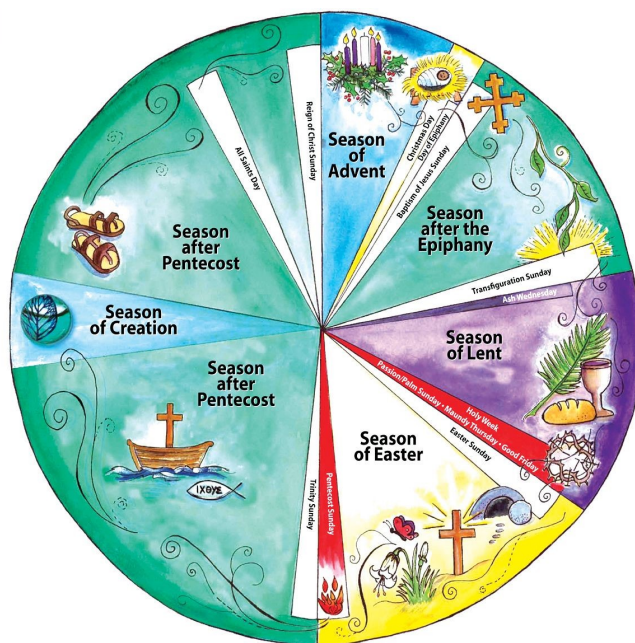
Those three Sundays before Lent
Will prepare us to repent,
That in Lent we may begin
Earnestly to mourn for sin.

Holy Week and Easter, then,
Tell who died and rose again:
O that happy Easter Day!
"Christ is risen indeed," we say.

Yes, and Christ ascended, too,
To prepare a place for you;
So we give him special praise,
After those great forty days.

Then, he sent the Holy Ghost,
On the day of Pentecost,
With us ever to abide:
Well may we keep Whitsuntide!

Last of all, we humbly sing
Glory to our God and King,
Glory to the One in Three,
On the Feast of Trinity.



Happy New Year,
Pastor Don+



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am

Adult Bible Study

10:30 am

Worship Service

OUR MISSION

*We are a family
of Christ,
committed to serving,
teaching, welcoming
and loving
all God's people.*

Celebrating
70 Years
of Ministry
in Ocean View
1953-2023



From Our Council President

At the November meeting Council approved the following:

- One worship service at 10:30 on December 24th to be a combination of the 4th Sunday in Advent and Lessons and Caroles for Christmas Eve. Pastor Barb Krumm will preside.
- Nominating Committee reports the following persons agreed to run for our 2024 Council to be voted on at our December 10th Congregational Meeting:
Gail Davidson-2nd term
Judy Farmer- 1st term
Karen Sutton-2nd term
- Approved Pat Kindred and Deb Midgett as signatures on our Thrivent Mutual Funds account
- Approved the use of St. Matthias Hall after worship on the four Sundays in Advent for Soup and Bread meals
- Approved the use of St. Matthias Hall on November 19th after worship for a Thanksgiving Potluck meal
- Approved the use of St. Matthias Hall for the Boy Scouts' Pinewood Derby on February 17th, set up on the 16th
- Approved the use of St. Matthias Hall on February 18th for a Winter Picnic sponsored by WELCA
- Approved an increase in the cost of a columbarium niche to \$900.00 effective December 1, 2023.

Deck the Halls - Saturday, December 9th at 9:00 am

The salary increase request by our Bookkeeper was tabled until all bookkeeping duties connected to the School are completed.

St. John's school closed on October 31, 2023. Council discussed terminating the school's dedicated phone line and the web site references to the school. School related calls can be taken by our Parish Secretary. Plans to clean out classrooms during the first quarter of 2024 werediscussed.

The Long Range Planning Committee meets again on December 6th at 6:00 pm at Church. Gerard has information to share about our property.

Our contractor, Gary, plans to have heat in St. Matthias Hall by the end of November.

Pastor's microphone is waiting for Synod disbursement of the grant funds approved. Gail agreed to email our Synod representative.

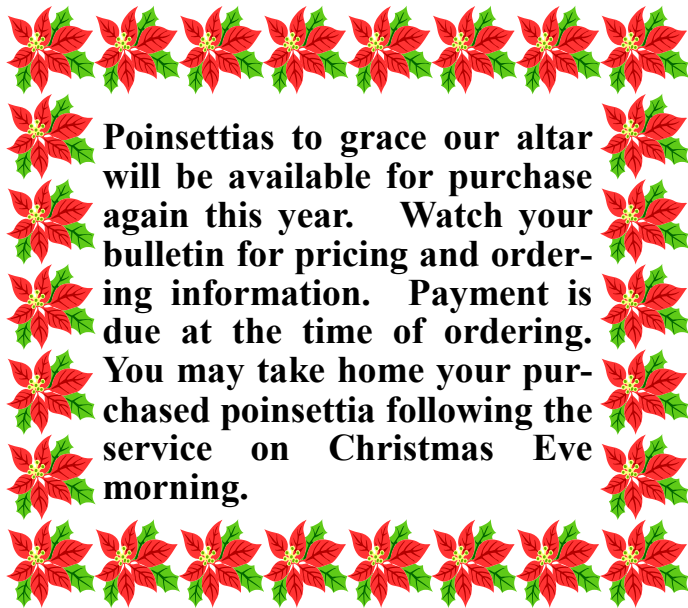
Tara Taffe offered the Scouts' assistance in painting the newly upgraded kitchen walls.

Karen Sutton, Financial Secretary reported offerings decreased in October. Over \$15,000 is needed for the remaining two months to meet our projected budget for pledges. Stewardship was discussed at the Thanksgiving Potluck. Thanks to all for your continued support of the church through your time, Talents and financial support.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Davidson, Council President

Worship Attendance

Date	Congregation	Choir/Assistants	Nursery	Total
October 1, 2023	24	7	0	31
October 8, 2023	22	6	0	28
October 15, 2023	24	6	0	30
October 22, 2023	24	6	0	30
October 29, 2023	23	6	2	31



A Gentle Membership Reminder

To remain an active Voting member in this Church Family, all that is required is one (1) Offering of Record and one (1) Communion of Record in a calendar year.

Please do so in these next two months if you have not already.

All of you are a valuable part in the life of the Congregation. Thank you for your consideration, your grace, and your voice.

Budget Update – October 2023

Monthly Revenues	\$54,350.89
Monthly Expenses	\$61,894.75
Year to date Revenues	\$132,513.84
Year to date Expenses	\$329,554.14
Year to date: Actual Revenue less Actual Expenses	(-\$197,040.30)
<i>Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.</i>	

The committee met on November 15th and discussed the December 24th service, changing the worship setting on the first Sunday in Advent, home communion and worship assistants needed. Barb Krumm agreed to co-chair this committee.

In Christ's service, Gail Davidson



December Anniversaries

14 ~ Bill ♥ Carolyn Moran
32 years



December Birthdays

13 ~ Catherine Duke
16 ~ Ellen Wilson
30 ~ Jim Dollar

Happy Birthday!

DECEMBER EVENTS

Decking the Halls

Saturday, December 9th at 9:00 AM
Come and help spruce up the Church!



Advent Soup Suppers and Worship

Sunday Afternoons
December 3rd, 10th, 17th & 24th
Soup Supper after the Sunday Morning
Worship Service in St. Matthias Hall.
Sign-up Sheets are on the bulletin board.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, December 10th following Worship

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24th
Worship Service with Communion and
Lessons and Carols
at 10:30 AM

The Greatest Gift



St. John
Lutheran Church
Annual
Advent Open House

*Sunday, December 3rd following Worship
Join us in St. Matthias Hall
for great food, Fellowship,
and some caroling!
All are invited and welcome!*



SEN-RETS

Annual Christmas Party

The Senior Group at St. John will celebrate
Christmas with a luncheon at the Azalea Inn
in the Roosevelt Shopping Center on December 13th at 11:30am.

Anyone over 55 is welcome to attend.
Please contact Emily Kircheval for more information.



Reverse Advent Calendar

We invite you to participate in Reverse Advent. Start with an empty box and each day, add the designated item to your box.

December 1 - box of cereal
December 2 - jar of peanut butter
December 3 - box of stuffing mix
December 4 - boxed or canned potatoes
December 5 - box of macaroni and cheese
December 6 - canned fruit
December 7 - canned tomatoes
December 8 - canned tuna
December 9 - dessert mix
December 10 - jar of applesauce
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
December 12 - cranberry sauce

December 13 - canned beans
December 14 - box of crackers
December 15 - package of rice
December 16 - package of oatmeal
December 17 - package of pasta
December 18 - jar of spaghetti sauce
December 19 - chicken noodle soup
December 20 - tomato soup
December 21 - can of corn
December 22 - can of mixed vegetables
December 23 - can of carrots
December 24 - can of green beans

On Christmas Eve bring your full box to church. All donations will go to the Food Pantry at the Episcopal Church of the Advent to help those in our Ocean View Community.

CHRISTMAS CARDS



Don't forget our in-house "Church Mailbox" to place your Christmas cards to other members of the congregation.

ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1953 - 2023

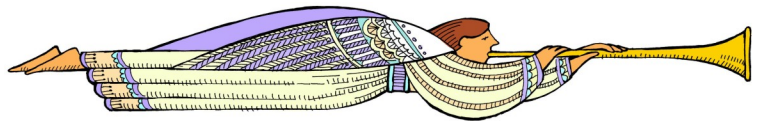
Celebrating 70 years of Ministry!

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Email: churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org
Website: www.stjohnnorfolk.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

President: Gail Davidson
Vice President: Deborah Midgett
Council Secretary: Ellen Wilson
Financial Secretary: Karen Sutton
Director of Music: W. Lee Hendricks
School Director: Sheila Sanchez
Parish Bookkeeper: Carolyn Moran
Parish Secretary: Anne Combes



Merry Christmas from your Parish Staff:
Pastor Wilson, Lee, Anne & Carolyn!

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
FOR
2024 PROPOSED CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET DISCUSSION AND
VOTE AND ELECTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023
FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE**

**IF YOU ARE AN ACTIVE VOTING MEMBER OF ST. JOHN,
PLEASE PLAN ON BEING HERE AND STAYING
AFTER WORSHIP ON THIS DAY.**

**IF WE DO NOT HAVE A QUORUM, THE BACK UP DATE WILL BE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023
FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE.**

**THIS NOTICE SERVES TO INFORM YOU OF THIS MEETING
IN LIEU OF A SEPARATE MAILING.**