

ANNOUNCEMENTS – January 7th

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of John Takacs for his birthday on January 8th, and in honor of Meri Askins and Annika Probasco for their birthdays on January 9th, given by Joan Probasco (2 vases).

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

12-31-23: 8:00 am: 35 10:30 am: 59 Online: 10 Total: 104

OUR KNOWN HOSPITALIZED:

Sue Moszkowicz – St. Vincent Medical Center

PRAYER CHAIN CRITICAL/NEW: Mike Blazevich, Peggy Burke, Brenda Chambers, Family of Eleanor Cochenour, Duke, Family of Herb Frey, Family of Patrick Grzybowski, Fred Kruse, Janet Mooney, Teresa Nye, Family of Abraham Rivera Jr., Logan Roberts, Family of Gary Robeson, Tim Schmidlin, Family of Carolyn Schwierking, Skylar, Jerry Smith, Linda Smith, Greg Wagner, Steve Welling, Arlene Wilbarger.

****To better manage the prayer chain, only critical and new requests will be printed in the weekly announcements. All ongoing requests will be posted in the lounge, and narthex (lobby), and be included in the monthly newsletter. If you have any additions or changes to the prayer chain, please email office@firststjohn.com****

CALENDAR FOR JAN 7 – JAN 13

<u>Today</u>	8:00 am	- Early Service / Communion
	9:15 am	- Adult Sunday School (lounge)
	9:15 am	- JAM Sunday School (basement classrooms)
	10:30 am	- Late Service
<u>Monday</u>	9:30 am	- Quilting (lounge)
	6:30 pm	- Altar Guild (lounge)
<u>Wednesday</u>	10:30 am	- Church lounge reserved for Day School
	6:30 pm	- Day School Board Meeting
<u>Thursday</u>	11:00 am	- Adult Bible Study (lounge)
	6:30 pm	- Choir Practice

WELCOME to First St. John Lutheran Church! We're happy you're here. If you are visiting with us, please sign the guest book in the Narthex (lobby).

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Please remember to silence your cell phone before church begins. Thanks!

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS TODAY: All newly elected and incumbent members of Church Council, Day School Board, WELCA, and Altar Guild will be installed during both church services as they begin their 2024 duties.

POINSETTIA PICKUP If you purchased a poinsettia this year and have not yet picked it up, they are still available in the lounge. Please make sure you take yours after service today.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES: Are still available in the church lounge on the white tables along the wall. They are alphabetical order by last name for ease of finding them. Remember, even if you give online there are some special envelopes for tithing throughout the year so stop by and pick them up! If you do not have envelopes and would like some assigned to you, please call Jennifer in the church office as soon as you can at 419-691-7222.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL will resume today, January 7th, in the lounge. Each Sunday they study the gospel, or a reading from the Sunday service by using the three Cs- Context, Character, and Conclusions. Please join us for coffee, tea, donuts, and Bible study. Questions? See Bob Haar.

J.A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL will not meet today, and will resume next week on Sunday, January 7th at 9:15 am in the basement classroom of the church.

2nd YEAR CATECHISM will resume on Sunday, January 14th at 11:45 am following 2nd service.

THURSDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY will meet next on Thursday, January 11th at 11:00 am in the lounge. All are welcome to attend! It will be held every Thursday afterwards at 11:00 am weekly. Hope to see you there!

ALTAR GUILD will meet next on Monday, January 8th @ 6:30 pm in the lounge.

BELL CHOIR will take a few weeks off from practice and will begin again on Monday, January 22nd at 5:30pm.

QUILTING NEWS: We will begin quilting again on Monday, January 8th at 9:30 am in the lounge. We usually are there until about 1:00 pm. We quilt each Monday morning through the end of March, which will be March 25th. We follow Oregon Schools for any cancellations due to weather. Everyone is welcome, no experience necessary! If you have any questions, please call Jane Neal at 419-276-5057.

HANNAH CIRCLE will not meet in January but will meet again on February 7th at 6:30 pm.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST We will not have a Fellowship Breakfast in January. The next fellowship breakfast will be Saturday, February 3, at 8:30 am at Woodville Diner on Woodville Road.

WINSLOW SCHOLARSHIP NEWS: This scholarship is for high school seniors who are members of First St. John and will attend college for the 2023/2024 school year. Applications are in the church office. Stop by any time during office hours to pick up an application. Turn in your completed application to the church office by March 29th to be considered. Money is supplied from proceeds of the Winslow Memorial Golf outing held each summer, along with donations from church members.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING: We are collecting money and canned goods to help fund the Lutheran Social Services of Northwestern Ohio's local food pantry. Every dollar you donate will go directly to purchase food for the pantry. (Lutheran Social Services Food Pantry will be our monthly ministry outreach for February as well.) Grocery carts are available for your food donations, and a soup pot is in the Narthex to collect monetary donations—whatever you can give—to help Lutheran Social Services provide food for people in need.

MONTHLY MINISTRY OUTREACH for January and February will be the Lutheran Social Services (see above). Special pink envelopes are available in your pew if you would like to donate to this worthy cause. Make your check out to First St. John and write "LSS Food Pantry" on the memo line. Then place your envelope in the offering plate or mail it to the church. Thank you.

DISCOUNT CARD FUNDRAISER: The FSJ Day School is once again selling discount cards. For \$20 you will enjoy discounts at many different local businesses for an entire year. The card will pay for itself after just a few uses. Buy one today from either the Church or Day School office. They make great gifts. Please consider supporting this Day School fundraising effort! You can pick one up from Jennifer in the church office as well M-F 9am-4pm.

JANUARY NEWSLETTER: Thank you all for your patience with the delay of the January newsletter and calendar. We have been battling some computer issues, and end of year tasks but we apologize for the delay. It is now available for pick up in the Narthex (lobby) and the lounge if that is how you receive them. Newsletters were emailed and "snail" mailed on Friday, January 5th. Please let Jennifer know if you have not yet received it, or of any issues you may be experiencing.

DARTBALL The next Dartball matches will be held on Monday, January 15th at 7:30 pm. Both teams will play away games this week. FSJ Team #2 is currently in 1st place with 13 wins and 8 losses, and FSJ Team #1 is tied for 5th place with Trinity with 10 wins and 11 losses.

MOVIE NIGHT next movie night will be on **January 14th, 2024**. The movie is called "**The Hill**" based on a true story of a young man with a severe handicap. The light dinner will start at 5:30 PM with the movie starting around 6:15 PM. No charge. Just come enjoy with us!

FAMILY BLESSING SUNDAY: During worship on Sunday, **January 21st** you can come forward as a family (and yes, one person is a family in God's eyes) and receive a blessing. You can come with different people

in your family (you and your spouse, you and your extended family, etc.) or even those you consider family-as many times as you want. What a great way to start 2024!

PORTALS OF PRAYER The January-March copies of Portals of Prayer are now available in the Narthex (lobby), in the caddy on the wall outside the church, and in the lounge for pick-up. You can also pick up during the week at the church office, or request a copy be mailed to you at the church office at 419-691-7222 (office@firststjohn.com)

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY FOCUS FOR JANUARY is dish soap. **We are also low on women's hygiene products (pads/tampons).** Please deposit your items in the green bin in the lounge or the pull-out drawer in the narthex (lounge) under the bulletin board.

LOST AND FOUND any items found during the week or over the holidays are placed on the white tables in the lounge or with Jennifer in the church office. If you are missing any items, please feel free to contact the church office at 419-691-7222 to check and see if we may have them!

WE ARE HIRING! We are searching for a Facility Maintenance Manager. The primary function will be to perform the custodial duties and light maintenance work in the church/educational building, along with assisting the trustees in being present for outsourced inspections and repairs. For more information, please contact Pastor Rayl (pastor1@firststjohn.com) or contact the church office (419-691-7222).