

In the Congregation *January 2025*

Coffee and Fellowship for this Sunday will take place in Luther Hall. Our Courtyard is set up for our **Epiphany Divine Service** for Monday, January 6. We welcome you to worship at 7pm.

Installation of Officers and Board Members will be during our early service Sunday, January 12. We give thanks to those who served in 2024.

Our next **Voters Meeting** will be Sunday, January 26 at 12:30 in the Nave. If you would like to become a voting member of our congregation, contact the office, pastor, or any elder to get instructions on how you can become a voter.

Sound Words Academy returns Wednesday, January 8. Join us that evening for our meal beginning at 5:00, and Jr. Lutherans and Youth Catechesis classes at 5:55. Adult Bible Study will not take place until January 15. Remember to sign up on Sign up Genius for the meal.

Monthly Breakfast is Sunday, January 12. Join us for potluck in Luther Hall after our early service. There will be no adult or high school bible study, but the children's Sunday School will be held. St. John's youth will be preparing and cleaning up.

St. John's Youth in grades 3 through 12 are encouraged to help with our monthly breakfast on Sunday, January 12. Parents please check your email for details from Rachel. Assistance is needed to prepare and cut the food and pour drinks prior to the breakfast beginning. High school youth are encouraged to help clean up after the breakfast is complete.

2025 Contribution Envelopes are available to be picked up in the breezeway. Envelopes are in numerical order. See the signs noting the order of the boxes. Use the list on the boxes to find your envelope number. Members with an envelope number over 300 will not have a box of envelopes.

Dates are available for altar flowers. The 2025 Flower Chart is posted outside of the church offices. If you would like to provide flowers for any of the services in the coming year, print your name beside the date you choose.

New Portals of Prayer booklets are now available on the breezeway table. Pick one up and put it with your Bible in a place at home to remind you to have daily devotions. Portals of Prayer is offered to the entire congregation free of charge; take an extra copy to give to a friend.

The sixth annual **Kansas District Life Conference** here at St. John's is on Wednesday, January 29. There is no registration fee, but boxed lunches will be available for \$10 each. For more information and registration, go to <https://kslcms.org/caring-ministry/life-ministry/2025-life-conference/>

	Monthly	YTD
Treasurer's Report		
Nov 2024 Total Income(General Fund)	\$71592.25	\$650,068.47
Nov 2024 Total Expenses	\$69,930.45	\$815144.88
Current Monthly Total	\$1,661.80	(\$165,076.41)
Financial Secretary's Report		
Nov 2024 Contribution Receipts	\$69,463.18	\$634,863.34
Nov 2024 Projected Monthly Receipts	\$61,652.00	\$678,172.00
Over/Under Budgeted Contribution	\$7,811.18	\$43,308.66

St. John's Youth & Family Events 2025

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
Sunday, January 12	Help serve & clean up Monthly Breakfast (3rd through 12th grade)
Saturday, February 1 (weather permitting)	Skiing and tubing at Snow Creek
Friday, February 21	LEAP trampoline park
Sunday, March 9	Watch <i>The Sound of Music</i> youth edition at Helen Hocker Theater
Sunday, March 23rd	Zipline at Wildwood Adventure Park
July 8th - July 11th	Higher Things Conference in Seward, NE (for high schoolers and confirmed youth)



St. John's Women's League (LWML)

Sarah Circle's next meeting will be January 13 at 6:30 p.m. **Dorcas Circle** meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. Next meeting will be on January 14.

Thank you to everyone who helped with our Annual Christmas Luncheon, Bazaar and Bake Sale.


Mission Statement Led by the Holy Spirit, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Kansas District will equip women to proclaim Christ, support missions and serve the Lord with gladness.

Dates to Remember

June 26-29, 2025

LWML National Convention in Omaha, NE


There is an upcoming conference you may be interested in attending



**THE GOSPEL SHOWS
THE FATHER'S GRACE**

February 28–March 1 | A+D 2025

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
1300 Beldine Road, Collinsville, IL 62234



**THE FAITH
OF OUR FATHERS**



**THE FAITH
OF OUR FATHERS**

The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

The proper understanding of the Law of God is essential for a Christian. Unfortunately, there has been much disagreement in American Lutheranism concerning the role of the Law in the Church. Last year, we focused on the dangers of antinomianism, the importance of the third use of the law, and how these topics have impacted the Missouri Synod's preaching and teaching in recent years. This year, we will be focusing on the beautiful harmony of God's Law and Gospel and how His promises shape the Christian life. As recently sainted John Warwick Montgomery said, "The answer to antinomianism, social-gospel legalism, and existential relativism lies not only in the proper *distinction* between Law and Gospel, as C. F. W. Walther so effectively stressed, but also in the proper *harmony* of Law and Gospel, as set forth in the classic doctrine of the Third Use of the Law."

Over two days at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Collinsville, IL, **February 28th and March 1st**, we will learn about and discuss God's Law and Gospel, preaching, growth and struggle in the Christian life, and what the Lutheran Confessions have to say about all these matters.

This conference is for both laity and pastors. Come join us for good theology, fellowship, and maybe even a little fun!

Speakers and Preachers: Speakers: Rev. Ben Ball; Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss; Rev. Dr. Thomas Egger; Rev. Dr. Gifford Grobien; Rev. Andrew Packer; Rev. Andrew Preus; Rev. David Ramirez; Rev. Joshua Scheer Rev. William Weedon; and, Rev. Andy Wright.

Learn more and register for the conference at:
<https://yourgrandfatherschurch.org/>

ST. JOHN'S CLASSICAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

News & Notes



Astronomy and Music

by Bethany Johnson

If you take a moment some time and ask the school children what their favorite constellation is, they would be eager to tell you! During the October and November months, the K-2nd graders learned about 23 constellations, listened to a story from Greek mythology associated with each constellation, and completed an activity that related to it. The 4/5 graders have also been learning astronomy in their science class with Mrs. Kosmicki.

For one of their lessons, they learned about the constellation Lyra. This constellation represents the lyre of Orpheus. His music was so powerful that it even calmed inanimate objects. Like the stars in the sky, music is ordered in such a way to paint a picture, tell a story, or express a character.

Astronomy and music go together because of the "number" that is embedded in creation.

Astronomy is the study of number in space and time, while music is the study of number in time (in addition, geometry is the study of number in space). These subjects make up the "quadrivium" that is prevalent in classical education: arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music.

In classical education the connection between various subjects and studies allows for a wholesome formation of a child's exposure to the ordered creation of God's world and fosters the love and appreciation for all of the stories and sounds that are connected to it.

Prayer

Lead is not into temptation.
But deliver us from evil.
(6th and 7th petitions)

Join Us

- Memorizing the Lord's Prayer (petitions and meanings) from Luther's Small Catechism
- Office of Matins every morning (8:30-9:00 a.m.) during the school year. Please enter Luther Hall doors by 8:30 to enter



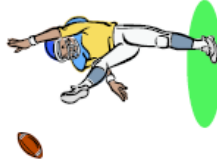
Highlights

- Learning about the Annunciation and Visitation of our Lord, the birth of John the Baptist and the song of Zachariah
- Singing at church, the Bazaar, Atria, and the Christmas program
- Field trip to the Mulvane Art Lab
- Reading the Pilgrim's Progress 4/5)
- Reading about Hiawatha (4/5)
- Learning about the Names of Jesus (K/1)
- Reading Little House in the Big Woods (2)
- Reading Frog and Toad (1)
- Learning about Christmas Around the World
- Completing their Latin Advent calendar



Doorstep's 2025

**“SOUPERBOWL
SUNDAY” IS
FEBRUARY 9TH**



**BRING
SOUP
AND
CRACKERS**

**TO YOUR FAITH
COMMUNITY
FEBRUARY 7th – 9th
TO HELP STOCK
DOORSTEP'S FOOD
PANTRY!**



**Our Goal this year is 5 ton = 10,000 pounds!
We can beat last year's total... Let's Do It!!!**

Doorstep Newsletter Article – January 2025

Happy New Year! First and foremost, thank you to everyone who assisted Doorstep in some way to provide Christmas for 260 households with 822 individuals this past December! We tried to provide each person with an item from their wish list, along with books, board games, health kits, blankets, food for several meals, school supplies, if appropriate, and gift cards.

The year 2024 felt a bit like a repeat of 2023 in many ways! The needs of our neighbors remained at an increased level. We provided over 2,700 food orders in 2024, exceeding the higher number we provided in 2023. Doorstep assisted with over 150,000 pounds of food to feed our neighbors and spent over \$75,000 on food purchases to keep the shelves stocked at Doorstep! Our food budget in two years went from \$6,900 to \$75,000; that is an increase of 1,100%! Doorstep applied for more grants to assist with food purchases and our supporting congregations and individuals stepped up to donate more food, and monetarily so we could buy food in bulk. At this point, we do not expect a big decrease in the need in 2025 and our budget reflects the amount we anticipate having to spend to feed our neighbors in need.

One way to help in the first part of 2025 is by donating towards our annual SouperBowl Sunday's collection of soup and crackers! During the weekend of the Super Bowl (February 7th – 9th) we ask our member congregations to collect soup, all varieties, and crackers to help stock our food shelves. A successful event will keep our soup shelves stocked for a few months, at least!

In 2024, we had a goal of 5,000 pounds, and we received over 8,400 pounds!!!!

“Let's do it again this year with a new goal of 5 ton = 10,000 pounds of soup and crackers!!”

I cannot stress enough just how thankful and blessed we feel to have the partnership and support of our Mission Members (formerly congregations) as we all work to help our neighbors in need. Of course, our volunteers are an incredibly valuable resource, and Doorstep could not be open without their constant assistance! And, the support of our whole community when Doorstep, and those we help, continues to be inspiring to the work we do!

Blessings,

Lisa Cain, Executive Director

January 2025 St. John's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 10am DIVINE SERVICE	30	31 EVE of CIRCUMCISION & NAME OF JESUS OFFICE CLOSED AT NOON	1 CIRCUMCISION & NAME OF JESUS OFFICE CLOSED 10am CIRCUMCISION & NAME OF JESUS DIVINE SERVICE in Courtyard	2	3	4
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	6 EPIPHANY 8:30am MATINS 1pm LWML EXEC 7pm DIVINE SERVICE in Courtyard	7 8:30am MATINS	8 8:30am MATINS 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY (NO ADULT BIBLE STUDY) 7pm EVENING PRAYER	9 8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS 7:15pm KANTOREI	10 8:30am MATINS	11
BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 8am DIVINE SERVICE & INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE	13 8:30am MATINS 6pm ADULT CATECHESIS 6:30pm SARAH CIRCLE	14 8:30am MATINS 1pm DORCAS CIRCLE 4pm PARISH ED 5:30pm STEWARDSHIP 6pm MISSIONS/EVANG	15 8:30am MATINS 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm EVENING PRAYER	16 8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	17 8:30am MATINS	18 CONFESSION OF ST. PETER
SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	20 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6pm ADULT CATECHESIS	21 8:30am MATINS 4:30pm TRUSTEES 4:30pm SJCLS BOARD 6:30pm COUNCIL	22 8:30am MATINS 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm EVENING PRAYER	23 8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	24 ST. TIMOTHY 8:30am DIVINE SERVICE	25 CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm VOTERS MTG	27 8:30am MATINS 6pm ADULT CATECHESIS	28 8:30am MATINS	29 DISTRICT LIFE CONFERENCE 8:30am MATINS 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm EVENING PRAYER	30 8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	31 8:30am MATINS	1

Coming Up

Sun.	8:00	Divine Service
	9:20	Coffee & Fellowship in Luther Hall
	9:45	Sunday School/Bible Study
	11:00	Divine Service
Mon.	8:30	Matins
	1:00	LWML Exec
	7:00	Epiphany Divine Service in Courtyard
Tues.	8:30	Matins
Wed.	8:30	Matins
	10:00	Women's Bible Study
	5:00	Sound Words Academy <i>No Adult Bible Study</i> <i>Meal: Potato Bar</i>
	7:00	Evening Prayer
Thur.	8:30	Matins
	6:15	Ecclesia Bells
	6:30	Elder Calling
	7:00	Elders
	7:15	Kantorei
Fri.	8:30	Matins
Sun.	8:00	Divine Service & Installation of Officers
	9:20	Monthly Breakfast
	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Divine Service

St. John's Classical Lutheran School attends Matins Service weekdays at 8:30 a.m.
All the congregation is welcome to attend and worship with the students and faculty.
Please use the Luther Hall doors to enter.

Daily Readings...

Monday (1/6): Isaiah 66:1-20; Luke 3:21-38

Tuesday (1/7): Ezekiel 1:1-14, 22-28; Romans 1:1-17

Wednesday (1/8): Ezekiel 2:1 - 3:11; Romans 1:18-32

Thursday (1/9): Ezekiel 3:12-27; Romans 2:1-16

Friday (1/10): Ezekiel 18:1-4, 19-32; Romans 2:17-29

Saturday (1/11): Ezekiel 33:1-20; Romans 3:1-18

Sunday (1/12): Ezekiel 34:1-24; Romans 3:19-31

Prayer of the Week

Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Looking forward to next week.

~ The Feast of the Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

~ Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

Joshua 3:1-3, 7-8, 13-17, Isaiah 42:1-7 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 Matthew 3:13-17



901 SW Fillmore, Topeka, KS 66606-1445

"CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED"



THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19–20a)

So that we may obtain faith in Christ, God instituted the ministry of teaching the gospel and administering the sacraments. Through the gospel and sacraments, as through means, God gives the Holy Spirit who produces faith, where and when He wills, in those who hear the gospel. (*Augsburg Confession*, Article 5)