

eNews January 8/9, 2022



THE MINISTRY OF

St. John Lutheran

PROCLAIMING AND PRACTICING THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Seward, Nebraska

Worship

[This Week's Worship](#)
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Church-Wide News



Epiphany of Our Lord

Observed Jan. 8/9 – Communion at all Services

What a joy it is to celebrate the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ (January 6)! This festival day will be celebrated in all three services at St. John this weekend. The removal of the greens from the sanctuary will take place immediately following the 11am service. If you and your family would like to help remove the greens, please dress accordingly and plan to be at church at 12pm. Please join us in these Epiphany celebrations as we give thanks to God for the Light of Christ shining into all the world.

"Walk Thru the Bible" Is Coming!

Explore the Old Testament from 30,000 feet in 3 hours with friends and neighbors from the Seward community. The unique part about WTB is the use of kinesthetics (hand motions) to remember and internalize God's big picture and His work through history. In person or livestream. No previous Bible knowledge expected.

Sat. Feb. 5, 9–12pm

Harvest Hall, Seward Fairgrounds, 1625 Fairgrounds

Adult / Youth (ages 6th grade and up) \$20 per person

Children (1st-5th grades) \$10 per person

Register online [here](#)

For more information contact [DCE Tim](#).



Trivia Night - Jan. 21



The 12th annual PTL Trivia Night is coming to the AG PAVILLION on Fri., Jan. 21! Start recruiting your team for Seward's most fun night of the year! Doors open at 5:45pm, and trivia starts at 7:15pm. Your team writes answers to questions in ten themed rounds, such as Sports, Movies, History, Bible or Food. Between rounds, bid at the silent auction, visit the cash bar or play "Dead or Alive". Bring favorite snacks for your table. Dress up your team and table to win the spirit award. The team with the most correct trivia answers wins \$400; second place wins \$200. All proceeds will benefit the children of St. John. Cost is \$200 per table of 8 players. [Registration is open](#) and [Silent Auction Information](#) is available. If you have questions, please email stjohntrivia@gmail.com or call Michelle Meyer at 402-219-3008. Also, contact Michelle to be a corporate or memorial sponsor for a team or trivia round.

Announcements

Associate Pastor Call Committee Update

Two pastoral candidates will be coming in January for on-campus interviews with the call committee and church and school leadership. After those visits the committee will discuss what we learned and seek God's will for how to proceed. At each step of the process various candidate names have fallen out of consideration for a variety of reasons. As these are often private matters in the lives of candidates, we do not share them publicly. In some cases even the committee members do not know specific details. Regardless, we continue to diligently seek God's will for His family at St. John. Your prayers for the process, committee, and candidates are much appreciated! Respectfully submitted, Philip Hendrickson, Call Committee Chair

Principal Call Committee Update

The following individuals have allowed their names to stand on our call list as of December 15, 2021: Preston Doerr (Omaha, NE), Jonathan Heinemann (Arlington Heights, IL), Greg Johnson (Portage, MI), Barb Mertens (Munster, IN) and Joshua Swartz (Frankenmuth, MI). If you have any insights from personal contact with these individuals, please share your input soon with any member of the call committee: Michelle Meyer (chair), Justin Hannemann, Allegra Koehler, Mark Minchow, Sandy Schmidt, Pam Simpson, Sam Sommerer, Aaron Stitt or Don Weber. Pastor Bruick and Lisa Aring are serving as advisory members of the call committee. Please continue to pray that God will guide the committee's work and bring His chosen servant to lead our school ministry.

Second Grade Teacher Call Process Update

Thank you to all who nominated candidates for the second grade position that will be open beginning in the fall of 2022 following the retirement of Mrs. Connie Meyer. Nineteen individuals were nominated and contacted and of them, the following eleven were open to being considered for the call: *Jalynn Brase; Janessa Brase; Faith Doerr; Rebekah Henschen; Grace Huesmann; Katie Krause; Mary Krc; Amy Schmidt; Corinn Selander; Pam Simpson; and Christina Warnier.*

The call committee is working to get to know the candidates through review of written materials and multiple rounds of interviews and looks forward to continuing to discern the guidance of the Holy Spirit through this call process. Committee members include the following congregation members: Linda Brettmann; Tashia Dieckhoff; Anita Foor (chair); Deborah Gebhardt; Cindy Lemke; Kelby Nitz; Sheila Psencik (advisory); Alli Troester; Max Wake.

"Mission of God" Adult Bible Class

Coming in January and February, Rev. John Mehl will lead a class on The Mission of God. This material has been developed by John and will be offered in the fellowship hall on Sundays, 10-10:45am.

DARE2B News

Dare2B Jr. High Serves at Matt Talbot Kitchen Sunday, Jan. 9, 8:30am - 2pm. [Click here](#) for a signed permission form - it is required.

Jr. High Bible Class

No Jr. High Bible Class Sunday, Jan. 9. The Jr. High will be serving at the Matt Talbot Kitchen. If you are joining this service opportunity, meet at 8:15 in the school cafeteria.



Voting Assembly
Sunday, January 16, 10am, fellowship hall
 No Adult Bible Classes that day

Mattress Sale Fundraiser for Youth Attending National Youth Gathering

Sat., Feb. 19, 10am-4pm, St. John School Gym

There will be Therapedic, Wellsville and Englander mattresses on display available in all sizes. Priced up to 50% below retail store prices. Pillows, mattress protectors, sheet sets, bed frames, box springs, CordaRoys Convertible Bean Bag Chairs, weighted blankets, bed frames, adjustable bed bases and Infinity Massage products also available! The St John youth benefit from EVERY purchase made! Proceeds will be used to fund the trip to the National Youth Gathering in Houston next July. Tell your friends, and if you are considering a mattress, pillow(s), sheet set(s) or any other sleep accessories, come out to see us on Feb. 19. Our goal is to raise \$10,000+ this year!

**Support St. John Youth "in all things"**

St. John will be represented by 43 youth in Houston, TX, for the National Youth Gathering! Please help yourself to a NYG ornament in the narthex. Prayers and financial support are appreciated.

Child Development Center Opportunities

Love children? We have worker openings for early morning shifts, 6:30-8am, and after school shifts, 3:30-6pm. We are also in need of help over the Christmas break (college students home for break?) - age 16 and older may apply. You can find the application under Careers at <https://stjohnseward.org/cdc/> Please call 402-643-3122, if you have questions!

Volunteers Needed*Communion Set-up & Clean-up and Linen Laundering*

Help is needed in all three of these areas. If you would like to assist with these "altar guild" duties, please contact the church office (402-643-2983).

Coordinator or Co-ordinators for Godparent Program

St. John is currently seeking a coordinator (or possibly 2 co-coordinators) for the Godparent Program. This is the premier high school ministry and has been a blessing to youth for generations. Has the Lord blessed you to be a blessing to St. John teens in this way? Contact DCE [Tim Rippstein](#).

Godparent Leaders for Freshmen

St. John is currently seeking another Godparent Leader for new freshmen. We have one couple, Pat & Stacey Piskorski, but more freshmen are eager to continue to grow together in the Lord and with each

other. If you know of some mature, faithful Christian mentors gifted to lead and love teens, encourage them to contact DCE [Tim Rippstein](#).

Drivers for Out-of-Town Appointments

St. John provides rides to medical appointments, church and special events. We currently need more volunteers who can drive to Lincoln. Call Sue Wickersham at 402-643-6287 if you would like to serve in this way.

Sunday School

Teachers are needed for the kindergarten class and the 1st/2nd grade class for January through May. If you'd like to serve in this way or have any questions, please contact Michelle Meyer (402-219-2008 or mkerh.meyer@gmail.com) or Tim Rippstein (tim.rippstein@stjohnseward.org).

Lutherans For Life News

Life Week 2022: God Chose You - Calling All For Life Supporters!

Plan to join Lutherans For Life each day from **Sun., Jan. 16 – Sat., Jan. 22**, to learn about, share, and build excitement For Life in your home, church, school, and community! Each themed day will explore a distinct aspect of life ministry through local activities, online educational events, and interviews. Watch for more news on the [Lutherans For Life](#) Facebook page or on the [Lutherans For Life](#) website.

Nebraska Walk for Life, Sat., Jan. 29, Lincoln

Fellow Lutherans for Life are welcome to attend a brief worship service at the sanctuary of Trinity Lutheran Church at 724 S 12th ST, Lincoln. The service will start at 8:45am, and then the group will walk 3 or 4 blocks to the State Capitol building where they will hear from various speakers (10am). The group will then walk through downtown Lincoln to the UNL Student Union (14th and R) where they will hear from Ashley Bratcher, star of the movie "Unplanned." Please join the group as they walk for life. Donations of size 3-6 diapers and/or boxes of wipes are welcome in support of Forward (a ministry assisting families of Lincoln with these consumables). People can register to join the [Nebraska Walk for Life here](#).

Disaster Relief Donations for Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri

As you know, devastating tornadoes struck numerous communities across Arkansas, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Illinois in the evening and early morning hours of December 10 and 11. The death toll is staggering and continues to rise, while the devastation to property along the 250-mile storm path is unimaginable. In the wake of such destruction, the need for aid is great. Already, countless calls asking "How can we help?" have flowed into the Mid-South District LCMS office.

To assist with the relief effort, the Mid-South District has established a Disaster Relief Fund. Donations directed to this fund will be used for relief efforts in the tornado-ravaged communities. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you may make a gift online or by check payable to the [Mid-South District Office / 1675 Wynne Road / Cordova TN 38016](#). Please note "Disaster Relief Fund" on any gifts sent by check. [When donating online](#), please designate your gift as "restricted" for the Disaster Relief Fund.

You can also donate through the Missouri District LCMS. Any funds that are received over and above the need for assisting these affected congregations in Missouri will be sent to the Mid-South District to aid in their relief efforts in Western Kentucky. Visit <https://mo.lcms.org/donate> and choose "disaster relief" when prompted.

When Bad Weather Hits . . .

When weather or disaster dictates that worship services need to be cancelled, the church office will inform the community through the following means: ●church Facebook page; ●Channel 8 website – www.klknv.com (community cancellations); and ●Channel 10/11 website – www.1011now.com (community cancellations). When there is bad weather in the area, please use common sense and do not put yourself in harm's way. If services are held and you are unable to attend, you may always get a copy of the service on DVD or live-stream. [Livestream option: [Click here](#) for our YouTube channel, which also includes archived services.

Weekend Custodian Position

St. John needs a weekend custodian for locking and unlocking and light cleaning (mainly in the Sunday School room); 5-10 hours; if interested contact Jeff Adams at 402-643-2983; jeff.adams@stjohnseward.org.

Church Office Hours

The church office is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm.

St. John Is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

If you need someone to help you through a difficult time, call any of the following:

- church office (402-643-2983)
- Deanna Dowding (402-643-3148)
- Mary Ann Steinbeck (402-643-2677)
- Lana Urban (402-643-3964)



Sunday Bible Study Options

Worship Options

Recurring Events/Monthly Reminders

Please send Prayer Requests to sjcstaff@stjohnseward.org

If you know someone who is not getting emails from St. John, please contact brenda.rief@stjohnseward.org.



Newsletters of Interest

- [St. John Lutheran Church](#)
- [St. John Lutheran School "Parent Bulletin"](#)
- [St. John Child Development Center](#)
- [Nebraska District Lutheran Reporter](#)
- [LFL Life News](#)

- [Church Website](#)
- [Church Calendar \(public events only\)](#)
- [Christian Nurture - Faith Formation](#)
- [St. John Lutheran School](#)
- [St. John Child Development Center](#)
- [CUNE Events Link on Website](#)
- [St. John's Christ's Cupboard](#)
- [Food Bank of Lincoln Food Distribution Schedule](#)
- [Orphan Grain Train Lincoln Collection Center](#)

Give Now

[402-643-2983] [sjcstaff@stjohnseward.org] [stjohnseward.org]



St. John Lutheran Church | 919 N Columbia AVE, Seward, NE 68434

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