

Announcements December 15, 2024

Worship and Bible Study will be as follows:

Contemporary Worship “The Well” – 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study/Sunday School – 9:45a.m.

Traditional Service – 10:30 a.m.

Offering Plates are located in the back of the church on the tables and as you come forward for communion during the 8:30am service and passed during the 10:30am service.

Baptism

Today, during the 8:30am service, we rejoice in the sacrament of baptism of **Hattie Elizabeth Shutt**. The parents are Jared Shutt and Megan Sayles. Megan is the daughter of Andy & Debbie Sayles. The sponsors are Zeb Alford, Katie Alford, and Sarah Shutt.

Wednesday Advent Worship Service will be 7:00 PM on December 18. A light supper will precede the service at 5:30pm.

Christmas Eve Services will be **5:00 PM** (Traditional) and **7:00 PM** (Praise).

Christmas Day Service will be **10:30 AM** (Traditional).

No Sunday School or Bible Study on December 29!

Classical Music Concert – tomorrow night at 7:00pm

A concert showcasing the stars of tomorrow and a sprinkling of guest artists sharing music of Mozart, Bela Bartok, Louis Claude Daquin, and more plus Christmas favorites. Advanced Instrumental Students from the School of the Arts will be performing with guest artists. This is a fundraiser for the upcoming January Bach concert. Bring a friend or neighbor.

2025 Altar Flower Sign-up

The 2025 sign-up sheets for altar flowers are in the flower book in the back of the church. Sign up now for a week or two that are special to you! **January and February are needed now!**

Poinsettia Sign-Up – today is the last day!

Time to sign up for poinsettias for the altar again. **Deadline this year is today, December 15.** Please put your payment in the envelope that is next to the sign-up sheet and put in the offering plate or give to Kerstin in the office. **The price this year is \$15.00. The florist will NOT bill you.** The sign-up sheet is in the back of the church next to the Altar Flower book.

Gift Cards through the Scrip Card Program

Would you like to buy Christmas gifts that support St. John’s School? Consider buying gift cards for specific retailers through the Scrip Card program. You purchase the cards at face value, but the retailers give a portion of the cost back to the School. Order forms are located outside the church/school office, at the back of the church, or by visiting www.raiseright.com. Please submit order forms (either paper or online) or contact Rachel Orsborn at Rachel.orsborn@gmail.com by **Dec. 15 at 7 PM** if you are interested.

Blanket Donation Update

We were blessed to receive over 60 new blankets from our church and school families to be distributed in Avery County to those who lost so many of their home furnishings. Thank you so much for your generous support for this project.

Simple Suppers for Advent

December 18, 5:30- 6:30pm. This week's menu: Vegetable beef soup, rolls, orange Jello, hot dogs and buns, dessert, drinks. There will be a free will offering to cover food expenses. OR, if you prefer, BYOD (bring your own dinner), but remember this is not intended to be a potluck. It is an opportunity to take a night off from cooking. If you have questions, please email or call Leatha "Sam" Drouillard.

100th Anniversary Kick-off, January 11, 2025

Come to the Social Hall on January 11 for **ST. JOHN'S TRIVIA NIGHT**, a night of learning about St. John's past and present. Test your knowledge of St. John's history or learn about it with a fun night of trivia. There will be questions about the church and school, and a chance to enjoy fellowship with other members. Bring a favorite appetizer or dessert to share as we begin to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of St. John's. For more information see Gregg Vogelsmeier, 336-692-4036 or gvogelsm@att.net.

Small Group Bible Study

If you are interested in joining a small group Bible study, sign up on the sheet as you leave church or on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. Or you can contact Dot Anderson at dea821@twc.com. This is a great opportunity to study God's word and make new friends.

Stewardship Corner:

One bleak Christmas Eve many years ago, a Yale student, spending his vacation in settlement work in the lower end of New York City, found a German widow woman in a cheerless attic tenement with three little daughters that all had typhoid fever, without fuel or food or medical attention. He got fuel and made a fire, brought food and a doctor. One of the children died; the other two recovered. The woman came to the Neighborhood House, then to the church, then to Christ. Hearing of the famine in India, she made up her mind to show her gratitude by taking up the support of one or more Indian famine waifs in memory of the little girl whom she had lost. She was earning her living and supporting her family by scrubbing floors at night in a great office building in the neighborhood.

Out of her hard-earned wages, she began to set aside a dollar and a half a week, and found that she was able to take care of four famine waifs. She also began to interest herself in those about her neighborhood who were in poorer circumstances than herself.

On the following Christmas Eve, when I went to the new rooms to which she had moved from her attic tenement, I found that she had papered them with her own hands and had put in a baby organ that the children were learning to play. She gathered together a group of poor children for a Christmas party and got her fellow scrubwomen to join in providing for the treat. Out of the new-born love of her Savior, she soon had learned the great lesson of Christian giving.

Bake Sale

Baked goods will be available on Sunday mornings between services for \$1. These funds will go directly to the LCMS Youth Gathering fund.

St. John's online calendar

You are now able to access the happenings at St. John's via an online calendar. All events taking place at the church and some of the school events will be published on this calendar. You will be able to copy these events to your calendar. To access the calendar please go to our website or our app and click on the "News" button. <https://stjohnsws.com/news/> if you see any errors please contact the church office.

Contacting Pastor Tyson

If you need to reach Pastor Tyson, you may text him at #703-459-0518 or send him an email at Tlabuhn@stjohnsws.org. He will respond as soon as he is able. **Please refrain from contacting Pastor Tyson on Thursdays, this is his day off.** In the event of an emergency please contact your Elder first.

Confirmation Class – Room 100

The next Confirmation Class will be on **January 12, 2025.**

Event and Activity Form

If you or your group are interested in hosting an activity or an event on the campus of the church or school, please fill out an event/activity form, so that it can be approved to put on the church calendar. Please check the online calendar and with Kerstin to see if dates/rooms are available. Requests need to be made 30 days in advance. Events/ Forms are available in the church office, or you may email the church. churchsecretary@stjohnswws.org

Nursery open for Traditional Service

Our nursery is now open for the 10:30am service. It will be held in the 2-year-old classroom, **Room 106.**

Gluten Free Wafers

Are available upon request for communion.

Announcements

As a reminder, please submit your information to the church office by **noon on Wednesdays.** All requests need to come through the church office. Please refrain from last minute announcements on Sunday morning. Announcements will be read prior to the beginning of each service.

Tuesday Morning Ladies Bible Class

Ladies Bible Study is currently studying Micah. On **December 17** we will have a Christmas devotion and potluck luncheon. **We will not meet on December 24 and 31.** We meet each Tuesday morning at 10:30, for approximately an hour, in Room 102. All ladies are welcome. If you have questions, please email Sue Brake at sue.e.marks@gmail.com or call her at 908-447-4628.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our January get-together is **Jan. 19 from 2 to 4 pm** at the home of **Ann Carney, 5920 Greenhaven Drive, Winston-Salem.** (Mailing address is W-S, but the location is in **Clemmons.**) (336-602-1232) Everyone is welcome to join this wonderful caring ministry. Any questions please contact Cherry Horn (910) 617-8122), Ann Carney (336-602-1232), or Claudia Essbach (336-293-6380).

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Robbie Broedow in honor of Belle Broedow's 21st birthday.

Worship Assistants: **8:30am** –Bob Burke, Alex Sawicki, **10:30am** – Steve Anderson, Don Henderson.

Lector: **8:30am** – Claudia Essbach ; **10:30am** – Cherry Horn

Altar Guild for December: Sue & Ted Frake, Claudia Essbach, Renee Henderson

Crisis Control Item for December: **Hot Beverages** (Tea, Hot Cocoa, Instant Coffee) – **152 lbs. was collected for the month of December. That's a record! Thank you for your donations!**

Board of Directors Meetings:

Board of Directors meetings are held monthly, on the second Tuesday of each month. Congregational members are invited to attend. The next scheduled meeting will be **January 14, 2025.** If you have an agenda item that you would like to bring to the board, please send that item to Mark Meier at least two weeks in advance of the next scheduled meeting.

Board of Elders Meetings: Board of Elders generally meet at 7:30 PM on the third Tuesday of each month. **No meeting will occur in December.** The next meeting will be Tuesday, January, 21, 2025 at 7:30pm.

December Birthdays

Dec 16 Charla Anderson
Dec 17 Mia Michel
Dec 19 Gregg Vogelsmeier
Dec 24 Brandon Plyler
Dec 20 Tom Loke
Dec 29 Nichole Harden

December Anniversaries

Dec 19 Tim and Laura Nelson (37)
Dec 23 Earl and Phyllis Faggert (69)

December Ushers for 10:30am service

Steve Shannon
Lily Shannon
Rod Anderson