



The GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

February 2025

315-986-3045

Office M-FR 8:30am-12:30pm

www.pumpkinhook.org

Worship:

Sundays 9:45AM live & streaming

Wednesdays 7PM live & streaming



'Love is JOY we get from God!'

From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Bob Weidmayer



"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. **"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."** (John 13: 34-35 ESV)

The oxford dictionary defines a lighthouse as "A tower or other structure containing a beacon light to warn or guide ships at sea." The beacon light serves to warn of danger as well as a guide for sailors in peril on the water. What might the result be if the beacon light went out, or if the beacon light changed colors and was not visible? It may spell disaster if such things occurred, after all, the lighthouse has a job to do and it's important that the job is done properly.

Miriam Webster defines a Christian as "a person professing Christianity; a person treating other people in a kind or generous way." Just like a lighthouse has a purpose and a job to do, we as Christians have a purpose and a job to do: "To love one another as God has loved us."

God has poured His love into our hearts through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We have been fashioned into cities on a hill, to shine His light into the darkness.

How does that look? It looks like the picture above. We shine His love into the darkness. February is the month of love. It's more than hearts, candy and flowers. It's shining the light of God's love, displaying the brightness of His love in our hearts and reflecting it to the world around us.

A lighthouse does not need a super powerful light. A small light is reflected by a parabolic mirror to focus the brightness in a brilliant way through the darkness. God molds and focuses us to reflect the light of His love in the darkness of our world. A light that guides, that protects, a light that comforts and brings peace amidst the storms.

During this next month, I challenge you to find a way to be a lighthouse in your home and community. Reflect the light of God's love boldly. **Let's be a light!**

Serving Christ with you,
Pastor Bob Weidmayer +



Preschool News

Cheryl Power



Our annual open house was held on Saturday, January 25th. We were pleased with the turn out registering for the 2025-26 school year. We have 9 in our 4's class and 6 in our 3's class, which is great - it is only January! It's always a pleasure meeting new families and their sweet children.

After a long Christmas break, our preschoolers were excited to see each other and get right back into their normal routine.

Mrs. Kelly Hilton has joined our staff as a co-teacher and fits right in nicely at St. Johns Preschool. We are thrilled to have her!

The 3's have been learning about winter, friends, kindness, and celebrating love this month.

The 4's have been learning about winter, their bodies, hearts, and feelings.

We have been blessed with such wonderful preschoolers and preschool families this year.

We thank God every day for all of the support, and blessings that we receive at St. Johns Preschool.

"And God will supply every need of yours, according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me anytime.

Cheryl Power, Director

St. John's Christian Preschool

(585) 315-1819

Choir Director

Linda Braun



Psalm 98:1 "Sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him."

All are welcome to join us for Adult Choir rehearsals on Thursdays at 7pm. Please contact Linda Braun for more information: frau11braun@gmail.com.

We are looking forward to singing on:

February 2nd – 4th Sunday after Epiphany: LSB – Savior of the Nations Come

February 23 – 7th Sunday After Epiphany: LSB 845 – Where Charity and Love Prevail

March 5 – Ash Wednesday 7pm: Beautiful Savior by T. Fetke

Financial Secretary

Max Hogenes

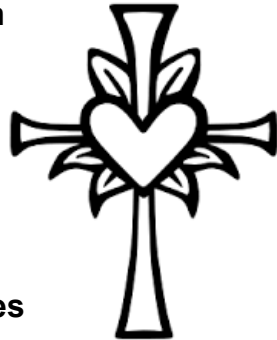
Our Financial Health as of January 29, 2025

YTD Giving Comparison

Giving = \$17,158

Prior Year = \$15,033

\$2,590



We give thanks

YTD Giving Vs. Expenses

Giving = \$17,158

Expenses = \$8,625

\$8,625



A huge, heartfelt thanks to the generosity of our congregation in early 2025!

President's Message

Steve Maier



As we have Christmas and Epiphany behind us, we get a short break before Easter is upon us. We are entering a time when the weather could be unpredictable, and we need to watch out when we are doing things like heading to the store or to church. Please make sure that you take extra care or reach out to someone to help if needed. We all dislike it when members of our church family are sick or hurt.

This also is a warning to watch out for people emailing or texting us messages that you might not recognize. If you are not expecting something, it could be a scam. I got something from my insurance company that just said to open the PDF file to get the information. I immediately called my insurance company to make sure it was real. It is easy to mess up and click on something accidentally. Do not be ashamed of it, many very smart people are fooled by these things.

I want to make sure that everyone is aware that the church will not send out a text message or email that is asking you to click on a link to give us money. If you get anything that says that St. John's Lutheran church needs you to authorize something, it is not true. Pastor Carl even was scammed to let people remote control his computer. If you get anything like this, please let the office know so that we can make sure it is legitimate. The end of the story for Pastor Carl was that he called the scammer back and said that he should do a better job to help others and said that he would pray for them. Stay safe inside your house and out. We hope to see you safely at church, soon!

Long Term Prayer List February 2025:

Members of St. John's

Nancy Bowerman	Gordon Hill	Doug Snyder
Karen Carey	Mia Howie	Chuck Thomas
Helen Schwartz	Kay Minwell	Emily Vokes
Richard Scofield	Heidi VanAken	Sandy Bastian

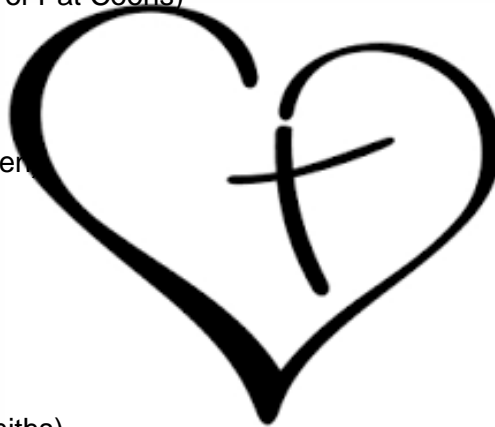
Family & Friends

Nadine Printup & Blaise Readon (Mary Meade)
David & Debbie Kuehnert (Don Kuehner's siblings)
Don Nugent (Chuck Thomas' father)
Wayne Grewe (brother of the Buckingham's & Sharon Jenkins)
Jane Barmaster, Autumn, Emily, Charlene, & Katie (Martha Barmaster)
The Cole family (family of Vicky Cole)
Kathleen Goodberlet (granddaughter of Jack & Maryann Bauer)
Joe Davenport (friend of Sharon Green & Candy Aldrich)
Bob & Lynn Steamer (sister & brother-in-law of Roger Carpenter)
Jeff, Peggy & the Coons children (family of Pat Coons)
Jo Donahue (Shawn Patience)
Pete Poulakis (family of the Plumbs)
Loreen Coyle (sister of Les Fleenor)
Keshap grandchildren (Bob & Barb Leister)
Dan Bauer (Luann Holtz & Jack Bauer)
Carl Ellerman (Candy Aldrich)
Jack Torrence (Karen Meyer)
Amy Klino (Lisa Maier's friend)
Erik (David Heckman's friend)
Stephen Fredrickson (Candy Aldrich)
Sharon Evans (friends of Barnes and Smiths)
Karen Butler (Candy Aldrich's sister-in-law)
Minister to Family (Betty & Rick Carr)
Bob Lundquist (Deb Savage's dad)
Julie Locey (Barnes family friend)
Gary & Carol (friends of Mary Ballou)

Military and their Families

ET3 Adam Hopseeker (the Barnes family)
SS Brian Heckman (the Heckman family)
LT Paul Kuehnert (Don Kuehnert)
LC Mercedes Buckingham (Sharon Jenkins)

For additions or changes please call the church office (315) 986-3045.



Sunday School

Linda Braun



Proverbs 25:6

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

This cold, snowy and rainy January hasn't slowed us down! St. John's Sunday School continues to meet on Sundays at 8:45. Our children are so excited every Sunday morning!

Our Elementary Class has enjoyed learning about the miracles of Jesus. We use the Simply Loved Curriculum. This provides music and videos to help reinforce the lessons.

Our 2nd year confirmands continue to prepare for their Confirmation this spring.

Special thanks to some of our younger members for filling our Acolyte position. If you see Aaron, Morgan Baxter, Lia and Jennifer Holtz, and be sure to thank them!

Soup and Sandwich Sign-up



Beginning at 6pm on March 5th during Lent. **Soup & Sandwich Supper**

Also, Watch out for plans for our Seder Dinner on Maundy Thursday, April 17th.

Upcoming Activities

Kim Baxter



Here are the activities planned into the late spring. We hope some fun and fellowship plans will help us get through these cold months! Blessings!

Saturday 2/15 - Euchre - 7pm at church.

Sunday 2/23 - Movie – ‘Unbreakable Boy’ . Canandaigua Cinema - time TBD.

Friday 3/14 - Euchre - 7pm at church.

Sunday 3/23 - Bowling - Roseland Bowl – Noon.

Friday 4/11 - Euchre - 7pm at church.

Sunday 4/13 - Soup Cook-off/tasting - 11am.

Sunday 5/4 - Cinco de Mayo Party.

Sign up sheets with price information will be available at church on 2/9.

Please join in the fun & fellowship available here at St. John's!

Worship, Music & the Arts

Linda Braun



Ever wondered what our board does? We help to coordinate and plan many of the activities that help make our worship services run smoothly. Here is a little summary of some of the ways we serve our Lord. Reminder we will begin our Lenten season with Ash Wednesday on March 5th at 7pm. There is a sign-up board in **the entryway**.

Altar Guild – Many thanks to LuAnn Holtz for her constant attention to our altar. She, with the help of others, keeps it looking beautiful, an important part of our worship. Duties include filling candles, arranging flowers, changing the cloths that cover the altar, filling communion cups and ordering supplies. On Maundy Thursday (4/17) we will be stripping the altar in preparation for Good Friday.

Communion Assistants – We have an excellent group of people who serve the Lord by assisting with the distribution of Holy Communion.

Ushers-Our ushers assist by welcoming worshippers, helping them find a seat, bringing our offerings forward to the altar and helping with the flow of people during Holy Communion. They are also on hand to identify any unique needs or emergencies. You may see some Jr. Ushers assisting in these tasks. **Proverbs 22:6 ESV:** “Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

If you have a desire to become more involved in our services, please don't hesitate to contact us.
Chairperson – Linda Braun, frau11braun@gmail.com. THANK YOU!

Missions & Ministry

Candy Aldrich



Angel Tree Thanks

To all members of the congregation who contributed to and supported our Angel Tree collection this year, THANK YOU. Every year this project displays the loving spirit of St. John's reaching out to our community. I am constantly overwhelmed by the generous spirit with which people respond.

Your outpouring of love and gifts was amazing, especially since we struggled with computer glitches. The Boy Scout food collection was over the top! We had so much that we were able to share with the Macedon Food Pantry and also have some backup for the food pantry here at St. John's.

Finally, to those who facilitated the deliveries, you know this project would go nowhere without your efforts. THANK YOU to Carol Brown and grandson, Chase, Dave Mullen, Cheryl and Dale Power, Steve Torkelson, and Connie and Gary White. These people consistently fill in the final piece of the puzzle and I am so grateful for them!

a caring congregation reaching out to all

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, CAN DRIVE

On that Sunday please bring your cans in to help with our can drive, thank you!

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY



Looking ahead to Lent..

We will be starting an adult bible study that will go with the theme of Lent " The Hands of the Lord." It will be on Sunday Mornings but do need to know what time works best for people. Please let us know on the connection card at church if you would rather meet before church at 8:45am or after Church at 10:45am. Thank you!

THRIVENT NIGHT AT STRONG MUSEUM



Sunday, February 16 - 3:45pm - 8pm EST

3:45-5:30 PM: Thrivent Member Gathering and Update (**Doors open at 3:45**, and program starts at 4:00 p.m.)

Connect with other members from the area, share a meal, and hear an update on Thrivent, the Northeast Member Network, and the benefits and resources available to help you live a life of clarity, meaning, and gratitude.

5:30-8:00 PM: Open Play

Thrivent Members and the surrounding community are invited to enjoy the museum for free. You'll have the opportunity to tour the museum and enjoy all the exhibits, including the butterfly house and carousel.

Donations Welcome

We'll be lifting up the Urban League of Rochester and Spirit NYS. While this is a free event, attendees are encouraged to bring an item for donation. The non-profit organizations are accepting items of dignity (sanitary napkins and adult diapers), hygiene products, non-perishable food items, card games, and gift cards to benefit those they serve.

Preregistration is Required:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/thrivent-night-at-the-strong-museum-of-play-tickets-1152485297549?aff=oddtcreator>

Or sign up on the form on the Welcome Center. Any Questions see Jen Barnes, thank you!

Bee-Mine
Jesus

Hugs For
Jesus

Kisses

*Jesus
Sweetheart
Candy!*

Smile..
Jesus
Cares

Jesus Is My
Valentine

I Love God!

I Love Jesus!

You're A Winner
With Jesus

Jesus Is True

Psalm 104:34- My
meditation of him shall be
sweet: I will be glad in the
LORD.

February 2025

Sat

1

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p>Card Ministry 10:45</p> <p><u>8:45a</u> Sunday School</p> <p><u>9:45a</u> 9:45 Church service</p> <p><u>10:45a</u> Praise band practice</p>	<p><u>5p</u> Lions Den meeting Pack</p> <p><u>11a</u> Bible study</p> <p><u>5p</u> AOL Den meeting</p> <p><u>5p</u> Tiger den meeting Pack</p> <p><u>5p</u> Webelo Den Cub Scouts</p>	<p><u>11a</u> Bible study</p> <p><u>5p</u> Bears Den Pack 50</p> <p><u>5p</u> Wolves Den meeting Pack</p>	<p><u>7p</u> WOW Worship</p>	<p><u>7p</u> Choir practice</p> <p><u>7p</u> Choir practice 7pm</p>	<p><u>5p</u> Pack 50 meetings</p>	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<p><u>8:45a</u> Sunday School</p> <p><u>9:45a</u> 9:45 Church service</p> <p><u>10:45a</u> Praise band practice</p> <p><u>4p</u> Pack 50 committee meet</p>	<p>COUNCIL 7PM</p> <p><u>11a</u> Bible study</p> <p><u>5p</u> Bears Den Pack 50</p> <p><u>5p</u> Wolves Den meeting Pack</p>	<p><u>11a</u> Bible study</p> <p><u>5p</u> AOL Den meeting</p> <p><u>5p</u> Tiger den meeting Pack</p> <p><u>5p</u> Webelo Den Cub Scouts</p>	<p><u>7p</u> WOW Worship</p>	<p><u>7p</u> Choir practice</p> <p><u>7p</u> Choir practice 7pm</p>	<p><u>7p</u> euchre</p>	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<p>CAN DRIVE</p> <p>Thrivent 3:45PM</p> <p><u>8:45a</u> Sunday School</p> <p><u>9:45a</u> 9:45 Church service</p> <p><u>10:45a</u> Praise band practice</p>	<p><u>11a</u> Bible study</p>	<p>pastor circuit meeting</p> <p><u>7p</u> WOW Worship</p>	<p><u>7p</u> Choir practice</p> <p><u>7p</u> Choir practice 7pm</p>			
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
<p><u>8:45a</u> Sunday School</p> <p><u>9:45a</u> 9:45 Church service</p> <p><u>10:45a</u> Praise band practice</p>	<p><u>11a</u> Bible study</p> <p><u>5p</u> Bears Den Pack 50</p> <p><u>5p</u> Wolves Den meeting Pack</p>	<p><u>7p</u> WOW Worship</p>	<p><u>7p</u> Choir practice</p> <p><u>7p</u> Choir practice 7pm</p>			
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<p><u>8:45a</u> Sunday School</p> <p><u>9:45a</u> 9:45 Church service</p> <p><u>10:45a</u> Praise band practice</p> <p><u>11a</u> Bingo</p>	<p><u>5p</u> Lions Den meeting Pack</p> <p><u>11a</u> Bible study</p> <p><u>5p</u> AOL Den meeting</p> <p><u>5p</u> Tiger den meeting Pack</p> <p><u>5p</u> Webelo Den Cub Scouts</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday</p> <p><u>7p</u> WOW Worship</p>	<p><u>7p</u> Choir practice</p> <p><u>7p</u> Choir practice 7pm</p>			

St John's Lutheran Church

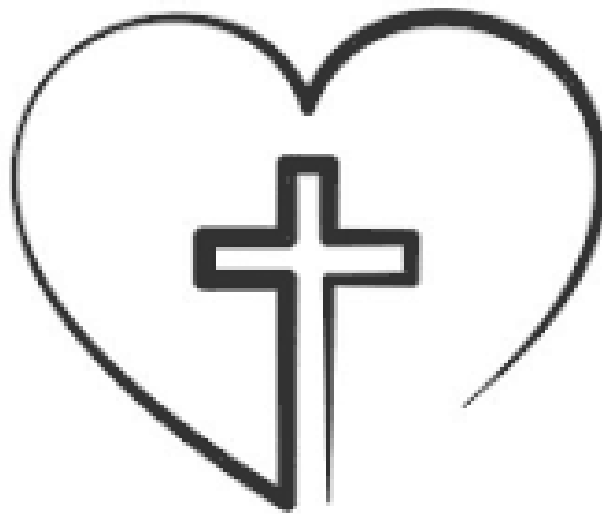
153 Church Ave. Farmington, NY 14425

*"Walking together in **faith** "*

St. John's Lutheran Church

The Good News Gazette—February 2025

"Growing God's family through Jesus "



'Love is JOY we get from God!'

a caring congregation reaching out to all