



# The GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

January 2025

315-986-3045

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

[www.pumpkinhook.org](http://www.pumpkinhook.org)

*Worship:*

Sundays 9:45AM live & streaming

Wednesdays 7PM live & streaming



'Happy New Year, In Christ!'

## From the Pastor's Desk

Pastor Bob Weidmayer



*<sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16 NIV)*



Happy New Year! Many people take this time to make resolutions and plans for the year ahead. Have you made any resolutions? Have you, even tentatively, made plans for the upcoming year? Maybe you've scheduled a vacation or special trip. Perhaps there is a special celebration occurring. Let's face it, most of us enter the new year with some planning and purpose.

2025 will be the year of shining light here at St. John's. The theme verse from Matthew 5 being our guide will keep us focused on the light of Christ our Savior that shines in our lives. God made us a city on a hill in Farmington, Macedon and our surrounding neighborhoods. How will we shine God's light in these areas?

This is where our planning begins. Working together as the body of Christ, we have the joy and privilege to let His light shine. Sure, there will be some who would have us hide it under a basket. There will be challenges; financial, volunteers, technical issues and more. If we deny them, we are only fooling ourselves. We can meet these challenges and hide our light under a basket or, we can meet them face us and in faith, trust our God to cause His light to shine even brighter in the face of any opposition.

We can all play a part in shining the light in 2025. Regardless of age, circumstances and our health, we can shine God's light. Perhaps its just in prayer as we beg God to reveal to us the direction of His

light through us. Perhaps it's a new ministry idea - SHARE IT. Perhaps it is a former outreach idea - SHARE IT. Working together, let us encourage each other to shine the light of Christ into the world of darkness, giving glory to God!

### How will you help shine God's light in 2025?

Serving Christ with you, Pastor Weidmayer +++

## Preschool News

Cheryl Power



We are so blessed that St. Johns preschool... we celebrated Christmas with a birthday party for Jesus with both the threes and fours classes. The fours class performed their interpretation of the story of the birth of Christ at circle time and then did a secret friend gift exchange. The threes class performed their play in the church, singing special songs, especially created for the 3's to tell the story of the birth of Christ. Both performances were delightful. We thank all of the parents, grandparents and friends, who were able to join us for the celebrations. Our students also worked very hard on making their own nativities and making fun ornaments throughout the month for their Christmas trees, all while learning about the love of Jesus.

In January, both classes will be talking about the season of winter, friends, kindness, feelings, and learning about their bodies. We hope that all of our preschoolers and their families have a wonderful Christmas, and a very happy healthy New Year! Merry Christmas also, to our congregation for their continued support. We hope you all have a very happy, healthy New Year!!

Also, we'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Kelly Hilton to our staff as co-teacher while Megan is out on maternity leave. We are thrilled to have Kelly join us and look forward to a smooth transition. God's blessings,

Cheryl Power, Director

## Choir Director

Linda Braun



happy new year

*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!'

Welcome to 2025! St. John's Adult Choir will begin the new year with practices on Thursdays at 7pm beginning January 16th.

Remember, all are welcome to join our choir! Please contact Linda Braun for more information [frau11braun@gmail.com](mailto:frau11braun@gmail.com).

## Financial Secretary

Max Hogenes

*Our Financial Health as of December 26, 2024*

### **YTD Giving Comparison**

Giving = \$211,343

Prior Year = \$189,782

**\$21,561**

We give  
Thanks

### **YTD Giving Vs. Expenses**

Giving = \$211,343

Expenses = \$205,257

**\$6,086**

**A huge, heartfelt thanks to the generosity of our congregation in 2024! Thanks be to God!**

## President's Message

Steve Maier

happy new year

As we look back over this last year, we can see the things that God has done for us, the things that have made us joyful and the ones that have made us sad.

focused on growing families in faith

We look forward to the next year and can expect the same. Even though there will be both good and bad times ahead of us, we know that we can get through all of it with Christ's help. And as part of the church's family, we will see those good and bad times coming up. We need to keep our faith and remember that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. God's strengthening us could be in the form of a person to talk to, a sermon from Pastor Bob that really hit home with us, or virtually anything. God is not necessarily going to make us win the lottery (even though that would be fun) but he might find a different way to help with financial issues.

One thing brought up at the voters' meeting was that we should have a meeting in April to see how things are going over. I loved this idea and I am also going to have us put into the gazette a summary of the budget each quarter in a nice simple form to make sure that everyone can understand where we are. There will be no more waiting until the end of the year. We have also taken some feedback about not being able to hear the music under the balcony and have added some speakers that we need to get mounted to the wall. Remember, if you have a suggestion, please let us know. We will help whoever and however we can.

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and have a wonderful Happy New Year. God Bless.



## Thank You!

I would like to sincerely thank everyone for the cards, gifts and wishes during this Christmas season. Your outpouring of generosity and God's love are amazing! May God bless you richly this new year!

Pastor Bob

# Long Term Prayer List January 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 Buckinghams & 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 Leisten)  
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)

## **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.**

## Upcoming Activities

Kim Baxter

Pizza Party & Game Night on Sat. 1/11/2025@ 6pm @Church.

Contact Kim Baxter.



## WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

Join us Friday, January 24 & Saturday January 25 as we dig into the teachings and beliefs of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. We will study what do we do and why do we do it. This class also serves to become members of St. John's. Watch for more details! Thank you!

## A Wee Note

Jean 'Izzy' Braun

I just had to write a "wee" note about the Holiday services, and I mean all of them. Thank you first to our Pastor who was there for us even though he had concerns about his parents in Michigan. Thank you, for the wonderful sermons that you always give and that you always say they come from the Spirit without any notes to guide him. Thank you!

To Lance and Phoebe, the Praise Band "In Him", Linda Braun and her choir, thank you for all the music you give us. I know how much practice you all do without complaining about rehearsals and everything else that goes with performing. You ALL are the greatest!

To OUR congregation helpers in doing the readings, ushering, to Luann Holtz for always making our altar beautiful, and to all the many people who clean up the church, those who deliver the flowers to us weekly, those members who clean up the snow, so we have a clean parking lot. We have a lot of people volunteering in our congregation. Thank you too all!

Thank you for the members who were "Baby Jesus" in previous Christmas pageants who were at church and came over to me to say "Hi" it meant so much to me. I bet we had 30 Little Lord Jesus's in our congregation this Christmas season. Thank you to all!

Love, Izzie Braun



a caring congregation reaching out to all

# January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9:45a 9:45 Church service 10:45a Praise band practice	30 11a Bible study 7p New Year Eve Service	31 NO SERVICE	1	2	3	4
5 8:45a Sunday School 9:45a 9:45 Church service 10:45a Praise band practice	6 5p Lions Den meeting Pack	7 11a Bible study 5p AOL Den meeting 5p Tiger den meeting Pack 5p Webelo Den Cub Scouts	8 7p WOW Worship	9 7p euchre	10 5p Pizza party	11
12 8:45a Sunday School 9:45a 9:45 Church service 10:45a Praise band practice 4p Pack 50 committee meet	13 Council 7PM	14 11a Bible study 5p Bears Den Pack 50 5p Wolves Den meeting Pack	15 7p WOW Worship	16 7p Choir practice 7pm	17 5p Pack 50 meetings	18
19 8:45a Sunday School 9:45a 9:45 Church service 10:45a Praise band practice	20 11a Bible study 5p AOL Den meeting 5p Tiger den meeting Pack 5p Webelo Den Cub Scouts	21 7p WOW Worship	22 7p Choir practice 7pm	23	24	25
26 8:45a Sunday School 9:45a 9:45 Church service 10:45a Praise band practice	27 11a Bible study 5p Bears Den Pack 50 5p Wolves Den meeting Pack	28 7p WOW Worship	29 7p Choir practice 7pm	30	31	1

St John's Lutheran Church  
153 Church Ave. Farmington, NY 14425

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

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St. John's Lutheran Church  
The Good News Gazette—January 2025  
*"Growing God's family through Jesus "*



*'A Happy New Year in Christ!'*

a caring congregation reaching out to all