

# St. John's Newsletter

Committed to Jesus Christ and the spiritual growth of all God's children.

## Celebrate The Star:

December 2017 / January 2018

## Hope, Love, Joy and Peace

This season, you and your friends, family, and neighbors are invited to an unforgettable Christmas celebration.

Over two thousand years ago, a star burst through the darkness and signaled the long-awaited but still unexpected birth of a Savior. Today another star shines, piercing the darkness of our lives with hope, love, joy and peace. His name is Jesus, and His light shines, drawing us into the journey of following Him. Starting Sunday, December 3, and culminating in the **Christmas Eve services at 5:00 PM and 10:30 PM**, invite everyone you know to our special services with inspiring

messages on what The Star means for our lives today.

### New Year's Eve

We gather on ***New Year's Eve at 7:00 PM*** to see out the old year and see in the new. Following the service we have a small gathering to toast in the new year in the church basement. The service includes a confession of sin with individual forgiveness as we see out the old year, and communion as we remember that God is present with us in the new year. Everyone is invited.

### Coming Holiday Services

Christmas Eve services at 5:00 PM and 10:30 PM

Christmas Day service at 10:00 AM

New Year's Eve service at 7:00PM



## Thank you

...to Mrs. Linda Friesser for her generous donation to **Ronald McDonald House**.

...to Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Blair for their generous donation to **St. John's School**.

...to Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Anchor, Mr. & Mrs. Norman C. Bauer, Rev. Brian Mayo, Sr., Mrs. L.J. Stemmons, and a St. Emeric Parishioner for their generous donations to **St. John's Steeple Fund**.

...to Mr. & Mrs. Jon Maddock in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, Ms. Carolyn Hase in loving memory of Helen Anderson, and Ms. Judith Cohrs in loving memory of Ruth Cohrs for their generous donations to **St. John's Steeple Fund**.

...to Mrs. Nancy Adam, Mrs. Valerie Baumgartner, Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Blair, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Brabec, Mr. & Mrs. Steve Boros, Mrs. Mary Louise Buder, Mrs. Mildred Burmeister, Mr. & Mrs. Mario Campanello, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Campbell, Mrs. Helen Carlson, Ms. Marilyn Carlson, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Couch, Mr. & Mrs. Lester Cramer, Mr. Terry Daehn, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Dortmann, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Engel, Mr. & Mrs. Ken Evans, Ms. Donna Feigel, Mrs. Linda Friesser, Mr. & Mrs. Mike

Glass, Mr. & Mrs. James Grady, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hess, Mrs. Mary Lou Hicks, Ms. Arlene Hinz, Mr. & Mrs. Leon Holloway, Ms. Bonnie Houghton, Mr. & Mrs. Blair Hoy, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Jackson, Mrs. Olga Juergens, Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Katz, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Keller, Ms. Carol Kluge, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kollman, Mr. Mel Kranz, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Kranz, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Krokidas, Mrs. Barb Kuech, Mr. David Kuech, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Lang, Mr. & Mrs. Rolando Luciano, Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Maloney, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Matthews, Mrs. Dorothy McKinley, Mr. & Mrs. David McNichols, Mr. & Mrs. John Melone, Mrs. Oralee Meyer, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Morrison, Mr. Frederick Newman, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Newman, Mr. Steve Newman, Mr. Brian Nietfeldt and family, Ms. Maureen Owens, Ms. Patricia Peters, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Pikalek, Mr. & Mrs. Gary Rauch, Mr. & Mrs. Chris Roegge, Mr. & Mrs. Redy Salvador and family, Mr. & Mrs. Norm Schilling, Ms. Marilyn Schreiber, Mr. & Mrs. Rich Schumacher, Ms. Karen Sebastian, Mr. & Mrs. Richard Segert, Mr. & Mrs. Ron Selle, Mr. & Mrs. Al Spek, Ms. Eleanor Stege, Mrs. Emily Stelter, Mr. & Mrs. James Sturtevant, Mrs. Bette Unger, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Walker, Mr. & Mrs. John Walker, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Woike for their generous donations to **St. John's Steeple Fund** in loving memory of Frederick Nietfeldt.

...to Mr. & Mrs. Blair Hoy, Mrs. Barbara Koning and family, and Mr. & Mrs. Bill Walker for their generous donations to **St. John's Steeple Fund** in loving memory of Doris Zum Mallen.

... to the Lambda Tau Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority for their donation for a new American flag for our school.

## St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church and School

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**Rev. Dr. Peter B. Dorn**  
*Pastor*

**Matthew Kamien**  
*Principal*

**Pat Couch**  
*Parish Nurse*

**Cheryl Joynt**  
*Parish Secretary*

**Rev. Dr. Louis Dorn**  
*Visitation*

**Dwayne Cook**  
*Organist*

**Jennifer Rives**  
*Music*

Thank  
You

## Study of Ezekiel

Pastor Dorn is beginning a study on the interesting book of the

prophet Ezekiel. This is the book with the crazy characters, the famous wheels, and Ezekiel doing foolish

things, all in the name of proclaiming God's message. Join us on Sundays at 9:45 – 10:45 AM in the church.

## Current Events

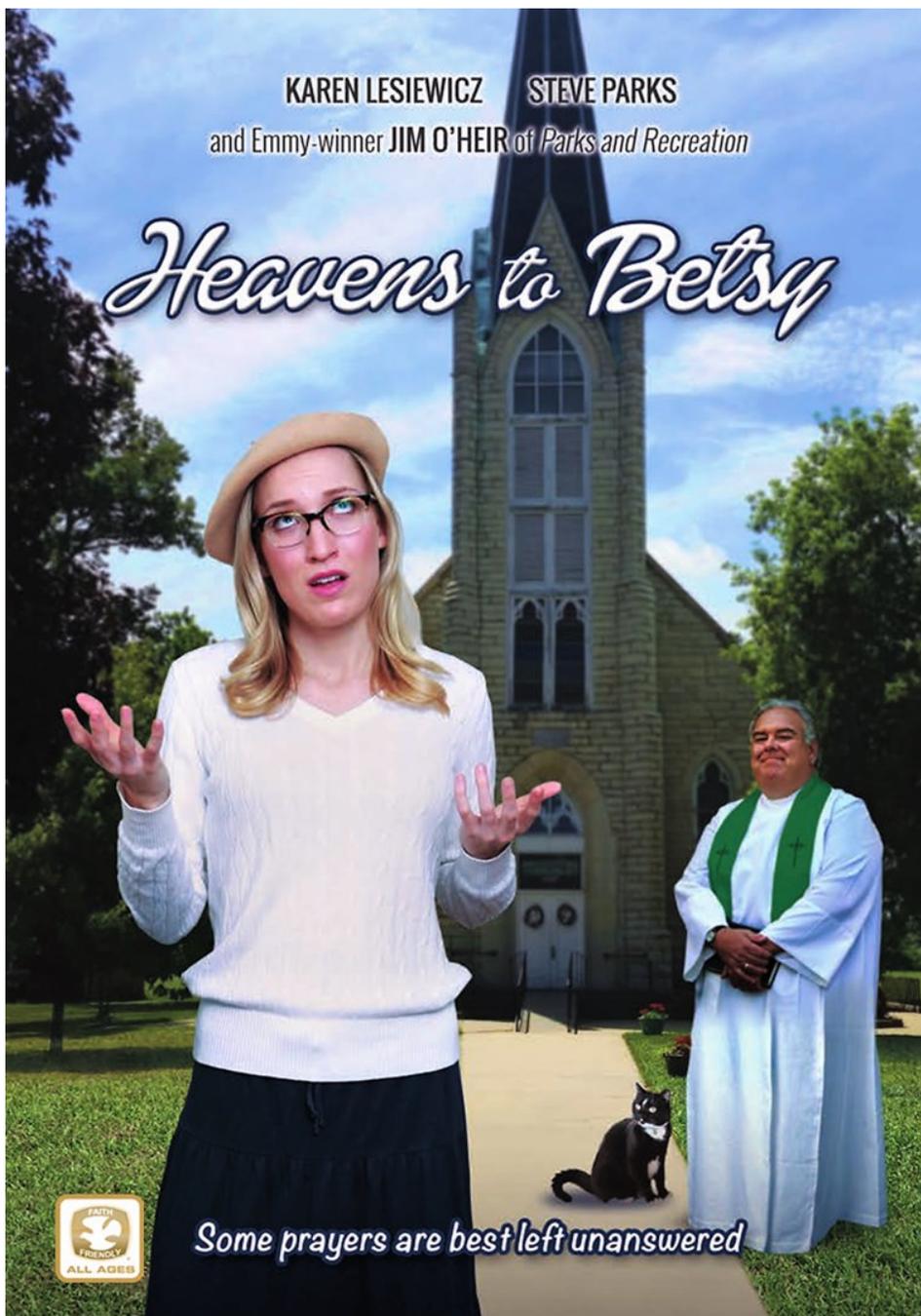
How does the Bible speak to current events? Join a discussion on Sundays at 9:45 – 10:45 AM in the Parish House with a program entitled "The Wired Word." Discuss current events with others of various views and hear Bible passages that can shed light on the subject.

## Leader's Retreat

The elders of the congregation are considering hosting a leaders' retreat during the winter. This would give the leaders a chance to get to know each other better and to reflect on their role as leaders within the congregation.

## Children's Church

Offering Children's Church has not been consistent. Leaders are needed to coordinate this and get someone each week to lead it.



The movie Heavens to Betsy, with scenes at St. John's Lutheran Church in Country Club Hills, IL is now available on PureFlix.com if you did not get to see it in the theatre.

**St. John's**  
**Lutheran School News**



**Securing Each Child's Future**  
**Jeremiah 29:11**

**School Calendar**

Fri. Dec. 1	5:15 PM	Basketball 'B' Tournament
Sat. Dec 2		Basketball 'B' Tournament
Tues. Dec. 5		Rehearsals for Band Concert
Wed. Dec. 6		10:00 AM Advent Chapel
	7:30 PM	Band Concert (Mokena)
Thur. Dec 7	2:00—6pm	Krispy Kreme Fundraiser pick up
Fri. Dec. 8	6:30 PM	Basketball (home)
Sat. Dec. 9	12:00 PM	Basketball Shoot-a-thon
Wed. Dec 13	10:00 AM	Advent Chapel
Fri. Dec. 15		6 week Progress Report period ends
Mon. Dec. 18	6:30 PM	Basketball (Beecher)
Tue. Dec. 19	5:00 PM	Basketball (Lansing)
Thur. Dec. 21	10:00 AM	Christmas Chapel
	7:00 PM	School Christmas Program (required)
Dec. 22-Jan. 5		<b>No School</b> —Christmas break
Mon. Jan. 8	8:00 AM	School resumes
Jan. 11	7:00 PM	Adult Information Class begins (Parish House)
Jan. 11-14	TBA	Basketball 'A' Tournament
Mon. Jan. 15		<b>No School</b> —M L King, Jr. Day
Wed. Jan. 17	5:00 PM	Basketball (home)
Fri. Jan. 19		Second quarter ends
	6:30 PM	Basketball (home)
Sat. Jan. 20		Basketball 'A' Tournament
Sun. Jan. 21	11:00 AM	Lutheran Schools Sunday (choirs sing)
Jan. 21-26		<b>Lutheran Schools week</b>
Jan. 22-26	TBA	Basketball 'B' Tournament
Jan. 29-Feb. 3	TBA	Basketball 'A' Tournament

**Merry Christmas**

As we partake in this holiday season, we are reminded of the many things we are thankful for. At our Thanksgiving chapel, the students shared why they were thankful. We are reminded of the most important thing to be thankful for

and that is our Lord Jesus Christ. Without Him, none of what we do would be possible. As a Lutheran school, we are thankful for the opportunity to teach our students about Jesus and help them grow in their faith. This is an amazing

gift that we have as teachers to not just teach our students about academics and life skills, but also teach them about faith. We witness our faith to them so they can witness their faith to others. As always, keep an eye

on the calendar so you don't miss out on events that will be taking place at the school. We would love to have everyone participate. Have a blessed holiday season! Working Together in Christ,  
Mr. Kamiën, Principal

## Thanksgiving

During the month of November, the students had the chance to show thanks and witness to others with a couple different events. We began the month with coloring cards for Phil's Friends, which is an organization that supports individuals battling cancer. The students got to hear a message from Phil's Friends at chapel about how something as simple as coloring a card can go a long way to providing hope for people that are going through rough times. Later in the month, the students showed thanks to veterans at our Veteran's Day Chapel. Pastor Bob from Trinity, Burr Ridge shared with the students his time in the military and how asking for strength from God and trusting in Him allowed him to stay strong during his time of service. The students in NJHS have been collecting food, clothes, and other items to be donated to individuals in poverty. This is just a little token of how we can witness to people around us.

## Athletics

I last wrote that the volleyball season was underway; well, the season has ended. The team received first place at the conference tournament. Congratulations!! Boys' basketball and cheerleading are now going on. Come out and support the Vikings!!!

## Math Triathlon

A group of nine 5/6<sup>th</sup> graders will be competing in a math triathlon this December. They will be participating with close to 150 students across the Midwest.

## Christmas



## Program

The Christmas program this year is being student led. A group of eighth grade students have been working over the last couple of months to write a script, choose songs, and direct. Please come out Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> to watch.

The all school Christmas program is a requirement for all students. It will be held in the gymnasium on **Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM** (beginning on time). Christmas Break begins after the program on Thursday. **School resumes on Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM.**

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nourish it with healthy food and drink, keep it fit for service through regular exercise, and respect our body's need for rest.

### Financial well-being

As we are blessed through income from our labors, we consider our behaviors and values related to our finances: Being good stewards in the way we save for retirement, spend within our means, and share with others in need.

### Vocational well-being

In our calling, we carry out our daily work joyfully serving in the capacity to which He has called us; discovering and using all of the gifts with which He has endowed us; and capably representing Him in the everyday experiences of our vocation. All this we do for the glory of God to help make this world a better place.

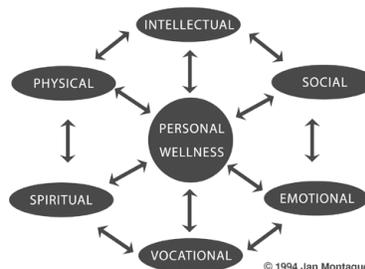
**Intellectual well-being** We engage our minds in a life-long journey of learning. In the same way we exercise our bodies for His service, we continually keep our minds stretched and active by staying curious, asking questions, seeking

answers, exploring new responsibilities, and resting our mind at the end of the day to keep it fresh.

### Spiritual well-being

Encompassing all other aspects of our well-being is acknowledging that our pursuit of wellness is not possible without the righteousness that is ours by grace, through faith in Jesus Christ. It is only through Christ's redeeming sacrifice for us that we seek to nurture our relationship with Him through the study of His word, prayer, devotion, and worship. By grace He grants to us "righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit." (Romans 14:17)

While we are on this earthly journey of wellness, we ask for God's guidance and blessing as we pursue the proper care and nurturing of our whole being so that we can be faithful stewards carrying out the mission and ministry for which we have been called. **The Wholeness Wheel** "This life, therefore, is not godliness, but the process of becoming godly, not health, but getting well, not being, but becoming, not rest but exercise. We are not now what we shall be, but we are on the way." — Martin Luther, A Defense and Explanation of All Articles (AE 32:24)



# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

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## All are welcome to services

### Summer Schedule

June 7-September 6

Sunday Worship 9:00 AM

Sunday Bible Classes 10:00 AM

Wednesday Worship 7:00 PM

### Sept—May Schedule

(2nd Sunday in Sept to 1st Sunday in June)

2 services Sundays 8:30am and 11am

Bible Study & Sunday School from

9:45—10:45am

## Nurse Notes

By **Pat Couch,**

*RN, BSN,*

*Parish Nurse*

*Faith*

*Community Nurse*

## The Wholeness Wheel

As sanctified children of God, we respond to what God, in Christ Jesus, has done for us through proper stewardship of all that we have been given. Among those blessings are the various components of our health as shown by the Wholeness Wheel. Our efforts to improve our personal wellness, then, are a part of our sanctified living – as in every aspect “We are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ.” (Ephesians 4:15)

Until that time when we are with God face to face, we strive, with His help and guidance, to Be Well in all areas of the Wholeness Wheel so that we can best Serve Well those in our care.

### Relational well-being

God created us to be social beings as our relationship with Him “spills” over into our relationships with others. In our various communities, we take time to nurture our relationships with family, friends, and co-workers through interaction, play, and forgiveness.

### Emotional well-being

Being emotionally well means knowing our full array of human emotions; recognizing which ones are suitable for each circumstance; and then expressing them appropriately. Equally important is striving to respect and honor the feelings and emotions of others.

### Physical well-being

Because of sin, our bodies are not perfect. Yet we continue to honor our body as a gift from God by keeping it as healthy as possible within the boundaries of disease, illness, and our imperfections. Therefore, we

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