



**Celebrate
Epiphany
And The
Baptism of
Our Lord**

**Christmas Decoration
Clean-up
Saturday, Jan. 6 at 10
am
Church Sanctuary
Help needed!**



**2024 Annual Reports
From Church Committee
Due January 2025,
To the office.**

JOY TO THE WORLD!

It is January, and January can be a gray, cold month with little color. If our lawns aren't covered in snow, then they are dry and dead or muddy. Too often the sky is overcast, and we have no sunlight to help us. But in church, we have some color. We have the presence of Jesus with us, beside us, helping us through this bleak mid-winter.

In church we will end the season of Christmas, looking at the only story we have from Jesus' growing up years. We will also commemorate the Baptism of our Lord. There will be lights and candles, there will be the smiles of our sisters and brothers. It may be cold outside, but inside with us there is warmth and love.

After those first two Sunday we move into a season after the Epiphany. It is green, unlike so many things around us. In this green season we remember Jesus becoming manifest to the world, to his disciples, and even to us. The Epiphany remembers the coming of the Magi, when we discover that the Word made flesh came for all the world. The additional Sundays in this season come from the beginning of Jesus' ministry as he comes into view, as he begins to show and share God's love, as he begins to call together a new people (that includes you and me). These are great days to be together.

I know that it can be cold in January. I know that it can look bleak. Join us here at St. John's to add to the warmth and encouragement that comes from the presence of Jesus.

Blessings.

Pastor Steve

Lori Holt

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

January is here! I'm hoping for a lot of snow.

As Norb is still not, as of this writing, able to run sound and streaming for 10:30 worship; if there is anyone who feels moved to help with this ministry, please call the office; 937-492-8047. As of now, Darin Davis is running these. Thank you so much, Darin. And thank you so much to our 8:30 sound and streaming team of Bill and Brenda McCroskey!!



Please join us in worship January 5 as we continue our Christmas celebration, January 12 we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord, January 19 as we begin our celebration of Epiphany and 26 as that celebration continues!!

As this new year begins, I'd like to extend the invitation to anyone who would like to join us in PB & J. We welcome anyone who feel the nudge of the Spirit to become involved in this music ministry. We practice Wednesday evenings at 5:30. Thank you so much to our PB & J members!!

Please prayerfully consider becoming involved with either or both of these ministries!! Thank you!!

May God bless us in this new year, full of opportunities to serve others. Amen.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Happy Anniversary, Andy and Mae!!

Happy Birthday, Seth!!

Love in the Babe of Bethlehem,
Lori

January
Altar Guild Volunteers
Linda Fogt
Ann Hubler

Coffee Time!

Every *first Sunday of the month*, 9:30 am, we will be having a fellowship gathering in our church "Christ and Coffee" bar for coffee, donuts, and fellowship!



Quilting Circle
to meet
Wednesday,
Jan. 22, 9 am

Dorothy Love
Monthly Worship Service
10 am, Jan. 21
Pastor Steve presiding.



Five years ago, I became director of the St. John's Thrift Shop and have been privileged to work with many wonderful volunteers from the St. John's church family, as well as the Sidney area community. We together have done our utmost to serve God through service to others.

So, with a heavy heart, I will be resigning as the Director of St. John's Thrift Shop, as of January 1, 2025. I will miss the people that we helped and worked with, but due to health issues I must resign. My heart will be forever with St. John's Thrift Shop and will continue to pray and support this ministry as a volunteer as I am able, but not as the director. I encourage each of you to do the same because Proverbs 11:25 says "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

As my season as Thrift Shop Director comes to an end, I thank God for the opportunity to have held this position.

Thank you,
Mary Cooke

Merry Christmas!



**Thank you, Quilting
Group, for the beautiful
quilts!
With love from Ukraine**

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Date: Dec. 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Myron Koester

OPENING DEVOTIONS: Pastor Steve Edmiston

AGENDA REVIEW: The agenda was amended to add items to old and new business. Pastor Steve motion to approve as amended and Margy seconded the motion. Motion passed

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Memorial Committee has recommended Tina Ike to fill a vacated position by Mike Rosengarten. This requires council approval. Pastor Steve moved that Tina fill this position. Ann seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Josh Ward has accepted the invitation to join council. Margy moved to nominated Josh for council. Ann seconded the motion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Kaleb will be contacting Skinner on Jan. 6, 2025 to establish start date for completion of renovations. Predicted start date is the week of Jan 13, 2024.

Hoping to hire this week to fill the position of Director of the Lutheran Thrift Shop. Ann states that she was approached by a parishioner with the concern/ question of if there would be a crossover in time between Mary's departure and start of new director and would both be paid during this time. This was discussed and Ann moved that there be a crossover and both be paid for this time. Norb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: A copy of the Secretary's report was distributed with the agenda. Pastor Steve moved to approve as submitted and Norb seconded the motion. Motion passed.

TREASURE'S REPORT: A copy of Treasurer's report was distributed with the agenda. Dave points out that the Capital Project Fund is getting close to needed funds (96%). He also notes that there is a change in variance due to slight reduction in insurance due to spread over 12 months. Ann moved to approve as submitted and Wes seconded the motion. Motion passed.

STAFF REPORT:

• Pastor Report-

1. Annual meeting and pancake breakfast went well.

2. The church was decorated for Christmas with 9 people helping. In addition, several people started some of the decorations beforehand.

3. Has officiated 2 funerals, 1 baptism and has baptism planned for next week. Will also officiate an adult baptism.

4. Welcome newborn Hudson Cavinder (attended meeting since both parents-Wes & Michelle are on council)

5. Will need communion assistance for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

6. Pastor Steve will be traveling Dec 26-29. Has the services set up and has 3 volunteers but does need one more for 8:30 service. (2 per service).

7. Pastor Steve points out that Lent is coming and planning for this will soon be required.

Volunteer Coordinator Report - no reports submitted

Thrift Shop Report - No report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Ministry - Education & Youth:** Working on a Christmas gathering but still have to set the date for this.
- **Ministry - Music & Worship:** Bell choir will perform Dec. 22 for both services. Also, plan to perform for the Saturday service next week. Deb reports having some difficulty getting the group together for practice due to health issues. Deb is trying to get the children's choir together as well. Deb will play the cello or violin and bell choir will perform for Easter. Ann mention that she would like to be singing Christmas songs during Advent and Pastor Steve pointed out that the church policy for this has changed to allow Christmas music during Advent and this has already been discussed with Holts (8:30) and Becky (10:30).
- **Outreach - Evangelism:** Thanksgiving meals went well. Provided 54 meals. Also, about 4000 card for Cards for Christ from St. John's went out.
- **Outreach - Parish Life:** Had lots of great help for pancake breakfast. Fed 47. Will try to have mid week Lenten meals. Council was asked to lead these. A sign up list was passed. The meals will be announced in the newsletter and bulletin. The menu will be announced in the bulletin. Time will be 5:30-6:30.
- **Operations - Finance:** Nothing additions to Treasurer's report.
- **Operations - Property:** Parts for the water fountain repairs have been ordered. Repairs will be done when parts arrive. Skinner date to be set Jan. 6, 2024 (to start the week of Jan. 13, 2024).

Additional Notes:

Suggested for future review and discussions

1. The scheduling of Christmas eve and Christmas morning services.

Possible committee development to look at the state of and replacement of current Christmas decorations.

PRAYER REQUEST:

Dave Fields
Nick Miller

DEVOTIONS: Lord's Prayer

INFORMATION:

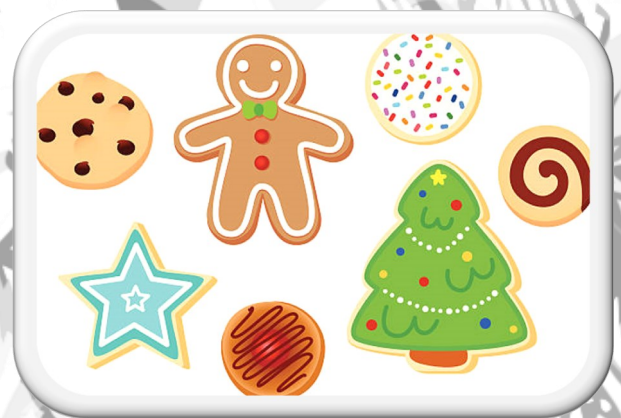
- *sign up sheets for communion assistants and devotions was passed
- *Newsletter deadline: Dec 19, 2024
- *Next council meeting: Monday, Jan 13, 2025

ATTENDANCE :

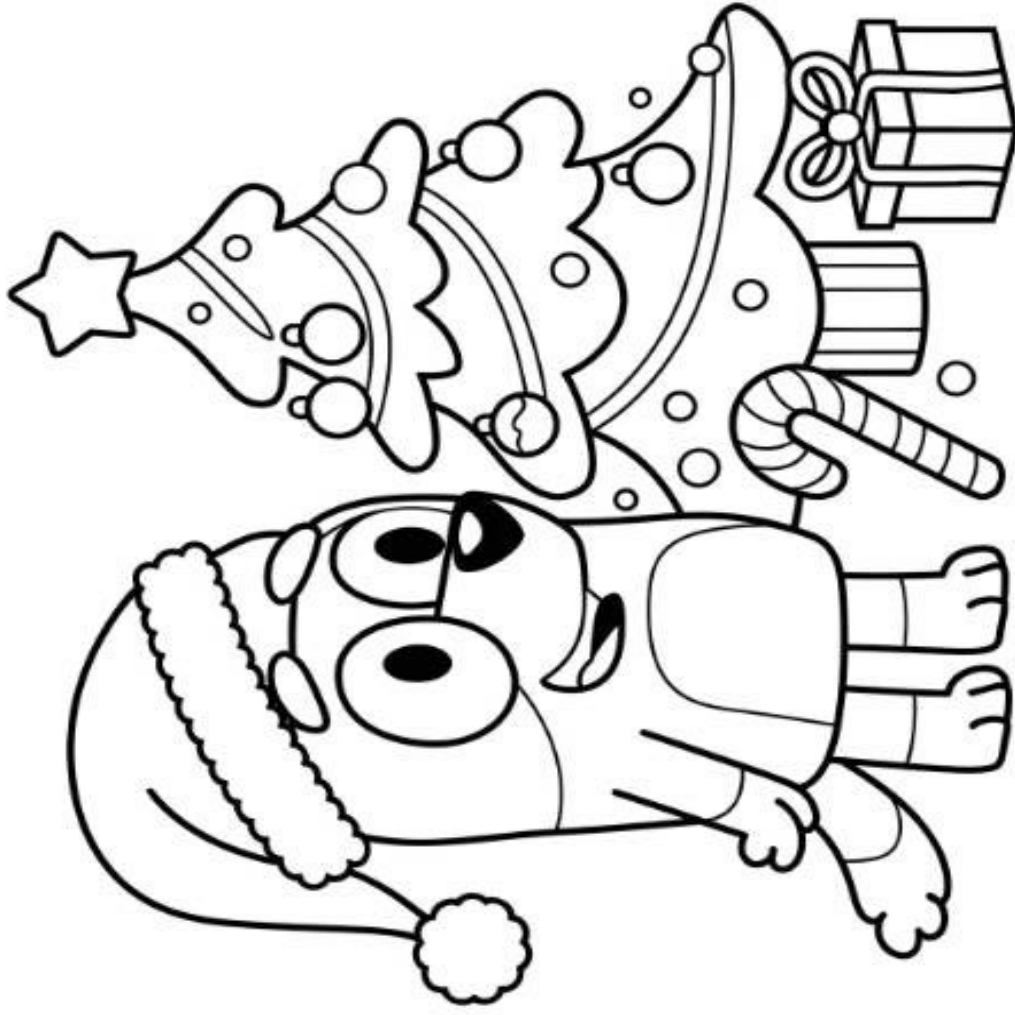
- **Present:** Pastor Steve Edmiston, Myron Koester, Michelle Cavinder, Wes Cavinder, Tatum Werntz, Dave Bollheimer, Ann Hubler, Norb Mertz, Deb Mertz, Margy Headings. **Absent:** Becky Mann, Kaleb Headings, John Widney **Guest:** Pat Mullen, Josh Ward

*Thank you St. John's
for your support!*

The Mercy Mission House, Sidney
The Alpha Center, Sidney
Right to Life, Sidney



Christmas Fun



Color me! ❄️

Joy to the world!

J U E L E O N V C C C T Z H
L H R F O I J V W L A C H L I D S X
C A G Y L Y F I M I Z G R I J T
E W M I I I S B L R Z G R I J T
T H G I I N T N E L C J N J G
V O T A R M Y A W L W J S S W X
F Z A A I V T L O E B V M U H Y
V I L M S S D H T A X B J R P V
Z D S I C W O E U G R Z W N P
R I C C L R O B Y Z A F X M
W B V Z G Y D G Z W A V B
M A N G E R A T A F X M M
N G E R A T A F X M M V

Christmas Star Family Good Tidings
Great Joy Manger Noel Silent Night

**ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

120 W. WATER STREET
SIDNEY, OHIO
45365

PHONE: 937-492-8047
FAX: 937-492-2462
HTTP://WWW.SIDNEYSTJOHNS.COM

**ST. JOHN'S
THRIFT SHOP**
319 SOUTH OHIO AVE.
SIDNEY, OH 45365
PHONE: 937-492-0337

WORSHIP SERVICES:

SATURDAY, 6:00 P.M.
SUNDAY, 8:30 & 10:30 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30
AM

*“Go therefore and make disciples
of all nations, baptizing them in
the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit, and
teaching them to obey everything
that I have commanded you. And
remember, I am with you always,
to the end of the age.”*

Matthew 28:19-20

*God's Vision,
Our Mission*

Please pray for our Homebound Members and mail them a card to:

Elaine Boughner, 736 Stratford Dr., Sidney, Oh 45365
Erika Montgomery, 2333 Apache Dr., Sidney, Oh 45365
Rhonda Vance, 1302 Spruce St., Sidney, Oh 45365
Dick Wilson, 5577 Heathrow Dr., Powell, Oh 43065-7970

Dorothy Love, 3003 W. Cisco Road, Sidney, Oh 45365

Christine Weber-A03 Brenda Riddle, A-23

Dorothy Love Apartments: 2400 N. Kuther Rd., Sidney, Oh

Margaret Ike, Apt. 213
Jeanne Mears, Apt. 301
Gary Paul, Apt. 324
Dick Clark, Apt. 303N
Shirley Sparks, Apt. 117

Dorothy Love Homes:

Jerry Gibbs, 701 Bennett Circle, Sidney, Oh 45365

Koester Pavilion

Mildred Hughes, 3232 N. Co. Rd. 25-A, Room 35, Troy, Oh 45373

Fair Haven, 2901 Fair Rd., Sidney, Oh 1150

Residents: *None at this time*

Landings of Sidney, 1150 Russell Road, Sidney, Oh 45365

Resident: LeRue Gooder, Rm. 506
Phyliss Blust, Rm. 508
Linda Steenrod, Rm. 802
Nick Miller, Rm. 306

Ayden Health Care (Piqua) 275 Kienle Drive, Piqua, Oh 45356

Pamela Morgan Rm. 307
Doris Conrad Rm. 300

*At St. John's, we are given the opportunity to worship
God, study His Word, and serve Him in many capaci-
ties, while at the same time enjoying Christian fellow-
ship. Please consider ways that you can get involved!*

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						
5 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Child Sunday school, 9:30 am Donuts, 9:30 am Youth Group, 9:30 a	6 AA, 12 pm	7	8 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	9 Senior Lunch, 12 pm	10 Office Closes, 12 pm AA, 12 pm	11 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm
12 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	13 AA, 12 pm Committee Mtg, 6 p Church Council, 7 p	14	15 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	16	17 Office Closes, 12 pm AA, 12 pm	18 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm
19 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	20 AA, 12 pm	21 Dorothy Love, 10 am Joy Circle, 1 pm	22 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm Quilting, 9 am	23	24 Office Closes, 12 pm AA, 12 pm	25 Worship, 6 pm NA, 8 pm
26 Worship, 8:30 & 10:30 am Adult & Children Sunday school, 9:30 am	27 AA, 12 pm	28	29 AA, 12 pm PB&J, 5:30 pm	30	31 Office Closes, 12 pm AA, 12 pm	Church Office Open Mon-Thurs. 8-3 pm Fri., 8 am-12 pm
			1 Office Closed AA, 12 pm <i>Happy New Year</i>	2	3 Office Closes, 12 pm AA, 12 pm	4 Worship, 6 pm, NA, 8 pm