

## FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 W. King Street  
York, PA 17401-1307  
Phone: 717-843-8597



Website: [www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)

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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



## PARISH VISITOR



FIRST ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-WE ARE AN OUTREACH CHURCH

Be together at First St. John's - Your Community Church and Your Family in JESUS



VOLUME 51 ISSUE 12

Website: [www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)

DECEMBER 2019

### The Second Coming

by Paul Berchtold, December, 2012

God tells each one: Prepare!  
The prophets warn: Beware  
Of sin and it's despair.

The angels have spoken  
Of love's greatest token.  
Sin's chains can be broken.

Comes more precious than  
gold  
- as long ago foretold -  
The Shepherd of the fold.

See how his flocks increase.  
One day all wars will cease.  
Welcome now, Prince of Peace!

Thank-Your-Stars.com



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

SERVICE 11:00 AM

"Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!"

### REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

**Sunday -** 9:00 AM Bible Study  
11:00 AM Sunday Worship

**Monday -** PANERA BREAD DISTRIBUTION 9:00-11:00 AM

**Wednesday** 6:30 PM - Adult Choir (September through May/June)

**Thursday** 6:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

[www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)

### WELCOME

Our calling is for all to know Jesus as Lord and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ. Worship should always be focused on God, the time honored traditions of worship are observed here, we want worship to be glorifying to God, honoring to God and reminding us of the greatness and glory of God. People say that they have truly worshipped after our Sunday morning service.

We are a very welcoming church and we want to help you to know Jesus.

### Contact Us

Phone 717.843.8597

E-Mail: [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)

First St. Johns Lutheran Church  
140 W. King St., York PA 17401

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, Prayer and Preaching Non-Communion services are held on the 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sundays.

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), and Chinese for morning worship. Please contact us in advance if you need a Spanish bulletin.

PHONE: (717) 843-8597

COME  
WORSHIP  
with us!



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email please contact the church office at (717) 843-8597 or send an email to [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net).



If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please call the church office.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

EMAIL: [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)



GET IN TOUCH

## ADVENT WORSHIP- Sunday Mornings

Come and worship with us and hear about the coming of the promised Messiah on Sunday mornings at 11:00 A.M.

December 1

December 8

December 15

December 22 (Lessons and Carols).



## ADVENT WORSHIP-Wednesday Evenings

Begin by having a light supper at 6:00 P.M. in the upstairs fellowship room.

Then join in a special series of sermons for Advent at 7:00 P.M.

December 4

December 11

December 18



## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

There will be an opportunity to worship the "New Born Baby" on Christmas Eve.

### Christmas Eve



Tuesday, December 24, 7:00 P.M.

## GERMAN CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

Sunday, December 29, 4:00 P.M.

Light refreshments with a German theme will follow the service.



# Lessons & Carols

## Music & Worship Notes



**This month begins the Advent / Christmas Season.** The first Sunday of Advent is December 1. The first mid-week Advent service is Wednesday, December 4. The series theme this year is: "Behold the Babe." On Wednesdays we will begin with a supper at 6:00 pm followed by the service at 7. The series ends on Christmas Eve with the final sermon on the birth of the Savior.

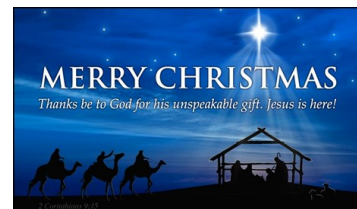
**The Holly and Ivy Concert is on Sunday, December 8, at 3 pm.** The White Rose Chorus will be singing this year. Mr. Neal Pullins, the pianist from St. Paul's in Columbia will also be part of the concert. He and I will be playing three organ and piano duets. He will be playing his own arrangement of some Christmas carols. I will be sharing some organ renditions of carols and hymns.

**John Pfeiffer has retired from playing,** so this year the Holly and Ivy Concert is dedicated to him. John was involved with this event since 1971.

**The annual German Language Christmas Service** is on Sunday, December 29, at 4 pm. The Leiderkrantz Hoby Chor will again provide vocal music for the service and the fellowship time afterwards. The Tittel family will provide brass music for parts of the service. Mr. Paul Tittel will read the sermon that was written by a pastor in Germany. Mark your calendars for these special events.



**Ken Sanders,  
Minister of Music**



### THE ADULT CHOIR:

Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger, Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Wally Smith, Quitao Zhang, Ding Wang,

The special offering for the month of

## **DECEMBER**

York Rescue Mission



### **DECEMBER 2019 PARISH VISITOR**

JANUARY 2020 DEADLINE

Articles Due December 13th-Friday

Mail Date December 19th -Thursday

**Newsletter**



## Bible Study



9:00 AM

### **MEETINGS IN DECEMBER**

**Worship Committee**

**Church Council**

**Future Committee**

**To be announced**

**No meeting in December**

**1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month-9:00 am**



### **UPCOMING DECEMBER SERVICES**

December 1st, Communion (First Sunday in Advent)

December 8th, Non-Communion (Second Sunday in Advent)

December 15th, Communion (Third Sunday in Advent)

December 22nd, Non-Communion (Fourth Sunday in Advent)

December 29th, Non-Communion (First Sunday after Christmas)



OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS  
Bible Study 9:00 AM  
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM

First St. John's Lutheran Church  
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597

CHURCH OFFICE  
Phone Number 717-843-8597

DECEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 1st Sunday of Advent C/ Blue	<b>2</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Future Com. Mtg.- 9pm Advent Evening Service Dinner 6pm Service 7pm Adult Choir after service	<b>5</b> N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	<b>6</b> Church Decorating 6:00 pm	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent HOLLY and IVY CONCERT 3:00 pm NC/ Blue	<b>9</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Advent Evening Service Dinner 6pm Service 7pm Adult Choir after service	<b>12</b> NO CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING IN DECEMBER N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 3rd Sunday of Advent C/ Blue	<b>16</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Future Com. Mtg.- 9pm Advent Evening Service Dinner 6pm Service 7pm Adult Choir after service	<b>19</b> N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 4th Sunday of Advent NC/ Blue	<b>23</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 7:00 pm	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS	<b>26</b> N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> First Sunday after Christmas German Christmas Service 4:00 pm NC/ White	<b>30</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>31</b>				
		LAY READER	USHER	ALTAR GUILD Carla Allison		SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERINGS DECEMBER York Rescue Mission

50 YEARS

"Two 50's" continued

We continue with 1973, specifically December 2. This was the date of the installation of Edward J. Devan as the second called pastor of First St. John's. The minister for the service was Rev. Rex D. Spicer from Fenton, Iowa. Rev. George Naumann conducted the installation of Pastor Devan. Pastor Devan was ordained on July 14, 1957. The first church he served was Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Irmo, SC.

1974 was the 100th anniversary of the original congregation. A special worship service was held at First St. John's on September 15. The service was a remembering of those who were confirmed during the past 100 years. The bell was rung 100 times in honor and in memory of all who had been confirmed since 1874. All three congregations, St. John, Good Shepherd, and First St. John's, participated in the service.

1975 brought another anniversary celebration. 100 years since the dedication of the church building at 140 West King Street. The special anniversary service took place on October 26. These are the words that were printed in the service bulletin: "Dedicated October 17, 1875, our house of worship is now 100 years old. It is one of the several oldest churches in the Southeastern District of The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. It has served as the place where two congregations have assembled to glorify God and to hear His Word. Saint John from 1875 until 1969, and First Saint John's, organized by members who decided to remain at the original location when Saint John relocated to Mount Rose Avenue, has assembled here since 1969. It is also the location from which came the members who organized the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in 1922."

Happy Anniversary



Submitted by,  
Ken Sanders

***First Saint John's Lutheran Church***

***140 West King Street, York, PA***

***Invites You to Attend the Annual***

**HOLLY and IVY**

**CONCERT**

***Sunday December 8th 2019 at 3:00 PM***

***Begin your Christmas celebration with family and friends by joining us for our annual Holly and Ivy Concert. Enjoy singing Christmas carols as they resound from our historic pipe organ. Listen to the harmonious voices of The White Rose Chorus. Hear Neal Pullins and Kenneth Sanders share seasonal music on piano and organ.***

***A free will offering will be gathered to aid the mission work of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League of the church.***

***Following the concert, join us for light refreshments.***

***You'll want to mark your calendar for this!***



***(If bad weather, the concert will be held on December 15)***

**Bonnie Abendschoen**

138 Crown Pointe Drive  
York, PA 17402  
*Birthday--September 30th*

**Joyce Devan**

2408 Lovegren Court  
York, PA 17404  
*Birthday--February 20th*

**Dawn Frey**

382 West North Street  
York, PA 17401  
*Birthday--April 21st*



**Bill Hildebrand**

3530 Fox Run Road  
Dover, PA 17315  
*Birthday--September 17th*

**Gloria Whitekettle**

2361 Log Cabin Road  
York, PA 17408  
*Birthday--November 23rd*

**Ruth Hermann**

Lutheran Home Skilled Care  
Room 404A  
1801 Gladfelter Circle  
York, PA 17404  
*Birthday--Feb 11th*

***If you are aware of any changes with those on the list please contact the church office.***

We encourage you to drop a card or letter to our shut-ins to let them know that they are missed and a valued member of the congregation.

**DECEMBER 2019 STEWARDSHIP**

Jesus, in His Sermon on the Mount, is teaching those who follow Him that worrying about the necessities of life is idolatry: worshipping a false god. This is because worry and anxiety show what we care about. Our anxiety reveals what we love and to what we're devoted. It reveals what we trust in. This is why our Lord begins this section with an overarching principle: "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money." But you say: "I must eat and drink. I must have clothing to wear and have a home in which to dwell." Yes, all these things you need. And Jesus says that your Father in heaven will ensure that you have them. He demonstrates this with a simple argument.

Your Father in heaven feeds the birds of the air, who neither sow, nor reap, nor gather into barns. He clothes the lilies of the field, who neither toil nor spin but are arrayed more luxuriously than Solomon in all his glory. If, then, your Father in heaven feeds the birds and clothes the lilies, how will He not also feed and clothe you when you are worth more than they are? For you know that you are worth more than them. You are worth infinitely more. You are worth the price of the eternal Son of God. Did the Son of God come down from heaven and become a lily? Did he descend and take on the form of a bird? No!

He came down from heaven and became a man: flesh of our flesh and bone of our bone. He is one of us, our brother. And what did He do when He became flesh to dwell among us? He gave His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death, that you might be His own and live under Him in His kingdom forever. God became man in Christ Jesus. He lived the life we failed to live, and He died the death we deserve because of it. He was raised again on the third day to overcome sin and death ... for us. He was crucified for our transgressions and raised for our justification. So, if your Father in heaven has given His Son to die for us in order that we might live with Him eternally, how will He not also give us all things to support this body and life?

To be anxious about the necessities of life, to devote yourself to food and clothing, to care about this and find security in it, is to serve another god. It is to deny that you will live forever because Jesus, the Son of God is risen from the dead, lives and reigns for all eternity. It is to believe that God – who created you, redeemed you by the death and resurrection of His Son, and sanctifies you by His Spirit – will not keep His promises of sustaining you in this life.

Jesus says this: Seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness. God's kingdom is His rule among us. His rule among us comes when our Father in heaven gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity. This is what we ask God to do for us in the prayer Jesus taught us. Your Father in heaven knows what you need – food and clothing, house and home, etc. – and He promises to give it to you. Chief of the things you need is His grace and mercy in His Son, Jesus Christ. So, seek after that. Those who seek will find. And all the necessities of life, our Lord says, will be added to you.





PRAYERS

Ruthetta Fogle  
Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted  
Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving  
Becky Lupp  
Angie Linebaugh  
Susan Null-Cancer  
Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home  
Marianne DeModena-Cancer  
Patti Tripp-COPD  
Brenton Allen-Needs new kidney and pancreas  
Olivia Stankiewicz-Healing (Grand-daughter of Brian and Maria Stankiewicz)  
Beth Smith  
Anna vanDyk  
Bill Hildebrand  
Julia  
Pastor Jay Mazikas (nephew of Sylvia Barclay)- Severe Headaches  
Nancy Hildebrand  
Rich Holen-Serious health problems (Son-In-Law) of Sylvia Barclay  
Linda Mumford-Health issues  
Marge Driskell-Health issues  
Kathy Butts Oster-Health issues  
Shannon Schwartzman-Health issues  
Joyce Devan-Health issues  
Aimee Walton-Health Issues  
Ruth Strahmeyer-Health issues

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Anna vanDyk

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen Dawn Frey Joyce Devan Gloria Whitekettle  
Bill Hildebrand Ruth Hermann

LEADERS

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Koontz, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Denninger

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For all of God's Gifts  
Norma Null  
Marguerite Beck  
Frank Fogle

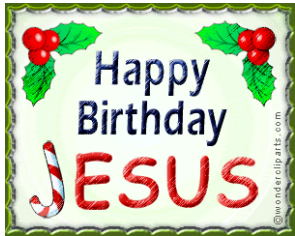
SPIRITUAL NEEDS

For all those who do not know Jesus as Lord  
For our "action" committees/task forces  
Our Community and Families

We remember in prayer those who are in need of God's special presence in their lives due to special needs:



3rd - Karl vanDyk  
4th - Amy Williams  
11th - Richard Sindlinger  
13th - Gloria Sindlinger  
19th - Wayne Hildebrand Jr.  
20th - William Lupp  
21st - Tammy Cahoon  
22nd - Susan vanDyk  
25th - Sheela Hernandez



Please Note - On the 1st Sunday service of the month the birthdays for the month will be read. The Birthdays for the current month will be posted on the bulletin board

Early January Birthdays

4th - Elizabeth Hernandez  
4th - Dezzaray Tanner  
7th - Hans Abendschoen

PRAYER LIST (cont.)

MILITARY

Kevin Kuhn	U.S.C.G.
Lindsay Wood	U.S.A.F.
Dakota Kaufman	U. S. Army in Kuwait
Matthew Holland	U. S. Army
Chuck Barrows	U. S. Army
Megan Messersmith	U.S.A.F.
Krista McKenzie	U.S.A.F.
Jonathan Cosgrove	U.S.M.C.
James Bova	U. S. Navy
Dylan Moynihan	U. S. Navy
Tyr Abendschoen	U. S. Army



POLICE

Jonathan  
Jason Berger



FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS  
DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD

to First St. John's Lutheran Church  
140 W. King St., York, PA 17401

EVERY MONDAY  
From 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church  
DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM



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I'M SORRY GUY, I KNOW THAT YOU'VE GOT A GOOD HEALTH PLAN AND YOU GIVE OUT FREE GIFTS AND ALL, BUT JESUS REALLY DOES HAVE A MUCH BETTER PLAN



Thanks to Nadine Fafard (See Luke 2:1-16)  
THAT'S THE BEST ONE-STAR HOTEL THAT I'VE EVER SEEN

Women's Care Center  
Pregnant?

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER

formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center

40 South Richland Avenue

York, PA 17404

Phone: (717) 854-6285

