



## St. John's Weekly Email

January 12, 2021

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Our Christmas celebrations are followed by the season of Epiphany - a time when we grow in our understanding of who Jesus is and what he came to do and to be among us. The color for this season is green, so it is a growing season. Common symbols we see in the season of Epiphany are light and stars. The season of Epiphany is book ended by two festivals - the first Sunday in Epiphany is always the celebration of the Baptism of Jesus, this year celebrated on January 10 and the last Sunday in Epiphany is always the Transfiguration of our Lord, which we will observe on February 14.

*If you have any information to include in the weekly email,  
please submit it to the church office by 7 PM on Sunday evening.*

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### **WORSHIP UPDATE**

At last night's council meeting, the council considered the question about whether to return to in-person worship or remain virtual. Taking into consideration recommendations from our synodical bishop to remain virtual until further notice, the current state of transmission in our county and the appearance of a new, more contagious strain of the virus, **council voted to remain online for worship until further notice.**

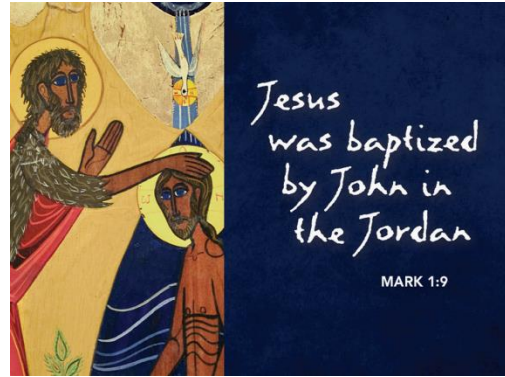
Council will keep the question of returning to in-person worship on each month's council agenda and will review data from local and state government, as well as the transmission rates in our county, each month. At such time as council feels it is safe to resume in-person worship, we will.

Thank you for your understanding of our desire to keep the St. John's community, and all those connected to it, safe and healthy as we continue to live through this pandemic.

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**Join us Sunday, January 17th  
for  
Baptism of Our Lord  
Worship at 9:30 AM on Zoom**

[Click here](#) to join us for this service.



### Star Words Available for 2021

Two options exist for you to receive a star word for 2021.

- Sat. Jan 16 during the food drop off from 9-11 am, you can pick up a star word.
- Call or email the church office and a star word can be mailed home to you.

Please continue to keep the following people connected to our congregation in your prayers:

Alex Kunkel, Bob Moran, Betsy Rodger, Robin Seasock, Paige Seasock, Peyton Seasock, Nancy Terpoilli, Brian Allebach, Glen Van Dyke, Charles Krupp, Donna DiDio, RuthAnn Jadick, Jean Leister, Kenny Nace, Tom Ciesielka, Abigail and Eric Hails, Sonny Carson, Frank Puskoskie, Patricia Wheeler, Ann Brown Hager, Alyssa Gegan, Steve Sanko, David Mounts, Ann Lewis, Carolyn Iris and Melissa Snyder.





## **Pub Theology Returns on Zoom!**

All are welcome to connect **TONIGHT**, Tuesday, January 12 at 7:30 PM for good conversation and good beverages, all in the comfort of your own home!

[Click here](#) to connect on Zoom!

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## **Member Engagement Discussion Thursday, January 14 at 7:00 pm**

All are welcome to join as we discuss and plan ways to stay connected through the winter. Come with your ideas and/or enthusiasm to work together connecting with and supporting our members.

[Click here](#) to join the Zoom Meeting from your computer or iPhone

To call in, dial 1-929-205-6099 and enter Meeting ID 859 8093 2994 and Passcode 256672 when prompted

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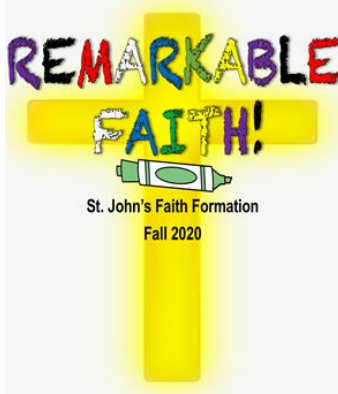


## **The Book Club is reading *When We Believed in Mermaids***

From the author of *The Art of Inheriting Secrets* comes an emotional new tale of two sisters, an ocean of lies, and a search for the truth.

**[Click here](#) to join the Zoom meeting  
Tuesday, January 26th at 7:30 PM**

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## Remarkable Faith Encounters

A new Remarkable Faith Encounters video has been added to the website that tells the Christmas story using works of art. Check it out and share with family and friends!

[Check it out here!](#)

## St. John's Christmas Virtual Art Gallery

Submit pictures of your works of art inspired by the Christmas story by [clicking here.](#)

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## Worship Assistants Needed

As we prepare for a return to in-person worship that is also live-streamed through Zoom, we are creating two new teams to support our worship. The two groups are defined below. If you feel that you could offer your gifts and skills to either team, please contact Vikki Shelor in the church office ([stj.stown@verizon.net](mailto:stj.stown@verizon.net) or 215-234-4888).

- **Zoom Hosts** – the Zoom host is the person who oversees the Sunday morning worship Zoom. This person will admit folks into worship from the waiting room, make sure that participants are muted prior to the start of worship, record the online Zoom service and then advancing the Powerpoint that is used to guide our online worshippers through the service.
- **AV Team** – the responsibilities for our audio team have grown with the addition of live-streaming worship. Once our new live-stream system is fully installed, we will be training people to run both the audio and visual aspects of our in-person and online Sunday worship.

Training will be offered for both teams and a willingness to be in-person for Sunday worship is necessary.



The cemetery committee will be clearing away any remaining Christmas decorations on March 1st.

Please collect or clear away any decorations before that date.

Please call Evey Koffel, if you have any questions.



## Food Collection

**Saturday-9-11 AM to the back entrance- Jan 16th**



### Top Personal Items Needed

- **Feminine Hygiene Products**
- **Hand Soap**
- **Dish Soap**
- Tooth Paste
- Body Wash
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Paper Towels
- Cleaning Supplies
- Hand Sanitizer

### Top Food Pantry Needs

- Canned Tomato Products
- Canned Soups and Stews
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Chili
- Canned Beans (Dark Beans, Light Beans, Pork & Beans)
- Canned Vegetables (Green Beans and Canned Potatoes)
- Pasta
- Pasta Sauce
- Canned Meats
- Cereal
- Rice
- Pasta/Rice Sides
- Canned Tuna
- Pancake Mix
- Soups

If you don't feel comfortable going to the grocery store, monetary donations are always welcomed and then we can do the shopping for you! Please donations for Open Link Thanksgiving Collection in an envelope - make checks payable to Open Link.



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## Financial Update



First, thank you to everyone who has continued to maintain or even



You can also choose to give online!

increase their giving during the pandemic.

Our committee teams have prepared their 2021 budget with the expectation that we will return to a greater level of normalcy next year building in the internal and outreach events we have been unable to do in 2020. We approved the 2021 budget in our Congregational Meeting on December 6th.

We continue to receive most of our offering through the mail. You are certainly able to continue sending you gifts to St. John's. Our mailing address is **3104 Main Street, Green Lane, PA 18054.**

Online your gifts can be designated to general or specific places and can be made one time or set up to repeat. Thank you to all our new online donors! If you have any questions on how to set up online giving, please call the office at 215-234-4888 for help.

We encourage the congregation to prayerfully consider your ability to continue supporting God's work here at St. John's as we continue to live through this pandemic.

Please recognize that we are currently counting offering twice a month - so please understand if there is a small delay in cashing your check.



**January 11**

Abrianna Bardman  
Jeffrey Hawks  
Jordan Levy  
Cassandra Sowden  
Robert Sowden, Jr.  
John Truskowski  
Charles VanDyke

**January 12**

Emily Rodenberger

**January 13**

Tracy Berry  
Betty Caroff  
Jason Pierce  
Julie Styer

**January 14**

Marie Fretz  
Karl Gross  
Alexander Johnston  
Cristen Patten

Hope Raezer  
**January 15**  
Breanne Huffman  
Jill Irvin  
John Koffel  
Bethany Lupacchini  
Alexa Mack  
Shannon Nolthenius  
Todd O'Hern  
**January 16**  
Joseph Barnes  
John Bossert, Jr.  
Matthew Crum  
Dorrie Greger  
Sabina Lewis  
Samuel Lewis  
Kennedy Shutt  
Michael Sine  
Donna Wisler  
**January 17**  
Robert Leach, Jr.  
Megan Urban

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[Visit our Website](#)

St. John's Lutheran Church | 3104 Main Street, Green Lane, PA 18054