



# JANUARY

# CHURCHLETTER



## Christ Is Our Foundation

"See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ." Colossians 2:8

What are your family traditions? Often someone in the family assumes the duty of keeping traditions, memories, and reunions intact. Sociologists call these people "Kin keepers". We value our family kin keepers and the extraordinary effort she or he puts into maintaining the family heritage.

In Jesus' time the religious traditions were often too difficult. God had a plan for the Jewish nation, and eventually the whole world, but the people allowed the traditions of the elders replace the law of the Lord.

A press release in a midwestern city told of a hospital where officials discovered that the firefighting equipment had never been connected. For 35 years it had been relied upon for safety in case of emergency, but it had never been attached to the city's water main. The pipe that led from the building extended four feet underground and then just stopped. The medical staff and the patients had felt complete confidence in the system, but this was a sense of false security. Although the costly equipment with its polished valves and well-placed outlets was more than adequate for the building, it lacked the most important thing...water!!!

Let us remember that it is the word of God, not strictly traditions, that links us to the heavenly Father!!

Loving Father, forgive our shortsightedness when we rely on things of this world to guide us instead of Your holy word! Amen!

Blessings...Pastor Gary

The office phone number is 651-280-0150

You can also reach the churches by email

at: [st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com](mailto:st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com)

or [NerstrandUMC@gmail.com](mailto:NerstrandUMC@gmail.com)

## Prayer Chain



Please direct all prayer chain requests to **Becky Tatge (507) 210-1214** or **Mary Kindseth 507-789-6879**. Messages can be left on either of the phones. If you want to make any changes on how you are contacted or add your name to the

list, you can be on the email or phone list. Let's keep this available to our community.

### Prayer chain and worship service link emails:

Becky Tatge has been regularly sending emails with the worship service link and/or prayer chain requests. If you have not been receiving them and would like to, please contact Becky at (507) 210-1214

Please send **bulletin (deadline-9am Thurs)** and **newsletter (deadline-20<sup>th</sup> of month)** information to: [st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com](mailto:st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com) (Lynn Hirschey will be monitoring this email). Phone number 507-330-1831. Notes in the mail are also welcome if you prefer.

## Loving Thoughts and Prayers Surround:

### **Faribault Senior Living**

Gerry Erickson

### **Pleasant View Estates**

Shirley Bauer

Norma Meyer

Judy Smith

### **At Home**

Doris Hildebrandt

Arlene Shaske

Arlene Bultman

### **Mill City Senior Living**

Richard Hanson

Kaye Spike



## Joys and Concerns

Thank you to Kyle Keller for sanding/salting the St. John's church parking lot, etc. when it was so horribly icy. Your kindness was greatly appreciated!

A big Thank You to All who participated in the Christmas Day service: instrumentalists, readers, and the choir. It made for a very meaningful service celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

## **Christmas Memorials**

In memory of:

Elmer & Lorna Budde  
Bill & Gladys Anderson  
Richard Budde  
Paul Budde  
Phyllis Budde  
Butch St. Martin

from: Linda St. Martin and family



Two white poinsettias are in memory of :

Delbert & Delores Bultman  
Nancy Wesely  
Agnes & Melvin Deike  
And other Bultman/Deike relatives  
Given by Mary & Chris Bultman

In loving memory of our families:

Harold & Lois Homeier  
Gordie Homeier  
Wayne Homeier  
Terry Homeier  
LeRoy & Shirley Foss  
Bill Foss  
Paul Foss  
Mari (Foss) McDonald  
Ted Fioss  
Eric Foss

With Love,  
From their families

Poinsettias in memory of:

Joan & Gerry Schwake  
Colin Johnson, Kent & Sharlet Johnson  
By Terry & Joan Schwake and family

St. John's Choir Rehearsals will continue  
on Sunday mornings at 9:50 am.

## **Sunday School at St. John's**

St. John's Sunday School meets weekly from 9:30-10:20am. Students PreK through grade 8 are welcome, as are any adults interested in being a teacher or substitute. Please contact Carrie Hess with any questions: 651-775-5594 or [littlehesshouse@gmail.com](mailto:littlehesshouse@gmail.com).

## **Wednesday Wear**

Hours: Wed. 1-5 pm Sat. 9-noon

Remember that donations are welcome!

Any questions about being open or on donating,

Call-Linda 507-789-5376

Or Marlene 507-334-2143

Church phone 507-332-4089

## **Notice of Replacements for SJ Council for 2026**

Elder, Deacon, Trustee and S.P.R.C. Anyone interested, please contact Gloria Karl.



St. John's U.C.C. Council Dec. 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Gloria Karl at  
7:00 p.m.

Pastor Liker opened with a reading from Today's  
Devotional. From Luke 1 The God that does mighty  
things.

Reports:

S.P.R.C. No report

Secretary: Approved as read.

Treasurer: Approved as read.

Trustee: New Christmas tree is up. Thank you to  
Mark and Mary Kindseth and Jay and Trudy  
Kindseth for such a lovely gift. The parsonage  
bathroom is nearing completion. Trustees are  
working on the plug for the T.V. in the auditorium.

Old Business:

Annual meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> /snow  
date 25<sup>th</sup>. Motion was made and passed to accept  
the 2026 budget with the exception of discussion at  
the annual meeting regarding the property  
insurance costs. The door bells for the north and  
south doors have been purchased and will be  
installed soon.

New Business: Openings for board replacement are  
still available for anyone interested. Please contact

Gloria Karl or any board member. Thank you.  
Reminder to all, the audit committee will be ready for review soon. Have your books ready. Annual meeting pot luck, there are enough left overs from our German dinner to serve all. All that is needed for dishes to pass would be salad, vegetables, jell-o salad or fruit. Motion was made and passed to give \$10.00 per member to the U.C.C. conference for dues. Motion was made and passed to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.

Closing with The Lord's Prayer

Joan L. Schwake Secretary

Subject to approval

Elders: Gloria Karl, Brian Bauer, Michelle Otte  
Deacons: Joan Schwake, Gordie Wiegrefe, Sarah Miles  
Trustees: Al Meyer, Zach Hertle, Jay Kindseth  
Cemetery Board: Brian Bauer, Al Meyer, Kyle Keller

#### St. John's ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK

Annual meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> /snow date 25<sup>th</sup>

#### St. John's UCC Cleaning Committee



The St. John's UCC cleaning committee for the months of Jan./ Feb. is: St. John's Council.

#### Nerstrand UMC Administrative Board

Chairman-Duane Bailey  
Secretary -Debbie Kerr



#### Second Saturday Quilters

Second Saturday Quilters  
We will meet at St. John's

on Saturday January 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 3:00. Lesson to be determined. Bring your own project to work on & lunch if you plan to stay the day.

Linda J. will bring a snack.

Tool of the Month and History Bits are open. Sargents Nursery in Red Wing Quilt Show - January 9 - 11 from 9:00 - 4:00 daily for anyone wanting to go.

SSQ is open to people from all churches and their friends. Contact Deb Wille  
507-323-4813 or [83159deb@gmail.com](mailto:83159deb@gmail.com)

#### Wood Carving!

Carving will be January 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00.  
I will have a project for all.  
See you then



Steven Wille  
507-323-481

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>** -Keller baptism-SJ

**Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>** -Nerstrand UMC Ad Board Meeting, at 11am

**Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>** -Coffee and Conversation at the Nerstrand UMC, at 10am

**Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>** - St. John's Annual Meeting and Lunch, following worship. Snow day will be Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>

**Sunday, January 25- Big Woods Run Planning Meeting: 11:30am** - Anyone interested in working on the plans, promotions, and/or assisting with the Big Woods Run next fall is encouraged to attend the January kick-off meeting.

#### Sunday Church Service Schedule for 2025:

(Communion on first Sunday of month)

**9:00 AM WORSHIP AT NERSTRAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

12 Maple Street, Nerstrand, MN 55053

E-mail: [st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com](mailto:st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com)

Website: <https://nerstrandumc.org>

Phone: 507.332.4089



**10:30 AM WORSHIP AT ST JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

19086 Jacobs Ave, Faribault, MN 55021

E-mail: [st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com](mailto:st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com)

Website: <https://stjohnsunitdchurchofchrist.info>

Phone: 651-280-0150 (Pastor Gary-personal).



Pastor- Gary Liker