NOVEMBER 15, 2026

The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS AND FRIENDS



Sunday, November 15, 2026
25th Sunday after Pentecost , Year A

OUR READINGS DURING NOVEMBER SPEAK OF THE END TIMES. ZEPHANIAH PROCLAIMS THAT THE COMING DAY OF THE LORD WILL BE FILLED WITH WRATH AND DISTRESS. PAUL SAYS IT WILL COME LIKE A THIEF IN THE NIGHT AND URGES US TO BE AWAKE AND SOBER. JESUS TELLS THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS, CALLING US TO USE OUR GIFTS, WHILE WE STILL HAVE TIME, FOR THE GREATER AND COMMON GOOD. IN A WORLD FILLED WITH VIOLENCE AND DESPAIR, WE GATHER AROUND SIGNS OF HOPE—WORD, WATER, BREAD, AND WINE—EAGER TO WELCOME THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST'S COMING AMONG US.



MATTHEW 25:1-13
[JESUS SAID TO THE DISCIPLES:] 1 “THEN THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WILL BE LIKE THIS. TEN YOUNG WOMEN TOOK THEIR LAMPS AND WENT TO MEET THE BRIDEGROOM. 2 FIVE OF THEM WERE FOOLISH, AND FIVE WERE WISE. 3 WHEN THE FOOLISH TOOK THEIR LAMPS, THEY TOOK NO OIL WITH THEM, 4 BUT THE WISE TOOK FLASKS OF OIL WITH THEIR LAMPS. 5 AS THE BRIDEGROOM WAS DELAYED, ALL OF THEM BECAME DROWSY AND SLEPT. 6 BUT AT MIDNIGHT THERE WAS A SHOUT, ‘LOOK! HERE IS THE BRIDEGROOM! COME OUT TO MEET HIM.’ 7 THEN ALL THOSE YOUNG WOMEN GOT UP AND TRIMMED THEIR LAMPS. 8 THE FOOLISH SAID TO THE WISE, ‘GIVE US SOME OF YOUR OIL, FOR OUR LAMPS ARE GOING OUT.’ 9 BUT THE WISE REPLIED, ‘NO! THERE WILL NOT BE ENOUGH FOR YOU AND FOR US; YOU HAD BETTER GO TO THE DEALERS AND BUY SOME FOR YOURSELVES.’ 10 AND WHILE THEY WENT TO BUY IT, THE BRIDEGROOM CAME, AND THOSE WHO WERE READY WENT WITH HIM INTO THE WEDDING BANQUET, AND THE DOOR WAS SHUT. 11 LATER THE OTHER YOUNG WOMEN CAME ALSO, SAYING, ‘LORD, LORD, OPEN TO US.’ 12 BUT HE REPLIED, ‘TRULY I TELL YOU, I DO NOT KNOW YOU.’ 13 KEEP AWAKE, THEREFORE, FOR YOU KNOW NEITHER THE DAY NOR THE HOUR.”

“LET NOTHING DISTURB YOU,
LET NOTHING FRIGHTEN YOU,
ALL THINGS ARE PASSING AWAY:
GOD NEVER CHANGES.
PATIENCE OBTAINS ALL THINGS.
WHOEVER HAS GOD LACKS NOTHING;
GOD ALONE IS ENOUGH.”
—TERESA OF AVILA
PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.
PASTOR V.

Join Us for WORSHIP

IN-PERSON WORSHIP
THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY
9A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM
10:30 A.M.- IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM
BROADCAST ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



This Weeks Bulletin (click here)



SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14 @ 5PM
KEN KLOPFER- ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15 @ 9A.M.
NADINE BROWN- USHER

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 15 @ 10:30 A.M
KAREN ROTHENBERGER- ASSISTING MINISTER
LAURA LOEHR- USHER

ALTAR GUILD FOR NOVEMBER:
NANCY WEBER
JUDY KELLY

FUNERAL INFORMATION
LEAH LEIPLER'S FUNERAL WILL BE
HELD HERE AT ST. JOHN'S ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21ST @ 11AM



BIBLE STUDY @ 6PM
NOVEMBER 19TH

BILLS WATCH PARTY @ 1PM
NOVEMBER 15TH

MOVIE NIGHT @ 6PM
DECEMBER 12TH

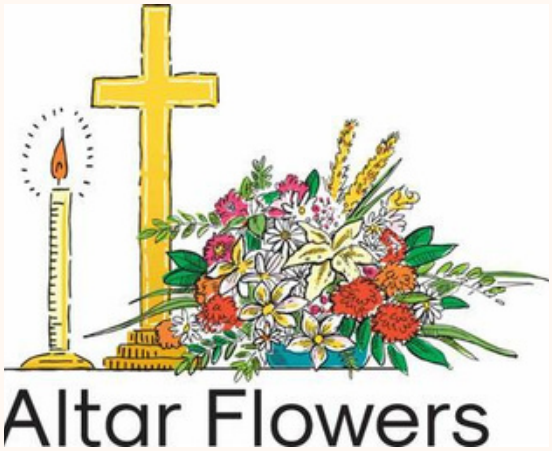


UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

PIES WILL BE MADE NOVEMBER 14TH AND CAN BE PICKED UP ON NOVEMBER 15TH

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS AFTER THE FIRST SERVICE ON NOVEMBER 22ND IN THE YOUTH ROOM
OPEN TO ALL YOUTH IN 7TH-12TH GRADE
BRING A FRIEND!!

DEADLINE TO ORDER COOKIE TRAYS MADE BY THE YOUTH WILL BE NOVEMBER 29TH



IN LOVING MEMORY OF BRUCE BARROWS

FROM LINDA BARROWS

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION BY ORDERING A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT USING THE ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.

AGAPE DATES:
DECEMBER 6TH
JANUARY 3RD
FEBRUARY 7TH

TURKEY BOXES

THE SIGN UP SHEETS AND LISTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE FOYER. AS WE ENTER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, ONCE AGAIN THERE IS AN OVERWHELMING INCREASE IN FOOD INSECURITY WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY. UNABLE TO HELP FINANCIALLY BUT WANT TO CONTRIBUTE? VOLUNTEER! ANYONE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR COLLECTION DAY AFTER SERVICES ON 11/22 OR ASSISTING WITH DROP OFF IN THE MORNING ON 11/24, PLEASE CONTACT ALEX OR KATHY WILL AT 716-867-5948

“DO NOT NEGLECT TO DO GOOD AND TO SHARE WHAT YOU HAVE, FOR SUCH SACRIFICES ARE PLEASING TO GOD.” HEBREWS 13:16 “

THIS WEEK 11/15 - 11/21

TODAY:

9 A.M. WORSHIP
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP
11:30 A.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL
1 P.M. BILLS WATCH PARTY
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP
6 P.M. KNITTING GROUP
6:45 P.M. ZUMBA
7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. TAI-CHI
2 P.M. WELCA
6 P.M. ROCK VOICES
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP
6 P.M. PARKINSON'S GROUP

THURSDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
12 P.M. NA
5 P.M. ZUMBA
5:30 P.M. AA BOOK CLUB
6 P.M. BIBLE STUDY
7 P.M. NA

FRIDAY:

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)
7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

SATURDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA
10 A.M. GIRL SCOUTS
11 A.M. LEAH LEIPLER FUNERAL
4 P.M. NA FRIENDSGIVING
5 P.M. WORSHIP

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Finance Committee Report
October 2026
Attendance For month of October averaged109

Accounts:

M&Tadvanced business checkingavailableBalance- **$15,130.40**
M&TYouth Fund Balance **$6,560.15**
M&TPastor Discretionary Fund- **$234.84**
M&TCommercial Savings - $ **13,804.76**
Citizens Building fund – 4616- **$45.00**
Citizens MIF – Cornerstone Fund–7073- **$7,759.42**
Citizens Youth Savings – YouthFund–7057- **$565.05**

Mission Investment Funds

DCK2284/StJohn'sLutheran Church Savings	**$11.85**		
TF3YR6959/StJohn's Lutheran Church AltarGuild	**$1,815.17**	3.941%	01/24/27
TF6YR7784/StJohn's Lutheran Church Cornerstone	**$21,543.36**	2.967%	04/25/27
TF4YR4436/StJohn's Lutheran Church Cornerstone	**$6,115.17**	4.087%	03/20/27
TF7M2546/StJohn's Lutheran Church Cemetery	**$32,771.13**	3.796%	04/05/27

Sgroi Financial **$11,820.14**
Thrivent Financial **$12,010.97**

October 2026 total income $17,248.47
October 2026 total Expense $24,594.45

Note:
October was a month of negative gain. We are now starting the colder months and with that comes increase in utilities, snowplow contract and added expenses associated with winter. I'll remind of the savings St. John's experiences through our staff. While some get paid, they are far below the standard pay and the norm our fellow congregations. We are also blessed by some volunteers who help maintain the building, grounds and cemetery. Our focus as a church is on mission but there is a reality that we have to keep things functioning as we do that.
We have 6 youth adults going to youth gathering and three adults. Payments started going out towards this. Our snow plow contract is $4,000 for the season, $2,000 has been paid towards that. The contract excludes salting. Past months we have been blessed by special undesignated donations. We cannot count on this money and these funds should have been put in savings but needed to go towards the operation of the church.

Your gifts, whether financial, time, or talent—are **vital** to maintaining and strengthening our congregation. Together, we can navigate these challenges and emerge even stronger.

Respectfully submitted
Rick Lipka/ Treasurer

Richard M. Lipka