

# December Newsletter

224 Mary Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 • Phone: (507) 723-5397 • [www.sjlcmc.org](http://www.sjlcmc.org) • Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9am - 2pm CST

## “LORD GIVE ME THE STRENGTH TO BE A BLESSING TO ALL”

Bury the hatchet. It's easy to say but hard to do. People have the ability to always open their mouth, make comments that are not necessary. We don't think about how it would feel if they were said about us. Proverbs 22:1 says, “a good name is to be chosen rather than great riches and favor is better than silver and gold”. In Ecclesiastes “a good name is better than precious ointment”. Our eighth commandment says “Don't bear false witness.” During the holiday season remember the Lord gave us two ears but only one mouth. Listen twice as much as you talk. Every year we all mature. Be patient with others as we begin to mature. Practice Love, Patience, Compassion and Peace through all the holidays. Demonstrate to all you see the devotion and grace of our Lord and Savior. We never know whose life we may affect, who we might bring to our Lord.

Lord give me the strength to be a blessing to all we meet including family members.

Have a blessed Christmas season.



Pastor Roger Godfredsen  
St Johns Lutheran Church

*Pastor Roger lives in Milford, Iowa with his wife, Vickie. They have 5 daughters and 2 sons. They also have 24 grandchildren.*

## Poinsettias Given In Memory Of...

...**Dick & Norma Anderson** ~ Gilbert & Linda, Glenn & Brenda, Russ & Kim Anderson, Laurie & Merle Krueger & families.

...**Jeff Menage** ~ Julie, Jake & Jordyn Menage

...**Roy & Margaret Moe, Kurt & Cindy Moe** ~ Lonn Moe

...**Lowell Anderson, Tony & DeMaris Hauger** ~ Dennis & Sally Anderson

...**Kimberly Severson** ~ Chris & Amanda Peterson Family

...**Derek Haseleu** ~ Randy, Rose, Ashley, Rilee, Conner & Brent

...**Jake Shiveley** ~ Karen, LeeAnn, Tim & Denise, Sabrena & John Resmau

...**Gary Don Hesse** ~ Sandy, Sarah & Adam Wenisch, Adam & Samantha Hesse & families

...**Bill & Lee Haseleu and Chuck & Elaine Hoffman** ~ Randy & Rose Haseleu, Sandy Hesse and families

...**David Anderson** ~ Lynn, Nancy, Joshua, Jacob & Laura, Jonathan and Joseph Anderson

...**Marv Huisman** ~ Dave & Lori Milbrath & family

...**Floyd & Ruth Milbrath and Leonard & Verna Miller** ~ Ray & Yvonne Milbrath

...**Loved ones and in honor of our family** ~ Leonard & Janet Groff

*Thank you for sharing these poinsettias with us during this Christmas season.*



# December Church Calendar

## Sunday, December 3

9:00 AM Worship Service  
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship  
10:15 AM SS Program Practice/HS Peeling  
Potato's

## Tuesday, December 5

9:00 AM Quilting  
3:00 PM Pro Kinship

## Wednesday, December 6

5:15 PM No Kitchen Table Ministry  
5:30-7:30 PM Making Lefse  
7:00 PM Choir Practice

## Thursday, December 7

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:15 AM Prayer Time

## Friday, December 8

7:00 PM Nativity Pageant, w/ Cookie Bake Sale

## Saturday, December 9

7:00 PM Nativity Pageant

## Sunday, December 10

9:00 AM Sunday School Practice  
10:00 AM Sunday School Program Following the  
Christmas Program Coffee & Fellowship with  
Lefse/Christmas Goodies Sale

## Tuesday, December 12

9:00 AM Quilting

## Wednesday, December 13

5:15 PM Kitchen Table Ministry  
6:00 PM Confirmation  
7:00 PM Choir Practice  
7:30 PM Council Meeting

## Thursday, December 14

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:15 AM Prayer Time

## Friday, December 14

Bingo @ St. Johns Home

## Sunday, December 17

9:00 AM Worship Service  
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship  
~~10:15 AM~~ No Sunday School

## Tuesday, December 19

9:00 AM Quilting  
3:00 PM Pro Kinship

## Wednesday, December 20

5:15 PM Kitchen Table Ministry  
~~6:00 PM~~ No Confirmation  
7:00 PM Choir Practice

## Thursday, December 21 (Newsletter Deadline)

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:15 AM Prayer Time

## Sunday, December 24

9:00 AM Worship Service  
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship  
~~10:15 AM~~ No Sunday School  
5:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with  
Holy Communion

## Monday, December 25

No Worship Service

## Tuesday, December 26

9:00 AM Quilting

## Wednesday, December 27

5:15 PM Kitchen Table Ministry  
~~6:00 PM~~ No Confirmation  
~~7:00 PM~~ No Choir Practice

## Thursday, December 28

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:15 AM Prayer Time

## Sunday, December 31 (All Charitable Donations Due)

9:00 AM Worship Service  
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship  
~~10:15 AM~~ No Sunday School



# SW Minnesota Men's Chorus Holiday Concert December 4

The Southwest Minnesota Men's Chorus will return to Springfield as part of its Christmas concert series on Monday, December 4. The holiday concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 303 North Cass in Springfield. A variety of secular and religious selections will be on the program. Refreshments will be served following the concert.

Springfield residents in the SW Minnesota Men's Chorus are Charles Tews, Gary Renner and Jeff

Krueger. Other area residents include Nathan Hesse from Comfrey and Jim Gode from Sanborn. Wendy Johnson is the chorus director.

There is no admission charge for the concert. The performance is part of a series of Christmas concerts with performances on Saturday, December 2 in Currie, Sunday, December 3 in Lamberton and Tuesday, December 5 in Tracy.



# December Worship Helpers

## December 3 (Holy Communion)

Lay Readers ..... TBD  
Com Asst. .... Easton Jensen, Isaac Jensen  
Acolytes ..... Olivia Milbrath, Camden Guhlke  
Birthday Reader ..... Easton Jensen

## December 10 (Christmas Program)

Acolytes ..... Cole Paplow  
Birthday Reader ..... Aubree Paplow

## December 17 (Holy Communion)

Lay Reader ..... TJ Smith  
Com Asst ..... Brooklyn Petersen, Grady Korkemeier  
Acolytes ..... Tyler Petersen, Amaira Brown  
Birthday Reader ..... Erika Wells

## December 24

9:00 AM Lay Reader ..... TBD  
9:00 AM Acolytes ..... Conner Schmitt  
9:00 AM Birthday Reader ..... Conner Schmitt

5:00 PM Lay Reader .....  
5:00 PM Acolytes ..... Jalyn Louwagie, Paxton Runck  
5:00 PM Comm. Asst. .... Katie Thram, Blaise Louwagie

## December 31

Lay Reader ..... TBD  
Acolytes ..... August Saffert  
Birthday Reader ..... Aubree Paplow

**December Ushers:** Caleb Hauger, Dave Milbrath, Christopher Thram, Darwin Voge

## St. John's Lutheran Church CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

In attendance: Andrew Hauger, Rod Smith, Sue Anderson, Tracie Berg, Brenda Krieger, Brenda Anderson, Todd Wells, Pastor Roger Godfredsen, Chris Petersen, Chad Thram, David Milbrath, & Adam Beers  
Absent: Brian Meier

Called to order by Andrew Hauger at 8:10 pm.

Pastor Godfredsen opened the meeting with a prayer.

Meal Ministry: Presented by Kayla Moe

1. Average of 20-25 people/Wednesday evening meal.
2. Costs: ~\$5/meal.
3. Request to promote the ministry to others and have the Meal Ministry be added as a part of the budget and a request of \$2,000 for 2024.

Secretary's and Stewardship Reports:

1. No additions or corrections. m/s/c David Milbrath/Chris Petersen

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Andrew Hauger

1. Bank accounts as of October 31, 2023: General account \$70,582.65. Dedicated account \$104,048.84. m/s/c David Milbrath/Brenda Krieger
2. Indian Missions line item has been removed.

Board of Education Report: Presented by Brenda Anderson

1. 10/29- 6 students received first communion. These students were Kaidree Guhlke, Sawyer Hesse, Jaxon and Tyson Hornick, Harper Korkemeier, and Lily Kottke.
2. 10/31- Over 200 students came to trick or treat for Trunk or Treat
3. 11/5- Help Your Neighbors had 9 yards that were raked and also the church yard.
4. 11/19-12/3- Christmas program practices will take place during the Sunday school hour for pre- K-6th grades.
5. 12/3- Luther League will peel potato's during Sunday School hour.
6. 12/6- Luther League will be making lefse from 5:30 pm-~7:30 pm.
7. 12/10- Christmas program in lieu of church service at 10:00 am.

Board of Trustees' Report: Presented by Andrew Hauger

1. Reviewed monthly financial statements and disbursements.
2. Electrical issue in Sanctuary caused a small fire that went out. Electrician repaired the issue.
3. Insurance adjuster came to evaluate the recent hail damage. \$5,000 deductible and our policy has full replacement.
4. 12/3 is the annual budget meeting.

Board of Deacons' Report: Presented by Rod Smith

1. Communion assignments for December are:
  - a. 12/3- Sue Anderson set-up, Adam Beers, Todd Wells to assist
  - b. 12/17- Rod Smith set-up, Brend Krieger & Sue Anderson to assist
2. Regarding membership changes for the month of October:
  - a. Baptisms - 0
  - b. Transfers in - 3 Sara, Olivia, and Jacob Lee
  - c. Transfers out - 1 Michael Tews
  - d. Funerals (visitation) - 0
  - e. Inactive list - 0
  - f. Removal- by request - 1 Anna Dressen
  - g. Requested membership- 0

Pastor's Report: Presented by Pastor Godfredsen

1. Thanksgiving Service: 7:00 pm
2. 5 calls were made to parishioners.
3. Pastor wanted to know who calls him 2 hours prior to service to make decision if incremental weather. Andrew Hauger will communicate with Pastor until his term as president ceases.

Discussions:

1. Stewardship & Evangelism: No reports provided.
2. Worship and Music: No reports provided.
3. Children, Youth, and Families: No reports provided.

Old Business:

1. Call Committee- The committee is sending out 20 packets to potential pastors available to call from a LCMC list.
2. New Hope and St. Paul's Church Discussion: It was agreed to continue conversations with these churches.

New Business:

1. Approval of time changes for Children's Christmas Program(12/10): Sunday School will be at 9:00 am and the Program at 10:00 am in place of a service. m/s/c Adam Beers/Chris Petersen
2. New Bibles: Prices of different companies and considerations of different ESV or NIV versions to be purchased was discussed.

Closing Prayer: Todd Wells

Adjourn: m/s/c All

Next meeting: December 13th @ 7:30 pm. Secretary, Adam Beers



The Springfield Nativity Pageant is on December 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM and the Bake sale is on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

Practices are on Dec 3 at 1:00 PM, Dec 4 at 6:30 PM, and dress rehearsal on Dec 7 at 5:30 PM.

Choir practice on Nov 24 and Dec 3 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 6:30 PM. Contact Marian Thorston for any questions.





**December 2**  
Terri Smith  
Deb Tews  
Callen Anderson

**December 3**  
Justin Kettner

**December 4**  
Katie Beers  
Lakyn Jo Ryan  
Maria Reyna

**December 5**  
Alex Moe  
Ethan Louwagie

**December 6**  
Lisa Anderson

**December 7**  
Clair Thorston  
Katie Thram  
Chase Bisel

**December 9**  
Todd Anderson  
Skylar Balbach

**December 10**  
Brian Meier

**December 11**  
Gwen Thoreson

**December 12**  
Dillon Anderson  
Roger Nelson  
Matthew Streich

**December 13**  
Rachel Imker  
Samantha Salonek  
Cadalie Brown

**December 14**  
Darrell Nielson

**December 15**  
Sophia Spann

**December 16**  
Troy Paplow

**December 17**  
Courtlyn Runck

**December 19**  
Jaxson Anderson

**December 20**  
Crystal Augustin  
Brent Haseleu

**December 21**  
Sue Anderson  
Mya Scholtz

**December 22**  
Diane Lade  
**December 23**  
Rod Smith  
Angela Ames

**December 24**  
Kari Hensch

**December 25**  
Lori Herfurth

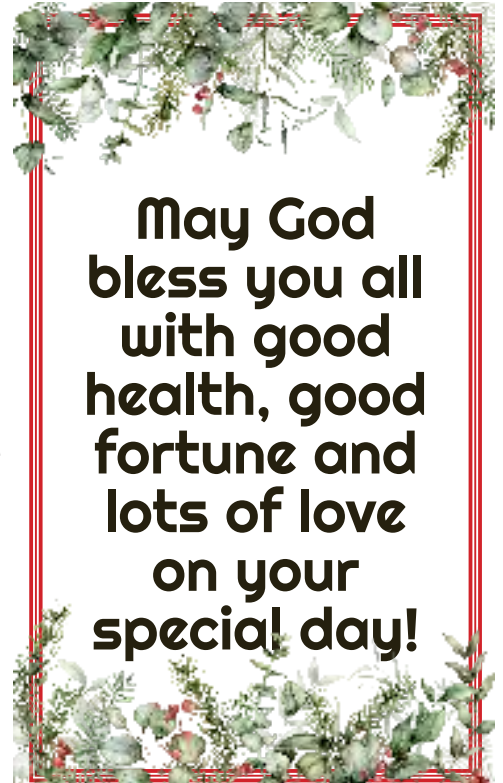
**December 27**  
Arliss Petersen  
Rob Hillesheim  
Jaelyn Batzlaff  
Danielle Martin

**December 28**  
Shari Batzlaff  
Blaise Louwagie

**December 29**  
Jakob Gill  
Jaron Schultz

**December 30**  
Steve Anderson

**December 31**  
Jan Anderson  
Megan Pierson



**December 14**  
Jerry & Shari Batzlaff

**December 17**  
Noah & Maddy Richert

**December 15**  
Roger & Clare Nelson

**December 28**  
Adam & Katie Beers

thank you

Thank you, Lori Milbrath for providing our birthday and anniversary lists. Your help is very appreciated.



St. Johns church offers free access to RIGHT NOW MEDIA for all our members. Call or email for a link to start exploring the amazing resource library. Sign up today and grow in faith and knowledge in your walk with God.

Church email:  
sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com

**REMINDER**  
Please check your



**There are many unclaimed items.**



**Bible  
STUDY**  
Join us!

Bible study Thursday mornings is now available via Zoom. Contact the church office, and we will need your email address to get you linked in.



The January Newsletter Deadline is December 21. Submissions after the deadline are not guaranteed inclusion into the newsletter.

**Please submit all articles and information to the church office, thank you so much in advance!**



## Calling All Luther Leaguers

**December 3** -- 7th -12th grade will be peeling potatoes during Sunday School hour. Please bring a potato peeler if you have one.

**December 6** -- Lefse making will be 5:30-7:30pm. Come and join the FUN! Pizza will be provided for supper. If you have any Lefse making supplies (griddles, rolling pins, boards, etc.) or are willing to help. Please contact Brenda Anderson at 507-920-6570 if you can contribute in anyway.

**December 10** -- Luther League will be selling Lefse and Christmas Goodies after church. Luther League appreciates your support!



## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

St. Johns Sunday school students will present their Christmas program on Sunday Dec. 10th at 10 a.m. followed by refreshments. (also cookie & lefse sale day) This will take the place of our regular worship service.

Practices are on Sunday during our Sunday school hours. Helpers for each grade are appreciated. Please contact April Beyer if you have questions or to volunteer to assist with the program.



**Please Consider Helping If You Can ...**

Dear friends,

We need your help! The Springfield Area Food Shelf is currently in need of the following items: apple, cranberry, and grape juice in 64 oz. containers, baking products such as brown sugar, frosting, cake/cookie mixes, and any other baking items. We also need breakfast bars, various spaghetti sauces, small cans of coffee, instant oatmeal variety packs, fruit snacks and fruit cups for both kids and adults, toothpaste, and cereals. We will use any donations we receive as long as they are not expired. Your donation can make a big difference in someone's life.

If you have any questions or want to donate, please get in touch with Shari Koll at 507-227-0386 or Dave Carruthers at 507-276-6679. You can also leave a message on the food shelf phone at 507-723-3663, and we will get back to you.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation instead of donating food items, you can mail it to the Springfield Area Food Shelf at PO Box 15, Springfield, MN 56087 or drop it off.

A heartfelt thank you to all who have helped out this year and through the holiday season. We wish many blessings to you and your loved ones.



Springfield's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Nativity Pageant

**Friday, Dec. 8 & Saturday, Dec. 9  
7:00 p.m.**

**Springfield Area Community Center Grounds**

**Pageant is 40 minutes ~ Bleacher Seating available**

Springfield's 2023  
Nativity Pageant  
re-enacts the story  
of the Birth of Jesus  
with an all-local cast,  
a live manger scene  
with camels,  
special lighting,  
and music featuring  
a community chorus

Pageant Hospitality  
in the Community Center,  
following each performance

No admission charge,  
a gift from  
the Springfield Area  
Nativity Theatre  
Association  
and the community  
of Springfield





# Santa Cookie Sale

**Friday, December 8  
at 6 East - Downtown Springfield**

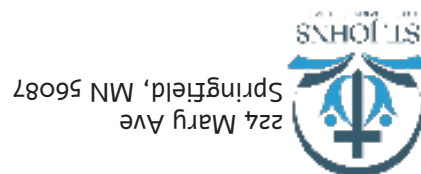
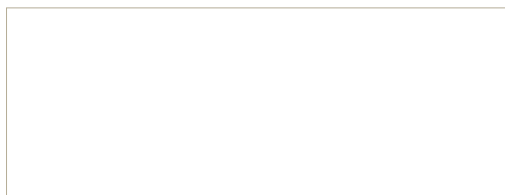
Cookie Sale starts at 10:00 a.m.  
until sold out or 12:00 Noon



Cookies can be dropped off at 6 East  
Thursday, December 7 from 6:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
and 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
or Friday, December 8 after 6:30 a.m.

*Sponsored by Springfield Area Nativity Theatre Association  
with proceeds helping to sustain the Nativity Pageant*





place  
POSTAGE  
Here

May Your  
Family Be  
Blessed With  
Health &  
Happiness this  
Holiday Season

Peace and Blessings from  
Pastor Roger Godfredsen,  
Secretaries: Tracie Berg,  
Kayla Moe & Laurie Krueger,  
Custodian: Steve Lyle

### INCLEMENT WEATHER & CANCELLATIONS



Re: Church activities and office hours. If Springfield schools are canceled or dismissed early all activities and the church office will be closed. Church service cancellations will be made as soon as

possible then posted on Facebook, and broadcast on KNUJ (AM 860/ 97.3 FM New Ulm) Radio and KLGR (1490 AM Redwood Falls) radio stations.

**\*\*When in doubt, or you fear driving because of road conditions - please stay safe at home.**



Nursing Home Bingo is the 3rd Friday of every month. Volunteers can sign up on the lists by the offices.