



**Communion Announcements** Those who desire to attend the Lord's Supper are asked to announce by having the ushers sign up for you. We follow the Bible based practice of communing those who are communicant members of our congregation and those who are members of a congregation in fellowship with the Wisconsin Synod. If you have any questions about attending the Lord's Supper with us, please ask to speak with our pastor before the time of service.

**NOTE: VISITORS, PLEASE FILL OUT A CARD IF RECEIVING COMMUNION SO WE CAN LET YOUR HOME CHURCH KNOW OF YOUR ATTENDANCE. THANK YOU!!**

**Prayer Requests** Please remember the following in your prayers:

\*Birthday and wedding anniversary celebrations this week.

\*Jaelyn Marie Bins as she receives the blessing of Holy Baptism  
Contact Pastor Sargent for any prayer requests and to inform him of any family members entering the hospital.

Also, if you would like a special prayer put in the bulletin, please contact Brenda Polzin or email the request to [stjohn-grover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohn-grover@gmail.com) by Wednesday afternoon.



**Baptism** Jaelyn Marie Bins, daughter of Jared and Kayla Bins, as she receives God's washing of Holy Baptism today during the service. May the Lord bless and keep this child in his baptismal grace.

**2023 Contributions E-giving's (online contributions)** last day will be **December 19** in order for it to process through the systems on time for the counting team. **Christmas Day** will be the **last day** in which we will be accepting contributions, through church, for the 2023 year. Thank you!

**2024 Offering Envelopes** We are getting together info for our 2024 offering envelope list. If you are currently receiving offering envelopes for 2023 and wish to discontinue receiving them for 2024 due to wanting to take advantage of the E-Giving Program or for other reasons, please contact Brenda Polzin by email at [stjohngrover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrover@gmail.com) or talk with her or Kevyn Lange directly. Also, if you currently don't receive offering envelopes and wish to, please contact either of them as well.



**Poinsettias** A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate flowers for our Christmas decorations. Please note if the flowers are in memory of a loved one or for another special occasion.

**Advent Wreath** Our Blessed thanks for donating the Advent wreath and candles in loving memory of Carl & Elfrieda Carlson from their family.



**Christmas Tree and Decorations** Our blessed thanks to the families for donating and decorating the Christmas tree and for the many decorations that beautify our church inside and outside.



### **Christmas/New Year's Worship Services**

December 24 10:00am St. John Christmas Eve Worship Service

December 24 6:30pm St. John Church & School Children's Program

December 25 10:00am Christmas Day Worship Service

December 31/January 1 There will be the regular 10:00am worship service on **New Year's Eve**. There will not be any **New Year's Day** service.

**Seroogy Candy Bars** St. John Lutheran Youth Group is sell-



ing Seroogy candy bars once again at the cost of \$2.00 each.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!



**Sunday School** We are looking for Sunday School Teachers. If you are interested in helping, let Pastor Sargent know.

**Bible Study** Our Bible Study is called “Grand Themes & Key Words” This Sunday we will we will look at what is meant by the term, “Holiness”. There will be no Bible Study on December 24th and 31st . We will come back for Bible Study on January 7, 2024.



**Homebound/Shut-ins** Please take note of our members who are not able to be with us at our Sunday services. Remember them in your prayers and if you are able, reach out to them with a card or a letter.

“We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.” (1 John 1:3)

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RON & LORETTA KAEMPF  
W4358 County B  
Peshtigo, WI 54157

CECILE SEEFELDT  
Rennes West  
501 N. Lake St  
Peshtigo, WI 54157



**Livestream Volunteers** We are still in need of volunteers to help with the live-streaming. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Sargent.

**2023 Altar Flowers Sign Up** A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate flowers for special dates in memory of a loved one or for another special occasion. 

**Weekly Bulletins** You can now find the weekly bulletins on our website(stjohnpeshtigo.org). Go to the website, click on “weekly bulletins”, then click on the link for the bulletin.

**Changes** To better help us keep our records up to date (address changes, landline disconnection, cell phone numbers, family members move, etc), it would be greatly appreciated if you could fill out a form which is located in the rack in back of church. You may return to any usher, Brenda Polzin, or Pastor.

**Worship & Daily Devotions on WOCO** The worship broadcast on WOCO AM 1260 today (11:00 am) is hosted by *Our Savior/St. Mark, Lena/ Spruce*. The daily devotions on WOCO AM (1260) & FM (107.1) this week (Monday-Friday at 9:05 am) are hosted by *Grace, Crivitz by Pastor David Mielke*.

**Last Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran**

Those Who Joined Us in Worship 12/10/2023	154
Live Stream Service 12/10/2023 (Households)	15
Sunday School/Bible Study 12/10/2023	21/
Average Sunday Attendance for the Year (49 weeks)	141

## ***This Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran***

Monday 6:30pm Zion Service  
Tuesday 10:00am Board of Elders  
Wednesday 3:45pm Lutheran Pioneers/Youth Combined Caroling  
4:30pm Confirmation Class (4:30-6:00pm)  
Thursday 4:30pm Ladies Night Out @ Brown's, Peshtigo  
Friday 8:15am School Chapel Devotion  
Saturday 9:00am Christmas Eve Program Practice (9-11am)  
Sunday **NO** Sunday School/ Bible Study  
10:00am Christmas Eve Worship Service  
6:30pm Children's Christmas Eve Program

Next Sunday's Counting Team: Team "E" - Scott & Sue Schonfeld,  
Dave & Patti Bornick

Next Sunday's Greeters: Lissa Seefeldt, Bob & Kim Pelky

### ***Offerings for the Lord's Work***

General Fund Income for 11/26/2023	\$ 6,301.75
General Fund Income for 12/3/2023	\$ 6,592.88
General Fund Income for 12/10/2023	\$ 5,534.75
Total General Fund Income (24 weeks)	\$123,905.86
Church Offering Goal: Weekly@ \$6,174.50 (24 weeks)	\$148,188.00
(Projection - \$321,074)	
Total Church Offering Goal <b>Deficit</b>	-\$ 24,282.14
Tuition/School Choice (Projection - \$253,424)	\$30,158.21/\$128,609.00

### ***Included in General Fund Income Total:***

E-giving - \$2,345.75

### ***Special Gifts & Offerings:***

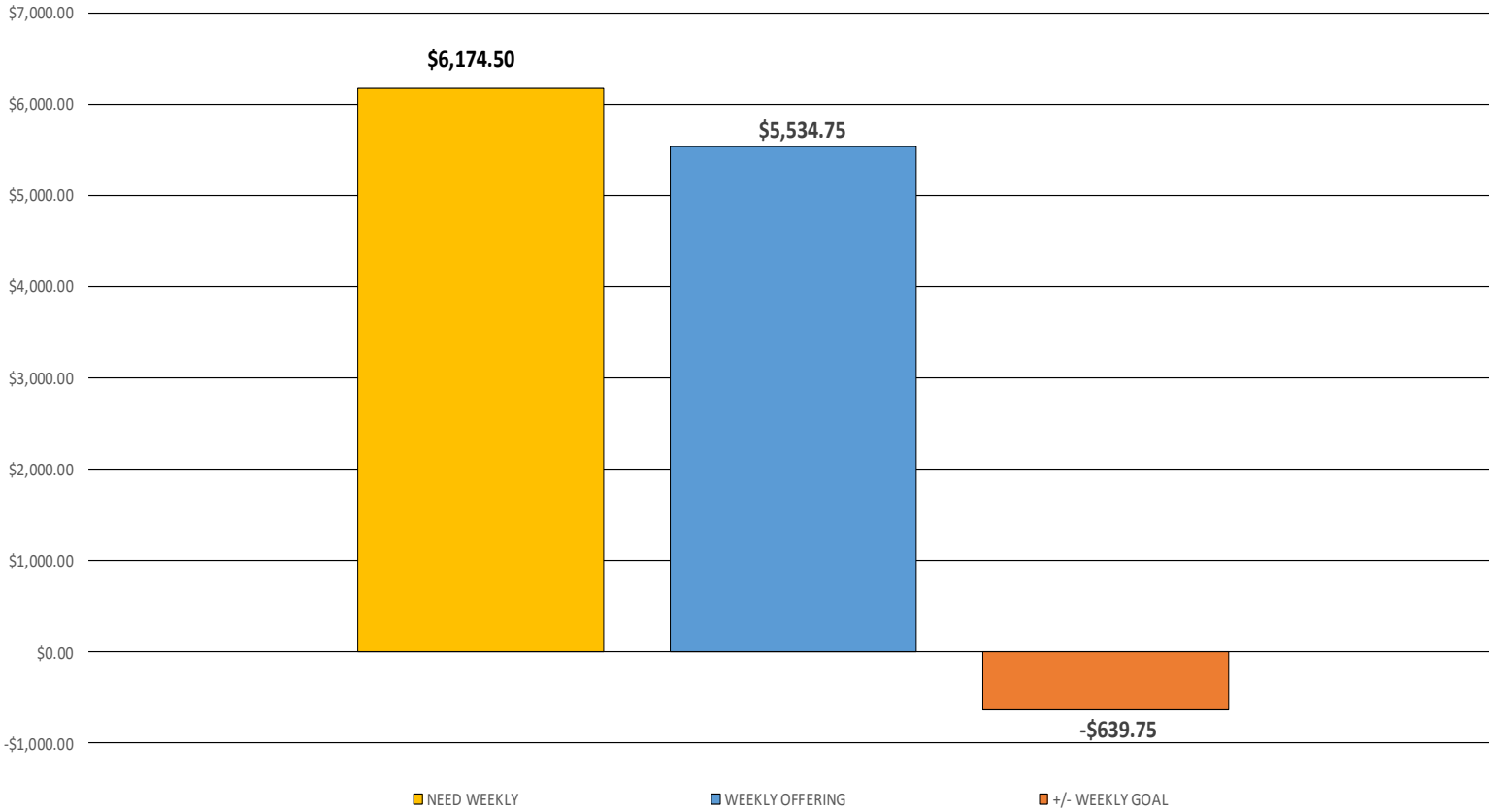
CMO - \$100; School Missions - \$46.25; Hot Lunch - \$24; LYG - \$100

### ***Memorials & Special Gifts Received:***

## School News

- ⇒ On Wednesday, December 20, there will be a combined Lutheran Pioneers/Youth Caroling event for Zion homebound members in Peshtigo starting at 3:45 pm.
- ⇒ There will be one more Christmas Eve practice on Saturday, December 23 from 9:00 - 11:00 am for the children from both St. John School and Sunday School as they make their final preparations for the Christmas Eve service, December 24 at 6:30 pm.
- ⇒ Thank you to the children who shared the wonderful message of Jesus' birth yesterday, Saturday, December 16, in word and song. And thank you to our teachers and assistants for all their hard work in preparing the students for this service. An added thank you to all who helped with the Cookies and Cocoa fellowship following the service as well. You are all appreciated!! The money that was collected as the offering will be given to the Peshtigo Food Pantry to help those in our community this holiday season.
- ⇒ Our weekly chapel services will be held in church on Fridays at 8:15 am (unless there is no school that Friday). Parents and visitors are always welcome to attend. We will also post the recording of these devotions on both our school and church Facebook pages.

WEEKLY OFFERING PROJECTION  
12/10/2023



**Link to Electronic giving page.  
Just scan with your phone.**







**FIRST LESSON****ISAIAH 61:1-3, 10-11**

The Spirit of the LORD God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the afflicted. He sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release for those who are bound, 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance for our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 to provide for those who mourn in Zion, to give them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, a cloak of praise instead of a faint spirit, so that they will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD to display his beauty. 10 I will rejoice greatly in the LORD. My soul will celebrate because of my God, for he has clothed me in garments of salvation. With a robe of righteousness he covered me, like a bridegroom who wears a beautiful headdress like a priest, and like a bride who adorns herself with her jewelry. 11 For as the earth produces its growth, and as a garden causes what has been sown to sprout up, so God the LORD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up in the presence of all the nations.

**PSALM OF THE DAY****PSALM 71 (PAGE 92)****SECOND LESSON****1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24**

16 Rejoice always. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In everything give thanks. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. 19 Do not extinguish the Spirit. 20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt. 21 But test everything. Hold on to the good. 22 Keep away from every kind of evil. 23 May the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

**VERSE OF THE DAY** Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia. (Matthew 11:10 cf. NIV)

**GOSPEL**

**JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28**

6 There was a man, sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as an eyewitness to testify about the light so that everyone would believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but he came to testify about the light. 19 This is the testimony John gave when the Jews from Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him, “Who are you?” 20 He confessed and did not deny. He confessed, “I am not the Christ.” 21 And they asked him, “Who are you then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” “No,” he answered. 22 Then they asked him, “Who are you? Tell us so we can give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” 23 He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’ just as Isaiah the prophet said.” 24 They had been sent from the Pharisees. 25 So they asked John, “Why then do you baptize, if you are not the Christ, or Elijah, or the Prophet?” 26 “I baptize with water,” John answered. “Among you stands one you do not know. 27 He is the one coming after me, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie.” 28 These things happened in Bethany beyond the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

**HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!!!**

## ***150th Anniversary of the Ev. Lutheran Church of St John***

Rev. Carl Heubner from the Wisconsin Synod was sent to serve Lutheran immigrants who had organized congregations in Marinette County. One group was started in 1780 called the German Lutheran Congregation of Peshtigo and Surrounding Territory. On October 8, 1871 the Peshtigo Fire devoured all of Peshtigo and the surrounding territory. The homes, barns, cattle, belongings, and the church building of these members were reduced to ashes. Many lost husbands, wives, and children. Those who survived took courage and wanted a new start for their church. On January 1, 1874 a new congregation was organized. The name they chose was the Ev. Lutheran Saint Johannes Gemeinde. (Ev. Lutheran Church of St. John) It was decided to build a church on three acres donated by Fred Warnecke. In August of 1876 a wooden church building was erected on the very site of our present sanctuary.

We will be remembering this **150th Anniversary** with special prayers on Sunday, December 31, 2023. The Church Elders have set aside the date of **October 13th, 2024** for a special Anniversary Service to be held at 4:00pm with a potluck meal after the service.

The Elders are asking for volunteers to help form an Anniversary Committee for this special service.

