



Encounter Jesus Experience Family Embrace the Broken

THE EAGLE



DECEMBER 2025

Pastor's Page

"And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."
Luke 1:46-47



I love Mary's song that she lifts up when she learns about her calling to bring the savior of the world to us. She magnifies the Lord. We can't make God bigger, but she makes him bigger in her own focus and attention. She rejoices to be part of his plan of salvation. What an amazing woman. This month we'll be looking at some of these biblical songs of Christmas. Mary, Zechariah, Simeon and the Angels all bring a song that we can meditate on and grow with in this busy season.

Keep in mind, we'll all be together in one worship gathering each Sunday in December at 10am. Check out all the fun times we'll have together as a family and pray about who you might invite along. We've got Christmas Eve worship, Wreath making, Music Sunday and more. Help get the word out. Cross Traffic will be singing for us on December 7th again this year.

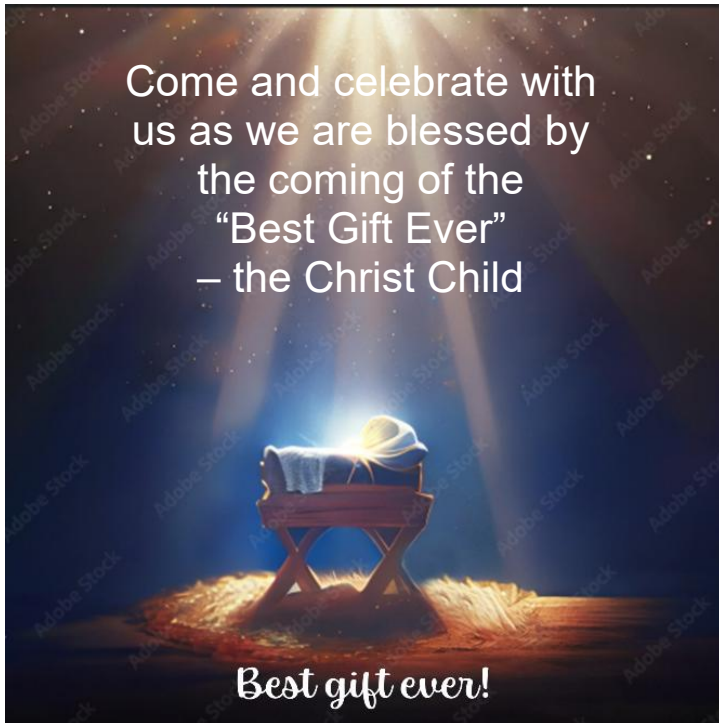
I'm excited we'll be receiving new members on December 7th. Come and welcome these new members of the family. Speaking of the family, we're launching our new Online Directory this month so let me know if you have any questions. We'll be sending you an email soon. We also have a Congregational Meeting this month to approve our 2026 Budget on Sunday, December 21st after worship. We'll have the proposed budget available on November 30th and Budget forum on December 7th. Come with any questions.

Finally, be sure to thank our hardworking Church Lay staff with a healthy Christmas bonus. They work so hard all year, it's nice to bless them with a special gift. If you'd like to give, just put a check in the offering this month with "staff bonus" in the memo and we'll divide it up.

Christmas is a comin'!

Greg

Life Together



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Holy Communion

4 pm Wednesday
December 24th

Wreath Making Wednesday Night, December 3rd 6:30-8:30 pm

Come join us for a festive evening of Christmas wreath making and hot chocolate as we gather to celebrate the season together. For more info, see page 4.



Budget Forum, December 7th right after 10 am worship

Questions about the 2026 Budget? The Forum is your chance to ask questions & get answers. The 2026 Budget will be available on November 30th.

Deck the Crockpots, Sunday, December 14th following a musical worship "He Is Born" – see page 8 for the details!

Saint John's Annual Congregational Meeting (Part 1) Sunday Dec. 21st
right after the 10 am gathering. If you are a member, you have a vote! Sign your name on the roster next to your printed name, so we know we have a quorum to vote. **What are we voting on?** The 2026 Budget!

The Online Directory is scheduled to launch in December. Please, if you do not want your info published in the directory, send an email to office@saintjohnsag.com no later than December 7th.

Youth & Children's Ministry

Weekly Youth Group

The youth group meets Sunday afternoons from 12-2 pm. All 7th-12th graders are invited for snacks, games, & meaningful conversations about life and faith. Friends are always welcome too!

KidsChurch

KidsChurch meets Sundays during the 9:30 am worship, following Passing of the Peace. Teacher(s) will gather the children and walk them to the classroom(s)

Wreath Making Night Wednesday, December 3rd 6:30-8:30 pm

Come join us for a festive evening of Christmas wreath making and hot chocolate as we gather to celebrate the season together. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends, neighbors, and loved ones to experience the warmth and hospitality of our church family. All supplies are provided—just bring a cup of cheer and an open heart! Never made a wreath before? No problem! Friendly instruction will be provided to help guide you step-by-step so everyone can create something beautiful to take home. We hope this event not only sparks creativity, but also strengthens connection as we continue to grow and expand our church community.

KidsChurch Special Music

We need all kids to help us celebrate the birth of Jesus as we sing this fun song celebrating the birth of Jesus in worship on Sunday, December 14th. We have been practicing during KidsChurch but please let Lydia know if you have a kid interested in singing with us and we can send you a link to practice with a YouTube video.

Deck the Crockpots, Sunday, December 14th following “He Is Born” musical worship

Join us for PotLuck lunch, crafts & special cookie decorating just for kids! Great for all ages & a fun time to bring a friend! See more details on page 8.

Youth & Children's Ministry



December KidsChurch Advent Countdown

Tagline: Waiting For Christmas

Memory Verse: "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them." *Luke 1:68 (NIV)*

Lesson 1: Hope

Objective: Kids will learn that advent is a season of hope.

Lesson 2: Love

Objective: Kids will learn that Advent is a reminder that God loves them.

Lesson 3: Joy

Objective: Kids will learn that Advent reminds us of the joy Jesus gives us.

Lesson 4: Peace

Objective: Kids will learn that Advent reminds us that Jesus can give us peace.

Lesson 5: Christ

Objective: Kids will learn Jesus is God's gift to the world

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
30 Advent 9:30am Worship 11:00am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group	1 11:00am Bells Rehearsal 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	2 10:00am Bible Study	3 6:00pm Worship Team 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Wreath Making
7 10:00 am Worship & Communion 11:00am Budget Forum 12:00pm Youth Group	8 11:00am Bells Rehearsal 1:00pm Global & Community Missions	9 9:00am Set-Up for Women's Ministry Annual Christmas Luncheon 10:00am Bible Study 11:30am People's Kitchen	10 9:00am NO Knit a Scarf 12:00pm Women's Ministry Annual Christmas Luncheon 6:00pm Worship Team 6:30pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal
14 10:00am Worship - Annual Christmas Musical Program followed by Deck the Crockpots Brunch 12:00pm Youth Group	15 11:00am Bells Rehearsal 6:00pm Council Mtg 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	16 10:00am Bible Study	17 6:00pm Worship Team
21 10:00am Worship-Holy Communion 11:00am Annual Congregational Budget Meeting, Part I 12:00pm Youth Group	22 6:00pm Cross Traffic Practice	23 10:00am Bible Study	24 Christmas Eve 4:00pm Candlelight & Communion Christmas Eve Service
28 10:00am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	31 Office Closed Will re-open January 5, 2026 at 9 am

December 2025

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6 9:00am Property Day 11:00am Scleroderma Group 8:00pm A.A. Speakers
11	12 OFFICE CLOSED	13
18	19 OFFICE CLOSED	20
25 Christmas Day OFFICE CLOSED	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27
1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 9:00am Property Day 8:00pm A.A. Speakers

DECEMBER 2025 NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

We're reading through the New Testament together. When you read just five chapters per week, you'll read through the entire New Testament in 2025!

- ♦ *What is God saying to me?*
- ♦ *What am I going to do about it?*
- ♦ *Who can I share this with?*

Mo Dec 1 ☐ Titus 1
 Tu Dec 2 ☐ Titus 2
 We Dec 3 ☐ Titus 3
 Th Dec 4 ☐ Rev 1
 Fr Dec 5 ☐ Rev 2

Mo Dec 8 ☐ Rev 3
 Tu Dec 9 ☐ Rev 4
 We Dec 10 ☐ Rev 5
 Th Dec 11 ☐ Rev 6
 Fr Dec 12 ☐ Rev 7

Mo Dec 15 ☐ Rev 8
 Tu Dec 16 ☐ Rev 9
 We Dec 17 ☐ Rev 10
 Th Dec 18 ☐ Rev 11
 Fr Dec 19 ☐ Rev 12

Mo Dec 22 ☐ Rev 13
 Tu Dec 23 ☐ Rev 14
 We Dec 24 ☐ Rev 15
 Th Dec 25 ☐ Rev 16
 Fr Dec 26 ☐ Rev 17

Mo Dec 29 ☐ Rev 18
 Tu Dec 30 ☐ Rev 19
 We Dec 31 ☐ Rev 20
 Th Jan 1 ☐ Rev 21
 Fr Jan 2 ☐ Rev 22



Musical Christmas Worship Program

Annual Christmas Worship Program, Sunday, December 14th at 10:00 am
He Is Born!

The musicians of Saint John's are pleased to present our Annual Christmas Worship Program, "He Is Born!", Sunday, December 14th at 10:00 a.m.

Participants include the children, youth, Chancel Choir, Heavenly Handbells, Music Team band, and other instrumentalists. We'll celebrate Jesus's birth with joyful songs and re-telling the age-old story, all presented by our musically gifted congregants.

Afterwards, we'll share a potluck meal, "Deck the Crockpots", so plan to bring your favorite recipe, from main dish to salads, veggies, casseroles and desserts. The youth and children's ministry will also set up fun craft stations and invite us to help fill boxes for our shut-ins.

So save the date, invite a friend, family or neighbor, and it will be a "Joy to the World" morning to celebrate!

- Shari Bowman

Dress a Girl

Dress a Girl will not meet in December. In January 2026 we'll be back in action on Saturday January 10th from 9 am to 2 pm.

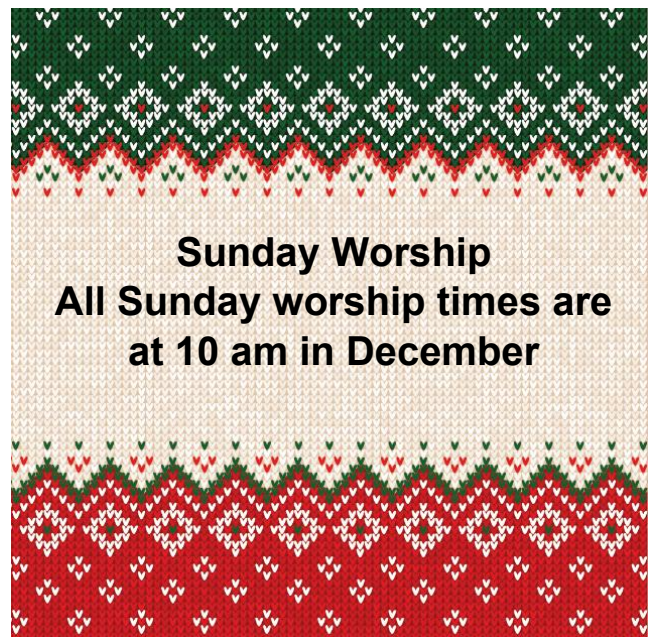
Have a Blessed Christmas and a Wonderful New Year!!

Knit & Crochet

Saint John's Knitters (and Crocheters) will not meet in December but will be back Weds. January 14th from 9 am until noon in the church office.

Scrip Purchase Availability

If you buy Scrip (gift cards) – Good News! George will be selling Scrip every Sunday in December before & after our 10 am gatherings.



December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Cal Wood	12/7
Irene Rodin	12/8
Gabriela Silverstone	12/11
Miranda Broyles	12/11
Mike Ebersole	12/12
Bob Weiger	12/13
Priscilla Thomas	12/15
Terry Fibich	12/18
Rebecca Maughmer	12/19
Valerie Reilly	12/22
Scott Taylor	12/22
Frank Drake	12/23
Tim Myer	12/24
Ron Werner	12/26

Gordon & Robin Eiland 12/11



Prayers Needed

Continue praying for Tim, Heidi, Morgan, Patrick, Judy, Julie, Daisy, Rocky, Anthony, Nick, Penny, Sandy, Crystal, Shar, Fiona, Travis, George, Rena, Kay, Emanda, Sean

December Property Day

Saturday the 6th.

We start at 9 am.

Your help is appreciated
any day of the week.

Call Lois Franks 805-202-8558 or
Mike Johnson 805-710-7319
for more information.

Dear Saint John's – We want to invite you to show your appreciation for all the hard work our Lay Staff has done for you this year, especially while Pastor Greg was gone. Individual donations may be made to Saint John's, designating an amount to the Staff Bonus fund in appreciation of all they've done this past year. If writing a check, just note "Staff Bonus" in the memo.

The total amount will be split up between the Lay Staff.

Thank you for your generosity!

Council Highlights

Highlights from the November 17, 2025 Council meeting:

- ▲ Plans for the Children's Center are moving forward. To date, approximately \$53,000 of the approved \$146,000 has been wisely spent. More information to follow as 2026 moves forward.
- ▲ The Council has approved a tentative budget for the congregation to consider for approval at the December 21st congregational meeting. This proposed budget will be available for review on November 30th, with the budget forum on December 7th. Please take time to review the budget; the Council will invite all members to ask questions about this budget. Then come vote on Sunday, December 21st.
- ▲ Thank you all for the successful stewardship drive in November!
- ▲ Due to the Holidays, the next Fun, Fitness and Fellowship event will be in January, skipping the month of December.
- ▲ The Christmas Angel Tree program is seeking sponsors for Christmas gifts for the children of Iglesia Luterana San Juan Bautista in Santa Maria. This annual program begins Sunday, November 30th. Watch for the Christmas tree in the Commons.

December Memory Verse



CONTACT information



Church Council 2025

PRESIDENT

Janice Goodwin

VICE PRESIDENT

Bob Weiger

TREASURER

Gordon Eiland

SECRETARY

Mark Haley

Youth & Children

Dawn Drysdale

Worship & Altar Guild

Louise Taylor

Stewardship

Gordon Eiland

Property

Mike Johnson

Good News

Adrienne Rule

At-Large

Ed Muraski

Pastor

Greg Wallace

Staff

Pastor

Office Manager

Children & Youth Director

Music Coordinator

Chancel Choir & Handbells Director

Songfest Director

Choir Accompanist

Organist

Nursery Attendant

Children's Ministry Intern

Student Ministry Intern

Greg Wallace

Pamela Glenn

Cindi Wallace

Janice Goodwin

Shari Bowman

Cal Wood

Shari Bowman

Dawn Russ

Brooklyn Davis

Lydia Wallace

Matthew Harter

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Church Website

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Your 2025 Church Council



Janice Goodwin
President



Bob Weiger
Vice President
Women's Ministry
Liaison



Mark Haley
Secretary



Gordon Eiland
Treasurer
Stewardship Liaison



Dawn Drysdale
Youth & Children's
Liaison



Mike Johnson
Property Liaison



Ed Muraski
At-Large
Member



Louise Taylor
Worship & Altar
Guild Liaison



Adrienne Rule
Good News

The Eagle

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