



The Good  
News!  
is also  
available at  
[www.stjohns-annandale.org](http://www.stjohns-annandale.org).

# Good News!

## FROM PASTOR DAVE.....

### What's Happening "Post Jenny"?

As hopefully you are all aware, we bid farewell to Jenny Aleckson, our Children, Youth and Family Director on November 6<sup>th</sup>. Jenny had served on our staff for the past two plus years. We wish her the very best in her new "call" in Long Lake where she will be serving as their High School Youth Director.

At this time, we are not posting the CYF position. We need to end out the year, see where we are financially, and then crunch the numbers for the 2017 Budget before we make any definite decisions. We WILL be doing "something" to bring leadership to our Children, Youth and Family ministries – but at this time we are not sure what that will look like. The Council has been considering a number of options (so stay tuned).

In the meantime, we are grateful for those who have "stepped up" to make sure things continue to run smoothly. We are grateful to Hope Sykora for overseeing the Junior High Youth Gathering, and for working with the High School Youth Group along with Celeste Froehlich. We are grateful to Nichole Abernathy and Laura Eastling for overseeing our Sunday school. We are grateful to Shannon Diers for stepping forward and taking lead on next summer's Mission Trip. We are grateful to Samantha Duret for making sure that everything is ready for our Wednesday D-Way meals. We are grateful for Robin Jacobson's leadership with the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Wednesday afternoon D-Way class. And finally we are grateful to Pastor Tom for stepping in and teaching the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade D-Way class.

While we do have things covered for the time being – we need to realize that the above people are not "long term" solutions, but rather, are willing to step in and help for a period of time – and for that I am grateful!! I appreciate immensely their commitment to our CYF ministries, for their love of the youth, for the extra time they are giving, and for the exceptional gifts of leadership they each bring! I am also grateful for all those who serve as Sunday school teachers and helpers, D-Way guides, D-Way kitchen helpers ... we couldn't do what we do without you and your willingness to serve! I hope that others will be willing to step up and let it be known that you are willing to help out wherever there is a need – as substitute

Sunday school or D-Way guides, or with Wednesday meals. In short, we are in a time when we need "all hands on deck."

### Let's End the Year Strong!

St. John's has had a history of ending the year exceptionally well financially! We have normally received one and a half to two times the regular offerings in December as we do in a normal month! This history of December generosity has really been a blessing to this congregation – and this year, I believe, will be no different! I am grateful for the strong response the congregation gave in October, and is currently giving in the month of November, and I pray will continue through the end of the year! Let's end the year strong! Let us always remember that together, by God's grace, we have all that we need!

### Nominating Process

Our Nominating Committee has begun the process of calling forth the gifts of leadership that will be needed as we move forward into another year of ministry and mission. I hope that you will keep this very important process in your prayers, and that, if asked, you will prayerfully take the time needed to consider the call to leadership within our congregation. So far, it is very exciting to see the positive response of many of you who have been asked to serve! If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact one of this year's Nominating Committee members: Vicki Greene, Kurt Bruhn, Gloria Warner, Diane Barkley, Joyce Wadman and Lisa Borders.

### Communion Each Sunday During Advent

The Worship and Music Team has decided that during the season of Advent we will celebrate Holy Communion at each and every Sunday worship service. It is the recommendation of our national Church that we, as congregations, move towards celebrating Holy Communion on a weekly basis – each and every time we gather for worship. Moving towards that goal, our Worship and Music Team has decided that we will commune each Sunday during this year's Advent season, and each Sunday during next year's Easter season. We certainly ask for your feedback. Please feel free to share your constructive feedback with me, or with Mark and Ardis Nelson, or with Vicki Greene, or with Becky Unger.

**Blessed Christmas and Joyous New Year!**

Together with my wife Diane, and our family, I want to wish each and every one of you a very Blessed Christmas and a very Happy and Joyous New Year! I pray that the wonder of this season, the wonder of God becoming flesh, will so capture your imagination that you will come to realize, more than ever, the fullness of God's love for you and for all of creation. And I pray that 2017 will be filled with joy as together we live each and every day in the wonder of God's love, and as we become the very hands and feet of Christ in your homes, in your workplaces, in our community, in the world; as well as here at St. John's!

In Christ,  
Pastor Dave

**CHURCH OFFICE AND BUILDING** will close at noon on Friday, December 23rd, and will be closed on Monday, December 26th in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

**"CHRISTMAS FEST"** December 11<sup>th</sup> (Please note change of date) is the date of our annual "Advent/Christmas Fest" where the Chancel Choir shares extra anthems as part of our worship services – anthems that lift up Advent and Christmas themes.

**UPCOMING SUNDAY WORSHIP READINGS**

December 4 – Joel 2:12-13, 28-29 Joel: God's Promised Spirit  
December 11- Isaiah 61:1-11 Spirit of the Lord Up on Me  
December 18 – Luke 1:26-49 Jesus' Birth Announced  
December 24 - Luke 2:1-20 Birth of Jesus  
December 25 – Luke 2: 8-20 " "  
January 1 – Luke 2:21-38 Simeon and Anna

**CAROLING OPPORTUNITIES**

December 10<sup>th</sup> - contact Pr. Dave at the church office

December 14<sup>th</sup> (Please note change of date) – Congregation and D-Way Caroling Night. We will be caroling at the Care Center, Centennial Villa, and at the Goldendale Apartments. There will be refreshments at the church following. We will gather at the church at: 5:45pm to carpool. D-Way youth and guides will gather at 5:00pm for pizza.

**ADVENT HAPPENINGS**

Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, marked the beginning of a new Church Year, and the beginning of the Advent season. Since the color of the season is BLUE – you are encouraged to wear something blue to worship each of the Sundays (yes, blue jeans are appropriate)!!!

Once again members/families of the congregation will light the candles of the Advent wreath and to lead in the litany and prayer. We are grateful for all those who have signed up – please check the sign-up to see what openings remain!

We know that for many, due to personal losses, this time of the year is difficult. With that in mind, we are adding an additional "Prayers of Healing" on Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at both services. We also encourage people to remember their loved ones by donating an ornament to our Memorial Tree, or by ordering a Poinsettia in memory (or in honor) a loved one.

**"ALL ARE WELCOME" BIBLE STUDY** All (young and old, men and women, members and nonmembers) are invited to participate in a discussion of the Bible story that is going to be read in worship the following Sunday. We meet on Thursday evenings at 7pm.

**Christmas Eve Schedule**

*Festive Services* of Carols, Holy Communion and Candle-lighting - 3pm and 5pm

*Meditative Service* of Carols, Scripture Readings, Holy Communion and Candlelighting – 10pm (\*Different Message than 3 and 5pm services)

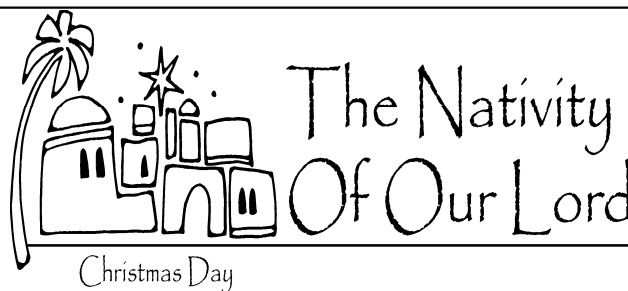
**Christmas Day Schedule**

*Festive Service* of Carols and Holy Communion – 10am

--There will be NO worship service on New Year's Eve due to lack of interest

**New Year's Day Schedule**

First Sunday of Christmas Worship at 10am ONLY



## From Pastor Tom's Desk...

Dear Friends,

It's the beginning of December, and Christmas is right around the corner. But, you can't have Christmas without first going through Advent. Advent is the time to get ready. Not just your house with all of the decorations, but most especially your heart. The heart needs worship. It needs prayer and those special Advent hymns before it can really embrace the fullness of Christmas. Something that helps your Advent preparation is reaching out to others and doing things with your friends.

A member of our church shared what she is doing, and my wife and I decided it is such a good idea, we will do the same. We are giving each of the grandchildren \$20 on St Nickolas day (December 6<sup>th</sup>) with the instructions to do good, to share it with others. Their Christmas gift to us will then be a note telling us the good they did, how that \$20 made a difference in someone else's life. This season provides so many opportunities to do good; I hope you find one that is just right for you and your family.

If you have not made a commitment to your church for 2017, there is still time. You can call the church office or send an email. The response has been good, but we are still short of our goal. Let's get as close to 100% as possible.

Jo and I wish you a most blessed Christmas and a rich and Happy New Year?

Pastor Tom  
INDNJC

### **KIWANIS "SHARE YOUR CHRISTMAS" BREAKFAST**

December 4<sup>th</sup> is the date for the annual Kiwanis "Share Your Christmas" Breakfast at St. Ignatius Catholic Church. The menu includes pancakes, egg bake, sausages, etc. You won't go away hungry – and in the process you will support our local Share Your Christmas efforts which make such a difference in the lives of so many! Tickets are available from any Kiwanis member, or at the door.

**SUNSET RIDGE CHRISTMAS** The Tuesday morning Bible studies, and any and all who are interested, will be going out to Sunset Ridge and providing some "Christmas Cheer" to the men who live there. We will be bringing them gifts, doing some caroling, and (thanks to an Endowment Grant) providing them the fixings for a Christmas Dinner (the kind they don't usually get to enjoy). We will gather at the church at 11:30am on Tuesday, December 20th.

**MARY, RACHEL & RUTH CIRCLES** will meet together on Wednesday, December 7th at 12:00noon for a potluck luncheon; Bible Study will be let by Pastor.

**"I Give Electronically"** cards are now available at the Usher Cart - please place in the offering plate.

**MINISTRY REPORTS FOR THE 2016 ANNUAL REPORT DUE JANUARY 6TH** Please submit your reports for the 2016 Annual Report via email to: [ldietrich-blocker@stjohns-annandale.org](mailto:ldietrich-blocker@stjohns-annandale.org) or drop off in the church office. Thank you in advance for your prompt submissions! Lisa Dietrich-Blocker, Administrative Assistant

**TEC WEEKENDS** Youth interested in attending a Teens Encounter Christ weekend, or serving on a TEC Team, are encouraged to check out the Metro TEC website at: [www.mmltec.org](http://www.mmltec.org) or talk to Jenny Aleckson or Pastor Dave.

## **Sunday School Christmas Program** **Sunday, December 18th at 3pm**

The Sunday School students will be presenting "The Story of Christ's Birth" on December 18th at 3:00 p.m. Students should gather in the fellowship hall by 2:30 p.m. in preparation of the program. Following the program students, families, and guests are invited to gather in the fellowship hall for treats and Christmas crafts.





### **J.O.L.T. (JOY OF LEARNING TOGETHER)**

Our Adult Education classes meet in the Library from 9:30am to 10:15am. All are welcome!

December 4<sup>th</sup> – Rob Bell: Nooma Video: Shells: “What are we really doing with our time?”

December 11<sup>th</sup> – Rob Bell: Nooma Video: Tomato: “Do we try so hard to live the perfect life that we miss out on how to truly live?”

December 18<sup>th</sup> - Rob Bell: Nooma Video: Store: “We all get angry about things from time to time.”

December 25<sup>th</sup> – No JOLT

**You are invited to gather with us in the Library at 9:30am for some good discussion about matters of faith and life. All are welcome!**

### **MANY THANKS**

- To all who have returned their Estimates of Giving for 2017,
- To all who helped serve the Funeral luncheon for Penny Anderson,
- To David Burd, Lonnie Baack, Diane Barkley, Marge Lundeen and Jo Heyd for participating in our synod's Together in Ministry visit,
- To all our Veteran's, their families, and to those who currently are serving in the various branches of our military,
- To the Nominating Committee as they work to call forth gifts of leadership,
- To Steve Miller, Treasurer, the Ministry Teams, Bonnie, and the Church Council as they work to prepare the 2017 Budget,
- To those from St. John's who served as “election officials” during our recent elections,
- To those who served as adult chaperones and drivers for our Jr. High Youth Gathering: Hope Sykora, Todd Sykora, Jen Kulm & Tony Hoeft,
- To the members of the Chancel Choir for once again organizing our Thanksgiving Eve Pie Potluck.

**ENDOWMENT** Here is a “thankyou” we received from Love INC, one of last year's grant recipients:

*Dear Friends, Thank you so much for your recent gift of \$200.00 to Love INC – Big Woods. It is encouraging to those of us working to make a difference in this community! We appreciate you joining with us as we strive to help our neighbors with their physical and spiritual needs. So, thank you again for sharing the Love INC vision with us. God bless you! Sincerely, Tom Kunz, Executive Director*

Please know that it is because of the generosity of those who have given big and small gifts to our Endowment that we are even able to give out these grants. Thus, we are grateful for each and every gift given to our St. John's Endowment Fund. Please know that any gift given to the Endowment is a gift that will keep on giving! Such gifts allow us to support worthwhile ministries within and beyond our congregation!

We hope that you will consider one of the many ways that you can give a gift to the St. John's Endowment Fund:

[Planned Giving: Stewards of God's Bounty](#) Planned giving is for anyone concerned with the wise use of his or her personal resources and provides the opportunity to make a meaningful choice about the ultimate disposition of some or all of their resources and means.

[Charitable Gift Annuity: Guarantee an Income for Life](#) A charitable gift annuity enables you to make a substantial gift to your church now, and receive guaranteed income for life.

[Charitable Remainder Trust: Help Loved Ones and the Church](#) A trust can be a useful estate planning tool that allows you to ensure the financial well-being of your family and, if appropriate, provide a significant deferred gift to your church.

[Writing Your Will: Where There's a Will There's a Way](#) Writing a will is a loving and responsible act for the sake of your family and to those causes you cared about during your life.

[Other](#) If you have something of value you would like to give (especially if you need to make a year-end contribution for tax purposes) but may not know how to process stock, bonds, cd's, mutual funds, real estate, etc... please talk to your accountant, financial planner or ask a member of our endowment committee for guidance.

**GRIEF GROUP-ALL ARE WELCOME** If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, you are invited to come to our grief support group, which is facilitated by Linda Hall, Bereavement Coordinator of Heartland Hospice. The next meeting will be held on Dec. 8th at 3:00pm in the Library. Contact the church office with any questions.

### **D-WAY SCHEDULE FOR 7<sup>TH</sup> - 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS:**

December 7 – Isaiah 61:1-11

December 14 – Caroling (Meet at the church at 5pm for Pizza; we will then carpool to the Care Center and Centennial Villa and the Goldendale Apartments. Refreshments to follow back at church. All D-Way youth are expected to participate!

December 21 – Luke 2:1-20

December 28 – NO CLASS

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

December 4<sup>th</sup> - Sunday School

December 11<sup>th</sup> - Sunday School

December 18<sup>th</sup> - Sunday School

2:30pm - Sunday School students gather in Fellowship Hall

3:00pm - Sunday School Christmas Program with treats and crafts afterward

December 25<sup>th</sup> - NO Sunday School



**MATAMBA NEWS** Please keep our brothers and sisters in Matamba -Tanzania in your thoughts and prayers this Advent and Christmas season. Help yourself to an ornament on the Matamba tree as a reminder of them. Fair trade items from Tanzania will be on sale between services on December 4<sup>th</sup>. (This will be the last sale of these items at St John's.). If you would like to make a donation to Matamba, all funds will be sent to care for handicapped children and to support Father Mbiche's building of a mill for food at the school. Asante sana.



**WELCA HOLIDAY FAIR:** Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9 AM to 1 PM. In order to have a successful fair we need: **Bakery:** please make some of your specialties such as: krumkaka, rosettes, spritz, pies, breads, candy, or some jars of items you have canned. **Crafts:** Any type of crafted items such as jewelry, wood working, knit or crocheted items, quilts, etc. Please price your item and list your name and telephone number on it as unsold items will be returned.

**Collectibles or treasures:** Good used jewelry, home décor, small furniture, glassware, vintage/antique items are all welcome. Good condition children's books or toys are also welcome. Items should be in like-new condition. (No clothing, books, or rummage.) **Luncheon:** The menu includes: sloppy joes, sweet rolls, pie, coffee and milk. **Sign-up sheets** for volunteering to help with set up and the sale and donating food for the luncheon will be in the Gathering area. Come shop the fair and have lunch, too!

**IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER** When the weather is questionable, and we have something scheduled at church, we will:

- 1) Put an announcement on our voice mail indicating whether events are still on or are cancelled,
- 2) Put an announcement on the website at [www.stjohns-annandale.org](http://www.stjohns-annandale.org) indicating whether events are on or are cancelled, and
- 3) If an event is cancelled, we will also notify the following radio/television stations: KRWC Buffalo (1360AM), KTIS Minneapolis (98.5FM)- (broadcast on webpage), and WCCO (830AM) (broadcast on webpage).
- 4) Post it on Facebook.

In all cases, please make wise and safe choices.

**SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM** You and your family are invited to join us for a Service of Remembrance Program - 3pm on Sunday, December 4, 2016 at St. Johns. The program will be a non-denominational Christian service to remember those who have died with connections to Annandale and the surrounding area. Please rsvp to Dingmann Funeral Care at (320)274-8811.

**DECEMBER MEALS ON WHEELS** St. John's will be delivering Meals on Wheels for the month of December - thank you for helping with these important deliveries! Sign up sheet will be kept at the Welcome Desk.



**SHARE YOUR CHRISTMAS** Don't forget to pick an ornament from the tree in the narthex. Gifts need to be wrapped and the tag from the tree attached to the wrapped gift. **Gifts need to be at the church by 9:00 AM on Friday, December 9th.** Thank you!

Yes, I'm old and I've missed several newsletters...but...Thank you to all that attended, helped and prayed for the Crow River Fall gathering. These gatherings are for all women - all ages - the speakers are great, the fellowship wonderful, and believe it or not, it's growing - maybe glowing with happiness too! Thank you so very much - Your forgetful friend, Mary Iverson



**2017 Offering Envelopes Have Been Mailed Out (except Simply Giving participants):** please let the church office know if you have not yet received them by Dec. 10th. Chances are your 2017 envelope number has changed – please use only your 2017 offering envelopes in the coming year – dispose of your old 2016 envelopes. **Contributions for 2016:** must be received by 3pm on December 31st in the church office. Thank you – Bonnie Schmidt, Financial Administrator

**LOOKING FOR KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS** St. John's prayer shawls continue to be appreciated, and we'd like help replenishing the supply. WELCA funds have been used once again for a new batch of soft yarn. We plan to display and give away the shawls on the Sundays when Healing Prayers are part of our worship service. That will happen again on January 29. If you would like directions and yarn to make a shawl, please come to the Hands for Hope meeting on Dec. 12th or contact Marge Lundeen. It's God's work, our hands.

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S MEETING** Thursday, Dec. 8th at 9:30am - "The Wonder of Christmas" featuring Oh So Good Lefse by Bev Sorensen, Flutist Elizabeth Cabalka, and speaker Nancy Reimann on "Timeless Christmas Traditions". Reservations: 320-274-8336, [lilred.schramm@gmail.com](mailto:lilred.schramm@gmail.com).

**PRECIOUS GIFTS PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** will be held on Tuesday, December 20th at 6:30pm.

**MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS TREE** The Holidays are always a time when we especially miss our loved ones who have died. As a way for you to remember your loved one, you are invited to bring to church a Christmas ornament in memory of your loved one. An "In Memory Of" tag will be attached and the ornament placed on the Memorial Tree in our Sanctuary (ornaments stored at St. John's).

**Monthly Income****Monthly Expense****General Fund Balance**

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**General Fund  
(1)****October  
2016**

\$44,184.68

\$33,930.58

\$10,353.37

**2015  
Monthly  
Average**

\$33,801.72

\$34,810.34

**Building Fund  
(2)****Monthly Mortgage****Building Balance**

\$15,059.00

\$9,587.00

\$7,257.87

**Precious Gifts  
Preschool****PG Expense****PG Balance**

(3)

\$2,009.35

\$1,617.83

\$5,591.87

**Notes:**

1. For October 2016 the General Fund had \$10,554 more in income than expenses. However, October was a 5-Sunday month. Congregation approved budgeted expenditures for 2016 total approximately \$453,000. To fund this budget, we need an average monthly income of \$37,750 (about \$8,725 per Sunday). We are now in positive ground again, after borrowing \$5,089 from other church funds. **For 2016, we are still down \$15,602 for the year, starting the year with a surplus of \$20,400.**
2. We still maintain a positive balance; our next mortgage payment will be \$9,587.00.
3. Precious Gifts Preschool balance is still positive.

**Remember our mission at St. John's is supported by your talents and generous gifts.  
THANK YOU!**

**IN NEED OF PRAYER?**

People at St. John's are ready to pray for and with you -- in times of joy, and in times of need. To activate this prayer ministry please contact the church office. Only the information you choose to share will be passed on to the Prayer Ministry participants. But please understand that if you are calling on behalf of another person, in order to respect the right of privacy, and for the sake of confidentiality, you must have that individual's permission before we can activate the prayer ministry and pray for them by name.

Also, please know that our prayer ministry is ALWAYS open to additional participants. If you would like to be included in either the Prayer Chain (where you would receive a telephone contact) or the email prayer group -- please contact the church office.

**PASTORAL VISITS**

Please call the church office and let us know if you desire a pastoral visit -- especially if you are going to be hospitalized. If it is an emergency feel free to call Pastor Dave at home.

**VIA DE CRISTO**

Adults interested in a weekend experience that is sure to bring a new added depth to your faith are encouraged to consider attending one of the upcoming Via de Cristo weekends. For upcoming weekend dates and places, and additional information concerning Via de Cristo weekends, please check out the website at [www.mnviadecristo.org](http://www.mnviadecristo.org) or talk with Ardis Nelson or Pastor Dave.

**FIRST FRIDAY COMMUNION SERVICE AT ANNANDALE CARE CENTER**

Our monthly service of Holy Communion will be December 2nd at 1:30pm. While this worship service is intended for all St. John's members who are residents at the Care Center and Centennial Villa apartments, it is open to ALL (both residents and family and friends).

Pastor Dave will also be leading Sunday Worship at the Care Center on December 4th at 1:30pm.

**MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISERS: ALUMINUM CANS/**

**POINTS:** There is a collection area for bagged aluminum cans (no used aluminum foil please) in the outdoor garbage area. We also collect COBORN/CASH WISE points throughout the year--there is a collection bucket located outside of the office.

*Do you winter down south? Remember to let the office know your winter address and return date--we can either mail you the monthly newsletter or e-mail it to you.*

**EMAIL** If you would like to receive the newsletter and/or weekly bulletin and announcements as an e-mail just let the office know at [ldietrich-blocker@stjohns-annandale.org](mailto:ldietrich-blocker@stjohns-annandale.org). It works great and is very cost-effective!

**CHANGING ADDRESS: MOVING AWAY??**

**For every piece of returned mail or updated address we are charged a .57 fee from the post office.** In addition, for those who will be moving and are leaving the area permanently, please notify the office at 274-8827. Thank you.

**COMING UP...**

- New Year's Day (Sunday) -- ONE SERVICE at 10am
- Epiphany Day -- January 6<sup>th</sup>
- St. John's Annual Meeting -- January 29<sup>th</sup>
- Equipping Congregations Day -- February 25<sup>th</sup>
- Crow River Conference Gathering -- March 5<sup>th</sup>

UPCOMING  
EVENTS


Present: Present: Pastor Dave Nelson, Denny Abernathy, Peggy Bodell, Penny Hogberg, Nancy Berg, Matt Honsey, Bill Berry, Matt Treichler, Ed Mader, Kris Nelson, Shelly Mikel, Steve Miller Absent: Celeste Froehlich, Dave Hadler

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Faith Talk:	Matt T.	N/A
Scripture and Prayer:	Pastor Dave	N/A
Approval of Agenda	Motion: Approve the Council Agenda	M/S/P Exec/Denny
Secretary's Report	Motion: Approve the October Council Minutes	M/S/P Exec/Kris
Treasurer's Report	Motion: Approve the October Treasurers report	M/S/P Exec/Denny
Executive Committee Actions:	Organ Repair: Approved funds to repair the issue of sticking keys on the Organ. Measures were also taken to cover the heat vent to reduce the dust that is possibly responsible for the damage.	N/A
Pastor Dave's Report	Highlighted topics: <u>Holiday Worship Schedule:</u> Both Christmas and New Year's fall on a Sunday. One service will be held at 10:00 on both of these days. Three services will be held on Christmas Eve and possibly one on New Year Eve (pending feed-back from congregational members.) <u>Mt. Hermon:</u> Dialogue will begin with Pastor Marianne after the holidays. <u>Annual Reviews:</u> Pastor Dave will begin the process of completing annual reviews for Support Staff. The executive committee will be conducting an annual review with Pastor Tom with participation by Pastor Dave. The executive committee will be conducting Pastor Dave's review. <u>Service of Remembrance:</u> Brian and Dana Dingmann will be hosting this event. The "service" will include readings, music, reading of names, the presentation of ornaments, and prayers. <u>Capital Campaign:</u> The current campaign ends in April and a new three year campaign will begin. A chair for this is needed and council is encouraged to bring forward names.	N/A
Unfinished Business:	Listening Sessions: These sessions are ready to go and will be scheduled after the holidays.	NA
New Business	<u>Endowment Committee:</u> Grants were provided to all that were brought forward. Motion to approve. <u>Nominating Update:</u> Four seats are open on the Council in 2017. The nominating have sent letters out to those members nominated for the position. <u>Annual Meeting:</u> Date set for January 29 <sup>th</sup> . <u>Motion to extend meeting :</u> Motion made to extend 15 minutes. <u>Council Christmas Gathering :</u> Tentatively set for January 7 <sup>th</sup> , Pr Dave & Diane to host. <u>2017 Annual Budget:</u> Steve led us through a 1st draft of the 2017 budget. The budget will be refined as we get a clearer picture of anticipated income. The Council hopes to be able to recommend a 2017 budget at its December mtg.	M/S/P Kris/Denny  N/A  M/S/P Denny/Nancy M/S/P Penny/Shelly N/A N/A
Ministry Updates	Matamba Ministry: Money will go to fund a mill. Test scores of the school children sponsored will be shared with St. John's.	N/A
Council Reminders	Check your calendars to determine if the date tentatively set for council Christmas gathering will work. Sign up for offering Duties.	N/A
Adjournment	8:50 p.m.	M/S/P Kris/Nancy

**Council members contact your Missions – What are you currently working on. Is there anything else you would like to share with the board. Please let your mission know to send minutes of each meeting to Bonnie as soon as possible after the meeting.**



## December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
  <i>December 4<sup>th</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent</i> <i>December 11<sup>th</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent</i> <i>December 18<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</i>				<b>1</b> Holiday Fair Setup 9:15am AIC - off premises 6:30pm Red Vesters Practice 6:00pm Girl Scouts-Ed. Bldg.	<b>2</b> Holiday Fair Setup Precious Gifts Preschool 8:30-12noon 1:30pm Communion Service at Annandale Care Center	<b>3</b> Holiday Fair 9a-1p
<b>4</b> 8:15am Traditional Worship with Communion 9:30am JOLT!/ Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship with Communion 12noon-Youth Group 12-2p 1:30p ACC Svc 3:00pm Service of Remembrance 3:00pm Cub Scouts-Ed. Bldg.	<b>5</b> Precious Gifts Preschool 8:30-12noon 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Sarah Circle	<b>6</b> 8:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Women's Bible Study	<b>7</b> Precious Gifts Preschool 8:30-12noon Mary, Rachel and Ruth Circles meet for potluck at noon 10:30am Staff Meeting 3:00pm 4th Grade D-Way 5:00pm D-Way Meal 5:20pm 5th-6th D- Way 6:00pm 7th-9th D- Way 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm AA Meeting-Ed. Bldg.	<b>8</b> 9:30am Annandale Christian Women's Club 3:00pm Grief Group- Linda Hall 6:00pm Girl Scouts-Ed Bldg	<b>9</b> Precious Gifts Preschool 8:30-12noon	<b>10</b>   <

*Coming up...* New Year's Day (Sunday) – ONE SERVICE at 10am; Epiphany Day – January 6<sup>th</sup>; St. John's Annual Meeting – January 29<sup>th</sup>; Equipping Congregations Day – February 25<sup>th</sup>; Crow River Conference Gathering – March 5<sup>th</sup>



DECEMBER		Greeters/Welcome Center	Readers	Acolytes	Coffee/Treat Servers
DECEMBER 4	8:15	Lee Peterson Family	Elizabeth Hoeft	Caleb Treichler, Alison Treichler	Trent & Kara Lampi Family
	10:30	Don & Joy Rother		Connor Wall, Hale Davidson	Jason & Lorrie Perrault Family
DECEMBER 11	8:15	Mike & Kathy Miller	Loretta Peterson	Lacey Weber, Jacob Nilson	Glen & Iona Rozenberg Jeff & Janice Rasmussen
	10:30	Bob & Char Shadduck	Peggy Bodell	Elizabeth O'Brien, Ethan Olson	Don & Tami Ramstad Family
DECEMBER 18	8:15	Jon & Karen Navratil	Diane Barkley	Alyssa Hadler	Robin Reichel Julie Nolan Family
	10:30	Jim & Lisa Schimelpfenig Family		Jack Howard	Josie, Nels & David Burd
DECEMBER 24	3:00pm			Jillian Kulm, Isaak Rust, Carson Wiles	-----
CHRISTMAS EVE	5:00pm			Olivia Otto, Sam Kluge, Carson Cooper	-----
SERVICES	10:00pm			Alex Klatt	-----
DECEMBER 25	10:00am	Dan & Sue Nelson Ray & Marge Lundeen		Gavin Polston	Rob & Joan Olson Family
CHRISTMAS DAY					
DECEMBER 31	4:00pm				
		Sound Techs	Ushers		
DECEMBER 4	8:15	A: Jim Framstad V: Phyllis Framstad	8:15 Service Cliff Franzen		Mary Circle, Rachel &
	10:30	A: Shelly Mikel V: Luke Mikel	Dan & Nikki Seaberg, Jake, Charles, Henry and Tommy Seaberg		Ruth Circles Wednesday, December 7th – 12noon Holiday Potluck and Bible Study
DECEMBER 11	8:15	A: Jim Hallstrom V: Steve Niklaus	10:30 Service Larry Greene		Bible Leader: Pastor
	10:30	A: Diane Nelson V: Michelle Wang	Sally Mozingo Krista and Sandy Grossinger		Sarah Circle Monday, December 5, 7pm
DECEMBER 18	8:15	A: Jim Hallstrom V: Jim Peterson	Isaac Egerer		Hostess: Discussion Leader:
	10:30	A: Arthur Kjaer V: Ethan Nilson			
DECEMBER 24	3:00pm	A: Arthur Kjaer V: Ethan Nilson	Altar Guild Tina Honsey Sam Duret		
	5:00pm				
CHRISTMAS EVE	10:00pm	A: Mike Miller V: A: Jim Hallstrom V:			
DECEMBER 25	10:00am	A: V:			
CHRISTMAS DAY					

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA**  
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**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA**

331 W. Harrison St.  
Annandale, MN 55302  
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Office Fax: 320-274-7283

Precious Gifts Preschool:  
320-274-9722

Email: [Idietrich-blocker@stjohns-annandale.org](mailto:Idietrich-blocker@stjohns-annandale.org)

Web site: [www.stjohns-annandale.org](http://www.stjohns-annandale.org)  
Office Hours:  
Monday—Friday, 8:00 am—4:00 pm

**Sunday Worship & Christian  
Education Schedule**

**8:15 am Traditional  
9:30 Sunday School/JOLT!  
10:30 am Contemporary**



**St. John's Staff**

**Dave Nelson, Lead Pastor**

[dnelson@stjohns-annandale.org](mailto:dnelson@stjohns-annandale.org)

**Tom Heyd, Pastor** [tjheyd@gmail.com](mailto:tjheyd@gmail.com)

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**Ardis Nelson**, Contemporary Worship Leader  
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**Robin Jacobson**, Precious Gifts Director/  
Teacher [robin@jacobsonfarm.com](mailto:robin@jacobsonfarm.com)

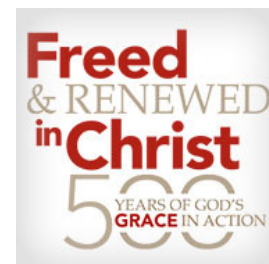
**Trisha Woods**, Precious Gifts Teacher Assistant

**Nichole Abernathy**, Wedding Coordinator  
[nichole.abernathy@yahoo.com](mailto:nichole.abernathy@yahoo.com)

**Mark Nelson**, Chancel Choir Director  
[music2Xnelson@gmail.com](mailto:music2Xnelson@gmail.com)

**Sunday School Superintendents:**

Nichole Abernathy &  
Laura Eastling



**Ministry Chairpersons:**

Children, Youth & Family

Outreach:

Marilyn Hallstrom  
[Marilyn.hallstrom@hallstromconsulting.com](mailto:Marilyn.hallstrom@hallstromconsulting.com)

Worship and Music:

Support and Stewardship:

**ELCA Missionary**

Terry Jensen