

Gidings

St. John's Lutheran Church Newsletter
January 2019 Edition



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Dear Friends,

You remember Zacchaeus, don't you? He was that little man who climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus as he entered the city of Jericho. Legend has it that after having this tremendous experience of having Jesus as a guest at his own dining table, that Zacchaeus would leave his house very early every morning... to tend to a certain errand.

After a while, his wife became curious. So one morning, she followed him to see what he was doing. At the town well, she saw Zacchaeus fill a jug full of water, and carry it to that same sycamore tree outside the city wall.

Setting the jug down, he cleared away all the debris that had accumulated at the base of the tree. Then he poured the water near its roots. After this, he gently touched the trunk of the tree, and stood there a few moments, looking as if he were reminiscing about something wonderful.



At this point, his puzzled wife came out of hiding, and asked, "*Zacchaeus, what have you been doing?*" His simple answer: "*My dear, this is the tree that enabled me to see Jesus.*"

What helps you to see Jesus? (Or perhaps an even better question is... What enables others to see Jesus through you?)

As we begin the start of new year with one another here at St. John's, I invite you to be even more intentional in those things that help make that happen...

In fact, beginning January 09, I encourage you to join us for the "Pastor's Class" which will gather on Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm—8:00pm. Passage by passage, we will together make a "Journey Through the Sermon on the Mount"... that amazing collection of Jesus' teachings found in the Gospel of Matthew, Chapters 5-7.

(My apologies from the very start to our incredibly-talented choir members and music staff, as well as to those who help clean-up following the Wednesday evening suppers, who will miss out on this because of the scheduling conflict... there just seems to be no perfect time for such a gathering.)

As we celebrate this new year that has been given us, my prayer is that both you and I will continue to be drawn forward by a God who desires so much for us. May you and I, indeed, be about those things that help us to better see Jesus. And perhaps more importantly, may everyone else see Jesus in and through us.

~ Pastor Jim Dew

IN THIS ISSUE

Words from Pastor Jim	1
In This Issue, Memorials	2
Birthdays & Member Notes	3
Thoughts from Ms. Becky	4
Volunteer Ops & Thank Yous	5
Ministry Happenings	6
Upcoming & Thank Yous	7
St. John's Financials	8-10
Calendar & Contacts	11
Connect With Us	12

"I have been enjoying your German Christmases whenever I am in San Antonio. Thank you very very much, please keep this tradition up."

~ B. Kriesse
Scottsdale, AZ

We want to hear from you!

What is your ministry doing? What have you been doing? What are you getting ready to do?

How can others get involved? Can the congregation pray for you? What do you want the congregation to know?

Send me a line or a paragraph so I can share good things!



Memorials/Honorariums

A Memorial is a gift that honors someone by name and is used to accomplish the ministry of the church.

Please consider giving a gift in memory or in honor of a loved one.

In Memory of John Stapleton by
Mary Joan Williams

In Honor of Ron Schmidt by Dan Robison

In Memory of Paulette Blank and Edgar &
Dorothy Stahl by Dwayne, Denise
& Emma Stahl

In Memory of Walter Schessenhagen by
Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl



Agnes Valadez
 Aimee Wudel
 Alexa Cauble
 Alexis Merrill
 Alma Genzer
 Anthony Mecke
 Ashley Goode
 Bryan Caraway
 Caroline Saathoff
 Casey Acosta
 Cecilia Villanueva
 Charlotte Baker
 Christina Gibson
 Cliff Imken
 Damian Anderson
 Danny Hudel
 Declan Darchicourt
 Destiny Gonzalez
 Donna Zastawny
 Edel Fabianke
 Emily Cobb
 Felipa Menez
 Frances Lemaster
 Fred Pfeiffer



Harvey Penshorn
 Herb Garteiser
 Jack Park
 James Williamson
 John Lowther
 John Tietze
 Jon Bohmann
 Jonathan Meinen
 Joseph curry
 Judge Barbara Nellermoe
 Julie Acosta
 Karen Caraway

Karen Lichtenberg
 Kevin Dorsey
 Lane Moore
 Lewis Anderson
 Lila Ogle
 Louis Spreen
 Luke Fleming
 Mac McIntyre
 Marilyn Hartung
 Marilyn Kowalik
 Marilyn McSpadden
 Martin Almaguer, Jr.
 Mary Hestilow
 Melisa Kelly
 Nicolas Goode
 Rene Garza, Jr.
 Sophie Schultz
 Tiffany Harper
 Travis Kelly
 Victor Mendez
 Warren Gray
 William Jackson IV
 Wyatt Zelenak

Stephen Ministers are available for those experiencing difficult life situations. If you or someone you know could use this distinctively Christian caring ministry, please contact Bea Imken or speak with one of our Stephen Ministers.



"On behalf of Henry Grun, Jr., we wish to express our gratitude for your contributions to St. Johns' General Fund & Music Program on Henry's memory.

Henry was 2nd generation to grow up at St. John's...Christened, Confirmed, Married & Celebrated. Trey is his legacy as the 3rd generation...Christened & Confirmed. Words cannot express the love, dedication, friendship & love Henry had for each one of you. You were a piece of his puzzle of his meaningful life of many ministries.

Trey & I are continuing by the Grace & Faith of God. We miss our "Cookie" terribly...yet find comfort that Henry is in Heaven at the seat of Our Father.

God Bless you all....
 Janet & Henry Grun III "Trey"



THE GRUNS



Don't Ride, Walk

By Ms. Becky

The expression “jump on the bandwagon” implies joining a movement in support of something or someone, or doing something just because everybody else is. Back when it was coined in the mid 1800s, it meant literally getting on the wagon that carried the circus band.

The bandwagon right now seems indeed to revolve around a circus, with so much worldwide division and upheaval, and having it shared and shown and plastered all over television and social media is enough to make you think you're on the sidelines of all three rings of the circus. But just because it's out there, does that mean we have to constantly deal with it?

Here we are in a brand-new month of a brand-new year once again. This is usually the time when many of us start throwing around new year's resolutions, some of which we might actually entertain; some of which we will ignore or bitterly resent. Usually this is the time we think about starting something new, but what if we swung the pendulum a bit?



Instead of riding the bandwagon of chaos, new workout routines that won't last six weeks, or fad diets that won't even last that long, what if we walked the narrow road, went where *no man has gone before*. Well, some have but William Shatner's voice took over, however this road *is* one where others seldom go or God wouldn't have had to remind us to take it: "*Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction [where the bandwagon travels], and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.*" ~ Matthew 7:13-14

Instead of starting things we won't finish, why not stop things that are not beneficial anyway?



I thought of a few things I could give up this year that could benefit me and those around me and hopefully make my world, if not *the* world, a better place. Maybe some of these could benefit you too. Imagine if we all did just a little bit better? To the left are some suggestions in a word picture:



And to the right are some things we can replace those other things with, and keep going for longer than a few weeks:

Where will your walk lead you this year?



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Join Lynn (Ed) and Norma Case and the team with their Under the Bridge Ministry, scheduled for the 1st Sunday of every month.

For more information on how to be a part of this beneficial ministry, contact Lynn Case at skilledservicesofsa@yahoo.com.



Helping the Homeless

Sorting clothes for the Homeless at CAM. This happens one Saturday a month if anyone would like to help. Contact Bea Imken, Mission Ministry Team Leader at beafitt@gmail.com or 210.878.7874.



Seats and Feets

Thank you to all who donated to the Seats and Feets drive! These bags were filled with new packages of under clothes for those who need it most.

Men's items went to CAM, children's items to The Children's Home, and women's items to the Women's Shelter.

All items were greatly appreciated!



Kudos
to you!

"I want to take this opportunity to thank you and your congregation for your continued support. Your gift allows CAM to provide immediate assistance and encouragement to people in crisis with grace and dignity."

~ Dawn White-Fosdick
Executive Director,
Christian Assistance
Ministry

Kudos to all who helped the Lutheran Cluster and Habitat for Humanity build another house on November 17th. These hearts have been serving since 2003!



Christian Assistance Ministry (CAM) Christmas Store

A big thank you to all who helped to give over 700 children a great Christmas. The money and gifts given to CAM went a huge way to help stock the store. Parents came and were able to select gifts for their children at no cost to them. Thank you to those who helped man the store and assist parents in selecting the toys. Here are just some of the toys that were taken to the store.

Thank you again for all the donations! To God alone the glory.

~The Mission Ministry Team



A special thank you to SueAnn Pemberton, Pam Garteiser, Belinda Schmidt, Tia Mathre-Adams and the Campus Ministry students who help to prepare a home-cooked meal on Wednesday nights for all students who are able to be at St John's. Your Ministry is much appreciated by many including Choir members. Blessings!

A special thank you to Michael Bade and Rob Jenkins for the countless hours they gave to our Choir and our interns to help make our Advent and Christmas Season beautiful. Blessings!

Congratulations to Bea Imken who received her Associates Degree in Applied Arts from St. Phillips College.



Congratulations!



G.R.A.C.E. Retreat

God Centered
Renewal of Faith & Prayer
Adoration
Christian Values
Evangelism

Put it on your calendars: the Women's G.R.A.C.E Retreat is **Feb 14th – 17th**.

For more information, contact Norma Case or Susan Dickson.

A special thank you to Katie Rode and all her helpers for a very special La Posada for the beautiful Advent celebration. Blessings!

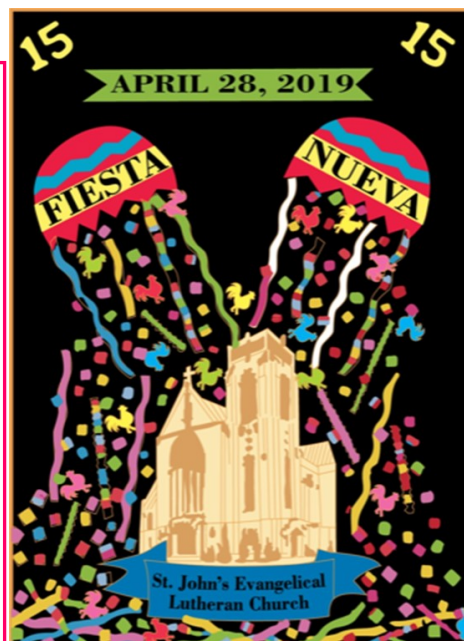
A special thank you to all who give countless volunteer hours for the Ministries of St. John's.

Fiesta Nueva scheduled for Sunday, April 28th, will be here before we know it. Please submit your **t-shirt order** (forms can be found on entry table near Memorial Hall) no later than **February 15th**. Pay when you pick them up.

Thank you for supporting this ministry.
Blessings! Fiesta Nueva Ministry Team

SAVE THE DATE!
FIESTA NUEVA CELEBRATION
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2019
MARIACHI SERVICE- 10:30 AM
FIESTA NUEVA-11:30 to 3:30 PM

Congratulations to our artist,
Susan Dickson for our 2019 Fiesta Nueva Poster.



Reminder: Pastor's Class -- "Journey through the Sermon on the Mount"

Begins Wed., Jan 9th, @7PM in the Pioneer Room

St. John's Lutheran Church
Statement of Activities-General Operating
November 30, 2018

	Nov. 30, 2018 Actual Actual	Nov. 30, 2018 Budget	Jan 1 - Nov. 30, 2018 Actual	2018Annual Budget	Actual vs. Annual Budget Over (Under)
GENERAL OPERATING					
Revenues					
INCOME					
GENERAL INCOME	\$ 17,942	17,083	\$ 224,555	\$ 205,000	\$ 19,555
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	-	-	1,090	-	1,090
EXTRA OFFERINGS	1,155	-	20,166	-	20,166
BEQUEST & ESTATES	-	-	-	-	-
PARKING LOT INCOME	47,359	45,833	547,853	550,000	(2,147)
CEMETERY OPERATING INCOME	-	100	1,045	1,200	(155)
CHURCH GROUP/PROGRAM INCOME	625	467	4,677	5,600	(923)
FUNDRAISING, NET	-	-	181	-	181
MISC - INCOME	1,003	-	6,566	-	6,566
Total Revenues	68,084	63,483	806,133	761,800	44,333
TRANSFER OF FUNDS					
Investment income - Transferred	-	6,455	-	77,460	(77,460)
Transfer from Endowment Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total TRANSFER OF FUNDS	-	6,455	-	77,460	(77,460)
Total Revenues	\$ 68,084	69,938	\$ 806,133	\$ 839,260	\$ (33,127)
Expenses					
SALARIES & EXPENSES					
PASTORAL SALARIES & EXPEN	10,246	11,917	63,972	143,000	(79,028)
LAY STAFF SALARIES & EXPEN	17,115	19,070	209,328	228,840	(19,512)
CEMETERY SALARIES & EXPEN	-	-	450	-	450
Total SALARIES & EXPENSES	\$ 27,361	30,987	\$ 273,751	\$ 371,840	\$ (98,090)
EXPENSES - GENERAL		-			
GENERAL EXPENSES	6,048	8,467	94,541	101,600	(7,059)
PARKING LOT EXPENSES	12	2,188	28,495	26,250	2,245
CEMETERY OPERATING EXPENSES	11,803	2,958	35,201	35,500	(299)
Total EXPENSES - GENERAL	\$ 17,863	13,613	\$ 158,237	163,350	(5,113)
COMMITTEES EXPENSES					
FAMILY MINISTRIES	68	583	4,684	7,000	(2,316)
CONGREG COUNCIL & COMMITTEES	40	2,073	18,335	24,870	(6,535)
EVANGELISM	-	667	597	8,000	(7,403)
HOSPITALITY	1,123	833	7,030	10,000	(2,970)
PROPERTY & GROUNDS	8,223	12,708	148,830	152,500	(3,670)
STEWARDSHIP	59	583	1,053	7,000	(5,947)
WORSHIP/MUSIC/ARTS	2,719	2,579	23,818	30,950	(7,132)
MISSION MINISTRIES	(236)	83	(79)	1,000	(1,079)
VISITATION	-	500	419	6,000	(5,581)
MEMBERS SUPPORT	-	208	-	2,500	(2,500)
SOCIAL MEDIA MINISTRY TEAM	700	1,563	7,917	18,750	(10,833)
Total COMMITTEES EXPENSES	\$ 12,696	\$ 22,380	\$ 212,604	\$ 268,570	\$ (55,966)
BENEVOLENCE					
GENERAL FUND BENEVOLENCE	9,388	2,958	25,625	35,500	(9,875)
Total BENEVOLENCE	\$ 9,388	2,958	\$ 25,625	35,500	\$ (9,875)
Total Expenses	\$ 67,307	69,938	\$ 670,217	\$ 839,260	\$ (169,043)
Change in unrestricted net assets	\$ 776	-	\$ 135,917	\$ -	\$ 135,917

St. John's Lutheran Church

Statement of Activities - Special Purpose, Restricted & Endowment Funds

November 30, 2018

	Nov. 30, 2018 Actual	Nov. 30, 2018 Budget	Jan 1 - Nov 30, 2018 Actual	Annual Budget	Actual vs. Annual Budget Over (Under)
ENDOWMENT FUND					
Revenues					
INCOME					
DONOR RESTRICTED INCOME	4,335	-	158,581	-	158,581
Total INCOME	4,335	-	158,581	-	158,581
ENDOWMENT - INCOME					
Interest-Dividends-Realized	2,252	-	45,315	-	45,315
REALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	2,625	-	65,264	-	65,264
UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	33,927	-	(201,953)	-	(201,953)
MEMORIALS & OTHER INCOME		-	-	-	-
Total ENDOWMENT - INCOME	38,804	-	(91,374)	-	(91,374)
Total Revenues	43,139	-	67,206	-	67,206
TRANSFER OF FUNDS					
Transfer to/from General Fund	24,000	-	554,000	-	554,000
Transfer to/from Endowment Fund	(24,000)	-	(554,000)	(77,460)	(476,540)
Total TRANSFER OF FUNDS	-	-	-	(77,460)	77,460
Total Revenues	\$ 43,139	\$ -	\$ 67,206	\$ (77,460)	\$ 144,666
Expenses					
RESTRICTED EXPENSES					
MANAGEMENT FEES-ENDOW.	1,635	-	18,961	-	18,961
RESTRICTED EXPENSES-OTHER	2,043	-	710,227	-	710,227
Total RESTRICTED EXPENSES	3,678	-	729,188	-	729,188
Change in restricted net assets	\$ 39,461	\$ -	\$ (661,982)	\$ (77,460)	\$ (584,522)

Reminder Message from the Finance Office

The Finance Office requests:

- 1) That all reimbursement requests be submitted to the Finance Office by the 5th of the following month of the purchase date. The Church closes its books each month and no reimbursement can be made for any month that has been closed.
- 2) That if you use a Church credit card, all receipts be turned in the week of the purchase. You can place these receipts in the box outside of the Accounting office. These receipts must be entered into accounts payable before the Church receives the credit card statement at the end of each month.

Thank you for your assistance. God's blessings.

Carolyn Myers, Bookkeeper

St. John's Lutheran Church
Special Purpose Funds
11/30/2018

	12/31/2017	2018 Total Deposits	2018 Disburse- ments	Bal
<u>Church - Unrestricted and Board Designated</u>				
Rilling Estate	41,900.00		(7,125.00)	34,775.00
	41,900.00	-	(7,125.00)	34,775.00
<u>Church - Board Designated</u>				
Bus Sales/Transportation	9,453.32		(1,321.68)	8,131.64
Capital Reserve	105,863.58	30,000.00	(53,886.05)	81,977.53
A/C Renovation	99,636.96	430,363.04	(530,000.00)	-
Insurance Reimbursement	-	52,941.80	(33,356.82)	19,584.98
	214,953.86	513,304.84	(618,564.55)	90,109.17
<u>Church -Temporarily Restricted</u>				
Archives	110.13			110.13
A/C Renovation	-	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	-
Bricks for courtyard	3,809.77			3,809.77
Building/Restoration Fund	22,623.32	7,820.00	(15,785.30)	14,658.02
Candelabras	3,099.34			3,099.34
CAM & Easter Sunrise Service		2,956.00	(2,856.00)	100.00
Choir & Choir Music	2,395.47	195.00		2,590.47
Columbarium	12,474.78	25.00		12,499.78
ELCA World Hunger	-	590.00		590.00
E.Minasian Scholarship	2,126.06			2,126.06
Family Retreat	360.00			360.00
Fiesta Nueva	(796.89)	12,824.08	(11,267.63)	759.56
Finance Peace	4,014.23			4,014.23
Habitat for Humanity	-	25.00	(25.00)	-
History Wall Fund	9,734.86		(480.00)	9,254.86
Lutheran Disaster Relief	100.00	1,350.00		1,450.00
Meals on Wheels	40.00	160.00	-	200.00
Mem-Marian Brewer	2,422.37	10.00		2,432.37
Men's Retreat	4,726.58		(4,726.58)	-
Mission Trip-Guatemala 2018		34,213.92	(31,903.99)	2,309.93
Organ Fund	4,422.53	110.00		4,532.53
Rynning Memorial	2,839.23			2,839.23
Sanctuary-Art Carving	10,482.52			10,482.52
School Ministry	-	4,007.00		4,007.00
Sunday School	53.99	126.78		180.77
Youth Activity	696.51	741.00		1,437.51
Women's Retreat	6,734.92	5,020.00	(9,643.18)	2,111.74
Total ChurchTemporarily Restricted	92,469.72	71,173.78	(77,687.68)	85,955.82
Total Special Funds	349,323.58	584,478.62	(703,377.23)	210,839.99

Calendar Stuff

January

New Year's , Church offices closed	1 st
12:05PM First Friday Concert: Michael and Alisha Bade	4 th
5:PM Conference of Bishops Epiphany Service & Reception (open to all)	5 th
7PM Executive Committee Meeting	7 th
7PM Pastor Jim's "Journey Through the Sermon on the Mount" class begins	9 th
7PM Choir practice resumes	9 th
7PM Full Council Meeting	14 th

C H U R C H C O U N C I L

Ron Stinson
President

Rosemary Petry
Vice-President

Caroline Nentwich
Secretary

Kent Rooen
Treasurer

Members:
Mary Boehme
Ed Case
Susan Dickson
Bonnie Eckhardt
Bea Imken
Brad Richie
Dan Robison
Belinda Schmidt
Julie Shadrock

Parish Staff

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Church Office Hours M-Th 8am - 4pm
F 8am-1pm

C H U R C H L E A D E R S H I P

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Church Office Hours 8am - 4pm

The heart of Christ...
In the heart of the City
St. John's Lutheran Church



Address Service Requested



A Stephen Ministry
Congregation

*Our Mission Statement: Remembering our heritage and reaching for the future by
living in faith and growing through worship, study and service*

Connect with us!

www.StJohnsSA.org



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facebook®

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www.pinterest.com/StJohnsSA

www.youtube.com/StJohnsSA



If you are reading this, you are invited to join us however you are able to share in our fellowship, faith formation and fabulous worship! A few easy ways to try us out are:

***Live Stream** a Sunday Service to see how we worship, and you can even do it in your jammies!

***Be** a part of our Campus Ministry for the college-aged on Wednesday evenings at **6PM**. Meals are always free and fellowship is always wonderful!

***Join** us for Pastor Jim's Journey Through the Sermon on the Mount study beginning **Jan 9 @7PM**.

***Now** accepting registrations for the G.R.A.C.E. Women's Retreat **Feb 14-17**. Call 210-223-2611 for details.