



Pastor Scott's Corner

Welcome to the New Year 2021, I don't know about you but for me not a lot has changed and yet it has changed. As the month of January has progressed I have started a Continuing Education

Workshop called "Ignite the Church" and it seems to be igniting me. My Scout Executive when I worked with the BSA, had a saying: Nothing is a mistake, if you learn from it. I have started to apply this to Covid-19. Please understand I am not minimizing the horrendous, devastating repercussions of this Pandemic. My prayers go out to all who have suffered first hand the death and devastation. But I do think that Covid is a wake up call for the church, for us as a people, and for the world. A tiny, invisible to the naked eye, virus has brought the world as we know it to its knees. So what can we learn, where do we go now.

The church has learned that Worship happens even if we cannot get into the Sanctuary. It is not opportune, it is not the same as being in person, but Worship continued. We learned that we could provide wonderful joint ministry as the Highlands Conference. We don't have to be limited to our local geographic area. We learned we could use Social Media to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. All of this needs to be continued, we do not need to "go back" or at least "go back" to the way it was in 2019 or 1958. This is the opportunity for the church to shine the light of Jesus Christ to the world. The

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Quick Links

ELCA.org

www.stjohnabingdon.org

[Virginia Synod](#)

Sunday Worship



Worship with Communion
On Facebook live 10:00 AM
Sundays on the St. John Facebook
Page

Staff Listing

G Scott Homesley
Pastor, Cell: 276-525-5801

Joan Shaver - Admin Assist
Office Phone: 276-628-6215

message that we Lutherans rally around "justification by grace, through faith" a message that lets each of us know we cannot earn the love of God. We cannot earn our salvation. Jesus has done it for us and we are called to "SHARE" this Good News.

So, I don't have any answers. I don't have all the plans and the forecast for the future, but what I do know is that the "journey" is beginning and the future is wide open. I also know that we are called to Pray without ceasing, so please Pray for St. John, Pray for the church. Pray for guidance and discernment. So if you have ideas, dreams, thoughts about how we might move along at St. John Lutheran please call, email or stop by and chat with me. It is time to be open to the "SPIRIT", the Holy Spirit. May God guide us and move us.

We are on this journey together!!!!

Wrenda Fuller -
Music Director
Cell: 276-701-3677

Please use the Church Website:

www.stjohnabingdon.org. Visit frequently to see the Prayer list and announcements of things ongoing and up coming.

St. John February Birthdays

Feb. 2--Carla Proffitt
Feb. 4--Linda Garnett
Feb. 8--Edie Hildebeitel
Feb. 13--Sarah Wellenhoffer
Feb. 15--Josh Kroll
Feb. 17--Spencer Wellenhoffer
Feb. 22--Sid Vaught
Feb. 24--Alexis Padden
Feb. 26--Carole Ann Rosen
Feb. 28--Tess Van Dyke

If we missed your February birthday, please let the church office know.

St. John's Financial Summary
1/20/21

We are simply amazed by the generosity of St. John's members and the blessings that God has bestowed on St. John during this very difficult period! St. John finished 2020 with \$213,600 in income and \$202,100 in expenses, leaving a surplus of \$11,500.

In addition, we have received another \$8900 in pledges since the congregation approved St. John's 2021 budget on Dec 13, bringing the pledge amount to \$162,200 and the total estimate for pledged and unpledged income to \$188,200.

Please stay safe and healthy, and thank you all for your generous support!

The Finance Team



St. John's Financial Summary Table			
	Budget	Year To Date	Actual Year-End
Income	\$ 218,900	\$ 213,600	\$ 213,600
Expenses	\$ 219,300	\$ 202,100	\$ 202,100
Balance	\$ (400)	\$ 11,500	\$ 11,500
Total Reserves		\$ 77,700	\$ 77,700
Designated Giving		\$ 4,415	\$ 4,415
Checking Account		\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
PPP Loan Liability		\$ (22,100)	\$ (22,100)
Available Reserves		\$ 41,185	\$ 41,185

MASKS BY EDIE

For those of you using face masks made by Edie, they are made of 3 layers. The inside layer is non-woven interfacing to provide better filtering.

ST JOHN SERVES AT FOOD PANTRY Feb. 22-26

Please consider volunteering at the Food Pantry when St. John serves on Monday and Friday Feb. 22nd and 26th, 9AM-1PM, and Tuesday Feb. 23rd, 4-6

Dear Friends of EFIA,

2020 was a very busy and unusual year with the pandemic for Faith in Action. We would like to thank St. John for your donation of 844 items during 2020. The Food Pantry provided free food 8,599 times with 468 new families enrolling. Food purchases were \$71,809.87. These purchases along with USDA and donated food allowed the Food Pantry to provide over \$1 million in free food in 2020. We look forward to working with you during 2021.

Prayers



Lisa Roberts, who will undergo more testing at UVA in February.

Richard Brumleve, continuing to have health issues.

Bob Murphy, recuperating at home.

Helen Findley, recuperating at home.

Ryan Green, 8 yr. old with severe heart abnormality, now positive for Covid. He is the son of Linda Stewart's daughter's best friend.

Edie Hildebeitel's sister-in-law, Sally Berg, recovering from a leg fracture at home with hospice care; Edie's brother Dale Berg who is helping to take care of her.

Eli Matney, former St. John Preschool student.

Levi Pinkston, infant nephew of Mel Schnelle, who is at Wichita Hospital for Children, being treated for lung and breathing issues.

Prayers of Joy for Brian and Heidi Posey on the birth of baby Charlie on January 11th, weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. Parents and baby are doing well.

We pray for all on the front lines: doctors, nurses, medical personnel. We especially pray for Kelly Read, who is with Mt. Rogers District Health Department;

Beth Roberts, at BRMC;

Alex Depew, who works in a hospital in Richmond; and Kayla Nobles Abrego, Sue Croghan's granddaughter, who is a nurse in Littleton, CO.

Continuing prayers for: Sue, Croghan, Jim Kroll, Jerry French

Homebound:

Marty Dunn, Vickianne Dotten, Ann Godsey,
Barbara Wright, Nancy King

Military:

Army Reserve SPC William Salmon
Army Reserve SSgt Brandon McKee
US Army 1st Lieutenant Caleb Findley
US Army Zach Skipworth
Marine Sgt. Zachery Martynuik
Marine Major John Wilson

If you have names to add (or ones to be taken off) the prayer chain, please email Joan at the

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK GROUP

Our meetings this month will be Feb. 9th and 23rd at 7pm on Zoom. We will be discussing CASTE by Isabel Wilkerson.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87091172037?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87091172037?pwd=TIFXRVNkU3ZTQWlQb2twY1lNcUNFZz09)

[pwd=TIFXRVNkU3ZTQWlQb2twY1lNcUNFZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87091172037?pwd=TIFXRVNkU3ZTQWlQb2twY1lNcUNFZz09)

Meeting ID: 870 9117 2037

Passcode: 965418

Sunday Book Group

Our next Sunday afternoon book group is scheduled for March 21st at 3PM on Zoom, We will be discussing The Vanishing Half, by Brit Bennett. It is the story of identical twins whose paths diverge along color lines.

Financial Support during the Covid 19 Virus

Thank you/ Thank you/ Thank you

First a thank you for your continued generous support to St. John Lutheran Church. You will notice in the report above that offerings are remaining consistent during this difficult time.

A reminder that there are several ways to continue your giving:

1. Mail in your donations to:
St. John Lutheran Church
807 E. Main St.
Abingdon, Va 24210

2. Credit Card/Debit Card giving on the St. John Website:
www.stjohnabingdon.org

3. Simply Giving

4. Online Payment directly from your bank.



Calendar for February:

**Facebook live Worship w/Communion
Sundays Feb. 7, 14, 21, and 28 @
10AM-- have Communion elements available
(wine/grape juice, bread)**

**Feb. 4: Prayer Time with Pastor Scott
12:15PM Fellowship Hall (mask required)
Take a few minutes during lunch to gather in
the Fellowship Hall (Covid guidelines
followed). A time to gather, read Scripture,
and have prayer.**

**Feb. 16th Shrove Tuesday Drive-thru
Pancake Supper -- please RSVP number of
plates and if you need delivery**

**February 17th Ash Wednesday 7:00 PM
Zoom Imposition of Ashes and Holy
Communion. Zoom link and more details to
be announced.**

**Social Justice Book Group on Zoom,
7:00PM on Tuesday Feb.9th and 23rd**

Food Pantry Feb. 22nd, 23rd, and 26th

