



**The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 26th immediately following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Please mark your calendars.**

Please submit your reports for the Annual Meeting as soon as possible to the church office. You can email your reports to the church office at [info@stjohns-shakopee.com](mailto:info@stjohns-shakopee.com). Thank you!



## Worship Hours

**Sunday Worship – 8:00 & 10:00am**

**Adult Education – 9:10am**

**Sunday School – 10:20am**

*Please contact the church office for specific prayer requests or if a home or hospital visit is needed.*

Rev. Gary Kinkel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Jerod Freeberg, Associate Pastor

Sean Vander Veen, Worship Music Accompanist

Lisa Friesen, Administrative Assistant

[pastorgary@stjohns-shakopee.com](mailto:pastorgary@stjohns-shakopee.com)

[pastorjerod@stjohns-shakopee.com](mailto:pastorjerod@stjohns-shakopee.com)

[vanderveen.sean@gmail.com](mailto:vanderveen.sean@gmail.com)

[info@stjohns-shakopee.com](mailto:info@stjohns-shakopee.com)

**Office Hours:** 8:00am-1:00pm Monday & Tuesday and 1:00pm-5:00pm Wednesday & Thursday, closed – Friday

**St. John's Lutheran Church 119 West Eighth Avenue, Shakopee, MN 55379**  
**952-445-5666 [www.stjohns-shakopee.com](http://www.stjohns-shakopee.com)**

## **From Pastor Gary Kinkel...**

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The secular year begins this month. But for the Church the new year began on the First Sunday of Advent. For us, we are in the second month of the new year. There is something important here, something worthy of attention and reflection.

The gathering of people who belong to Jesus Christ are not quite in step with the world; not quite in sync with the society in which we live. We march to our own drum, follow our own marching orders and are bound to our own Leader and Savior. The rhythms of the drum to which we listen and our marching orders, the path we walk together, are given to us by God through Jesus Christ. The measure of what we do and say, of the things we seek, is, first and foremost, the cross of Jesus. Because he is raised from death by God, we must unrelentingly ask: does something fit with the grace, vulnerability, humility and mercy revealed to us, given to us, by God in this event.

In the early decades of the Christian movement it was easy to see the difference between the convictions and ways of living of Jesus-followers and those not following Jesus. For a variety of reasons, the society around those early Jesus worshipers was largely hostile to them. And they had to be resolute and clear in order to maintain their faithfulness to the God of Israel revealed as Savior from sin and death in Jesus. They had to, in many instances, openly refuse to participate in public observances and rites, because these embodied convictions, practices or allegiances which would have made those early Christians into blasphemers. The overriding assumption in the New Testament is that the Christian faithful are a small, persecuted minority. But as centuries wore on, those Christ-folk became numerous. Eventually, Christianity became the official Imperial Religion (though from the first days of that shift there were Christian teachers who believed and taught that this move was disastrous for the faith and for the Church).

In the Middle Ages, all of western society—and also the eastern Roman Empire—was built around the Christian Church and Christian convictions and teaching. Again, there it is highly questionable whether that was ever a good thing—and there are good reasons to think that it was not. In any case, Christians came to think of their faith, their Church and their society as one seamless reality. This mindset became fixed in the minds of Christians. Even after it was obviously no longer true, Christians continued to think and act as though it was true. And it became very difficult for Christians, who generally assumed that their surrounding society worked on the basis of Christian assumptions and reflected Christian “values,” meanings and actions,

to see the difference between themselves and their fellow non-Christian citizens; or the difference between their convictions and practices and the goals and practices of the society at large.

Things for us are much more like they were for the earliest Christians. The society in which we live is mostly indifferent to, in some respects is openly hostile to, and in many ways finds laughable (without disciplined argument or investigation and study) our convictions and ways of life. The vast majority of intellectual life around us, of art and literature, of the operation of the levers of political power, of the public goals that are held out for us to pursue, of our self-understandings, and on and on take place without reference to actual Christian faith and Christian teaching. Large portions of the Church have given in to this and seek to be like the society that surrounds us. They often simply mirror the "values" and convictions of the world, dressed up, of course, in Christian sounding language and "supported" by biblical quotes (badly used or badly interpreted).

The Christian Church is in crisis at present in the western world, not because of shrinking attendance or shrinking membership, but because we have forgotten that we are called to be in the world, but not OF it (see John 17). We have forgotten the difference to which we are called. We have swallowed too much of the witches' brew of the world's seductive ways, priorities, ideas and commitments. We have identified as good what the world tells us is good and have quietly assumed that Jesus is on board with that.

We are called to be a people formed by a distinctive story, different from the story that forms the western world or America. We are called to be formed from the ground up by the big story of the Scriptures interpreted through the lens of the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth and to give our allegiance to this different Lord. It is Jesus Christ who has redeemed us and it is to his voice that we are to listen, his voice we are to obey, in life and in death, no matter the consequences.

In the grace of Jesus,

***Pastor Gary***



## OWLS - (St. John's Older, Wiser, Lutheran Seniors)

The OWLS will meet on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

The OWLS suggest the ideas and topics for our guest speakers. The first speaker in the new year will be Jeni Bailey. Jeni has a remarkable Faith Story. She and her husband purchased the parsonage that is on the east side of the church. So one day I road my bike over to the old parsonage and said, "Hi, I'm your neighbor Becky, would you like to speak to the OWLS." Jeni never giving up the opportunity to speak said, "yes."

For more information call Becky Sexton at 952-445-4002.

*OWL see you in the new year!*



## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Are you or your family looking for volunteer opportunities within your community?

Look no further! St. John's is attempting to bring the Social Ministries Committee back to life! This committee will be focused on volunteering with causes within the Shakopee community and abroad. Please come to our kick-off event on **Friday, January 10th, from 6-7:30** to help pack meals for *Feed My Starving Children* (FMSC) in Chanhassen, the entire family can participate (ages 5 & older)! Please contact Kirsti Youngs for more information or to register for the FMSC event at 952-239-3856 or [kirstifree@gmail.com](mailto:kirstifree@gmail.com).

# Confirmation News!

## January 2020 Weekly Schedule:

**1/01: NO Confirmation – Happy New Year!**

**1/08: Creed Overview**

**1/15: NO Confirmation**

**1/22: Article One**

**1/29: Article Two**

**Below is the schedule for worship helpers. Everyone will be helping once every couple of months.**

*\*If you cannot be at your scheduled time, please reach out to your classmates to see if they will switch with you.*

	5-Jan	12-Jan	19-Jan	26-Jan
<b>8:00 Service</b>				
<i>Cross Bearer</i>	Molly Anderson	Sierra Nascene	August Duehr	Payton Ofstehage
<i>Acolyte</i>	Gavin Holm	Grace Breeggemann	Kayla Kostelac	Kaden Olson
<i>Communion Server</i>	Daniel Eckers	Landon Vaupel	Colin Kostelac	Ethan Sauer
<b>10:00 Service</b>				
<i>Cross Bearer</i>	Nicholas Briggs	Colby Hahn	Noah Lindquist	Cassia Garvey
<i>Acolyte</i>	Nicholas Briggs	Kylie Hahn	Emily Listrom	Logan Garcia
<i>Communion Server</i>	Tanner Briggs	Blake Menden	Paige Anderson	Gabby Anderson

### **Baptism Blanket Fabric Needed**

Our giving of a blanket at baptism with the child's name and baptism date embroidered needs more fleece! **We need prints and colors for boy or neutral gender.** If you would like to donate, we need: 1.25 yds of a print (child or baby) and a solid to go with the print. Please do not tie them, they will have to be untied in order to embroider. You can drop off your donations in the storage tub in the coat closet at church or at the church office. *Thank you!*



# St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Council Meeting Minutes – November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Council members present: Pastor Gary Kinkel, Pastor Jerod Freeberg, Sandy McCullough, Jim Hime, Paula Brennan, Kirsti Youngs, Jesse Rients, Aimee Johnson, Jenny Pudwill.

### I. Gathering

- A. Call to order 7:01pm
- B. *Motion to approve agenda: Pastor Gary Kinkel/Kirsti Youngs; carried.*
- C. Scripture and prayer: Pastor Gary Kinkel – The Council in the Word: Acts 12:1-10

### II. Discerning Our Mission

- A. Pastors' Reports
- B. Snow Removal – Loren's Lawn & Landscape provided a bid of \$200 per snow event, which includes shoveling and applying salt. *Motion to pursue signing contract up to \$200 per occurrence with Loren's Lawn & Landscape: Pastor Jerod Freeberg/Jim Hime; carried.*
- C. Emergency Plan Update – Aimee Johnson has reached out to local law enforcement, ELCA Churchwide Disaster Recovery and other resources. Proposed forming an emergency response committee and using sign-up sheets for volunteers for the needed areas. Focus will be on forming a nominating committee.

### III. Giving Thanks

- A. Treasurer's Report/Next Year's Budget: Jim Hime. October came in 27.7% below the budgeted income for 2019 but increased 1.9% over October 2018. YTD expenses are lower than expected. Jim suggested a 10% increase over last year for the 2020 budget. *Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Pastor Gary Kinkel/Jesse Rients; carried.*
- B. *Motion to approve council minutes as amended: Pastor Gary Kinkel/Aimee Johnson; carried.*

### IV. Sending

- A. Review action items established—next council meeting date is **December 17, 2019**
- B. Assign report for newsletter and reports for Annual Report – Sandy McCullough
- C. Closing Prayer
- D. Adjournment – *Motion to adjourn: Pastor Gary Kinkel/Kirsti Youngs; carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paula Brennan  
Council Secretary

# January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> <b>Happy New Year!</b> <i>(office closed)</i>	<b>2</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> AA*	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> AA*
<b>5</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:10 AM</b> Adult Education <b>9:15 AM</b> Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship <b>10:20 AM</b> Sunday School <b>12:00 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>1:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church	<b>6</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> AA* District Meeting <b>7:00 PM</b> Hope Al-Anon <b>7:00 PM</b> Gemeinschaft	<b>7</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church Bible Study	<b>8</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> OWLS <b>12:00 PM</b> Pastor's Bible Study <b>1:00 PM</b> Quilters <b>6:00 PM</b> Simple Supper <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation <b>6:45 PM</b> St. John's Choir Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> Worship	<b>9</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>6:30 PM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> AA*	<b>10</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Feed My Starving Children Event @ Chanhassen Site	<b>11</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> AA*
<b>12</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:10 AM</b> Adult Education <b>9:15 AM</b> Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship <b>10:20 AM</b> Sunday School <b>12:00 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>1:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church	<b>13</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Hope Al-Anon <b>7:15 PM</b> Discipleship Team	<b>14</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church Bible Study	<b>15</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Pastor's Bible Study <b>6:45 PM</b> St. John's Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b> <b>1:00 PM</b> Martha Circle <b>6:00 PM</b> Beacon Meeting <b>6:30 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>7:00 PM</b> AA*	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> AA* <b>1:00 PM</b> MNRVTA Piano Recital
<b>19</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:10 AM</b> Adult Education <b>9:15 AM</b> Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship <b>10:20 AM</b> Sunday School <b>12:00 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>1:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church	<b>20</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Hope Al-Anon <b>7:00 PM</b> Gemeinschaft	<b>21</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> Church Council Meeting	<b>22</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Pastor's Bible Study <b>6:00 PM</b> Simple Supper <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation <b>6:45 PM</b> St. John's Choir Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> Worship	<b>23</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>6:30 PM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> AA*	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>9:00 AM</b> AA*
<b>26</b> <b>8:00 AM</b> Worship <b>9:10 AM</b> Adult Education <b>9:15 AM</b> Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal <b>10:00 AM</b> Worship <b>10:20 AM</b> Sunday School <b>11:00 AM</b> Annual Meeting <b>12:00 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>1:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church	<b>27</b> <b>7:00 PM</b> Hope Al-Anon <b>7:15 PM</b> Discipleship Team	<b>28</b> <b>6:00 PM</b> Hispanic Church Bible Study	<b>29</b> <b>12:00 PM</b> Pastor's Bible Study <b>6:00 PM</b> Simple Supper <b>6:30 PM</b> Confirmation <b>6:45 PM</b> St. John's Choir Rehearsal <b>7:30 PM</b> Worship	<b>30</b> <b>6:30 PM</b> MWAM Rehearsal <b>6:30 PM</b> Bible Study <b>7:00 PM</b> AA*	<b>31</b>	

\* - "AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution..."

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The Eagle is a publication of St. John's Lutheran Church. It is published monthly and mailed to its members.

The Eagle welcomes news and features from its readers. We reserve the right to edit submitted material for content and length. All newsletter materials are due in the church office on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of the month preceding publication.

All addressing changes and mailing inquiries should be directed to the church office at 952-445-5666 or [info@stjohns-shakopee.com](mailto:info@stjohns-shakopee.com).

**The Mission of St. John's**  
**Called** as children of God  
**Comforted** and **Challenged** by the Holy Spirit  
**Committed** to serve **Christ** in the world