

JANUARY 2022

St. John Lutheran
P.O. Box 32
West Alexandria, OH 45381
937-839-5321
www.stjohningomar.org
stjohningo-
mar@swohio.twcba.com

Church Office Hours
Mondays and Fridays
10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Sunday
Worship Service
10:00 am

Happy
New
Year



St. John Lutheran Church

St. John Lutheran Church comes together to love God and one another, serve others and share God's word. We do these things by God's Grace that comes through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ

“OLLIE THE OWL OR WHO GIVES A HOOT?”

In the land of bird-dom, there were two very poised and prominent species known as Edgar the Eagle and Hank the Hawk. Both felt they had been given the greatest “talons” that God could offer. Being gifted in this way, it was not unusual for them to flaunt them. It did not take long before all the birds began to take sides on this issue. So, Edgar and Hank would respectfully stand proudly while flexing their marvelous claws, saying to one another, “How does this grab you?”



The debate became excessive and preoccupied the attention of all the little birds. It was finally decided to take the matter to Ollie, the wise Old Owl. Perhaps, he would have the answer as to

whose “talons” were the greatest in all the land. So off they went to seek glory.

When they came to Ollie and pursued the matter with him, all the wise old owl could think to himself was “Who gives a hoot?”. Instead, he said out loudly, “I could think that anyone who had the greatest “talons” would be able to bring back to this place the most number of field mice within twenty four hours.” Having played into the “ego” of this eagle and the conceited talk of this hawk, Ollie continued, “I realize you are both young and energetic and full of idealism and that I am merely an old owl and abiding my time. You will need to catch my equal within that time to achieve the glory you desire.”



“What is this?” thought Edgar and Hank, “Another challenge?” And to do this in front of the whole assemblage of bird-dom. Having no alternative, they accepted the contest to save embarrassment; ending it with a conceited laugh. So, it began.

Hank and Edgar immediately took off soaring with such pomp and grace seeking glory while armed and ready to put their “talons” to the test. Yet, to their amazement, there sat Ollie on the limb of the same old tree there the challenge was offered. Throughout the day, one by one the eagle and hawk brought in their prey while Ollie sat and counted.

The sun set and day turned into night. It was too dark to observe anything more. So, the rest of the birds turned in for the night. When morning broke, they immediately rushed to see the results. There was Hank over his Prey which seemed to be five times what anyone else in the bird-dom could catch. What a set of “talons!”. Their eyes then focused on Edgar who looked so magnificent while displaying his collection of prey that seemed more than Hank's. Despite their royal appearance, however, they wore a brooding countenance.

Then all eyes looked at the expressionless Ollie the Owl still perched on his limb. Yet, there on the ground before him was an acquisition no bird had seen before this! In the darkness and mysteriousness of the night, Ollie was able to do what neither of the others could do. It was done without grandeur or conceit. All one could see was the results by the light of day.

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Quite often, when humans exercise their God given “talents”, their “egos” can get in their way. In the meantime, God works mysteriously beyond our knowing and comprehension. It is only by the “light” of the day that it is revealed to us.

Genesis 2: And God caused Adam to sleep while taking a rib and forming a woman from it. When man awoke he saw what God had don and exclaimed, “At last, bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh.”

Exodus 14 and 15: It was in the morning watch that the Israelites saw what the Lord had done to the Egyptians. And they broke out in the song of Moses.

Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20: It was at the early dawn on the first day of the week that the women came and found the tomb empty.

It is this self-giving act of God’s grace and love that has been the theme of the church’s doxology throughout the ages. “To God alone belongs all honor, glory and praise.” It is also the ending of our daily praying of the Lord’s Prayer, One of our greatest gifts of God is to use our God given “talents” to the tune of this doxology.

The EPIPHANY of our God is seen in the “Light of Christ”. “So let your light shine before others, that they may see your good works and give glory to the Father”. (Matthew and our Baptismal rite)

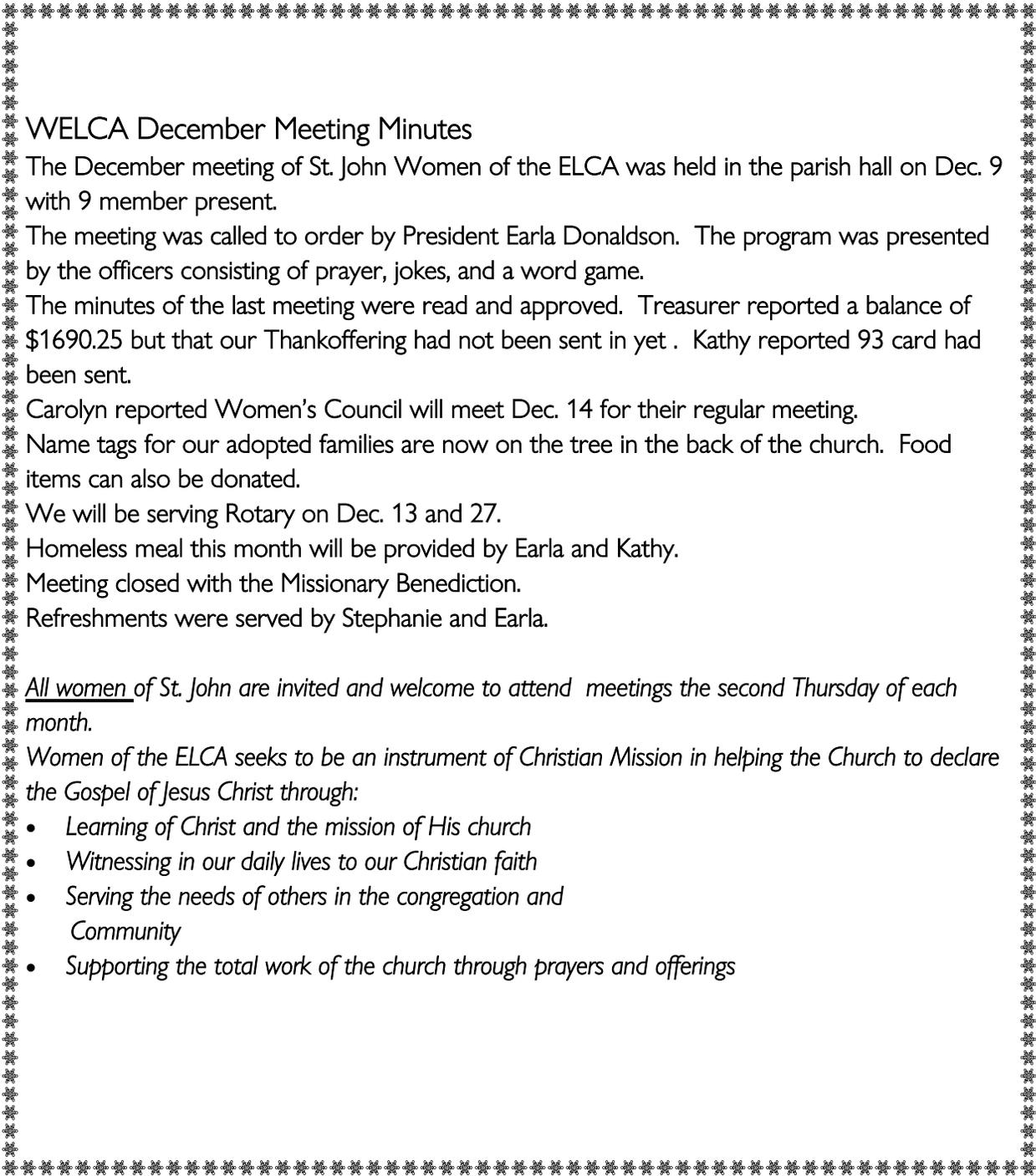


Christmas 2021

St. John adopted two families.

Thank you St. John for donations of food, gifts, and the love and care each one of you put into making a better Christmas for your neighbors!





WELCA December Meeting Minutes

The December meeting of St. John Women of the ELCA was held in the parish hall on Dec. 9 with 9 member present.

The meeting was called to order by President Earla Donaldson. The program was presented by the officers consisting of prayer, jokes, and a word game.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Treasurer reported a balance of \$1690.25 but that our Thankoffering had not been sent in yet . Kathy reported 93 card had been sent.

Carolyn reported Women’s Council will meet Dec. 14 for their regular meeting.

Name tags for our adopted families are now on the tree in the back of the church. Food items can also be donated.

We will be serving Rotary on Dec. 13 and 27.

Homeless meal this month will be provided by Earla and Kathy.

Meeting closed with the Missionary Benediction.

Refreshments were served by Stephanie and Earla.

All women of St. John are invited and welcome to attend meetings the second Thursday of each month.

Women of the ELCA seeks to be an instrument of Christian Mission in helping the Church to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ through:

- Learning of Christ and the mission of His church*
- Witnessing in our daily lives to our Christian faith*
- Serving the needs of others in the congregation and Community*
- Supporting the total work of the church through prayers and offerings*

FINANCIAL		REPORT	NOVEMBER	2021																															
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, INGOMAR																																			
CURRENT EXPENSE FUND																																			
BALANCE ON HAND 11.1.2021			26264.07																																
RECEIPTS		NOVEMBER	7470.04																																
TOTAL IN CURRENT FUND			33734.11																																
CURRENT EXPENSES																																			
TWIN VALLEY BANK-ATM			358.70																																
COPIER LEASE			73.00																																
DPL		9/17-10/17	209.85	24 MO CD-12/18-\$11,134.70																															
KNOX ENERGY		9/12-10/0	30.00																																
SPECTRUM			171.46																																
AMAZON-altar guild,bulb,			67.54																																
RICKY'S LAWN CARE		OCTNOV	400.00																																
TIM SWANSON			3500.00	AMERIPRISE-\$328,632																															
SOUTHWEST HEATING/COOLI			1066.44	11.30.21	-704																														
CHRIS INGRAM-P WORKER			1190.00																																
BROOKVILLE FLOWER SHOP			105.00	CURRENT OFFERING																															
SERVKEEP/MY COMP			69.89	Nov. 19-5910.03																															
RUMPKE			57.73	Nov. 20-14364.97																															
AMERICAN CHURCH-ENVELOPES			221.16	Jan-Nov 19-69,357.43																															
1517 MEDIA-LIVING LUTHERAN/		WOR .SUPP	265.77	Jan-Nov-20-88,473.64 *																															
OUTSIDE LIGHT REPAIR			293.08																																
ORGANIST/PIANOST			160.00																																
MEDMART/TREASURER-LIFT/BOIL			435.45																																
ROSELIUS INS-TREAS BOND			275.00																																
CASH FLOW																																			
				RECEIPTS-14364.97																															
TOTAL EXPENSES			8950.07	EXPENSES-14206.22																															
BALANCE IN CURRENT FUND			24784.04	+158.75																															
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>- BENEVOLENCE</th> <th>MEMORIAL</th> <th>DISCRETIONAR</th> <th>W/HUNGER</th> <th>STEPHEN</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BEG. BAL</td> <td>15</td> <td>10216</td> <td>151.55</td> <td>0</td> <td>1517.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RECEIPTS</td> <td>1400</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>125</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PAID OUT</td> <td>1415</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>125</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>END. BAL</td> <td>0</td> <td>10216</td> <td>151.55</td> <td>0</td> <td>1527.03</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>							- BENEVOLENCE	MEMORIAL	DISCRETIONAR	W/HUNGER	STEPHEN	BEG. BAL	15	10216	151.55	0	1517.03	RECEIPTS	1400	0	0	125	10	PAID OUT	1415	0	0	125	0	END. BAL	0	10216	151.55	0	1527.03
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BENEVOLENCE PLEDGE		7004	G/WORKS PLEDGE		0																														
PAID OUT		1250			0																														
UNPAID PLEDGE		5754			0																														

MEMBERS IN OUR PRAYERS

Cleo Eby	Janet Ferguson	Reenie Halsey
Mary Buettner	Butch Spitler	Mark McKinley
Catherine Dafler	Marna Beneke	Melissa Collins
	Helen Comer	

FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF OUR MEMBERS

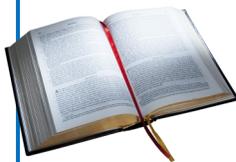
Baby Easton	Andy Eck
Neil Wick	Larry & Beverly Spitler
Marilyn Ward	Becky Wilder
Carol Gilbert	Jane Rahn
Lilly Moore	Colleen Mitchell
Lisa Altic	John Matteucci
Aimee Johnson	Stacy Cline
Robert Kincses	Andy & Amanda Thomp-
Carolyn Ulrich	Melinda Studebaker
Sue Miller	Connie Johnson
John Waldon	Eric Walker
Ryan Welty	
Maxine Ingram	

MISSIONARIES

Jon & Michelle Voge and family
Abby Utsinger

**A collection is being taken for
Pastor Tim's Christmas. Just
mark your offering envelope
"Pastor Christmas"**

Sunday School for adults
after worship
Revisiting the Christmas
Story



Mark your calendars:

- **Caroling December 4 at 1:00**
- **Choir 6:00 pm Wednesdays during Advent**
- **Midweek Advent Wednesdays (1st, 8th, and 15th) at 7:00 pm**
- **WELCA at Judy's Dec. 9 at 7:00 pm**

