

February
2022

**ST. JOHN
CHURCH COUNCIL
SERVANTS**

Matt Cote

Lee Dryden

Ginny Hohl

Rick Bosch

Marsha Irmer

Don Reidell

CJ Ullrich

Shirleen Besch

Brian Hirschey

COVID-19 WORSHIP UPDATE

Dear Members and Friends,

On Sunday, February 6, 2022, we will resume our in-person worship at 8:30 & 10:30AM. Thank you for your patience and understanding over these last few weeks. I look forward to seeing many of you again as we offer worship and praise TOGETHER.

As we transition back to in-person worship there have been several “frequently asked questions.”

Yes, we will wear masks.

Yes, we will allow singing.

Yes, we will spread out.

Yes, we will receive communion

(at the head of the center aisle or using pre-packaged elements).

Yes, we will continue to provide a weekly online worship resource.

No, the windows will not be open.

In addition to our worship, we also plan on gathering this month for a fellowship luncheon on Friday, February 11 and Youth Activities will resume as well.

I am beyond excited to return to in-person ministry and look forward to welcoming you back to our sacred space. If you have any questions or concerns please relay them to our office and one of our leaders will be in touch.

God Bless. Stay Safe. Stay Healthy. See You Soon.

In Christ,
Pastor Scott

*"I was glad when they said unto me,
let us go to the house of the lord."*

psalm 122:1



Life Passages

Henry John Graser was baptized on January 30, 2022



Helen Ann Smith joined the saints in light on January 20, 2022. Arrangements are forthcoming.



Sunday School

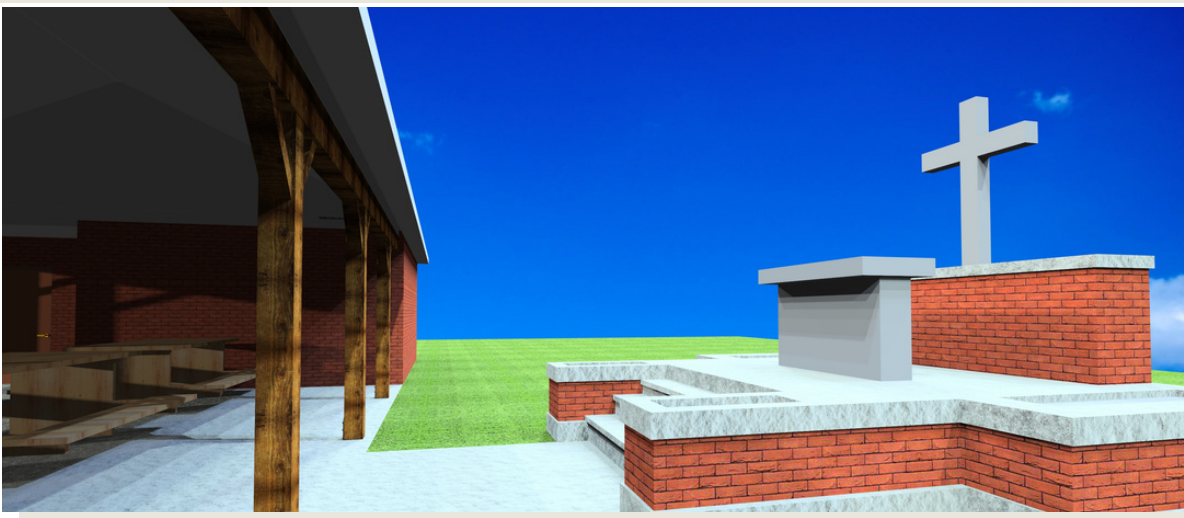
Sunday School is being postponed until further notice. Children's worship resources can be found on our website.

<https://sjlcamherst.com/school>



Outdoor Ministry Center Update

Plans for our new building in the back are coming along and we hope to break ground in the coming months with construction wrapping up THIS SUMMER.



New Office Hours



The office hours have changed due to our administrative assistant going back to school.

The new office hours are: **Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday** from 9 AM- 2 PM. Feel free to email or call during that time.

COUNCIL UPDATE

The January council meeting was held on the 18th at 7:00PM via Zoom. The meeting began with prayer and a welcome to the new council members (Shirleen Besch and Brian Hirschey). Pastor presided over the meeting as officers for the new council were elected. The following people were elected to executive positions...

Matt Cote, President

C.J. Ullrich, Vice President

Lee Dryden, Secretary

Ellen Pancoe, Treasurer

Ginny Hohll, Financial Secretary

After the election, President Cote presided over the meeting.

Pastor provided a report that included ongoing ministry and two baptisms. A discussion was held regarding the profane and vulgar disruption of our worship on January 9th. Safeguards are now in place to ensure that will never happen again. Security training for the congregation will be explored in the coming months. Pastor noted that the Outdoor Ministry Center design plans are nearly finalized.

The committees offered the following reports...

Fellowship – January events, including a soup luncheon and trip to a performance at Shea’s 710 Theatre were postponed due to COVID. We expect life to pick up again in February.

Worship and Music – Services will resume in-person on February 6. Remote, virtual worship will continue to be provided.

Christian Education – Sunday School will resume in the coming weeks. Teachers will be needed when that time comes.

Youth – Youth events, including confirmation and Youth Group, will resume in-person in February. Youth Group is set for February 8th. Confirmation is scheduled for February 13th.

Personnel – Our administrative assistant Sara is going back to school. In-person office hours are now Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 AM-2 PM.

Building and Grounds – A preventative maintenance plan is being explored to care for our heating system.

Stewardship – The act of “pledging” is encouraged by the committee. Our congregation gave \$2,761 to World Hunger in 2021 in response to emergencies.

Finance – We finished 2021 with a surplus of roughly \$25,000. We enter 2022 in a relatively strong financial position.

In the business portion of the meeting various drawings of the proposed Outdoor Ministry Center were considered. A rendering of the altar was shared for the first time and the council affirmed the plans and approved moving forward with this exciting project. Fundraising will start in March of 2022.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

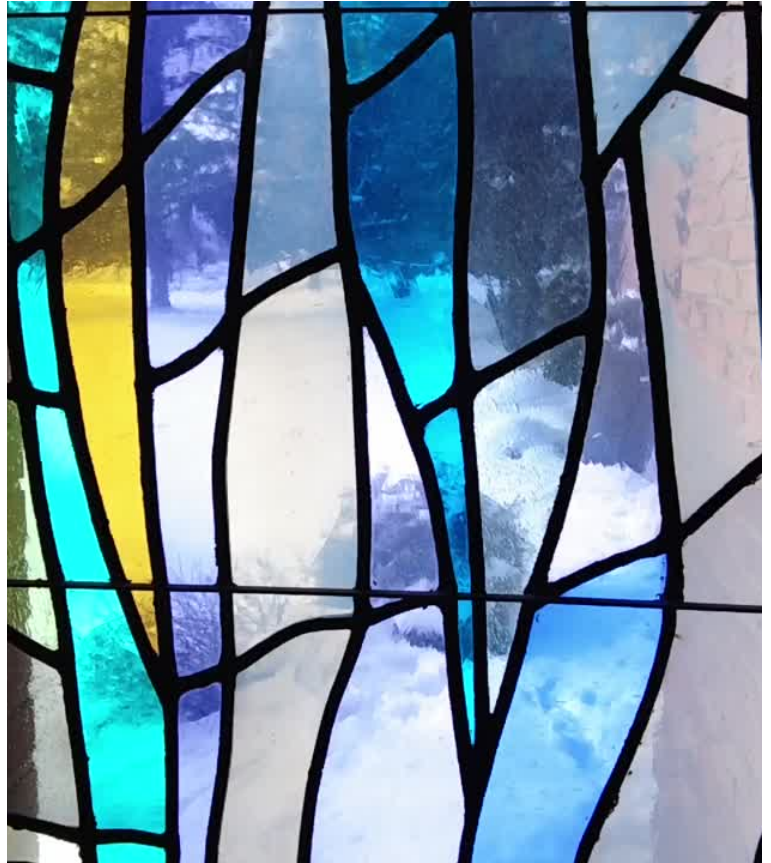


Welcome New Church Council Members...

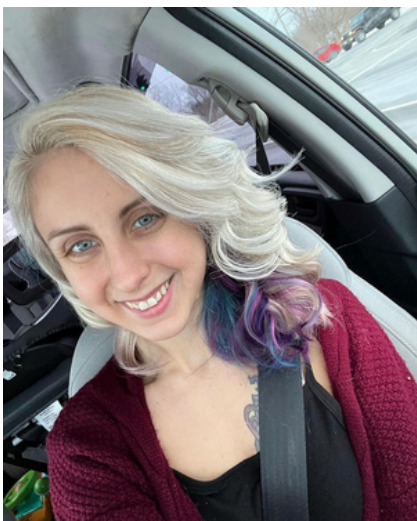
Brian Hirschey



Having been a member of St. John for the majority of his life, Brian is excited to serve his church community. Living in Cheektowaga with his wife, stepson, and 5 pets, he enjoys golfing, make dinner on the grill, and watching his favorite sports teams the Bills and Sabres.



Shirleen Besch



Shirleen is a social worker with OLV services. She lives in Depew with her husband, Andy, and one-year-old son, Logan.

*"Let your face shine
on your servant;"*

Psalm 31:16



Soup Luncheon

All adults are invited to join us on Friday, February 11th in the Gathering Place for the “kickoff” of our Soup Luncheons. We will meet from 11 AM to 1 PM on the second Friday of each month throughout the winter months. It will be a time for socialization and sharing of good news while enjoying a hot bowl of soup and a few other goodies to satisfy our spirits. We hope you will consider coming out to participate. The meal will be provided; just show up for some good fellowship and maybe even a few laughs. If you would like transportation, please contact the church office at 716-632-5667. See you there!

YOUTH EVENTS winter 2021



here's what's happening...



GODLY PLAY

Resumes March 6, 2022 | Teachers are NEEDED



YOUTH GROUP

February 8, 2022 | 6:30 - 8:30 PM



CONFIRMATION

February 13, 2022 | 11:30AM - 12:30PM

Let the children come to me;
and do not stop them;
for it is to such as these
that the kingdom of god belongs.
- Jesus

Men's Group



Watch your emails for info on when we will return to Hybrid Saturday men's group get-togethers

If you have any questions please contact Rick Bosch.
rickseab@gmail.com



Thrivent Choice

All qualifying money you have accumulated from your product for 2021 is listed and ready for you to give to St. John. Any money designated this year will go toward camperships at LCLC. If you have not already done so, please do so before March 31. Does your Thrivent product qualify? Call 800 847 4836 and say Choice Dollars to find out. Thrivent reps will help you. Or go the Thrivent.com, log in, and check your Choice Dollars. Call or email me for more information. Thank you.

Jane D'Agostino Thrivent representative to St. John
716 713 8167
dagosdinos@gmail.com

Dear members of St. John,
I want to thank all at St. John for thinking of me at Christmas. My puzzle book, imagine Christ in our home, and my pin are all so special. I wish you all a very happy New Year and hope to see you all very soon!
Love,
Yvette Haller

Thank you for the very generous donation in support the Heritage Christian Services mission. We will absolutely put it to great use.

Sincerely,
Chuck Collard

Thank you for the very generous donation to Heritage Christian Services. As you know Heritage has built a beautiful house for six years working with complex medical and developmental needs. Your donation is so appreciated as the financial stress of Covid-19 has made caring for the ill and the people served by Heritage more complicated. Your generosity helps our girls, out families, the people who are direct care workers, their families and the leadership of Heritage Christian Services.

We are so blessed and thankful,
Heritage Christian Services.



Dear Church,
I wanted to say thank you for the bag of cheer you sent me to help me feel better in my recovery.
From,
Grace Bosch

St. John Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your thoughtful generosity in support of our efforts.

Jenine Trzewieczynski
Hospice Foundations

St. John Church,
Thanks so much for the gifts and generosity.
OLV Human Services

*Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances; for
this is God's will for you in Christ
Jesus.*

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Dear St. John's parishioners:

My sincere and heartfelt thanks for the incredibly beautiful floral arrangement I just received in loving memory of my mother, Helen Smith. Mom loved flowers and found great joy and peace working in her gardens. This was totally unexpected.

I always like to take pictures so you can see how beautiful your thoughtful gift is.

Again my thanks and blessings to you all for your kindness.

Kay Victor Adamczak



ST. JOHN PRAYER LIST

Hospitalized and Homebound
Colleen Gunning, Ann Henry

Loss and Bereavement

Family and friends of Jerry Bartels, friend of Dave and Judy Nitchke
Family and friends of Bob Hewitt, cousin of Ray Hohl
Family and friends of Ann Harden, friend of Marsha Irmer
Family and friends of Joyce Hewitt, cousin of Ray Hohl
Family and friends of Helen Smith, St. John member

Healing, Comfort & Special Concerns

Marsha Irmer, Bob Tiffany, Wayne Yendall, Gayle Bosch, Merv Moore, Ellen Manthey, Gordon Steinhilber, Jerry Szykowny, Ed Utz, Jennifer Ekberg, Judy Yendall, John Sivak, Ruth Bertini, Ethel Semrau,

Diane Martin, friend of Pam and Ken Figel
Linda Nichols and family, sister in-law of Pat McCarty
Jodi, friend of Mridul Pawlowski
Carol Hillman, sister in-law of Laura Kachelmeyer
Seth, website request
Eugenia Smith, friend of Marie Palermo
Elyssa DeNapoli, friend of Pastor Marsha Irmer
Kathy Borcik, friend of Ellen Lohead
Bill Tambacas, brother-in-law of Judy Nitchke
Jennifer Volhozer, daughter of Karen Caton
Kurt Yeager, son in-law of Marie Palermo
Amy Deboth, friend of Iris Reece

For unity, peace, and the healing of our nation.

Healing, comfort and strength for those seeking refuge from world events and natural disasters..

The homeless, hungry, cold and lonely.

Those victimized by any form of violence, abuse, coercion, and addiction.

Military: Matt Newman, Drew Steinhilber, John Wendelin, Nicholas Ford, Ben Hoyt

Names will be kept on the prayer list for 4 weeks, if you need your loved one on for longer please let the office know and we will be glad to keep them on.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



| | | | |
|----------------------------|------|----------------------------------|------|
| Sheri Steinman | 2/4 | | |
| Aeryn Zahn | 2/7 | | |
| Steve Favale | 2/7 | | |
| Amanda Zdrojewski | 2/8 | | |
| Matthew Cote | 2/8 | Judith Yendall | 2/17 |
| Cheri Crankshaw | 2/10 | Larry Shroeder | 2/18 |
| Addison Lawida | 2/12 | Everett Burd | 2/19 |
| Alex Santillo | 2/13 | Katie Burd | 2/19 |
| Anita Rosa | 2/13 | Caitlyn Kutis | 2/20 |
| Cindy Lin | 2/14 | Shaelyn Kutis | 2/20 |
| Deborah Anasciewicz | 2/14 | Caleb Martin | 2/21 |
| Jason Ekberg | 2/15 | Grayson Snyder | 2/21 |
| Tyler Mullins | 2/15 | Joni Cote | 2/21 |
| Jackson Manning | 2/16 | Margaret (Peggy) Eberhard | 2/22 |
| | | Mia Tobia | 2/24 |
| | | Lauren Markarian | 2/27 |
| | | Maddie Blake | 2/28 |

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Scott D. Hannon, *Pastor* | Rev. Charlie Greene, *Visitation Pastor*
Cindy Lin, *Traditional Music Leader* | Elena Erokhina, *Contemporary Music Leader*
Sara Accardi, *Administrative Assistant* | Jared Bulinski, *Sexton*



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