

November 28/29, 2026

LIVING IN THE LIGHT THIS WEEK AT ST.JOHN'S

Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face **shine** on us, that we may be saved. Psalm 80:19

SATURDAY (28) 5:30 PM Worship

SUNDAY (29)
8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship
9:15 AM Adult Bible Class
9:15 AM Blast/ Jr- Sr High
9:15 AM Women In the Word

MONDAY (30)

TUESDAY (1)
11:00 AM Church Staff Meeting
7:00 PM Board of Elders Meeting

WEDNESDAY (2)
Shut In 4 Jason 1 Pat
9:30 AM Women's Bible Study
1:00 PM Card Party
6:00 PM 3rd -8th grade Christmas Program Practice

THURSDAY (3)
6:30 PM Bell Choir Practice
7:30 PM Canticle Choir Practice

FRIDAY (4) 6:30 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study

SATURDAY (5) 5:30 PM Worship with Holy Communion

SUNDAY (6)
8:00 & 10:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion
8:00 & 10:30 AM Canticle Choir
9:15 AM Blast/ Jr-Sr High
9:15 AM Adult Bible Class
9:15 AM Women In The Word

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: Sat: 54 Sun 8AM: 84 10:30AM: 77 = 215
Thanksgiving Worship Attendance: 71

GENERAL CHECKING CONTRIBUTIONS LAST WEEK: $10,774.00



CHRISTIAN ONE-LINER "Two works of mercy set a man free: forgive and you will be forgiven, and give and you will receive." – St. Augustine

Living Stewardship

Giving is the Greatest Joy: Most people spend so much of their lives acquiring financial security that they never develop skill in giving money away. Too late they discover that giving is the greatest joy in life. The surest way to be enriched is to share freely what you have, whether it be money, love, appreciation of beauty, or devotion to a worthy cause. Sharing brings the greatest joy of all. It is the only way to keep what you have.

Current needs for the Stephenson County VA Pantry:
The following items are very low for the VA Pantry: Cans of Soup, Cans of Vegetables, Cans of Fruit, Ramen Noodles, Shampoo and Conditioner, Body Wash, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, and Laundry Soap. We can also use some gas cards and food gift cards. These have become our most requested items. Donations can be brought to the Lena American Legion Home on Saturdays from 10:00 to 11:00 at 316 W Main St., Lena. This list is immediate needs; however other items will always be accepted. Questions call Deb Holmes at 815-233-5284

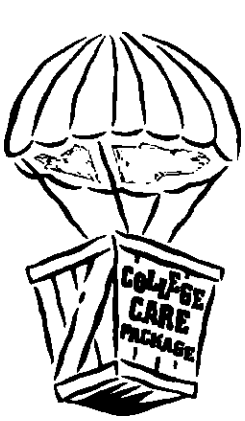
Kids Christmas Program Information:
Wednesday December 2, 3rd grade through 8th grade start practicing on Wednesdays starting at 6:00pm.

Beginning Wednesday December 9th, all kids from 1st grade through 8th grade will practice on Wednesdays starting at 6:00pm

2027 Flower Chart
The 2027 flower chart is now posted in the Narthex. Please take a couple of minutes to sign your name and reserve the weekend of your choice to provide altar flowers. Thank you to everyone who provided altar flowers in 2026. **Note: the November and December 2026 chart is also on the board with a few open spots still available.**

Advent Calendars
Advent calendars are located on the table in the Narthex for your taking. We have adult devotional advent books for adults, and advent calendars for kids. Please help yourself.

REMEMBERING OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS



Our college students have a couple of months under their belts at school by now. They have been making decisions, studying, and adjusting to life on campus. We want them to know that they are not forgotten by their friends and family at St. John's, and we look forward to seeing them soon over the upcoming holidays. You can help us do that. The goal is to send encouraging notes and care packages on a regular basis. There is a collection container in the Narthex. If you would be so kind, the next time you are out shopping, add a little extra to share with our college students. This will be an ongoing project for the school year so all seasonal items will be appreciated. We have had a tremendous outpour for the fall season that we appreciate enormously. Remember it should be easy to ship. Below is a list of suggestions: Goldfish -Life Savers - Reese's - Cheetos - Gum - Pringles - Mentos - M&M's - Peanuts- Gift Cards—McDonald's, Starbuck's, Subway and the likes - Candy - Cookies - Beef Sticks - Packets that just need water added like drinks, mac & cheese, - Ramen noodles - Cheese and cracker packets - Individual packets of just about anything!!!

If you have any questions, please talk to Brenda Offermann or Fawn Nolan. There is a collection container in the Narthex area for you to place your love donations.



Church Directories are Available in the Narthex on the table. After this week I will move extras to the office. If you'd like one after that just stop in and pick one up or let the office know and we will put one in your mailbox. A reminder that there are directories available in pdf form if you would like one emailed to you instead.

How Do you fix a broken pumpkin pie?

With a pumpkin patch!



Holiday Cookie Walk

Lena Methodist Church, 118 W Mason St, will be hosting a holiday cookie walk on Saturday December 5th from 3pm- 6pm. They are $7 per pound.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) provides one-time benefits to income eligible homeowners and renters to help with energy bills and for reconnection of energy service. Applications being accepted NOW! Income eligible LIHEAP customers of Ameren Illinois, ComEd, Nicor Gas, North Shore Gas and Peoples Gas will receive a monthly discount on their natural and/or electric bill through the Low Income Discount Rates. Please call the NICAA Main Office at 815-232-3141 or Toll Free at 800-883-1111 to receive information on outreach locations and schedules, and for information on what documents are needed to apply and different ways to submit your application.

Women in the Word:



If you are a lady looking for a place for a group to have fellowship. Women in the Word just started a series of studying 31 Women in the Bible. We meet at 9:15 on Sunday mornings in Matthew. Come join anytime.
This week we will be talking about Rachel "Blessed and Cursed".

Current needs for the Stephenson County VA Pantry as stock is very low.

Cans of Meat-tuna, chicken, ham, etc.
Cans Vegetables
Cans Fruit
Ramen Noodle
Mac and Cheese
Spaghetti
Shampoo & Conditioner
Body Wash
Liquid hand soap
Laundry soap
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Bath towels
Any pantry items will be gladly accepted.

Donations can be brought to the Lena American Legion Home on Saturdays from 10:00 to 11:00 at 316 W. Main St., Lena. Donations are greatly appreciated. This list is immediate needs; however other items will always be accepted.
Questions call 815-369-4684

Celebration of Life- Remembering our loved ones this holiday season
We invite the community to join us for **Celebration of Life,** our annual remembrance service held to honor those we have loved and whose memories we now hold dearly in our hearts. Please join us for this special evening of community connection filled with music, reflections, and heartfelt remembrance. Registration is not required, and the service is open to all.

Tuesday, December 1, 2026
6:00 pm - Celebration of Life remembrance service
6:45 pm - Reception to follow in Fellowship Hall
Monroe United Methodist Church
2227 4th Street, Monroe, WI 53566

Virtual Option
If preferred, join the service virtually by searching
"Monroe United Methodist Church (WI)" on YouTube

MAKE-A-SMILE CARDS FOR LENA LIVING CENTER – We would like to have **December Cards,** using a **Advent/ Christmas theme** donated next. If you are creative and are a card maker, please be a part of this wonderful venture and please include a sentiment or Bible verse inside the card. A basket will be placed on the table, outside the office, for your beautiful creations and we will get the cards to Good Shepherd Church who in turn will get them to the Activity Director at the Living Center around the 10th of each month. Thank you in advance for your willingness and being part of this venture. For questions, please contact the church office



NOTICE: As church leaders continue to find ways to cut costs, one of the budget items that can be trimmed is the cost of printing contribution envelopes. If you give in other ways, (electronically, automatic withdrawal, etc.) and don't use the physical envelopes that are put in your boxes annually, please let Michelle know in the office so we can update that information in our files and hopefully cut down on our envelope order. Thank you!

Food Drive for the Vets
During the month of November the Lions Club is having a food drive for the veterans. They are looking for food and toiletry items. A box is located outside of the church office. Any help would be greatly appreciated.



Kings Kids Christmas Party

All King's Kids (ages K-5th grade) are invited to attend our Christmas Party on Sunday, December 13th from 11:30am-1:30pm. Lunch will be provided. We will have games, crafts, and fun as we sing "Happy Birthday Jesus"

Friendship Center needs RN's

Due to our current RN's needing to be scheduled off for various reasons in the upcoming months, we are once again in need of permanent- part time, and temporary substitute RN's. Please, if you are an RN, or know of any RN's in the local area that might consider helping at the Friendship Center, please call either Jenny or Denise at the Friendship Center at 815-369-2690 or Michelle in the office at 815-369-4035.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20th 10:30 AM—FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24TH,
CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP— 3:30 PM & 5:30 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH,
CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION—9:00 AM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31ST,
NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION—5:30 PM!

CHRISTMAS SERVICES SIGNUP

Can you believe we are only a month away from Christmas? We will be celebrating our Lord and Savior's birth with two services on Christmas Eve at 3:30 and 5:30pm and 9:00am on Christmas Day. Help is needed! We are looking for people to help out at each service for Greeting, Ushering, Video, Sound, and Acolytes. If you are able to help, in any way, we have placed signup sheets on the office window for your use.

