

December 2024

# The “Good News” Letter

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

203 W. South St., PO BOX 786

**McComb, Ohio 45858-0786**



**Established 1865**

**419-293-3445**

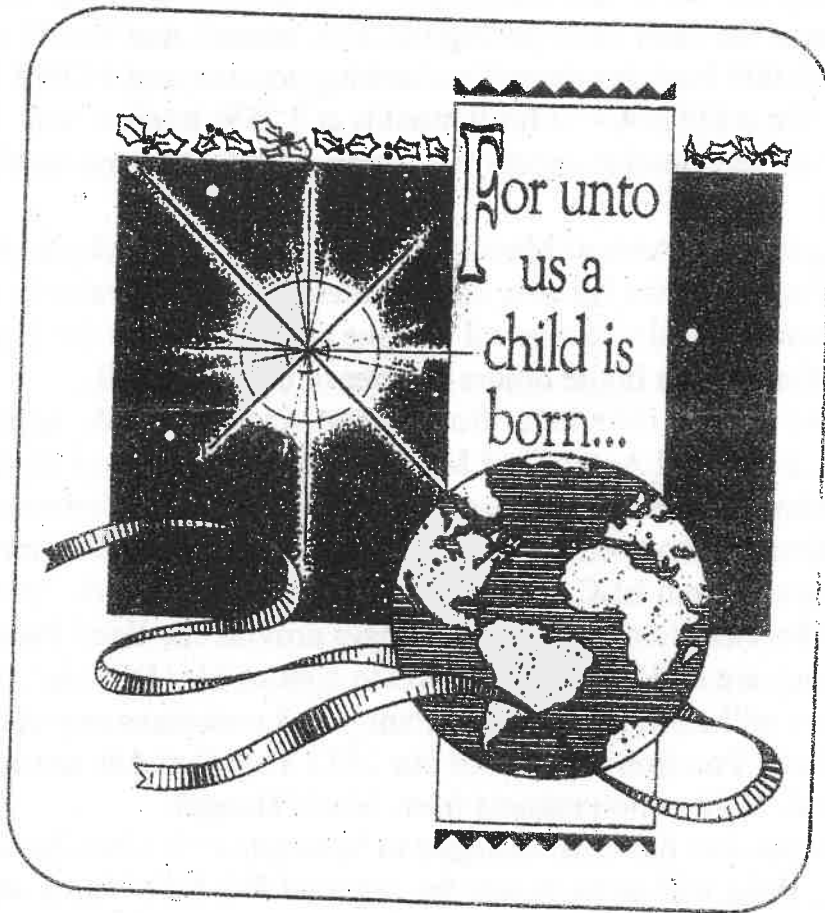
**[sjlcmmccomb@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcmmccomb@gmail.com)**

**Worship 8:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School 9:30 a.m.**

**2024: The Year of Rest!**

THE 'GOOD NEWS' LETTER  
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
December 2024





ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 13, 2024

Members Present: David Sharninghouse, Michele Robles, Carol Cary, and Linda Ross. Devotions led by Carol on God's Promises. Linda will lead December 11 devotions.

Secretary's Report: Reviewed and discussed. Carol moved and Michele seconded this report. All agreed and motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Reviewed and discussed. After Carol shared the information she researched from the bank on investing in CD's, council met briefly and all decided to put \$10,000 from the church's checking account and \$5,000 from our savings account into a \$15,000 CD for 9 months at 3.75% interest rate. Linda moved and Michele seconded to accept this report. All agreed and motion passed.

Old Business: Agenda for Annual Meeting November 17 will include proposed 2025 Budget and nominations for new council members. Carol reports she did ask Carol Yeager to consider joining council and she agreed to do so for 3-yr. term. David will open the floor to invite others to offer to be on council.

-David shared he did receive a letter from Synod via Paul Brooks approving Paul Brooks to serve as a Synod Authorized Minister (SAM) for us and St. Luke's. He is approved to administer the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion.

-Carol shares church correspondence. 1) Thank You from Gideons for our donations. 2) Request from ELCA for additional financial support. 3) Letter from Lutheran Social Services that they will no longer provide the Food Pantry service in Findlay and they are seeking collaboration to continue it. St. John's Lutheran Church in Findlay will continue the Food Pantry and welcomes any of our donations. 4) Thank You from Synod for our 2023 Year End Ask donation to the Micro Grant Fund. 5) Donation request from World Hunger.

-David informs the date has been changed to November 18 when Basinger's Heating and Plumbing will come to add the required Fail Safe Valve which will cost \$1700. Basinger's will then notify Northwest Water this has been completed.

-Michele relates the community is requesting donations of extra Christmas lights we may have at home to decorate the town windows November 17. She also reminded us the sugar cookies for this Christmas celebration need to be taken to the library by November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Council Minutes Cont'd.

New Business: Linda relates Mary and the children are working on the Christmas program which will be on Sunday, December 8.

-The Giving Tree is up and holding many donations already. These will be taken to the school December 15. There are also 2 boxes of T-shirts from LSS to be added to the tree. They are in medium and large sizes.

-Soon it will be decided when the large Christmas tree in the church goes up and decorated.

Carol moved and Michele seconded to adjourn the meeting. All agreed and motion passed. Meeting closed by all praying the Lord's Prayer.

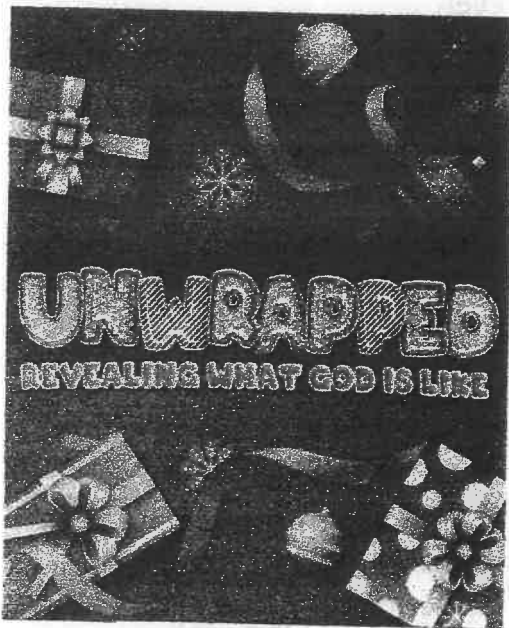
Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Ross, Secretary



- 4-7pm: Cookie Decorating at the VFW**
- 4-7pm: Children's Craft at the Village Office**
- 4-7pm: Christmas Market (local crafts) 103 W. Main St**
- 4-7pm: McComb Emporium Open**
- 4-7pm: Food Trucks and other local food on Main St.**
- 4-7pm: Santa visits the McComb Public Library**
- 4:30-6:30pm: Entertainment at the McComb Fire Dept.**
- 5:30-6:30pm: The Grinch & Cindy Lou Who visit Main St.**
- 5:45pm: Community Tree Lighting**

In our Prayers: John Sharninghouse, Gary Kern, Paul & Sue Maki, Betty Hornbeck, David Cary, LuAnn Beverly, Colene Shoop, Eva George, Eric & Lisa Kreh, Bob, Don Edler, Ashley Edler, Pat Newell, Kelli Sterling, Gordon Myers, Stephanie Smith, and Annette. Pray also for the victims of natural disasters, our shut-ins, all who grieve and all others with special needs.

Congratulations to our Sunday School youth who made the McComb School Honor Roll! Sophomore Rylee Johns and 8<sup>th</sup> grader Taelyn Johns. Keep up the good work girls.



The Children's Christmas Program will be presented on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> during the 8 a.m. church service. The program, "Unwrapped" revealing what God is like, include audience participation and the children's demonstration of the gifts we receive at Christmas.

COME SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN'S PROGRAM.....

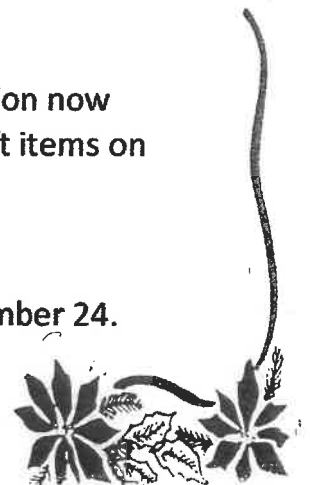
AND.....

CHECK OUT THE 'GIVING TREE'! It is loaded! THANK YOU for all the hats, socks, gloves as well as body wash, deodorants, and shampoo! These items will be packed up on December 18<sup>th</sup> and taken to the McComb and Mohawk schools, City Mission and CHOPIN Hall. Thank you again for giving!!

Friends of the McComb Library is having their annual silent basket auction now through 6 p.m. Thursday, December 12. Lots of very nice Christmas gift items on hand.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE will be held on Tuesday, December 24. Watch for more details in future Sunday bulletins.

<https://facebook.com/SJLGMcComb>



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 17, 2024

President David Sharninghouse called the meeting to order and thanked all for their attendance. Copies of 2023 Annual Meeting minutes and the 2025 Proposed Budget were passed out to all present.

All reviewed the 2023 minutes and no corrections or additions were noted. Jerry McCullough moved and Carol Yeager seconded to accept this report. All agreed and motion passed.

The 2025 Proposed Budget was reviewed by all without any questions or objections. David noted the Sharing Pastor Allowance was kept the same in anticipation of a new pastor. In 2024 we have been sending \$525/month to St. Luke's to pay for Supply Pastor and/or SAMs. Carol Cary moved and Lori McDaniel seconded to accept his budget. All agreed and motion passed.

David opened the floor to nominations for new church council members. Carol Cary nominated Carol Yeager to fill a 3-yr position. Carol Y. had previously agreed to do this. No other nominations were noted. Carol Yeager was welcomed as a 5<sup>th</sup> council member. The present 4 council members agreed to stay on council.

David informs at present our future church leaders will be supply pastors and/or Synodical Approved Ministers (SAM). Paul Brooks (SAM) led our service today and shares the Synod has had no prospective interviews the last 3 months and 60% of our Synod congregations are operating with many forms of alternative pastorship. He notes the shortage of pastor (leaders) is churchwide, not just the Lutheran religion. Not many people are going to seminary for various and numerous reasons (cost of education, salary, etc.) He briefly explained the process Synod proceeds when a pastor expresses interest from our form which is being viewed, starting from Synod interviews to congregational interview leading to positive or negative outcomes. Our Bishop and Synod Committees are exploring new avenues to fill the ministry leadership roles, using innovative paths that would encourage more people to serve. David thanked Paul for sharing this insight in our ongoing journey.

Carol Cary moved and Jerry McCullough seconded to adjourn the meeting. All agreed and motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Linda Ross, Secretary

10/1/2024-  
11/21/2024

**INCOME**

Christmas Families	750.00
Direct Deposit	440.00
Envelopes	5,830.00
Hurricane Relief	550.00
Interest Inc	0.07
Memorial Money	375.00
Mile Of Pennias	70.44
Plate	149.05
Thrivent Choice Fund	13.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>8,177.56</b>

**EXPENSES**

Benevolence	2,700.00
Church Supplies	42.91
Copier	292.01
Gifts	100.00
Insurance	1,880.50
Misc	75.00
Outreach	259.97
Northwestern Synod Repsonce	550.00
<b>TOTAL Outreach</b>	<b>809.97</b>
Service Fee Simply Giving	10.20
Sharning a Supply Pastor	1,050.00
Telephone & Internet	309.96
Utilities	
Water & Sawage	190.48
<b>TOTAL Utilities</b>	<b>190.48</b>
Utilities	
Electric	278.20
Gas	240.00
<b>TOTAL Utilities</b>	<b>518.20</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>7,979.25</b>

**CHRISTMAS STORY: WORD SEARCH**

*Words may be horizontal, vertical, or diagonal,  
forward or backward, and may overlap.*

E L C A R I M N A J F H N Q S S  
 M S G N I D I T H Z H N R W P C  
 H E Y G U Y A X H M K P A R Q T  
 F Q H S R Z J T A G A D N M Y B  
 N R T E W O R R L G D G H A T M  
 Y B A B L I Y O B L E P I N I C  
 D L S N B H R M I N H G I G V X  
 N D E I K Y T N W N T A K E I E  
 C I V U F I G E P I O B U R T T  
 B L G R N A N S B L R R P Z A S  
 T P V R N A U C G T T I X P N D  
 P V Q G I S M C E K E E D L O G  
 H L E W E V E M C N B L H W O J  
 D L I J D W I K I X S S X V V Q B  
 S D O N K E Y T J O S S E P H U T  
 S H E P H E R D S U Z N N Q L U

ANGELS                      GLORY  
 BABY                            GOLD  
 BETHLEHEM                IMMANUEL  
 BETROTHED                INN  
 BIRTH                        JESUS  
 DONKEY                      JOSEPH  
 FRANKINCENSE            MAGI  
 GABRIEL                    MANGER  
  
 MARY  
 MIRACLE  
 MYRRH  
 NATIVITY  
 SHEPHERDS  
 SWADDLING  
 TIDINGS  
 VIRGIN

**St. John's Lutheran Church Proposed Budget for 2025**

<b>ADMINISTRATION:</b>	<b>BUDGET 2024</b>	<b>BUDGET 2025</b>	<b>BUDGET CHANGES</b>
<b>Church Supplies</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Offering Envelopes</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Postage</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>New Checks</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>501 3C Non-profit form</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>\$25.00 every 5 years</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Other Supplies</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>			
<b>Synod Assembly</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Copier Service</b>	<b>\$476.00</b>	<b>\$476.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Umbrella Liability Ins.</b>	<b>\$350.00</b>	<b>\$350.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>insurance</b>	<b>\$3,015.00</b>	<b>\$3,015.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Maintenance</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Misc. Other</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>LEARNING:</b>			
<b>Sunday School Supplies</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Community VBS</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>PERSONNEL EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Pastor Continuing Ed</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Sharing Pastor</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$26,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Supply Pastor</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Pastor Mileage</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>SERVICE:</b>			
<b>Benevolence</b>	<b>\$2,400.00</b>	<b>\$2,400.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Pastor's Discretionary Fund</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>UTILITIES:</b>			
<b>Water&amp; Sewage</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Electric</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Gas</b>	<b>\$1,380.00</b>	<b>\$1,380.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Phone &amp; Internet</b>	<b>\$1,176.00</b>	<b>\$1,176.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>WITNESS:</b>			
<b>Devotional Material</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>WORSHIP:</b>			
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Bulletin Covers &amp; Oil</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>OTHER:</b>			
<b>Groceries</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Real Estate Tax</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Simply Giving Fee</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Youth Activities</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
	<b>\$43,232.00</b>	<b>\$43,232.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>



December Birthdays

- 5 – Carol Yeager
- 14 – Tabitha Siferd
- 20 – Michele Robles
- 28 – Kassidi Sharninghosue
- 29 – Lori McDaniel

God's Helpers for December

Readers:

- Dec. 1 - David Sharninghosue
- Dec. 8 - Lori McDaniel
- Dec. 15 - Carol Cary
- Dec. 22 - Linda Ross
- Dec. 24 -David Sharninghouse
- Dec. 29 - Carol Cary

Worship Leaders:

- Dec. 1 – Susan Kronbach
- Dec. 8 – SAM Paul Brooks
- Dec. 15 – SAM Paul Brooks
- Dec. 22 – SAM Bob Fett
- Dec. 24 – SAM Paul Brooks
- Dec. 29 – SAM Paul Brooks

Altar Care:

Sharon Kreh & Lorene Raney



Calendar of Events

- Dec. 1 – ADVENT BEGINS
- Dec. 1 – Hometown Christmas, 4-7
- Dec. 5 – Set up tree and decorating the church, 9:30 a.m.
- Dec. 8 – Children's Christmas Program, during worship.
- Dec. 10 – Lion's Dinner Mtg. 6:30
- Dec. 11 – Church council Mtg. 5:30
- Dec. 21 – First Day of Winter!
- Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Details to come.
- Dec. 25 – CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS TO ALL!
- Dec. 27 – Newsletter Deadline
- Dec. 31 – HAPPY NEW YEAR!

"PEACE BE  WITHIN YOU."  
Psalms 122:8

T'was the night before Christmas, God glanced over the earth. He looked to and fro, All over it's girth. They missed it again He said with a sigh, A heavy heart and a tear in his eye. I gave them my son, So they could be free. My greatest gift, To them from me. They traded me in, For a man in red. A little tree, And horse drawn sled. How do I save them, And make them see. My love is complete, My grace is free. How do I help them, When all they know. Is a talking snowman, And a box with a bow. Maybe next year, they will stop and see. The biggest gift of Christmas. Is the little child from me.

*Incredible*



Arthur Hume