

*4th Sunday in Advent*  
*December 24, 2023*

*Pastor Daniel Sargent*  
*Jim Seefeldt*

*Lissa Seefeldt, Bob & Kim Pelky*  
*Scott & Sue Schonfeld, Dave & Patti Bornick*

*Pastor*  
*Organist*  
*Greeters*  
*Counting Team*

**PRAYER OF THE DAY** Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

<b>Order of Service</b>	<b>Service of the Word, page 38</b>
<b>Hymns</b>	<b>17, 41, 358, 42</b>
<b>First Lesson</b>	<b>2 Samuel 7:8-16</b>
<b>Psalm of the Day</b>	<b>Psalm 89 (page 98)</b>
<b>Second Lesson</b>	<b>Romans 16:25-27</b>
<b>Gospel Lesson</b>	<b>Luke 1:26-38</b>
<b>Confession of Faith</b>	<b>Apostles' Creed</b>
<b>Sermon Text</b>	<b>Luke 1:26-38</b>
<b>Worship Theme</b>	<b>"Nothing is Impossible for God!"</b>

**Welcome to All** Thank you for joining us in worship today, and a special welcome to our guests who are with us. May the Word and promise of our Lord's love for us in Jesus fill your heart and soul with his peace. If you are a guest with us today, please sign our guest book in the entrance area.

**Prayer Requests** Please remember the following in your prayers:

\*Birthday and wedding anniversary celebrations this week.

Contact Pastor Sargent for any prayer requests and to inform him of any family members entering the hospital.

Also, if you would like a special prayer put in the bulletin, please contact Brenda Polzin or email the request to [stjohngrover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrover@gmail.com) by Wednesday afternoon.

**Counting Teams** The new 2024 Counting Teams Schedules are available on the table with your name highlighted on it. Thank you for helping out in 2024.

**Greeters** The new 2024 Greeting schedule is available on the table with your name highlighted on it. Thank you for helping out in 2024.

**2023 Contributions Christmas Day** will be the **last day** in which we will be accepting contributions, through church, for the 2023 year. Thank you!

**2024 Offering Envelopes** We are getting together info for our 2024 offering envelope list. If you are currently receiving offering envelopes for 2023 and wish to discontinue receiving them for 2024 due to wanting to take advantage of the E-Giving Program or for other reasons, please contact Brenda Polzin by email at [stjohngrover@gmail.com](mailto:stjohngrover@gmail.com) or talk with her or Kevyn Lange directly. Also, if you currently don't receive offering envelopes and wish to, please contact either of them as well.



**Advent Wreath** Our Blessed thanks for donating the Advent wreath and candles in loving memory of Carl & Elfrieda Carlson from their family.



**Christmas Tree and Decorations** Our blessed thanks to the families for donating and decorating the Christ-



mas tree and for the many decorations that beautify our church inside and outside.

### ***Christmas/New Year's Worship Services***

December 24 10:00am St. John Christmas Eve Worship Service


December 24 6:30pm St. John Church & School Children's Program


December 25 10:00am Christmas Day Worship Service

December 31/January 1 There will be the regular 10:00am worship service on **New Year's Eve**. There will not be any **New Year's Day** service.

 **Seroogy Candy Bars** St. John Lutheran Youth Group is selling Seroogy candy bars once again at the cost of \$2.00 each.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**

**Sunday School** We are looking for Sunday School Teachers. If you are interested in helping, let Pastor Sargent  know.

 **Bible Study** Our Bible Study is called "**Grand Themes & Key Words**". There will be no Bible Study on December 24th and 31st . We will come back for Bible Study on January 7, 2024.

**Homebound/Shut-ins** Please take note of our members who are not able to be with us at our Sunday services. Remember them in your prayers and if you are able, reach out to them with a card or a letter.

"We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ." (1 John 1:3)

BETTY NISCHKE

MARY ANN DENOWSKI

The Cottages  
2006 Lake Park Dr Room #109  
Marinette, WI 54143

1025 Pine Beach Rd  
Apt 226  
Marinette, WI 54143

BETTY SEEFELDT  
N1683 County W  
Peshtigo, WI 54157

LOIS SEEFELDT  
1637 Redtail Dr  
Hartford, WI 53027

HARRIET CRISTECK  
831 Pine Beach Rd Room F2  
Marinette, WI 54143

RON & LORETTA KAEMPF  
W4358 County B  
Peshtigo, WI 54157

CECILE SEEFELDT  
Rennes West  
501 N. Lake St  
Peshtigo, WI 54157



***Livestream Volunteers*** We are still in need of volunteers to help with the live-streaming. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Sargent.

***2023 Altar Flowers Sign Up*** A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board to donate flowers for special dates in memory of a loved one or for another special occasion.



***Weekly Bulletins*** You can now find the weekly bulletins on our website(stjohnpeshtigo.org). Go to the website, click on “weekly bulletins”, then click on the link for the bulletin.

***Changes*** To better help us keep our records up to date (address changes, landline disconnection, cell phone numbers, family members move, etc), it would be greatly appreciated if you could fill out a form which is located in the rack in back of church. You may return to any usher, Brenda Polzin, or Pastor.

**Worship & Daily Devotions on WOCO** The worship broadcast on WOCO AM 1260 today (11:00 am) is hosted by *Zion, Peshtigo*. The daily devotions on WOCO AM (1260) & FM (107.1) this week (Monday-Friday at 9:05 am) are hosted by *Christ, Menominee, MI* by Pastor Paul Cole.

**Last Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran**

School Children’s Program 12/16/2023	352
Those Who Joined Us in Worship 12/17/2023	147
Live Stream Service 12/17/2023 (Households)	14
Sunday School/Bible Study 12/17/2023	20/10
Average Sunday Attendance for the Year (50 weeks)	141

**This Week at St. John Ev. Lutheran**

**SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK—SCHOOL RESUMES 1/3/2024**

- TODAY** 10:00am Worship Service
- 6:30pm Children’s Christmas Eve Program
- Monday 10:00am Christmas Day Song Service
- Wednesday NO Confirmation Class
- Sunday **NO** Sunday School/ Bible Study-Resumes 1/7/2024
- 10:00am Worship Service w/WELS Connection
- Next Sunday’s Counting Team: Team “F” - Kevyn Lange, Brent & Wanda Richlen
- Next Sunday’s Greeters: Sally Motkowski & Sue Mylener

**Offerings for the Lord’s Work**

General Fund Income for 12/3/2023	\$ 6,592.88
General Fund Income for 12/10/2023	\$ 5,534.75
General Fund Income for 12/17/2023	\$ 6,662.75
Total General Fund Income (25 weeks)	\$130,568.61
Church Offering Goal: Weekly@\$6,174.50 (25 weeks)	\$154,362.50
(Projection - \$321,074)	

Total Church Offering Goal **Deficit** - \$ 23,793.89

Tuition/School Choice (Projection - \$253,424) \$30,796.21/\$128,609.00

**Included in General Fund Income Total:**

E-giving - \$1,692.75

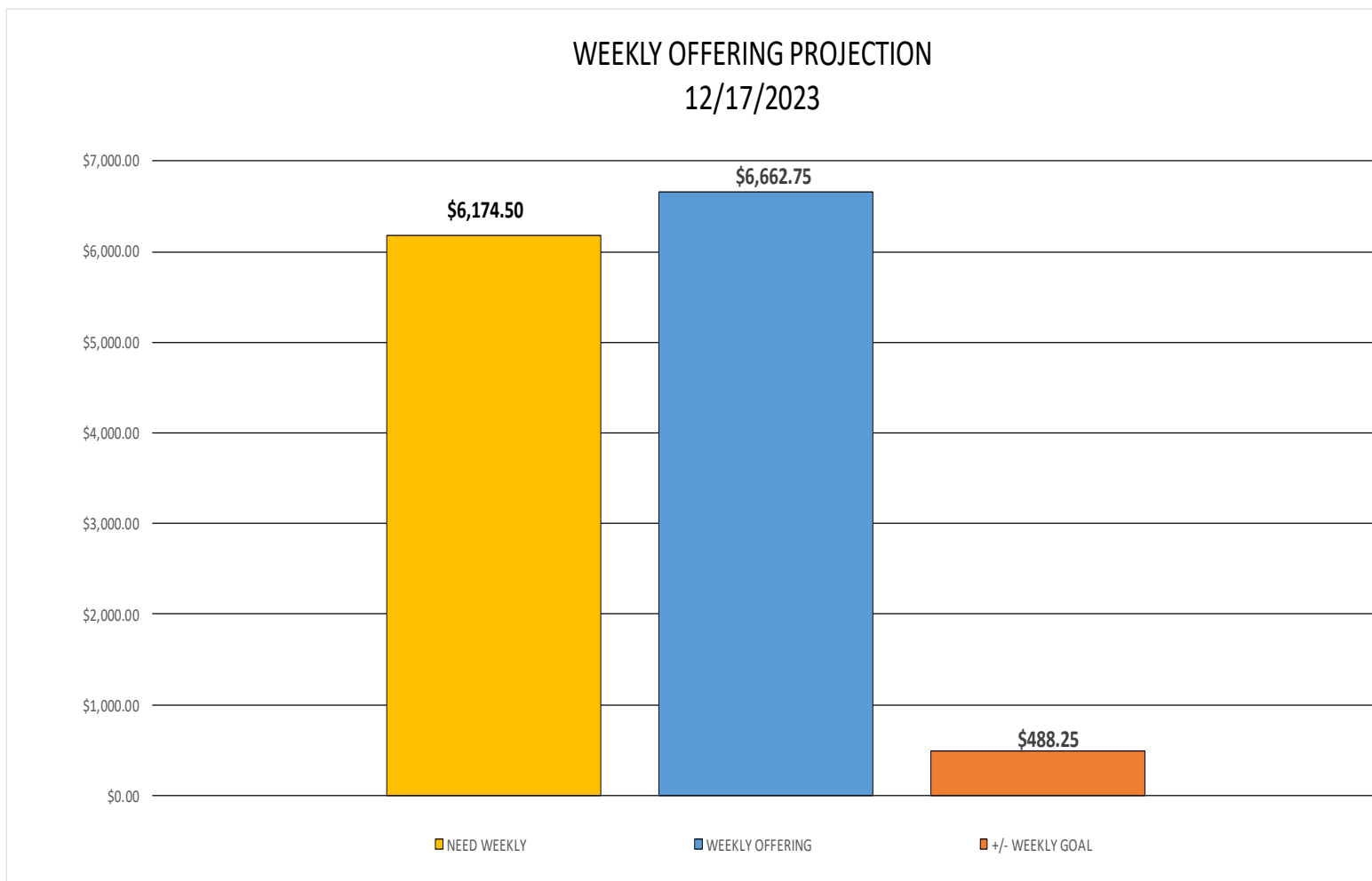
**Special Gifts & Offerings:**

Sunday School Missions - \$1.80; School Missions - \$65.75; Hot Lunch - \$108; Major Mtc/Capital Project - \$2,000

**Memorials & Special Gifts Received:**

CMO - In memory of Love Ones who have entered their eternal home from Jim & Connie Seefeldt

General - In memory of June Schaut from Alvin & Barbara Anderson



## School News

- ⇒ Our St. John School faculty, staff and students would like to wish all the members of St. John, a most blessed Christmas and a healthy and Happy New Year. May you find comfort and joy in the message of hope and salvation that the Christ Child brings.
- ⇒ Our last day of school for the Christmas break was this past Friday, December 22. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 3, 2024.
- ⇒ Thank you to all who attended the Children's Christmas service on December 16. It was wonderful seeing the church so full. The money that was collected for the offering totalled \$602.45 and was given to the Peshtigo Food Pantry to help families in our community this holiday season.

**Link to Electronic giving page.  
Just scan with your phone.**







**FIRST LESSON****2 SAMUEL 7:8-16**

8 You are also to say the following to my servant David. This is what the LORD of Armies says. I took you from the pasture, from following sheep, to be ruler over my people, over Israel. 9 I have been with you wherever you went. I have cut off all your enemies from before you. I will make your reputation great, like that of the great ones on the earth. 10 I will set up a place for my people Israel, and I will plant them there. They will dwell there, and they will not be disturbed again. Violent men will not afflict them again as they did at the beginning 11 and ever since the day I appointed judges over my people Israel. I will give you rest from all your enemies. The LORD also declares to you that the LORD himself will make a house for you. 12 When your days are complete and you rest with your fathers, I will raise up after you your seed, who will come from your own body. I will establish his kingdom. 13 He will build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. 14 I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he sins, I will discipline him with a rod used by men and with blows of the sons of men. 15 My faithful mercy will not depart from him as I removed it from Saul, whom I removed to make room for you. 16 Your house will stand firm, and your kingdom will endure forever before you. Your throne will be established forever.

**PSALM OF THE DAY****PSALM 89 (page 98)****SECOND LESSON****ROMANS 16:25-27**

25 Now to him who is able to strengthen you— according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was veiled in silence for long ages past, 26 but now has been revealed through the prophetic Scriptures and made known to all the Gentiles, in keeping with the

command of the eternal God, resulting in the obedience of faith—  
27 to God, who alone is wise, be glory forever through Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

**VERSE OF THE DAY** Alleluia. The virgin will be with child and will  
give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia.  
(Matthew 1:23)

**GOSPEL**

**LUKE 1:26-38**

26 In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a  
town of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin pledged in marriage  
to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The vir-  
gin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said,  
“Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women.” 29 But she was greatly troubled by  
the statement and was wondering what kind of greeting this could  
be. 30 The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, because you  
have found favor with God. 31 Listen, you will conceive and give  
birth to a son, and you are to name him Jesus. 32 He will be great  
and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give  
him the throne of his father David. 33 He will reign over the house  
of Jacob forever, and his kingdom will never end.” 34 Mary said to  
the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” 35 The angel an-  
swered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of  
the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will  
be called the Son of God. 36 Listen, Elizabeth, your relative, has also  
conceived a son in her old age even though she was called barren,  
and this is her sixth month. 37 For nothing will be impossible for  
God.” 38 Then Mary said, “See, I am the Lord's servant. May it hap-  
pen to me as you have said.” Then the angel left her.

**HAVE A BLESSED WEEK!!!**

## ***150th Anniversary of the Ev. Lutheran Church of St John***

Rev. Carl Heubner from the Wisconsin Synod was sent to serve Lutheran immigrants who had organized congregations in Marinette County. One group was started in 1780 called the German Lutheran Congregation of Peshtigo and Surrounding Territory. On October 8, 1871 the Peshtigo Fire devoured all of Peshtigo and the surrounding territory. The homes, barns, cattle, belongings, and the church building of these members were reduced to ashes. Many lost husbands, wives, and children. Those who survived took courage and wanted a new start for their church. On January 1, 1874 a new congregation was organized. The name they chose was the Ev. Lutheran Saint Johannes Gemeinde. (Ev. Lutheran Church of St. John) It was decided to build a church on three acres donated by Fred Warnecke. In August of 1876 a wooden church building was erected on the very site of our present sanctuary.

We will be remembering this **150th Anniversary** with special prayers on Sunday, December 31, 2023. The Church Elders have set aside the date of **October 13th, 2024** for a special Anniversary Service to be held at 4:00pm with a potluck meal after the service.

The Elders are asking for volunteers to help form an Anniversary Committee for this special service.



## Poinsettias

### In Loving Memory of:

*In loving memory of Loved Ones from Alex & Michelle Sobeck*

*In loving memory of Loved Ones from Janet Lange & Family(2)*

*In loving memory of Gerald Sargent, Elroy & Carole Siebert from Pastor & Lisa Sargent*

*In loving memory of Roy & Burnette Marquardt from Paul Marquardt & Family*

*In loving memory of Adie Robins' Mom from Rod & Adie Robins*

*In loving memory of Loved Ones from Archie & Charlene Hurley*

*In loving memory of Loved Ones from Russell Schonfeld Family*

*In loving memory of Anita Kaus from David Kaus & Family*

*In loving memory of Tom Lemke from Lemke Family*

*In loving memory of Bud & Ann Lemke from Lemke Family*

*In loving memory of Leonard & Ruth Lemke from Lemke Family*

*In loving memory of James Borchert from Borchert Family*

*In loving memory of Larry & Claryce Rohde from Rob Rohde Family*

*In loving memory of Gottlieb & Alice Gannigan from Rob Rohde Family*

*In loving memory of Terry Gannigan & Jack Gannigan from Rob Rohde Family*

*In loving memory of Ron Carlson from His Family*

*In loving memory of Leo Seefeldt from Tom & Rita Seefeldt*

*In loving memory of Donna Swanson from Tom & Rita Seefeldt*

*In loving memory of Ken Nischke from Betty Nischke & Family*

*In loving memory of Loved Ones from Barb Johnston & Family*