

Thursday, November 17, 2011

The notes and December calendar will be sent home on Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

### **FROM THE PRINCIPAL**

As Thanksgiving and Christmas approach, I generally feel overwhelmed and over-extended. There is always so much to squeeze into limited time. I plan to be more thoughtful this year about where and how I spend my time. I need to focus on what is really important about Christmas—Jesus' coming into our world to bring salvation. I encourage you to join me this year in focusing on Jesus as you make decisions for your family activities. St. John offers a number of ways to participate in Christian fellowship as we work together to spread the good news!

St. John School will be entering a float in the lighted Christmas parade scheduled for 7:00 pm on Friday, December 2. The theme of the event this year is "Peace on Earth." Our float will feature a nativity scene with wording indicating that Jesus is Peace on Earth. All students and parents are welcome to participate in the parade walking behind the float. We ask that children come dressed as angels, shepherds or wise men. These don't need to be elaborate costumes and should be over clothes that will keep children warm through the parade. We'll have a drawing in grades 5-8 for students who want to participate by riding on the float as Mary and Joseph. We'll have a drawing in grades K-4 for a few students who want to ride the float as sheep. These drawing winners will have to provide their own simple costumes.

This year at the bazaar we will be serving brunch. The meal will include biscuits and gravy, sausage soufflé, ham and mushroom strata, zucchini squares, spiced warm Christmas salad, deli spirals and coffee cake. Beverages will include coffee, spiced tea, orange juice and water. The brunch planning committee is asking for donations of pork sausage (20 lbs.), cooked ham (10 lbs.) and eggs (28 doz.). Call Dori Smith, Mary Liefer, or the school office if you can make a donation. Thanks in advance for your help.

There are a number of other ways you can donate to the bazaar—craft items, deli items, and time. Please contact Eleanor Clendenin or Shannon Kattenbraker to get involved. We need everyone's help to make this major fundraiser successful. Meanwhile ask around—you'll find most folks have a great time as they work together for the good of our school.

### **Dates to remember:**

Thursday, Nov. 17 – Boys basketball vs Evansville away 6:00 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 18 – EARLY DISMISSAL for K-8 at 12:10 p.m. Preschool/Extended Care and After School Care will run their regular schedule.

Friday, Nov. 18-20 – Collinsville boys basketball tournament

Sunday, Nov. 20 – the Primary Choir will sing at the 10:00 a.m. service

Monday, Nov. 21 – Boys basketball vs St. Mary's home 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 22 – Girls basketball vs Red Bud Catholic away 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 23 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Mid-term; Picture retakes; EARLY DISMISSAL for K-8. Preschool/Extended Care and After School Care will run their regular schedule.  
Thursday, Nov, 24 – Thanksgiving Day Junior Choir sings at the **9:00 a.m.** service  
Thursday & Friday, Nov. 24 & 25 – Thanksgiving Break  
Monday, Nov. 28 – Boys basketball vs Coulterville home 6:00 p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 29 – Girls basketball vs St. John Nashville home 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, Nov. 30 – Mid-terms go home with students Grades 1-8.

### **ACOLYTE SCHEDULE**

Saturday, November 19 at 6:30 pm – Christopher Lang and Calvin Clendenin  
Sunday, November 20 at 7:45 am – Sarah Hecht and Kaylee James  
Sunday, November 20 at 10:00 am – Clayton Richelman and Christian Gray

### **LUNCH MENUS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21 - 23**

Monday, Nov. 21 – Hamburger/Bun, French Fries, Baked Beans, Peaches, Milk  
Tuesday, Nov. 22 – Chopped Turkey Sandwiches, Corn, Strawberries, Cinnamon Pie, Milk  
Wednesday, Nov. 23 – Nachos/Cheese and Salsa, Carrots/Dip, Mixed Fruit/Bananas, Brownies, Milk

### **BOOSTER CLUB NEWS**

The pecans have arrived! Pecans are \$10.00 a one pound bag. They can be purchased in the school office, church office or Karen Doiron (826-4160). The Booster Club did not order as many cases as last year due to the higher cost.

### **SCHOOL PICTURES**

**Picture retakes will be Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.** If you would like to have your child's school picture retaken, please send the entire packet back to the school office. If your child was absent the day the pictures were taken and need a new picture order form, please call the school office.

### **SCRIP ORDERS**

Remember if you are interested in a Scrip order, please turn in orders by Thursday and cards will be sent home the following Thursday. If you need a new Scrip order form, call the school office and we will be happy to send one home. You can call the church office and also shop online.

### **BIBLE STUDY FOR GRADES 8-12**

Teens: Ever been bullied? Ever seen someone get picked on? The Bible study this week, led by Diane Hecht, discusses the root of the problem. And, yes, there are videos to make it fun!

Next week, Mr. Charlie Mattingly will lead the topic, "Count Down." The music video, "Live Like We're Dying," by Kris Allen will help us appreciate our blessings now as we are waiting for something special.

Parents, if you aren't sure your children are interested in Sunday School, bring them and find out. There are many times in their lives that we have to expose them to new activities. Sunday School and Bible Study deal with lessons they will use all their lives.

The church library has more than just children's videos on the shelves. Check out these titles: "A Man of Faith," a book about George W. Bush, and "No Ordinary Men- Having the Heart, Brain, & Courage to Live as Godly Men." For parents, "And Then I Had Kids," gives encouragement for mothers on the go. Another popular book, "10 Mistakes Parents Make with Teenagers and How to Avoid Them," provides valuable insight to raising adolescents. Feel like you don't have time to read? Keep the book as long as you need it.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION**

In an effort to encourage members of our congregation to become more involved and attend our services, I believe we can do this by personally reaching out to people and also getting the attention of the younger generation, as they are the future of St. John Lutheran Church and School. This is possible with our Sunday School program. I am trying to make progress in rebuilding this program so please consider helping by volunteering to teach. At the present time I need teachers for 3rd-4th grades and 5th-7th grades. If several teachers are involved I could create a rotation schedule that may only require each of them to teach once a month or possibly every other month. I plan on using creative and hands on activities to maintain interest, however, I need help in doing so this. You may contact me (Joby Petrowske) at 826-2176 or call the church office 826-3545.

### **EIGHTH GRADE FUNDRAISER**

The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class of 2012 is selling Domino's Pizza Cards for \$10. Each card has 10 pizza offers. Four offers are buy 1 pizza at menu price and receive one free. The other six offers are buy 1 large pizza and get 1 medium single topping free. If you are interested, please contact one of the eighth grade students or stop by the church office. Thank you!