



ST JOHN AMELITH PARISH NEWS

November 2023

From The Pastor

“And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.” Colossians 3:15

Whether it is a month designated to give thanks like November or that Facebook challenge for posting 100 days of thankfulness, this year is special for my wife and me to share with you at St. John and that is reason enough for us to give thanks. You were generous in your welcome. You helped to feed your pastor when his wife was still away in Wabash. You have continued to explain and show what life is like at St. John and the school. Thanks are in order but it extends further to God our Father who has been exceedingly gracious to us all in Jesus Christ.



Luther in the Large Catechism does not dismiss the heartaches of a fallen creation or fears that arise over the hands of sinners. However, the unusual goodness with life does allow the Christian to return to God as the Creator. He states, “Thus our hearts will be warmed and kindled with gratitude to God and a desire to use all these blessings to his glory and praise” (Tappert 413:23). Whatever we have at this moment is enough, which neither erases the problems nor hard decisions before life. Instead, thankfulness in whatever we receive still rests upon the same promise of faith in God and love for one another.

This takes us to what makes our Lutheran Confession distinct, because it belongs to the peace of Christ; a thankful justifying by God of sinners that is not in our hands, hearts or minds and it belongs to nothing in creation itself. Our Lord told His disciples, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you” (John 14:27). To be called by the Gospel of forgiveness is what we share as the baptized saints at St. John. Sounds simple enough, yet St. Paul shows the fact of Christ for you and me by His Word and Sacraments is to “rule in your hearts.” Rule here is not like the Law’s demands or the regulations of men. It is less what and more who, which takes us to Christ alone.

His peace mediates or umpires all things that belong to life and salvation. You might not see it that way considering how much instability and fears there are today, but recall the kind of peace Christ won. First, an eternal promise with God stands upon Jesus as Savior but He is also walking with us through these times as the Lord. The Psalmist David dealt with plenty, but he kept turning Israel back to the truth, “May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!” (Psalm 29:11) Likewise, when Paul claims the peace of Christ to rule in hearts it is enough to say, “And be thankful.” Such strength and blessings from God does thankfully let us use whatever we receive to be for His glory and praise.

O Give thanks unto the Lord for He is good,

Pastor



Students, Staff, and "Friar Gauthier" had a Costume Parade on Friday, October 27, to coincide with their classroom Fall Festival Parties.



Cardinal Connection

My Classroom Faces a What?!

When I first arrived at St. John School years ago, I was a bit taken aback that my classroom was facing a cemetery. My students at the time were quick to assure me that it was ok, because, in their words, "Those are the people who made it possible for us to have this school!"

What a demonstration of the understanding of why we celebrate All Saints Day in the Church! Those students recognized the faithfulness of generations before them who worked and likely sacrificed so they could enjoy the blessings of a Christian education. All Saints Day gives us an opportunity to remember the legacy of faithful Brothers and Sisters and to encourage us in our faith walk while still here on Earth.

We recently learned that one of our preschool students, Jacob Milkowski, has the distinction of being the 6th generation of his family to attend St. John Amelith School! Talk about a heritage and legacy! Generations of his family have faithfully partnered with the members of St. John to raise their sons and daughters in the Christian faith and to extend God's kingdom here on Earth. Praise be to God for the faithfulness of all those who have gone before us in faith!

Mrs. Pat Hambaum

St John Quarter One High Honor Roll

3.51 - 4.0 GPA

Blake Henry
Lydia Geno

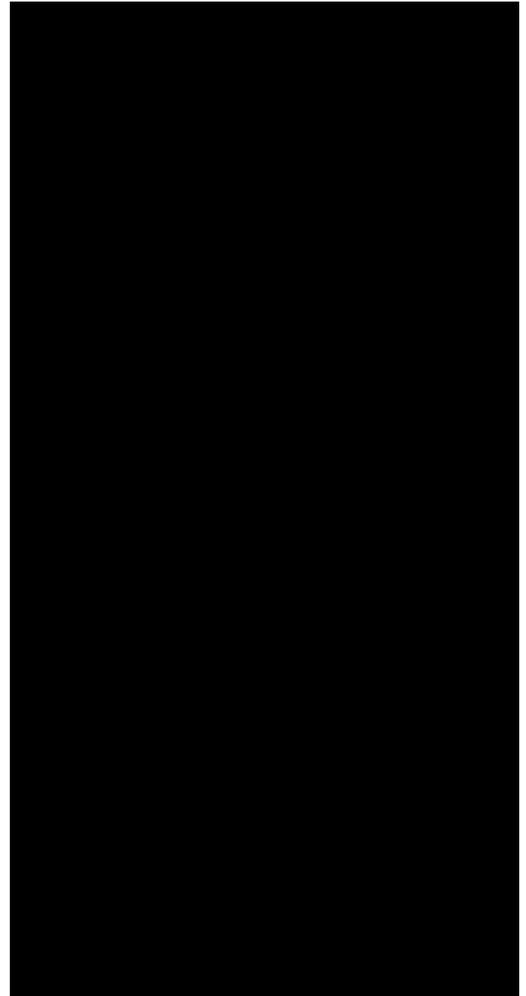
Nicklas Corbat
Lyla McFarland

Honor Roll

3.0 - 3.5 GPA

Carter Fick
Emma MacDonald
Tyler Rau

Raegan Wearn
Shay Kukulski
Lucas Tyll



The Kindergarten class learned about Jacob's dream (Genesis 28) where he saw angels ascending and descending from heaven to earth and heard God's promise to always be with him. Here are a few angel illustrations drawn by the class.



Thanksgiving Pantry Gathering

During this time of year when cold days return and fields are being harvested, we are mindful of our neighbors who are in need of help. From now until Thanksgiving, St John Amelith will be collecting non-perishable food items, hygiene goods, cleaning and paper products; all to be given to families who are in dire need of assistance. Please leave the items in the Narthex and watch the gathering grow!

St John Boosters Butterbraid Fundraiser



Now is the time to prepare for the upcoming holiday season as well as support our favorite school, St John Amelith. Proceeds from butterbraid purchases will go to assist funding educational outings, support end of the year activities, and provide for staff appreciation, as well as many other miscellaneous projects for our students.

The sale has begun and will end Thursday, November 16th.

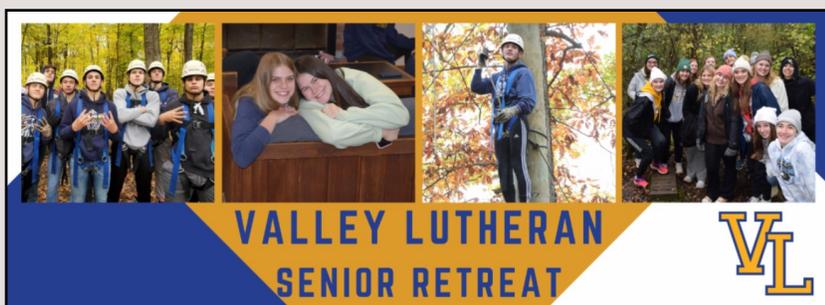
Pick Up will be Wednesday, November 29th, after 3:00 p.m.

Extra Order forms can be found in the church narthex. Please turn in all orders and money (cash or check) to the school office by Thursday, November 16th. Please make checks payable to "St. John Amelith."

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jackie Town (989)274-0880.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ST. JOHN BOOSTERS!!

VLHS *Ministry Update*



Senior Retreat - On October 20-22, Valley Lutheran held their Senior Class Retreat at Camp Copneconic in Fenton. The weekend was filled with laughter, fun, and faith. Thank you to all of the VL faculty and staff for making this an enjoyable event for our seniors.

VL's FIRST Robotics Team - Starting in January, Valley Lutheran will have its own competitive robotics team. FIRST robotics competitions combine the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and technology.

Portugal and Spain Trip - You're Invited!! Miss Jeanette Weilnau, in partnership with EF Educational Tours, is leading a trip to Portugal and Spain in the Summer of 2025 for families and friends of Valley. Together we will explore the beautiful Portuguese towns of Lisbon, Evora, and Sagres before traveling along the coast of Spain where we will visit The Costa del Sol, Gibraltar, Granada, Valencia, and Barcelona. This 12-day tour is sure to be an unforgettable experience! Enrollment is already open. For more information please contact Miss Weilnau at jweilnau@vlhs.com.

Fruit Sale Deadline Approaching! - Fruit sale orders will be accepted through next Wednesday, November 8. Fruit can be purchased through your student, by calling the school office, or online at www.vlhs.com/fruit.

Fall Bazaar - The annual Fall Bazaar will be held on November 11, 2023 from 9am-3pm. Lunch will be available from 11am-1pm. Mark your calendars to attend! Any questions regarding the bazaar can be directed to Heidi Eichinger at heidieichinger2019@gmail.com or Heidi Behnke at hbehnke@vlhs.com.

The VLHS Drama Department invites you to

Fly Babies

by Rusty Harding

Nov. 2, 3, 4
VLHS Gym

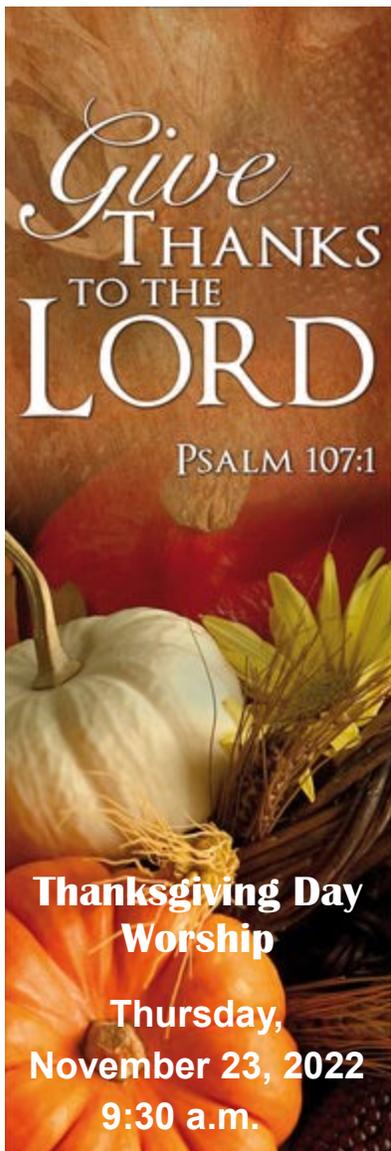
Tickets available at the door

FALL 

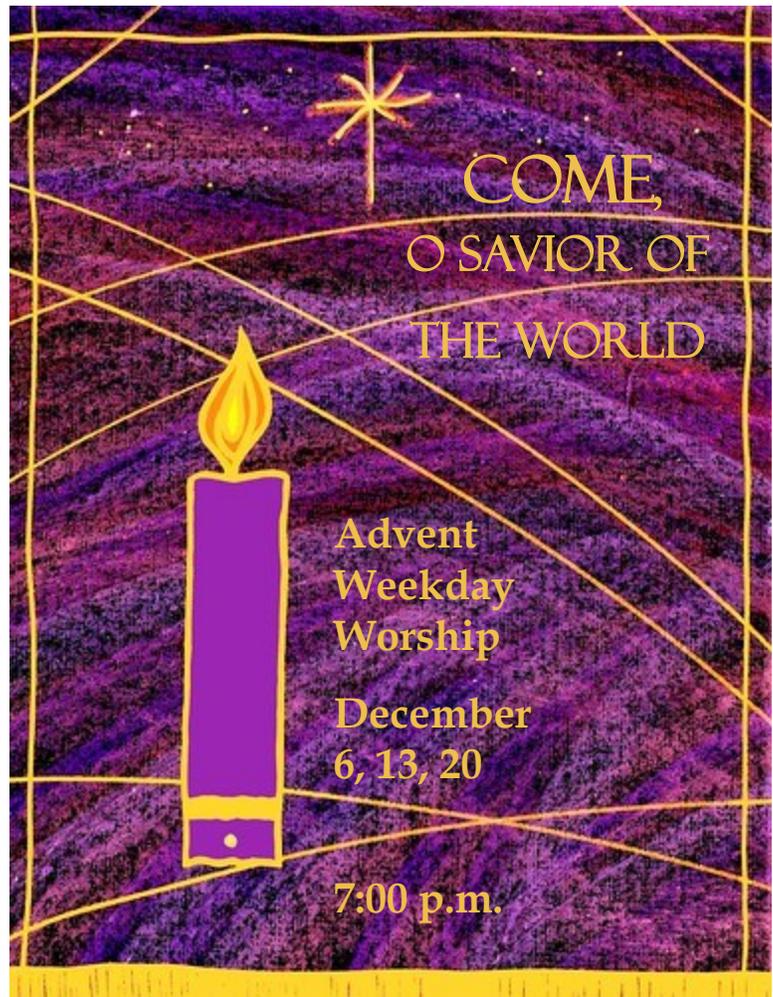
INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT

VLHS
November 12
3 p.m.





Looking Ahead...



Rooted in God's Word, Growing in Christ's Love, Branching Out to Serve, Bearing Fruits of Faith

Contact Us

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