MESSENGER NEWSLETTER
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

"The small church with a BIG heart: Ordinary people
With an extra ordinary message!

Pastor Ryan Groh (Church) (573) 395-4591
E-Mail: stjohnslutheranjcmo@gmail.com
Web Site: www.stjohnslutheranjc.com

Schubert
4409 St. John's Road
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Babbtown (Near Meta)
7075 Highway P
Westphalia, MO 65085

Volume 58, Issue 1 **JANUARY, 2026**

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Schubert and Babbtown Newsletter
Calendar for JANUARY, 2026

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

BABBTOWN

Sunday Worship
8:00 A.M. Worship with (Holy Communion)
Bible Study and Sunday School 9:10 A.M.

SCHUBERT

Sunday Worship
Sunday school
9:15 A.M.
Bible study 9:30 A.M.
10:00 A.M. Worship with (Holy Communion)
Also Streaming on Vimeo and Facebook

JANUARY AT GLANCE

Jan 5	Men's Bible Study 6pm
Jan 6	Pastor gone for Circuit Meeting
Jan 7	Wkday/Confirmation 6-7pm, Church Council 7pm
Jan 11	Schubert Voters' Meeting and Pancake Lunch
Jan 12	Private Confession 5pm Open Bible Study 6pm
Jan 13-14	Pastor gone for PALS
Jan 14	Wkday/Confirmation 6-7:30pm
Jan 18	Schubert Friendship Sunday (No Communion)
Jan 20	Women's Bible Study 10am
Jan 21	Wkday/Confirmation 6-7:30pm
Jan 26	Private Confession 5pm Open Bible Study 6pm
Jan 28	Wkday/Confirmation 6-7:30pm

Help us, O Lord! Behold, we enter
Upon another year today;
In Thee our hopes and thoughts now center,
Renew our courage for the way.
New life, new strength, new happiness,
We ask of Thee – oh, hear and bless!

TLH 120 "Help Us, O Lord! Behold, We Enter"

Dear Saints,

As we begin a new year, things in our lives may be different – new jobs, new health challenges, new joys, and new struggles. No matter the changes, though – whether good changes or bad – there is One who does not change, One who is the same yesterday and today and forever (Heb. 13:8), and that is our Lord. The same God who was faithful in 2025 will be faithful in 2026.

As the hymn above puts it so eloquently, "In Thee our hopes and thoughts now center, Renew our courage for the way." It is in God that we place our hope, for St. Paul writes, "Through [Jesus Christ] we have also obtained access by faith into this grace into which we stand, and we rejoice in hope in the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Rom. 5:2-5). We pray that the Lord would ever renew our courage for the way, for the year that lies ahead, that we would be strengthened through His Word and through His Sacraments to walk faithfully in our lives in service to Him.

May the Lord bless and keep you this year!

Soli Deo Gloria,
Pastor

SPEAKING FOR LIFE:

"Our task is to make sure that our fellow Lutherans and our neighbors know how much God loves us just as we are. Look at this fingerprint: God made each of us unique. There is no one else just like you. God knew you before you were born (Jeremiah 1:5). He knitted you together in your mother's womb. You were fearfully and wonderfully made, and God had a plan for your life even before you took a breath in this sinful, beautiful world that He created for you (Psalm 139:13-16)." Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Evangelism Report:

Friendship Sunday will be January 18th, with the traditional basket dinner for lunch. More details to come!

Mission Sunday will be February 15th.

Care kits are available in the side entrance. Please feel free to take one and give it to someone in need.

Prayer chain requests, please text Molly Boeckmann at 573-338-4309

BRIEFS FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD

[1] What I have hitherto and constantly taught concerning this I know not how to change in the least, namely, that by faith, as St. Peter says, we acquire a new and clean heart, and God will and does account us entirely righteous and holy for the sake of Christ, our Mediator. And although sin in the flesh has not yet been altogether removed or become dead, yet He will not punish or remember it.
[2] And such faith, renewal, and forgiveness of sins is followed by good works. And what there is still sinful or imperfect also in them shall not be accounted as sin or defect, even [and that, too] for Christ's sake; but the entire man, both as to his person and his works, is to be called and to be righteous and holy from pure grace and mercy, shed upon us [unfolded] and spread over us in Christ. [3] Therefore we cannot boast of many merits and works, if they are viewed apart from grace and mercy, but as it is written, 1 Cor. 1:31: *He that glorieth*, *let him glory in the Lord*, namely, that he has a gracious God. For thus all is well. [4] We say, besides, that if good works do not follow, faith is false and not true.

— **Smalcald Articles Part III, Article XIII**

The small church with the big heart proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ

St. John's Lutheran Church, Schubert

FRIENDSHIP Sunday IS JANUARY 18

Our Friendship Sunday tradition at St. John's reminds us to give thanks for the many blessings we share with our family in Christ, and our neighbor down the street.

To give God the glory, we hope you'll attend Sunday School or Bible Study, and the Worship Service with us on this special day.

We encourage you to bring a guest, but PLEASE don't stay away if you don't invite someone.

And because it wouldn't be a true St. John's tradition without food, we'll have a Basket Lunch following Worship too. Stick around—and bring a favorite dish to share!

Whether you bring yourself, a relative, a friend, or someone new to hear the Gospel, Friendship Sunday is the perfect time to be at St. John's, where we are all...

One in Christ!

"If I then, your Lord and Teacher,
have washed your feet,
you also ought to wash one another's feet.
For I have given you an example,
that you should do just as I have done to you."

John 13: 14-15

Be strong and courageous.
God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

VDMA
THE WORD OF THE LORD REMAINS FOREVER

JANUARY 2026

Usher Schedule

Jan 4 Gene Walkenhorst
Andy Beach
Jan11 Gene Walkenhorst
John Hanes
Jan18 Gene Walkenhorst
Skyler Haslag
Jan25 Gene Walkenhorst
Matt Belcher

Communion Assistants

Jan 4 Allan Forbis
Gene Walkenhorst
Jan11 Mark Russell
Gary Stroup
Jan18 Allan Forbis
Gene Walkenhorst
Jan25 Mark Russell
Gary Stroup

Greeters

Jan 4 Donna Skelly, front
Jennifer Hanes, side

Jan11 Mary Vida, front
Mary Kuhllmann, side

Jan18 Linda Brenner, front
Donna Skelly, side

Jan25 Jennifer Hanes, front
Mary Vida, side

Sunday School Offering

Jan 4 Kennady Grothoff

Jan11 Kaelynn Haslag

Jan18 Presley Haslag

Jan25 Henry Householder

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

(Schubert)

Jan 1 Terry Brenner
Morgan Householder
Gretchen Junkans
Mary Kosacki
Mark, Sherri, and Brady Russell
Will Spurgeon
Jan 4 Jan Titus
Angela Tynes
Jan 5 Anne Mueller
Jan 6 Calvin Prohaska
Jan11 Debra Rademan
Jan14 Ryan Braun
Harper Williams
Jan16 Larry Dippold
Jan17 Claire Ludwig
Dale Schmutzler
Jan18 Caleb Kollmeyer
Jan19 Terry Walkenhorst
Jan22 Hayden Smasal
Jan26 Kevin Lohraff
Jan30 Lynn Lofton
Jan31 Oliver Mistler
Nicole Toerper

(Babbtown)

Jan 3 Carla Nilges

FEBRUARY, 2026 NEWSLETTER Items are due JANUARY 18, 2026

Newsletter items may be placed in Pastor's mailbox.

Or they may be e-mailed to stjohnslutheranjcmo@gmail.com

Any announcement: Weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, personal notes, pictures or church related business are welcome.

JANUARY 2026 CHURCH CLEANING
Jim Backman
Ronda Williams

ALTAR GUILD
Deb Rademan
Karen Forbis