#### St. John's United Methodist Church



#### Reflections from the Rev.

No One Said it Would be Easy

For November I want to talk about a subject that I'm pretty sure most of us are familiar with, trials and tribulations. I realize that no one said this life would be easy. But these last few years have certainly put us all to the test. And I dare say that perhaps even our faith has been tested.

Christian faith is different from any other religion in the world. It is different because of the very nature of grace. Grace does not require great works. It is a gift from God. We do not and could not have a chance of ever earning it. We will never be worthy of heaven. And even if we tried we would never measure up.

Every other religion in the world is based on doing just that. Earning one's way into the presence of their gods. Trying to live a life that would be worthy of their gods. But the Bible tells us that it is beyond our power to earn our way into heaven. So in order to bridge the gap, Christ, God's son, conquered death, doing what we could not do. Our one requirement, our one action, simply believe.

That seems easy. And boy, do we like easy. Complicated, hard. Ooo, don't you hate those words. Staples made a fortune by selling the concept that it is easy to order office supplies from them. Who remembers the "Easy Button"? Yes, Staples even sold toys to remind people to order from them.

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So, we are saved by grace. That part is easy. However, that was only the beginning, the starting bell, the first step. Faith is where the real work begins.

Jesus' disciple and friend Peter put's this process in perspective in his first letter to the churches he started.

Look at what he says in 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Did he say suffering various trials? Did he talk about being tested (gulp) by fire? That's not easy.

But think about it, what in life is truly worth anything if it's easy. Marriage isn't easy but it can be one of the most rewarding experiences in our lives. And those who expect it to be easy are not married for very long. Being a parent is not easy. It brings great joy AND great heartache. Anything that's worth anything takes hard work. Even when we play, it takes hard work. And through the work we find accomplishment and satisfaction.

So, faith real faith is never easy. Salvation is not earned, but faith takes work. Work that may mean suffering. When we ask God to send the Holy Spirit into our lives we are asking Him to put us to work. We are asking him to change us from the inside out. Yes it is Christ that washes us clean. But then, then...the Holy Spirit begins to paint a new picture of our lives.

Peter knew that easy faith was no faith at all. And that we as humans are always at our best when we meet a challenge. So real faith is tempered and sharpened in fire and suffering. You think you have faith. let's test that. How much are you willing to suffer for it? Walk through fire for it? Do you have the gumption to put your faith to the test?

Real faith takes steadfast commitment. It takes endurance and it takes dedication. It's not easy, it's not quick, and it can cost us dearly.

We don't volunteer to suffer to be worthy of God love and redemption. We accept it as a possibility because of the love God gives us. If we suffer, it means the refining of our faith. If we suffer let us pray for the strength to remember the gift we've already received.

Yes, easy is nice occasionally. However, easy never amounts to much. And it doesn't produce an enduring or joyful faith.

Jesus loves each of us greatly. So much that he volunteered to suffer our fate. Now in gratitude can we be willing to ourselves on the line for Him? Yes that could mean suffering for a short time. But, believe me we are still getting the best side of the deal.

Rev. Amy



## A Message from Our Finance Team

### Finance Report for September

	Sept. 2025	Sept. 2025 (PY)	\$ Change	% Change
Tithes & Offerings	\$11,708.61	\$12,652.68	(\$944.07)	(7.46%)
Other Income	\$6,509.67	\$495.93	\$6,043.74	1297.13%
<b>Total Income</b>	\$18,218.28	\$13,118.61	\$5,099.67	38.87%
Total Expenditure	\$22,924.89	\$23,479.51	(\$55.62)	(2.36%)
Net Income	(\$4,706.61)	(\$10,360.90)	\$5,654.29	54.57%

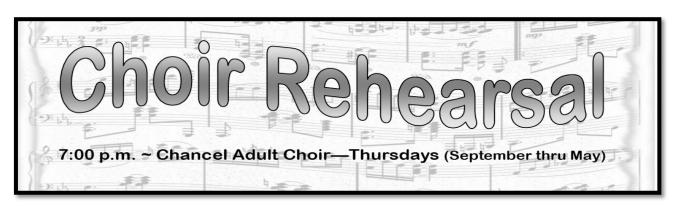
#### **Year-to-Date Finance Report through September 2025**

	Jan-Sept. 2025	Jan-Sept. 2024 (PY)	Change	% Change
Tithes & Offerings	\$96,657.58	\$107,887.17	(\$11,229.60)	(10.41%)
Other Income	\$49,938.27	\$26,056.98	\$23,881.29	91.65%
Total Income	\$146,595.85	\$133,944.15	\$12,651.70	9.45%
Total Expenditure	\$230,810.06	\$213,462.93	\$17,347.13	8.13%
Net Income	(\$84,214.21)	(\$79,518.78)	(\$4,695.43)	(5.90%)



# Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Modern Praise 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship and Christian Folk Worship Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

November 2nd	Sad, Strange Little Man Scripture: Luke 19:1-10 NRSVUE
November 9th	God of the Living Scripture: Luke 20:27-38 NRSVUE
November 16th	The Peaceable Kingdom Scripture: Isaiah 65:17-25 NRSVUE
November 23rd	Guest Speaker: District Superintendent: Rev. Timote Piukala
November 30th	1st Sunday ~ Advent Light of the World: The Meaning of Memory Scripture: Luke 1: 67-79 NRSVUE



### Greetings from the Parish Nurse



Hello Everyone! It is well and truly Fall now and we are inundated with pumpkin spice everything and if course Christmas everything is out too.

As we are encouraged to rush rush to all of the activities and errands we do normally and also to all of the things we are pressured to do by all of the marketing and advertising we are bombarded with please remember to breathe and remember what is truly important, and relax.

I have an announcement. I have joined Serenity Home Health and Hospice on an as needed basis as a hospice nurse. The company is in the Bullhead City/Kingman area and I decided to make myself available on a part time basis.

Hospice is a medicare benefit. The patient stays at home and receives support from the hospice to help the patient be comfortable until their time comes. A team is made available to the patient with a physician, a nurse, a nurse aide, a social worker, and a chaplain. Necessary supplies are provided as well as equipment, including a hospital bed. Medications related to the condition they are on hospice for are also provided. If there are any questions, please ask.

Hope you all have a happy Thanksgiving!

In Sickness and in Health
Linda Tucker RN MSN
Parish Nurse

# A Message from Our Lay Leader

#### Reaching Out

For October Rev. Amy wrote in the church newsletter about stewardship. She listed many of our activities and outreaches of the church. As Janitor for our church I would like to add my perspective on the use of our church.

The trash cans in our Multi-Purpose Room are filled and emptied about three times per week. (not always by me, others take them out as well). When I mop the kitchen floor, I am surprised how dirty it is in only 2 or 3 days. Sometimes it is hard to find a time to clean a space because it is occupied so often. These are not complaints but cause for celebration. Our property is an active and useful space. Rev. Amy and I were trying to guestimate the number of meals served in our church every week. We came up with a yearly average of about 45 meals per week, not including all of the snack times. Many of those meals maybe half, are not for church members. Other groups meeting here monthly and annual potlucks or dinners.

We are truly a community church. The Pumpkin Patch Church. The community gets used to our faces and our spaces. We are not strangers in a strange place. This is an important part of reaching out to others. I think that people come to our food pantry as much to visit with us as they do for the food. We have created a place where people can feel that they belong.

This church is a blessing to our Community.

In His Love

Terry Crawford
Lay Leader



#### **ADULT BIBLE STUDIES**

#### Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesdays at 8 a.m.

#### **Adult Bible Study**

Wednesday Bible Study
Potluck at 5:30 p.m. followed by Study at 6 p.m.



#### **Board of Trustees** ~ Meets 1st Tuesday of Each Quarter at 5:30 p.m.

(January, April, July, October)

Next meeting is: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 in the Resource Center

#### **Nurture Team** ~ Meets 3rd Thursday of Each Quarter at 4:00 p.m.

(January, April, July, October)

Next Meeting is: Thursday, January 15, 2026 in the Resource Center

#### **Finance Team** ~ Meets the 4th Tuesday of Each Quarter at 5:00 p.m.

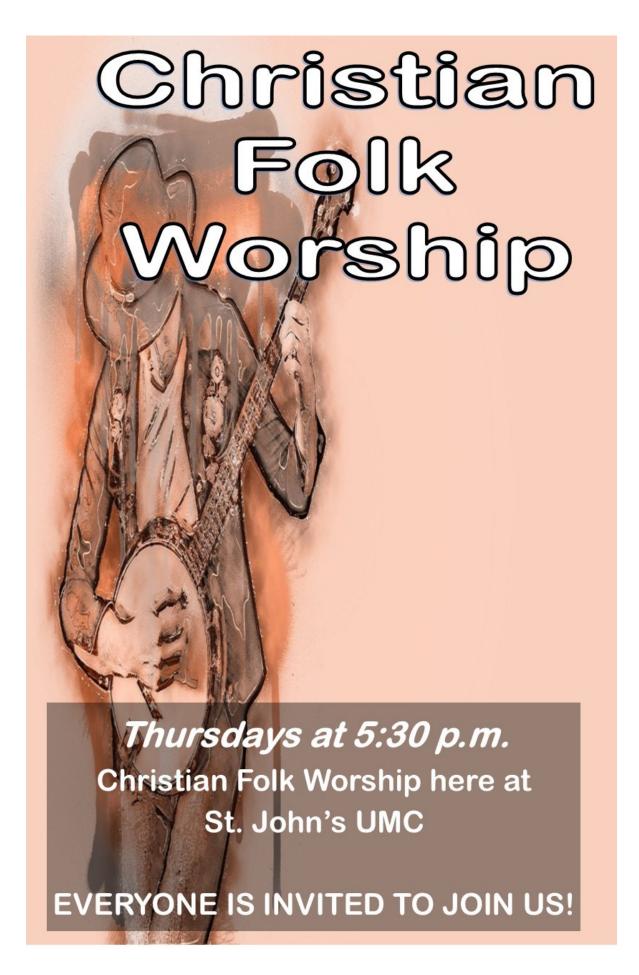
(January, April, July, October)

Next meeting is: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 in the Resource Center

#### **Church Council** ~ Meets the 4th Tuesday of Each Quarter at 5:30 p.m.

(January, April, July, October)

Next meeting is: Tuesday, January 27, 2026 in the Resource Center





EVERYONE IS INVITED!!!
Friday, November 14, 2025 at
1:00 p.m.
For our Filipino Fellowship
Luncheon
Here at St. John's
(1730 Kino Avenue, Kingman)
Please Bring a Dish to Share



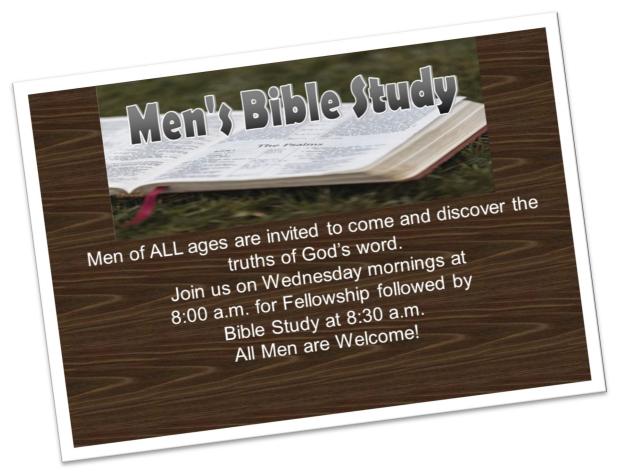


# Spring Fling 2026 Kick-Off/Planning Meeting Friday, November 7, 2025 at 12:30 p.m.



Annual Church Conference
With our District Superintendent:
Rev. Timote Piukala
Sunday, November 23rd
ALL are encouraged to attend









'Christmas Giving Tree'
Specifically for Winter Apparel
We are in need of the following:
Gloves; Scarves; Socks; Winter Hats
These items will help our Clothing Closet
provide our clientele with warm attire during
our winter months.
We thank you and appreciate the generosity
of your donations.

God's Blessings,
The St. John's UMC Missions Team



Please plan to join us after our
10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship on November 30th
to help decorate the church.
We will also have a souper luncheon.
Let's make our church the perfect
'Home for Christmas'!

### **Advent Lunches**

Advent Lunches are a time once a week for 3 weeks during Advent for us to come together for a Short Worship followed by Lunch and Fellowship.

Advent Lunches will be Fridays December 5, December 12, and December 19 beginning at 12:30 p.m.

### Christmas Worship Schedule

December 21st at 4:00 p.m.

Blue Christmas

at Grace Lutheran Church
(2101 Harrison Street, Kingman, AZ)

December 24th

Modern Christmas Eve: 3:30 p.m.

Traditional Christmas Eve: 7 p.m.

No Service Christmas Day

All Services include Candlelight Ceremony



Nana's Pantry located here at St. John's UMC is:

### OPEN FRIDAYS FROM 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

St. John's UMC also has a small clothing closet that is open on Fridays during our Food Box distributions

If you are interested in being part of this ministry here at St. John's, please contact Heidi in the Church Office at: (928) 692-8828 or st.johns@citlink.net

#### **DONATIONS NEEDED:**

Canned Veggies; Canned Meat; Canned Beans; Canned Fruit; Spaghetti Sauce; Dried Pasta; Rice; Cereal; Canned Soup; Mac & Cheese; Toilet Paper

We are currently accepting donations of Clothes for our Clothing Closet.

Are in need of:

Men's Clothing especially

Jeans, Shirts, Socks, and Shoes

We will also be accepting donations of: Bath Towels; Bedding and Blankets

ALL items MUST be clean and laundered

#### Prayers for our North District Churches

As part of the United Methodist connection we pray to support one another in ministry. During the month of November please pray for these churches, ministries, pastors, congregations, and communities.

- 1) Trinity Heights UMC, Flagstaff, Arizona
- 2) University UMC, Las Vegas, Nevada



#### Pray Every Day for our Military Members—

Devin Arrants, Brian Barnacle, Justin Bayles, John Belcher, Chris Bradley, Greg Brewer, Dan Brocklehurst, Stacie Brown, Brady Burr, Ryan Burr, Erik Burris, Lucas James Butler: Clint Caldwell, Bobby Carlson, Charles Carroll, Nathanial Castor, Amber Caswell, Richard Cole, Anthony Costa, Jenny Dalton, Colin Dyer, Daniel Eagan, Karen Eagan, Anthony Elliot, Adam Ernesti, Austin Ernesti, Ben Ferrell, Christie Francis, Adam Georges, Ethan Granger, Holly Gibbons, Joey Gormany, Brenton Green, George Hatchell Jr., Colin Arno Henry; Camerron Higbee, Jessica Huffer, Isaiah Huynh, Brian Illes, Jeremiah Johnson, Travis Johnson, David Kent, Jeffery Lederhouse, Ryan Miller, Danny Morales, Jennifer Parker, Jonathan Parker, Katrina Powell, Tyler Radcliffe, Will Ray, William Ritchie, Juan Roman, Jamuel Ruiz, Bryson Salazar, Ben Schwartfigure, Sean Schwartfigure, Jared Shulpa, Matthew Simone, Troy Smith, Daniel Travis, Jeff Vicario, Ashley Caswell Walker, Andrew Weatherford, Jason Williams, Chad Wright

#### Long Term Prayer List

To make changes to this list, please call the church office at (928) 692-8828

Monday thru Thursday from 8 a.m. —4 p.m. or email us at stjohnsprayerchain@citlink.net.

We make every effort to keep the names on this list current, and we have a quarterly meeting to do so. Your help is appreciated so please do not hesitate to contact us.

Family of Roger Anders; Family of Carol Anderson; Lois Baker; Family of Warren Bard; Family of Susan Bethel; Jennifer Casey; Nicole Castro; Dale Conner; Sally Diehl; Debra Eberly; Gary Forde; Steven Frazine; Family of Arno Gates; Patty George; Dana Godfrey; Jeffrey Gordon; Carol Halen; Jean Hardy; Spencer Hess: Paula Hupp; Family of Julie Jensen; Kimberley Jones; Ed Krause; Amy Lunsford; Betty Mixon; Krista Nielson; Kevin Pratt; Family of Barbara Ricca; Sandra Robison; Patty Roderick; Betty Rowe; Nandhini Sankar; Gert Schacht; Marc Schacht; Debbie Scott; Rodney Shutts; Jennifer Sievert; Martin Sievert; Wade Sievert; Ernestine Stein; Jeremy Thomas; Dr. Tom Thompson; Melissa Van Pelt; Don Waller; Lois Waller; John Walls; Pam Wally; Scott White

# For Your Information

#### **Publication Deadlines**

<u>Tuesdays at 12:00 PM.</u> Bulletins are printed on Tuesday afternoons.

<u>St. John's Connection</u> for church events and happenings are due to the church office no later than <u>Tuesdays at 12 p.m.</u>

The Connection Email is sent out on Wednesday mornings.



The **December 2025 Newsletter** deadline is: *Friday, November 14, 2025* by 4:00 PM.

You can e-mail your submissions, with Bulletin, Newsletter, or Connection in the subject line to Heidi at: st.johns@citlink.net.



Group meetings Saturday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in the St. John's UMC Multi-Purpose Room

Other Groups that meet here at St. John's UMC

#### **Morning Glories**

Third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. (September-June)

#### T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

Friday mornings:

Weigh-In begins at 8 a.m. Meetings begin at 9:30 a.m.

#### Cerbat Garden Club

Second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. (August-June)

Bible Readings; Birthdays; Anniversaries

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Novem	ber Daily Bible Readings	
November 1	Psalm 3, 4, 7; Luke 20:1-8	
November 2	Psalm 10, 11; Luke 20:9-18	
November 3	Psalm 119:1-24; Luke 20:19-26	
November 4	Psalm 18; Luke 20:27-40	
November 5	Psalm 17, 22; Luke 20:41-21:4	
November 6	Psalm 116, 117; Luke 21:5-19	ا
November 7	Psalm 149, 150; Luke 7:28-35	١
November 8	Psalm 9, 15, 25; Luke 21:20-28	١
November 9	Psalm 28, 36; Luke 21:29-38	ا
November 10	Psalm 119:25-48; John 7:53-8:11	ا
November 11	Psalm 37; Luke 22:1-13	1
November 12	Psalm 31, 35; Luke 22:14-30	ľ
November 13	Psalm 32, 42; Luke 22:31-38	ľ
November 14	Psalm 98, 103; John 3:22-30	١
November 15	Psalm 44, 52; Luke 22:39-53	
November 16	Psalm 47, 48; Luke 22:54-69	
November 17	Psalm 119:49-72; Mark 1:1-8	
November 18	Psalm 59, 60; Matthew 3:1-12	
November 19	Psalm 51, 54; Matthew 11:2-15	
November 20	Psalm 138, 139; Luke 3:15-20	
November 21	Psalm 29, 84; John 3:16-21	
November 22	Psalm 112, 115; John 5:30-47	
November 23	Psalm 116, 117; Luke 1:5-25	
November 24	Psalm 45, 46; Luke 1:67-80	
November 25	Psalm 85, 110; John 3:31-36	
November 26	Psalm 28, 30; Acts 7:59-8:8	
November 27	Psalm 97, 98; John 13:20-35	
November 28	Psalm 93, 96; Matthew 1:18-25	
November 29	Psalm 18; John 7:37-52	
November 30	Psalm 21, 23; John 7:53-8:11	



#### November Birthdays

November 1—Brenda Jorgensen

**November 3—Nancy Hilton** 

November 5—Ernie Faris

**November 12—Evelyn Mattson** 

November 13—JudyRose Layfield

November 14—Linda Bennett Wesley Heer-Elliott

**November 21—Ashley Hawes** 

November 23—Pete Jorgensen Trudy Mixon

November 25—Mike Mixon

November 26—Krystal Burge

November 29—Louise Miller



Patty & Steve Hockingberry 11/2/1991 (34 years)

Sandie & Bob Womack 11/28/1980 (45 years)

St. John's UMC 11/28/1888 (137 years)

### November 2025 Calendar

Saturday, November 1	9:00 AM St. Michael's Catholic Church; 10:00 AM NA Meeting 5:00 PM NA 1st Saturday
Sunday, November 2	All Saint's Sunday 8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
Monday, November 3	5:30 PM Monday Big Book Study
Tuesday, November 4	12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline 4:00 PM Community Book Club; <b>5:30 PM Leadership Retreat</b>
Wednesday, November 5	Cornerstone Pick-Up 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 1:00 PM Garden Club Board Meeting 5:30 PM Potluck; 6:00 PM Bible Study
Thursday, November 6	5:30 PM Christian Folk Worship 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, November 7	8:00 AM TOPS; 9:00 AM Mission 'Food Boxes' 12:00 PM Spring Fling Kick-Off/Planning Meeting
Saturday, November 8	9:00 AM St. Michael's Catholic Church; 10:00 AM NA Meeting <b>10:30 AM Memorial Service</b> ; 3:00 PM NA Event
Sunday, November 9	Veteran's Sunday 8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
Monday, November 10	5:30 PM Monday Big Book Study
Tuesday, November 11	12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline  Veteran's Day
Wednesday, November 12	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 10:00 AM Cerbat Garden Club 5:30 PM Potluck; 6:00 PM Bible Study
Thursday, November 13	5:30 PM Christian Folk Worship 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, November 14	**Cornerstone Pick-Up 8:00 AM TOPS; 9:00 AM Mission 'Food Boxes' 1:00 PM Filipino Fellowship
Saturday, November 15	8:00 AM Men's Fellowship; 9:00 AM St. Michael's Catholic Church 10:00 AM NA Meeting



### November 2025 Calendar

Sunday, November 16	8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship
Monday, November 17	5:30 PM Monday Big Book Study
Tuesday, November 18	12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline
Wednesday, November 19	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 5:30 PM Potluck; 6:00 PM Bible Study
Thursday, November 20	9:00 AM Morning Glories 5:30 PM Christian Folk Worship 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Friday, November 21	8:00 AM TOPS; 9:00 AM Mission 'Food Boxes' 6:00 PM Young Adult Ministry (YAM) & Singles Groups
Saturday, November 22	9:00 AM St. Michael's Catholic Church; 10:00 AM NA Meeting
Sunday, November 23	8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:30 AM Thanksgiving Potluck; Annual Church Conference
Monday, November 24	Cornerstone Pick-Up 5:30 PM Monday Big Book Study
Tuesday, November 25	12:00 PM Bulletin/Connection Deadline
Wednesday, November 26	8:00 AM Men's Bible Study; 5:30 PM Potluck; 6:00 PM Bible Study
Thursday, November 27	THANKSGIVING DAY Church Office Closed
Friday, November 28	Church Office Closed
Saturday, November 29	9:00 AM St. Michael's Catholic Church; 10:00 AM NA Meeting
Sunday, November 30	1st Sunday ~ Advent 8:30 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 9:00 AM Modern Praise 10:00 AM Pastries & Fellowship; 10:30 AM Traditional Worship 11:30 AM Hanging of the Greens

#### Please Note:

The Church Office will be Closed the following days: Thursday, November 27, 2025 and Friday, November 28, 2025 Thursday, December 25, 2025 thru Friday, January 2, 2026



#### **Church Staff**

Senior Pastor Rev. Amy Kalm
Office Administrator Heidi Heer
Treasurer Tracy Sheehy
Contemporary Music Director Chris Commisso
Traditional Music Director Karin Kopecky
Preschool Director Mande Padilla

#### **Connection Staff**

District Superintendent Rev. Timote Piukala
Resident Bishop Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut

#### **Church Office Hours**

Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-4:00 pm Closed for Lunch: 1 p.m.-2 p.m. Friday 8 am-2:00 pm (928) 692-8828/Fax (928) 692-8799

#### Worship at St. John's UMC

Sundays:

9:00 AM ~ Modern Praise 10:30 AM Traditional Worship

Christian Folk Worship Thursdays at 5:30 p.m.

Email: st.johns@citlink.net Website: stjohnsumc.com

