

Spirit Alive!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2021

*From the Desk of
Pastor Sara Gorman*

As many of you know last month, The Husband and I moved from our apartment into our first home. I was excited at the thought of moving because that means we're settling in for a while, and not planning to move anytime soon. Even though we've been in our house almost a month now, it still doesn't feel like our home yet. Sure, our boxes are getting unpacked, we're deciding where we want the silverware to go in relation to the plates, and I can sit on our couch and watch the cars drive by. But our pictures aren't on the walls, there's still boxes to unpack, some furniture to

buy and put together, and a yard to tame before it probably really feels like ours. Until then, we are embracing the chaos and uncertainty as we are learning what it's like to live in and with a house with a yard, with lots to take care of. Which is a lot like how I feel at church some days. I still don't know where things are at, how things happened in the past, or what things are near and dear to the congregation. So as I continue to settle in at St. John's and in my house, will you help me find the things I need before I need them?

<>< *Pastor Sara*



Church
Council

President—Kelly Trebus

V. President — Amy Bazile

Secretary — Tom Pamperin

Tracy Conradt

Nancy Helms

Mary Hoppe

Ron Krueger

Melissa Pfeiler

Sharon Piastowski

Shirl Tischauser

Wanda Tucker

Please contact the council members for any concerns.

Slow Down and Smell the Roses

In this fast paced and ever changing world, we need to “slow down and smell the roses”. How often did I hear that from my parents and elders. Take some time everyday to thank God for all that he has provided for us:

- The smell of fresh cut hay (yes, I farmed)
- The beauty of the flowers and trees
- The sound of a much needed rain
- A fantastic sunset or sunrise
- Take some time and have a good conversation with a neighbor or a friend.

Remember God and family need to be number one!

God has put all these things in front of us.

So slow down and enjoy them!

Sincerely,

Ron Krueger



Always pray to have
eyes that see the **best**,
a heart that *forgives*
the worst, a mind that
forgets the bad, & a soul
that never loses **faith**.

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Youth Volunteers Needed

In order to return to what used to be normal, we need lots of help! If you have thought about being a Sunday school teacher or coordinator, Confirmation mentor, ELCA Youth Gathering adult or coordinator, please contact the church office. Even if you have only one week a month, we could use you! If we have no one to fill these roles, these programs won't happen!

Youth-Save the Date

All youth grades 8-12th are invited to attend the 2022 Youth Gathering Information meeting on September 19th. If you are an adult and are interested in coordinating fundraising for the gathering, please call the church office.

Return to Routine!

We are having a *Return to Routine* Party on Sunday, September 12th. If you are interested in helping plan the party, please contact the church office.



St. John's Financial Report

Month End: *June 2021*
Year to Date

General Fund:

Revenue \$ 74,929
Expenses \$ 82,689

Benevolence:

Revenue \$ 4,593
Expenses \$ 2,000

Financial Condition-

Balances as of June 30th

General Fund \$49,044
Building &
Church Improvements 20,484
Benevolence Fund 2,592
Special Funds 81,791
Check EFT 498
Total \$ 154,408

Current Debt Balances Due:

Endowment \$ 54,050
Sanctuary Remodel 65,042
Total Debt \$ 119,092

Loan Payments:

Endowment \$ 2,500
Sanctuary 5,000
Required Payments \$ 7,500

Thank You!!!!

A very special thank you to all of those who have given on behalf of the Sanctuary Loan. We have received approximately \$220,000 of the \$260,000 pledged to date. As we are getting closer to paying off the loan, we encourage you to look at the bottom of last year's giving statement to see how much you pledged. We are excited about the possibility of the loan being paid off sooner than anticipated.

Prayers

- * Bentley Koepke
- * Beverly Fischer
- * Brian Genskow
- * Dave Krueger
- * Doris Knaack
- * Earl Johnston
- * Erna Tellock
- * Grace Riedinger
- * Joyce Kroening
- * Kathy Krueger
- * Lois Marquardt
- * Ryan Pockat, Peggy, & Leo
- * Mike Tischauser
- * Sandy Schuelke

Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes & Assisted Living

- * Anne Erdman
- * Doris Aderman
- * Carol Hakala
- * Evelyn Rieckmann

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Volunteering Opportunities

Funeral Group Volunteers

We are reaching out, for assistance with funeral lunch service. The normal funeral lunch consists of a light meal (served to generally less than 120 people.) Currently, our congregation is divided into six funeral groups. In a typical year, each group serves one, possibly two funerals.



Every group has a leader (or two) . As a leader, we call, text, or email (for help needed in the kitchen and or food). This normally takes about an hour. The leader orders the items needed from the store (meat, cheese, buns) ; picks them up the morning of, and starts the ham heating . You are provided with all information needed to do this task. Others are available to help you get started. The duties can be shared with your team and are flexible in structure. How you set up to serve is also flexible.

Leaders meet annually or as needed to share ideas and suggestions.

The kitchen helpers arrive about 10 AM and are finished and out of there by 2-2:30 PM, depending on what time the funeral service is.

The family pays for part of the food and volunteers provide the following: cakes/bars, salad/Jell-O, pickles, sometimes other items as needed and some do money towards expenses.

If you have a **day (or two) per year** to help work a funeral lunch or can provide food, or make calls to others, please call : Shirl Tischauser 715-250-3204 or the church office 715-754-5201. We are looking for leaders, as well as feedback and new ideas.



Painters Needed

If you are interested in helping paint railings and doors at the church, please call the church office Monday or Tuesday from 9-10a.m. and ask to speak with Dave.

Quilting Help

The Quilting Group meets every Wednesday at 12:30p.m. All are welcome to join this group. If you want to make a donation, the following items are needed: slightly used bedding, throws, quilts, tablecloths or table runners.



Weeding Volunteers

If you have a green thumb, please come volunteer your time and weed the church flower beds. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Announcements

- **Camelot Worship**

Camelot Worship service is the first Wednesday of each month at the Camelot Apartments at 3:00p.m. The Camelot Service is a community outreach program. It is an opportunity to worship and receive Holy Communion. This month it will be held on August 4th.

- **CD Ministry**

The CD Ministry is a bi-weekly mailing of each week's Sunday 9:30a.m. service bulletin and a worship service CD. Please contact the church office if you or a family member would like to be included or taken off of the mailing list.

- **Econo Food Receipts**

Remember to keep your *Econo Foods* receipts. Drop them in the basket in the *Great Room* or by the *Car Port*. Please make sure when you turn your receipts in they are in-tact. Any money collected goes to our Building Fund. Ask your friends and family if they are willing to collect their receipts too. 1% of the total from the last collection of receipts amounted to \$723.22.

- **Food Pantry**

August wants are canned fruit and soup, needs are laundry soap. For more information call 715-754-2665.

- **Home Communion Ministry**

Are you unable to attend worship and would like to receive Holy Communion? Or, do you have a family member that would like a visit? We have a group of lay leaders who will come and visit once a month to give Communion. Please contact the church office if you or a family member would like to be included in this ministry.

- **Mama's House of Hope**

If you have questions of how you can help or donation needs, please call Bev or Carla at (715) 754-6262.

- **Save UPC's**

Save the UPC symbol from Best Choice and/or Clearly Brand products. Cut the UPC symbol from labels or cartons. For every 1000 labels saved, St. John's Lutheran Church will earn \$30.



Worship with us!

Sunday Mornings at 9:30

Wednesday Evenings at 6:30

It's the time of year where we prepare bags for the Lutheran World Relief Project. The following items are needed in order for the kits to be complete. If you are interested in donating, please drop off the following items by September 12th, in the tote located in the *Great Room*. Any of the following items donated that do not meet the requirements below, will be donated to the Marion or Tigerton School Districts. Thank you to all who have donated in the past!



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF



SCHOOL KITS

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- If you are looking to purchase backpacks, the preferred style is often used in the U.S. for youth to carry athletic equipment. Try your local sporting goods store or search online using the keywords, "buy drawstring backpacks."
- Before purchasing backpacks, make sure they meet the size requirements (14" x17") and General Assembly Instructions. You can download a list from our website of suppliers who have appropriate bags available for purchase in bulk.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH SCHOOL KIT

- FOUR** 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- ONE** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE** pencil sharpener
- ONE** pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- FIVE** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ONE** 2 ½" eraser
- ONE** sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag, approximately 14" x 17" with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

HOW TO PACK YOUR PROJECT PROMISE KITS

- Place ruler between notebooks. Place all items neatly into the bag and draw the drawstring together.
- Pack completed Kits, like items together, in boxes. Label contents in LARGE, BLOCK LETTERS on the outside of the boxes.
- Use strong cartons secured with packing tape, not to exceed 40 pounds.
- Do not use plastic or paper bags to pack donations.
- Include the name and address of your group or congregation on each box and label the contents

AUGUST 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30a.m. Worship	2 9a.m. Yoga	3	4-12:30p.m. Quilting 3:00p.m. Camelot 6:30p.m. Worship	5 5:30p.m. Yoga	6	7
8 9:30a.m. Worship	9 9a.m. Yoga	10	11 12:30p.m. Quilting 6:30p.m. Worship	12 5:30p.m. Yoga	13	14
15 9:30a.m. Worship	16 9a.m. Yoga	17 6:30p.m. Council	18 12:30p.m. Quilting 6:30p.m. Worship	19 5:30p.m. Yoga	20	21
22 9:30a.m. Worship	23 9a.m. Yoga	24	25 12:30p.m. Quilting 6:30p.m. Worship	26-Church Office Closes at 12p.m. 5:30p.m. Yoga	27	28
29 9:30a.m. Worship	30 9a.m. Yoga	31				



St. John's Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.
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