

# "REACHING OUT" NEWSLETTER

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
1804 Highland Ave  
Eau Claire, WI 54701  
715-834-9571  
www.stjohns-ec.org



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## AUGUST 2024

### JOIN US FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION

SEPTEMBER 1ST - OCTOBER 2ND  
AT ST. JOHN'S



Join us for the annual Season of Creation beginning September 1st as we learn Marty Haugen's Creation Liturgy together, along with children's activities, a creation walk, and ending with the Blessing of the Animals on Wednesday, October 2nd! More information to come later in August!

**Save-The-Date**  
**Church of the Wild**  
**August 27th @ 6:30 pm**  
**2705 E. Deblene Ln.**  
**Eau Claire, WI 54703**

*Blessing of the  
New School year!*

August 25th!  
Blessing at worship: 9am

Family Activities: 10:15am

Brought to you by the  
Faith Family Ministry!

*Fountain of Life. River of Compassion.*



Dear Friends in Christ! The Season of Creation is fast upon us! I hope you have been enjoying summer. It is so green and verdant this year, so different from the last summer of drought. The group from St. John's that traveled to Holden Village also found a beautiful, magical place in the mountains of Washington State. To get to the Village, you must travel by boat for over 2 hours, then take a bus up 10 miles of switchbacks to get to this remote place. But, in the last years, including this year, the mountains there have encountered fire. It's now simply called "the fire season". The Pioneer Fire, as it's now called, caused times of encroaching smoke into the Village. There were two afternoons where the air quality got very unhealthy. Add to this a heat dome over that part of the United States and it was occasionally sweltering in the afternoon (much hotter down the mountains). When we finally left Spokane, Washington back towards home, the forecast was predicted to be 110 degrees!

Where do you find hope when creation is groaning? In the letter to the Roman Church, the Apostle Paul uses an image of the Earth as a mother, groaning as in childbirth (Rom 8:22). Later in the early Church, Francis of Assisi understood this metaphor when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his "Canticle of Creatures". The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our God, but rather as a resource to be used.

And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and quiet, but rather groaning, crying, and actively striving for new life amidst the struggles. Just as in childbirth, we go through a period of intense pain, but new life springs forth!

We have so much planned for our Season of Creation which begins September 1<sup>st</sup> with the World Day of Prayer for Creation and ending on St. Francis Day with the Blessing of the Animals worship service on October 2<sup>nd</sup>! We will begin with worship on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September with a procession of the blessings from the farm, all the wonderful gifts from the garden. Those gifts will be placed up near the altar to remind us of the bounty and blessings of food. Along the way, children will create some wonderful clay creations at the potter's wheel! We also will have guests for our Adult Forums, including Michelle Pride, who will show us how Feed My People is reducing waste and how Lutheran World Relief, in their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, is curbing Climate Change in areas of the world where drought, famine, and flood occur. We also will enjoy a "Creation Walk" together after one of our worship services in September (watch for the schedule coming soon).

We are a part of the creation God called good in the book of Genesis, chapter one. Yet, we are also co-creators with God to care for what God made to be good. Let us look to another Season of Creation with intention and hope for the future together and for the next 150 years at St. John's!

Blessings, Pastor Christine



**TO HOPE AND ACT  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

**YOU are invited to join the synod in their Reconciling in Christ Building Inclusive Church workshop on Saturday August 17th, 2024 in Hudson, WI. <https://www.reconcilingworks.org/trainings/bic/> to register. Ask Pastor Sara at [synodadvocate@nswi.org](mailto:synodadvocate@nswi.org) if you have questions!**

**Building an  
Inclusive  
Church**

Dear Pastors, Deacons, SAMs, Retired Rostered Leaders and Lay Leaders of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Two of my children participated in track and field in high school and college. The final event of many track meets is the 4x4 relay. Four of the fastest runners on each team run 400 meters and hand off the baton to the next runner. It is an exciting race. It requires not only speed but also a smooth hand off of the baton. I hope to provide a smooth hand off to Bishop-Elect Martin Halom. Handing off the baton reminds me of how in scripture we read that Elijah handed off his mantle of prophetic leadership to Elisha in 2 Kings 2. (Except for the part about Elijah using his mantle to part the waters and then is taken up in chariot of fire.)

Friends, it is my prayer that you will support Bishop-Elect Martin Halom, pray for him and the synod ministers, afford him a measure of grace in these first few months, and trust his leadership. I am confident that he will serve you well.

My last day in the synod office will be July 24. I will be on call until July 31 and Bishop-Elect Martin will assume the office of bishop on August 1. After August 1st I will divide my time between our home in Menomonie and our lake cabin near Walker, MN. I hope to spend more time with my four above average grandchildren in Appleton, WI and my parents in Jackson, MN.

I will NOT be available for pulpit supply or any public ministry in the NWSWI. I will abide by the boundaries required of all retired pastors. I will not interfere in the ministry of this synod. A retired pastor "shall not exercise ministerial functions therein unless invited to do so." (See page 36 [Policies Procedures Roster Mgmt.pdf](#)). I will be present at the Bishop's Installation on September 15, 3 p.m. at Hope Lutheran in Eau Claire and hope to see you all there.

In 2018, the last question asked during the bishop's election process was, "What is one word others would use to describe you?" I answered, "Faithful." That is at least what I aspired to be during these six years as bishop. I have aspired to be faithful to God's will in our work together as a synod. The question I asked, especially during COVID was, "What is our next most faithful step?" As a follower of Jesus, that is the question I will continue to ask each morning.

It has been my privilege to serve in the synod office for the past 10 years, four years as Director of Evangelical Mission and six years as bishop. Thank you to each of you for your faithful ministry in your congregations! Thank you all for your partnership in ministry! I am especially grateful for the synod ministers. They have blessed me and taught me so much. Thank you to current synod ministers Liz Bartsch, Sara Bishop, Diane House, Lidix Montoya, Randy Olson, Laura Ramlow and former synod ministers David Behling, Greg Kaufmann, and Erin Nelson.[1] Thank you for your partnership in the gospel! I will continue to pray for you all as you take your next most faithful step so that the next generation will come to know and love Jesus, and all generations will experience God's grace in their lives.

### **Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson**

*Philippians 1: 3-7 - I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I hold you in my heart, for all of you are my partners in God's grace.*

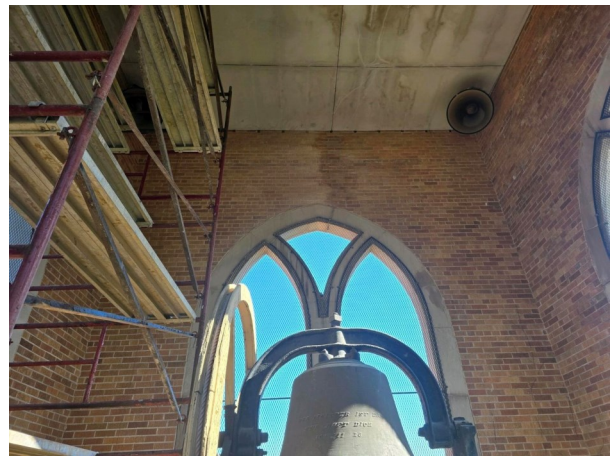


St John's Church family,

I have been notified by the masonry contractor that they are winding down the masonry repair project for this season due to approaching the "Not To Exceed" budget we agreed to in the original proposal. Unfortunately, the contractor was not able to complete all the areas of damaged masonry on the tower structure with this years budgeted funds. They did prioritize repairs, so that the most severe concerns were addressed first. This resulted in a project that focused on stabilizing the limestone features of the tower by tuckpointing the compromised mortar joints and repairing cracked brickwork over the chamber openings. Repairs were made to both the interior and exterior walls of the bell chamber. All interior repairs to the chamber have been completed. On the exterior, most of the brick work completed was to the north facing side, which showed the most water damage. Other work occurred around the limestone details near the front door.

I know that gathering funding for work like this is challenging. As we heard during the Temple Talk presented by Jean Jirovec on Sunday, only a fraction of the budgeted funds for this project have been raised so far. Budgeting for these repairs is equally difficult, because the extent of work needed for repairs is often not fully apparent until workmen begin demoing out the damaged material to expose what good material remains. It is my hope that this congregation considers this facility a legacy structure that we want to maintain in good condition and leave for future members of St John's. I believe our goal for St John's Property should be to serve the current needs of the congregation as well as into the future. This means that this work could be considered as both an operating cost of owning this building and an investment for the future.

Regards,  
Dramus Peuse  
Vice President, Property Committee Chairperson.



**Church Information**

We Celebrated the Baptisms of...  
 Harold Andrew Batty IV  
 Annalee Marie Batty



IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO...

**PLEASE RSVP BY AUGUST 18<sup>TH</sup>  
 TO ATTEND ST. JOHN'S  
 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON.**



**Reservations are required to attend the luncheon and for childcare during the service.**

**Look for the 150<sup>th</sup> committee member with the luncheon reservation clipboard. They will be in the Gathering Area after church on these Sundays:**

**AUGUST 4    AUGUST 11    AUGUST 18  
 OR**

**Leave a message in the church office-715.834.9571 with your name phone number, the number of adults and number of children who are 10 years-old or under.**

***Please join our current and former pastors, interns, children of the congregation, and our members who are rostered ministers who have already rsvp'd: The Revs: Emerson, Bryan, Kosmo, Lenhart, Whelan, Leske, Hofstad, Aaseng, Rohland, Tarras, Long, and Sands.***

FINANCIAL SUMMARY			
	Income	Expense	Surplus(Deficit)
<b>June</b>			
<b>2024</b>	<b>42,296</b>	<b>36,744</b>	<b>5,552</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>29,928</b>	<b>31,537</b>	<b>(1,609)</b>
<b>Year-To-Date:</b>			
<b>2024</b>	<b>240,190</b>	<b>245,593</b>	<b>(5,403)</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>225,303</b>	<b>193,971</b>	<b>31,332</b>
<b>2021-23 Average</b>	<b>227,543</b>	<b>233,577</b>	<b>(6,034)</b>



**St. John's Lutheran Church**

**“Together In God” Media Ministry Broadcast Schedule**

**Sundays:**  
**TV** - WQOW (ABC Network) @ 10:30a.m.  
 Channel 18  
 Cable 9  
 HD 618

MONTH	WQOW
August	4, 18

Bible Readings		
Date	First Reading	Gospel
August 4	<i>Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15</i>	<i>John 6:24-35</i>
August 11	<i>1 Kings 19:4-8</i>	<i>John 6:35, 41-51</i>
August 18	<i>Proverbs 9:1-6</i>	<i>John 6:51-58</i>
August 25	<i>Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18</i>	<i>John 6:56-59</i>

### v Memorial Gift Acknowledgements v

TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From David & Donna Meier  
 Operations: IMO Roger Schulte. From Gary & Cora Klawiter  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Brenda Mulry  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Michael & Patti Gorell  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Carole Veness  
 Operations: IMO Roger Schulte. From Carole Veness  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Anita Reid  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Adriane DeMoe  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Joe Plouff & LaVonne Solem  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Tom & Sandra Ahrens  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Linda & Jack Corey  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Cheryl & Chris O'Connell  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Linda Queen  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Steve O'Malley  
 TV: IMO Rock Schulte. From Barb Graham  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From John & Judy Staszuk  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Sandee Kosmo & John Moseng  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Cheryl Watson  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Erv & Linda LaFave  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Cheryl Mattison  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Jean & Lynn Yolitz  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Randy & Ruth Lundblad  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Larry & LaVonne Krause  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Marlo & Bev Orth  
 Operations: IMO Rock Schulte. From Marlo & Bev Orth  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From John & Sharon Price  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Gary & Cora Klawiter  
 Operations: IMO Rock Schulte. From Scott Olsen  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Greg & Lisa Brandt  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy E. Olson. From Kay & Don Weber & Erica O'Gorman  
 Operations: IMO Rock Schulte. From Norene & Marv Grotjahn  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Richard & Kathy Freitag  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Pr. Christine Emerson & Jim Boulter  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Dauneen & Curt Amundson  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Dauneen & Curt Amundson  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Hotvedt. From Dianne & Arvid Faldet  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Hotvedt. From Ralph & Margaret Kinderman  
 Operations: IMO Rock Schulte: From Ralph & Margaret Kinderman  
 WKM: IMO my husband, Roger & son, Alan. IHO great grandsons Wyatt, Lucas & Hunter Hedlund. From Janet Dahl  
 TV: IMO Linda Enerson. From Arlene McAdam  
 TV: IMO Harper Bain. From Louise Alt  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Scott Olsen  
 Operations: IMO Joel Desprez. From Lois Mai  
 Operations: IMO Joel Desprez. From Scott Olsen  
 TV: IMO Rock Schulte. From Lois Mai  
 TV: IMO Rock Schulte. From Lois Mai  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Jill Christopherson  
 Operations: IMO Elaine P. Clark. From James Clark  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Eric Nielsen  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Penny Erickson  
 Operations: IMO Rock Schulte. From Penny Erickson  
 TV: IMO Joel Desprez. From Gary & Suzanne Wulff  
 Operations: IMO Linda Enerson. From Gary & Suzanne Wulff  
 Operations: IMO my son, Mark. From Margaret Johnson  
 Operations: IMO my husband, Arnie. From Margaret Johnson  
 Mission Trip: IMO Aylene Jordan Bain. From Mary Seidling  
 Operations: IMO Harper Bain. From Barb Graham  
 Operations: IMO Rock Schulte. From Patricia & Gary Holstein  
 Operations: IMO Harper Bain. From Scott Olsen  
 Operations: IMO Marvin & Nancy Johnson. From Steve & Jackie Hansen  
 Cemetery Maintenance: IMO Eva Dorn. From Dan & Charlotte Nelson  
 Bell Tower Repair: IHO our 67<sup>th</sup> wedding Anniversary on June 8. From Ralph & Margaret Kinderman  
 World Hunger: IMO my husband, Roger & son, Alan. IHO great grandsons Wyatt, Lucas & Hunter Hedlund. From Janet Dahl  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Nancy Kresek  
 Operations: IMO Larry Bain. From Scott Olsen  
 Operations: IMO Larry Bain. From Gary & Cora Klawiter  
 TV: IMO Larry Bain. From Steven & Mary Hartwig  
 Operations: IMO Aylene Bain. From Randy & Ruth Lundblad  
 Operations: IHO the Bain Family. From Randy & Ruth Lundblad  
 Operations: IMO Joel Desprez. From Randy & Ruth Lundblad  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Karen Buelow  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Susan & Craig Melby  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Ann Ballinger  
 Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Helen Mueller & John Archibald

### Memorial Gift Acknowledgements Cont.

Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Lori & Randy Myer

Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Jeff & Nancy Schneider

Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Debra Smith

Operations: IMO Dorothy Olson. From Sabrina Larson

Operations: IMO Mark Allen Johnson. From Mary Nelson

Operations: IMO Larry Bain. From Joan Johnson

Operations: IMO Larry Bain. From Don & Diane Brott

Operations: IMO Karen Jorgensen. From Nathan & Linda Aaseng

Operations: IMO Karen Joregensen. From Barb Graham

Capital: IMO my husband, Roger & son, Alan. IHO great grandsons Wyatt, Lucas & Hunter Hedlund. From Janet Dahl

Brick work: IMO my wife, Joyce Ritsch. From Jim Ritsch

Operations: IMO Aylen Bain & Larry Bain. From Penny Erickson

Operations: IHO Elaine Krause's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. From Gary & Cora Klawiter

Operations: IMO Harper Bain. From Steve & Jackie Hansen

*Thank you for these gifts.*

### AUGUST SPECIAL OFFERINGS

#### **ELCA Global Mission**

Rooted and built in Jesus! This is the core of our work as the ELCA walks with more than 80 companion churches in other countries to participate in God's reconciling mission through proclamation and service.

Walking and working together, we seek to *accompany* our companions. Accompaniment is defined as *walking together in a solidarity that practices interdependence and mutuality*. The ELCA lives out accompaniment in relationships with global companions, striving to share God's love and participate in God's mission together:

- **Mutually:** All of us have gifts to support God's mission. There is no mission *to*, only mission *with* and *among*.
- **Inclusively:** We seek to build relationships across boundaries that exclude and divide.
- **Vulnerably:** Just as Jesus became vulnerable to us, we open ourselves to others.
- **Empowering:** We seek to identify and correct imbalances of power, which may mean recognizing and letting go of our own.

**Sustainably:** To ensure local ministries last for a long time, we seek to embed mission in ongoing relationships and communities.

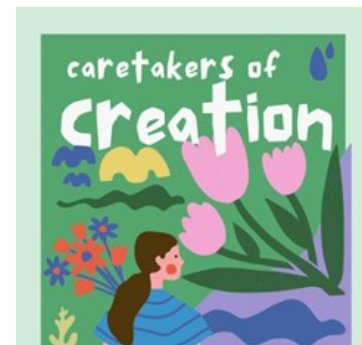
INTRODUCING...

# FIRST WEDNESDAYS

Elementary School Kids and their Families

5pm pizza  
5:45pm - 6:15 pm Faith Activity and Fun

Beginning September 4th!



Our Caretakers of Creation Team would like to announce that the acclaimed movies "Kiss the Ground" and "Common Ground", both watched and studied during our last two April Earth Month series, are now available to check out of our library! If you wanted to catch these important movies, now you can!



Diner's Club will meet for dinner at 5:30pm on **Wednesday, August 21st** at Jake's Supper Club Menomonie. Please RSVP to the church office by Monday, August 19th by 1:00pm.

### St. John's Choir

Have you ever felt called to participate in worship in a deeper and more direct way? Please consider lending your voice with the St. John's Choir! We meet most Wednesday nights during the academic year at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary and offer special music on the following Sunday.

If you are unsure about the commitment, you are welcome to join to prepare for feast days. By the way, we have a big celebration coming up on Oct. 6 -- not sure if you've heard about it ;) -- perhaps you've sung in the past, and what a great opportunity to participate in an historic event.

Rehearsals will begin in earnest on Wednesday, Sept. 4

Reach out to Mark today to chat about it! [mark@stjohns-ec.org](mailto:mark@stjohns-ec.org)

### Handbell Refurbishment

Three octaves of our treasured Schulmerich handbells are currently on the far side of South Dakota being refurbished by one of the top experts in the country. All of the inner workings of each bell will get an update, not to mention a special shine you will see when they return for the 150th Anniversary!

### JuBellation seeking additional ringers

To allow us to ring those awesome "big bells," we need to fill a couple spots this year. Want to give it a try? We will be ringing with our chimes until the bells return. Come find us after worship on Sept. 15 and give ringing a try! Reach out to Mark with any questions.



## Adult Education begins again September 8th at 10:15AM!



**TO HOPE AND ACT  
WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2024

*The firstfruits of hope*  
(Rom 8:19-25)

**Come Join Pastor Christine and guests  
as we ponder how to "Hope and Act  
with Creation" together!**

*Schedule coming soon!*



**Thrivent Choice Dollars** allows eligible Thrivent Financial members to direct Thrivent Financial's charitable dollars to St. John's Lutheran Church. To be a benefit member with Thrivent Financial, you must own one of the following Thrivent products: life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance or annuities, and based on your premium and cash value, your *Thrivent Choice* dollars will be calculated. Letters or emails are sent **annually** to these members indicating the amount of charitable dollars available to them. If you believe that you qualify and have not received a letter, please contact your Thrivent Financial representative.

For the period September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024, St. John's is designating the *Thrivent Choice* contributions to our general operations fund to help support our ministries, programs and maintain our day to day operations.

When you are contacted by Thrivent Financial, please prayerfully consider directing these charitable dollars to St. John's.

The Thrivent Financial member who has directed their "Choice Dollars" to St. John's Lutheran Church for July was Mike McCarty.

St. John's thanks you for doing this.



# Bishop Martin Halom

All attendees please RSVP.

[Installation of the Bishop -](#)

[Northwest Synod of Wisconsin](#)

[\(subsplash.com\)](#)

September

15

3:00PM



### Hope Lutheran Church

2226 Eddy Lane  
Eau Claire, WI. 54703

All are welcome to attend!  
*Reception to follow on site.*

## LUTHER PARK GOLF OUTING

August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Sioux Creek Golf Course

12:30pm Check-in

1:00pm Start

9 Holes

\$50/person



Call or email the Luther Park Office for how to register.  
715-859-2215 [info@lutherpark.org](mailto:info@lutherpark.org)

## Multicultural Festival 2024 Save the date!!!

Sunday August 25, 2024

11am-6pm

Phoenix Park, 300 Riverfront Terrace, Eau Claire, WI

Food-Vendors/Cultural booths-Music-  
Performances



### Heart For Luther Park 2024

Art, Craft, and Quilt Auction

Sunday, August 4th



Presented By:  
JONAH, Welcoming  
New Neighbors,  
Visit Eau Claire, Eau  
Claire Hmong  
Association



# LWR KITS & QUILTS 2024

Well, here it is: School shopping time; that time of year when the Lutheran World Relief committee gives a reminder of items needed to fill kits for Lutheran World Relief.



The specific sizes and types of items for school kits and personal care kits are listed below, nothing has changed in the last 5 years. Please note the number of sheets for the notebooks. LWR will not accept notebooks with any number of sheets other than the 70! Thank you!!

## List of items needed for each School kit:

- Four 70-sheet notebooks
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One 30-centimeter ruler with inches on the other side
- One pencil sharpener
- One pair of **blunt** scissors
- Five **unsharpened** No. 2 pencils with erasers
- Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One 2 1/2 in. eraser

## DROP Off

You may drop off items in the labeled box in the Narthex or in the church office until September 20.

Here are a couple of links that show the quilts and personal care kits being handed out to mothers and children in Tanzania.

1st Link: [LWR Mission Quilts](#)

2nd link  
[Quilts Distributed](#)

--Sharon Price--

## List of items needed for each Personal Care kit:

- One light-weight bath-size towel between 20"x40" & 52"x27" (dark color recommended)
- Two bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) of soap, any brand
- One sturdy comb
- One metal nail clippers



"And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8"

# Education, Faith Family & Youth

**BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING** | On August 25th, the Faith Family committee at St. John's invites students, teachers, and other education professionals to worship to celebrate the upcoming school year! Youth can bring backpacks, or any other items they use during school to be blessed. Following the service, there will be games, crafts, and registration for Sunday School and Confirmation in the yard!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION** | Come join us for Sunday School in the 2024-25 school year! All youth from 3-year-olds up to 4th grade can join us at the church at 10:15 on Sundays starting September 8th for games, crafts, and stories from the Bible so they can learn and grow with each other AND with God! Follow the QR code on the last page of this newsletter to register online!

**SUMMER STRETCH** | A big thank you to all of those who helped to make Summer Stretch incredible this year! We had 15 youth, 5 high school volunteers, and many adult leaders do great service around the community at places like Beaver Creek, ECASD, the Humane Society, Luther Park, and even here at the church!

**MISSION TRIP** | In the middle of July, 4 high schoolers and 2 youth got to travel to New Orleans to join 16,000 other Lutherans at the ELCA Youth Gathering! While there, there was time to explore, eat, serve, connect, and come together in faith for an unforgettable week, and it is because of our St. John's community that we are able to attend these trips, so THANK YOU!

**YOUTH BONFIRE** | Join us for the final youth bonfire of the summer on August 4th, 6:30-8:30 PM. Those interested in next year's adventure trip can also come to ask questions and get some early information on the trip!



### Confirmation Registration

Incoming 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders should follow this QR code and register for the upcoming year of confirmation registration! There will also be registration opportunities at the Back to School Blessing, and at Confirmation Orientation at 6:15, Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.



<https://forms.gle/Dg5tT1jrNwr2KTpS9>

### Confirmation Schedule Changes

For those entering or continuing the confirmation program, the Wednesday schedule will be changing this year. Here is the schedule

6:15-7:15 Confirmation Education

7:00-8:00 CREW (previously CIA)

From 7:00-7:15 there will be a brief period for all youth to come together for worship/announcements about happenings at the church.

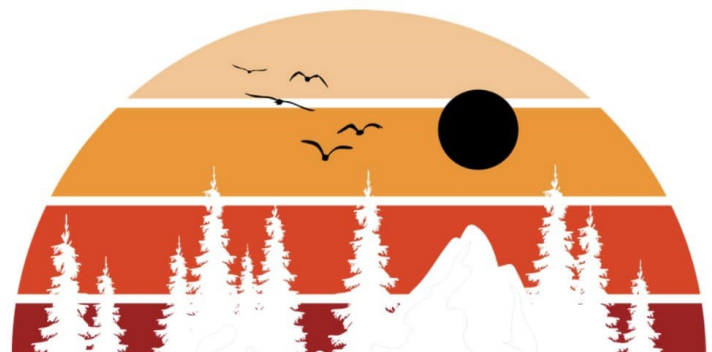
**NEW THIS YEAR to Wednesday nights:** First Wednesdays at St. John's! Starting September 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting pizza and an activity for Elementary School ages and their families. Starting at 5:00pm with pizza and then a fun faith activity from 5:45-6:15pm. Come join us for the new and exciting First Wednesdays!

### 2025 High School Trip Registration

Our 2025 High School trip will be a Spirit-based adventure trip to Buena Vista, Colorado! This trip is for youth going into 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade this year, and will June 22<sup>nd</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. We would LOVE to see as many people as we can, so whether you're an active youth, participate on and off, or just REALLY like travelling and the outdoors, come join us! Commitment is needed by September 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be a reveal and basic info announced at the youth bonfire on August 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.



AUGUST 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM @ YOUTH BONFIRE



Hello St. John's!

It is that time of year. We continue to register children for the school year. Lessons and activities are being planned. Classrooms are being cleaned, and we are looking forward to working and playing together here at St John's. Our hearts and minds are eager to gather - in love - to learn!



We have two new teachers joining the team this school year.

Amanda Schroeder will be teaching MWF mornings and Amanda Downing will be assisting on TTh mornings. Sarah Wer-geland returns to teach on TTh mornings and Nancy Hanson will be teaching two classes, TTh mornings and MWF mornings, and taking over the Director position full time.

We have openings for the 2024-25 school year! Please tell your friends, families and neighbors about SJCP. Registration forms are available on our website or please call or email Nancy for more information 715.834.9571

Email [Nancy@stjohns-ec.org](mailto:Nancy@stjohns-ec.org)

Upcoming Dates:

Monday, Aug. 26 <sup>th</sup>	7PM <u>Parent Orientation</u>
Tuesday, September 10 <sup>th</sup>	9-11AM <u>"Come &amp; See"</u> for TTh Classes
Wednesday, September 11 <sup>th</sup>	9-11AM <u>"Come &amp; See"</u> for MWF Classes



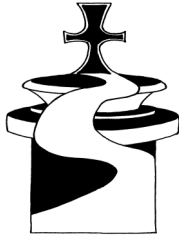
**Sunday, August 25th**  
**Farewell and Gratitude**  
**for Phyllis Meier**  
**Thank you so much for**  
**all your love,**  
**compassion, and joy**  
**you have given St.**  
**John's Christian**  
**Preschool over the last**  
**24 years.**



# August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 1:30 pm St. John's Apt Service	2	3
4 Heart for the Luther Park 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am T Ministry-WGOW 6:30—8:30 pm Youth Bonfire	5 2:00-3:00 pm 150th Committee Meeting	6 9:30 pm Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Preschool Board—Offsite 7:00 pm Step Group	7 9:00 am Quilting 3:00 pm Master Builders 6:00 pm Council	8 6:30 pm Youth Ministry 7:00 pm Property	9	10
11 Mission Trip Thank you 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Caretakers of Creation	12 5:00 pm Education Ministry—Offsite 6:30 pm Faith Family	13 9:30 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Worship & Music 2:00 pm Sr. & Home Ministry 7:00 pm Step Group	14 3:00 pm Master Builders	15 9:00 am Vol. @ The Community Table	16 Pastor Christine @ Climate Summit August 16-18	17
18 RSVPs Due for 150th Luncheon 9:00 am Worship with Rev. Nate Aaseng 10:15 am Dewey St. Slide Show	19 4:00 pm Finance	20 9:30 am Staff Meeting 7:00 pm Step Group	21 3:00 pm Master Builders 5:30 pm Diner's Club @ Jake's Supper Club	22 10:00 am Oakwood Health Service	23	24
25 Blessing of the New School Year Phyllis Meier Appreciation 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Preschool Pray & Play	26 5:15 pm Stewardship 7:00 pm Preschool Orientation	27 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Church of the Wild—Offsite 7:00 pm Step Group	28 9:00 am Quilting 3:00 pm Master Builders	29	30	31





St. John's Lutheran Church is a people formed in the waters of Christian baptism to be a *fountain of life* for all who gather here, overflowing into a *river of compassion* for the world.

### Church Council:

Jean Jirovec	President
Dramus Peuse	Vice President
Penny Erickson	Secretary
Mike Kitzman	Treasurer
Mary Spryer	Caring
Louise Alt	Community & World
Stacy Kelly	Education
Open	Faith Family
Ruth Lundblad	Seniors & Home Visitation
Richard Spryer	Worship & Music
Open	Youth
Teresa Burrows	At-Large
Greg Johnson	At-Large

### Your Church Staff

**Ministers:** All the congregation

**Pastor:** Pr. Christine Emerson

**Music Director:** Mark Lundin

**CYF Director:** Matt Svestka

**Nursery Attendant:**

**Communication & Ministry Coordinator:** Adriane DeMoe

**Organist:** Linda Ranney

**Administrative Assistant:** Genevieve Gorton

**Bookkeeper:** Jo Rauckman & Marlee Agner

**Facility & Grounds Manager:** David LaRose

**Custodian:** Tyeanna Segura

**St. John's Christian Preschool:** Nancy Hanson, Sarah Wergeland, Amanda Schroeder, Amanda Downing

**Preschool Website:** [www.stjohns-ec.org/grow/preschool](http://www.stjohns-ec.org/grow/preschool)

**St. John's Website:** [www.stjohns-ec.org](http://www.stjohns-ec.org)

**St. John's general email:** [stjohns@stjohns-ec.org](mailto:stjohns@stjohns-ec.org)



**Sunday School Registration Open**