

Firmly Rooted in God's

ST. JOHN EV.  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA

401 3rd Ave NE  
Waseca MN  
507-833-1703

# Lifeline



**Church Office Hours**  
Monday — Thurs.  
7:30 am — 11:30 am  
12:30 pm — 4:30 pm  
Fridays Closed

“

August

September



Thank you to Pastor John and to all who attended the WELCA Bible Study, donated Fabric for the LWR Fabric Kits, especially the Quilters, and to those who helped put them together. Twenty-four kits are ready to be sent thanks to your generosity!

Marie Tesch and the WELCA Board

**Thank you**  
Marty Aberle and Val Possehl for a FUN and enjoyable first time ever, Virtual AMAZING G(RACE) Vacation Bible School. The projects were so rewarding and fun. God has blessed you both in helping the children and adults to know Jesus in a special way!



Arrrg!



Tie Die T-shirts



## St John Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement

*St. John is a Christian family of disciples alive in a Scripture-based, Spirit-led mission of ministry, worship and play. Disciples at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church are expected to pray often, worship regularly, learn from the Scriptures, participate in the serving groups if physically able, offer their time and talent as the spirit calls them, and regularly contribute monetarily to support the mission and ministry of the church.*

*Photograph by Curt Yess*



I know that I can all too easily feel overwhelmed by my fears. Part of this is simply the way I'm wired. I tend to get too worried and anxious about all the tasks in front of me. So, there's that.

But it's also that there are simply too many seismic changes taking place in the world today. How many paradigm shifts can one manage at one time? Too often, I feel like I'm alone in this, which is why I need people who will share their struggles with this. Facebook is a two-edged sword for me these days. On the one hand, it's like a lifeline connecting me to other people who share their burdens and joys, when gathering

physically for fellowship and conversation, is less of an option. On the other hand, so many of the posts about current events exacerbate, or increase, my experience of feeling overwhelmed. So, there's that.

I was reading a devotion from Richard Rohr today – he is a Christian author who publishes a daily meditation – and I came across this helpful nugget: “How often do we take a deep breath and appreciate—really appreciate—the air we breathe? How often do we savor the food we taste and smell the flowers along our path? When was the last time we listened to our child, laughed with a friend, embraced our spouse? It is true that the best things in life are free, but we are often too distracted or too busy to see the simple treasures of life right in front of us.”

After reading this I realize that I need to repent; and by repent, I mean that I need to change my mind, change the direction I'm going. Instead of thinking about all the troubling things in my life and in the world, I will focus my thoughts today on the amazing things in my life that I almost always overlook and then give thanks for them.

Pastor Nadia Bolz-Weber recently posted a list of prayers focusing on gratitude; this is not an extensive list, and she invites others to offer their thanksgivings as well, but some of the things she did list were helpful for me. Here are a few:

- For drinkable water, for breathable air, and Dairy Queen cones, I give thanks.
- That I am loved/forgiven/alive, I give thanks.
- That you, O God are present when I feel only your absence, I give thanks.
- That you are God and I am not; I give the most thanks. Forgive me when I forget that one.
- And for every other gift I am too self-obsessed to see, but that totally comes from you -Thank you.

To this list I would add: For my family and friends who love me for who I am and often in spite of how I can be, I give thanks. I invite you to add your thanksgivings; even post them on our St. John Facebook page. We can help each other to greater expressions of gratitude. It is good for the soul.

Peace and joy,  
Pastor John Omans



## Stewards of Grace

*1 Peter 4:10-11*

“As good stewards of the manifold grace of God”

Ephesians chapter 2, verse 8-10 are one of the best summaries of God’s grace in the Bible. First, verses 8-9 describe the gift: *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast.”*

The word translated “grace” in the New Testament comes from the Greek word *charis* (pronounced “car – is”), which means “favor, blessing, or kindness.” Grace is God choosing to bless us rather than curse us as our sin deserves. It is His benevolence to the undeserving.

When I think of the gift of God’s grace to us, I think of the words of blessing that I sometimes use at the end of our Sunday worship – the words are from the Bible, in the book of Numbers, chapter 6: *“The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.”*

“The Lord bless you and keep you.” When life feels as though it’s getting the best of you, and when you don’t feel very blessed, hold on to the good news that God is holding you tightly with his love and will never let you go. That’s his grace, his gift.

“The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.” When we’re suffering and God seems absent, or maybe God doesn’t even seem real, we can remember Jesus, who suffered for us, who in fact had us on his mind as he died for us, and after three days rose again. Jesus defeated sin, death, and the devil for us. That’s his grace, his gift.

“The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.” God’s countenance, which means his face, looks upon you in kindness, and smiles upon you. And that does not end at the grave. The Lord promises eternal peace to all who look to in faith. That’s his grace, his gift.

All that’s left for us to do, is to live in response to this gift. Ephesians 2:10 tells us, *“For we are who he made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”*

And so we say, “Go in peace and serve the Lord!”

### **BIBLE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS**

#### ***Sunday Series – Placing Faith in God during tough times***

7/26/20 Exodus 32:1-14

8/02/20 Exodus 33:12-23

8/09/20 Numbers 11:4-6, 10-17, 24-29

8/16/20 Supply Preacher

8/23/20 Supply Preacher

8/30/20 Numbers 13:1-3, 17-33; 14:1-4

9/06/20 Numbers 21: 4-9

9/13/20 Deuteronomy 6:1-9

9/20/20 Deuteronomy 8:1-17

9/27/20 Deuteronomy 30:15-20

You are invited to join in worship each week. Let’s grow together!  
Peace, Pastor John Omans



June 2020	
<i>Monthly</i>	
Income	\$ 21,198.14
Expense —	21,453.82
<b>Diff</b>	<b>(-255.68)</b>
<i>Year to Date</i>	
Income	\$ 98,490.34
Expense —	123,330.34
<b>Diff</b>	<b>(24,840.00)</b>



Dylan Wesseling  
 Dana Elias  
 Savanna Grunzke  
 Jacob Kuhns  
 Jacob Lemmen,  
 Madyson Murphy  
 Darren Peterson  
 Matt Wantoch



**Help Needed - St. John Quilters**

After a long Covid-19 virus break, the quilters are again very busy making quilts this year. Our supply of sewn quilt tops

has gone down and we are asking for volunteers to do some sewing for us. This involves sewing 48 squares together for a 60x80 inch quilt top which will then be made into a quilt when we meet on Mondays and Tuesdays. There is a basket of quilt top kits in Trinity Hall. Please look at them to see if this is something you can help us with. Thank you for your continued support of our mission.

**Faith Campfire!!**

**August 5th**  
**6:30 Conversation**  
**7:00 Communion**  
**7:30 Fellowship**



This will be located in east parking lot of St. John Lutheran. Please follow the guidelines of our Gov. during this time.

**FAITH FORMATION TEASER!**

Val Possehl (Christian Education Director) and Marty Aberle (Cross+Gen Director) are working together and keeping their fingers on the pulse of what Faith Formation/Sunday School will be like in these unprecedented times! Be assured that there will some Faith Formation happening. **STAY TUNED!**

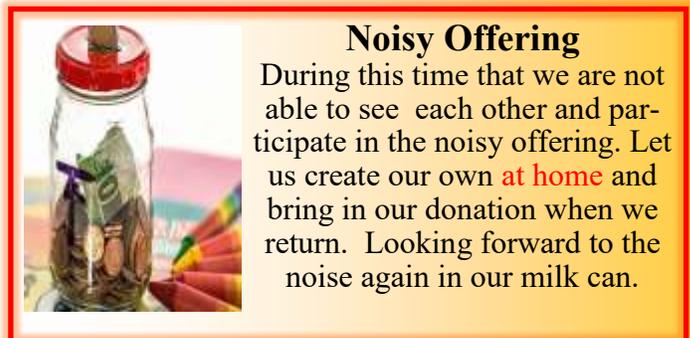
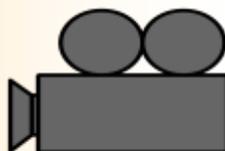
Lutheran World Relief  
 Running out of Coffee or Tea?  
 "Fair Trade Coffee" or "Fair Trade Tea" may be purchased thru Sue Erd-



**Jesus cleans the heart; we disinfect the pew!**

**Video voice of St John**

Each Sunday morning the worship service at St. John is videotaped and broadcast on Media Comm Channel 8 Consolidated Comm 107 Sundays at 5:00 p.m. and Mondays at 10:30 am.



**Noisy Offering**

During this time that we are not able to see each other and participate in the noisy offering. Let us create our own **at home** and bring in our donation when we return. Looking forward to the noise again in our milk can.

# AUGUST

## 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
						1
<b>2 RSVP</b> 9am Traditional Worship /Install. of council members 5pm Video Voice	<b>3</b> 10am Quilters 10:30am Video Voice	<b>4</b> 10am Quilters 7:00 pm Commissions-	<b>5</b>  6:30pm Faith Campfire 7pm communion	<b>6</b> 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8am Virtual Bkft With Bishop
<b>9 RSVP</b> 9am Contemporary Worship -w/comm 5 pm Video Voice	<b>10</b> 10am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	<b>11 Election Primary</b> 10am Quilters 5:30 pm Exec Council-FH 6:00 pm Council Meet	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16 RSVP</b> Ps. Dick Hegal 9am Traditional Worship w/comm 1-5pm -Bridal shower-TH 5pm Video Voice	<b>17</b> 10am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	<b>18</b> 10am Quilters	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23 RSVP</b> Ps Dick Hegal 9am Contemporary Worship - 5pm Video Voice	<b>24</b> 10am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	<b>25</b> 10am Quilters 7pm Men In Mission Mtg.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30 RSVP</b> 9am Contemporary Worship Altar Flowers: In Mem: Ike Rindelaub 5pm Video Voice	<b>31</b> 10am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice			Email-stjohn@hickorytech.net Call-507-833-1703 www.stjohnwaseca.org Facebook-stjohnlutheranchurchelca		



**Scrip Cards** area available for purchase in the church office.

**Every scrip purchase you make will help the youth of St John.**

*Please contact: Kari Priebe 507-521-4723 or Pam Grunzke 612-910-7230, Scrip Co- Coordinators, or Julie at the Church office 507-833-1703.*

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Applebee's</b>      | <b>Oscar's</b>     |
| <b>Cash Wise</b>       | <b>Pizza Ranch</b> |
| <b>Domino's Pizza</b>  | <b>Subway</b>      |
| <b>El Molino</b>       | <b>Walmart</b>     |
| <b>Yellow Mushroom</b> | <b>Hy-Vee</b>      |
| <b>Kwik Trip</b>       | <b>McDonald's</b>  |

**Help our local stores and our church youth at the same time!!**

Hospitalized or ILL?  
Pastor John would like to visit you if you have any mental or physical health issues. Therefore if you or a loved one is sick, or if you are in the hospital for a planned surgery or any other reason do contact us! Call



**Simply Giving®  
Electronic Giving  
is a convenient,  
consistent way to help our  
church grow.**

Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution. It's easy! You will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis. Your consistent support is vital to our church.



Pastor John is interested in bringing home communion to individuals or households. "I will wear a mask and gloves for your protection during these times."

We will observe social distancing protocols. If you would like to receive communion, and are comfortable with a visit, please call the church office 507-833-1703 or contact Pastor John Omans.



**NEW GIVEPLUS+  
MOBILE!!!**

Simple. Convenient. Secure

Creating a **GivePlus+** account provides additional convenience and security. Go to your App Store or Google Play and get your **FREE** mobile app now. Make your gift to St. John Lutheran anytime, anywhere with your phone.



**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY**

***2020 was installed with a virus;  
come reboot!***





**2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
		<p><i>1</i> 10 am Quilter</p> <p>7pm Commis- sion mtg.</p>	<p><i>2</i></p>	<p><i>3</i> 7pm WELCA General Mtg Personal Care Kits</p>	<p><i>4</i></p>	<p><i>5</i></p>
<p><b>6 RSVP</b> 9am Traditional Worship 5pm Video Voice</p>	<p><b>7 LABOR DAY</b> Office Closed  10:30am Video Voice</p>	<p><i>8</i> 10 am Quilters  5:30 pm FH Exec Council  6:00 pm FH Council Mtg</p>	<p><i>9</i></p>	<p><i>10</i>   7pm Men in Mis- sion BS-via Zoom</p>	<p><i>11</i></p>	<p><i>12</i> 12-6pm Celebration of Life for Denny O'Rourke</p>
<p><b>13 RSVP</b> 9am Contemporary Worship  <b>WELCA Action team-School Kits</b>  5 pm Video Voice</p>	<p><i>14</i> 10 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice</p>	<p><i>15</i>  10 am Quilters</p>	<p><i>16</i>  5:30-6:30 Confirmation via ZOOM</p>	<p><i>17</i>   7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom</p>	<p><i>18</i></p>	<p><i>19</i> Ben Johnson &amp; Amanda Madigan Wedding</p>
<p><b>20 RSVP</b> 9am Traditional Worship  5pm Video Voice</p>	<p><i>21</i> 10 am Quilters  10:30 am Video Voice</p>	<p><i>22</i> 10 am Quilters  7 pm Men in Mission Mtg.</p>	<p><i>23</i>  5:30-6:30 Confirmation via ZOOM</p>	<p><i>24</i>   7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom</p>	<p><i>25</i></p>	<p><i>26</i></p>
<p><b>27 RSVP</b> 9am Contemporary Worship <b>Celebration of New Members</b>  5pm Video Voice</p>	<p><i>28</i> 10 am Quilters  10:30 am Video Voice</p>	<p><i>29</i> 10 am Quilters</p>	<p><i>30</i>  5:30-6:30 Confirmation via ZOOM</p>			

# AUGUST

*Communion Bread Baking:  
Mary Meyman & Amy LeCocq*

**Sunday, August 2nd, 9:00 am**

**Traditional Worship**

*Ushers: Merrill & Mary Schultz*

*Scott & Shannon Hedberg*

*Reader: Brenda Langerud*

*Church Council: Merrill Schultz*

*Videographer: Dennis Sommers*

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**Sunday, August 9, 9:00 am**

**Contemporary Worship w/ communion**

*Ushers: Dennis Sommers, Mark Sommers*

*Steven & Jody Schroder*

*Prepare Communion: Amy LeCocq, Pauline Dill*

*Reader: Dennis Sommers*

***Church Council:***

*Videographer: Gyles Randall*

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**Sunday, August 16, 9:00 am**

**Traditional Worship w/communion**

*Ushers: Wallace Priebe, Danielle Timmerman*

*Gyles & Carol Randall*

*Prepare Communion: Darwin & Julie Spies*

*Reader: Julie Spies*

***Church Council:***

*Videographer: Merrill Schultz*

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**Sunday, August 23, 9:00am.**

**Contemporary Worship**

*Ushers: David & Gwen Oraskovich*

*Jon & Vicky O'Neil*

*Reader: Pam Grunzke*

***Church Council:***

*Videographer: Dominic & Pam Grunzke*

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**Sunday, August 30, 9:00 am**

**Contemporary Worship w/communion**

*Ushers: Jody & Teri Wilker*

*Dennis & Marcia Bartz*

*Reader: Marica Bartz*

***Church Council:***

*Videographer: Marcia & Dennis Bartz*

# SEPTEMBER

*Communion Bread Baking:  
Pam Grunzke, Marcia, Bartz  
& Rhonda Behsmann*

**Sunday, Sept. 6th, 9:00 am**

**Traditional Worship**

*Ushers: Craig & Cathryn Johnson*

*Gyles & Carol Randall*

*Reader: Sally Takala*

***Church Council:***

***Videographer:***

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**Sunday, Sept. 13th, 9:00 am**

**Contemporary Worship w/ communion**

*Ushers: Larry Huber, Travis Huber*

*Tyler Huber, Terry Huber*

*Prepare Communion: Kevin & Cindy Dickie*

*Reader: LuAnne Huber*

***Church Council:***

***Videographer:***

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**Sunday, Sept. 20th, 9:00 am**

**Traditional Worship w/communion**

*Ushers: Angela Barbknecht, Wayne Hansen*

*Rodney & Lori Born*

*Prepare Communion: Jody & Teri Wilker*

*Reader: Rodney Born*

***Church Council:***

***Videographer:***

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**Sunday, Sept. 27th, 9:00am.**

**Contemporary Worship**

*Ushers: Mary Meyman, Sue Michaels*

*Bruce Boyce, Melvina Conrath*

*Reader: Bruce Boyce*

***Church Council:***

***Videographer:***



**THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS ARE STILL IN ACTION AT ST. JOHN**

St. John will be collecting items for three Thrivent Action Teams for Lutheran Relief Kits this summer and early fall. The need is great in all parts of the world and contributing towards these projects is a way St. John can continue mission work even in this difficult time. Items can be left in Trinity Hall at any time in the area by the Library. You can choose to contribute to your favorite Kit or do some for all three. Thank you for your generosity.

Action Team for **Personal Care Kits** will be **September 3, 2020**. Items needed are-  
Light - weight bath size towels (20"x40" or 52"x27" dark colors recommended)  
Bath size bars of soap in original wrapping, any brand  
Adult size toothbrushes in original packaging  
**Sturdy** combs (no picks or fine-toothed combs)  
Metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

Action Team for **School Kits** will be (date change) **September 13, 2020**. Items needed are-  
Four 70-sheet notebooks (280-300 sheets total) wide or college-ruled paper (approx. 8"x10 1/2")  
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  
Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)  
One box of 16 or 24 crayons  
One 2 1/2" eraser

Action Team for **Baby Care Kits** will be **October 3, 2020**. Items needed are-  
Lightweight cotton t-shirts (Onesies will need to have the snap area cut off and zigzagged)  
Long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers without feet or shirt and pair of pants (sleepers with feet can have the feet portion cut off and the bottom then hemmed or zigzagged)  
Receiving blankets or medium weight cotton or flannel or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square  
Cloth diapers, flat fold preferred  
Jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap  
Pairs of socks, various sizes make the kit last longer  
Hand towels, dark color recommended  
Bath size bars of soap

**Share a Gift to Support Campus Ministries**

From now though Aug. 14th, the individuals and congregations of the synod will be raising \$40,000 for our campus ministries.

There are **two campus ministries** in SE MN Synod: Crossroads Campus Ministry in Mankato and the Lutheran Campus Center in Winona. These ministry partners extend the compassion of Jesus every day, and we are grateful for their partnership. This year's Synod Assembly was canceled due to COVID-19. Had it been held, the offerings during the Fri. & Sat. worship services would've been raised specifically for the ministries. **Now is our chance to work together to raise those funds in support of what god is doing in Winona & Mankato!**

Your financial gift supports the Lutheran Campus Center & Crossroads Campus Ministry as they continue to equip students & alumni with the capacity to experience & extend God's love. **Please make a gift today & invite the con-**



If you would like to adorn our altar with fresh flowers please call Debbie Bartelt at 461-4874 or the church office at 833-1703 at least a week ahead of time. Two vases of flowers can be purchased at \$40 paid to WELCA. This may be brought to the church office or put in the offering plate and labeled. Individuals whom belong to the church may have this donation listed on their financial statements. You may request a color and/or flower preference. A written announcement can be put in the weekly bulletin specifying if they are "in honor of" or "in memory of".



Anyone that wants to be included on our current Homebound Communion list please call the church office at **833-1703**. Pastor John and trained members of the congregation make regular visits. You may also request a copy of the weekly bulletin, announcements, and/ or prayer concerns to be sent to your residence. Remember we are broadcast on the local television station Sundays at 5:00 pm and Mondays at 10:30 am .

**Sunday Bus**



**Complimentary bus tokens are available for St. John** members riding the bus to church. Call the church office at 833-1703. You must call **DISPATCH** 1-855-762-7821 before 3pm Saturday to schedule your pickup and drop-off.



St John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
401 3rd Avenue NE  
Waseca MN 56093  
Email: [stjohn@hickorytech.net](mailto:stjohn@hickorytech.net)  
Website: [www.stjohnwaseca.org](http://www.stjohnwaseca.org)  
Phone: 507-833-1703

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



## AUG/SEPT LIFELINE

### Council Members and Staff

#### Council President

**Michael Schlueter 507-304-3530**

833-153

#### Council Vice-President E-mail

**Michael Behsmann 507-461-7490**

#### Council Secretary

**Nancy Hansen, 507-837-9115**

#### Financial Secretary

**Al Tonn, 507-234-5737**

#### Congregational Life

Dan Kuhns 507-461-2681

833-1084

#### Education Committee

Valerie Possehl 507-461-9677

#### Worship and Music

Merril Schultz 507-461-7240

ian22343405234350507Tesch

#### Social Ministry and Outreach

Ann Ruedy 507-308-47779

#### Council Members At Large

Gary Conrath 507-521-2663

#### Building and Grounds

Kyle Gallagher 507-461-3347

#### Pastor John Omans

**Church office** 507-833-1703 **cell** 507-201-1103

**home** 507-833-1525

**E-mail** [faith.worker@hotmail.com](mailto:faith.worker@hotmail.com)

#### Administrative Secretary

Julie Keane 507-833-1703

#### Director: Cross+Gen Ministries

**Martin Aberle**

Email: [stjohncrossgen5@gmail.com](mailto:stjohncrossgen5@gmail.com)

#### Senior Choir Director

Deb Wantoch-Yess 507-835-3498

#### Assistant Choir Director

Jan Macklay, 507-835-8706

#### Organists

Jan Macklay, 507-835-8706

Al Tonn, 507-234-5737

#### Custodian

Bill Erdman 507-461-5108

**E-mail : [stjohn@hickorytech.net](mailto:stjohn@hickorytech.net)**

WEBSITE ADDRESS: [www.stjohnwaseca.org](http://www.stjohnwaseca.org)