

August 2021

Firmly Rooted in God's Word

ST. JOHN EV.
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELCA

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

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

Lifeline

BACK TO SCHOOL KIT NEEDS

*Assembly of Kits will be Sunday, Sept. 12, 2021
during Coffee Hour in Trinity Hall*

Lutheran World Relief & WELCA are looking for your help with NEW ITEMS Only! No items decorated with US Flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

- ◆ Backpacks (14" x 17") not standard backpacks
- ◆ 70 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper (8x10.5) no loose leaf paper
- ◆ 30 centimeter rulers, or a ruler with centimeters on 1 side and inches on the other
- ◆ Pencil sharpeners
- ◆ Blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- ◆ #2 unsharpened pencils with erasers
- ◆ Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- ◆ Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ◆ 2.5" erasers

Drop off items in Trinity Hall

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



“The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.” (Isaiah 11:6)

God sent the prophets, in the Old Testament of the Bible, to remind people of his vision for the world and for their lives, and to call people to return to living God's way. Those prophets were not just for a time long ago; those prophets still speak to us today.

One prophet was named Isaiah. He preached God's vision to people for 40 years. The verse above, from Isaiah 11:6, is a poetic picture of the peace God desires for his world.

In one sense, because of the persistence of sin in this world, there will always be people who argue and fight – about politics, about religion, about each other, about pretty much anything. But that does not excuse us from the responsibility to do the difficult work and live a better way.

I believe the reason God has given us this vision of peace, is that we would begin to let his vision, have more power in us, more sway over our hearts. For, if we could be honest with ourselves, the existence of violence and hatred isn't just the problem of a snarling politics or snarling religious disagreements, it's the problem of our own snarling hearts.

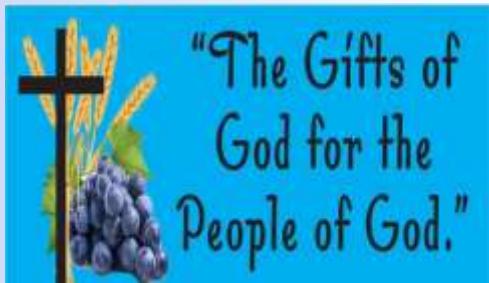
The poet, Carl Sandburg, wrote a poem called “Wilderness” in which he said, *“There is a wolf in me, fangs pointed for tearing gashes, a red tongue for raw meat, and the hot lapping of blood ... There is a fox in me...I nose in the dark night and take sleepers and eat them and hide the feathers ... There is hog in me...There is a fish in me...There is a baboon in me...There is an eagle in me...”* You get the idea. And then he writes, *“O, I got a zoo, I got a menagerie (me nah ger ree), inside my ribs, under my bony head, under my red-valve heart...”*

The work of Jesus, the Messiah, is to come to the zoo in us and to teach the lion and the lamb to live together. We're not all alike. The zoo in each of us is different.

In some of us the angry lion is dominant. We tear at others, we lash out, perhaps even for reasons we don't fully understand. In others of us, the passive lamb is dominant. We're timid or afraid – fearful to risk speaking out or taking a bold action. The work of Jesus, our Savior and Lord, is to take the aggression in us and make it a more peaceable strength, and to take what is timid in us and make us more brave.

Let us bring our lives to the one who is worthy to heal the zoo within us, worthy to put us at peace and to make us whole.

Peace be with you all! – Pastor John Omans



"The best of the first fruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of the Lord your God."
(Exodus 34:26)

Why do we have an offering in our worship? This question was asked of me by a member of a church I served. In other words, how does the offering ‘fit-in’ with our worship of God?

The practice of the offering of first fruits was central to Israel’s understanding of the worship of God. Theirs was an agricultural economy. Harvest and livestock were the stuff of life. Thus, the first and best of life was given to God. The best of their food and animals were brought to worship! By giving the first and the best of their harvest and livestock, God’s people proclaimed their trust in God, showed their gratitude for God’s provision for their lives, and rededicated themselves to following God’s ways.

In our understanding of our worship of God, we build on a fresh understanding of first fruits. As we dedicate our offerings, we dedicate ourselves once more, we proclaim our trust in God, and we show gratitude for God’s provision for our lives.

The language we use in our offering is important. The church never “takes” an offering. No one is forced or coerced to give. Rather, the church “receives” an offering – given willingly as moved by the Spirit. This helps to keep a proper perspective that offerings are an act of worship – a response of thankful hearts to God.

Let us pray: Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BIBLE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

We begin a series of four Sundays (with the exception of “guest preacher” days), with the theme, **“Listening to the prophets.”** We will focus on hearing God’s word in the message of the prophets (August) and in the lives of the prophets (September).

8/01/21 Guest Preacher

8/08/21 Amos 7:1-17

8/15/21 Micah 6:1-8

8/22/21 Guest Preacher

8/29/21 Guest Preacher

2022 ELCA Youth Gathering - Minneapolis

Students, grades 9 -12 ARE YOU INTERESTED?

July 24-28, 2022 – we travel with Grace Lutheran, Waseca.

Deadline for registration is September 1, 2021

If you are interested, please let the church office of St. John know ASAP.

Cost – 450.00 (tentative, more information forthcoming)

More information at [Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.](http://www.elca.org>YouthGathering/</i></p></div><div data-bbox=)



June 2021

Monthly
Income \$ 22,678.26
Expense -16,006.97
Diff 6,671.29

Year to Date
Income \$111,513.63
Expense — 112,973.10
Diff -1,459.47



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



Noisy Offerings

First Sunday of the month

July offering
\$49.93

Designated gifts given in June/July

Memorials

July—0

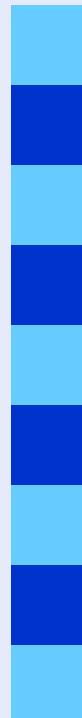
Technology

July—0

Pray for the youth and adults attending Bible Camp

August 1 – 6, St. John is sending 10 youth and 2 adults to Camp Vermillion (an ELCA Bible camp) near Cook, MN. We pack up the van beginning at 7:30am and leave by 8:00am on Sunday, August 1st.

Please pray for a week full of meaning, faith, and joy! Thank you!



GARAGE SALERS-

We will be assembling Baby Care Kits this fall. Garage sales are a good place to find baby clothes for the kits. Items to look for at the sales are-

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 zig-zagged)

Receiving blankets or medium weight cotton or flannel or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square

Jacket, sweater or sweat shirt with a hood, or include a baby cap

Pairs of socks, various sizes

****Please leave items in the basket in Trinity Hall****



August is "Undie Sunday" month and we will be collecting any size NEW underwear, but primarily kids until Aug. 22nd. They will be collected in Trinity Hall in our designated box.

Are you wondering what God's word has to say about living out your faith?

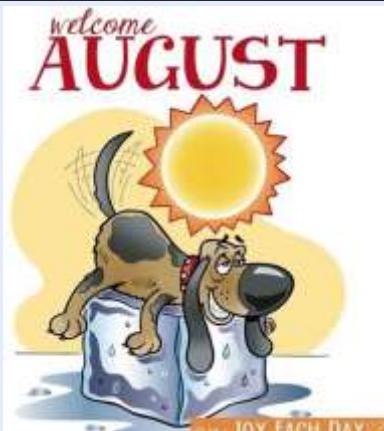
**YOU ARE INVITED
to a Women of the ELCA
Monthly Bible Study!**

**Hello! We are restarting our Bible study groups beginning this August! We will be using the Bible study provided in the Gather magazine. If you don't receive the magazine, there are often free copies available in Trinity Hall and the study itself is available online for free download at:
[www.gathermagazine.org/
category/bible-studies/](http://www.gathermagazine.org/category/bible-studies/)**

Monthly Times

**2nd Monday
1:30pm**

**3rd Tuesday
7:00pm**



**NEW GIVEPLUS+
MOBILE!!!**

Simple. Convenient. Secure

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

**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. *eGiving (www.stjohnwaseca.org)

****If you would like help setting up your account, please stop into the office and ask Julie to help set up your account with total confidentiality!!**

2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
1 <i>Youth Leave for Mission Trip till Fri. Guest: Pastor Hegel</i> 9am Traditional Worship/Noisy offering 5pm Video Voice	2 <i>10 am Quilters</i> <i>10:30am Video Voice</i>	3 <i>7pm Commission Meeting</i>	4	5 <i>7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom</i>	6 <i>Youth return from mission trip in PM.</i>	7
8 9am Contemporary Worship /Comm 5 pm Video Voice	9 <i>10 am Quilters</i> <i>10:30am Video Voice</i>	10 <i>5:30 Ex Council</i> <i>6pm Council mtg</i>	11	12 <i>2:00 Lakeshore Communion</i> <i>3:30 Colony Ct</i> <i>7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom</i>	13	14
15 9am Traditional Worship/communion 5pm Video Voice	16 <i>10 am Quilters</i> <i>10:30 am Video Voice</i>	17	18	19 <i>7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom</i>	20	21
22 UNDIE SUNDAY Guest Pastor: Pr. Paul Meierding 9am Contemp. 5 pm Video Voice	23 <i>10 am Quilters</i> <i>Lifeline Info Due</i> <i>10:30 am Video Voice</i>	24 <i>7pm Men in Mission Mtg</i>	25	26 <i>7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom</i>	27	28
29 Guest Pastor: Pr. Paul Meierding 9am Contemporary Worship 5pm Video Voice	30 <i>10 am Quilters</i> <i>10:30 am Video Voice</i>	31				



Sunday, August 29, 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship

Communion Bread Baking:
Mary Meyman & Amy LeCocq

Sunday August 1, 9:00 am
Traditional Worship

Ushers: Dennis & Marcia Bartz
Acolyte: Siri Kuhns
Reader: Marcia Bartz
Church Council: Terry Huber
Videographer: Dennis Sommers
Facebook Live: Curt Yess

Sunday, August 8, 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship-Communion

Ushers: Mary Meyman, Sue Michaels
Communion Prep: Merril & Mary Schultz
Acolyte: Brody Overland
Reader: Rodney Born
Church Council: Ann Ruedy
Videographer: Gyles Randall
Facebook Live: Curt Yess

Sunday, August 15, 9:00am
Traditional Worship-Communion

Ushers: Leslie & Karen Tlougan
Communion Prep: Amy LeCocq, Carol Tilney
Acolyte: Solomon Wilson
Reader: Karen Tlougan
Church Council: Mike Behsmann
Videographer: Marcia & Dennis Bartz
Facebook Live: Curt Yess

Sunday, August 22, 9:00 am
Contemporary Worship

Ushers: Darwin & Julie Spies
Acolyte: Riley Mitchell
Reader: Julie Spies
Church Council: Sue Michaels
Videographer: Dennis Sommers
Facebook Live: Curt Yess

Ushers: Pauline Dill, Wallace Priebe
Acolyte: Kaden Garza
Reader: Rhonda Behsmann
Church Council: Ann Ruedy
Videographer: Marcia & Dennis Bartz
Facebook Live: Curt Yess

PINE RIDGE Reservation NEWS

We are planning on making our first trip back to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation later in August. (Our last trip was December, 2019). This is our "back to school" trip, providing supplies for students and teachers at Red Shirt School as well as several families on the reservation. There will be a collection box in Trinity Hall marked "Pine Ridge." We are seeking donations for the usual school supplies as well as back packs. For a more detailed list, check out the list by the collection box. Presently we are not accepting clothes or furniture donations. Questions? Call Sue Erdman 507-461-5108

- ◆ Pencils, Highlighters
- ◆ Bic Mechanical Pencils
- ◆ Mechanical pencil refills & erasers
- ◆ 3 ring binders
- ◆ Erasers
- ◆ Crayola Crayons, Multicultural crayons
- ◆ Wide-lined Notebook
- ◆ College lined notebooks
- ◆ Pen & Gear college ruled notebook (80 sheets)
- ◆ Construction paper
- ◆ Folders
- ◆ Expo Markers-dry erase
- ◆ Individual whiteboards
- ◆ Sticky notes
- ◆ Tape
- ◆ Glue sticks/bottles of glue
- ◆ Protractors, rulers
- ◆ Staples
- ◆ Kleenex
- ◆ Calculators
- ◆ Foam footballs
- ◆ Women's basketballs (28.5)



SERVICES



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 broadcast on the local television station Sundays at 5:00 pm and Mondays at 10:30



Complimentary bus tokens are available for St. John members and guests riding the bus to church. Call the church office at 833-1703 to get your tokens. You must call DISPATCH to arrange a pick up for yourself.



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 833-1703



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.



Lutheran World Relief

Looking for that special Coffee or Tea for yourself or a GIFT? We have just the brew for you! **“Fair Trade Coffee” or “Fair Trade Tea”** may be purchased thru Sue Erdman.
Call 507-461-5108.



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Council Members and Staff

Council President

Michael Behsmann 507-461-7490

Council Vice-President

Ann Ruedy 507-308-4779

Council Secretary

Koni Hudak 651-983-7342

Financial Secretary

Al Tonn, 507-234-5737

Congregational Life

OPEN

Education Committee

Terry Huber 507-461-5424
Valerie Possehl

Worship and Music

Sue Michaels 507-381-4299

Social Ministry and Outreach

OPEN

Council Members At Large

Kyle Gallagher (2022)

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.comc

Administrative Secretary

Julie Keane 507-833-1703
stjohn@hickorytech.net

Youth Director:

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

WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.stjohnwaseca.org