

June/July 2020

Firmly Rooted in God's

ST. JOHN EV.
LUTHERAN CHURCH
ELCA

Lifeline



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

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St. John Lutheran Church has given our Graduates a gift of a quilt from the congregation. We want to extend a thank you to the women who worked for many hours to hand make these gifts for you. May these quilts remind you of the love and warmth that God wraps around you daily.



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

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? (Psalm 13:1)

Covid19 virus. Just saying it calls to mind a host of images – fear, worry, suffering, anger...and questions. Especially questions regarding our faith in God.

We might ask, for example, “Where is God in all this? Is God trying to tell us something?”

Psalm 13 in the Bible, like many Psalms, is vague about the situation that the writer is facing. I think that is intentional, so we can connect our own experiences with the Psalmist’s experience. The writer of Psalm 13 is praying for deliverance from enemies, but there is no description of who this enemy is. Sometimes fear and worry are our worse enemy. Jesus says

that: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life...seek first the kingdom of God.” (Matthew 6:25. 33)

The psalms remind us that there are people who have gone through times of trouble, and in prayer they found the strength to get through it. There are many places in the Bible, where people go through times of trouble, struggle, and suffering and find their strength in God. I believe God is speaking to us in this pandemic, saying, “Return to the Lord your God, for he cares for you!”

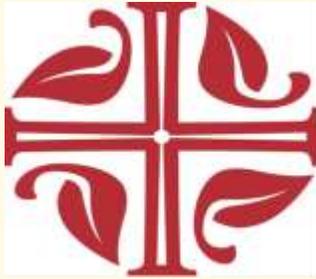
This is exactly what the writer of Psalm 13 does. Verse 5 of this Psalm: “I trust in your steadfast love.” The phrase, “steadfast love,” in the Bible, means that quality of God that will always hold us, that sure love of God that will never let us go, even in the midst of the worst that we face.

I think we are being called, in this time of pandemic, to reevaluate our relationship to God. Are there things that have taken the place of God in our lives? Have we become so consumed with material things, and with the fears and worries of life, that we have forgotten God? Remember Psalm 23? “The Lord is my Shepherd...Even I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me.”

The writer of Psalm 13 is entrusting his, or herself into God’s care and leadership. Verses 5 and 6 of this Psalm: “My heart shall rejoice in your salvation,” And, “I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.” In other words, the psalmist is expressing gratitude for the goodness of God. Can we look back at our lives and see how God has cared for us, provided for us, and helped us? Where have we seen God’s love and care, in this community and in our lives, even in this pandemic? The Psalmist is saying, “I don’t know what the future holds, O God, but I will live for you.”

Learning to trust God in all things, is the most difficult transition in our lives. It will help us to follow the example of the writer of Psalm 13. Cry out to God. In time of distress, keep praying, keep the focus of your heart on God. Remember, even if your prayer is to complain to God, he understands. He can take it. Return to God, again and again, entrusting your life to his care and leadership.

Peace, Pastor John



Stewards of Grace

1 Peter 4:10-11

“As good stewards of the manifold grace of God”

O day full of grace, O blessed time, our Lord on the earth arriving; Then came to the world that light sublime, great joy for us all retrieving; For Jesus all mortals did embrace, all shame and despair removing. (627 – Cranberry Hymnal)

As we experience our Lord Jesus and the Gospel, there is the Grace of God.

What is the Grace of God? It is God’s caring, redeeming, supporting, renewing, inspiring favor come to us.

This Grace comes to us in the midst of a broken world and broken lives.

This Grace takes on rebellion, and addresses hurt, illness, and loss.

This Grace is abundant and can challenge our own perspectives that too often see only scarcity, challenge, and hopelessness.

When was there a time in your life when you were excited about your faith in Jesus? How can that faith be renewed?

Jesus lives. Baptized in his name, his very Spirit lives in every one of us. As we gather for worship, even if it is virtual worship, Jesus is there. As we feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, send cards or make caring contact with the sick, we are feeding, welcoming, and visiting Jesus. As we listen to the Word of God preached and taught (the Bible holds Jesus as the manger held Jesus as a baby), we are listening to Jesus and learning from Jesus. Not every word of the preacher is the Word of God, but we practice discerning what agrees with the Spirit of Jesus.

Let us grow in our awareness of the Grace of God, poured out for us in his Son, Jesus.

BIBLE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sunday Series – Signs of the Resurrection

05/31/20 Acts 2:1-21 (Pentecost)

06/07/20 John 15:26-27, 16:4-15

06/14/20 Supply Preacher

06/21/20 Supply Preacher

Sunday Series – 10 Commandments

06/28/20 Exodus 19:1-8, 20:1-5

07/05/20 Exodus 20:7-11

07/12/20 Exodus 20:12-15

07/19/20 Exodus 20:16-17

07/26/20 Exodus 32:1-14



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



April 2020

Monthly

Income \$ 16,158.03

Expense — 20,264.64

Diff (-3,506.01)

Year to Date

Income \$ 63,053.65

Expense — 83,439.19

Diff (-20,385.54)

On April 14, 2020 the Small Business Administration through Roundbank Waseca granted our church a loan of \$26,000 under the Payroll Protection Program. This loan is for 2 years at 1% interest, but, if certain requirements are met, the loan may be forgiven.
Al Tonn



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



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.

Faith Campfire!!

Come and Join Us at our Faith Campfire.

June 1st and 17th and July 1st & 15th.

We will have fellowship and S'mores. This will be located in the parking lot of St. John Lutheran. Please follow the guidelines of our Gov. during this time.



[Lutheran World Relief](#)
[Running out of Coffee or Tea?](#)
“Fair Trade Coffee” or “Fair Trade Tea” may be purchased thru Sue Erdman.



Do you have a Favorite Hymn?



If you have a favorite hymn that you would like included in our Sunday worship, please call the church office (507-833-1703). We will make a list, and sing them as soon as we can!

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.

The reward of patience is patience.

Augustine



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	1	2	3  6:30 pm Faith Campfire	4	5	6
79am Traditional Worship ONLINE 5pm Video Voice	8 10:30am Video Voice	9 7:00 pm Commissions- VIRTUAL via ZOOM	10	11 7pm Men in Mis- sion BS-via Zoom	12	13 Baby Shower
14 Rev. Joel Erickson 9am Contemporary Worship -ONLINE 5 pm Video Voice	15 10:30 am Video Voice	16 VIRTUAL via ZOOM 5:30 pm Exec Council 6:00 pm Council Meet	17 6:30pm Faith Campfire	18 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	19	20
21 Rev. Dick Hegal 9am Traditional Worship ONLINE 5pm Video Voice	22 10:30 am Video Voice	23	24	25 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	26	27
28 9am Contemporary Worship -ONLINE 5pm Video Voice	29 10:30 am Video Voice	30				



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

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.

Get started today!

There is information on our church website, or ask for an authorization form in the church office.

**Thank you to all that
have switched over to
Simply Giving !!!**



We send comfort to the family of Lois Ptacek (mom to Richard & Randy Anderson) funeral was Sat. May, 16, 2020.

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Sympathies to wife Barbara & family of Robert (Bob) Tetzloff, private Services will be held for the family.



Pastor John is interested in bringing home communion to individuals or households. I will wear a mask, if you wish. And I am working on finding gloves to use. We will observe social distancing protocols. If you would like to receive communion, and are comfortable with a visit, please call the church office or contact Pastor John Omans



# July

| Sunday                                                        | Monday                        | Tuesday                                                                         | Wed                                                                                                               | Thursday                                                           | Friday | Sat                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                               |                               |                                                                                 | 1 <br>6:30 pm<br>Faith Campfire  | 2                                                                  | 3      | 4  |
| 5 9am Traditional<br>Worship ONLINE<br>5pm Video Voice        | 6<br>10:30am<br>Video Voice   | 7<br>7:00 pm<br>Commissions—<br>VIRTUAL via<br>ZOOM                             | 8                                                                                                                 | 9<br>WELCA Com-<br>bined BS<br>7pm Men in Mis-<br>sion BS-via Zoom | 10     | 11                                                                                    |
| 12<br>9am Contemporary<br>Worship –ONLINE<br>5 pm Video Voice | 13<br>10:30 am<br>Video Voice | 14<br>VIRTUAL via<br>ZOOM<br>5:30 pm<br>Exec Council<br>6:00 pm<br>Council Meet | 15 <br>6:30pm<br>Faith Campfire | 16<br>7pm<br>Men in Mission<br>BS-via Zoom                         | 17     | 18                                                                                    |
| 19<br>9am Traditional<br>Worship ONLINE<br>5pm Video Voice    | 20<br>10:30 am<br>Video Voice | 21                                                                              | 22                                                                                                                | 23<br>7pm<br>Men in Mission<br>BS-via Zoom                         | 24     | 25                                                                                    |
| 26<br>9am Contemporary<br>Worship –ONLINE<br>5pm Video Voice  | 27<br>10:30 am<br>Video Voice | 28                                                                              | 29                                                                                                                | 30                                                                 | 31     |                                                                                       |



**Feel free to register as individuals or a group. Please send a check for \$15 per person (under 20 yrs. \$10) payable to: SE MN Synod LMM by July 31<sup>st</sup> to:**

Russell Tesch  
 906 4<sup>th</sup> Ave SE  
 Waseca, MN 56093  
 507-835-3843 or  
 e-mail: [marietesch@mchsi.com](mailto:marietesch@mchsi.com)



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”.



St. John Lutheran is able to have groups of 10 or less and to stay 6 feet apart when gathering.

We are requesting that “masks” be worn at these gatherings. Please bring your own masks.

## Congratulations Grandpa

Bradley Tetzloff has a new Granddaughter, “Aurora” born May 19th.

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



### **Council Members and Staff**

#### **Council President**

**Michael Schlueter 507-304-3530**

#### **Council Vice-President**

**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**

#### **Education Committee**

**Valerie Possehl 507-461-9677**

#### **Worship and Music**

**Merril Schultz 507-461-7240**

#### **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**

**Marty 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)