

Firmly Rooted in God's

Lifeline

ST. JOHN EV.
LUTHERAN
CHURCH ELCA

January
2020



St John 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 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.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday
7:30 am — 11:30 am
12:30 pm — 4:30 pm

Email-
stjohn@hickorytech.net
Call-507-833-1703
www.stjohnwaseca.org
Facebook-
[stjohnlutheranchurchelca](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnlutheranchurchelca)

Lutheran World Relief

“Fair Trade Coffee” or “Fair Trade Tea” may be purchased the first Sunday of each month before or after services.



Prayer Ministers

Prayer teams will be available in the narthex for prayer during all Sunday Communion services. **While communion is being served** you are invited to go to the narthex and a member will be there to hear your request and to pray with you. Please make use of this opportunity to pray!



I am still far from being what I want to be, but with God's help I shall succeed.

Vincent Van Gogh



MILITARY SERVICE

Jacob Kuhns, Trevor Morris, Matt Wantoch, Dana Elias, Darren Peterson, Savanna Grunzke, Madyson Murphy, Jacob Lemmen, Dylan Wesseling and Nathan Lonneman. Please let us know of others to add.



Noisy Offering Sunday, Jan. 5th at 9:00 am. Help the children fill our milk can. Used for hunger.



The Pancake Breakfast is for Bethlehem Inn Thrivent Action Team project for Men in Mission.

Men in Mission will serve a Pancake Breakfast with maple rope sausages, fruit, toppings, and beverages following worship on Sun. January 5th, honoring our 2nd graders.



Anyone that wants to be included on our current Homebound Communion list please call the church office at 833-1703.

Sunday Bus (Smart 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.

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



Dear Congregation,

“The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.” (Mark 1:1)

What is the “good news” that Christianity offers?

The “good news” must be important because Mark, the first gospel writer, has the words “good news” in the very first sentence of his gospel. Mark’s gospel is just the beginning of the good news about Jesus. Or you could say that the good news is not just a moment in time, but a continuation of what Jesus began. If Mark were here today, I think he would say, “Yes, the good news that had its beginning in Jesus’ birth, life, death, and resurrection is still unfolding today.”

Jesus started his ministry by preaching the good news of God, and the good news of God was that God’s Kingdom was at hand. *“The kingdom of God is near; repent and believe in the good news.” (Mark 1:14-15)* So the good news from the very beginning has to do with God’s Kingdom that is at hand – that Jesus is ushering in.

The good news is that this Kingdom is breaking into our world and we can live in it.

The contents of that Kingdom are what Jesus taught by his actions and his words – a life that places God at the center; a life where God’s love and grace can be experienced and shared with others. The good news of this kingdom was for everybody, but especially those who had been beaten down and cast aside and valued as less.

Look at Mark’s gospel, read it this month of January, and note who Jesus hangs out with, and to whom his ministry is directed. Jesus calls us to join his joyful mission in God’s kingdom.

Jesus had been preaching that the kingdom of God is at hand – so live like it – and he sends out his disciples to share the good news!

The beginning of the good news began in the life and preaching of Jesus. The good news is still being shared today as we live out the values of Jesus; the values of compassion, love, generosity of spirit, joy, forgiveness, meekness, treasuring others, reaching out with care and concern, offering hope where there is despair, and the list is as long as all the teachings of Jesus.

The time is now; let’s follow Jesus in sharing the good news of God until everything on earth is as it is in heaven.

May the Spirit of Jesus direct our steps.

Peace, **Pastor John**



How is God made known to us today?



Between Christmas and the season Lent (40 days leading up to Easter), the church focuses on a season called “Epiphany.”

As with many of our “churchy” words, the word epiphany comes from the Greek – the original language of the New Testament of the Bible. The word is usually translated in our English, as “appearing.” The word is found in Titus 3:4 (a Bible reading we had on Christmas Day) – “When the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior

APPEARED, he saved us, not because of any works that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.” Another word for “appeared,” is the phrase “was made known.” Read the above verse and replace “appeared” with “was made known.”

The Day of Epiphany is January 6 and remembers the story of when Jesus made himself known to the wise men. But the “Season” of Epiphany, explores how God, through Jesus, makes himself known to people of every time in history, including us today.

What God is up to in our lives?

How is God made known to us today?

Take some time this month, and share with someone (a friend, a family member, someone else), how the Lord is showing up in your life and making himself known.

BIBLE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Christmas ends on January 6th. We will celebrate the story of the Wise men visiting Jesus on Sunday, January 5th. After that, we begin a new series in the gospel of Mark.

Series – The beginning of the good news for all

01/05/19 – Matthew 2:1-12

01/12/19 – Mark 1:1-20

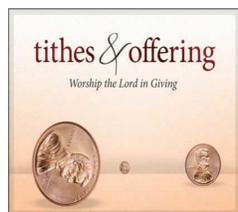
01/19/19 – Mark 1:21-39

01/26/19 – Mark 2:1-22

02/02/19 – Mark 5:21-43

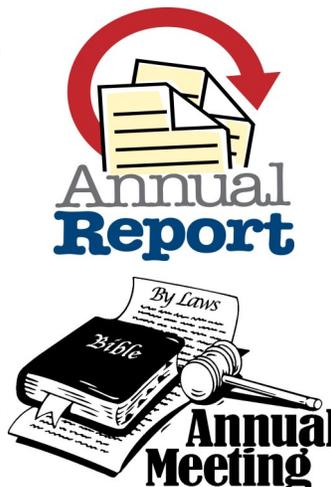
02/09/19 – visit from Southeastern MN Synod, Rev. Emily Carson

02/16/19 – Mark 4:1-20



The 2020 offering envelopes are ready to be picked up in Trinity Hall.

If you no longer want envelopes, please contact the church office as soon as possible. We order next years envelopes in January.



Council News

Annual Report Items are due in the church office by Friday, **January 10th**. Please submit articles in electronic form as an email. *Plan to attend the Annual Meeting Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020 at 10:30 am. We need your help in planning St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church’s future.*



Hi Everyone,

My name is Julie (Prechel) Keane. I am St. Joh Lutherans Church Administrative Assistant. I have lived in Waseca all my life. I am married to a wonderful man, Troy Keane. He is a Waseca native, also. You can say we were high school sweethearts. We have been married for 40 years. Troy worked in construction for 30 years and now



works for Lower 48 Transport as a truck driver. He says he is “semi” retired.

We have two children, Shalee Keane White and Nicholas (Nick) Keane.

Shalee is married to Jamie White and they have a daughter, Jadyn White, age 15 and son, Tanner White, age 12. Shalee works at Roundbank Insurance. Nick works at Guardian Energy over by Janesville. We are so blessed to have everyone live in Waseca.

We live on the Prechel family farm south of Waseca and we have a passion for horses. I have had horses since I was 9 years old and Troy grew up with horses at his uncles, which he spent many a day riding. Everyone of my family members, trail rides, shows horses, and trains in some way, shape or form. Yes... it is a Passion that has been passed down. I also, enjoy quilting and reading during the winter months.

I have been involved with many organizations in our community. Waseca County 4-H, Wilton River Riders Saddle Club, Waseca Sheriffs Mounted Posse, Waseca Red Cross, and Waseca Sleigh & Cutter. I have enjoyed every one of them.

I have worked in the medical field in some way, most of my life. I started out as a Certified Dental Assistant with Dr. Craig Peterson and Dr. Rodney Kolpin for 13 years, then went to University of Waseca till it closed. On to EF Johnson in the warranty department. Was drawn to Arabian Horse Times as their receptionist and front desk and in the Classified Ad department. Waseca Medical Center was my next calling. I worked in the insurance department where I learned the coding and billing world which intrigued me very much. I decided to go back to college at age 45, to learn this new and challenging venture. I don't know which was more challenging, going back to college at a later age or learning the medical coding. I became a Certified Professional Coded and a Certified Medical Reimbursement Specialist in 2007. I continued to work for Mayo Health System for several years, then decided to work from home with Hennepin County Medical/Trauma Center of Mpls., Ridgeview Medical Center of Chaska and several other clinics thru out the east coast as a remote coder and worked from home. The Lord always has a plan for me to help people when they need it. I have put my faith in God to open a door when one closes.

Which brings me to St. John Lutheran. I had a door close and guess what, God opened a door and said, “They need your help.” Here I am and enjoying every minute of it. Meeting everyone that comes into the office to say hi and to say hi to friends that I have not seen in a long time, has been a true blessing for me. You all have been so gracious and welcoming. Looking forward to meeting more of this congregation.

Blessings to you, *Julie Prechel Keane*





MEN IN MISSION

Russell Tesch has applied for a Thrivent Action Team for Bethlehem Inn—proceeds and donations from The Men in Mission Pancake Breakfast on January 5th, 2020 will go to supporting this mission.

Our Mission

The mission of Bethlehem Inn of Waseca is to help women and children in need by:

- Providing safe, short term housing.
- Empowering residents to improve their lives.

Providing assistance in accessing area social service providers to help residents regain self-sufficiency and dignity.

Our Philosophy

Empower to improve their lives.

- Expectations set for each guest.
- Work with local social services agencies to provide assistance and support.

Length of stay based on a case by case basis.

Needs List

Bethlehem Inn is currently (*as of 12/13/2019*) in need of the following items:

- Toilet plungers
- Femine hygiene products
- Cleaning supplies such as:**
- Dishwashing detergent
- Anti-bacterial spray
- Febreeze
- Lysol spray/wipes
- Mr. Clean
- Fabuloso
- Clorox
- Oven cleaner
- Dish scrubs
- Plastic gloves

Our wish list consist of a couple of booster seats.



Financial donations always appreciated

****Donations are now accepted Monday - Thursday from 9am-1pm!***** Gently used items are always welcome.

If you'd like to arrange a different time, give us a call and we will do our best to accommodate. 507-833-8310



The vision of Lutheran Men in Mission is for every man (young and old) to become a bold, daring follower of Jesus.
Men in Mission meets Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 7:00 pm.



End of the year Budget update will be available on the website soon!



NOISY OFFERINGS

\$111.55

was collected on December 1 for hunger.



Many hands and strong arms are needed to help undecorate our church. Festivities start **Saturday, Jan. 11th at 9:00am.**

November 2019

Monthly

Income	\$ 24,493.14
Expense	—22,882.60
Diff	1,610.54

Year to Date

Income	\$ 210,110.54
Expense	—229,946.38
Diff	(-19,835.84)



Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota

Jackie Wood
Mental Health Professional
LSS Behavioral Health
Scheduling: 612-879-5320
Cell: 507-317-8049

701 South 2nd St.
Mankato, MN 56001
www.lssmn.org

Welca Bible Study
of the **Women ELCA**

Mary Bible Study
Monday, January 13th, 1:30 pm
in Trinity Hall Leader— Jean M.

Ruth Bible Study
Tuesday, January 21st, 7pm at
Latham Place
Hostess Jean M. Leader Nadine O.



Sundays at 9:00 am

Traditional Worship
on the second and third Sundays
Contemporary Worship
on the first and fourth Sundays
Holy Communion
Sundays January 12 and 19

VIDEO VOICE OF ST JOHN

Each Sunday morning the worship service at St. John is videotaped and broadcast on Channel 8
Sundays at 5:00 pm and
Mondays at 10:30 am.





Epiphany January 5, 9:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship

***Ushers: Don & Linda Wesseling
Danielle Timmerman, Carol Tilney***

Reader: Brenda Langerud

Acolyte: Kendall Bowers

Church Council: Gary Conrath

Videographer: Curt Yess

SCRIP: Kari Priebe

Fellowship: Men in Mission-Bethlehem Inn

Thrivent Action Team Project

Second Sunday in Epiphany January 12, 9:00 am

Contemporary Worship with Communion

Ushers: Steven & Jody Schroeder

Gyles & Carol Randall

Prepare Communion: Kevin & Cindy Dickie

Prayer Ministers:

Reader: Sam Macklay

Acolyte: Alexis Brinkman

Church Council: Bill Erdman

Videographer: Merril Schultz

Fellowship:

Third Sunday in Epiphany January 19, 9:00 a.m.

Traditional Worship with Communion

***Ushers: Leslie & Karen Tlougan,
Wayne Hansen, Melvina Conrath***

Communion: Pauline Dill, Amy LeCocq

Reader: Karen Tlougan

Acolyte: Lexi Kanewischer

Church Council: Merril Schultz

Videographer: Gyles Randall

Fellowship:

Contemporary Worship Service

January 26, 9:00 a.m.

***Ushers: Diane Blowers, Kathy Zabel,
John & Vicky O'Neil***

Reader:

Acolyte: Siri Kuhns

Church Council: Gary Conrath

Videographer: : Domonic/Pam Grunzke

Fellowship



**Rev. Emily Carson
from the
Southeastern MN
Synod**

Will be visiting our congregation on February 9th during our Fellowship time. Please come and meet her.



**Wednesday
Lunch**

**January 17
12 noon**

**Christian Assembly
900 14th Ave SE**

Enjoy a warm bowl of soup, fellowship with friends, and a devotional from an area pastor, Just for the cost of a donation.

Sponsored by the Greater Waseca Ministerial Association.





Quilters

re- sume Monday January 6th at 10am in Fellowship Hall.

New people are always welcome to join us. No sewing experience is necessary. There are also many other projects to help with. We need help sewing quilt tops which can be done at home on your own schedule. Contact Jean Miller with any questions 835-2094



Ashley Hall is our CORE Case Manager, working with our veterans and military connected individuals in the Mankato, Waseca & Rochester Areas. She is taking new clients in the Lutheran Social Service Mankato office and in the St John's Lutheran Church counseling office in Waseca. Please call 612-879-5212 for information or to make an appointment.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

God's hand has led me, is leading me, and will lead me tomorrow.



THANK YOU EVERYONE!

Those that were able to help with the Community Christmas Meal, Dec. 25. Your help was greatly appreciated by all.



Altar Flowers

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 are \$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".



We purchase gift cards to use for our every day needs such as gas and groceries.

There is no additional cost to the members of our church! A percentage of each purchase will be donated to the church. The more we buy, the more we make. It's that simple. Gift certificates are purchased at face value and the merchants give scrip a percentage discount on the cards. **Scrip can be purchased before or after worship on the first Sunday of the month or by calling Kari Priebe or Pam Grunzke. We are all a family at St John and we can ALL help the youth. Every scrip purchase you make will help the youth of St John. We need volunteers to help sell SCRIP to keep this program going, please contact:**

*Kari Priebe 507-521-4723 or
Pam Grunzke 612-910-7230,
Scrip Co-Coordinator, if you are willing to help.
Or, a sign up sheet can be found in Trinity Hall.*

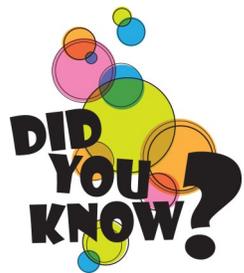
We Need Your Help!



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.

Currently Available in the Narthex and Trinity Hall

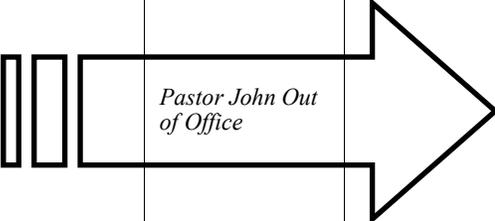
Large print and regular size copies of:

- “Portals of Prayer”, “Christ in our Home”, and “The Upper Room” quarterly devotion books.
- Council meeting monthly minutes
- Extra Copies of our Lifeline Monthly Newsletter
- Monthly Prayer Ventures from ELCA
- “Pockets” learning about God for children
- “Gather” women’s magazine for faith and action
- “The Lutheran Prayer Book”-a collection of prayers and inspirations for every Lutheran.



January

2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2	3 Office Open	4
5am Traditional Worship Noisy Offerings/ Scrip 10:15 Men in Mission Pancake Breakfast-honoring 2nd Gr./NO FAITH5 5:00 pm Video Voice	6 10:00 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	7 7pm Commis-sion mtg	8 5pm Pizza 5:30Confirmation	9 11:15 Lakeshore Inn Comm. 1:00 pm Colony Court Communion	10 Annual Report Deadline 	11 9am Church Undecorating 
12 9am Traditional Worship with Communion Flowers –Lora Means 10:15am FAITH5/Fellowship 5pm Video Voice	13 10:00 am Quilters 1:30 pm Mary Bible Study T.H 10:30 am Video Voice	14 5:30 pm Ex. Council 6pm Council mtg	15 5pm Pizza 5:30Confirmation	16 Life Line Deadline 5pm I.C.E.	17 Office Closed	18
19 9am Traditional Worship with communion 10:15 am FAITH5/Fellowship 3pm 1st Nation Kitchen group leave 5:00 pm Video Voice	20 10:00 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	21 9:30am St. J host MN River Clergy Mtg & lunch 6 pm Ruth Bible Study	22 5pm Pizza 5:30Confirmation	23	24 Office Closed	25
26 9am Contemporary Worship 10:15am FAITH5/Fellowship 10:30am Annual Meeting T.H. 5:00 pm Video Voice 	27 10:00 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	28 7pm M in M	29 NO Confirmation	30 	31 Office Closed	



Nonprofit Organization US
Postage Paid Permit No.35
Waseca, MN 56093

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 2019

Council President

Don Wesseling, 507-351-4612
dhwess63@gmail.com

Council Vice-President

Michael Schlueter, 507-304-3530

Council Secretary

Nancy Hansen, 507-333-2876

Congregational Life

Michel Schlueter, 507-304-5530

Education Committee

Valerie Possehl, 507-461-9677

Worship and Music

Merril Schultz, 507-461-7240

Social Ministry and Outreach

Kari Priebe 507-521-4723

Council Members At Large

Gary Conrath, 507-521-2663

Building and Grounds

Bill Erdman, 507-461-1359

Financial Secretary

Al Tonn, 507-234-5737

E-mail : stjohn@hickorytech.net

Facebook: St John Lutheran Church ELCA

Pastor John Omans

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

home 507-833-1525

E-mail faith.worker@hotmail.com

Director: Cross+Gen Ministries

Marty Aberle, 507-461-3552

Email: 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

Administrative Assistant

Julie Keane, 507-833-1703

stjohn@hickorytech.net

WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.stjohnwaseca.org