

Firmly Rooted in God's

Lifeline



ST. JOHN EV.
LUTHERAN
CHURCH ELCA

March
2020



State Street Singers from Waseca High School, under the direction of Deb Wan-toch-Yess were hosted by the St. John Seniors during the Feb. 12th luncheon. What a great performance!

Part of this years confirmation class with Pastor John and "Buddy" the Confirmation mascot.



Ash Wednesday
February 26, 2020

9:00am Worship w/
communion, Sacrificial
Breakfast
7:00 pm Worship w/
communion



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

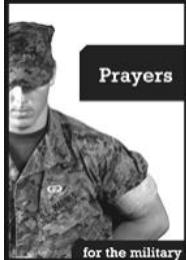
Church Office Hours

Monday — Friday
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)

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!



MILITARY SERVICE

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

LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

Men in Mission will serve a Pancake Breakfast with maple rope sausages, fruit, toppings, and beverage on Sun. March 1, 10:15am honoring 5th Graders



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

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



Lutheran World Relief

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



Noisy Offering Sunday, March 1 at 9:00 am. Help the children fill our milk can. Used for hunger. Feb. 2nd, \$144.58 in coins were collected for hunger

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Eligible members can select where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on Thrivent insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership.

March 31, 2020 is the final deadline for Thrivent members to select their 2019 Thrivent Choice Dollars.

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.



"Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."

In Mark's gospel, chapter 12, verses 13-17, The leaders send a delegation to confront Jesus. They want to trap him, and so they propose a question for debate: *"Teacher... is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not? Should we pay them or should we not?"* (12:14-15) If he says yes, the people will hate him because they hate paying taxes to the Roman occupying forces. Jesus will lose his followers. If he says no, he will be branded a traitor to the empire and subject to punishment and death.

We've got him, they think! This is a trap he couldn't possibly escape!

But Jesus responds, *"Bring me a denarius and let me see it."* (12:15) In other words, 'Let me see one of those Roman coins with which you pay the tax.' The Roman coins had the image of the Roman Emperor Caesar stamped on them. And Jesus asks, *"Whose head is this and whose title?"* (12:16) In other words, 'whose image is on the coin?' They answer, *"The emperor's"* (12:16). And Jesus says, *"Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's."* (12:17)

And then we read, *"And there were utterly amazed at him"* (12:17). Jesus leaves them speechless. They all know what he's done here. They know whose image they are made in, whose image they are stamped with. Because it says right on the first page of the Bible, which they all knew by memory: *"God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them."* (Genesis 1:27)

This is what those leaders who questioned Jesus had forgotten. They had forgotten who they are and whose they are. They had become blind to the most fundamental calling in their lives – to give their selves first and foremost to God, and to participate in God's mission to redeem this broken world.

We are made in God's image or likeness. It means that our lives are to reflect the likeness of God.

And what is God like? The Bible tells us, "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love." God is love. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son." To be made in the image of God, to reflect his likeness, means that we are meant to be people who show mercy and love.

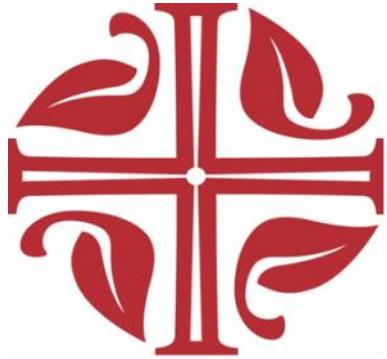
In Jesus, we see what the image of God looks like in an actual human being. Colossians 1:15 tell us, *"He is the image of the invisible God."* We are meant to reflect that image of God we see in Jesus, his mercy, and his love. In other words, we are called to follow Jesus.

This is the focus of our Sundays in Lent, "Following Jesus." **We begin with Ash Wednesday, February 26 – either 9:00 am OR 7:00 pm.** I invite you to use the opportunity that this season of Lent provides, to seek a deeper walk with the Lord.

Peace, Pastor John



All Women of St John are invited to the 11th Triennial Convention of Women of ELCA which will be held July 14-16, 2020 in Phoenix, AZ. You do not have to be active in your local WELCA in order to attend. St. John's WELCA has initiated a scholarship fund to assist anyone who plans to attend. More information about the convention can be found at www.womenoftheelca.org/eleventh-triennial-convention. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate in workshops and other educational offerings and to feel the Holy Spirit at work.



Stewards of Grace

1 Peter 4:10-11

“As good stewards of the
manifold grace of God”

Did you mother or father ever remind you to say “Thank you” when someone gives you something or does something nice for you?

Saying “Thank you” is a nice thing to do for other people. But did you know that it also helps you? When we say “Thank you” it makes us into people who are grateful. Saying “Thank you” helps us pay more attention to what people do for us.

It works the same way with God. Saying “Thank you” to God helps us pay more attention to all the good things God does for us. Can you think of the good things God has done for you?

When we receive our offering in worship, this is one way that we say “Thank you” to God. Often, we will use a prayer when the offering is received that sounds something like this:

Gracious God, with these gifts we also offer to you our lives and our love, in grateful thanks for your grace that surrounds us every day. Use these gifts and us for your purpose, that your love may be made known to all the world, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

BIBLE READINGS FOR UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Sunday Series – Following Jesus

03/01/20 – Mark 10:17-31

03/08/20 – Mark 10:32-52

03/15/20 – Mark 12:1-12

03/22/20 – Mark 12:28-34

03/29/20 – Mark 13:1-8

Mid-Week Lent (7 pm Wed night) Series – Faith Stories

We will hear stories from scripture and video interviews.

People from our congregation will be invited to share a favorite Bible verse, and why it's a favorite, on the April 1st.

03/04/20 How God makes a difference in your life

03/11/20 A person who made a difference in your faith

03/18/20 A Time when God felt absent

03/25/20 How God came alive in your life

04/01/20 Your favorite passage of the Bible



The Waseca Area Food Shelf is looking forward to another year of partnering with the community and the 2020 *Minnesota Food Share March Campaign*. 100% of all donations from corporate sponsors, businesses, congregations, schools, Local clubs, groups and individuals will remain right here in Waseca County.

Waseca is a small town in southern Minnesota, but still vulnerable to food insecurity and homelessness. The work of the Waseca Area Food Shelf is vital and necessary to the community. The Waseca Area Food Shelf provides service to 170 families on a monthly basis. This translates to 1,103 individuals in a given month. The Waseca Area Food Shelf is also providing support to Bethlehem Inn— a new shelter for women and children in Waseca County. The Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center provides assistance to homeless individuals throughout the year. With community support, the Waseca Area Food Shelf and Waseca Area Neighborhood Service Center will continue to assist local families with overcoming adversity and strengthening quality of life. The Waseca Area food Shelf is asking for continued community support for the Minnesota FoodShare Campaign. Every contribution strengthens the vitality of our community. **We want to thank every member of the community that provides support throughout the year. This generosity continues to bring success to the Waseca Area Food Shelf and our community.**

Thank You! Toni, Jessica, and Bea

507-833-4022

Waseca_food_shelf@outlook.com

Food Insecurity

“Consistent access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources at times during the year”

FOOD DRIVE

Please bring nonperishable items to worship in March. Please leave your items in front at the altar. They will be delivered to the Waseca Neighborhood Service Center Food Shelf.

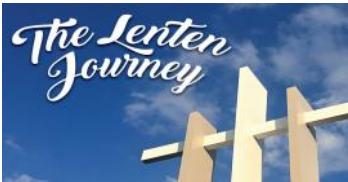
Remember the Neighborhood Service Center can purchase items at reduced prices, so cash donations are greatly appreciated!

A free will cash offering will be collected on the last Sunday, March 29th.



During Lent we will have meals and fellowship Wed. evenings at 5:45 p.m. in Fellowship Hall hosted by the following groups and confirmation students will prepare dessert.

- 3/04 WELCA
- 3/11 Quilters
- 3/18 Senior Choir
- 3/25 Church Council
- 4/01 Men in Mission



Communion Bread March
Vickie Hill and Cindy Coy

First Sunday in Lent March 1, 9:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship Service
Ushers: Karen Schmidt, Janet Wichmann
Rodney & Lori Born
Reader: Janet Wichmann
Acolyte: McKayla Baumgarten
Church Council: Michael Schlueter
Fellowship: Men in Mission-Pancake Brkfst
Videographer: Merrill Schultz

Lenten Wed. March 4, 7:00 p.m.
Mid Week Worship
Ushers: Solomon Wilson, Susie Kuhns,
Dominic Grunzke
Reader: Mary Schultz
Acolyte: Kendall Bowers
Church Council: Dan Kuhns
Meal Service/Clean up: WELCA,
Alexis Brinkman, Lexi Kanewischer,
Susie Kuhns



Second Sunday in Lent
March 8, 9:00 am
Contemporary
“Caffeinated” Worship
Communion in Trinity Hall
Ushers: Jeffrey & Ann Ruedy
Phil & Brenda Langerud
Prepare Communion: Ann Ruedy, Arlene Weber
Prayer Ministers: Sue Erdman, Shirley Raetz
Reader: Sally Takala
Acolyte: Alexis Brinkman
Church Council: Gary Conrath
Videographer: Dennis Sommers
Fellowship: Dave Korman

Lenten Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m.
Mid Week Worship in Trinity Hall
Ushers: Alexis Brinkman, Siri Kuhns,
Kendall Bowers
Acolyte: Lexi Kanewischer
Reader: Nadine Omans
Church Council:
Meal Service/Clean up: Quilters, Solomon Wilson,
Susie Kuhns, Brody Overland

Third Sunday in Lent March 15, 9:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship Service with Communion

Ushers: Scott & Shannon Hedberg
Craig & Cathryn Johnson
Prepare Communion: Linda Sandborg and
Marsha Vollbrech

Reader:
Acolyte: Siri Kuhns
Prayer Ministers: Kathy Zabel

Church Council:
Videographer: Gyles Randall
Fellowship: Mission Trip -Jr. High

Lenten Wednesday Worship March 18, 7:00 p.m.
Mid week Worship in Trinity Hall

Ushers: Siri Kuhns, Alexis Brinkman,
Susie Kuhns

Reader:
Acolyte: Brody Overland
Council: Dan Kuhns

Meal Service/clean up: Sr. Choir, Lexi Kanewischer,
Kendall Bowers, Dominic Grunzke

Fourth Sunday in Lent March 22, 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship

Ushers: Julie Pederson, Mary Conway
Dave & Gwen Oraskovich
Reader: Carol Tilney
Acolyte: Solomon Wilson
Church Council: Val Possehl
Videographer: Curt Yess
Fellowship: Mission Trip-Jr. High

Lenten Wednesday March 25, 7:00 p.m.
Midweek Worship in Trinity Hall

Ushers: Solomon Wilson, Susie Kuhns,
Kendall Bowers
Reader:
Acolyte: Dominic Grunzke
Council:

Meal Service/Clean up: Church Council, Brody
Overland, Susie Kuhns, McKayla Baumgarten

Fifth Sunday in Lent March 29, 9:00 a.m.
Contemporary Worship

Ushers: Valerie Possehl, Kimberly Possehl
Wayne Johnson, Curt Yess
Acolyte: Dominic Grunzke
Reader:
Council: Ann Ruedy
Videographer: Jackie Krause
Fellowship:

March Lifeline



January 2020
Monthly
Income \$13,345.23
Expense — 21,007.28
Diff (-7,662.05)



**Sundays at 9:00 am
and Wednesdays at
7:00 pm**

Traditional Worship
on the first and third Sundays
Contemporary Worship
on the second ,fourth and fifth Sunday

Welca Bible Study

Mary Bible Study
Monday, March 9 at 1:30 pm
in Trinity Hall—Leader Jean Miller

Ruth Bible Study
Tuesday, March 17th at 7:00 pm
at Latham Place—Leader Marie Tesch
Hostess—Nadine Omans



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 p.m. and Mondays at 10:30 am.



**Collecting March 1– May 3
Drop off Bin in Trinity Hall**

PERSONAL CARE KITS

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

Be sure to shop for light- or medium-weight towels, which are easier for kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.

Please give new items only.

Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name. Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.

All items should be new and in good condition.

Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH PERSONAL CARE KIT

ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended

TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping

ONE adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging*

ONE sturdy comb, remove packaging

ONE metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

* *Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap*



Scrip



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 cards 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. 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-Coordinators, if you are willing to help.**



Lenten Soup Luncheons

Wednesdays at
12 noon
March 4 -
April 1

**Hosted at the Christian Assembly
900 14th Ave. SE, Waseca**

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

***Mar. 4th St. John Lutheran will be serving the soup and Pastor John will give the message.**

Sponsored by the Greater Waseca Ministerial Association.



**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.



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.

NEW Lenten Devotions are available.



National Quilting Day March 21, 2020

"Those who sleep under a quilt, sleep under a blanket of love. For 75 years, compassionate people have put their faith into action and made quilts for people in need around the world.

world. And not just a few quilts - 27 million quilts! These gifts of love make life brighter, softer, and a bit more comfortable for our neighbors around the world struggling with displacement, chronic poverty, illness, natural disaster and conflict. This amazing ministry is one that blesses the lives of quilters and those who receive quilts". (Lutheran World Relief)

In honor of National Quilting Day, the altar flowers are given by the St. John Quilters in memory of the faithful quilters who are no longer with us.



The St. John Quilters would like to thank everyone that participated in Faith Five with the Quilters on Sunday, Feb. 16th.

Nine quilt tops were put together and the quilts are now finished. White sheets were ripped and rolled into bandages for Haiti. It was a special day for the quilters to share their mission with the families involved in Faith Five.

"May you have warm words on a cold evening, a full moon on a dark night, and the road downhill all the way to your door."
-Irish blessing



Jackie Wood
Mental Health Professional
LSS Behavioral Health

Cell: 507-317-8049
Scheduling: 612-8795320

Ashley Hall
Southeast MN CORE Case Manager
LSS Behavioral Health

Cell 507-327-5283
Ashley.hall@lssmn.org



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 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".



FAITH5 Reflections on Prayer - During the Lenten season our theme we'll be inviting us to focus on the spiritual discipline of prayer. By exploring different Gospel passages of Jesus engaged in prayer, families will be encouraged to learn new ways to expand and enrich their experiences of prayer, individually, as a family, and in community.

FAITH5 Food To The Rescue - March is St John's month to help stock the Waseca Neighborhood Service Center Food Shelf! We're encouraging everyone to bring canned goods and other nonperishables each Sunday! We're going to see if we can build a fort on the stage in Trinity Hall!



EMAIL UPDATE - Please help us update your contact information by sending us a recent email address, even if you think we have it already! Please email us stjohncrossgen5@gmail.com!

March FAITH5 Schedule:

03/01 - FAITH5 Pancake Sunday in Fellowship Hall (10:15 am)

03/08 - FAITH5 in Trinity Hall (10:15 am)

03/15 - FAITH5 in Trinity Hall (10:15 am)

03/22 - FAITH5 in Trinity Hall (10:15 am)

03/29 - FAITH5 in Trinity Hall (10:15 am)



Youth Mission Trip fundraiser



Our 7th and 8th graders are taking a mission trip to Duluth, July 26-31, with an ELCA organization called "Serve Boldly."

They will serve our coffee fellowship following worship on Sundays March 15 and March 22.

Free-will donations will go 100% to help with their trip expenses. Blessings to our youth as they prepare for serve the Lord on this trip! Please pray for a faith building experience.



MARCH 2020

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| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Fri | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1 9 am Traditional Worship Service of the Word SCRIP <i>Noisy Offerings</i> <i>10:15am Men in Mission Pancake Breakfast honor 5th gr Faith 5</i> <i>5:00 pm Video Voice</i> | 2 10 am Quilters <i>10:30 a.m. Video Voice</i> | 3 <i>Election Primary</i> <i>7:00 pm Commissions</i> | 4 <i>12:00Ministerial Lunch-Christian Assbly</i> <i>5:45pm Lenten supper</i> <i>7p.m. Worship with communion</i> | 5 | 6 <i>Office Closed</i> | 7 |
| 8 "High Caffeinated" Sunday 9am Worship -TH Contemporary w/Communion <i>10:15 Fellowship/ Faith 5 Cross Gen 5pm Video Voice</i> | 9 10 am Quilters <i>10:30 a.m. Video Voice</i> <i>1:30 p.m. Mary Bible Study T.H</i> | 10 <i>5:30 pm Exec Council</i> <i>6:00 pm Council</i> | 11 <i>11:30 St. John Lutheran Lunch</i> <i>12:00 Minist.. Lunch Christian Assembly</i> <i>5:45 pm Lenten Supper</i> <i>7p.m. Worship</i> | 12 <i>Joint Communion</i> <i>11:15 am Lake Shore 1pm Colony Court</i> | 13 <i>Office Closed</i> | 14 <i>Memorial Serv. TH 4-9PM</i> |
| 15 9 am Traditional Worship w/Communion <i>10:15 am Fellowship Faith 5-Quilters</i> <i>5:00 pm Video Voice</i> | 16 10 am Quilters <i>10:30 a.m. Video Voice</i> | 17  <i>7:00 pm Ruth Bible Study at Latham Place</i> | 18 <i>12 noon Ministerial Lunch Christian Assembly</i> <i>5:45 pm Lenten Supper</i> <i>7p.m. Worship</i> | 19 <i>5pm ICE</i> <i>Deadline for Life Line Articles</i> | 20 <i>Office Closed</i> | 21 <i>National Quilting Day</i>  |
| 22 9 am Worship Contemporary Memorial Altar Flowers-our passed quilters <i>10:15 am Fellowship Faith 5</i> <i>5:00 pm Video Voice</i> | 23 10 am Quilters <i>10:30 a.m. Video Voice</i> | 24 <i>7:00 pm Men in Mission Meeting T.H.</i> | 25 <i>12:00 Ministerial Lunch Christian Assembly</i> <i>5:45 pm Lenten Supper</i> <i>7p.m. Worship</i> | 26 | 27 <i>Office Closed</i> | 28 |
| 29 9 am Worship Contemporary Cash offering to FS <i>10:15 am Fellowship Faith 5</i> <i>5:00 pm Video Voice</i> | 30 10 a m Quilters <i>10:30 am Video Voice</i> | 31 <i>Pastor out of office</i> |  | | | |



Nonprofit Organization US
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Waseca, MN 56093

St John Evangelical Lutheran Church
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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 Schlueter 507-304-3530

Council Vice-President
Michael Behsmann 507-461-7490

Council Secretary
Nancy Hansen, 507-837-9115

Congregational Life

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
Valerie Possehl 507-461-9677
Merril Schultz 507-461-7240
Ann Ruedy 507-308-47779
Dan Kuhns 507-461-2681

Building and Grounds
Kyle Gallagher 507-461-3347

Financial Secretary
Al Tonn, 507-234-5737

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,
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

E-mail : stjohn@hickorytech.net

Facebook: St John Lutheran Church ELCA

WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.stjohnwaseca.org