

Firmly Rooted in God's Word

ST. JOHN EV.  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA

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

# Lifeline



September 2019

## In this newsletter:



### Fall Highlights!

- **Pastor John's Ordination Anniversary celebration!**
  - **Get tickets for catered dinner—Sept. 15**
  - **God's Work—Our Hands *Mission Fair*— Sept. 8**
  - **New Member celebration Sunday—Sept., 22**



### 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

## New Member Sunday—Sept. 22



Welcome to our new members! We are so happy you are here!

You bring new energy!

Phil & Brenda Langerud

Leo and Shirley Fette

Matthias and Krissy Wilson (and Solomon, Leah, Cyrus, Ella)

Roger Cole

John & Pat Scholljegerdes

Alicia and Stephanie Root

Allen Thompson

Brian and Karla Lange

Melissa McColley

Brenda Ridge

### 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**

Be sure to check for the latest St John happenings on Facebook [stjohnlutheranchurchelca](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnlutheranchurchelca), Twitter (@St\_John\_Waseca), Snapchat (St John Waseca) and [www.stjohnwaseca.org](http://www.stjohnwaseca.org)!



**9/08**—Blessing of the Backpacks—If you're going to school, we'd like to offer faith support by blessing you and your backpack during the 9 am worship! Doesn't matter if you're in PRE-K or a student in your 80s!

**9/8** Ministry Fair Sunday in Trinity Hall. Check out what FAITH 5 and GIFT Sundays look like.

**9/22** New Member Sunday—Come celebrate with those who are joining our faith family! Plus the Wilson family will be sharing their Holden Village stories.

**9/29** Faith5 in Trinity Hall—Families and those who just are plain curious what that means are invited to attend starting at 10:15 am.,



*So come, I will send you... ”(Exodus 3:10)*

There are several TV shows where the viewers can cast ballots via the internet and decide which contestants get to stay and which ones must go – America’s Got Talent, the Voice, and Top Chef to name a few.

Which brings me to a question: When it comes to making important decisions in our lives, how do we go about deciding? Poll the audience? Go with our feelings? Ask a friend?

In our reading from the Old Testament book of Exodus, we hear about Moses encounter with God in the burning bush. God speaks directly to him from a burning bush and says, *“I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them.”* (3:7-8) It all sounded good, “Yes, God! Go to it! Help your people!”

But then God says to Moses, *“So come, I will send you... ”* (3:10) Oh oh...Moses responds, *“Who am I that I should go?”* (3:11) And God answers, *“I will be with you.”* (3:12)

God says, "Moses, you’re the one! I have a job for you!"

In the New Testament, which was originally written in the Greek language, the word there for “church” is ekklesia. That’s where we get our word “church” – ekklesia. And that word ekklesia means “those who have been called.” In other words, from the New Testament’s point of view, we are the church because God calls us to do the work that God has assigned to us to do.

As you enter this fall season, and every season of our life, I encourage you to think about this question: what is God calling you to do?

We will have a MINISTRY FAIR at St. John on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. At the end of our church service on that day, we will process into Trinity Hall, where we will see the ministries of our church displayed on tables. And as we browse these tables, enjoying our fellowship treats, we will see opportunities that are there, to pray, to serve, to learn, to give, and so forth. You will be invited to consider, what is God’s calling you to do?

It’s not an easy question but it’s a question worth asking, because with our labor and God’s faithfulness, awesome things are sure to happen.

See you at our Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>!

Peace, *Pastor John Omans*





### July 2019

Monthly

Income \$ 17,768

Expense — 17,859

Diff (92)

Year to Date

Income \$128,697

Expense — 152,240

Diff (23,450)

### NOISY OFFERINGS

\$109.60 in coins were collected on Aug 4 for hunger.

*Thank you!*

The next offering will be Sept 1st.



Prayers for Our Military



### **MILITARY SERVICE**

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

### LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

#### Fellowship



Men in Mission meet the 4th Tuesday of every month. Join us at 7pm on Sept. 24.

# Welca Bible Study



#### Mary Bible Study

Monday,  
Sept. 9 at 1:30 pm  
in Trinity Hall Leader

#### Ruth Bible Study

Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 7:00 pm  
at Latham Place



### 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

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



### Fall Schedule

*Sundays at 9:00 am*

**Traditional Worship**  
on the first and third Sundays

**Contemporary Worship**  
on the second, fourth, and fifth Sundays

#### Holy Communion

Sundays Sept. 8, 15  
Oct. 13, 20 at 9:00 am



**Twelfth Sunday Pentecost Sept. 1 9:00 am**  
**Traditional Worship**

**Ushers:** Kevin and Cindy Dickie, Neil Dickie,  
 Karen Schmidt  
**Reader:** Sam Macklay  
**Acolyte:** Hannah Fordham  
**Church Council:** Val Possehl  
**Videographer:** Jackie Krause  
**Fellowship:** Men in Mission

**Thirteenth Sunday Pentecost Sept. 8 9:00 a.m.**  
**Contemporary Worship Service with Communion**

**Ushers:** Wayne Johnson, Julie Pederson, Janet  
 Wichmann, Curt Yess  
**Prepare Communion:** Arlene Weber, Amy LeCocq  
**Reader:** Janet Wichmann  
**Prayer Ministers:** Sue Erdman, Shirley Raetz  
**Acolyte:** Susie Kuhns  
**Church Council:** Merrill Schultz  
**Videographer:**  
**Fellowship:**

**Fourteenth Sunday Pentecost Sept. 15 9:00 a.m.**  
**Traditional Worship with Communion**

**Ushers:** Craig & Cathryn Johnson,  
 Scott & Shannon Hedberg  
**Prepare Communion:** Mary Meyman, Sue Micheal  
**Prayer Ministers:** Dewey and Kathy Zabel  
**Acolyte:** Erika Bowers  
**Reader:** Bruce Boyce  
**Council:** Bill Erdman  
**Videographer:**  
**Fellowship:**

**Fifteenth Sunday in Pentecost Sept. 22, 9:00 a.m.**  
**Contemporary Worship**

**Ushers:** David & Gwen Oraskovich, Russell  
 Tesch, Brian Tesch  
**Acolyte:** Dominic Grunzke  
**Reader:**  
**Council:** Val Possehl  
**Videographer:**  
**Fellowship:**

**Sixteenth Sunday in Pentecost Sept. 29 9:00 a.m.**

**Ushers:** Rodney & Lori Born, Valerie Possehl,  
 Kimberly Possehl  
**Acolyte:** Payton Garza  
**Reader:**  
**Council:** Kari Priebe  
**Videographer:**  
**Fellowship:**

**Sermon Series: God Calls!**

*We begin our fall series from the book of Exodus in the Bible. Moses has a lot of questions when God appears to him and says, "I will send you." (Exodus 3:1-10)*

*God calls us to serve and we too have questions—lots of them. But God promises to us, as he promised to Moses, "I will be with you." This series will look at how God calls us and strengthens us.*

9/08/19—Exodus 3:1-15 "Going Barefoot"

9/15/19—Exodus 4:1-17 "What's that in your hand?"

9/22/19—Exodus 14:5-7;10-14, 21-29 "Be Still"

9/29/19—Supply Pastor



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.**



Saints Alive! Living Generously



**Saints Alive! Living Generously**

*Saints alive, come and worship!*

(We remember them)

*Saints alive, come and worship!*

(Do you mean us?)

As those who have come before us, we will worship God with thanksgiving. With those around us, we will worship God with joyful spirits and live generously toward God.

Sometimes, we may wonder: Why give? How do my offerings have significance and impact?

People who give to support their church want to know that their giving makes a difference. Knowing how our giving blesses the lives of those who benefit from the ministries we support blesses us as well.

The gifts given to St. John change lives and bring joy as hurts are healed, the lost are found, the hungry are fed, peace heals brokenness, hope replaces despair, and the love of Jesus Christ transforms lives.

Imagine a tree full of leaves. Each leaf is another example of giving that has made a difference. What do you think, could the stories of our giving in this church fill a tree?

I invite you to join with all the saints at St. John Lutheran Church (Both saints past and saints present) as we explore what it means to live generously. How have you seen your own giving make a difference? How has the giving of someone inspired you?

Please attend our **MINISTRY FAIR** Sunday (**September 8<sup>th</sup>**) as we see the vital ministries God has entrusted to us (displayed on tables in Trinity Hall) and consider how that ministry demonstrates God's love and leads to changed lives. Out of this "rich ground" the life and witness of our church will grow!



***Our Licensed Psychologist, Diane Caspers, has ended her employment with Lutheran Social Services, and will no longer be available.***

*LSS will be seeking a candidate to replace here, and continue offering services in Waseca at St. John.*

**Thank-you, Diane Caspers (MS, LP) for the time you have spent in Waseca providing individual, couple and family therapy for children, adolescents and adults.**



**September 5th....**

**GUEST NIGHT FOR MEN AND WOMEN**

7pm in Trinity Hall



Speakers Galvin & Johnson from Red Wing will share stories and photos of their mission and humanitarian aide to many children in East Africa & Central America. They have ongoing relationships with *Lost Boys* of Sudan, children of East Africa and South Sudan refugees. A great program. If you want, feel free to bring along any kind of children's school supplies.





**Attention Women of St. John-**

There is an opportunity for service available. The WELCA Board is in need of more members. This group meets about four times a year for about an hour to plan for the Women of St. John ministry, activities and events. The Women of St. John are an integral part of St. John's mission to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ and your assistance is needed to plan and promote the ministry and action. Please contact any of the current Board members if you are interested and if you have questions. No experience is necessary other than your faith in Jesus Christ and commitment to assist with St. John Women's Ministry.

- In God's love, the current Board Members,
- Shirley Raetz 835-3912
  - Marie Tesch 835-3843
  - Myra Battenfeld 952-240-3754
  - Janet Priebe 835-3685
  - Lorraine Menke 835-2185
  - Linda Sandborg 835-2881

**September 8**  
***GOD'S WORK – OUR HANDS***

**Sunday!**

*Come see what our hands can do in God's world!*

**What:** A **ministry fair** lineup of projects and special ministries our congregation is involved in.

**When:** September 8 – right after worship.

**Where:** Pastor will lead us out of worship into Trinity Hall

**Who:** Bring your **children** and others to this ministry fair – where can you help? Where can children help? Your ideas .

**Why:** The church is **not** a building – the church is the **people** who hear the gospel and use their small and large gifts for the sake of the world! Come see! Your gifts make the difference .



**Join the Choir!**  
**Practice after worship on Sundays.**



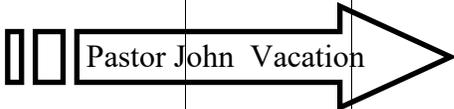
Begins Wed, Sept 4th.

6:00-6:30  
in Grace's Bell rehearsal space  
Questions: Call Mary Schultz  
at 521-4731

Senior Lutherans will meet Wednesday, Sept. 11 at 11:30 am in Trinity Hall. Lunch is \$7



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b> <i>9am Traditional Worship</i> SCRIP, Noisy Offerings</p> <p>10:15 <i>Men in Mission Breakfast/Fellowship</i></p> <p>5:00 pm <i>Video Voice</i></p>	<p><b>2</b> <i>Labor Day</i> Office closed</p>	<p><b>3</b> 7:00 pm <i>Commissions</i></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b> 7pm <i>WELCA Guest Night</i></p>		<p><b>7</b> <i>Trinity Hall Rental 3-7pm</i></p>
<p><b>8</b> <i>Pentecost 9am Contemp. Worship w/communion</i> <i>Blessing of the Backpack.</i> 10:15am <i>Ministry Fair in Trinity Hall</i> Choir begins</p>	<p><b>9</b>10am <i>Quilters</i> 10:30 am <i>Video Voice</i> 1:30 pm <i>Mary Bible Study T.H.</i></p>	<p><b>10</b> 5:30 pm <i>Exec Council</i> 6:00 pm <i>Council Meet</i></p>	<p><b>11</b> 11:30 pm <i>St John Senior's Dinner</i>  6:30 pm <i>Parent &amp; Confirmation 7th &amp; 8th grade meeting.</i></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b> <i>Wedding—Darren Peterson &amp; Scott Miller</i></p>
<p><b>15</b> <i>9am Traditional Worship w/communion</i> <i>Pastor John's 25th Anniversary of Ordination.</i> 11:30 <i>Lunch w/ticket</i> 1:00 pm—2:20 pm <i>Open House</i></p>	<p><b>16</b> 10:00 am <i>Quilters</i> 10:30 am <i>Video Voice</i></p>	<p><b>17</b> 7pm <i>Ruth Bible Study at Latham Place</i></p>	<p><b>18</b> <i>Noon Ministerial Lunch</i>  5:30 pm <i>Pizza</i> 6:00 –7:15 pm <i>Confirmation Class</i></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> 8:00 am <i>SEMN Synod Women's Convention</i> <i>Trinity Luth. in Owatonna</i></p>
<p><b>22</b> 9:00 am <i>Contemporary Worship</i> Welcome New Members! 10:15am <i>Fellowship, choir, Holden Camp</i> 5:00 pm <i>Video Voice</i></p>	<p><b>23</b> 10:00 am <i>Quilters</i> 10:30 am <i>Video Voice</i></p>	<p><b>24</b> 7pm <i>Men in Mission</i></p>	<p><b>25</b> 5:30 pm <i>Pizza</i> 6pm -7:15 <i>Confirmation</i></p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>
<p><b>29</b> 9:00am <i>Contemporary Worship (Pulpit Supply)</i> 10:15 am <i>GIFT Sunday fellowship, Choir</i> 5:00 pm <i>Video Voice</i> <b>Pastor on vacation till 10/2</b></p>	<p><b>30</b> 10:00 am <i>Quilters</i> 10:30 am <i>Video Voice</i> <b>Pastor on vacation till 10/2</b></p>					



## Pastor John's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination Celebration



We want to mark Pastor John and Nadine's special anniversary in ministry together.  
He's only just begun!

**When:** Sunday, September 15

**What:** **Dinner at 11:30 am.** A catered meal will be served by *The Pheasant* with church family and John and Nadine's family.

**Menu:** Chicken Kiev, Rice, carrots, roll, coffee  
(Cake served upstairs at 1:00 pm.)

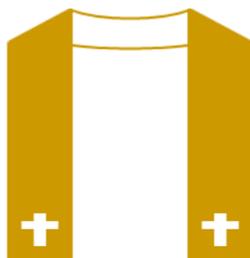
**Meal Tickets:** Tickets are \$10 per person  
(Sorry, not sold at the door)

(\$5 for children under 10). Purchase tickets before/after worship  
or in the church office **Aug 25 – Sept. 9 only.**

Deadline for caterer is Sept 9. **No** tickets sold after this date.

**Reception and Program:** 1pm – 2:30 pm

The public is invited for coffee, cake  
and a short program in Trinity Hall.  
We are so grateful for our Pastor! Let's celebrate!!

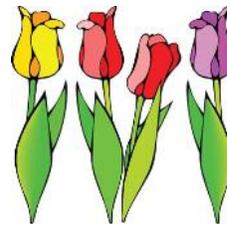




**Hospitalized or ILL?**

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 the church office 833-1703



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”.

**Prayer Ministers**

Prayer teams will be available in the back of church 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!



**Available in the back of church 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 the Lifeline Monthly Newsletter

Approved Council Minutes

Prayer Ventures Monthly from ELCA

“Pockets” learning about God for children

“Gather” women’s magazine for faith and action including monthly bible study

“The Lutheran Prayer Book”-a collection of prayers and inspirations for anyone

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 (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.



**Lutheran World Relief Plus**  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



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*Connecting faith & finances for good.™*

## **We need your help for October 5!**

Help us collect **Baby Care kits** for Lutheran World Relief please! Items needed are:

- Lightweight cotton t-shirts
- Long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers without feet or/and shirt & pair of pants (sleepers with feet can have the feet portion cut off and bottom hemmed)
- Receiving blankets or medium weight cotton or flannel or crocheted or knits with light-weight yarn, up to 52 inch .square.
- Cloth diapers, flat fold preferred.
- Jacket, sweater or sweat shirt with hood, or include a baby cap.
- Pairs of socks, carious sizes make the kit last longer
- Hand towels, dark colors
- Bath size bars of soap.

*Please **gently used and clean items** (no stains or tears) can be used. Garage sales are a good place to get some of these items. Please leave items in the basket in the narthex or on the pew by the Library in Trinity Hall. Thank you for this important project.*

## **Thrivent Action Team for Lutheran World Relief School Kits for Oct. 6!**

These kits are sent to children and adults living in poverty, or disaster areas. Can you help?

- 4—70 sheet notebooks (280-300 sheets total) wide or college ruled
- One 30 centimeter ruler or one with inches **and** centimeters
- 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 16-24 crayons
- One 2 1/2 INCH ERASER

PLEASE LEAVE IN LARGE BASKET IN NARTHEX OR IN TRINITY HALL ON PEW BY LIBRARY.





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](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**

**Don Wesseling 507-351-4612 or  
[dhwess63@gmail.com](mailto:dhwess63@gmail.com)**

**Council Vice-President**

**Michael Schlueter 507-304-3530**

**Council Secretary**

**Nancy Hansen 507-835-9797**

**Congregational Life**

**Michael Schlueter 507-304-3530**

**Education Committee**

**Valerie Possehl 507-461-9677**

**Worship and Music**

**Merril Schultz 507-461-7240**

**Social Ministry and Outreach**

**Kari Priebe 507-521-4723**

**Building and Grounds**

**Bill Erdman 507-461-1359**

**Council Member at Large**

**Gary Conrath 507-521-2663**

**Financial Secretary**

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

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

**Cross Gen/Faith 5**

**Marty Aberle, 507-833-1703 church office**

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

**Handbell Director**

**Mary Schultz 507-521-4731**

**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**

**contact church office 507-833-1703**

**Office Manager**

**TBD 507-833-1703**

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

**Office Hours M- F 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.**

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