

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Search for our **new** page  
"St. John's Lutheran Church,  
Mendota, IL" and join us.



We hope that everyone enjoys the  
75th Annual Sweet Corn Festival  
August 11th to 14th.

August Birthdays, Anniversaries  
and Upcoming Events

God's continued blessings to  
the following members of our  
congregation...

75th+ Birthday

Aug. 3 Pearl Merritt  
Aug. 4 Joyce Dinges  
Donna Hagemann  
Aug. 6 Daniel Randecker  
Aug. 9 Leslie Althaus  
Aug. 12 Mary Kay Sutton  
Aug. 15 David Schroeder  
Aug. 29 Ed Bock  
Aug. 31 Allan (Tim) Munson

August Calendar of Events

4 All Teams meeting 7pm  
6 Chapel worship 5pm  
9 Quilting 9am  
13 Chapel worship 5pm  
18 Church Council 6:30pm  
19 Lunch In The Park 11am-1:30pm  
20 Chapel worship 5pm  
23 Quilting 9am  
27 Chapel worship 5pm

Happy 50+ and Milestone  
Anniversary Wishes!

Roger & Barbara Anderson  
August 5th — 61 years

Jacob & Page Leonard  
August 5th — 5 years

Dave & Melanie Schroeder  
August 17th — 59 years

Len & Marilyn Schaller  
August 22nd — 63 years

John & Carol Wheeler  
August 23rd — 53 years

John & Stephanie Hansen  
August 25th — 10 years

Dennis & Connie Pohl  
August 26th — 55 years

*Congratulations*

Periodicals

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Join Us For Lunch in the Park!!



St. John's Youth will be provid-  
ing Lunch in the Park on  
Friday, August 19th. We will  
be serving freshly grilled hot  
dogs, hamburgers, and pork  
chop sandwiches along with chips, des-  
serts, and drinks. We hope you'll mark  
your calendars and plan to join us for lunch  
and fellowship... and bring your friends,  
neighbors, and coworkers! The monies  
raised will help with the costs of mission  
trips and other youth activities.

Volunteer & donation sign-up sheets are  
posted in the Narthex and on the Infor-  
mation Booth, or you can email the church  
office. Our high school students will be  
back in the classroom, so we will need our  
confirmation students and some adults to  
help.

St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

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August 2022

Special items of interest:

• **Worship in our Sanctu-  
ary continues** each Sun-  
day morning at 9am. If you  
are unable to attend, you  
can join us for virtual wor-  
ship on our YouTube page.  
(Go to YouTube.com and  
search for STJ LUTHER-  
AN MENDOTA.)

• **If you want Pastor Ken  
Gibson to know when  
you are hospitalized,**  
please contact the church  
office. Because of privacy  
laws, the hospital will not  
contact us.

• St. John's offers **Electron-  
ic Giving**. If you are in-  
terested please contact  
Susan in the office. You  
can also **give online**  
through the link on our  
website.

• **QUILTING DAYS** will be  
Tuesday, August 9th and  
Tuesday, August 23rd.



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**AUGUST ALREADY!**

by Pastor Ken Gibson

I am not sure about all of you, but it seems to me August has shown up very quickly. The summertime is fading oh so fast and our list of fall activities is right ahead of us at St. John's. I will share a number of these activities with you in this article, so let's begin.

**SWEET CORN FESTIVAL PARADE** — As we all get ready to enjoy this wonderful festival weekend, please note that we will once again have an entry in the parade on Sunday, August 14! If you would like to ride on the float or walk alongside the float, please contact the Church office and we will get you lined up. If all goes well, I plan on pulling the float with my antique tractor. (Prayers ascending)

**SHARE THE BOUNTY** — This is a NEW offering for us at St. John's. Each Sunday, beginning in August and throughout the rest of the growing season, a table will appear in the courtyard with a sign that reads: "SHARE THE BOUNTY." We will have some baskets on the table as a place for you to "**share the bounty**" as you harvest your garden produce, etc. We invite you to bring the extra bounty from your gardens to the table to share with others. Have extra cucumbers, tomatoes, or zucchini? Bring them to the table on Sunday mornings and share the bounty.



**LARGEST TOMATO CONTEST** — As you bring in your bounty, an extra added fun part of the bounty table will be a place to register your entry in the "largest tomato" contest. A scale and a sheet to make your entry will be on the table. Let's see who has the greenest thumb among our gardeners. A prize for the largest tomato will be awarded at the end of the growing season.

**WINDOW CAMPAIGN CONTINUES** — The repair of our beautiful stained glass windows will start soon. Please remember that gifts to this effort will continue and you are encouraged to do so. Please make a note in the memo section of your check for "windows," and we will make sure it goes toward this effort.

All in all, we have much to look forward to as we head into the late summer/early autumn time of the year. On top of the opportunities listed here and much more, we will of course have, as our spiritual center, our weekend worship offerings. We will continue our Saturday evening service at 5pm in the chapel and our Sunday morning service at 9am. Worship is our center. It is our time to come together and worship God and give thanks for the gift of His Son. Make plans to spend one hour a week in the pews with fellow St. John's disciples. Worship is the place where we claim our identity and it is from worship that we are compelled into mission! **SEE YOU IN THE PEWS!**



Church Council Highlights

The following are some highlights from the July 21, 2022 meeting of our church council.

- Council will continue to review Covid-19 safety measures and make adjustments to our guidelines as needed.
- Council learned that the St. John’s float for the Sweet Corn Festival parade on August 14th is well on its way. Aimee Holland and Laura Younger are working on this project with the help of Doug Ultch. They are revitalizing the cardboard church that we had used in a prior parade. Float riders and walkers are needed. Please contact the church office if you are available.
- Council received a proposal from Wartburg Theological Seminary regarding their fundraiser to remodel Fritschel Hall. The proposal asked for a \$15,000 gift (given over a 5-year period) that will dedicate a faculty office in Fritschel Hall in honor of our congregation. Council approved giving this \$15,000 gift to the Seminary.
- The next All Teams Meeting is set for Thursday, August 4th at 7pm. The next Council meeting will take place on Thursday, August 18th at 6:30pm.

Finance Report Year To Date thru June 2022:  
Budgeted Income \$180,780 Actual Income \$167,259  
Budgeted Expense \$189,540 Actual Expense \$194,183

We are grateful for your continued financial support, through your offerings in person, through the mail, and through automatic giving. We are blessed to have such a faithful St. John’s family.

A New Beginning

Happy August, St. John’s! The summer is closing fast, so I hope you’ve all had the chance to rest. With the close of summer comes another ending—my internship. Although, this ending gives birth to a new beginning.

Yes, on August 28<sup>th</sup>, my internship officially ends, and all that will be left is for the internship committee to submit their final evaluation and other fun paperwork. Honestly, the time has flown since I arrived in mid-January. I had no idea that when I arrived in Mendota, I would come to love and appreciate this community as much as I do. At first, this was all just a second chance after the failure in Cincinnati. Yet, through these months, a more profound connection has grown.

A few months ago, you may recall that the Council voted to hire me post-internship! I am beyond grateful. What does this mean? On August 28<sup>th</sup> I will stop being your intern, but on August 29<sup>th</sup> I will become a staff member. I’ll continue my work with the high school youth, leading worship, visiting the sick, and so on. But I will also start my final year of seminary online. As discussed with Pr. Ken and the Council, I will be a student first and Vicar second.

I am excited about this opportunity to serve a congregation *and* learn in classes. Truly it’s the best of both worlds. Completing the internship year is worthy of celebration, and maybe this is counting my chickens before they hatch, but it is especially worth celebrating when passed with flying colors after such a rough start in Cincinnati.

Thank you, St. John’s, Pr. Ken, and the internship committee for giving me the second chance I needed and being so supportive. As many people have said, perhaps God’s hands placed me here when I was needed.

I hope you’ll come to worship on Sunday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, for the end of my internship and the new beginning!

Peace! Vicar Anthony

St. John’s Youth News


"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"

Well done, Team Milwaukee!



Team Milwaukee (l to r) Garret Zinke, Vicar Anthony Windau, Gracie Zinke, Ella Martin, Ella Coss, Samantha Katschke, and Renee Katschke

Team Milwaukee was able to enjoy worship, dinner & fun with members of Vicar Anthony’s home congregation, Kingo Lutheran Church.



We wish the best of luck to one of our recent MHS graduates — *Maya Martin* — who will be participating in the Sweet Corn Festival Queen Pageant on Friday, August 12th!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Year to Begin With Our Traditional Backpack Blessing

The 2022-2023 Sunday School year will resume on Sunday, September 11th with Rally Day activities following gam worship. Registration forms & more information will be available in late August.

A “backpack blessing” will take place during worship on Sunday, September 11th. Students of all ages (and teachers, too) are invited to bring your backpack to worship with you for a special back-to-school prayer. You will be called forward to have your backpack blessed and you will be given a gift that you can attach to your backpack to carry God's love with you throughout the entire school year.

Please watch for more information in the weekly bulletins and the September *Eagle* newsletter.