

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Periodicals

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School Supplies will be filling the shelves of area stores soon! When you are doing your back-to-school shopping, would you consider picking up some extras for the Lutheran World Relief school kits? More information will be shared in the August *Eagle* newsletter.

Find us on Facebook!
Search for "*St. John's Lutheran Church*" and join our page.



July Birthdays, Anniversaries, Special Days, and Upcoming Events

God's blessings to...

75th+ Birthday

July 3 Harold Meisel
July 9 Carol Kellen
July 25 Janet Piller

Congratulations

Happy 50+ Anniversary!

Harold & Darlene Meisel
July 6th — 73 years

Anniversary Congratulations!

Barry & Laura Sutton
July 8th — 30 years

Upcoming Events

July

4 Office Closed — Independence Day
6 Reception for Pastor Presley after 5pm worship
7 Reception for Pastor Grafe after 9am worship
7 Wired Word meets after 9am worship
11 All Teams meeting at 7pm
13 No Chapel worship
14 HS Mission Trip blessing & departure
14 Welcome Reception for Pastor Mindrup after 9am worship
18 Church Council meeting at 6:30pm
21 HS Mission Trip Team report during worship
23 Mission Quilt Day at 9am
25 Newsletter Assembly at 10:30am

August

1 All Teams meeting at 7pm
15 Church Council meeting at 6:30pm
31 No Chapel worship

September

2 Office Closed — Labor Day
5 All Teams meeting at 7pm
8 Sunday School resumes
19 Church Council meeting at 6:30pm

Attention Students who applied for St. John's Scholarships

The Scholarship Team is working to finalize the scholarship awards for the 2019-2020 school year. Their recommendations will be given to the Church Council for approval at the July council meeting. You will be notified of the award by the end of July.



St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

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July 2019

Special items of interest:

• **We hope you will join us for worship!**
Saturday worship - 5pm
Sunday worship - 9am
Fellowship - 10am

• **The hospital does not contact the church when you are hospitalized.** Please have a family member contact us.

• St. John's offers **Electronic Giving**. If you are interested please contact Susan in the office.

• **Volunteers are needed** in July & August to host Fellowship Time. Please sign up in the Kitchen.

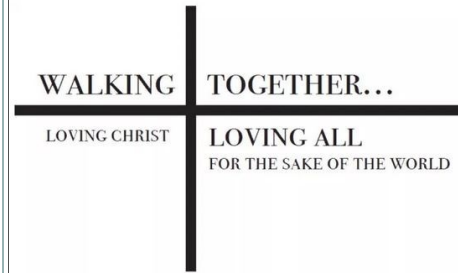
• Let's "**Pack The Pews**" for Maria on Sunday, June 30th!

• **The 2018-2019 Sunday School offering** of \$736.50 and \$500.00 in Ministry Enhancement matching funds were divided between the Illinois Valley PADS Homeless Shelter and St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

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2019 Synod Assembly Highlights



The 32nd annual Synod Assembly was held June 14 and 15, 2019 at Augustana College under the new mission statement theme "***Walking Together. Loving Christ. Loving All. For the Sake of the World.***" Nearly 500 registered assembly voting members and visitors from across the synod worshipped, learned, laughed, celebrated, and deliberated together as the

highest legislative body of the Northern Illinois Synod.

During Bishop Clements' report to the assembly, he shared our new mission statement, vision statement, and core values. Bishop Clements said, "I remain committed to walking with you on this road we travel, because we will travel so much further if we travel together." You can see the video of his report at assembly.nisynod.org.

The assembly passed the 2020 budget, 2020 salary guidelines, and two resolutions: R-1 *Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women* and R-2 *Concerning Gender Equality for Rostered Leadership Positions in the Northern Illinois Synod*. You can read the text of the full resolutions at assembly.nisynod.org/resolutions.

Several forums were held on Friday afternoon; and a special event was held on Friday evening with introductions of rostered ministers and seminarians new to the synod; recognition of synod council members, synod staff, anniversaries of rostered ministers and congregations, and rostered ministers who have retired in the last year; and special celebration of 50 years of ordination for two pastors, Rev. Dennis Heaney and Rev. Arlyn Tolzmann.

A festive service of Holy Communion with the Rite of Ordination closed the assembly on Saturday. Paul Gebo was ordained into the ministry of Word and Sacrament. He has been called to serve as pastor of Christ Lutheran, Stockton.

We thank our delegates, Steve Florschuetz, Carol Dilbeck, Richard Althaus, and alternate Leslie Althaus for attending and participating in the assembly on our behalf. You can find results of the general election, photos, videos, and more at assembly.nisynod.org.


Welcome Rev. Steven Mindrup



Our church council recently met and approved hiring Rev. Steven Mindrup as our interim pastor. Pastor Mindrup will lead worship for us on Sunday, July 14th, and will greet everyone at a welcome reception following worship.






As interim pastor, he will lead chapel worship on Saturday evenings as well as services on Sunday mornings, and have office hours a couple days a week. Pastor Mindrup is a Methodist pastor who recently retired from the United Church of Sandwich. We are looking forward to his time with us!

Two Upcoming “Thank You” Receptions



We hope that everyone will mark their calendars and make plans to join us as we say **THANK YOU** to Pastor Susan Presley and to Pastor Harold Grafe for their leadership at St. John’s. We will honor each of them with a reception following their final worship services with us — Saturday, July 6th for Pastor Susan; and Sunday, July 7th for Pastor Harold.

2019 Vacation Bible School Wrap-Up ~from VBS Coordinators Valerie Kreiser & Deb Rose



Vacation Bible School 2019 is in the books as a SUCCESS! We found the new *ROAR! Life is Wild — God is Good!* curriculum to be fun and engaging for both the campers and staff. The new format required a tremendous amount of in-house volunteer support and we couldn’t have done it without everyone! Whether you helped with crafts, sports activities, snacks, teaching, or prayed for us, we really appreciate your help! We hope your experience was fulfilling and you’ll want to be a part of VBS again next year! Thank You to our junior high & high school students: *Aaron Brandner, Noah DeLong, Sammi Katschke, Ella Martin, Maya Martin, Alayna Nosalik, Jenna Sims, Andrew Stamberger & Leah Stamberger*, and our adult volunteers: *Susan Ambler, Grace Brandner, Linda Buettner, Melvette Jones, Sandi Maas, Joanne Miller, Melissa Nosalik, Norma Peasley, Shirley Pierson, Fran Pinter, Geri Sauer, Jean Schwingle & Annette Truckenbrod*. Some extra special Thank Yous — to *Dorothy Brandner, Aimee Holland & Beth Miller* for the VBS decorations; to *Roger & Barb Anderson* for writing a \$250 Thrivent grant; to *Officer Kent* from the Mendota Police Department who joined us for snacks; to *Mitch Mays* who shared his drumming talents; to *Pastor Harold* who joined us Wednesday; to the local band, *We The Least (Michaela DeLong, Nathanael DeLong & Dell May)* who played on Thursday; and to *Cyndy Kreiser* for Friday’s lunch.

Church Council Highlights

The following are some highlights from the June 20, 2019 Church Council meeting.


- The Task Force reported that the Mission: Mendota event on June 8th was a success, and that Kids Against Hunger will be held on Saturday, October 19th.
- The council approved hiring Rev. Steven Mindrup as our interim pastor.

Finance Report Year To Date thru May 2019:

Budgeted Income \$152,926	Actual Income \$158,257
Budgeted Expense \$154,227	Actual Expense \$120,160
Behind Budget on Regular Offerings by -\$8,851	





Vicar Maria Bonine will lead worship on Sunday, June 30th. Maria is our Seminary student and we are very happy that she and her husband, Brent, will be here with us! Brent & Maria are planning to provide the fellowship refreshments, and they will be available during fellowship time to share more about their seminary journey and answer any questions you may have. We hope that our continued support of Maria will show with packed pews and great conversation over refreshments. Please plan to join us!



St. John's Youth News

"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"






Our high school mission trip team will be serving in St. Louis, Missouri during the week of July 14th. We ask for your prayers as we prepare to do God's work with our hands. The team will be commissioned during 9am worship on Sunday, July 14th. Following worship, we will meet in the courtyard to take a group picture, load the vans, and depart for Missouri.

The high school mission trip team will lead worship on Sunday, July 21st and share their experiences with the congregation. Team St. Louis will be stopping for lunch along the way and will enjoy a couple of outings while they are on-site with YouthWorks. We ask the congregation to prayerfully consider supporting a mission tripper by making a financial donation. More information can be found on the Sponsorship Board in the Narthex. Thank you in advance, and please keep our Team — *Hannah, Bailey, Aaron, Sophie, Samantha, Ted, Alayna, Andrew, Katherine, Cole, Garret, Gracie, Susan, Don, and Karen* in your prayers.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CHILDREN — Join us for a Special Event on Sunday, June 30th




Children who participated in Vacation Bible School are encouraged to *bring their drums* and join us for 9am worship on Sunday, June 30th. The children will share some special music they learned during VBS. If you invited a friend to join you at VBS, please invite them to join you again on Sunday! And don't forget to bring your drum!

Vicar Maria Bonine has also asked the children to be ready to join her for a special Children's Message during worship!

ALL I EVER NEEDED TO KNOW I LEARNED WHILE AT CONFIRMATION CAMP

~ Karen Goy, Youth Director



Last week I was blessed to accompany four of our youth to confirmation camp... and can I be honest that I wasn't feeling the "camp vibe" when I left. God is in the business of transformation and that was what our theme was all about. Our bible studies focused on how a community is transformed as they experience and then extend His inclusion, compassion, forgiveness, justice, and generosity. It was amazing to witness first-hand the transformation of the community of strangers that was at camp throughout the week as we spent time, prayed, ate, laughed, studied, enjoyed, and adventured together. Being in community over time and in a setting outside the normal routine indeed had transforming power. Not only did my mindset change very quickly, but I saw/heard the kids thoughts, mindset, actions, and words transform into an amazing community that was definitely different than the one that arrived on Sunday night. There is power in spending time in community - transforming power. There is power in hearing again and again about God's compassion, forgiveness, generosity, inclusion, and justice - a message very different than those messages we are daily bombarded with. It is empowering to extend and live inclusion, compassion, generosity, forgiveness, and justice that happens in that community time too... and from there, think of all the other communities we are a part of that can in turn be transformed!!

We have an amazing opportunity to spend time in such a community right here at St. John's! I'm grateful for the blessed reminder of the transformation that can happen in us, for us, and through us as we make the choice to leave our "typical" routine to also participate more fully in the community here. Thank you, St. John's, for the opportunity you made for the five of us to go to confirmation camp. What a generous and supportive community you are!