

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Find us on Facebook!



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



We hope that you and your family will
plan to join us after worship on Sunday,
June 5th for "Cones in the Courtyard!"

June Birthdays, Anniversaries
and Upcoming Events

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

75th+ Birthday

June 1 Annette Truckenbrod
June 6 Norma Peasley
June 16 Jon Dinges
June 21 Judy Kerns
June 27 Gerald Eich

June Calendar of Events

2 All Teams meeting 7pm
4 Chapel worship 5pm
10 Lunch In The Park!
11 Chapel worship 5pm
14 Quilting 9am
16 Church Council 6:30pm
17 Synod Assembly begins
18 Chapel worship 5pm
19 Confirmation Camp begins
20 Vacation Bible School begins
25 Chapel worship 5pm
28 Election Day — Polling Place
29 Quilting 9am

Happy 50+ and Milestone
Anniversary Wishes!

Pastor Ken & Yvonne Gibson
June 3rd — 5 years

Herb & Nancy Champlin
June 4th — 45 years

Tom & Judy Kerns
June 19th — 57 years

Dennis & Kathy Politsch
June 24th — 50 years

Albert & Patricia Schrader
June 25th — 40 years

Eric & Lauren Anderson
June 27th — 35 years

Leon & Sandy Mosier
June 27th — 52 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, June 10th. Our young
people will be serving freshly
grilled hot dogs, hamburgers,
and pork chop sandwiches along with
chips, desserts, 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.

We would welcome any donations of iced
tea or soda; ice; buns; individually bagged
assorted chips; and individually wrapped
desserts such as bars, cookies, or cupcakes.
Volunteer & donation sign-up sheets are
posted in the Narthex and on the Infor-
mation Booth, or you can email the church
office.

St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

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June 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, June 14th and
Wednesday, June 29th.**



Sunday, June 19th

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LET'S TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT

It is the middle of May as I pen this month's article and I simply want to
share some thoughts and propose perhaps some opportunities.

First of all, I would ask us to consider why we do what we do at St.
John's? Think of something you are currently doing here in the midst of
all the ministries that we have for our offering. Whatever it is you are
doing, I want you to think "Why" you do it? And then "Why" we do collec-
tively what we all do here at St. John's? Pause and do this for a moment.
Maybe even write down your answer. Perhaps your answer is perfunctory.
Sort of because we have to do it, someone has to do it, whatever that
"it" might be. For example "Someone has to count the offering." Or may-
be "Someone has to read the lessons on Sunday." Or even "Someone has
to sing the songs at worship." While that may be true I still want to have
us consider **"WHY?"**

What I am hoping we eventually get to thinking about is something like
"Because the Gospel is worth it!" Or perhaps something like
**"Because life in relationship with Jesus Christ is better for us all
and for the world than is life outside of a relationship with
Christ."**

The next thing I am going to ask us all to consider is "What can I do dif-
ferently?" That's right, differently. Or even "New!" Ask yourself if what
you (or we) are doing can be done differently. Can we try it another way?
Can we find a way to perhaps expand the mission or ministry in which we
are currently serving? Or can we think of any other new ways to advance
our mission of sharing God's love for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus
Christ? Are there ideas that have been in your head and heart and may-
be just maybe you were looking for a chance to run them past someone.
Well this is your chance. I want us all to think about how we are doing
things and what we might do to expand our mission. Bring any and all
new ideas forward. Let's talk them out. Let's see where the Holy Spirit
might be guiding us to consider in the advancement of the Gospel here at
this time in this place.

I so look forward to hearing from you. Please don't be afraid to bring
forth any new thoughts. Who knows how God is working in the midst of
us all.

Remember God loves you, and so do I!

~Pastor Ken Gibson

Church Council Highlights

The following are some highlights from the May 19, 2022 meeting of our church council (conducted via Zoom).

- Council will continue to review Covid-19 safety measures and make adjustments to our guidelines as needed. Due to an uptick in Covid positivity numbers, we will return to communion being offered “in the pews” using the communion baggies for the time being.
- The Task Force reported that \$4,000 was donated to the Ukraine Match Fund. Additionally, they will be working along with the Outreach Team to assemble Care Kits on Saturday, July 23rd. More information will be shared with the congregation about how they can help.
- Council approved entering a float in this year’s Sweet Corn Festival parade on Sunday, August 14th.
- The next All Teams Meeting is set for Thursday, June 2nd at 7pm. The next Council meeting will take place on Thursday, June 16th at 6:30pm.

Finance Report Year To Date thru April 2022:
Budgeted Income \$120,523 Actual Income \$122,369
Budgeted Expense \$125,666 Actual Expense \$134,165

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.

Summertime, Fun Time!

Did you know that playing is an essential part of growing up? And also during adulthood as a way to reduce stress from work and life? Even my dogs know that playtime is important and a couple times a day will run around the house barking and nipping at each other, only to jump on the couch and get me involved. Sadly, many adults today don’t enjoy playtime.

Well, the summer is a perfect time to do some fun things. Go on vacation, play catch with your kid (or pup), and whatever else you’d like. This summer, our Confirmation students and High School youth are planning on having loads of fun. First, a few of our confirmands will be heading to Lutherdale Bible Camp for a week. There, they’ll meet other youth, learn about Jesus, and undoubtedly have fun playing camp games and swimming in the lake. Our High School youth are heading to Milwaukee, where each day they’ll do something fun –like swimming, games, and touring the downtown. All of this after, of course, doing some work.

It is a fine balance between work and play. We should balance our work with just as much play, so, while our youth will spend a week in Milwaukee serving others, cleaning up the Milwaukee river, and planting food for the poor, we’ll have just as much fun during and afterwards too. We look forward to our trips to Lutherdale and Milwaukee, and thank you for your continued support of our youth ministry program. Take a page out of our book, and go and have some fun!

Peace, Vicar Anthony

Listen, do you hear God calling?

As part of your Stewardship Team, I accepted the assignment to put a brief note in the May *Eagle*... then promptly forgot. Was I supposed to? While we can often forget to complete a commitment once made, sometimes it juuuust may be God’s way! We simply need to hear God (*always be listening*) when He calls us.

I got one of those calls during worship on May 1st. The Gospel lesson came from John 21:1-19. Pastor’s sermon centered around us following Christ. And our sermon song was *Will You Come and Follow Me*. Funny thing though is that what I heard that day was; “This is the HEART of stewardship!” Following Christ. So, let’s all open our ears and listen for our individual calls. Walk with Christ and be stewards to the world in HIS name.

Rick Lowers, on behalf of your Stewardship Team

St. John’s Youth News

"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"

Congratulations to our High School Graduates!



Bailey Baird is the daughter of John & Kris Baird. She plans to attend University of St. Francis to study Business and compete on the volleyball team.



Logan Brandner is the son of Dave & Dorothy Brandner. He plans to attend IVCC and transfer to a 4-year university to study Biomedical Engineering.



Ethan Hanaman is the son of Matt & Becki Hanaman. He plans to attend Missouri Baptist University to study Computer Science and compete on the golf team.



Sophie Holland is the daughter of Troy & Aimee Holland. She plans to attend IVCC and transfer to a 4-year university to study Filmmaking.



Grace Jackson is the daughter of Brad & Angie Jackson. She plans to attend IVCC then transfer to Illinois State University to major in Elementary Education.



Jake Jackson is the son of Brad & Angie Jackson. He plans to attend IVCC then transfer to the University of Iowa to major in Kinesiology.



Samantha Katschke is the daughter of Bill & Renee Katschke. She plans to attend Millikin University to study Music Education.



Maya Martin is the daughter of Jason & Lisa Martin. She plans to attend Loyola University Chicago to study Neuroscience.



Luke Jackson is the son of Brad & Angie Jackson. He plans to attend IVCC’s Truck Driving Training program and carry on the Jackson Trucking Company with his dad.



Marley Bodine is the daughter of Phil & Andrea Bodine. She plans to attend IVCC and work to become a Special Education Teacher.



Ted Landgraf is the son of Mitch & Tammy Landgraf. He plans to attend Northern Illinois University to study Computer Science.


Congratulations to our 8th Grade Graduates!

Sarah Brown, Addyson Champlin, Ally Denault, Alex Holland, Grady Jones, Gracie Politsch, Meredith Politsch, Joshua Shakespeare, and Aden Tillman.

St. John’s Scholarship Fund Recipients

Scholarships in the amount of \$22,000 were awarded to several young church members. Congratulations to:

Hannah Ambler (Northern Illinois University), *Bailey Baird* (St. Francis University), *Aaron Brandner* (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), *Grace Brandner* (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee), *Logan Brandner* (IVCC), *Ethan Hanaman* (Missouri Baptist University), *Sophie Holland* (IVCC), *Samantha Katschke* (Millikin University), *Ted Landgraf* (Northern Illinois University), *Maya Martin* (Loyola University Chicago), *Katherine Wohrley* (Northern Illinois University), and *Cole Zimmerman* (Daytona State College).



Join us for an exciting week of Vacation Bible School entitled **Rocky Railway—Jesus’ Power Pulls Us Through!** VBS will be held Monday, June 20th through Friday, June 24th from gam to Noon for children who have completed Kindergarten - 4th grade. It's sure to be a week filled with fun, friendship, and worshipping God!! Registration forms are available in the church office and should be returned by June 9th.