

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

607 10th Avenue
Mendota, IL 61342

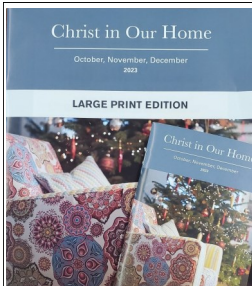


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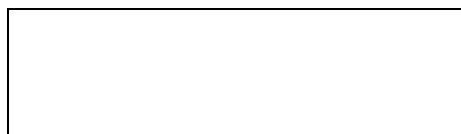
The Christ In Our Home daily devotional booklets for October, November, and December 2023 (regular and large print) are available in the narthex and the church office.

Periodicals

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October Birthdays, Anniversaries & Upcoming Events

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



75th+ Birthday

Oct. 4 J. Leonard Schaller
Oct. 5 Gene Schinzer
Oct. 10 Gary Duttlinger
Oct. 14 Richard Gansemer
Oct. 19 Leo Quick
Oct. 31 Jan Schuster

We have no 50+ or Milestone Anniversaries this month

October Calendar of Events

1 Acolyte training during Sunday School class
5 Sarah Circle 1pm
5 All Teams meeting 7pm
9 Office Closed — Columbus Day holiday
9 Rebecca Circle 1:30pm
12 Allure (Heritage Health) 10am
15 Fall Festival after worship
18 Stonecroft 10am
19 Church Council meeting 6:30pm
24 Quilting 9am

"Share The Bounty" Surplus Garden Produce Table



Bring your surplus garden produce to the "Share The Bounty" table in the courtyard on Sunday mornings and take whatever you would enjoy using! Any produce left on the table after fellowship time will be donated to the micro pantry at First Presbyterian Church.

Attention St. John's Teams and Members

If you would like to use the church building for your meetings, please contact the church office so we can put you on the calendar. This is especially important as the building is being used more during the Call Process and with the addition of an outside mental health counselor seeing clients here. Thank you!

St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

Volume 53, Issue 10

October 2023

Special items of interest:

• **Worship in our Sanctuary continues each Sunday morning at 9am.** If you are unable to attend, you can join us for virtual worship on our YouTube page. (Go to YouTube.com and search for STJ LUTHERAN MENDOTA.)

• **If you would like a pastoral visit when you are hospitalized,** please contact the church office. Because of privacy laws, the hospital will not contact us.

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



Happy October!

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OCTOBER 15th



Make plans for your family to join the fun at St. John's **FALL FESTIVAL** following worship on Sunday, October 15th

~ Sunday School Dismissing Early ~

Sunday School classes will dismiss at 10:30am so that our students, teachers & their families can enjoy all of the activities in the courtyard.

~ Activities for the Kids ~

There will be lots of kid-friendly fun including pumpkin painting, games, and more!

~ Chili Cook-off ~

Be sure to taste each of the entries and cast your vote for your favorite chili! The winner gets bragging rights for the year!

~ Fall Dessert Competition ~

Some of the very best bakers at St. John's will be bringing treats to compete for favorite fall dessert!

Hot dogs & apple cider will be available for everyone.

Church Council Highlights

The following are some highlights from the September 21, 2023 meeting of our church council.

- Task Force reported that they are working with members of the Youth Huddle and the Outreach Team to organize the Fall Festival scheduled for Sunday, October 15th.
- There are no updates from the Synod regarding a possible Interim Pastor. The office will continue to schedule Pulpit Supply. James Younger is coordinating the worship services with our musicians and the visiting pastors. We are pleased that attendance numbers for in-person and online worship has been above our expectations.
- Educational Ministry Team shared that they met with available Sunday School teachers on September 7th to discuss the 2023-2024 school year. It was decided that the Sunday School offering will be handled in each classroom (instead of at the sign-in table). On Rally Day the students voted that St. Jude Children's Research Hospital will be the recipient of their SS offerings this year.
- Stewardship Team shared that the 2023 Stewardship Campaign will begin on October 29th with the distribution of Time, Talent & Giving sheets and end with "Harvest Celebration Sunday" on November 19th. There will be lay speakers for the four Sundays of the campaign.
- Memorial Team approved using Undesignated Memorial Funds to cover the following expenses: dead tree removal, lighting updates, and flooring at the parsonage; resealing and striping of the church parking lot.
- The Outreach/Evangelism Team shared that Quilt Sunday will be celebrated on September 24th with the display of 70+ quilts in the Sanctuary. The quilts will be packaged and delivered to Rockford in early October. The Team will also organize the dessert competition for the Fall Festival.
- Call Committee shared that an interview of their first candidate is being planned.
- The next All Teams Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 5th at 7pm; and the next Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 19th at 6:30pm.

Finance Report Year To Date thru August 2023:

Budgeted Income \$215,494 Actual Income \$214,561
Budgeted Expense \$206,159 Actual Expense \$194,907

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.

We celebrated our annual Quilt In-Gathering during worship on Sunday, September 24th with a display of over 70 quilts in the Sanctuary.

These quilts are the handiwork of countless hours of work performed by many dedicated women throughout the year. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support of our mission work for Lutheran World Relief. You are invited to join the group at our next work day on Tuesday, October 24th at 9am. You do not need to know how to sew to help create the quilts. Everyone working together makes for a very successful outcome!



Thank You to everyone who helped clean up the landscaping around the church and parsonage recently. Your efforts are very much appreciated!



St. John's Youth News
"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"



Sunday School Rally Day — September 10th

Rally Day started with the Installation of our Sunday School teachers and staff during worship, and the fun continued with doughnuts and Intergenerational Bible Trivia Bingo in the Fellowship Hall after worship.



We would like to extend a BIG thank you to all of the dedicated adults who volunteered to join our Sunday School team and lead our children on their faith journey: *Melissa Doll, Linda Erlenborn, Lisa Martin & Andrea Bodine* (Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd); *Melissa Nosalik & Dawn Kendall* (3rd & 4th); *Sarah Coss* (5th & 6th); *Eric Anderson* (Confirmation); *Karen Goy & Garret Zinke* (High School); *James Younger* (music); and *Kora Jones, Angela Kent, Theresa Komitas, Valerie Kreiser & Lynette Piller* (substitutes).



The students in attendance on Rally Day voted to direct their Sunday School offerings to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital this year.

High School Sunday School



High School Sunday School will meet on Sunday mornings at 10am in the high school classroom.

The high school class will continue their tradition of enjoying breakfast treats as part of their time together. If you are able to provide breakfast treats for the class, please sign up on the bright orange sheet at the sign-in table, contact Karen or Garrett or call the church office. Thank you!

Confirmation Class News



Please keep our Confirmation Class in your prayers as they continue their studies this school year. The class includes 7th graders — *Molly B., Ayden J., Liam J., Christopher K. & Brayden W.* as well as 8th graders — *Maggie B., Charlee D., Corbin D., Riley E., Christopher F., Kade J., Klaire K., Shea K., Grace S. & Cole T.* If you would like to provide classroom snacks for the Confirmation class, please sign up on the bright orange sheet at the sign-in table, or call the church office. Thanks in advance!