

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Kids Against Hunger Food Pack

Our *Kids Against Hunger* food pack event will be held here on Saturday, October 19th. More information and all the details will be shared with everyone very soon, but it's already possible for you to go online to sign-up! Just type this link into your internet browser and follow the directions:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e4aa5a629a3ff2-kids>

Find us on Facebook!

Search for "*St. John's Lutheran Church*" and join our page.



September Birthdays, Anniversaries, Special Days, and Upcoming Events

God's blessings to...

75th+ Birthday

Sept. 4 Jean Schwingle  
Sept. 29 Richard Althaus



Happy 50th+ Anniversary!

Jan & Judy Schuster  
September 1st — 57 years  
Gary & Mary Kay Sutton  
September 4th — 54 years

Congratulations!

Daniel & Kim Truckenbrod  
September 12th — 10 years

Upcoming Events

September

2 Office Closed — Labor Day  
5 Sarah Circle at 1pm  
5 Executive Team meeting at 6:30pm  
5 All Teams meeting at 7pm  
8 Sunday School resumes  
9 Rebecca Circle at 1:30pm  
19 Church Council meeting at 6:30pm  
23 Newsletter Deadline  
24 Mission Quilt Day at 9am  
26 Newsletter Assembly at 10:30am

October

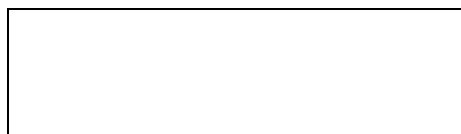
3 All Teams meeting at 7pm  
14 HS group to NIU Grace Place  
17 Church Council meeting at 6:30pm  
19 Kids Against Hunger food pack  
21 Newsletter Deadline  
22 Mission Quilt Day at 9am  
24 Newsletter Assembly at 10:30am  
28 Lifeline Screening here all day

Periodicals

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A PRAYER FOR OUR TEACHERS

DEAR GOD,  
THANK YOU FOR THE AMAZING TEACHERS  
WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR LIVES  
TO SERVE OUR CHILDREN.  
AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE NEW YEAR,  
FILL THEM WITH STRENGTH TO LEAD,  
GRACE TO GUIDE AND HOPE TO THRIVE  
IN THEIR CLASSROOM.  
BLESS THEM BEYOND MEASURE  
FOR THEIR WILLINGNESS  
TO POUR INTO THE NEXT  
GENERATION THROUGH EDUCATION. AMEN

St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

Volume 49, Issue 9

September 2019

Special items  
of interest:

- **We hope you will join us for worship!**  
Saturday worship - 5pm  
Sunday worship - 9am  
Sunday School - 10:10am  
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 September & October to host Fellowship Time and/or provide the snack. Please sign up in the Kitchen.
- **Choir practice resumes on Wednesday, September 4th at 6pm.** Everyone is welcome to join us!

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Let's rally! In support of Christian education.

The first day of Sunday School is September 8th. We call it "Rally Day." It implies that we are excited about Christian education and that we will "rally around" to support our students and teachers.

Sunday School is about *formation*. We read the Scriptures, we learn the catechism, the creeds, the important prayers – but just as important is the way our teachers will model for our children what a faithful disciple of Jesus is all about. We are formed by imitating those who imitate Christ (1 Corinthians 11:1; Hebrews 13:7).

There are those who come to Christ in a sudden, instant moment of conversion. Some of us could tell a story about that kind of experience. But I think that most of us were not so much converted as **formed** – gradually learning the way of Christ in worship, being taught by dedicated Sunday School teachers and pastors, seeing the church doing the work of love, until we were able to say with conviction, "Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior."

Formation is a life-long process. Our Sunday School hour is also about adult and youth ministry. Our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will join me in confirmation, preparing to become active, committed disciples of Jesus Christ and faithful members of the church. There are classes for 3 year old preschoolers through high school youth and adults.

Let's be present in worship on September 8th as our children bring their backpacks to be blessed, as we commission and pray for our teachers, and as we communicate the love and power of God to the youngest among us.

Grace and peace,

*Steve Mindrup*

News From The 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly

The legislative authority of the assembly met in Milwaukee on August 5-10, 2019. Among the actions taken by more than 900 voting members: Reelected on the first ballot the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton to a six-year term as ELCA presiding bishop; Approved the triennium budget for 2020-2022; Adopted many resolutions and memorials; and Elected members to serve on the ELCA Church Council, churchwide committees and churchwide boards. (All of the details can be found at [www.elca.org/cwa-2019](http://www.elca.org/cwa-2019).) The ELCA is one of the largest Christian denominations in the United States with nearly 3.5 million members. The ELCA emphasizes the saving grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ, unity among Christians and service in the world.



Church Council Highlights

The following are some highlights from the August 15, 2019 Church Council meeting.

- The Call Committee interviewed the latest candidate over Skype, but it did not go any further. The Call Committee would like to meet with Rev. Hansen, and possibly the Bishop, to discuss a plan to find more pastoral candidates.
- The Task Force reported that the Kids Against Hunger food pack event will be held on Saturday, October 19th.
- Quilt Sunday will be held the weekend of September 21st and 22nd.

Finance Report Year To Date thru July 2019:

Budgeted Income	\$207,747	Actual Income	\$215,809
Budgeted Expense	\$219,081	Actual Expense	\$171,281
Behind Budget on Regular Offerings by -\$10,632			

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE?

We have agreed to provide the meal to PADS on the first Saturday of each month, September through May. We have groups committed to several of the months, **but are in need of a small group to provide the meal for November 2 and December 7.** The commitment involves contacting PADS early in the week before going to get the number of guests that would be served; taking a prepared meal to PADS which you would serve at 6:15; then cleaning/drying all dishes and the kitchen prior to leaving. Staff will be onsite to help with any questions, and are more than gracious. The guests are very appreciative. You are welcome to sit and eat with the guests if you like or to stay as long as you care to. Dinner is usually served and cleaned up by 7-7:15. If you would be interested in covering either November or December OR you have any questions, please let Karen Goy know (815-228-2391 or [karen@stjohnsmendota.org](mailto:karen@stjohnsmendota.org)). What an amazing opportunity to be Christ's presence and make a difference in the lives of others!

September 2019: Scriptures for Worship

September 1: Twelfth Sunday of Pentecost

Proverbs 25:6-7 *A wise warning against self-aggrandizement.*  
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 *Christian life is mutual love, hospitality and simplicity.*  
Luke 14:1, 7-14 *“Those who humble themselves will be exalted.”*

September 8: Thirteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 *True prosperity means living faithfully before God.*  
Philemon 1-21 *Paul asks Philemon to accept his runaway slave as a brother.*  
Luke 14:25-33 *A disciple must be prepared to forsake everything to follow Christ.*

September 15: Fourteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Exodus 32:7-14 *The Israelites are shown mercy through the intercession of Moses.*  
1 Timothy 1:12-17 *Paul praises Christ for forgiveness & salvation through his grace.*  
Luke 15:1-10 *Jesus’ parables recount the joy of the lost being found.*

September 22: Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

Amos 8:4-7 *God’s judgment stands against those who exploit the poor.*  
1 Timothy 2:1-7 *God acts in Christ so that all might come to know him.*  
Luke 16:1-13 *Jesus’ parable cautions us against reliance on wealth and property.*

September 29: Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost


Amos 6:1; 4-7 *Woe to those who neglect the integrity of God’s people.*  
1 Timothy 6:6-19 *Hold fast to your confession of faith & do not be tempted by wealth.*  
Luke 16:19-31 *Those who do not help the poor put their own souls in jeopardy.*

The sidewalk replacement project is underway and will continue for several more days.

We will do our best to keep everyone informed on the status of the project through email and Facebook. If you need to visit the office during the week, it may be best for you to call first so we can let you know the best way to access the building.



2019 Quilt In-Gathering for Lutheran World Relief



On September 21st and 22nd, we will celebrate our annual Quilt In-Gathering. Over 120 quilts will be displayed on the pews in the Chapel and Sanctuary. The quilts are the handiwork of countless hours of work performed by many dedicated women throughout the year. Their diligent work has resulted in assembling these quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR).

In addition, the sewing group has expanded their outreach to include providing quilts and fleece blankets to the PADS homeless shelter in Peru. Quilts and blankets are also given to the Another Child Foundation in Princeton for the Romanian orphans they support. We continue to make walker bags available for the residents at Heritage Health, Mendota Lutheran Home, and Stonecroft.

Your continuing support of our mission work is greatly appreciated. God's Work, Our Hands at St. John's!

St. John's Youth News

"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"

\*\*Sunday School Rally Day Information\*\*

Sunday School RALLY DAY

The 2019-2020 Sunday School year resumes on Sunday, September 8th! A great way to start this year is to **attend worship as a family at 9am.** Your child can bring his or her backpack to worship to be blessed. There will be a special Children's Message on this day, as well as the Installation of our Sunday School staff. Sunday School **sign-in** and **registration form** collection begins following worship (or **by 10:10am**) in the North Fellowship Hall. All students and parents are then invited to sit in the front church pews. We will watch a video about Lutheran World Relief and learn how to assemble school kits. Instructions will be given for a scavenger hunt, and we encourage parents of the younger students to assist their child during the hunt. After a school kits has been assembled, please have it "checked". Then families are invited to the South Fellowship Hall for refreshments before going to the various classrooms to meet our teachers. **Dismissal will be at 11:10am.**

Our 3rd grade students will be receiving their Bibles during worship on Sunday, September 22nd. Watch your mailbox for more information about this special day.

Thanks to Lauren Anderson, Laurie Ladenburger, Alayna Nosalik, Abby Kunz, and Cole Zimmerman for volunteering at the OSF St. Paul Medical Center's Community Garden recently. They spent time weeding and harvesting produce to be donated to both the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry and the Victory Baptist Church Food Pantry here in town. To date the garden has provided more than 300 pounds of fresh produce! Well done!



Confirmation Class News



Confirmation Classes will resume with Rally Day on Sunday, September 8th at 10:10am. 7th and 8th graders should sign-in at the table in the north Fellowship Hall (as usual) and meet in the Disciples' Den. Parents are asked to attend also.

Acolyte training and fitting for albs will be held during class on Sunday, September 15th. It is very important that our 7th and 8th graders make every effort to attend this training session. Once trained, our 7th graders will be scheduled to acolyte during Sunday worship.

Our 7th graders will receive their Confirmation study Bibles during worship on Sunday, September 22nd. More information will be sent home with students as the date approaches.

Please keep our Confirmation Class in your prayers as they continue their studies this school year — *Jace Baird, Ava Beetz, Ella Coss, Cianna Cullman, Natalie Hanaman, Macy Hartt, Lauren Holland, Quin Holland, Kennedy Knaff, Dessa Komitas, Ella Martin, Haden Shakespeare, and Jillian Younger.*

High School Sunday School Information

High School Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 8th at 10:10am. High school students should sign in (as usual) at the table in the north Fellowship Hall. The class will meet in the high school classroom upstairs, *The Upper Room.* Our high school class will be led by Liz Miller with other adults also participating.



The high school class will continue their tradition of enjoying breakfast as part of their time together. If you are willing to provide breakfast treats for the class, please sign up on the sheet in the classroom, call the church office, or send an email to [laura@stjohnsmendota.org](mailto:laura@stjohnsmendota.org).