



St. John's Lutheran Church

Called to Fill the Hungry with Good Things

The Messenger *(a monthly publication)*

August 2022



When evening comes, there will be light.

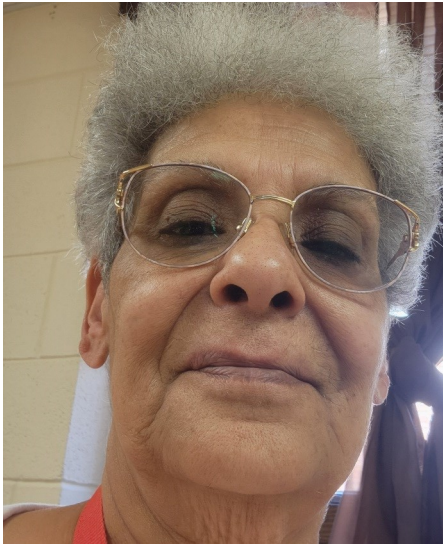
ZECHARIAH 14:7, NIV



Church Picnic and Blessing of Backpacks August 28

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Gem Saied

I was baptized in a Coptic Orthodox Church when I was two weeks old. I am the middle surviving child, three older siblings died as infants, so my parents did not wait to get me baptized. I attended school and worshiped at a Roman

Catholic Church School. I was taught by Nuns and learned English, Math, Science, Book-keeping, and Shorthand while in school. I now work as the Administrative Secretary at St. John's Lutheran Church. I have always enjoyed working in the Hospitality Industry and loved my time managing hotels, but I didn't like the long hours and needed to find a job where I didn't have to be on my feet all day. As strange as it sounds, I loved dealing with difficult guests. It was a challenge for me to not say out loud what I was thinking, but to sit down with people and find a compromise. It prepared me well for working in a church office.

I found my faith through the missionaries that came and lived next door to my family in Sudan. I joined them and spent 6-8 years working as a missionary. I attended a year of bible school in Austria and traveled through Europe and translated Christian Books from English to Arabic. I worked with lots of youth and lots of churches. I lost my faith when the war in Sudan started in the early 1990's and the missionaries were all pulled out. I was not pulled out- it was my home. It was very dangerous and there was lots of fighting. I could not understand how they left and I couldn't. I spent the next 25 years going back and forth between whether to believe in God or not. I went to a couple of churches, but didn't rediscover any passion or desire to be at church until 2017 when I was hired at St. John's. I believe that God forgives all sins- small and big, and that no matter how far away from God you

run, God always finds you and carries you in his arms. My favorite Bible passage is Psalm 23. It signifies for me that Christ is the shepherd and always gathers and looks after the sheep. I also like the story of the Prodigal Son. When I struggle, I go and find comfort in Christ.

I pray that God forgives my shortcomings and my past sins. And I really pray that my mother (now deceased) forgives me for putting her through hell and back when I was younger. I pray for forgiveness for how I treated her.

I struggle with why does God love me and why does God want me to be his child. I've done some bad things and sometimes I don't want to be me. But I love helping people, no matter what and it means a lot to me to put a smile on someone's face.

People are surprised that I'm still working at a church. It might be that my dry sense of humor and my culture are sometimes not understood or appreciated here.

If I could change anything, I would go back and treat my parents a bit better and not have strayed from God for so long.

I'm a Lutheran because I love Jesus. Living abroad taught me to accept people for who they are. I've been exposed to so many cultures. Some are nice and some are not so nice or friendly. The challenge is to accept them.

Working in a church office has taught me that when someone comes in angry, to not react with anger. I am grateful and would like to thank St. John's and Trinity, and the pastors for accepting who I am.

Ministerial Acts

✠ 7/5/2022 Joan Moldenhauer Trinity



Garden of Gethsemane

Holden Village Journey

August 4-16 thirteen people from eight different congregations will be exploring the Biblical theme of Jubilee at Holden Village in the Cascade Mountains of Washington. Watch for our story next month.



Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives

Our Trip to Israel

In February 2019, a group of 24 individuals traveled to Israel to spend 10 days traveling to those places you read about in the Bible; Bethany, Bethlehem, Capernaum, the Jordan River, Jerusalem, the Mount of Olives, Nazareth, the Sea of Galilee and the Garden of Gethsemane were just a few of the places we visited. It was a trip of a lifetime; one that brought the Bible to life in unique ways. Reading about Jesus teaching in Capernaum and then touring a recently excavated historic synagogue and seeing the stone where the teacher sat (knowing that Jesus probably sat on that very stone) left many awe-struck.

Israel is a beautiful county with much diversity in landscape and culture; from the green lush hills at the mouth of the Jordan to the desolate desert and stony mountainsides, from the beautiful fish-filled Sea of Galilee to the uninhabitable Dead Sea, we experienced it all. We saw crowded cities with open marketplaces to large areas of rocky countryside where no houses were noted. We tasted some fantastic foods native to Israel, observed a baptism in the Jordan, and witnessed a bar mitzvah parade. We prayed at the Wailing Wall. We sensed the almost-palpable distrust between Israel and Palestine.

What was most inspiring? That's a hard question to answer. Seeing the ruins of Masada where some Jewish Zealots chose to die rather than surrender to Rome in 70 A.D., sitting in the Garden of Gethsemane under ancient olive trees knowing Jesus prayed in a place like this, walking into an open tomb in a garden thinking about that first Easter morning, or sailing on the Sea of Galilee wondering on which hill Jesus fed the 5000...they were all inspiring. My only regret (and one expressed by the other 5 Jamestown travelers) was this: There simply wasn't enough time to totally soak it all in! To my fellow travelers: Wendy & Dale Thompson, Connie and Charlie Wells, and my dear husband Ken; I probably did not do justice to this fabulous trip. We'll just have to do it again sometime. Anyone else interested in going along?

Shar Gumke

Community Notices

Downtown Arts Market 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Every Thursday through September 1

8/13 – JPRD Gear Grinder – Bike rides –
Pipestem Creek Trail 8 am – 12 pm

8/24 – UJ Block Party

8/25 – Beginning of the School Year

9/18 – Bookmobile at National Buffalo Museum
10 am – 11 am

9/24 – Don Wilhelm's Huntington's 5K Color
Run – 7 am

St. John's and Trinity Events

8/2-8/3 – Rummage Sale Drop Off
at St. John's from 8 am to 4 pm

8/4 - St. John's Rummage Sale 10 am – 4 pm

8/5 – St. John's Rummage Sale
\$ 2.00 Brown Bag starts at 10 – 2 pm

8/25 – Child in Our Hands Open House –
4:30 pm

Every Tuesday starting 8/16 – 1 pm
Grief Support meeting for 6 weeks
at St. John's



Red Willow Bible Camp Quilt Auction Saturday August 27th

10 am Viewing Opens and Silent Auction

11-12:30 Lunch

1 pm Life auction

2:30 Silent Auction closes and Raffle Prize

Raffle Prize- "Warmth of Our Stars" queen
size quilt. Tickets available in the St. John's
Office. (need not be present to win)

All auction items may be viewed at
redwillowministries.com

Absentee bidder forms also available.

FREE Public Art Event!

All are welcome. Come and See!

Experience a *Drawn to the Word* artistic experience where Artist and
Pastor Paul Oman will paint a large scale canvas of the Feeding of the
5000 before your eyes at **The Arts Center in Jamestown**

on **Tuesday August 30th at 7 pm**. This story will unfold artistically,
musically, narratively and Scripturally during the event.

Drawn

TO THE WORD

Learn more at www.JamestownPlace4U.org



The Future of the Church



“Get the word out. Teach all these things. And don’t let anyone put you down because you’re young. Teach believers with your life: by word, by demeanor, by love, by faith, by integrity.” 1 Timothy 4:11-12
(The Message)

One of my very favorite ministries in the church today is Bible camp. I was never a camp counselor, but I really wanted to be. It didn’t work out for me, but when college was over I took a job as the Director of Youth Ministries at a church and my very first week on the job they sent me with a van full of kids to Bible camp. I got to hang out with the Bible camp staff, build relationships with the kids from my church, sing songs around the evening campfire, and even help with worship. It was like being an honorary camp counselor for a week. I looked forward to those weeks in the summer at Bible camp every year.

As a pastor I still have weeks where I get to be a part of Bible camp ministries. In June, staff from Park River Bible Camp and Red Willow Bible Camp came to Jamestown to lead Vacation Bible School for elementary age kids from Atonement, St. John’s, and Trinity. Kids gathered in worship, singing at the top of their lungs about the love of God. Young men and women taught stories from the Bible about the love of God to our kids.

Then in the beginning of July, I took High Schoolers to Park River Bible Camp. These were some of the youth who were supposed to attend the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer. That event was canceled and PRBC stepped up and planned a local event to fill the void. For a week they gathered to hear about the boundless love of God. They gathered in worship. They sang around the campfire. They played and prayed and created art. All week they heard that they are loved by a God whose love has no limits.

The young men and women who give their summers to Bible camp ministries love their kids with everything they have. They answer a call to love as Christ loved. They pour all their energy into their campers and it is breathtaking to behold. By the end of a week at camp or VBS the kids who receive this outpouring of love are changed. Many will return to be leaders one day, still talking about the counselor who helped them believe God loved them.

This is Holy Ground. Here we find the young people of the church gathered to build faith together. Bible camp ministries are where you see the images of the future of the church. It’s joyful and exuberant and honest and LOUD. It gives me hope and I know the future of the church is in good hands. Please hold these ministries in prayer and support them in every way you can. Encourage the kids in your lives to be campers or counselors. This ministry is essential to the church!

Blessings,
† Pastor Susan Haukaas

Upcoming Events for 6th-9th Graders

Saturday, September 10 9:30-1:00—CLUE

(activity in Jamestown)

Friday - Sunday, September 23-25—Castaway

(retreat near Detroit Lakes, Minnesota)

Discernment Process Update

Each of the eight ELCA congregation councils discussed the Goals for Building Ministry Teams in our areas. Information sessions were held to share these goals with the congregations.

By July 15 seven of the original eight congregations decided to participate in this first set of goals. Participating congregations are as follows:

Atonement, Jamestown	Christ the King, Ellendale
Emmanuel, Gackle	English, Medina
St. John's, Jamestown	Trinity, Jamestown
Zion, Kulm	

Char Freeberg from St. John's and Joni Zink from Trinity will serve as local coordinators. Pastor Kristi Weber will serve as the pastoral coordinator on this team

The local coordinators are responsible for beginning implementation steps toward the common goals.

Three of their early tasks will be

- 1) to choose a name for this ministry partnership
- 2) to revise the way the goals will be implemented in light of having 7 participating congregations instead of 8 (see below for more detail), and
- 3) to prepare a budget for the first 6 months, and a 2023 calendar year budget proposal in time for review at October congregation council meetings and January 2023 congregation annual meetings

Other groups that are beginning their work are the call committees (for two pastors) and search team (for a Director of Youth and Family Ministries).

Pastor Erik Weber is taking the lead in coordinating the call processes. English and St. John's will each select 3 members to serve on a joint call committee. There is a possibility of having an organizational meeting in late July.

What is happening with Immanuel in Jamestown? Although Immanuel in Jamestown is interested in participating in some of the events (such as the Season of Creation worship series in September, and the Castaway Youth event on September 23-25) they are not ready to say yes to all the goals and participation with the local coordinators at this time. They will be invited to events, but not be part of the coordination team.



Season of Creation	Universe
Sundays: September 11, 18, 25 and October 2	Ocean
Explore the wonders of God's Creation	Animals
	Storm



2022 ELCA
CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY
August 8-12, 2022
Columbus, Ohio

Churchwide Assembly Preview

The 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly will be held in Columbus, Ohio, August 8-12, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. Bishop Tessa Moon-Leiseth and voting members from our synod, both pastoral leaders and lay leaders, will participate in this meeting. The Churchwide Assembly is the national expression of our work together as a church. The Churchwide assembly is held every three years.

This year we gather under the theme, *Embody the Word*. There's an importance in the double meaning of the two words:

- Embody - meaning both the incarnation of Jesus Christ and the life of the church emerging from a pandemic.
- Word - meaning both Jesus Christ and scripture

Luke 24:45 states, "Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures." We embody the Word, both Jesus and the scripture, by speaking it and proclaiming it. In 1522: Martin Luther's translation of the New Testament made the Word accessible to the people and revolutionized the Christian movement worldwide. 500 years later, the call to make Jesus accessible to the people still exists today and as we look to the future of this church.

The ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the primary decision-making body of the church, is a process of communal spiritual discernment. When the ELCA Churchwide Assembly convenes, its voting members meet with confidence in God's grace around word and water, wine and bread, to carry on their work on behalf of the entire church. Over the course of the assembly, voting members:

- Hear reports and review the work of churchwide officers, leaders and units;
- Receive and consider proposals from synod assemblies;
- Elect officers, board members and other leaders as specified by the constitution or bylaws;
- Establish ELCA churchwide policy;
- Worship together;
- Adopt a budget; and
- Conduct other business related to the ELCA churchwide organization.

(text from ELCA.ORG accessed 7/14/2022)



Fun at Youth Fest
Park River Bible Camp
Marissa, Mylee, Zander
and Jaeger



Confirmation Plans for 2022-2023

Changes are coming to the Confirmation Program this year. Area congregations continue to explore ways to work together and provide high quality, faithful opportunities for faith formation. This year, St. John's, Trinity, and English Lutheran will continue to sync curriculum and instruction to serve the youth of our area.

6th and 7th Graders- BIBLE !!

All 6th and 7th graders come to St. John's immediately after school on Wednesdays that there is confirmation. Class will run from 4:00 pm until 5:15 pm. Snacks provided. Content will be Bible with an emphasis on claiming and owning some Bible stories. Using the Echo the Story 36 curriculum Bible will be taught over 2 years with some OT and some NT each year. There are also expectations of 4-5 Area Youth Events during the year. Pr. Erik will have the lead for scheduling 6th and 7th graders.

8th Graders– Catechism

All Trinity and St. John's 8th Graders will meet at Trinity from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. A parent or adult mentor is expected to participate with the youth each meeting.

9th Graders– Baptismal Promises

St. John's 9th graders will meet as needed in August, September, and October to reflect on Baptismal promises and to prepare for Confirmation Sunday– currently scheduled for **October 9th**. St. John's youth will meet with Pr. Erik. Trinity youth will participate in Trinity's program under Pr. Susan's direction.

English Lutheran 6th-9th Grade

Confirmation at English Lutheran will be held on scheduled days from 6:30 pm until 8 pm. Curriculum this year is Bible, following the Echo the Story 36 curriculum. Pr. Erik is taking the lead on instruction at English.

7th-9th grade
Castaway Retreat
September 23-24

Save the Date
St. John's Confirmation Sunday
October 9th at the 9 am worship service

4 Churches

2 Days

Let's go

**St. John's Lutheran
First Congregational UCC
Basilica of St. James Catholic
St. Paul's United Methodist**

4 Thursday, August

8am - 6pm

Friday, August 5

8am - 2pm

**(Fill-a-Bag Day,
\$2)**



BREAKFAST

St. Paul's UMC

**Pancakes & Sausage, serving 8-10:30
a.m.**

(serving both days)

LUNCH

St John's Lutheran

**Sloppy Joes, Bars, Coffee
(serving both days)**

1st Cong UCC

**Chicken or Egg Salad Sandwiches,
Chips, Desserts, Coffee
(Meal Thursday only)**

*** Caramel Rolls**

served both mornings

St. John's Lutheran Church — 424 1st Ave. South (252-1198) (use back west doors)

1st Cong. United Church of Christ— 201 2nd Street SE (252-0277) (use SW door)

Basilica of St. James Catholic Church — 622 1st Ave. S. (252-0119) (use west door)

St. Paul's United Methodist Church — 1000 5th Ave. NE (252-3088) (use north door)



Greeting from Child in Our Hands,

This month was full of joy, laughing and learning. We have celebrated the 4th of July with a special lunch, snack, arts and crafts. We provided a hotdog lunch with fresh fruit cups and fresh vegetables, we even cut the vegetables into flower shapes to encourage children to eat more and the children loved it!

This month we have had a few part-time teachers become full-time, just during the summer. Our center had a fire drill and a tornado drill this month. Our staff and children did a great job! Teachers from each classroom made sure they had an emergency package and emergency contacts on hand. During the drill and the children did

great and followed directions. Some other fun things we did was went to the Jamestown civic center for Kids Safety Day. The children learned about seat belt safety and bicycle helmet safety. They also were able to explore the fire truck. After that, the police department awarded them the police badge sticker. That made the children very proud. Central Valley Health District also came to our center to give the children bicycle helmets. They also showed the children how important it is to have a helmet on when riding a bicycle or a shooter.

Starting the music class has been a ton of fun here! The children love to sing to Freddie the Frog/ Eli the elephant, getting to know new musical terms and learning various percussion instruments. In the last month, students have learned how to play the hand drum, ratchet, sticks, clave's egg shakers, triangle and different notes on the xylophone! They love playing along to a piece of music!

Preschool registration is open for next school year. We will have two options. Three Day preschool is Monday /Wednesday/Friday from 8:30-11:30am. Five Day Preschool is Monday to Friday from 13:30-3:30pm.

Open house: August 25th 2022

Time: 4:30—6:00 pm

Preschool start: August 29th 2022

Center closed: September 5th 2022 (Labor Day)

If you are interested in Preschool or any questions, please call the center 701-252-1903 or email Director@st-johnpreschool.org.

Sincerely

Jane Lin
Director





**CIOH
PRECIOUS
CHILDREN**

CIOH is Hiring!!

Looking for child care workers who are willing to work with ages 0-8. Full time and part time with flexible schedules.

If you are willing to share your love and care with these lovely little angels, please contact Jane: 701-252-1903 or email: Director@st-johnspreschool.org

Giving Matters

ATTENDANCE - St. John's

	In person	Live	recorded
June 26	61	18	76
July 3	60	51	60
July 10	61	17	43
July 17	68	19	71
July 24			

June Income: \$ 21,649.77
 June Expenses \$ 25,353.83

Memorial

Grace Walz	June Morlock
Grace Walz	Cecile Morud
Tamara Berger	Delmer W
Darwin & Pauline Roeske	Bernean Franke

August 2022—Radio

August 7 Grace Walz
 August 14 Enderle
 August 21 Kollman
 August 28 Cindy Wolff

August 2022—Flowers

August 7 Grace Walz
 August 14 Paulson
 August 21 Kollman
 August 28 Franke

If you are thinking about sponsoring radio broadcast and/or Altar flowers in 2023. Please contact the church office to reserved the date.

There are many that have yearly reservation and there are limited opening for both.

Thank you for your sponsorship.

Council Highlights

The council met on July 12th and reviewed the financials and minutes. The most important time of the meeting was dedicated to discussing the Kitchen Project, knowing that there was a meeting of the Kitchen Team, designers and contractors coming up on July 14th. Once final pricing information is available, the council will review and bring a proposal to the congregation. Preliminary conversations have been held with the Mission Investment Fund regarding a loan for construction. When final costs are known and a construction timeline in hand, the council will call for a special congregational meeting for the loan.

In addition, council members were assigned tasks related to reviewing the employee handbook, position descriptions, and the annual membership review.

Kitchen Meeting July 14th

Design plans were approved to allow for the creation of construction drawing for use in construction bids. The construction plans may take up to 3 weeks to complete and the bids another 3 weeks. We are expecting that by the end of August, we have pricing information to bring to council and continue the process. There are still fit and finish decisions to make and additional congregational input will be solicited to make the kitchen our own.

Of note— there are significant mechanical challenges to installing the necessary air-exchanger for the vent hood. Some creative solutions may be in the works to ensure that our kitchen is safe and healthy.

***Thank you
For to the Lay
Sacramentarians***

**Russ and Gwen Geiszler
Amy Walz
Char Freeberg
Jeanne Rosemore**

***Bringing Communion to the sick and
homebound.***

If you think you would like to become a member of this. Group please contact the Church Office 252-1198

*Thank
You*

Special Thank you

To all those who usher and great,
helped with communion,
Reading and leading worship,
acolyte, streaming,
council and executive team
cover the office on Friday
serve coffee after church
Women of the church, quilters
Touch by an angel,
Pastors, and church members
Each and everyone is important
and without you the church
will not be a church

Thanks to Our Volunteers

***Volunteers of the Month
Tuesday Meal Team***

***Shirley Unverferth
Pam Golde
Linda Misemer
JoAnn Deede
Delbert***

Every Tuesday these ladies come to the church at about 3 pm to cook and serve a meal. Once and a while they get a break from cooking. If you think you would like to give them a break and cook please call the church, or sign on line.

Thank you for all you do.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:00am Worship - St. John's 10:30am Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	1 8:00am Rummage Sale Drop Off	2 8:00am Rummage Sale Drop Off 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless	3 3:30am Rummage Sale Drop Off	4 7:00am Holden Village Trip Rummage Sale 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	5 9:00am Rummage Sale 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	6 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall - set up
7 9:00am Worship - St. John's 10:30am Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall 10:30am Rock of Ages	8 12:00pm JAGST MEET- ING	9 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	10 10:00am Staff Meeting	11 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	12 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	13 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall - set up
14 9:00am Worship - St. John's 10:30am Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	15	16 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Grief Support Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless	17 Holden Village group back in town	18 Council Meeting 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	19 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	20 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall - set up
21 9:00am Worship - St. John's 10:30am Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	22	23 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Grief Support Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless	24 Community Block Party	25 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	26 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	27 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall - set up
28 9:00am Worship - St. John's 10:30am Church Picnic 10:30am Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	29	30 10:00am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Grief Support Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall 7:00pm Drawn to the World - Arts Center	31 4:00pm Confirmation	1 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	2 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall	3 6:00pm Hope for the Hopeless Church - Centennial Hall - set up



St. John's Lutheran Church
424 1st Ave S
Jamestown, ND 58401

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1
Jamestown, ND
58401

Worship Services

Sundays
~ 9:00 am

«AddressBlock»

Wednesday Confirmation
~ 4:00 pm - Worship

Holy Communion

All Worship Services

Church Office 701-252-1198

Preschool/Child Care 701-252-1903

Website: www.st-johnslutheran.org
email: stjohns@st-johnslutheran.org

**STAFF OF
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN**

Senior Pastor
Erik Weber

**Admin Secretary/
bookkeeper**
Gem Saied

Custodian
Frank Perleberg

Child In Our Hands
Jane Lin

Choir Accompanist/Pianist
Connie Wells

FREE Public Art Event!

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