



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Called to Fill the Hungry with Good Things

## The Messenger

(Monthly publication)

OCTOBER 2019



Dear friends in Christ,

It is amazing to me how fast the seasons change. It's September already and I haven't completed half the things I planned to over the summer. At St. John's, we're looking forward to returning our regular church programs. Rally Sunday was September 8th and heralded the beginning of Sunday School and catechism classes. I hope to see a great turnout because our young people of our congregation represent the future of our congregation and the church as a whole.

It is my hope that the challenges of past are behind us. Sunday services during the summer months traditionally are the lowest attended services of the year and this year was no exception. Due to the subsequent decrease in giving we were faced with a very difficult decision to reduce staff hours by 20%. I am happy to announce that everyone is back to their regular full-time hours. We are confident that the next few months will show a significant increase in attendance and giving allowing us to meet our financial obligations and fulfill our mission to God and the community.

In last month's message I discussed reinventing ourselves and our church. It appears that we are not meeting the needs of a significant portion of our congregation. I suggested setting our course on an "expedition of discovery" to learn and understand why an ever-increasing number of individuals no longer see the value in attending worship services. Only then will we be able to "reinvent" our church to meet the needs that we're not meeting now.

I appeal to every member of St. John's to join me on this "expedition of discovery". I'm sure that in the process of searching for answers we will undoubtedly uncover more questions. But that's OK. With every challenge we'll encounter we have an opportunity to improve. We are already very aware the path we will take if we do nothing. I, for one, do not want to follow that path. My vision is a St. John's filled with a multitude of people of all ages serving God and each other. God's Peace to All,  
Gary Staab, Congregation President

### CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS – OCTOBER

For current and update calendar  
<http://www.st-johnslutheran.org/#/calendar>

#### Sunday Worship

9:00 am and 10:45 am - worship  
10:00 am Sunday School/coffee and fellowship

#### Tuesday

9:30 am Staff Meeting

#### Wednesday

4:00 pm 6-8th grade confirmation - St. John's  
5:15-6:15 pm Meal at Trinity  
5:45 pm Adult Study at Trinity  
6:30 pm Lutheran Worship - Trinity

### Calendar Continue

#### October 2019

10/2-10/4 German Supper Prep  
10/5 10:00 am Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study  
4:30 pm German Supper  
10/4-10/6 Widow's Retreat  
10/5 4:30 pm German Supper  
10/7 5:30 pm Executive Meeting  
10/8 5:00 pm Evangelism Meeting  
5:30 pm Council Meeting  
10/17 2:30 pm Ave Maria Birthday Party  
10/19 10:00 am Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study  
10/20 9:00 am Guest Preacher –Red Willow Bible Camp  
10:45 am Director  
11:45 am Baptism Class  
10/26 10:00 am WOTC Bazaar Sale—Buffalo Mall

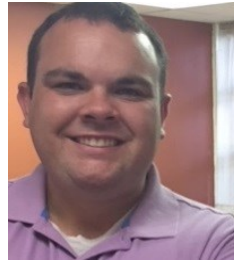


I am now a father-in-law. As my son, Henrik, exchanged vows with Lexie on September 7th, I was sitting proudly in the front row. Neither Kristi nor I had an official role in the ceremony, other than to be escorted in by our firstborn son and be seated with Lexie's parents. A friend of the family from Illinois officiated at the service that was held in an old Presbyterian church that had been relocated to a former Methodist Bible camp near Moose Lake Minnesota. It was a very select guest list, at least as far as family were concerned, there were the absolute bare minimum of family members and a whole lot of Henrik and Lexie's friends. The weather was cool and dry. The day was perfect for a wedding.

This was the first child in each family to get married. Grandparents beamed. Our younger son, Oscar, was the best man, and Lexie's sister the maid of honor. Here is what I remember from the ceremony- not much. The bible readings were a psalm and passage from Philippians. The wedding sermon was pleasant and appropriate. The ring bearer - my nephew, did his job as well as can be expected. Nobody passed out (don't lock your knees) and in front of God and parents, and the whole gathered assembly vows were exchanged. The Kleenex in my pocket was not needed, but my eyes are moist now a few weeks later remembering the day.

Sometimes the feeling of a day is a more powerful memory than any individual word that was said or song that was sung. I experienced this in a new way on that day. It is not unknown to me. I have officiated at weddings and funerals, and am aware of how people experience God differently on such occasions. God works though the special clothes, or the presence of friends and family, or the tone of the day. I remember the smiles. I remember the feeling of joy and completion of watching my child take one more step into his own life and world. I am a new participant in this reality. I am now a father in law.

Pr. Erik



On September 18th, a group of 8th graders came up to Centennial Hall for their first day of confirmation class. The same students that were in my class as 7th graders last year. When the clock showed 4:00 pm and the

confirmands were around the table, I looked and notice it only took a year for these 8th grade students to grow what it seems like a foot taller and their voice is significantly lower.

I thought of the times where I was told that I was growing up so fast and thought that I wasn't growing fast enough. I know understand what that all meant. It seems that time keeps going the rate that it is meant to go no matter if we want to move it faster or slower. Even though change is hard, God has continues to be with us through these changes and growth. When life unexpectedly changes and you end up discovering a new normal, it conjures up anxiety and doubt.

Recently Rachel, Yogi, and I just moved to a new house and it is the first time Rachel and I are residing in a house. When you move you learn more about the quirks of the new space, which rooms you can be in while not disturbing your partner, donating items that don't fit, and buying new furniture. Moving creates a whole new identity, the emotions of excitement, anxiety, and doubt all rolled up together. The good news is that when change happens unexpectedly, we are reminded that God is there with us. Isaiah 43:18-19 "Forget the former things, do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland."

As God creates streams in the wasteland, what streams has God called us to find? I challenge this church to notice the time when the streams that once provided nourishment for the congregation are dried and buried and when there is a time to dig for a new stream. For example, we created a stream by

knocking down walls and providing flooring for Sunday School children each Sunday.

We lean on God and create new streams that offer new hope while we are called to feed the hungry with good things we will continue to share the fruits of our labor that gives each of us purpose and full of life.

Pr. Lucas



**Pianist:** Rachel Williams, Connie Wells, and Mark Wolf

**Acolyte:** Braxton Perkins, Nate Walz, Maddie Ede, Chloe and Maddie Holstad, Jackson Seckerson, Jordan Windingland, McKenna Miller,

**Greeters:** Walter and Mary Klundt, Tina Lake, Margie Schrenk, Paulette Schumaker.

**Readers:** Jim Ritter, Ann Ede, Terri Bostan, Tonya Perkins, Amy Walz, Cindy Wolff, Sandy Franke, Joan Enderle

**Communion Assistant:** Joan Enderle, Jim and Paulette Ritter, Carl and Sandy Franke, Char Freeberg, Cindy Wolff, Ann Ede

**Ushers:** Bill Ebele, Jolene Baltrusch, Walter and Mary Klundt, Jerry and Darlene Michel, Glenn Johnson, JoAnn Deede, Joyce Wilkinson, Jerry Readle, David Gasal,

**Communion Prep:** Altar Guild, John and Cindy Kleven, Cindy Wolff, Mary Klundt and DeLanda Kollman

**Communion Prep:** Altar Guild, John and Cindy Kleven, Cindy Wolff

**Projector:** Lynn Kruger, Char Perleberg, Connor Ede, Bobby Landscoot,

**Van Drivers:** Dan Dockter, Tom Enderle, John Kleven, Howard Weispenning Jr.

Special thanks to those who decorate the church, insure the children bags have books and activities, Sunday School Teachers, individuals that are always available to lend a hand to shovel the snow, keep the front of the church clean, help with mailing. There are many that quietly go about doing what needs to be done and get it done when no one is watching. Thank you so much to all.



**Radio Broadcast and  
Altar Flowers Sponsorship**

**Radio October**

October 6	St. John's Endowment Media Legacy Fund
October 13	Alden and DeLanda Kollman
October 20	Carl and Sandy Franke
October 27	Glenn Johnson

**Flowers September**

October 6	Margie Schrenk
October 13	Tom and Joan Enderle
October 20	Darwin and Pauline Roeske
October 27	Gem Saied

**BAPTISM CLASS  
SUNDAY October 20—11:45 AM**



**CHURCH MINISTRY**

**FUNERALS**

Baby Brother Chadwick—8/27  
Lee Fisher 8/28  
George Williams 9/10  
Lillian Hertel 9/12

**BAPTISM**

Natalie Lois Stafslein 9/22

**Thank you Volunteers**

**We greatly appreciate you**





Greetings and God's Blessings to All!

It was without a doubt a busy summer here at Child In Our Hands and a special thank you to all the staff who continues to come back after a year of college and help us with our summer program. We are lucky enough to have had the same staff for about 3 summers now with the exception of a few new hires. This summer was full of water activities, lots of parks, Dr. Dawns Dairy Days, Kite fest, many Dairy Queen trips, a trip to the movie theatre, and many, many more activities. Summer is always the most laid-back part of the year as we embrace the warm weather and the ability to be outside nearly all day every day. With summer coming to an end it is time that we kick it back into gear and start preparing for another school year here at CIOH.

Sometimes during the school year and throughout the summer I feel like I constantly find myself wondering if our kids are ready for Kindergarten, are they ready for the next step after Child in Our Hands, did we do our job right. Then I hear them doing things such as reciting the lord's prayer, praying before they eat, saying please and thank you, watching them hug their friends after they got mad at them. That's when I remember that our goal is to do so much more than teach them their ABC's and counting to 20.

Our mission is to provide each Child in our hands the opportunity to grow, learn and develop to his/her fullest potential. To provide quality Christian education and care while focusing on the uniqueness of each child. To provide the continued opportunity for parents to participate in their child's growth and faith formation.

I know someday it may seem that we run a muck down here in these hallways and most days it feels like that to us too, but the muck we run in our wing is so important to all 42 of the kids that get left in our care on a daily basis. This church has a crucial role in the development of the Christian education that we strive to provide for these children. We are forever grateful to be able to be a mission of this church and help guide these children in their faith formation.

"Let the children come to me. And do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14

CIOH still has a few spots open in each of our part time preschool programs. If you have any questions please call Ms. Torrey at 701-252-1903.

Torrey Herrington, Director





### Fit for the Journey

FROM	FOR
James, Patricia Boschee And Stacy Hopkins	Walter Perleberg
Gerry & Judy Scherbenske	Lee Fisher
Cortnie Williams	Lee Fisher
Dale and Judy Fisher	Lee Fisher
Tanner & Kali Kiecher	Lee Fisher
Russel & Darlene Krapp	Lee Fisher
Leonna Krapp	Lee Fisher
Kenneth Metzen	George Williams

### ATTENDANCE

#### August 2019

Sunday Aug	26	155
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#### September 2019

Sunday Sept	1	114
Sunday Sept	8	186
Sunday Sept	15	176
Sunday Sept	22	187

GENERAL GIVING FOR August \$ 19,925. Our Monthly Target is \$30,000 of general fund giving.



### September Council Recap

Language updates to the St. John's Employee Handbook were approved. The council reinvested \$50,000 of designated funds from Maturing CD's. The council received an update that St. John's has been conditionally approved for a \$100,000.00 unsecured loan through the Mission Investment Fund for Kitchen remodeling. President Gary is gathering the Kitchen Team for next steps. The Budget Committee for the 2020 Mission and Ministry Plan was appointed: Charlotte Freeberg, Grace Walz, Paulette Schumacher, and Shane Ede (and possibly Ron Fuchs). The council received the written reports from the March Ministry Site Review and the June Building Consultant visit. The Council members will read and return to these reports at a future meeting. The council discussed guidance for the Budget Committee as they prepare for their work this fall.

### Women of the Church Bazaar Day

Time flies by get ready to bake. Bazaar Day at the Buffalo Mall is Saturday October 26th, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. This is our last Fund Raiser for the year.

Come see what the other churches are up to. There will be plenty of fall items and maybe you will even find some early Christmas gifts.

We would love to see our tables full. Buns, cookies, bars and pies of any kind. Bring your goodies to the mall. We will price them. Come and visit! Stay a while work if you wish and have fun with us.



### Some August Memories



## October is Endowment Awareness Month

Did you know that every time we celebrate a baptism at St. John's, the family receives an invitation to receive a matching gift to a special **Mission Future 4 Kids** account in the child's name? That matching gift comes from the St. John's Endowment Fund. Setting aside small amounts regularly adds up over time. Many grandparents and parents make special gifts to children so that they will have resources to use in the future- whether that is for education, a wedding, or starting a business. As a congregation we try and encourage financial health for our children. We can do this because people in the past set aside some resources for us today. We hold those resources in our endowment.

An endowment is nothing more than funds or property donated to an institution to produce income. St. John's has three Endowment Fund Options that are all available to provide ongoing support to the mission and ministry of the congregation.

Endowments don't just happen, they require planning, care, and cultivation. Farmers and gardeners who are gathering the produce of the land know that corn or beans or tomatoes don't just spring up by themselves. It takes a seed and an intention to set out to grow a crop. Endowments work best when they are

*If you could make a real difference for the future of Christian Ministry through St. John's, would you do it?*

visible and celebrated and cultivated. Endowments are for the long haul- they are a blessing across generations.

Current Gifts and Deferred Gifts are valuable for the health of our Endowments. But we know that these gifts don't happen by themselves- they take intention and action.

### ***Take a moment to pray and reflect on your own intentions.***

- 1) Review the people and places that have been important to you in your life.
- 2) Decide if you want to make any specific provisions through your will or beneficiary designations to see that your wishes are carried out. Talk and pray with one of the Pastors as you discern your gift.
- 3) Act on your decision. Talk to your legal, tax, and financial advisors to set in motion your plans.

If you could make a real difference for the future of Christian Ministry through St. John's, would you do it? Endowments can receive almost any kind of gifts

- gifts of cash or cash equivalents
- gifts of houses, property, or farm land
- gifts of stocks, bonds, or mutual funds
- beneficiary designations of retirement plans or life insurance



The most provocative question that can be asked may be: "If your children cannot make it (be set for life financially) on 90% of what you have accumulated, what makes you think that they will make it on 100% of what you have?" Consider designating 10% of your estate as a tithe of what God has blessed you with in your life.

In the past years, the St. John's Endowment Committee has been cultivating the Endowments of St. John's. In 2017, the St. John's Lutheran ND Tax Credit Endowment Fund was created and has already received several gift. This year, the Media Legacy Fund sponsored three radio broadcasts. The St. John's Endowment continues to support the witness and mission of St. John's through grants for people, activities, and things that witness to Jesus.

For additional information about a current or deferred gift to St. John's please contact Senior Pastor Erik Weber or Endowment Committee Chair Shane Ede.

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### **IRA Required Minimum Distributions**

If you are over 70 1/2 and have money in an IRA or other retirement account and are required to take a distribution this year...

Did you know that you can avoid taxes on that distribution if you tell your plan provider to send your distribution directly to St. John's?

This is a great option if you don't need the distribution for your current living expenses. Ask your plan provider for information and consult with your tax professional for guidance.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 High School Retreat 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	30 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	1 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	2 Early Dismissal # 1 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 5:45 PM NO ADULT EDOR WORSHIP AT TRINITY	3 4:00 PM German Supper Prep	4 Widow's Retreat 4:00 PM German Supper Prep	5 Widow's Retreat 10:00 AM Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study 4:30 PM German Supper
6 Widow's Retreat 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship 2:30 PM Eventide Nursing Home Worship	7 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 5:30 PM Executive Meeting	8 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 5:00 PM Evangelism Meeting 5:30 PM Council Meeting 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	9 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 5:45 PM Adult Ed at Trinity 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity	10 2:30 PM Ave Maria Birthday Party	11	12
13 Walking Together Sunday 9:00 AM Worship - Guest Preacher - New Rockford 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship - Guest Preacher - New Rockford	14 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 12:00 PM JAGST	15 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:00 PM Wave of Light	16 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 5:45 PM NO ADULT ED OR WORSHIP AT TRINITY	17 2:30 PM Ave Maria Birthday Party	18	19 10:00 AM Eventide Assisted Living Bible Study 10:00 AM Jamestown Community Prayer - Voothees Chapel
20 9:00 AM Worship - Guest Preacher - Red Willow Bible Camp 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship - Guest Preacher - Red Willow Bible Camp 11:45 AM Baptism Class	21 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	22 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	23 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 5:45 PM Adult Ed at Trinity 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity	24 Pr. Erik and Pr. Lucas - Jamestown Conference Leadership	25	26 9:00 AM Kiwanis Kids against Hunger Food Pack - Harley Davidson - 10:00 AM Women of the Church Bazaar Day - Buffalo Mall
27 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee and Fellowship 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:45 AM Worship	28 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel	29 9:00 AM Pre-school chapel 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 1:00 PM Pre-school chapel 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	30 4:00 PM 6th - 8th Grade Confirmation - St. John's 5:45 PM Adult Ed at Trinity 6:30 PM Lutheran Worship - Trinity	31	1	2



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

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 Organization  
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 58401

**Worship Services**

Sundays

9:00 am  
 10:45 am

**Holy Communion**

**All Worship Services**

Church Office 701-252-1198

Preschool/Child Care 701-252-1903

Website: [www.st-johnslutheran.org](http://www.st-johnslutheran.org)

Email: [stjohns@st-johnslutheran.org](mailto:stjohns@st-johnslutheran.org)

«AddressBlock»

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

**Senior Pastor**  
 Erik Weber

**Associate Pastor**  
 Lucas Holsten

**Admin Secretary**  
 Gem Saied

**Custodian**  
 Frank Perleberg

**Child In Our Hands Director**  
 Torrey Herrington

**Choir Accompanist/Pianist**  
 Rachel Williams  
 Connie Wells



**GERMAN SUPPER**

**Saturday October 5**

**4:30 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Knoephla Soup**

**Knoephla Bake**

**Sausage with or**

**without Sauerkraut**

**Kuchen**

**Cabbage Rolls**

**Limited Tickets # at the door**