



St. John's Lutheran Church

Called to Fill the Hungry with Good Things

The Messenger

(Monthly publication)

OCTOBER 2020

How Long, Lord?

Dear friends in Christ,

Through most of my adult life I have felt as though I have been in control of my own destiny. However, being "in charge" often means that you must put your trust in someone more knowledgeable or skilled than yourself. For example, I know that I am not a surgeon, I know I am not an airline pilot and sometimes I have serious doubts about my skills as a gardener. In times of doubt, I place my trust in God. My life has been full of examples that prove that God exists and has impacted my life.



However, these are difficult times, and it is easy to feel helpless, lost or forgotten. It is easy to question God's plan. It is easy to ask, "How long, Lord?" As I look at the civil unrest that has plagued our nation, I feel helpless. I see our government so mired in political partisanship that it is no longer able to lead, and I feel helpless. I watch as wildfires ravage the western states causing dozens of deaths and leaving hundreds of thousands homeless, and I feel helpless. As I write this the Covid-19 pandemic has claimed nearly 1 million lives worldwide with no signs of ending, and I feel helpless.

When I find myself feeling lost, forgotten, and helpless I will often look to the scriptures for solace and guidance. Sometimes that search can be arduous, but I always find words that bring me peace. This time I found that peace in the words of Psalm 13.

¹ *How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever?*

How long will you hide your face from me?

² *How long must I wrestle with my thoughts
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?*

How long will my enemy triumph over me?

³ *Look on me and answer, LORD my God.*

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,

⁴ *and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.*

⁵ *But I trust in your unfailing love;
my heart rejoices in your salvation.*

⁶ *I will sing the LORD's praise,
for he has been good to me.*

I will sing the Lord's praise! For my life truly has been blessed. Through all the trials and tribulations that I have experienced in my life, God has never abandoned me. Although I may not have recognized it at the time, God has spoken to me. No, I have not heard a booming voice from the heavens, or seen visions in my toast, rather, I hear God speak to me through more subtle venues such as the words of a friend, the loving nuzzle from a pet, a spectacular sunrise, or even while writing an article for the church newsletter.

So, when I find myself asking "How long, Lord?" I know the answer is available, I just need to pay attention and listen with my heart. God's voice does not always come in the form we are accustomed to.

God's Peace to All,

Gary Staab, Congregation President



I'm getting a new washer and dryer. The ones I have been using came with the house and were old when we moved in almost 7 years ago. Our foreign exchange student, Carl, marveled at the ancient technology when he was with us in 2014. I am actually grateful that they have continued to work faithfully even as every other major appliance either broke or was replaced. They are not energy efficient, and certainly the washer is not water efficient, but they kept chugging along. A pocket full of change slipped in, not a problem. Infield dirt from a hard slide into 2nd base, no sweat. An alb with some wine stains- just pretreat and let it go. In our previous home in Illinois, we also inherited some old appliances with the home. Those were even simpler. When one of my boys had to write instructions on how to use the Washer and Drier as a step by step direction writing exercise in Middle School, we had to attach a parental note that said, "yes, put the clothes in and push 'on'," which accurately described the complexity of that appliance. There were no other settings.

Now everything comes with a DVD or more likely a website to visit to learn about all of the capabilities of even a basic appliance. Progress, it seems, means that we have to keep learning and relearning how to do familiar things with new equipment. We are about to experience that again at St. John's as we move into live-streaming worship services. As I write this in mid-September, we are finishing up installation of some cameras and some new digital equipment in the sanctuary that will allow us to begin streaming worship services with high quality video and sound. My how worship is changing.

Many people remember days of worship with a hymnal, or singing songs from memory. For well over a decade we have had projectors in the sanctuary to assist in worship for those who gathered together. Now, we are adding another layer by stepping into making a video feed of worship available to anyone who has a computer. St. John's will still be on the radio on KSJB AM600 at 9 am on Sunday mornings. We will still have a projectionist in the balcony assisting in changing slides to guide those who gather together in worship. And now our projectionist will be joined by a streaming specialist who will produce the 'show' of worship for a much wider audience.

With the streaming equipment, we will be able to have family members who cannot attend baptisms, weddings, and funerals participate in real time with a service in the sanctuary. Streaming our Sunday Worship services will allow people an additional option to have the visual images along with the sound that will still be available on the radio. In addition, at this time when we occasionally bump up against seating capacity, we will be able to display the sanctuary activities downstairs in the fellowship hall.

The streaming equipment is being paid for by generous gifts from the St. John's church council members, choir members, and some other households that were invited to contribute to the investment in this new adventure. The St. John's Endowment has also awarded a grant to assist with the costs. This was intentionally a quiet and select appeal because of the impending launch of the van appeal. As of today, we are close, but not over the top for our goal of special gifts to support the streaming equipment installation.

The first major services that we anticipate going live for will be on October 25th for Confirmation Sunday, and November 1st for All Saints Sunday. If all goes well, our streaming system will give us additional options as we plan for Christmas Worship and how we can gather as a community in new ways. New things are exciting, but they serve familiar purposes, whether that is cleaning socks or introducing additional ways to worship.

Pr. Erik
Senior Pastor

Digital Worship

As we learn that our new reality and social distancing is no longer a sprint but a marathon, we continue to discover different forms of worship. We give thanks to God for us to have the ability to be on the radio through this time.



We also feel blessed that St Johns was able to receive new video recording equipment. Now we are dreaming and imagining what a video recorded worship services look like. It is like a new worship sand box and one thing that we are starting is a digital worship service on Wednesdays at 4:00 pm.

The worship service has been going on for a few months and implemented a few recording spots during the service. Each recording spot is a different person leading the service, allowing more participants to be involved while being socially distant. Pastor Lucas may ask you to read a reading or lead part of the service, and we ask you for your participation as we need all participants to make this digital worship message expand the good news of Christ's love.

These are not ideal circumstances, but this gives us an opportunity to think outside the box to connect people to Jesus Christ. Churches that have 100 people on a normal worship service pre covid-19 are now double their viewership once they brought their services to Facebook, YouTube, and other streaming services.

Watching service online does have its disadvantages like losing the fellowship and relational aspect of the service. However, there is no denying that there is potential to reach a greater number of people through social media. We are in this together as we are thrust into uncomfortable situations and forced to adapt. However, let us move forward in spreading the Gospel message for all ears to hear as we expand our worship online and amongst our homes, communities, and world.

Let us Pray,

Gracious Father,

Thank you for always being there with us through a time of anxiety and frustration. Continue to be with us and teach us patience and grace for our neighbors and ourselves. Help us see the beacon of light and hope to the world for us that we are enough and have the ability to be the light in our neighbor's life.

In your name we pray, Amen

Pr. Lucas Holsten
Associate Pastor



Van Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has already responded to the van appeal. We have had a good first month of donations. (totals will be posted when available)



It is time for our 1998 church van to retire. The Church Council invites you to pitch in and help with a quick and targeted appeal to raise the \$35,000 (estimated) needed to secure a gently used replacement. Gifts of all sizes are appreciated, but this is the specific challenge—

Can you match your monthly payment on the last vehicle you purchased/leased and make that as a special offering?

If making one “extra” vehicle payment is possible (or an estimated payment if you made an all cash purchase) we will make quick work of this appeal.

Once we reach a threshold of \$25,000, the Church Council will authorize the purchase as soon as a suitable vehicle is identified. (It may take a bit of time to find the right combination of price, mileage, and model year.)

The first \$ 3,100 in gifts will be matched by the St. John’s Endowment Fund.

Cut and return this bottom portion.-

Yes, I can help

with the enclosed special offering of: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Just for fun— My dream car is : _____

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

October 2020

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

Monday

9:30 am and 1:30 am-Pre-School Chapel

Tuesday

9:30 am Staff Meeting
5:00 pm Come to the Table Meal

Wednesday

4:00 pm Worship - All are Welcome

Thursday

9:30 am Pre-School Chapel

Sunday

9:00 am Worship -Sunday School

October 2020

10/6 6:00 pm CIOH Board Meeting
10/8 5:30pm Executive Meeting
10/13 6:30 pm Council Meeting
10/21 5:00 pm 9th and 10th grade confirmation banquet
10/25 9:00 am 9 grade confirmation
10:45 am 10th grade confirmation
10/31 Installation of Bishop Tessa Moon-Leiseth—Fargo

**Call the church office for
more updates 252-1198**



A note from Frieda Brehm

Dear Church Members of St. John's
Just a note to let you know that my younger sister Inge Hafer Iryman passed away July 17, at the home of her son and family, Chad Inyman. She was 78 years old at time of death. She was a member of St. John's while living in Jamestown with my parents Edward and Emma Hafer. Please keep me in your prayers.

Council Recap

The council received the 2019 report from the Financial Review (Audit) Team, "...it was felt that overall the financial records of St. John's Lutheran Church are in good order." The new stove and dishwasher are on order and may arrive by the end of September. We will need to coordinate local installation. The sanctuary video streaming installation has begun and livestreaming of worship should begin in late October. Bell tower repairs have been completed and an insurance claim payment received. The Paycheck Protection Program Loan to Grant application was reviewed. The council acted to renew the contract with Sara Lynch, CPA for twelve months beginning 10/1. The council reviewed staff benefits and approved the employer election of PORTICO health insurance coverage for the pastors for 2021. Pr. Lucas presented the names of the 10th grade and 9th grade confirmation students for Oct. 25th. It was reported that staff annual reviews are well underway. The council decided that it made more sense this year to have the council complete the 2021 mission and ministry plan instead of convening a Budget Committee. Individual ministry teams will be contacted for specific input as needed. An open informational/input listening post on a preliminary draft will be held in early November.



Confirmation Day

9:00 am Service—9th grade Confirmation
10:45 am Service—10th grade Confirmation
You are welcome to attend either service





Something new installed in the Sanctuary. Can you spot the new cameras when you sit down?

Immanuel Lutheran Church is celebrating 100 years of ministry in Jamestown. We celebrate with Pr. Lucinda and all of our neighbors at Immanuel



Pr. Lucas shared about Come to the Table With Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs in Jamestown. Come to the Table Meal is the rebranded name of the Tuesday Meal Program

New Confirmation Year Started. Distance learning only until school meets on Wednesdays in person.





Pianist: Rachel Williams, and Connie Wells

Readers: Jim Ritter, Sandy Franke, Ann Ede, Joan Enderle

Ushers:, Shane Ede, Tom Enderle, Char Freeberg, John and Cindy Kleven

Projector: Lynn Krueger and Char Perleberg

Messenger: Tom Enderle and Walter Klundt

Special thanks to those who decorate the church, insure the children bags have books and activities, 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.



Special Offerings for September (as of 9/21)

Wycliff Bible Translators- \$-0

Youth for Christ- \$0

CHURCH MINISTRY

Deaths

Baptism

Charleigh Kaye Miller 9/20

Wedding

Sponsorships

Radio October

October 4 ElRoy and Marlys Wiest

October 11 JoAnn Deede

October 18 Carl and Sandy Franke

October 25 Tom and Joan Enderle



If you would like to sponsor a Radio Broadcast or Altar Flowers please contact the church 252-1198

Flowers October

October 4 Marlys Perleberg

October 11 JoAnn Deede

October 18 Altar Guild

October 25 Darwin and Pauline Roeske



August –September 2020

August 30 29

September 6 21

13 40

20 61

August Giving: \$ 25,607

August expenses: \$ 30,767

BAPTISM CLASS

please contact one of the pastors





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 very thankful for all of our college staff that comes back every year to help us through our summer as we take on more kids with our after-school program.

This summer felt a little uneventful due to COVID and all of our rules that we have had to abide by in order to take part in the Child emergency operating grant. We weren't allowed to go on our normal field trips, or to the parks. On the Brightside our staff and children were able to grow even closer with all of the new activities we got to do together in a group setting.

With school back in session our preschool room is all back up and running. We have welcomed Mrs. Ford back with open arms, and our core staff operating all of our main childcare rooms. A bunch of our kiddos have moved up into their new big kid rooms, and some are really enjoying preschool for the first time.

Staff is working incredibly hard to get kids into their new routines in their new rooms, and things are coming together really well. We also have brand-new part-time kids who are partaking in a school-based setting. Normally drop off is extremely hard for them the first few weeks, but our kids this year have been able to adapt really well. It is such a joy to get fresh new faces and watch them enjoy making new friends, and learning new things.

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



PRE SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO THE Frontier Village





Special Offering invitation for October

North Dakota Campus Ministry

Jamestown Area Grief Support

Our investment in God's mission extends outside our walls. This month we invite special offerings to support the work of campus ministry at UND and NDSU.

We also support the Jamestown Area Grief Support Team. Through regular contacts and invitations to small group meetings, the Jamestown Area Grief Support Team makes a real difference for those experiencing loss.

These special offerings will be matched up to \$200 by the St. John's Endowment Committee.

Please mark all donations clearly so that they are properly recorded.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's and Sunday School	28 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel 1:30 PM Pre-school chapel	29 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Come to the Table Meal	30 4:00 PM Worship - St. John's Youth Group	1 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel	2	3
4 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's and Sunday School	5 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel 1:30 PM Pre-school chapel	6 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Come to the Table Meal 6:00 PM CIOH Board Meeting	7 4:00 PM Worship 4:01 PM Confirmation	8 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel 5:30 PM Executive Meeting	9	10
11 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's and Sunday School	12 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel 1:30 PM Pre-school chapel	13 5:00 PM Come to the Table Meal 6:30 PM Council Meeting	14 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 4:00 PM Worship 4:01 PM Confirmation	15 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel	16	17 10:00 AM Jamestown Community Prayer - Voorhees Chapel
18 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's and Sunday School	19 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel 1:30 PM Pre-school chapel	20 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Come to the Table Meal	21 4:00 PM Worship 4:01 PM Confirmation 5:00 PM 9th and 10th grade confirmation banquet	22 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel	23	24
25 9:00 AM 9th grade Confirmation 10:45 AM 10th grade Confirmation	26 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel 1:30 PM Pre-school chapel	27 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Come to the Table Meal	28 4:00 PM Worship - St. John's Youth Group	29 9:30 AM Pre-school chapel	30	31 Installation of Bishop Tessa Moon-Letseth - Fargo



St. John's Lutheran Church
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 Jamestown, ND 58401
Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
 Organization
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 Jamestown, ND
 58401

Worship Services

Sundays
 9:00 am

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

«AddressBlock»

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

Senior Pastor
 Erik Weber
 701-320-3151

Associate Pastor
 Lucas Holsten
 651-334-4494

Admin Secretary
 Gem Saied

Custodian
 Frank Perleberg

Child In Our Hands Director
 Torrey Herrington

Choir Accompanist/Pianist
 Rachel Williams
 Connie Wells



October 21
4:00 pm Confirmation Banquet

Sunday October 25
9 am - 9th grade confirmation
10:45 am - 10th grade confirmation



All Saint Sunday
November 1
9:00 am celebration of Saints through baptism
10:45 am Traditional all Saints Service