



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Called to Fill the Hungry with Good Things

## The Messenger

(Monthly publication)

SEPTEMBER 2020

### ***Congratulations Bishop-Elect***

On August 16<sup>th</sup> the Easter North Dakota Synod elected Rev. Tessa Moon Leiseth as the next Bishop of the Synod.

Bishop Elect Tessa was ordained June 21, 1998

She is currently serving as the intentional interim lead pastor at Horace Lutheran Church, Horace.

Her previous ministry positions include: 1) Intentional Interim Ministry / Interim Senior Pastor, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Moorhead MN, 2) Country Coordinator, Southern Africa - Young Adults in Global Mission / Missionary, Global Mission Unit, ELCA, lived/worked in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, 3) Campus Pastor, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, 4) Pulpit supply / maternity-leave supply, New England Synod, 5) Associate Pastor, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, East Bethel, MN, 6) Youth and Family Pastor, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, Mounds View, MN, 7) Summer Chaplain, Red Willow Bible Camp, Binford, ND.



### ***A service of Installation is being planned for October 31st.***

As this synod's pastor, the bishop shall:

- a. Preach, teach, and administer the sacraments in accord with the Confession of Faith of this church.
- b. Have primary responsibility for the ministry of Word and Sacrament in this synod and its congregations, providing pastoral care and leadership for this synod, its congregations, its ministers of Word and Sacrament, and its ministers of Word and Service.
- c. Exercise solely this church's power to ordain (or provide for the ordination by another synod bishop of) approved candidates who have received and accepted a properly issued, duly attested letter of call for the office of ministry of Word and Sacrament (and as provided in the bylaws of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America).
- d. Ordain (or provide for the ordination of) approved candidates who have received and accepted a properly issued, duly attested letter of call for service as ministers of Word and Service of this church.
- e. Attest letters of call for persons called to serve congregations in the synod, letters of call for persons called by the Synod Council, and letters of call for persons on the rosters of this synod called by the Church Council. (Synod Constitution S8.12)



Dear friends in Christ,

On August 16th the Eastern North Dakota Synod Assembly elected Rev. Tessa Moon Leiseth as our new Bishop. Reverend Leiseth is currently the Interim Senior Pastor, Horace Lutheran Church and is a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Fargo. The slate of candidates was impressive. I'm sure that it was a difficult process to select one from many eminently qualified individuals.

In other news, you may have noticed the construction crew at our building the week of August 10th. After a year and a half, we are finally getting the repairs to the bell tower completed. When the repairmen removed the top they discovered evidence that the damage may have been caused by a lightning strike. We are in discussions with our insurance carrier to see if this may be a covered loss.

For those of you who have attended Sunday services, you may have noticed that sanctuary is not as comfortable as we would like. The air conditioner unit failed, and it turns out that the required repair parts are difficult to find. It may be mid-September before we can get it repaired.

We have upgraded our internet service. We now have adequate bandwidth to support live streaming our worship services. We are in the process of getting bids on the hardware, software, and licenses necessary to make that happen. With the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 crisis, we have identified this as a priority for our ministry.

Plans are being formulated for Confirmation and Sunday School classes to resume in September. Much will depend on the Covid-19 situation and what the final plans for the Jamestown Public Schools return to class protocols.

Our weekly giving continues to lag behind expenses. Through the end of July, our YTD giving has been \$181,642, our expenses for the same time have been \$199,512. We need your help if we are going to meet the mission plan (budget) that was approved by the congregation in January.

St. John's continues to host a community meal every Tuesday from 5 PM until the food runs out. The meals are provided by area churches and the distribution site is 5th Street just outside the back door. The meal on August 11th was prepared by the St. John's Council and 62 meals were served. This has become an important part of our ministry.

I sincerely hope that everyone of you is enjoying your summer and continue to stay safe and healthy. As I have said in my previous letters; maintain your faith. God is with us and God will deliver us from this time of trial.

God's Peace to All,  
Gary Staab  
Congregation President

### First Congregational UCC plans changed

In the space of just a few weeks, plans that had been developed over months for shared pastoral leadership serving St. John's and First Congregational United Church of Christ changed. The arrival in town of a UCC pastor looking for a part time call was the answer to the prayers of First Congregational. We have always used the language of walking alongside First Congregational for a season. It just so happens that this season was very, very short. On August 16<sup>th</sup>, First Congregational voted to extend a call to Pr. Tammy Toekpe-Floyd. We are rejoicing with our neighboring congregation as they have found their preferred next pastor. Everyone who has been a part of the conversations leading toward working together has grown and recognizes that this is an answer to prayer. St. John's continues to be ready to serve as an anchor for the community and be open to walking alongside other congregations or ministries as the opportunity arises.

## ***Sunday School, Confirmation Plan, Wednesday Worship***



This year is going to be a year full of pivots and navigating through unknowns. Although this year we will have hiccups; we will adjust based on the current climate of public health. We want to thank the students and parents beforehand for being flexible and understanding through this time.

We currently have one service on Sunday beginning at 9:00 am. We will adjust our worship service by adding a children's song and a children's sermon to continue to make worship intergenerational and welcoming. During the service we will excuse the children at 9:30 am for Sunday School and it will continue until 10:45 am. During that time, we encourage parents to attend coffee fellowship hour.

Similar to the public-school system we will continue to have in person Sunday School for the children. However, we ask that if your child or classroom closes, you contact Pastor Lucas and we can find away in sending a Sunday School lesson home and not come to St Johns during that time of quarantine.

For confirmation students, we will have two versions of confirmation, green zone and yellow/red zone. If the middle school health safety is in the green zone, then we will have in person confirmation, if we are in the yellow/red zone then we will have distance learning confirmation. Pastor Erik and I are planning on bringing back a congregational Wednesday worship service at 4:00 pm. Our vision is when the confirmation students are at St. Johns, their responsibility is to participate in the worship service. Also, during the winter months, people would be able to leave St. Johns after the service and there would still be daylight. However, there will ***not*** be a meal following the service, but we will continue the service even if the confirmation students are distance learning. The only time we will cancel Wednesday worship, is when we cancel Sunday worship.

God does not call us to be super hero. He does not call us to have all of the decisions and He does not call us to know everything. He does call us to lean on each other's strengths and expertise. To remember that we are all in this together, doing the best that we can with the resources that we have.

As St. Johns prepares for an unprecedented program year, let us pray.

*Heavenly Father, we ask for your guidance during this unknowing time. When the Israelites were on their journey to the promise land and when they were getting discouraged, you were always there for them. Continue to remind us of your presence in our life's long journey, that you are that beacon of hope even if we are on a little detour. In your name we pray, Amen.*

Pr. Lucas Holsten



## Van Appeal



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.)

Please return your special donation by October 4th.

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

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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

### September 2020

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

#### Tuesday

9:30 am Staff Meeting  
5:00 pm Churches that Care meal to go

#### Wednesday

4:00 pm Worship - All are Welcome  
4:45 pm Confirmation

#### September 2020

9/3 5:30pm Executive Meeting  
7:00pm JAGST  
9/7 LABOR DAY—CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED  
9/8 6:30 pm Council Meeting  
9/10 7:00pm JAGST  
9/13 10:00 am Rally Sunday and presentation of bibles to 3 years Children  
9/15 Deadline for Newsletter Article  
9/16 9:30 am Staff Meeting  
9/17 7:00pm JAGST

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



### **Child In Our Hands is currently Hiring!**

With summer coming to an end and some staff heading back to college CIOH is Hiring staff for the upcoming school year. We are looking to fill full-time and part-time positions.

These positions are for a full-time teacher in the child care classroom, and a part-time closer in our infant room.

For more information please contact Torrey Herrington  
701-252-1903

## Council Recap

Updates on repairs: The Centennial Hall Air Conditioning replacement should be completed soon. They are waiting for a few additional parts to arrive. The Sanctuary A/C parts will take about 6 weeks to arrive, which will take us past our cooling season. Bottom line-sanctuary A/C is offline until 2021. Needs to become part of 2021 spending plan. Brandt Construction began bell tower repairs on 8/10. Close examination of damage indicates probable lightning strike. Insurance company has been contacted for additional assessment.

Pr. Lucas gave an update on plans for Faith Formation including Sunday School and Confirmation based on how the school district implements in-person or distance learning.

Updates to the St. John's Employee Handbook were approved.

Framework of Agreement with First Congregational UCC-Now on hold based on the arrival in Jamestown of Pr. Tammy Toepke-Floyd, who is being interviewed later in August.

Kitchen Phase 1 request for comment: 46 responses received. 34 were in favor of moving forward with the pantry project, 4 asked for more information/clarification, and 8 were significantly opposed. The plan at this moment is to order the new stove and in addition order a new dishwasher to improve the utility of our existing space and when those appliances are in place and invoices paid, to proceed with the Pantry addition. There is currently over \$43,000 available.

The council discussed the coming 12 months of special appeals including the Van Appeal that is launching in September. The council also affirmed the plans to install video streaming equipment to allow for live-streaming of Sanctuary worship in addition to the ongoing radio broadcast.





## ***Women of the Church***

### ***Board Members***

*Pam Golde, Gayl Lange, Sharon Dockter, Shirley Unverferth, Darlene Goehner, Betty Frigen, Gladys Ley, JoAnn Deede, Wanda Kruger.*



## ***Women of the Church Updates***

Rummage Sale and Salad Luncheon  
Are cancelled for this year

## ***Bell Tower Repair***



## ***Church Picnic Rally Sunday***

When: Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-12:00  
(Noon)

Where: McElroy Park at the shelter behind the  
softball field

Come celebrate the kickoff of our Sunday School year! Though things will not be quite the same as last year, it will be great to see all of your smiling faces. Lunch will be provided by the Faith Formation Team though it won't be a traditional potluck style. If any of you are interested in bringing food please contact Pastor Lucas ([lucas@st-johnslutheran.org](mailto:lucas@st-johnslutheran.org)) to coordinate what you can make. Also, we are encouraging families to bring picnic blankets to be socially distant while eating and bring masks for adults and kiddos that don't have a problem wearing one. For games, we are asking anyone with yard games to bring them for some extra fun! At 11:00 am St Johns will have a short presentation for our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and 3-year-olds while they receive their bibles.

## ***Youth for Christ Appeal***

Goal: \$250 for Youth For Christ

This special appeal is part of the St. John's Mission and Ministry plan for 2020.

The St. John's Endowment will match the first \$250 given toward this appeal.

Please be sure to mark Youth for Christ in check memos.

## ***Shed and Kris Waskosky Appeal***

Goal: \$250 for Bible translation and promotion

This special appeal is part of the St. John's Mission and Ministry plan for 2020.

The St. John's Endowment will match the first \$250 given toward this appeal.

Please be sure to mark Waskosky in check memos.





# CHURCHES

# THAT CARE



## Community Partners

- United Presbyterian Church
- First Congregation UCC
- New Life Church
- Elizabeth Kapp and Team
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- St. John's Lutheran Church
- Grace Episcopal Church

**Every Tuesday**

**At 5:00 pm**

**Serving Location**

**St. John's Lutheran Church**





**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.



**Fit for the Journey**

**From**

**In honor of**

**CHURCH MINISTRY**

**Deaths**

Richard Kust 8/15

**Baptism**

Westin Michael Erdahl 8/9

Ella June Johnson 8/23

**Wedding**

Matt Walters and Sara Bennett 8/15  
Zach Perleberg and Morgan Irlemeier 8/29

**Sponsorships**

**Radio August**

September 6 JoAnn Deede  
September 13 Ray and Lillian Herr  
September 20 Alice Bietz  
September 27 Gerald and Marjorie Lippert



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

**Flowers July**

September 6 JoAnn Deede  
September 13 Ray and Lillian Herr  
September 20 Tom and Joan Enderle  
September 27 Available



**August –September 2020**

|        |    |    |
|--------|----|----|
| July   | 23 | 30 |
| August | 2  | 23 |
|        | 9  | 28 |
|        | 16 | 10 |
|        | 23 | 28 |

July Giving 27,212

July expenses: \$ 30,023

**BAPTISM CLASS**

**please contact one of the pastors**







Greetings and god bless all,

August has been such a quite month for Child in our Hands. With so many restrictions, we have not been able to go on our normal adventures like our favorite Dr. Dawn's field trip to pet the baby cows. The state finally just gave us the green light to start using the parks in town as long as we follow the proper guidelines to keep the kiddos safe! This is beyond exciting news for us as we love using the parks and went to one everyday last year. Our older kids have been our guinea pigs with going to all the different ones we could possibly use, and next week our littles will be joining them on their adventures.

I just completely wrapped up another year of licensing for the up coming year. We are good to go for another year of preschool and childcare! We also were able to extend out license which would allow us the possibility of being able to allow the school age kids to join us if the public schools go to a hybrid or all online learning. This is a HUGE deal for our school age families, it allows them the peace of mind that they will have child care if needed so they can continue to provide for their house. We also got the exciting news that our child care emergency grant has been extended potentially until December. It gives us a lot of breathing room in case there is a new spike and parents feel the need to pull children for their safety. It is without a doubt that the state has really stepped up to make sure that child care facilities are taken care of in our state.

As for preschool we have all rooms prepared to get preschool in full swing for the 2020/2021 school year. Mrs. Ford is preparing her classroom for an August 27<sup>th</sup> start date. We will be operating with all three programs. We have made sure that our classroom sizes are capped at 15 in a room so 13 kids with 2 staff members. We are also stepping up our cleaning and sanitizing protocol, temping the kids at the door, and not allowing parents to walk through the center. This reduces the amount of potential direct contact. So far what we have done has worked for us and we are hoping that it continues to work for us through the school year, but we are also prepared if it doesn't. This year we will stay optimistic and keep trucking along as long as we can!

As of right now CIOH does have just a few spots open in our 2-day preschool and 5-day preschool programs. If you or someone you know is in need of preschool, please send them my way for more information! We are looking forward to a healthy and safe upcoming school year!

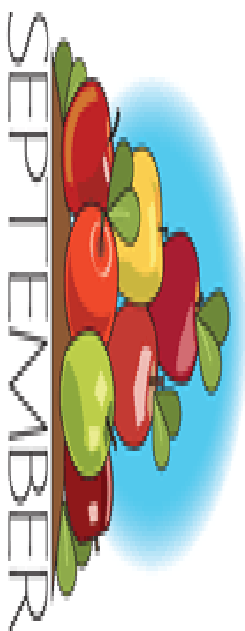
Stay safe, and healthy!

Torrey Herrington, CIOH Director



***CIOH***

***Play time, nap time, and  
choose a career time***



| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday   |
|---|--|---|--|--|--------|--|
| 30<br>9:30 AM Worship - St. John's<br>10:00 AM First Congregational UCC<br>12:00 PM Confirmation retreat - 10th grade | 31   | 1<br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal                               | 2<br>4:00 PM Worship<br>4:01 PM Confirmation                           | 3<br>7:00 PM JAGST                               | 4      | 5  |
| 6<br>9:00 AM Worship - St. John's   | 7<br>Labor Day - Church Offices Closed                       | 8<br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal<br>6:00 PM CIOH Board Meeting | 9<br>4:00 PM Worship<br>4:01 PM Confirmation                           | 10<br>5:30 PM Executive Meeting<br>7:00 PM JAGST | 11     | 12   |
| 13<br>9:00 AM Worship - St. John's  | 14<br>9:30 AM Pre-school chapel<br>1:30 PM Pre-school chapel | 15<br>5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal<br>6:30 PM Council Meeting                            | 16<br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>4:00 PM Worship<br>4:01 PM Confirmation | 17<br>9:30 AM Pre-school chapel<br>7:00 PM JAGST | 18     | 19<br>10:00 AM Jamestown Community Prayer - First Baptist church |
| 20<br>9:00 AM Worship - St. John's  | 21<br>9:30 AM Pre-school chapel<br>1:30 PM Pre-school chapel | 22<br>9:30 AM Staff Meeting<br>5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal                              | 23<br>4:00 PM Worship<br>4:01 PM Confirmation                          | 24<br>9:30 AM Pre-school chapel                  | 25     | 26   |
| 27<br>9:00 AM Worship - St. John's  | 28<br>9:30 AM Pre-school chapel<br>1:30 PM Pre-school chapel | 29<br>10:00 AM Staff Meeting<br>5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal                             | 30<br>4:00 PM Worship - St. John's Youth Group                         | 1<br>9:30 AM Pre-school chapel                   | 2      | 3  |





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

**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  
 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

**Sunday Sanctuary Worship**  
**9:00 am**  
**Rally Sunday September 13th**  
**Worship at St. John's 9:00 am**  
**early picnic at McElroy Park**  
**10:00 am to noon**

**Wednesday Worship 4:00 pm**  
**We have room for more**

