



St. John's Lutheran Church

Called to Fill the Hungry with Good Things

The Messenger

(Monthly publication)

AUGUST 2020

We are the Church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's Grace

Dear Community of Faith at St. John's Lutheran Church,

Something new is about to happen. Beginning August 1st, Pr. Erik and Pr. Lucas will begin to offer pastoral services at both St. John's and First Congregational United Church of Christ in Jamestown. St. John's has a long history rooted in sharing pastors with neighboring congregations. Most recently, a portion of Pr. Suzi's call was to serve part-time at the University of Jamestown. In 2020, we celebrate the beginning of a new opportunity to be a leader in witness and ministry in Jamestown.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the United Church of Christ have been full communion partners since 1997. In part this means that these denominations worship together, may exchange clergy and also share a commitment to evangelism, witness and service in the world. In Jamestown, St. John's and First Congregational have served alongside each other for decades by participating in the Jamestown Ministerial Association, hosting Lenten worship and Meals, and in the recent months joining together for radio worship on Sunday mornings.

This partnership does not mean that St. John's and First Congregational are merging. Each congregation remains independent and responsible for their own operations and ministry in the community. Pr. Erik and Pr. Lucas will be the pastors at St. John's and First Congregational while following an agreement between the congregations for an average number of hours per week dedicated to First Congregational worship and ministry.

The next six months are a trial period to iron out expectations and focus on relationship building. At the St. John's Annual Meeting in January, there will be an opportunity to review how things are going. This is good news for First Congregational, who have struggled to find stable pastoral leadership. This is good news for St. John's as we continue our history of providing leadership in Jamestown. We look to the future confident in God's guidance and grace and are called to share God's love with our neighbors.



Gary Staab
Congregation President

Rev. Erik Weber
Senior Pastor



IT IS WELL, IT IS WELL, WITH MY SOUL

Have you ever been listening to a song and wondered what inspired the author to pen those words? I frequently find myself asking that question. Recently, I was listening to the hymn "It is Well with My Soul" and my curiosity was sparked. I did a little research and I would like to share a brief history lesson with you that, for me, has added new depth and understanding of a hymn that I have known and enjoyed for years.

The words to this song were penned many years ago by Horatio Spafford. Horatio was a wealthy lawyer and real estate investor in Chicago. He and his wife Anna, along with their son and four daughters, lived a life of philanthropy and service to their church, that is until 1871. In that year he lost his only son to Scarlet Fever. A few months later the Great Chicago fire destroyed most of his real estate holdings. His problems continued when an economic downturn struck in 1873. To raise their spirits, he arranged to travel to Europe with his family aboard the SS Ville du Havre. At the last minute, business kept Horatio from going but he told his family that he would join them soon. Halfway across the Atlantic the Ville du Havre was struck by another ship and sunk rapidly. When his wife finally reached safety, she sent Horatio a two-word telegram; "Saved Alone".

I can scarcely imagine the grief that he must have endured. As Horatio traveled to meet his grieving wife, he spent many hours on the bow of the ship contemplating the plight of his life. As the ship passed near the spot where his four daughters had perished, he penned these words...

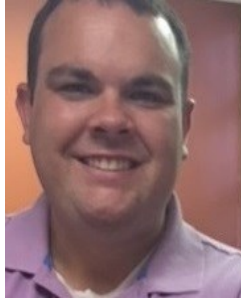
When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to know
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

What is special about this song is that it focuses less on his overwhelming loss and more on where hope can be found through the love of God. This hymn does not minimize the loss and suffering but it proclaims that God is with us always and will be our shelter in the storms of life.

First Peter, chapter 4, verse 19 says: "So then, those who suffer according to God's will commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good." Horatio's words seem to speak directly to this verse and may even have been his inspiration. Few of us will ever experience the level of pain and sorrow experienced by Horatio Spafford. But we will all experience loss and grief at some time in our lives. When that time comes, will we be able to look up toward Heaven and say, "It is well, it is well, with my soul?"

God's Peace to All,

Gary Staab
Congregation President



Pastor Lucas' Lament (written on July 15th)

Do you ever remember when you were asked in school or by a family member to write a letter to yourself, put it into an envelope, store it in a safe place and read it a good amount of time later? Well, this article might be one of those times when I eventually receive my newsletter in August and read what was going through my mind mid-July. I have done this exercise a couple of times and my reaction every time has been a painful process of reading the letter and wondering, "what in the world was I thinking?" I feel this is one of those times right now where I should write another letter.

As of July 15th, we do not know where we stand with what school will look like for K-12. Then I ask myself how this virus will impact Sunday School, Confirmation, Evangelism Events, German Supper, and Worship Services. How do you plan, when the path in front of you seems unclear? Every person has years that they remember through their life and many of us are not going to want to but we WILL remember the year of 2020 and the chaos this year has brought so far.

In Matthew 11:28-30 Jesus Says, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

When we are in the middle of conflict, more than ever, we need to remind ourselves that God is present in our lives, even in the times where we are carrying heavy burdens. It is ok to admit to yourselves things are overwhelming and that you need support. Also be honest to yourselves when you are questioning your value at work or at home. We're not called to be superheroes! We are simply called to be Disciples of Christ, which means we aren't called to have the whole weight on our shoulders. We are called to love our neighbor and receive God's grace. As painful as reading those letters I write to myself are, it is humbling when you can tell where the living God is working through relationship in order for me to feel the love I need to keep moving forward.

So when this article comes out, I don't know where the world will be. It might be fine, or I might be facing a new set of guidelines for the way I teach, preach, and offer discipleship to others. All I do know is God will continue to be present in my life, remind me that I have worth, that I am not a superhero, that I am called to be simply a Disciple of Christ and there is a season for everything.

For now, let us carry each other during this time and reach out in prayer. Prayer for the country, for our school district, and for the decisions of the superintendents, students, and parents will need to make. Prayer for the healthcare workers, small businesses, servers, and all that are in human contact jobs or in living quarters with many occupants that they may see the offerings of hope and light. May we do your will God even in the darkest of corners and through plexi glass barriers...God is greater and continues to give us strength and offer His guiding light.

Pr. Lucas Holsten

**2020 Mission and Ministry Plan
As amended**

**Council
Revision 7/20**

	2019 Actual	2020 As Ammend- ed	2020	
Investment to God's Mission				
Contributions to General Fund	\$338,360.00	\$344,584.00	\$325,000	Decrease
Total for Special Offerings		sp offer*	sp offer*	
Paycheck Protection Program Staff			\$46,510	Addition
First Congregational subcontracting			\$9,600	Addition
		\$344,584.00	\$381,110	

Investment in God's Mission Line Items

MISSION SUPPORT

Eastern ND Synod	12,500.00	6,000	\$9,000	Increase
Total for Special Offerings				
Wycliffe Bible Translators-Waskosky's	250.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Salvation Army	900.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Youth for Christ	1,000.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
ELCA World Hunger	1,682.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Lutheran Social Services	150.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Safe Shelter		sp offer*	sp offer*	
Luther/Wartburg Seminary	150.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Red Willow Bible Camp	1,000.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Rural Endowment Offering		sp offer*	sp offer*	
Jamestown Area Grief Support Team	150.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Social Action	987.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
North Dakota Campus Ministry: UND/NDSU	1,000.00	sp offer*	sp offer*	
Subtotal	19,769.00	6,000	\$9,000	

CONGREGATIONAL/WORSHIP LIFE

Synod Assembly/Conference Admin	1,418.00	1,000	\$900	decrease
Postage	2,535.00	2,250	\$2,250	
Office Supplies	3,807.00	4,000	\$4,000	
Copier (maintenance and supplies)	5,987.00	6,200	\$6,200	
Stewardship Ministry	600.00	0	\$0	
Church Envelopes	666.00	600	\$600	
Evangelism Ministry	1,577.00	500	\$500	
Faith & Fellowship Ministry	4,048.00	3,500	\$2,000	xfer and decrease
Touched By An Angel	13.00	200	\$200	
Worship Ministry/Music	1,706.00	3,000	\$3,000	
Worship/Church Supplies	2,617.00	2,500	\$2,500	
Organ & Piano Maintenance	550.00	200	\$850	xfer
Subtotal	25,524.00	23,950	\$23,000	

FAITH FORMATION

Children's Faith Formation	3,039.00	1,000	\$1,000	
Middle School Faith Formation	324.00	1,000	\$1,000	
High School Faith Formation	2,425.00	0	\$0	
Young Adult Faith Formation	0.00	0	\$0	
Adult Faith Formation	379.00	200	\$200	
Devotional Literature	1,075.00	0	\$0	
Subtotal	7,242.00	2,200	\$2,200	

* Indicates Special Offerings may be received to support these ministries.

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

August 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 followed by Confirmation*

August 2020

8/5 6:30pm Dialogues on Race
8/6 5:30 pm Executive Meeting
8/7 –8/8 Creative Fellowship
8/9 12:00 pm Confirmation Orientation
8/11 6:30 pm Council Meeting
Deadline Kitchen Phase 1 request for comments
due in the office by noon
8/12 6:30 pm Dialogue on Race
8/14 News Letter Deadline
Synod Assembly—Fargo
8/15 Matt Walter and Sara Bennett Wedding
Synod Assembly—Fargo
8/16 Worship on the radio streaming service from
Fargo
8/19 4:00 pm Worship followed by confirmation
orientation
8/20 School Starts
8/26 4:00 pm *Worship*
Confirmation
8/28 *Zach Perleberg and Morgan Irlmeier Wedding*
Rehearsal
8/29 *Zach Perleberg and Morgan Irlmeier Wedding*

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

Sunday School Registration

Sunday School registration is available on the church website. More information regarding COVID-19 safety coming soon

<https://www.st-johnslutheran.org/>



Council Recap

Torrey Herrington, the Child In Our Hands Director, gave an update to the Council on CIOH operations, staffing, enrollment, and plans for the coming year. This has been a very challenging year, but the center has remained open and currently has 33 of 37 spaces for kids filled.

The Council Approved a Framework of Agreement with First Congregational-United Church of Christ. The agreement lays out the way that First Congregational will sub-contract hours of pastoral services from St. John's. The initial agreement is for six months beginning at 10 hours of pastoral time per week. First Congregational plans to decide on July 26th with the agreement scheduled to begin August 1st.

The council authorized a letter be sent to request comments on the Phase 1 pantry project. All responses are requested by August 11 so the council can consider them and make a decision at their next meeting. The council authorized the purchase of a new stove. Funds are in hand in the Building Fund.

The council authorized the bid to repair the Bell Tower roof for \$36,874. Work will be scheduled as soon as practical, but probably not be completed before next spring. Some Funds allocated in the revised budget passed later in the meeting.

The council authorized returning funds to the Endowment that cannot be used for their intended purpose this year.

The Council appointed two new voting members for the Synod Assembly: Rachel Holsten and Lynn Krueger. They will join Charlotte Freeberg as the lay voting members for the Synod Assembly August 14-16. This year's assembly is an all digital event.

The Council approved the revisions to the 2020 Mission and Ministry Plan.

The Council approved a Van Replacement fund appeal to begin in September.

The Council plans to provide food for the Churches that Care meal at St. John's on August 11th.

Summer Quilters Hard at Work



Tom Tom is teaching Pr. Erik stress relief technique.

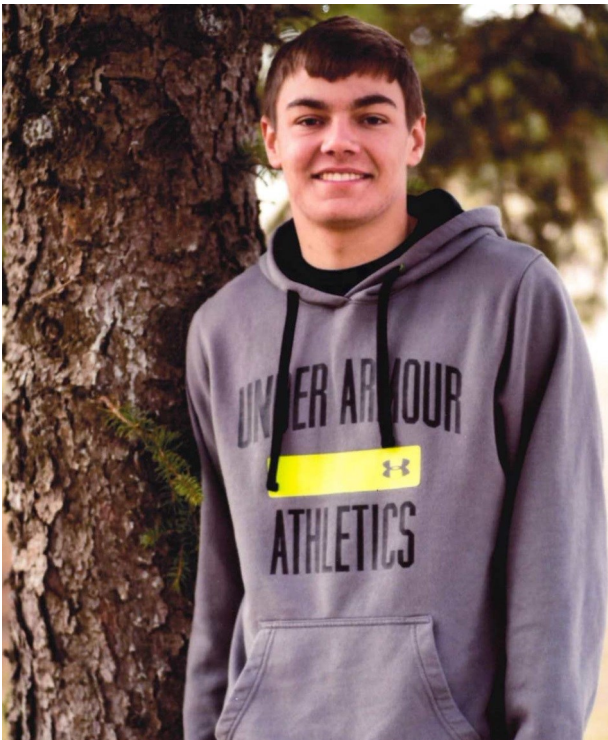


Is it coffee break yet?? !!





Some of us are enjoying pastoral visits and welcoming the new normal. BINGO is a social distance activity.



**CONGRATULATION
CLASS OF 2020**

Not pictured:

Cody Burkle	Jaden Christ
Malik Kraher	Mason McIlonie
Braidy Otterson	Charlote Reimers

Please stop by the church office during office hours to pick your bible.

← This guy is Mikah Striefel -



Pianist: Rachel Williams, and Connie Wells

Readers: Jim Ritter, Ann Ede, Shelly Moltzen, Tara Kapp

Ushers:, Tonya, Braxton, and Kyler Perkins, John and Cindy Kleven, Char Freeberg.

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
Grace Walz

In honor of
Char Freeberg and
Connie Wells

CHURCH MINISTRY

Deaths

June Fietzek died 7/16
Jack Cumber prayer service 7/23

Baptism

Wedding

Thomas Bruns and Jenna VanRay 7/11

Sponsorships

Radio August

August 2	Grace Walz
August 9	Lynnette Kriedeman
August 16	Alden and Delanda Kollman
August 23	Alice Bietz
August 30	St. John's Media Legacy Fund



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

Flowers July

August 2	Grace Walz
August 9	Paulson Family
August 16	Alden and Delanda Kollman
August 23	Alice Bietz
August 30	Darwin and Pauline Roeske



June—July 2020

June	21	30
	28	28
July	5	17
	12	25
	19	30

June Giving \$22,451

June expenses: \$ 30,070

BAPTISM CLASS

please contact one of the pastors





Greetings and God Bless all,

Yesterday I was able to speak at the church council meeting, so I put together a little something, something to kind of show them an update about CIOH. As I was putting it together I was blown away about some of the facts that was listed on the sheet. Facts that I knew but never took the time to digest and just be proud of how far CIOH has come. Not only through this pandemic, but just as a center. I will list below the things that I shared at the meeting.

Child in Our Hands Preschool & Child Care

Currently relicensing for our 18th year as a licensed facility. Yes, 18 years I counted all the licenses in the frame. We are one of the oldest and most reputable centers in the Jamestown area.

We employ 9 wonderful full-time ladies, 1 amazing part time helper, and the best preschool teacher ever! (I may be a bit bias) We have very little turn over which is so awesome!

Our current enrollment is 33/37 kids. We have a few openings, but will be filling those when we move kids up to their next rooms as they are about to age out of their current rooms.

During the school year we run an infant room, toddler room, child care room, and 2 or 3 preschool programs depending what enrollment looks like for the year.

During the summer we run an infant room, toddler room, child care room, and a school aged summer program that we started the summer of 2019.

This upcoming preschool session we will be running 3 preschool programs. A 2-day, 3-day, and a 5-day program. With only 14 available spots left for all 3 programs combined.

This past year our focus was figuring out how to maximize our space in order to bring in more money so that we would be able to pay our staff more. It was a bit of an experimental year financially, but we have got it figured out.

This upcoming year, the plan is just to make it through the year at this point. As well as fine tuning our handbooks, and providing the best care we possibly can.

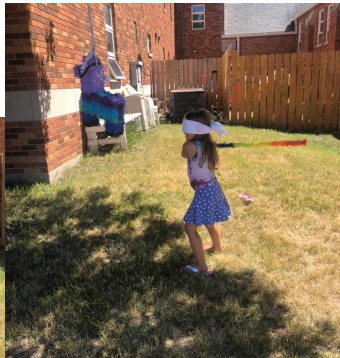
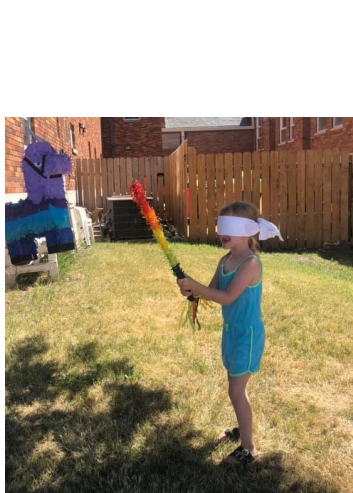
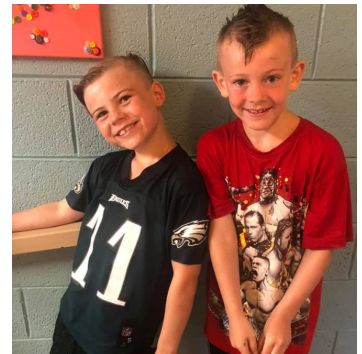
Of course, this took years of governing mothers, parents, board members, teachers, and directors to make it this far, but that is quite the track record to hold there. We have grown so much over the years it is no wonder our wing is so crazy and wild. But I think I speak for us all when I say we are proud to be a part of the crazy and wild wing of the church. It is a blessing to meet these kids, parents, and families. Help them grow up and watch them hit milestone after milestone. We look forward to seeing what our 18th year has in store for us, we just hope it's a bit normal than this past year!

We also have very few openings left for our 3 preschool programs. If you or someone you know is in need of preschool for the next school year, please reach out for more information.

Sincerely,

Torrey Herrington, Director
director@st-johnspreschool.org
(701)252-1903

CIOH PRE-SCHOOL Summer Fun



***This is how Child in Our Hands
Celebrate Birthdays***

First Congregational United Church of Christ



Fall Worship Plans

St. John's continues to plan and respond to changing community conditions related to the COVID outbreak.

Preliminary Plans for Fall Worship:

9 am Worship in the Sanctuary at St. John's (live on the radio)

9 am Sunday School Families in the Sanctuary for worship,

dismissed for Sunday School about 9:30 am until 10:30 am

10:30 am Worship at First Congregational UCC

Wednesday: Worship in the Sanctuary at St. John's at 4 pm every week. Confirmation students expected every week they have confirmation.

Churches that Care





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's 10:00 AM First Congregational UCC	27	28 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal	29 6:30 PM Dialogues on Race	30	31	1
2 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's 10:30 AM First Congregational UCC	3	4 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal	5 6:30 PM Dialogues on Race	6 5:30 PM Executive Meeting	7 creative fellowship	8 creative fellowship
9 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's 10:30 AM First Congregational UCC 12:00 PM Confirmation Orientation	10	11 Deadline - Kitchen Phase 1 request for comments 5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal 6:30 PM Council Meeting	12 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:30 PM Dialogues on Race	13	14 Synod Assembly Wedding Rehearsal - Matt and Sara 12:00 PM News Letter Deadline	15 Synod Assembly 10:00 AM Jamestown Community Prayer - Pioneer Church 3:00 PM Matt Walters and Sara Bennett Wedding
16 Synod Assembly—ALL 9:00 AM Worship - Synod Live Stream worship 10:30 AM First Congregational UCC	17	18 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal	19 4:00 PM Worship 6:30 PM Confirmation Orientation	20 School Starts	21	22
23 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's 10:00 AM 10th Grade Confirmation Retreat 10:30 AM First Congregational UCC	24	25 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal	26 4:00 PM Confirmation 4:00 PM Worship	27	28 Zach and Morgan Wedding Rehearsal	29 Zach and Morgan Wedding
30 9:00 AM Worship - St. John's 10:30 AM First Congregational UCC 12:00 PM Confirmation Retreat—10th grade	31	1 9:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:00 PM Churches that Care Meal	2 4:00 PM Confirmation 4:00 PM Worship	3 5:30 PM Executive Meeting	4	5



St. John's Lutheran Church
 424 1st Ave S
 Jamestown, ND 58401
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Non-Profit
 Organization
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 Permit No. 1
 Jamestown, ND
 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

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



**Our New
 Confirmation**

August 9 - 12:00 pm Confirmation Orientation

August 19 - 6:30 pm Confirmation Orientation

August 26 - First Day of Confirmation

August 23 - 10:00 AM

**10th Grade Confirmation Retreat
 Centennial Hall (Lunch Provided)**

