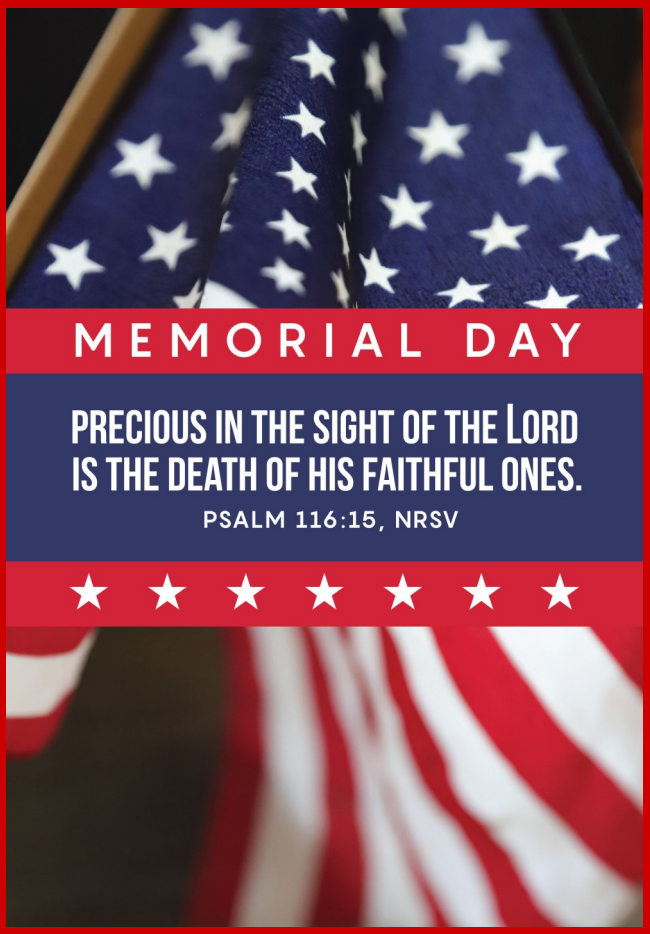
The Beacon

May 2023



Memorial Day

Over the years, Memorial Day has become a big holiday weekend. It's now the unofficial start of summer, rather than a day of tribute to the departed it was originally meant to be.

Even if we plan fun events for Memorial Day weekend, it's important to stop long enough to bow our heads and pay respect to our departed loved ones — especially those who fell in battle while helping preserve America's liberties.

Let us take time to make the pilgrimage to various cemeteries and pause long enough to say, "Thank you, Father, for these special lives, for sacrifices made and for friendships we have shared."

St. John's Lutheran Church—Sherburn, Minnesota—317 South Main, Box 760, Sherburn, Minnesota
Email: church@sjlsherburn.com Website: sjlsherburn.com Phone: (507)764-5312
facebook@stjohnslutheransherburnmn
Pastor: Rev. Steven D. Wilson (507)236-1181
Associate Pastor: Mr. Jeff Hagen (507)236-3114
DCE: Mr. Andrew Dramstad (763)242-5699

Confirmation Sunday is Sunday, May 7 at the 10:30 service.
We will confirm fourteen of our youth at this service.

Gunnie Diane Berniece Buchmeier
Giana Ladine Chase
Hayley Jo Clarke
Sydney Kathryn Clow
Hannah Mary Cole
Emma Jo Geldart
Taylor James Hughes
Bailey LeAnn Larson
Mylee Renee Larson
Noah Allen Meixell
Carter Richard Tadlock
Hunter Kristopher Thate
Brayden Jamie Williamson
Landen Patrick Winter

There will be a reception for the confirmands and their families at 9:15 in the church fellowship hall. We thank the Board of Parish Services and the 7th grade youth and parents for hosting this event.

We would like to keep the 10:30 service open for the confirmands' families, and encourage other members to attend the 8:00 service.

Thank you to Sharon Huse for making the stoles for our confirmands and to Janet Holtz for ironing the robes. Thank you to Sady Ringnell for taking the pictures and to the parents who came and helped with picture day. It is all appreciated!

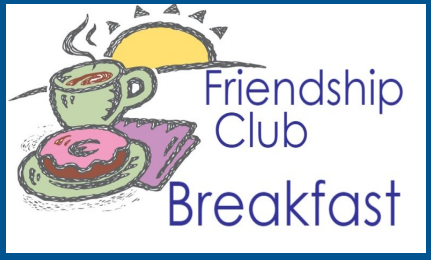
Starting Sunday, May 28
8:30 am Worship

9:30 am
Fellowship & Coffee

Pastoral Visits

Due to the privacy act, if you are hospitalized and would like a visit from the pastor or to be included in the prayers, you or a family member need to contact Pastor Wilson, Pastor Jeff or the church office.

Get up early my friends, we are meeting for breakfast on Monday, May 1 at 9:00 at the Green Mill Restaurant in Fairmont. Breakfast specials are $6.50 including coffee! A room has been reserved for our group. Bring a friend, stay awhile. Have another cup of coffee! See you there!



A handicap accessible door opener was installed on our front entrance doors. Thank you to the anonymous person who donated the funds for this.

Tuesday Night Bible Study will meet on May 9 (Jonah) and May 23 (Lamentations) at 6:30 pm. We will continue meeting every other week this summer.

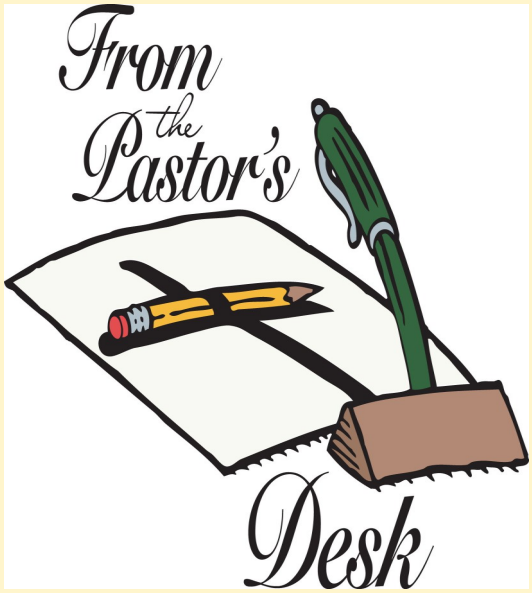
Please celebrate with us on this Glorious Day

As we gather together in the eyes of The Lord,
please join us, in prayer and friendship,
in celebrating the Ordination of
God's newest disciple

Jeffrey Dennis Hagen

Sunday, April 30, 2023 3:00 PM
St. John's Lutheran Church
317 S. Main Street · Sherburn, MN

Followed with a Reception
in the church Fellowship Hall



HE IS NOT HERE, BUT RISEN!

"Don't be alarmed," he said.
"You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified.
He has risen! He is not here.
See the place where they laid him."
(Mark 16:6).

If Jesus had been an ordinary man, the biography would have ended at His burial. All human biographies end with death. But we are not talking about an ordinary man! Even with His mighty Works, His apostles were not convinced that He would leave the tomb on the third day.

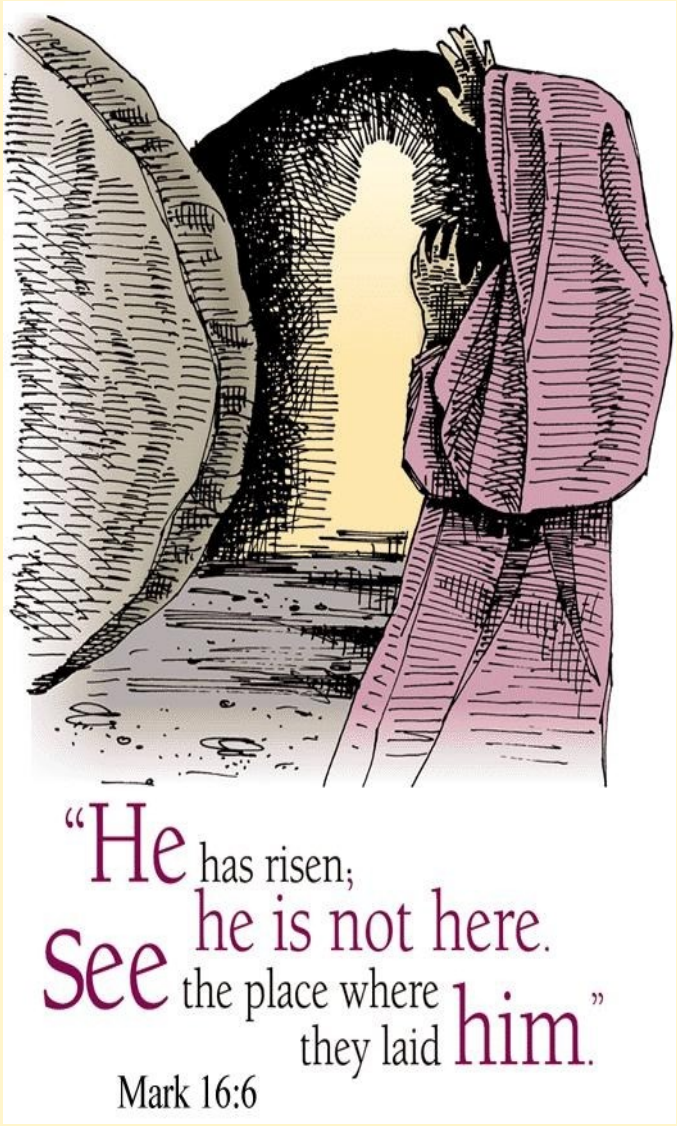
When the women found the tomb empty, they were engulfed with emotion. Matthew's Gospel account describes the women running to the tell the disciples. In response, Peter and John ran to the tomb. Their response shows that they did not expect the tomb to be empty.

Even though the disciples were slow in understanding the reality of the resurrection, they had not dismissed Jesus from their minds and lives. They hurried to the tomb out of concern.

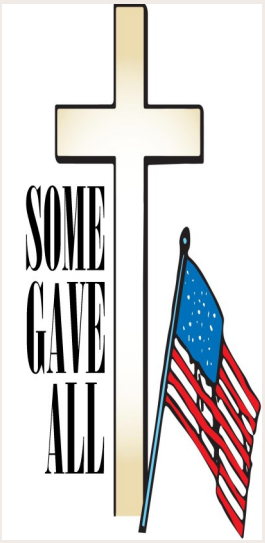
What a glorious surprise! This empty tomb authenticated Christ's ministry! The evidence was before their eyes. The graveclothes were folded; the body was gone.

We are blessed to have the historical account of Jesus' resurrection and the reaction of the disciples, but for these events to shape our eternal destiny we must respond in faith. For we believe that Jesus not only died and was buried, but that He is risen! Alleluia!

~Pastor Steve



Sherburn Cemetery



This year we will again be taking a door offering for the Sherburn Cemetery. This money will be used to help maintain and improve the Sherburn Cemetery. The door offering will be taken on **Sunday, May 21 through May 28**. Checks should be made payable to "Sherburn Cemetery Association". Thank you for your generous donations and support in the past years.

Coffee/Fellowship

During the month of May the Tuesday morning coffee hours (8:30 am) will be hosted by Trinity Lutheran in Welcome.

LWML Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2023

President Lynne Mulso called the meeting to order. Vicar Jeff Hagen gave a devotion "Tears of Joy". How there are tears of sadness but also tears of Joy. Jesus gives us hope and joy.

Secretary's report was read and approved. Treasurer's report was read and placed in file for audit. Correspondence from Ryan Barnett our Seminary student was read. His email address barnettr@CSI.edu

Unfinished Business: The Fall Rally will be April 18 at St. Paul's in Truman. We had been asked to bring gifts of the heart such as toilet paper, paper towel, art supplies. However we didn't receive the letter in time to let the congregation know.

Each person was asked to check their contact information.

Diane Nelson reported on the coffee carafes. One was found but the postage was almost twice the cost of the carafe.

New Business: Diane Nelson reported on the grocery receipts of Fareway 21,127.30 and HyVee of 39,777.21. Hy-Vee has changed their policy and will raise the amount from 150 to 200,000.

Lynne Mulso has the confirmation gifts and will present them.

Judy Hybbert gave a report about training deacons in Uganda, Africa and read a prayer for the project.

We will have a new directory this year and photos will be taken June 6-10. People can sign up on-line or on Sundays. A person will be available to make appointments.

A notice should be put in the bulletin that the food shelf is available to anyone who needs it. It is located at the UCC church in Sherburn and open 2nd Sat 9-11 am, the next Tuesday, 6-7 pm and third Saturday 9-10 am. Just bring proof you live in Martin County.

Birthday song was sung for Karen Brolsma, Roberta Garbers, Janet Kahler and Diane Nelson. Project of the month is Camp Omega. LWLM Pledge was said and also common table prayer. Meeting was adjourned. Lunch was served by Lynne Mulso and Roberta Garbers.

~Dorothy Behne, Secretary

May LWML Meeting
Wednesday, May 10
2:00 p.m.
New members always welcomed!

Sharing of the Peace

"So, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift." Matthew 5:23-24

It happens every Sunday. At the beginning of the sermon message each service, Pastor Wilson and I ask the members to "greet one another". In essence, in the effort of greeting one another, we have "sharing of the peace." It is always fun to be able to greet someone, however for Pastor and I it usually means we have to limit our handshaking and greeting to the front half of the church, because of time limitations (some people think we should keep our services to one hour.)

As soon as we ask you to greet one another, some kids may go running to give grandma or grandpa a hug. Others may walk across the entire sanctuary to greet someone they haven't met in a week. Others may have a different reaction. Some think to themselves, "here it comes the dreaded 'sharing of the peace' where I have to shake all these hands of people in the middle of flu season!" Others may choose to just stand in place, keeping their heads bowed while they wait for these uncomfortable 30 seconds to end. Does this sound familiar to you in one way or another?

As with all things in worship, it can be easy for us to forget why we do what we do. Take a second and reread the Bible passage above. Matthew 5 gives a reason WHY people went to greet others BEFORE going to the altar to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. What reason does Jesus give in Matthew 5? Before going to the altar to receive the Lord's Supper, we are to be reconciled with one another. This means old grudges with one another are to be verbally forgiven by each other. This happens during the sharing of the peace.

If you have wronged someone in some way in word or deed, you are to go and ask for their forgiveness or give forgiveness before going to the Lord's Supper. This happens during the sharing of the peace. Being reconciled with one another does not mean you try and tally up every wrong committed against each other over the decades; that would be painfully impossible for any of us to do! As with the confession of sins though, it would be enough to confess those sins to each other which "we know and feel in our hearts." Primarily, the "sharing of the peace" is to be a time of reconciliation with one another. If there is no reconciliation needed, then it is proper and appropriate to simply greet one another by saying "Peace be with you" or "the Peace of the Lord be with you" as we remind one another that we all fall under the cross of Christ's mercy and come to the altar together as forgiven children of God. Truly, there is no greater peace for us to celebrate! The peace of the Lord be with you always!

As we share God's peace with one another, may God bless you, watch over you, protect you, and guide you as we come together to worship, pray confidently and often, and share the Good News of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastor Jeff

Our high school graduates this year include: Isaiah Winter, Madasin Whitehead, Mitchell Weber, Damon Vanden Berg, Marah Steele, Cody Potts, Raef Omvig, Emma Omvig, Lucillia Larson, Kylar Larson, Isabella Lange, Aspen Kosbab, KayLea Truesdell, Sydney Flohrs, Sarah Fisher, Kamden Domeier, Riley Cole, Octavia Buchmeier, Caden Ballard, Zachary Anderson, Sydney Anderson

We will be honoring these seniors during the 8:30 worship service on **Sunday, June 4 .**

Seniors: please bring in or email a graduation picture and baby picture (to the church office by Sunday, May 14 for our bulletin board. Thank you. Church email address is church@sjlsherburn.com

Senior Dinner

A dinner for our graduating seniors and their parents will be held on **Sunday, May 21 at 6:00 pm** here at the church. A meal is planned and we will celebrate and remember our seniors. Please RSVP by May 14. Thank you to the Board of Education for planning and hosting this event.

Baccalaureate Service

A Baccalaureate Service for the Class of 2023 is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 31, 6:30 pm** here at St. John's. This service is also open to the public to attend.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **May 3 (Wednesday) Jr. High FFF 4:30-6:00 pm**
- **May 7 (Sunday) 3rd-6th Grade Youth at 4:00 pm**
- **May 10 & 24 (Wednesdays) Sr. High FFF @ 6:00 pm**
- **May 21 (Sunday) Senior Dinner at 6:00 pm**
- **May 24 (Wednesday) MCW Pancake Breakfast**
- **May 31 (Wednesday) Baccalaureate at 6:30 pm**
- **Sr. High Summer Trip to Twin Cities July 23-26**
- **Save the Date! Youth will serve at the Sherburn Festival on Saturday, June 17.**

Senior High Summer Trip to the Twin Cities from Sunday, July 23 to Wednesday, July 26. Registration will close on May 7. Please register online. If you are willing to serve as a chaperone, please talk to Andy.

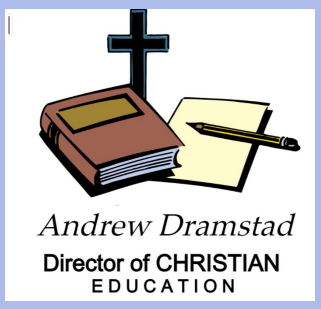
Sunday School will sing on Sunday, May 14 at the 10:30 service. They will sing the Bible Bop song and more!

Sunday, May 21—End of Sunday school celebration during Sunday school. Please bring a yard game for the kids to play.

Registration for students and volunteers are available online. You can sign up on the church website: sjlsherburn.com

Vacation Bible School for Preschool & Kindergarten: June 19-23, 9:00-11:00 am

Camp Omega Day Camp
1st-6th Grade
July 10-14



**"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.
Impress them on your children.
Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road,
when you lie down and when you get up." (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)**

According to dictionary.com the noun definition of disciple is "a person who is a pupil or an adherent of the doctrines (teachings) of another." The short-hand definition of a noun is a person, place, or thing. We can also use the word disciple as a verb, and when it is a verb, it means "to train or teach." Unfortunately, dictionary.com says the verb meaning of the word is obsolete. It is no longer in common use. It is out of date.

Now my goal is not to give an English lesson, but I point out these different meanings of the word disciple for a reason. You and I are disciples of Jesus. We adhere to his teachings, but we also continue to learn. As we journey with Jesus, the Holy Spirit works in us. We are being discipled as we grow as disciples. We continue to learn and grow in our faith, even after we have been called by Jesus to follow Him. While we are still learning, we are also called to teach. We are called to make disciples as we go along our way. Who are the people who are closest to you? Who are the ones that look to you to find out who Jesus is for them?

If you are a parent, then the ones looking to you are your children. I went to a speaker last week named Greg Finke. He wrote a book called "Joining Jesus as a Family." He handed out a sheet to follow along with his presentation, and part of his sheet said the following:

> **"How are you living out your faith, and is that what you want your children to grow up and imitate?**
>
> **Raising your Children=Parenting Your Children=Discipling Your Children**
>
> God designed little children to watch, imitate, and become a version of their parents. So, whether parents know it or not, and whether they like it or not, they are already discipling their children in what it looks like to be followers of Jesus.
>
> The way parents live out their faith, for better or worse, deeply molds and shapes the kind of Jesus-followers their children are becoming…just like our parents' lifestyle deeply molded and shaped us. One could sum it up this way: The parents' lifestyle is their children's discipleship curriculum."

What your children see is more important than what they hear. What you show them is important to you will be important to them. "Watching You" by Rodney Atkins. In the first verse, a father and son are driving. The son says a swear word and the father asks him, "Where did you learn to talk like that?" The son answers he learned it by watching the father. The second verse says this:

> We got back home, and I went to the barn
> I bowed my head, and I prayed real hard
> Said, "Lord, please help me help my stupid self."
> Then this side of bedtime later that night
> Turning on my son's Scooby Doo night light
> He crawled out of bed, and he got down on his knees
> He closed his little eyes, folded his little hands
> And spoke to God like he was talking to a friend
> And I said, "Son, now where'd you learn to pray like that?"

The son again says, "I've been watching you, dad, ain't that cool?" The son in the song knew how to pray, because he watched his father do the same thing. Next month, my article will have more to do with this topic, but the main takeaway from this is – your children are watching you. If this makes you nervous and filled with regret, then let me give you a word of Gospel. "You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending." The writer of this quote is unknown, but there is hope. No matter the age of your children, Jesus still says, "Follow me."

And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19)

~Andy

1 Rylan Truesdell
1 Connie Stenson
2 Luke Schwager
3 Levi Anderson
3 Ryan Anderson
3 Ron Morris
3 Steve Roben
3 Jill Gonsior
4 Evelyn Thate
4 Don Holtz
4 Karen Koehler
4 Jayda Rowen
5 Leilani Boosinger
5 Wayne Sommer
6 Nichole Chase
6 Sue Dunker
6 Jacob Nolte
7 Levi Ringnell
8 Stella Anderson
8 Kristin Behne
8 Lyric Rienhardt
9 Archer Brolsma
10 Katelyn Ellis
10 Tim Schwager
11 Connie Cain
11 Rodney Thiel
12 Christina Eisenmenger
12 Kurt Koehler
12 Bria Williamson
13 Paige Anderson
13 Eliza Richter
13 Dan Grill
13 Thea Larson
13 Landen Winter
14 Tyler Brolsma
14 Nolan Rudolph
14 Janet Holtz
15 Brent Boosinger
15 Vickie Weber
15 Dylin Whitehead
16 David Anderson
16 Brad Ringnell
16 Tucker Schumann
16 Martin Rosenberg
17 Brenda Frolik
17 Tammy Smith
17 Trent VanderWert
18 Andy Truesdell
18 Adrianna Garber
18 Chandler Koehler
18 Tom Mulso
18 Linda Schwager
19 Marriah Salisbury
20 Steve Frolik
20 Kelly Koehnen
20 Lori Stibbe
21 Dick Lepird
22 Francie Ziemer
23 Derek Olson
23 Aliyah Freking
23 Hilary Anderson
24 Kevin Diekmann
26 Lucy Larson
27 Brian Grill
27 Mylee Larson
28 Lisa Crosby
28 Courtney Danielson
28 Allen Kahler
28 Kaedin Lange
28 Carter Trontvet
29 Deb Schwager
30 Kennesey Brantner
30 Chuck Kuntz
31 Nicole Scherer
31 KayLea Truesdell
31 Carson Freking

Wedding Anniversaries

2 Derek & Ashley Olson
4 Kirk & Becky Yahnke
5 Jason & Brenna Anderson
5 Brian & Rachel Vanden Berg
6 Payten & Paige Crosby
7 Houston & Natalie Schubert
12 Ryan & Michele Baker
12 Matthew & Trishia Bliesmer
14 Adam & Stephanie Gill
15 Robb & Jamie Larson
15 Nick & Jordan Holm
18 Roy & Jina Behne
18 Duane & Kathleen Potts
22 James & Judy Hybbert
25 Andy & Liz Gerhardt
26 Jim & Brittany Lutz
27 Tyler & Kali Traetow
30 Ben & Chelsea Brolsma
31 Dan & Julie Grill

Temperance Lake Ridge Service
Service at the Ridge will be held on **Monday, May 15 at 10:00 a.m.**

There is a food shelf in Sherburn and is located in the First Congregational Church. Hours open are:
Saturday, May 13: 9:00-11:00 am
Tuesday, May 16: 6:0-7:00 pm
Saturday, May 20: 9:00-10:00 am

Ushers Needed
We are in need of more ushers for worship services. If you can help, please let us know if there is a month that we can sign you up for.

Grief Support
Tuesdays, May 16-June 20
2:30 pm @ CREST—820 Winnebago Avenue, Fairmont, MN
Register by calling CREST 507-235-3833 or UHD 507-525-1560.

Thank You to our Funeral Committee and to all of you who help with providing food and serving at the funerals here at St. John's Your service to the families is very much appreciated!

	HyVee Goal		FareWay Goal
200,000			
180,000			
160,000			
140,000			
120,000			
100,000			
80,000			
60,000			
40,000			
20,000	**$39,777.21**		**$27,470.00**
0			

The LWML thanks you for bringing in your receipts as we work toward the goal. Please continue to drop off your Fairmont Fareway and Fairmont HyVee grocery receipts. Fairmont HyVee prescription and gas receipts are also accepted.

Church Attendance
Palm Sunday: 311
Maundy Thursday: 142
Good Friday: 175
Easter: 405
April 16: 111
April 23: 223

Missionary Corner
St. John's supports 22 missionaries all over the world.

Rev. Dr. Walter and Robyn Steele

In Kenya

Walter serves as academic dean at Neema Lutheran College, Matongo School of Theology, in rural Kenya, preparing pastors and deaconesses for ministry throughout East Africa. Robyn is the local "welcome lady" at Matongo, greeting everyone she meets. They have two married adult children and four grandchildren.

Dear Church *family,*
It's time for a New Directory!

Celebrating faith.
Connecting families.
Sharing hope.

When people enter the doors of our church they are looking for a place to belong. Our directory brings us together to develop new relationships, connect with our own families and reconnect with those we haven't seen in a while. Join us for this "Connections Event" and be part of what God is doing right here at our church!

Directory Committee

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- **Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at church or simply go online and follow the instructions below.**
  If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
- **Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!**
- **Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church!**
  You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!

UNIVERSAL CHURCH DIRECTORIES

Gathering families,
Connecting generations.

Mark your calendars for the St. John's Lutheran Directory Photo Sessions!

Tuesday—Saturday, June 6—10, 2023

You can sign up online! Go to www.ucdir.com
Church Code: mn 301
Password: photos

PLEASE SIGN UP ONLINE OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School/BC/SALT/Confirmation Pic. 10:30am Worship 3pm Ordination Jeff 6pm Chosen Study Brad/Jamie	1 9am Friendship Club	2	3 3:45pm 8th Grade Confirmation 4:30pm Jr. High FFF 6:30pm Youth Advisory Meeting	4	5	6
7 8am Worship With Communion 9:15am Sunday School/BC/SALT 10:30am Worship With Communion 4pm 3-6 Youth	8 Pastors' Conference	9 Pastors' Conference 6:30pm Bible Study	10 2pm LWML Pastors' Conference 6pm Sr. High FFF	11 9am Ministerium @ Ole's Cafe'	12	13
14 8am Worship 9:15am Sunday School/BC/SALT 10:30am SS Sings 10:30am Worship	15 10am Temp Lake Ridge Service	16	17	18	19	20
21 8am Worship With Communion 9:15am Sunday School/BC/SALT 10:30am Worship With Communion 6pm Sr. Banquet	22	23 6:30pm Bible Study	24 6pm Sr. High FFF	25	26	27
28 8:30am Worship 9:30am Fellowship	29 Church Office Closed - Memorial Day	30	31 6:30pm Baccalaureate Service	1	2	3

St. John's Lutheran Church
317 South Main Street
P.O. Box 760
Sherburn, Minnesota 56171

The Lutheran Hour

Radio Broadcast: KSUM, Fairmont 1370 AM—Sundays @ 11:00 a.m.

May 7 **"Sojourn"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Prosperity preachers promise health, wealth, and happines--but that's not what Christians should expect.
(1 Peter 2:11-12)

May 14 **"Reason to Hope"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
A brand-new violin needs to mature through time and use. The same goes for followers of Christ.
(1 Peter 3:15)

May 21 **"Responses to Suffering"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Why does God allow suffering? The answer cannot be that God is indifferent or detached from our pain.
(1 Peter 4:12)

May 28 **"A Timely Invitation"** Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe
(John 7:37-39)