

## November 2023 Newsletter St. John American Lutheran Church

### FALL CLEAN UP DAY

It's that time of year again.....time to clean up around the church yard before winter sets in. Mark your calendar for

**Saturday, November 4th at 10:00 a.m.** Bring your own rake and gloves. The Properties Board will have trash bags ready and may even provide treats!

**Many hands make light work!**

*(In case of inclement weather, or if the leaves have not yet dropped off by the 4th, alternative date is November 11<sup>th</sup>.)*



The last of the garden vegetables have been harvested and the garden area cleaned up and ready for winter's rest.

**Many, many thanks to Nancy Plenis and Linda Kolb for their tireless dedication to our community garden.** They alone, planted, weeded, watered and harvested this year, with a little help with watering tasks. Thanks to Keith Rippe and Mark Stanley for their assistance with the tilling and cleanup.

Please be thinking and praying about our neighborhood garden during the winter months and whether we can continue this food ministry. It takes more than a couple of people to keep this project going. If additional St. John members are not able or willing to help, the garden will not be able to be planted in the Spring.

### All Saints Worship

*"For all the saints who from their labors rest..."*



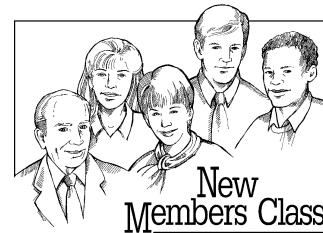
Saturday Evening Worship, November 4, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday Morning Worship, November 5, 9:30 a.m.

*Light a candle for those you've loved and lost because of death.  
Remember the resurrection we share in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

### INTERESTED IN JOINING ST. JOHN?

New member orientation will be held on three Sundays in November. Join Pastor Kyle on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, & 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 a.m. in the church Library. Those coming to St. John from other Lutheran churches or other faith traditions will be interested to hear about the gifts and traditions of the Lutheran faith and a little history of St. John American Lutheran Church. Please call the church office (336-



3253) if you or anyone you know would like any more information. **Reception of New Members will be held on Christ the King Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at the 9:30 am worship service.**

### FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

A blessed harvest and changing of seasons to all our family and friends of St. John! Firstly, on behalf of my family, thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for your warm and generous welcome to this congregation. We are grateful.

The month of November will be a busy one, with a lot of ministry opportunities. We will begin with All Saints worship on November 4-5<sup>th</sup> (don't forget to "fall back" with daylight savings), where we will light candles and remember our dearly departed. After worship that Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, we will begin the first installment of a 3-week New Member Class, which will culminate with our New Member Sunday on Christ the King Sunday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>.

And don't forget to attend the Thankoffering Service on Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm, that is hosted by the WELCA ladies at St. John. They will be collecting three offerings at that service, the Thankoffering (which goes directly to WELCA), the regular offering for St. John and finally a non-perishable food item collection that will serve our community. Thanks, in advance, for your generosity!

Many of our regular program ministries are in full swing and I have attended many of them in my first month here. I have also been busy attending many of the different church board meetings and learning about all that we do to be God's hands and feet here at St. John. I have enjoyed the start of confirmation classes with the 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders and hope to keep growing that program over the years. It was a blessing to celebrate the Rite of Confirmation or Affirmation of Baptism with six students on Reformation Sunday.

A few words about something you may have noticed about my worship leadership style...when inviting worshippers to pray the Lord's Prayer, I've used the wording "Joined together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray the Lord's Prayer in the wording of our preference." The aim is for everyone to choose their preferred wording and pray it boldly, knowing the person next to you may not be using the same words. I've adapted this practice from how we prayed the Lord's Prayer in my previous setting where although we worshiped in English, sometimes folks wanted to pray the Lord's Prayer in their native language. It might seem chaotic and confusing, but I believe the cacophony of languages and wordings is a beautiful representation of the body of Christ and its many members. I look forward to a full month of ministry with you at St. John!

In Christ, Pastor Kyle



Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>. Remember to set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed Saturday night.



St. John serves the evening meal at The Banquet WEST on **Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>**. The Banquet WEST is located at

5<sup>th</sup> Street and Marion Road. St. John must supply 6 to 8 volunteers at 2:00 PM to prepare the food, and 10-14 volunteers at 5:15 PM to serve. Please sign up to help on the sheet on the Welcome Center, on our website, or simply call the church office at 605-336-3253. Come, greet our Banquet guests and share in the serving.

Thank you!



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 22

6:00 p.m.

*Let us gather to offer thanks and bring tangible evidences of our gratefulness. In our walk around offering, we bring our envelope gifts, offering for WELCA, as well as non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry. The Adult Choir will be providing special music.*

## 🎵 🎵 "Music Notes" 🎵 🎵

Greetings, St. John! I can't believe it is already November! This year has been flying by and our choirs have begun rehearsing their holiday music. We have been having a lot of fun in our rehearsals and we have been happy to welcome two new members to the Adult Choir. The handbell choir will be performing on Sunday, November 8th. We will perform a beautiful meditation on "Let Us Break Bread Together". The Adult Choir will perform on Sunday, November 12th. We will perform a song we haven't sung in many years called "Rain Down". Jarid Kvale will be accompanying us on guitar. The Adult Choir will also perform at the Thanksgiving Eve worship service. We will perform "It is Right to Give Thanks." We will be having a guest guitarist, Andi Bookout, accompany us for this song. If you are thinking about joining either choir, please feel free to contact me or just join us at rehearsal on Wednesdays. All are welcome!

Sarah Jo Jorgensen  
Director of Choirs



Please call the church office (605-336-3253) and give Joanne your winter address so that you can continue to receive your monthly Newsletter and envelopes. Just let her know when you are leaving and when you will return home...she will do the rest!



### Calling for volunteers to help Altar Guild members!

Please join in to help spruce up the Altar area and polish/clean the Communion ware in preparation for the holidays. Let's meet in the Sanctuary and work for an hour or two.

**Tuesday, November 14th @ 2:00 p.m.**



### Men's Saturday Bible Study

All men of St. John are invited and welcome to attend a monthly Bible Study on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Fryn' Pan. **We meet at 8:30 a.m.** for coffee, Bible study and fellowship.

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### eGIVING

Supporting the church is easy with Egiving. Visit our church website at [www.stjohnlutheran.net](http://www.stjohnlutheran.net) to get started, or simply scan this QR code with your phone! It's that simple.  
**THANK YOU!**



### AEFT

*AEFT, or Automated Electronic Funds Transfer, is also available at St. John. With this program, we transfer money from your checking or savings account once a month to St. John Lutheran's General Fund. This tool can help keep you on track for your yearly financial commitments. If you are interested in using AEFT, please contact Joanne Pesicka, church secretary at 605-336-3253. She will help you get it set up and take care of the monthly transfer. Thank you!*



Third class mail cannot be forwarded. If you change your address, let us know so you receive your next Newsletter.



We need ladies to volunteer to assist in the Thanksgiving Eve service on Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6 p.m. (new time.) We need to fill the following positions: two ushers (will also hold baskets during communion),

lectors (two,) communion assistants (one.) You will need to arrive at church by 5:30. Please contact Joanne in the church office to sign up. We need to know by November 13<sup>th</sup>.

SAVE THE DATE: WELCA is having a Christmas Brunch on Saturday, December 9, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. We will have holiday entertainment provided by Sound Cascade Chorus (women's barbershop music.) Tickets are \$12.00 each. ***Tickets will be on sale before and after church on November 5<sup>th</sup>, November 12<sup>th</sup>, and November 19<sup>th</sup>.*** Tickets may also be purchased in the church office after November 5<sup>th</sup>. They must be purchased by November 25<sup>th</sup> (in order to update our food order with our caterer.)

### **LWR (Lutheran World Relief)**

*We are in need of flannel sheets and materials for making quilts. They can be left in the box in front of the office door.*

Thank you to all who have donated recently. Everything donated is much appreciated.

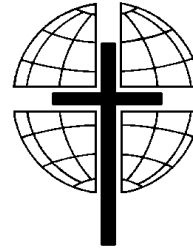
Barb Buchanan & LaVonne Schimke  
Chairs of Mission Action Service Group

### **WELCA Bible Study**

Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM  
(We will meet in the church Library)



The **deadline** for the monthly Newsletter is 8:00 a.m. on the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month. This month it will be Monday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.



### **November Mission Globe**

**Our November Mission Globe** gifts will go toward the purchase of gifts & outerwear to take to **Rosebud** on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. You are welcome to make a contribution, *above and beyond your regular giving*, in the globe at the back of the sanctuary. Please make checks payable to St. John Special Funds.

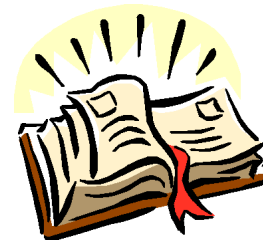
### **Support Our Youth! GIFT CARDS**

Gift Cards for our local grocery stores and restaurants are available to purchase weekdays in the church office or after worship near the Welcome Center. Gift Cards may be purchased in varying denominations allowing you to purchase merchandise at the respective businesses up to the face value of each card. In most instances, Gift Cards purchased at St. John result in a 5% profit from participating businesses to our St. John Youth to help with summer camps and servant events.

**THANK YOU FOR PURCHASING GIFT CARDS AT ST. JOHN!**

### **NOT ABLE TO WORSHIP ON SUNDAY?**

**SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP**  
**5:30 P.M.**



**NOON BIBLE STUDY:** A weekly Bible Study meets at 12:00 p.m. on Thursdays in the Church Library. We review the Lectionary for the upcoming Sunday each week. The scripture lessons for the next week are noted in the Sunday bulletin announcements. All are welcome and you may bring your sack lunch if you wish.

## God's Work, Our Hands



St. John will be collecting NEW toys (please do not wrap), NEW warm winter wear and blankets for children and adults who live on the Rosebud Reservation during the month of November. Gifts may be left in the Fellowship Hall during regular office hours or on Sunday mornings. For those unable to shop, financial gifts will be accepted in our November Mission Globe. Please make checks payable to St. John Special Funds and designate "Rosebud" on the memo line. **Unfortunately, there will not be an actual Christmas Party at Rosebud this year, but we plan to pack up and head out to the**

**Reservation on Saturday, December 2nd early in the morning and will need help to load and unload.** Please consider giving your time to travel with us. We will also be collecting cookies to take with us on that day. Please drop cookies off in the kitchen by December 1st. Contact Brenda Jones or John McIntyre if you have any questions. Thank you!

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, before, during & after worship, members of the Social Concerns Board will be handing out envelopes with cash for you to use to go purchase a gift/toy to take to Rosebud. If you like to, and want to go shopping, please be sure to get an envelope!



### Project CAR Drivers Needed for Sundays

Project CAR (Call A Ride) offers transportation to Sunday church services for the elderly members of six different churches. This transportation is a crucial element in their ability to remain connected to their church and community. Project CAR provides vehicles, gas, etc. **Please call the Project CAR office (332-2777) for more information. Men, women, retired, working, young, young at heart ... We Need You!**



### Meals-On-Wheels

St. John is responsible for **Meals-on-Wheels** drivers and helpers for **Tuesdays**. If you are interested in helping out with this important community activity, please contact the church office, sign up on our website, or contact Phil or Jackie Johnson. The meals are picked up at Active Generations (west side location) and delivered on the west side of Sioux Falls. Thank you!

**Remember – you can sign up for just one Tuesday if you wish. Any and all help is needed and appreciated!**

## God's Work, Our Hands

Our Blessing Box on the corner of 13<sup>th</sup> & Jefferson always needs supplies! Only non-perishable items please, such as:

**Peanut butter, Rice, Oatmeal, Popcorn, Macaroni and cheese, Tea bags, Coffee Pasta, granola bars, nuts, Ramen Noodles, jerky, etc.**

This winter, feel free to also fill our Blessing Box with gloves, hats, sanitizer, etc. Personal hygiene items are welcome too! Soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, etc.

Please place the items directly in the Blessing Box. If it is full, please put your items on the shelves inside the WEST entrance of the church. THANK YOU!!





### **AngelFoods**

*The freezer is stocked, and **AngelFoods** are ready to be delivered to anyone you know who needs a visit, a lift, some comfort food and our prayers. Just stop by the church kitchen anytime to pick up a meal. **AngelFoods** are for friends, family, neighbors ... anyone who needs our Christian love and support.*



Do you enjoy visiting and having a cup of coffee after worship on Sundays? Please consider being the coffee host on a Sunday or two each year. You can sign-up on the white board at the Welcome Center. Lori Meyer, our Fellowship Board Chair, will give you easy instructions.  
Thank you!

Dear St. John Members,

It's been a little over two months, and I miss you guys! Thank you for the blanket, book, and grad cards! Thank you to the Endowment Committee for the generous scholarship. I really appreciate your support, and I'm excited for what God has in store for me these next four years at the South Dakota School of Mines! Thank you so much!

Ben Kvale

Thank you to the St. John Quilters group for the blanket given to us for Natalie and the quilt for baby Harrison. They are beautiful and much appreciated!

Daniel and Brandy Pesicka

Dear St. John,

We are grateful for your generosity and kindness in providing toothpaste and deodorant for October's 'Freshen Up for a Cause'. Hygiene is a fundamental aspect of overall health and well-being, and your contributions have helped ensure that individuals facing challenging circumstances have access to these basic necessities.

Also, a special thank you to the youth, parents, and leaders who dedicated their time and effort to assemble hygiene kits. They assembled 240 hygiene kits in no time.

Grateful, Kari & Darin Palmer  
Journey of Hope

A note of thanks and appreciation to Rodney Hughes and Brenda Jones for helping the Sioux Falls Neighborhood Soccer League's Recreational Soccer program.

Seven Saturday mornings beginning in April and seven Saturday mornings beginning in September, Rodney helps set up the field, assists wherever he is needed and stows the equipment when the games are finished. He arranges the orange cones to preserve parking space for Brenda (she brings her crew of nieces to help), when she arrives with the Night Watch van to serve lunch provided by the Soccer Association.

This program began two years ago to promote self-esteem and teamwork in a fun, safe environment. It allows players to enjoy soccer without travel or high-level competition. They are with their school friends. There are no barriers to participate. The Soccer Association provides soccer balls, shin guards, coaches, and lessons at no expense to the students. Consideration goes into what is offered for lunch due to the diversity of the students. For example, pork is not served because many students are Muslim.

Garfield Elementary was one of the first four schools selected to participate. It is wonderful to see children flocking to Spellerberg Park with their families to play an international sport. Come to watch or come to help. Rodney has coffee made and waiting.

Next time you see Rodney or Brenda, thank them for helping our Garfield Neighborhood.

### **SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE**

#### **Attention Students interested in attending Augustana**

**University!** The Buntrock Scholars Program supports students who are active and engaged members of ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) congregations throughout the Midwest by covering half of the net price of attendance up to \$12,000 per year to Augustana University. Funded by Rosemarie and Dean Buntrock, the Buntrock Scholarship is awarded to students who are active and involved in the church before and after graduation from Augustana University. Check out the link below. Deadline is December 1<sup>st</sup>.

<https://www.augie.edu/admission-aid/financial-aid-costs-scholarships/additional-scholarships/buntrock-scholars-program>

*Doug Daniels, Treasurer*

BALANCE	9/1/2023	\$	19,144.16
	Total Receipts for Month	\$	21,804.81
	Total Cash on Hand	\$	40,948.97
	Less Expenditures for Month	\$	(24,433.13)
	Transfer to Cap. Fund Payables	\$	-
BALANCE	9/30/2023	\$	16,515.84
	Doug Daniels, Treasurer		

EXPENSES	THIS MONTH PAID	YEAR TO DATE PAID	ANNUAL BUDGET
Our World Mission	\$ 1755.00	\$ 16,742.00	\$ 21,700.00
Pastoral Ministry & Staff	16,311.18	137,381.31	\$260,499.00
Worship & Service	3,187.24	18,147.35	32,900.00
Our Church Home	3,179.71	46,270.54	48,803.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 24,433.13	\$218,541.20	\$363,902.00

OUR GIFTS FOR THE LORD AND HIS WORK – GENERAL FUND

	Offerings	Expenses	Difference
YTD Total (9/30)	\$229,490.21	\$(218,541.20)	\$10,949.01



*CONGRATULATIONS to Barb Mitchell and  
Tammy Nielsen on their 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish in  
Doubles in the Special Olympics  
Southeast Unified Bowling Tournament!*

**Capital Fund**  
**Karen Scarborough, Treasurer**

<b>SAVINGS BALANCE</b>	September 1, 2023			<b>\$31,941.62</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
	Interest		<u>70.59</u>	
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>			<b>\$70.59</b>
<b>EXPENSES AND WITHDRAWALS</b>				
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES &amp; WITHDRAWALS</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>SAVINGS BALANCE</b>	September 30, 2023			<b>\$32,012.21</b>
<b>CHECKING BALANCE</b>	September 1, 2023			<b>\$2,666.86</b>
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
	Interest		<u>\$0.25</u>	
	<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>			<b>\$0.25</b>
<b>EXPENSES AND WITHDRAWALS</b>				
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES &amp; WITHDRAWALS</b>			<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>CHECKING BALANCE</b>	September 30, 2023			<b>\$2,667.11</b>
<b>CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT</b>				
	Mission Investment Fund; 2.23%; maturity 1/25/24		\$112,382.11	
	Mission Investment Fund : 1.936% maturity 4/20/27		\$129,922.78	
	Mission Investment Fund; 1.49%; maturity 10/20/25		\$58,774.27	
	<b>TOTAL CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT</b>			<b>\$301,079.16</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDS</b>	September 30, 2023			<b>\$335,758.48</b>
<b>PAYABLES</b>				
	Beginning Balance 1/1/23		\$23,000.00	
	Transfer from General Fund		\$10,000.00	
	Transfers to General Fund 2023		-\$10,000.00	
	<b>TOTAL PAYABLES</b>			<b>\$23,000.00</b>
<b>DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>				
	Stewardship use in memory of Delpha Dumke		\$1,000.00	
	Elevator Funds for maintenance		\$6,853.08	
	Haase Nelson Memorial: Parish Nurse/COVID		\$18,324.26	
	Semmler Bequest: future Internship Programs		\$7,590.51	
	<b>TOTAL DESIGNATED FUNDS</b>			<b>\$33,767.85</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE CAPITAL FUNDS 9/30/23</b>				<b>\$278,990.63</b>
	5% of 2023 budget - \$18,195.10			