

Week of
September 25, 2022



Join the
**St. John's Lutheran
Ministries**
Facebook group for news,
updates and daily
encouragement!

Welcome in the name of the Lord !

As God serves us today in Word and Sacrament, may we rejoice in His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation.

- 1) To parents of small children, we love the sound of children in worship. Thank you for bringing your child to worship; they belong here! If your child is actively crying, we have a cry room near the restrooms.
- 2) Regarding the Lord's Supper today: If you are not a confirmed member of this congregation or a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, please speak to the pastor before communing. Pastor is readily available in the narthex before worship for this conversation. For those with medical need, the center section of the individual cup trays is filled with cups of grape juice (lighter color). For those that have a gluten intolerance, gluten-free wafers are available. Share your need as you come forward to the altar.

3) Children are invited to come forward to the altar while the Lord's Supper is distributed; encourage them to bow their heads and fold their hands. While there, they will receive a Baptismal blessing from the Pastor.

- 4) We ask that if you have a mobile device, please silence it during the worship service.
- 5) Our elders, greeters, and ushers are here to help with any of your worship needs today.

Thanks for worshipping with us!

Worship Times

- + Saturdays 5:30 p.m. — *Abbreviated service*
 - + Sundays 8:00 a.m. — *Communion at the rail*
 - + Sundays 10:30 a.m. — *With Praise Band*
- Masks are optional at all services.

Livestreaming of the 8:00 a.m. service continues to be available at stjohnsportage.com/live.

Please Pray

Thanksgiving (birth, baptisms, weddings, recovery):

The family of *Betty Carrington* would like to thank all who helped celebrate her life.

Milestone (birthdays, anniversaries):

Medical:

Margery Schultz

Long-term Illness/Treatment:

Mourning:

Other:

How Do I Get Someone on the Prayer List?

If you, or someone you know, would like to have a name added to the prayer list, please contact the church office by noon on Wednesdays. Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.
***Please notify the church office when one of our church family members is in the hospital, so that a pastoral visit may be made or arranged.**

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

-Philippians 4:6-7

Weekly Offerings

Last Week's In-person Attendance: 247
Unified Received: \$11,339.13
Other Contributions: \$485.00
TOTAL: \$11,824.13
Weekly Unified Needed: \$13,975.00



Ministries Calendar

Calendar events for the week of September 25, 2022:

Sunday (25)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Church CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School, School Cafeteria
- 9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC

Monday (26)

- 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 3:00 p.m. Board of Evangelism, Church CLC

Tuesday (27)

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
- 4:30 p.m. GriefShare, Church APR
- 4:30 p.m. Board of Finance, Church CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Board Elders, Church CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Prayer Shawls, Church Narthex
- 6:30 p.m. Sisters in Christ Bible Study, Church APR

Wednesday (28)

- 10:00 a.m. Chapel, Church Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline,
Email: churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com
- 4:30 p.m. Jr. Youth Group, School Gym
- 5:00 p.m. Handbell Choir, Church Balcony
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir, Church Balcony
- 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Instruction, Church CLC
- 6:30 p.m. Sr. Youth Group, School Gym

Thursday (29)

- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
- 9:00 a.m. Strong Bodies, Church Narthex
- 10:15 a.m. Rachel Bible Study, Church CLC
- 5:30 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Church CLC

Friday (30)

Church office closed

Sunday (02)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour and Fellowship, Church CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Sunday School, School Cafeteria
- 9:15 a.m. Praise Band Practice, Church Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC

Calendar events are subject to change. For the most up-to-date calendar information, please visit our website, <http://www.stjohnsportage.com/st-johns-calendar>.

This Weekend's Lectionary Summary

PROPER 21—Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (25 September 2022)

Amos 6:1–7

1 Timothy 3:1–13 or 1 Timothy 6:6–19

Luke 16:19–31

Our Help Is Not in Worldly Riches

“The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side,” and *“the rich man also died and was buried”* (Luke 16:22). The poor man Lazarus, who knew many bad things on earth, began to be comforted forever, whereas the rich man, after a lifetime of good things, began to be *“in anguish”* (Luke 16:25). Therefore, *“woe to those who are at ease in Zion”* (Amos 6:1), for *“the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away”* (Amos 6:7). The wealthy are urged *“not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches,”* but *“to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share”* (1 Tim. 6:17–18).

Covetous desire for what God has not given is idolatry and *“a root of all kinds of evils”* (1 Tim. 6:10).

Contentment belongs to faith, by which the Christian has *“great gain”* in godliness (1 Tim. 6:6).

Confirmation

St. John’s is taking a census of its entire membership.

If you haven’t done so, please complete the Census 2022 form inserted in the bulletin or complete the census online at stjohnsportage.com/census2022. It takes less than 2 minutes. Paper copies can be returned to the basket at The Welcome Center. We are looking for 100% participation of our families. Thanks to all who have participated.



We’re Hiring

St. John’s Lutheran Ministries is looking for energetic, patient, and kind Christians who would like to teach and pray every day with an amazing group of God’s children.

Available positions at St. John’s Child Development Center:

- Assistant Director
- Early Childhood Teacher

For a complete job descriptions and employment application, please email churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com.

Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML)

Don’t miss the LWML Fall Gathering, Saturday, October 1 at Cross Lutheran in Westport, WI.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. A representative from the homeless community in Madison will be the speaker. The ingathering is school supplies for OGT. Join us for Bible study, servant event, and fellowship. A light lunch will be served at the close of our gathering. For carpooling, call Elaine Hull 608-408-4247.

Bible Study

The Epistles Bible study led by David Tamminga that was held in the All Purpose Room (APR) is back with a new name. The **Late Sunday Morning Bible Study** meets at 11:30 a.m. the **Christian Life Center**. We will be studying The Gospel of Matthew and the Synoptic Gospels.

St. John’s Athletics

St. John’s Lutheran School needs concession and score table volunteers on 9/26, and 10/17 for volleyball games. We are hosting for St. Mary Knights Blue Team. Three of our Crusader girls are on this team. Contact School Office at 742-9000 option 3 if interested.

Strong Bodies

Strong Bodies strength training class is starting again on September 26. Class will be held on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in the Narthex. St. Johns Health and Wellness Committee suggests a \$30.00 donation to cover all classes from September through April. Everyone is welcome. All exercises can be modified to match ability. Contact Polly Koeppe at 608-745-8887 for more information. Let's get stronger together!

Radio Broadcast

Last Radio Broadcast October 2

WPDR has informed us that the last Sunday of our services being broadcast on the air will be October 2. This is due to a change in their radio programming. We thank those that have sponsored the radio broadcast over the years. We also thank WPDR for offering the time slot through the decades.

Financial Peace University

Are inflation, high gas prices, & food prices affecting your life? Want to learn how to have financial peace and enjoy God's blessings? Come to FPU classes in the CLC at 6:00–7:30 p.m. every Monday for 9 weeks starting Oct. 17. Materials will be shared in the class. Cost is \$100 (flex payments available). Children are welcome. No need to hire a sitter.

Coffee Hour and Fellowship

Adopt a Sunday! It's a fun and easy way to get to know your church family.

We encourage families and groups to "Adopt a Sunday" by hosting coffee hour on Sunday mornings. Hosting coffee hour involves providing a simple snack, making coffee, and enjoying fellowship time with our church families. Sign up in the Christian Life Center or email churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Sept. 25:	Katharine Meyer & Deb Rohrbeck
Oct. 02:	Altar Guild
Oct. 09:	Open
Oct. 16:	Open
Oct. 23:	Open
Oct. 30:	Open

Youth Ministry

All youth are invited to join us for fun and fellowship.

✠ **Sunday School**

Meets Sundays from 9:15 a.m.–10:15 a.m. in St. John's School Cafeteria. Lessons are based on the weekly readings. There will be games, Bible lessons, and snacks.

✠ **Jr. Youth Group**

For grades 4-7 meets on Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m.–6:00 p.m. in St. John's School Gym. The focus of Jr. Youth Group is Martin Luther's Catechism to help prepare for confirmation. There will be pizza and games to help us learn God's Word.

✠ **Senior Youth Group**

For grades 8-12 meets on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m.–8:30 p.m. in St. John's School Gym. The focus of Senior Youth Group is being "equipped" with God's armor. There will be games, Bible study, servant work, and pizza.

Bible Studies

Join us for fellowship and Bible study!

- ✠ **Christian Education Hour meets Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** This is a Pastor-led Bible study of The Lutheran Spirituality Series: *Witness: We Share Our Faith*, by Klaus Detlev Schulz.
- ✠ **Late Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 11:30 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew and the Synoptic Gospels.
- ✠ **Men's Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 6:30 a.m. at the Portage Airport.** We are currently studying the Gospel of Matthew.
- ✠ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:15 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** This is a Pastor-led Bible study of the upcoming week's readings.
- ✠ **Sisters in Christ Bible Study meets Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the All Purpose Room.** We will be starting the book of Ruth. *Join us September 27!*
- ✠ **Esther Bible Study meets Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently studying the Gospel of John.
- ✠ **Rachel Bible Study meets Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently watching and discussing *The Chosen* series.
- ✠ **Thirsty Souls Bible Study meets Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently working through the Epistles. If you have questions, please contact Marilyn Jahn, 608-617-7787.

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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Rev. Greg Hovland,
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ghovland@stjohnsportage.com

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Jenni See,
Business Manager
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Catharine Daily,
Ministries Coordinator—Church
cdaily@stjohnsportage.com

Office Hours: M—Th / 8:00a–3:30p

St. John's Lutheran School

A Nationally Accredited School
430 West Emmett
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608)742-9000

Jim Krupski,
Principal
jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com

Amanda Kohn,
Ministries Coordinator—School
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School Hours:
M—F / 7:30a–3:15p

St. John's Child Development Center

A Five-Star Rated Center
426 West Emmett
Portage, Wisconsin 53901
phone (608)742-9000

Debra Drew,
Director
ddrew@stjohnsportage.com
cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Center Office Hours:
M—F / 7:00a–5:00p

St. John's Elder Directory

The elders listed below are available to talk and pray with you. Feel free to contact us wherever you are, with whatever you may be going through. We CARE and are here for you:

Ken Chvojicek 697-2102
Gene Thompson 697-4786
Mark Witt 697-0224
Bob Fairfield 296-4012, Chairman
David Hall 493-2125
Pete Smith 697-3807
Ron Mueller 369-1845

Sermon Reflections

Readings _____

Gospel _____

What problem (sin) did the sermon address?

What solution (gospel) was presented for the problem?

What part of the sermon did you find easiest to remember?

Daily Lectionary

This week's readings comes from the Daily Lectionary found in the Lutheran Service Book page 299.

Sunday,

Mal. 1:1–14 &
Matt. 3:1–17

Monday,

Mal. 2:1—3:5 &
Matt. 4:1–11

Tuesday,

Mal. 3:6—4:6 &
Matt. 4:12–25

Wednesday,

Deut. 1:1–8 &
Matt. 5:1–20

Thursday,

Deut. 1:19–36 &
Matt. 5:21–48

Friday,

Deut. 1:37—2:15 &
Matt. 6:1–15

Saturday,

Deut. 2:16–37 &
Matt. 6:16–34

Stewardship Thoughts

Amos 6:1a – “**Woe to those who are at ease in Zion.**” The Book of Amos is a warning to God’s people who have been given great material wealth. As Jesus Himself mentions, material blessings can turn into temptations – chiefly the temptation to think of ourselves as self-sufficient and independent. What does Amos suggest as a way to combat this temptation? First, faith in the Lord and dependence upon Him! And if our faith is right, we will want to follow the rest of Amos’ instructions – to bless the poor with our alms and to make sure the Lord’s House is properly cared for. In other words, we are called to align our actions with God’s priorities and put others ahead of ourselves.

Life Thoughts

September 25 – Pentecost XVI (Proper 21) – Do we ignore the ruin around us (Amos 6:6) because abortion seems “too political” and assisted suicide feels “too personal”? Only woes await those who do (Amos 6:1, 4). But our Heavenly Father obsesses over the victims (Psalm 146:9), and heaven finds inexhaustible joy embracing the vulnerable (Luke 16:22). In speaking and showing the sanctity of all humankind, we also can “take hold of that which is truly life” (1 Timothy 6:19)!

LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*But for me, I will look to the Lord;
I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.*

Micah 7:7