

July 2, 2023



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) Please complete either a Guest (blue) or Member (white) card found in the hymnal rack of the pews. You may place this card in the offering plate located in the Narthex.
- 2) 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 with service audio near the restrooms.
- 3) Regarding the Lord's Supper today: **If you are not a confirmed member of St. John's 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 (darker color). For those who have a gluten intolerance, gluten-free wafers are available. Share your need as you come forward to the altar.
- 4) 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.
- 5) We ask that if you have a mobile device, please silence it during the worship service.
- 6) Our elders and ushers are here to help with any of your worship needs today.

Thanks for worshipping with us!

Sermon Reflections

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?

Worship Times

- ✠ Saturdays 5:30 p.m. — *Abbreviated service*
- ✠ Sundays 8:00 a.m. — *Communion at the rail*
- ✠ Sundays 10:30 a.m. — *Abbreviated service*

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

Weekly Events

Sunday (02)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
- 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR

Tuesday (04) **HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!**

- All ministries offices closed**
- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport

Wednesday (05)

- 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at Tamarack
- 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Thursday (06)

- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
- 11:00 a.m. Heritage House Monthly Worship
- 5:00 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study

Friday (07)

Church office closed

Sunday (09)

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
- 9:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Screening, Church Nursery
- 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR

There will be no Tuesday Morning Bible Study on July 4.

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>. To schedule your group activity, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 or email churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com.

Please be considerate of our disabled worshippers' parking needs. If the driver is not disabled, it would be best if he or she would drop an individual at the door and use a regular parking stall when possible. Then, we will be sure we have enough handicap parking for our disabled drivers. We appreciate our caregivers and

Please Pray

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.

Thanksgiving

(birth, birthdays, baptisms, weddings, anniversaries, recovery):

Other:

Medical:

Long-term Illness/Treatment:

George Koepf, Stacie Wheeler, Cathy Dehn,

Tom Waddell, Babette Schumann

Lani Kohrt (daughter-in-law of Don and Carol Kohrt)

Shirley Marotz (friend of Kathleen Thalacker)

Janeen Driscoll (sister-in-law of Don and Jan Weideman)

Mourning:

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. Prayer requests for Thanksgiving, Medical, and Mourning will remain on the list for two weeks. Prayer requests for Long-term Illness/Treatment will remain for one month unless the church office is notified with an update on the individual. Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.

Bring your children to church.

- ✓ **Even if** you feel they are noisy.
- ✓ **Even when** they lie on the floor and roll around.
- ✓ **Even if** their crayons roll 6 pews ahead of you and they decide to crawl under the pews after them.
- ✓ **Even if** it takes 589 Goldfish crackers and 2 bags of fruit snacks to keep them quiet.
- ✓ **Even if** you have to walk out and take a breather in the nursery.
- ✓ **Even if** you have to stand and sway back and forth with your tiny baby in the back of church.
- ✓ **Even if** your pew suddenly looks like a tornado blew through.
- ✓ **Even when** they yell out or cry during the sermon.

Jesus loves those children and wants them in church! Church will not always be easy, but He provides you the patience and wisdom to parent in that hour of church.

Let them see you pray. Let them see you sing the hymns and liturgy. Let them see you worship your Savior. If they don't see and learn those things from you, who are they going to learn from?

Check out the Kids in the Divine Service booklets located by the busy bags.

The Lutheran Witness

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

LW

INTERPRETING THE CONTEMPORARY WORLD

FROM A LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

It's time to renew your subscription to The Lutheran Witness magazine. If you would like to renew your subscription or receive The Lutheran Witness magazine, the cost this year is \$19.20.

Please stop by or call the church office, 608-742-9000, to sign up. **Deadline is Monday July 3.**

Get Involved

Board of Trustees shall be responsible for the physical properties of the congregation. We would like to have two project days per year, one in the fall and one in the spring. Any member of the congregation can join. Chairperson Curt Nummerdor C: 920-210-5679 nummerdor@yahoo.com

Board of Parish Life shall be charged with promoting and developing the spiritual life of the congregation. Co-Chairperson Emily Eicher C: 608-697-5528 schoppy_e@hotmail.com
Co-Chairperson Melissa Kiefer C: 608-369-2672 mkiefer09@hotmail.com

Board for Stewardship shall be charged with the teaching and promoting proper stewardship of time, talents, and treasures. Chairperson Kyle Bernander C: 608-617-1176 kylebernander@gmail.com

Board for Evangelism leads the members of the congregation in outreach into the community. Seek to keep the reaching out of lost souls for Jesus Christ. Train all Board members to effectively share their faith. Lead classes on "Everyone His Witness" to the congregation. Keep the evangelism ministry of St. John's in front of its members and its community. Be responsible for proposing, evaluating, and then distributing mission funds from the congregation's offering for mission work. Chairperson Jim Atkinson C: 608-697-7052 jim@atkinsonrealtor.com

Board for Christian Education's (BFCE) basic objectives are to plan and administer the Education programs of the congregation, to determine policies, to select personnel for the various agencies, to provide the necessary means and facilities for the agencies, and to direct and supervise the educational programs. The primary purpose of the BFCE is to establish policies and the practices of the school and Childhood Development Center (CDC). These policies include, but are not limited to, personnel policies, financial supervision, tuition and registration practices, goals and objective settings for the school and CDC. The BFCE is to supervise, assist, and empower the Child Care Director and Principal in carrying out adopted policies and practices. Chairperson Dawn Mueller C: 608-369-3613 damueller49@maqs.net

Young Adult Ministry!

St. John's Young Adults... Let's Stay Connected.

With recent high school and technical/college graduations, more young adults from our church and community are on the move again this summer.

St. John's Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is encouraging members to think about how to stay connected. Once our young adults are off on their own, St. John's members are thinking of them, and maybe the young adults would like to hear from their St. John's family too.

- 1) If you are young adult from St. John's who would like to stay connected to St. John's, you can contact us or a St. John's member on your own.
- 2) If you are thinking of a young adult who you are missing, you can reach out on your own, or let us know, and we'll help you too.
- 3) Please let us know if you have made a connection, so our ministry can get feedback on our efforts.

One call or text per month is all that it could take to keep the connection. Just a "Hello, how are you?" Everyone benefits. Our Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is happy to help and will keep everything simple and private. Contact Danielle at 608-697-3560

Support our Ministries

Support St. John's while you shop!

Shop for gift cards with RaiseRight. You can place your order on Tuesday and pick up on Thursday. Or, stop in the church office and pick up a card from our stock.

Festival	\$25 & \$50
Kwik Trip	\$25, \$50, & \$100
Pizza Ranch	\$25
Walgreens	\$25
Walmart	\$25
Culvers	\$25
Portage Movie Theater	\$10

Visit: raiserright.com

Click: **Sign Up**

Enrollment Code: **Please call the church office, 608-742-9000 for the enrollment code.**

BoxTop\$ for Education is a great way to support St. John's School!

All you have to do is download the Box Tops for Education app and scan your receipt. It's that simple!



Reminder

For the protection of the church facility, the only door unlocked during church office hours is the side entrance on Armstrong Street (near Franklin Street). Feel free to park on Armstrong Street near the entrance, if you plan on stopping by.

Blood Pressure Checks

St. John's Health & Wellness Ministry will be offering blood pressure checks at church Sunday, Jul y9 at 9:00 a.m.

We follow the Health and Human Services guidelines for Columbia County, which recommends that everyone wear a mask. We will sanitize surfaces between clients and provide masks.

Stop by our table in the coat area and sign up!

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:

- ✚ Full-time Early Childhood Teacher
- ✚ Cook

For a complete job description and employment application, please email **Debbie Drew, ddrew@stjohnsportage.com** or call 608-742-9000 x102.

Available positions at St. John's Lutheran School:

- ✚ Cook

For a complete job description and employment application, please email **Jim Krupski, jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com** or call 608-742-9000 x109.

LWML News

All St. John's members and guests are invited to join us at our LWML Salad Supper on Tuesday, July 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.

We will be viewing the 2023-2025 mission grant videos to hear about the grants that were adopted at the LWML convention in June. Our mission goal to cover these grants over the next two years is \$2,350,000.00. We are excited to support this goal!

Bring one of your favorite salads, a friend or spouse, or just show up! There is always plenty of food! Drinks and table service will be provided. We hop you will join us!

Want to be a part of St. John's family?



Join St. John's!

We would love to have you here! If you would like to begin the path toward membership and the reception of Holy Communion at St. John's, it begins with worshiping with us regularly. The next step is to visit with Pastor Greg. You may set up a time to meet with him at

<https://calendly.com/pastorhovland/newmember> or contact the church office during regular office hours, and Catharine will assist you in setting up an appointment.

Life Thoughts

July 2 – Pentecost V (Proper 8A) – Far from freedom and the opposite of autonomy, death-dealing measures like abortion and assisted suicide hold hearts captive to sinful passions (Romans 7:5-6) such as pride and lust. The sanctity of life Gospel brings the sword that truly liberates (Matthew 10:34) “so that you may belong to another” (Romans 7:4). The Heavenly Father holds every human life as His own precious treasure.

Stewardship Thoughts

Mark 10:42 – “And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.” The tithes and offerings you give to the Lord’s work in His church go toward supporting all manner of discipleship. They provide for a minister of the Gospel to preach, teach and conduct the Sacraments; they provide for our missionaries and ministries of mercy here and abroad; and they make sure that the folks in your area have a place to go to worship the Lord. The Lord is pleased with this work, and He wants to bless you through your support of it.

Daily Lectionary

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

Sunday, Joshua 7:1–26 & Acts 10:34–48	Tuesday, Joshua 10:1–25 & Acts 11:19–30	Friday, Judg. 2:6–23 & Acts 13:13–41
Monday, Joshua 8:1–28 & Acts 11:1–18	Wednesday, Joshua 23:1–16 & Acts 12:1–25	Saturday, Judg. 3:7–31 & Acts 13:42–52
	Thursday, Joshua 24:1–31 & Acts 13:1–12	

Weekly Offerings

Last Week’s In-person Attendance: 229
Unrestricted Unified Received: \$10,952.38
Restricted Contributions Received: \$470.00
TOTAL: \$11,422.38

Weekly Unrestricted Unified Needed: \$13,269.00
YTD Unrestricted Unified Giving: \$645,776.40
YTD Budgeted Unrestricted Unified Need: \$689,999.54
(week 52)

LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful
in it with thanksgiving.*

Colossians 4:2

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 Lifestyles of Reconciliation Series: *Conflict Resolution vs. Reconciliation*, produced by Ambassadors of Reconciliation
- ✠ **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 book of Acts.
- ✠ **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. **will not meet on July 4. Join us Tuesday, July 11 at 9:15 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.**
- ✠ **Esther Bible Study meets Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. in the Christian Life Center.** We are currently studying the book of Revelation.
- ✠ **Thirsty Souls meets Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. in the Christian Life Center.**

Coffee Hour

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

July 2:	Open
July 9:	Open

Contact us: 608-742-9000

Church:
option 4
Office Hours:
M—Th 8:00a–3:30p
churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Rev. Greg Hovland,
Senior Pastor
(c) 608-571-3360
ghovland@stjohnsportage.com

Child Development Center:
option 2
Office Hours:
M—F 7:00a–5:00p
cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com

Debra Drew,
Director
ddrew@stjohnsportage.com

School:
option 3
Summer Office Hours:
Tu—Th 8:00a–12:00p
schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com

Jim Krupski,
Principal
jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com

St. John’s Elder Directory:
Bob Fairfield 296-4012, Chairman
Roger Baerwolf 617-6088
Ken Chvojicek 697-2102
Bill Hageman 279-0272
David Hall 493-2125
Patrick Kirchenwitz 575-3959
Ron Mueller 369-1845
Pete Smith 697-3807
Gene Thompson 697-4786
Mark Witt 697-0224

To schedule your group activity or add a loved one to the prayer list, please contact the church office at 608-742-9000 option 4 or email churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com.