

July 9, 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?**

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**What solution (gospel) was presented for the problem?**

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

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## 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](http://stjohnsportage.com/live).

## Weekly Events

- Sunday (09) School building closed due to floor waxing (July 9 – July 21)**
- 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

- Monday (10)**
- 10:00 a.m. Tivoli Monthly Worship
  - 3:00 p.m. Evangelism, Church CLC

- Tuesday (11) No RaiseRight (Scrip) orders**
- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
  - 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC

- Wednesday (12)**
- 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at Tamarack
  - 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

- Thursday (13)**
- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
  - 5:00 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study

- Friday (14)**
- 12:00 p.m. Church office closed
  - Cornerstone Newsletter Deadline, Email: [churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

- Sunday (16)**
- 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

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](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).

**Please be considerate of our disabled worshipers' 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:

The family of Marvin Hintz (father of *Marty Hintz*)

### **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.**

## Raise Right

**There will be no Raise Right orders on Tuesday, July 12.**

## Blood Pressure Checks

**St. John's Health & Wellness Ministry will be offering blood pressure checks at church Sunday, July 9 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!

## Young Adult Ministry (YAM)

**St. John's Young Adults... We're on to something... Join YAM!**

Our Young Adult Ministry (YAM) is just getting started, and there's a lot of interest. Times can be tough when we start out as young adults. Let's get together and talk more about how we can support our young adults from St. John's and young adults throughout our community.

We have a lot of exciting ideas from our Evangelism Ministry to discuss. Please join us as interested St. John's members to help form our next steps. We need young adults to join this effort, so please attend in person, or virtually!

### **Who:**

Young adults and people who want to stay connected to them.

### **What:**

Gathering to discuss how to best reach out and stay connected.

### **Where:**

St. John's Christian Life Center

### **When:**

July 17 at 5:00 p.m.

### **Why:**

Because we love them and want to stay connected.

## 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 hope you will join us!

## Project Connect

**Project Connect, from Lutheran Hour Ministries, is an excellent evangelism resource.** It gives congregations and individuals an outreach program that works and is easy to maintain. This app not only allows you to download and share these great resources, but to listen to high quality recordings as well.

- Topic categories include “Abuse Addiction,” “Domestic Violence,” and “Life Skills.”
- New! Includes booklets for children that you can read with them when you’re on the go!
- Share the resources with a friend through a variety of social media and communication outlets.

The app is available on Google Play, Kindle Fire, and Apple.

## 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](http://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.

### Looking for a something to read this summer? Check out the church library.

Have you ever wondered where our church library is and how to check out books? Visit the church library located at the Welcome Center.

If you find a book that piques your interest, take it home, read it, and return it. It’s just that simple!

No paperwork – no hassle!

**We are not accepting book donations for the church library at this time.**

## Get Involved

**Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML)** is focused on affirming each woman’s relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions. To help women grow spiritually through Bible studies, retreats, seminars, workshops, and prayer services.

We reach out with service projects suggested by the District LWML, such as promoting Lutheran Work Relief and collecting items for crisis pregnancy centers.

LWML meets in the months of January, March, May, July, September and November on the 3rd Tuesday in the Christian Life Center at 6:30 p.m.

Contact: Theresa Smith - [tlsmith52@hotmail.com](mailto:tlsmith52@hotmail.com) or 608-742-2614

**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](mailto:schoppy_e@hotmail.com)

Co-Chairperson Melissa Kiefer C: 608-369-2672  
[mkiefer09@hotmail.com](mailto:mkiefer09@hotmail.com)

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com)** or call 608-742-9000 x109.

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



**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 9 – Pentecost VI (Proper 9A)** – Neighbors struggling with surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis long for hope and rest. The Lord God Almighty promises His gifts of life come with relief (Matthew 11:28) and rejoicing (Zechariah 9:9). How can we remain silent and deny them the very blessings we've received? Let us take up the privilege of commending life's goodness and God's greatness one generation to another (Psalm 145:4).

## Stewardship Thoughts

Matthew 11:28 – “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Jesus has come to do the work so that we might have rest from burdens and labors we are not capable of bearing. He frees us from sin, death and the demands of the Law. In that peace and rest of Jesus we find a new purpose — His light yoke is not a burden to bear, but a joy!

## Daily Lectionary

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

<b>Sunday,</b> Judg. 4:1–24 & Acts 14:1–18	<b>Tuesday,</b> Judg. 6:25–40 & Acts 15:6–21	<b>Friday,</b> Judg. 14:1–20 & Gal. 3:1–22
<b>Monday,</b> Judg. 6:1–24 & Acts 14:19–15:5	<b>Wednesday,</b> Judg. 7:1–23 & Gal. 1:1–24	<b>Saturday,</b> Judg. 15:1–16:3 & Gal. 3:23–4:11
	<b>Thursday,</b> Judg. 13:1–25 & Gal. 2:1–21	

## Weekly Offerings

Last Week's In-person Attendance: 233  
Unrestricted Unified Received: \$13,195.15  
Restricted Contributions Received: \$883.00  
TOTAL: \$14,078.15  
**Weekly Unrestricted Unified Needed: \$12,885.00**  
YTD Unrestricted Unified Giving: \$13,195.15  
**YTD Budgeted Unrestricted Unified Need: \$12,885.00**  
(week 1)

## LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our  
God will stand forever.*

Isaiah 40:8

## 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.
- ✦ **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](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

July 9:	<b>Open</b>
July 16:	LWML
July 23:	Don & Carol Kohrt, and Linda Vista
July 30:	<b>Open</b>

## Contact us: 608-742-9000

**Church:**  
option 4  
Office Hours:  
M—Th 8:00a–3:30p  
[churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

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

**Child Development Center:**  
option 2  
Office Hours:  
M—F 7:00a–5:00p  
[cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Debra Drew,  
Director  
[ddrew@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ddrew@stjohnsportage.com)

**School:**  
option 3  
Summer Office Hours:  
Tu—Th 8:00a–12:00p  
[schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:schooloffice@stjohnsportage.com)

Jim Krupski,  
Principal  
[jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com](mailto: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](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com).