

July 16, 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 (16)** **School building closed due to floor waxing (July 16 – July 21)**
 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
 11:30 a.m. Late Sunday Morning Bible Study, Church APR
- Monday (17)**
 5:30 p.m. Young Adult Ministry, Church CLC
- Tuesday (18)**
 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
 6:30 p.m. LWML Salad Supper, Church CLC
- Wednesday (19)**
 9:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, meet at Tamarack
 12:00 p.m. Weekly Announcements Deadline, Email: churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com
- Thursday (20)**
 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
 11:00 a.m. Columbia County Healthcare monthly worship
 5:00 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study
- Friday (21)**
 Church office closed
- Sunday (23)**
 9:00 a.m. Coffee, Fellowship, and Christian Education Hour, Church CLC
 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.

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):

Baptism of *Emma Jane Curtis*

Baptism of *James Louis Pietrantonio III*

Long-term Illness/Treatment:

George Koepp, 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*)

Lisa Priske (daughter of *Betty Mootz*)

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.

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.

Contact Danielle at 608-697-3560

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!

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 or 608-742-2614

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!



Volunteers Needed

St. John's Fair Booth Opportunity

Help us host a booth at the Columbia County Fair. You can sign up for 2-hour time slots at the Welcome Center. This opportunity will allow us to share Jesus with our community and promote our school, child development center, and congregation. The Columbia County Fair is Wednesday, July 26, through Sunday, July 30 from 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. Assistance is also needed to help tear down the fair booth on Sunday, July 30 at 4 p.m. Many hands make light work!

Help is needed to move furniture back into the classrooms after summer maintenance. Are you available on Saturday, July 29th at 9 a.m.? If you can assist, contact Jim Krupski at 608-742-9000 option 3 or email jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com

Volunteers Needed – Synod Convention

The LCMS Convention will be held July 29-August 3 at the Wisconsin Convention Center in downtown Milwaukee. Many volunteers are needed to serve in the days leading up to and throughout the convention in various areas – Hospitality, Information, Registration and more. Visit swd.lcms.org/serve or scan the QR code below to review the available slots. Thank you for considering serving at the Convention!



Walkie Talkies

Looking to get your steps this summer? Join the Walkie Talkies! We meet on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. on the levee (by Tamarack). If the weather is bad, we will meet at St. John's. If you have any questions, call Theresa at 608-697-0509. Join us. All are welcome!

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.

Help our school grow!

Invite a friend to St. John's school. There are a few seats available for next year.

- Ask a friend or family member to check out our website, stjohnsportage.com/school or contact the school, 608-742-9000 opt. 3 to schedule a tour.
- We offer monthly payments and tuition assistance.
- The number one thing setting St. John's Lutheran School apart from all other schools is our Christ-Centered education.

Help us grow the kingdom of God.



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 worshipping 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.

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.

Life Thoughts

July 16 – Pentecost VII (Proper 10A) – Celebrating every human being as gift and privilege sometimes meets with resistance. This doesn't mean the message failed. Good ground may lie beneath an unsightly surface. Our patient Savior often slowly softens soil, and seeds take time to germinate and flower. The sanctity of life carries God's message, not ours, and He guarantees His strong Word never goes to waste (Isaiah 55:10-11).

Stewardship Thoughts

Romans 8:12 – “So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh.” We owe the flesh, the world and the devil nothing at all. We are not debtors to these enemies; we are freed by the blood of Christ. We are joyful servants in Christ's kingdom — servants that He calls friends. We share our Lord's plans and purposes, and this gives direction and purpose to our lives.

Daily Lectionary

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

Sunday, Judg. 16:4–30 & Gal. 4:12–31	Tuesday, 1 Sam. 1:21—2:17 & Gal. 6:1–18	Friday, 1 Sam. 4:1–22 & Acts 16:23–40
Monday, 1 Sam. 1:1–20 & Gal. 5:1–26	Wednesday, 1 Sam. 2:18–36 & Acts 15:22–41	Saturday, 1 Sam. 5:1—6:3, 10–16 & Acts 18:1–11, 23–28
	Thursday, 1 Sam. 3:1–21 & Acts 16:1–21	

Weekly Offerings

The July 9 weekly offering update will be listed in the July 23 weekly announcements.

LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.
John 5:39

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

July 16:	LWML
July 23:	Don & Carol Kohrt, and Linda Vista
July 30:	Tracy Friese and Marilyn Baars

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.