



# Cornerstone

850 ARMSTRONG STREET  
PORTAGE, WI 53901  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# August 2023

WWW.STJOHNSPORTAGE.COM

## Worship Times

**Saturdays:**  
5:30 p.m. **Service of Word and Sacrament**

**Sundays:**  
8:00 a.m. **Service of Word and Sacrament**  
9:00 a.m. **Coffee Hour and Fellowship,**  
Christian Life Center  
10:30 a.m. **Service of Word and Sacrament**

## Weekly Events

**Wednesdays:**  
12:00 p.m. **Weekly Announcements Deadline**  
churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com  
9:00 a.m. **Walkie Talkies**  
Levee Rd

**Fridays:** **Church Office Closed**

## Weekly Christian Education and Bible Studies

**Sundays:**  
9:15 a.m. **Christian Ed Hour,** Christian Life Center  
11:30 a.m. **Late Sunday Morning Bible Study,**  
All Purpose Room

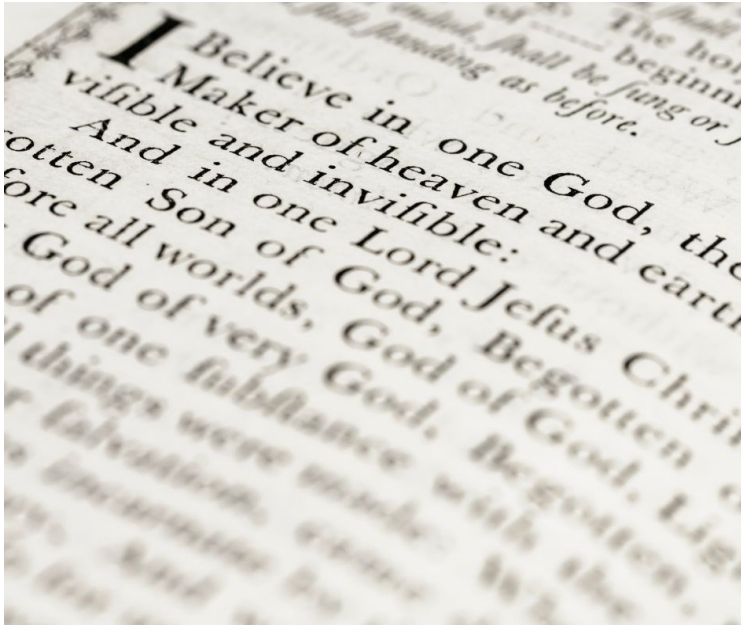
**Tuesdays:**  
6:30 a.m. **Men's Bible Class,** Portage Airport  
9:15 a.m. **Tuesday Morning Bible Study,**  
Christian Life Center

**Thursdays:**  
8:00 a.m. **Esther Bible Study,** Christian Life Center  
10:15 a.m. **Rachel Bible Study,** Christian Life Center  
5:00 p.m. **Thirsty Souls Bible Study,**  
Christian Life Center

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 opt. 4 or email churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com.

# Luther's Large Catechism

In this edition of the Cornerstone, we continue to publish portions of Luther's Large Catechism for your continued growth in God's Word. The text for this series is taken from the Triglotta, a public domain version of The Book of Concord. For a more up-to-date reading, consider purchasing Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions at [cph.org](http://cph.org).



## THE CREED

### Article III. Holy Spirit (part 2)

*I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

We further believe that in this Christian Church we have forgiveness of sin, which is wrought through the holy Sacraments and Absolution, moreover, through all manner of consolatory promises of the entire Gospel. Therefore, whatever is to be preached concerning the Sacraments belongs here, and, in short, the whole Gospel and all the offices of Christianity, which also must be preached and taught without ceasing. For although the grace of God is secured through Christ, and sanctification is wrought by the Holy Ghost through the Word of God in the unity of the Christian Church, yet on account of our flesh which we bear about with us we are never without sin.

Everything, therefore, in the Christian Church is ordered to the end that we shall daily obtain there nothing but the forgiveness of sin through the Word and signs, to comfort and encourage our consciences as long as we live here. Thus, although we have sins, the [grace of the] Holy Ghost does not allow them to injure us, because we are in the Christian Church, where there is nothing but [continuous, uninterrupted] forgiveness of sin, both in that God forgives us, and in that we forgive, bear with, and help each other.

But outside of this Christian Church, where the Gospel is not, there is no forgiveness, as also there can be no holiness [sanctification]. Therefore all who seek and wish to merit holiness [sanctification], not through the Gospel and forgiveness of sin, but by their works, have expelled and severed themselves [from this Church].

Meanwhile, however, while sanctification has begun and is growing daily, we expect that our flesh will be destroyed and buried with all its uncleanness, and will come forth gloriously, and arise to entire and perfect holiness in a new eternal life. For now we are only half pure and holy, so that the Holy Ghost has ever [some reason why] to continue His work in us through the Word, and daily to dispense forgiveness, until we attain to that life where there will be no more forgiveness, but only perfectly pure and holy people, full of godliness and righteousness, removed and free from sin, death, and all evil, in a new, immortal, and glorified body.

Behold, all this is to be the office and work of the Holy Ghost, that He begin and daily increase holiness upon earth by means of these two things, the Christian Church and the forgiveness of sin. But in our dissolution He will accomplish it altogether in an instant, and will forever preserve us therein by the last two parts.

But the term *Auferstehung des Fleisches* (resurrection of the flesh) here employed is not according to good German idiom. For when we Germans hear the word *Fleisch* (flesh), we think no farther than of the shambles. But in good German idiom we would say *Auferstehung des Leibes*, or *Leichnams* (resurrection of the body). However, it is not a matter of much moment, if we only understand the words aright.

This, now, is the article which must ever be and remain in operation. For creation we have received; redemption, too, is finished. But the Holy Ghost carries on His work without ceasing to the last day. And for that purpose He has appointed a congregation upon earth by which He speaks and does everything. For He has not yet brought together all His Christian Church nor dispensed forgiveness. Therefore we believe in Him who through the Word daily brings us into the fellowship of this Christian Church, and through the same Word and the forgiveness of sins bestows, increases, and strengthens faith, in order that when He has accomplished it all, and we abide therein, and die to the world and to all evil, He may finally make us perfectly and forever holy; which now we expect in faith through the Word.

Behold, here you have the entire divine essence, will, and work depicted most exquisitely in quite short and yet rich words, wherein consists all our wisdom, which surpasses and exceeds the wisdom, mind, and reason of all men. For although the whole world with all diligence has endeavored to ascertain what God is, what He has in mind and does, yet has she never been able to attain to [the knowledge and understanding of] any of these things. But here we have everything in richest measure; for here in all three articles He has Himself revealed and opened the deepest abyss of his paternal heart and of His pure unutterable love.

For He has created us for this very object, that He might redeem and sanctify us; and in addition to giving and imparting to us everything in heaven and upon earth, He has given to us even His Son and the Holy Ghost, by whom to bring us to Himself. For (as explained above) we could never attain to the knowledge of the grace and favor of the Father except through the Lord Christ, who is a mirror of the paternal heart, outside of whom we see nothing but an angry and terrible Judge. But of Christ we could know nothing either, unless it had been revealed by the Holy Ghost.

These articles of the Creed, therefore, divide and separate us Christians from all other people upon earth. For all outside of Christianity, whether heathen, Turks, Jews, or false Christians and hypocrites, although they believe in, and worship, only one true God, yet know not what His mind towards them is, and cannot expect any love or blessing from Him; therefore they abide in eternal wrath and damnation. For they have not the Lord Christ, and, besides, are not illumined and favored by any gifts of the Holy Ghost.

From this you perceive that the Creed is a doctrine quite different from the Ten Commandments; for the latter teaches indeed what we ought to do, but the former tells what God does for us and gives to us. Moreover, apart from this, the Ten Commandments are written in the hearts of all men; the

Creed, however, no human wisdom can comprehend, but it must be taught by the Holy Ghost alone. The latter doctrine [of the Law], therefore, makes no Christian, for the wrath and displeasure of God abide upon us still, because we cannot keep what God demands of us; but this [namely, the doctrine of faith] brings pure grace, and makes us godly and acceptable to God. For by this knowledge we obtain love and delight in all the commandments of God, because here we see that God gives Himself entire to us, with all that He has and is able to do, to aid and direct us in keeping the Ten Commandments—the Father, all creatures; the Son, His entire work; and the Holy Ghost, all His gifts.

Let this suffice concerning the Creed to lay a foundation for the simple, that they may not be burdened, so that, if they understand the substance of it, they themselves may afterwards strive to acquire more, and to refer to these parts whatever they learn in the Scriptures, and may ever grow and increase in richer understanding. For as long as we live here, we shall daily have enough to do to preach and to learn this.

*Concordia Triglotta—English: The Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*, electronic ed. (Milwaukee, WI: Northwestern Publishing House, 1996), 693–697.

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**Basic Bible Teachings – An Introduction to the Lutheran Faith**  
**New Member and Refresher Class for St. John’s**  
**Six Monday evenings: 9/11, 9/25, 10/9, 10/30, 11/13, 11/27**  
**6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**  
**Led by Pastor Hovland**

Have you ever wondered —

What is grace? What do we know about heaven? How can I trust in God more than anything? How can I think about others more than myself? What is the law? What’s the gospel? Why should I go to church? Are Baptism and Communion really that important?

Whether you’re interested in becoming a member at St. John’s or just need a refresher on Lutheran theology, this is for you!

Please consider joining us for six classes starting Monday, September 11. In this short time together, you’ll understand what Lutherans believe about our heavenly Father’s love; our Savior’s presence with us in the past, present, and future; and the Holy Spirit’s power for daily living.

We ask that you register before classes begin. To register online, please use the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/nvLwHEhuKK> or the QR code below. To register by phone, call (608) 742-9000 and press 4.

Please register before September 8.



# Being Merciful to the Toxic

From The Lutheran Witness May 22, 2023 | by David Petersen  
<https://blogs.lcms.org/category/lutheran-witness>

Christ calls us to love our enemies, to act with mercy. We should not as a knee-jerk reaction insist on our rights. We yield to the weak in faith and attempt to win a brother. There is a sense, however, in which that mercy has limits. Jesus does not command that we suffer abuse and injustice passively. He does not teach that our forgiveness means we completely forget what has been done to us nor does it eliminate boundaries. Stewards guard their resources to fulfill their vocations.

## Boundaries with the toxic

There are times when Christians need to set extreme boundaries for their relationships and there can even be times to separate from others. Jesus instructs us to separate from those who refuse to hear godly rebuke from the church and amend their ways (Matt. 18:17). They aren't to be indulged forever. Jesus commands us to leave those who won't hear His Word (Matt. 10:14), to be shrewd as serpents in the world (Matt. 10:16) and even not to love father and mother above Him (Matt. 10:37). In a similar way, St. Paul warns Timothy that some wicked people might claim to be learning, but if they never come to any actual knowledge and continue in their wickedness, they are liars who resist the truth. Timothy is to have nothing to do with them (2 Tim. 3:2–9).

Those are extreme situations. We pray that they are rare. We do not jump to extreme reactions or label people as toxic too quickly. At the same time, we should not pretend as though these things never happen. The world is wicked. We must be careful of the company that we keep. Solomon teaches us that “whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm” (Prov. 13:20). St. Paul also scolds the Corinthians for letting themselves continually be abused by false teachers and sectarians. He writes: “For you gladly bear with fools, being wise yourselves! For you bear it if someone makes slaves of you, or devours you, or takes advantage of you, or puts on airs, or strikes you in the face. To my shame, I must say, we were too weak for that” (2 Cor. 11:19–21).

We do not jump to extreme reactions or label people as toxic too quickly.

All this is context for Jesus' command that we turn the other cheek (Matt. 5:38–40). That statement is a figure of speech called a hyperbole. A hyperbole is an exaggerated statement used to make a point in a dramatic way. If we don't recognize this, we might find ourselves cutting off body parts (Matt. 5:29) or not calling our biological fathers “Dad” (Matt. 23:9) or, when it comes to dealing with chronic abusers, thinking that Jesus demands we let them walk all over us. It is, of course, possible that we will be handed over to the magistrates and others who will abuse and kill us because of the name of Christ, but that is not what Jesus is talking about with His command to turn the other cheek.

In Matthew 5, Jesus is talking primarily to His children. He is telling them how they are to get along with one another. Our fallen nature's desire for vengeance must be curbed by mercy. We should not jump to our rights or seek vengeance. We should seek to reconcile and to win over our enemies with gentleness. In this, Jesus' teaching is not much different than the godly admonition of parents to their children not to tattle. If my sister bumps into me in the hall on the way to the bathroom and bruises my shoulder, my passions might immediately rise and demand vengeance. But if I hold them in check and attempt to put the best construction on her actions, I might discover that it was an accident. Even if she acted with malice, by refusing to retaliate and “turning the other cheek,” the situation might be defused. My kind words could well lead to her repentance.

## Escaping violence

At the same time, if my gentleness is met with violence, I should seek to escape it. I should not strike back as a private citizen, but I should take action to protect myself and report it to the proper authorities. Such reporting is not tattling nor is it driven by desire for vengeance. Rather, it is driven by a desire for safety. If my sister does this to me, she is likely to do it to others and I should not enable it. St. Paul teaches us that this is one of the chief purposes of earthly authorities.

For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer.

*(Rom. 13:3–4)*

As Luther teaches in the Large Catechism, if you do not fear God, fear at least the hangman (LC I 135).

If true repentance will not come and earthly authorities are no help, then, in love, set boundaries and limits for interaction with abusers. You should do this not simply for the sake of your own health, that you might carry out your vocation and serve your neighbor, but also for the good of the abuser. Doing so not only limits his ability to abuse, which is good for him, but can also teach him about healthy interaction and self-control.

The Bible doesn't give advice about how to set boundaries, but the concept fits with a biblical worldview that recognizes how truly evil the world is, with biblical ethics and with a Lutheran understanding of vocation.

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## Define Your Life by How You Give

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
LCMS Stewardship Ministry  
Newsletter Article – August 2023

Winston Churchill reportedly said that “we make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” According to Churchill, our lives are defined not by what we have gotten, but by what we give away.

Our Lord's life is defined in this way. He gave completely of Himself for us. He became man for us. He taught the truth of God's Word. He healed those with many and various diseases. He died the death that we deserved for our sins. He gave of Himself in order to save us from sin, death and hell. And so it is that by giving completely of Himself, He got for Himself us, making us citizens of His eternal kingdom by grace.

As it was for Jesus, so it also is for us. We get more from giving than we do from simply getting. For giving softens our hearts and frees us from the grip which the worries of this world and making a living has on us. For when we are singularly focused on making a living, we are singularly focused on what we get. That mindset begins to bleed into all areas of our lives — our relationships with friends and family, with neighbors and coworkers, and with the Lord. It shifts our focus from asking the question, “How can I be a friend, family member, neighbor and servant to others,” to asking the question, “What have they done for me lately?” We become more selfish instead of selfless.

But when we give, we do not have less, we do not become less; rather, we have more and become more. When we give, we join in the bond of friendship and family, the bond of service to those around us out of love for them. And love is the fulfillment of the Law. It is the nature of God Himself, for God is Love. Thus, we are participating in the divine nature. As Jesus said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35).

## Life News

Lutheransforlife.org | July 2023 issue



### Life Newsbytes

**One year after the Dobbs decision, new polling [from Tarrance Group] reveals that Americans overwhelmingly agree with pro-life protections for unborn babies and mothers and reject abortion extremism ...** While much of the coverage on the issue of abortion in the year since the Dobbs decision portrays an America deeply divided, this survey shows that a supermajority (70% or above) of voters agree on a few key areas surrounding the issue ... Three-fourths of all voters are opposed to abortion throughout all nine months of pregnancy ... 77% support at least some prohibition to abortion, with exceptions for the life of the mother, rape, and incest. Only 15% “allowed [abortion] throughout all nine months of pregnancy, without any restrictions” ... Three-fourths (76%) support pregnancy resource centers that do not perform abortions but instead offer support to people during their pregnancy and after a baby is born ... SBA Pro-Life America President Marjorie Dannenfelser commented on the poll to LifeNews: “When it comes to protecting life and supporting women, Americans agree far more than the media will report ... We believe parents have a right to know if their daughters are considering abortion. And we believe women deserve all the compassion, support, and resources the pro-life safety net provides to genuinely empower them – not to be sold an abortion and sent off to figure out how to cope on their own.”

(Source: [www.lifenews.com/2023/06/21/new-poll-shows-77-of-americans-wants-limits-on-abortions](http://www.lifenews.com/2023/06/21/new-poll-shows-77-of-americans-wants-limits-on-abortions))

# Church Word: Love

SO NOW FAITH, HOPE, AND LOVE  
ABIDE, THESE THREE;  
BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS

*love.*

1 CORINTHIANS 13:13

Love makes the world go around. We love our pets, our favorite food, good weather, our sports teams, our friends, freedom and truth — just about everything. Americans seem to love just about everything!

In the Bible, two Hebrew words are used to speak about love. The word *'ahav* means just about the same things as our word *love*. The Holy Scriptures this term means most of the time the love shown by people and very rarely is used for God's love. The word *chesed*— love, kindness, mercy, loving-kindness) is very hard, if not impossible to translate. The King James Version called it *lovingkindness*. It is in almost all of the expressions of God's love in the Old Testament. The word *chesed* and the Greek Word *agape* mean about the same thing. Yet it has a tenderness to it that includes compassion and mercy.

The Greek language of the New Testament has several words for love. *Phileo* is the love and affection between friends. *Eros* is sexual love that is obsessed with another and is not satisfied until it gets what it wants. *Agape* is a love that sacrifices for the good of the one it loves. (See [1 Corinthians 13](#)) *Agape* is God's love and the love God wants us to show to him and our neighbors. With [Faith](#) and [Hope](#), Love is the greatest of the three virtues and lasts forever.

Our love is rooted in the love of God. God loved us before he made the world. ([Ephesians 1:4-5](#)) He loved us so much that he sacrificed his [only Son](#) to save us. ([John 3:16-17](#)) Because he first loved us, we love him and want to please him.

In the Gospel of John, we learn that God is Love. The two greatest commandments are to love God and love our neighbors. He commands us to love him and our neighbors. Jesus tells us that the whole of God's law is to love God and our neighbors as ourselves. ([Matthew 22:37-40](#)) In a very real sense, our love is itself God's gift to us. The way people know we are disciples of Jesus is that we love each other. While our love in this world is not perfect, God's love for us is perfect. It lasts forever and conquers even death.

# Little Sheep that Hear the Voice of Their Shepherd



God the Holy Spirit gives no end of blessings to God's people. When he calls us by the Gospel and creates faith in our hearts, we hear the voice of our Shepherd. We will live with him forever. What else can he give us, we think.

And yet, there is more. He calls us to be a member of his [church](#). The Greek word for church is *ekklesia* and means literally "to call out, to call up." Greeks used it for a city council or a militia unit. The Greek translation of the Old Testament (Septuagint) used it for the gathering of God's people. Jesus, the Gospel authors and St. Paul used it in this way. Martin Luther defined in the [Smalcald Articles 10.2](#): "For, thank God, a child seven years old knows what the Church is, namely, the holy believers and lambs who hear the voice of their Shepherd."

The Holy Spirit calls, gathers and enlightens the whole church, into which he places us. But this church is not limited to our local congregation. It is *catholic* — a Latin word that means universal. All people who believe in Jesus Christ are a part of this Church. It includes people of all nations, races, places and situations. It also includes the *Church Triumphant*, Christians who have died in the faith and whose spirits now live with Christ. It is eternal and cannot be destroyed. This Church is one and cannot be divided.

It is also *invisible*. Since the faith that makes us a member of the Church dwells in our hearts, only God knows who belongs in it. Yet it is very real. It means that we are never alone. Not only is Jesus with us always— not only does the Holy Spirit dwell in our hearts, we have our brothers and sisters to be with us, pray with and for us and to share our burdens with us. And one day, they will be with us before the throne of God, praising God forever for his grace and mercy.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

01	Audrey Dettman Judith Raimer Sarah Zimmerman	12	Leslie Ciolkosz David Hall Sharon Raddatz	26	Evelynn Bocinsky Douglas Zuhlke
02	Harold Wakershauser	13	Keith Horan	27	Curtis Nummerdor Karlie Schultz Kaysie Schultz Ronald Thompson
03	Landon Jones Amanda Steinle David Zimmerman		Ellowyn Kershaw John Neale Holly Wolfgram	28	Thomas Kohn Kyle Schumann Donald Stanford
05	Jessica Fandrich Donald Hackbarth	14	Bradley Hinrichsen Payton Kabele Virginia Miller	29	Shirley Mittlesteadt
06	Dennis Bennett Stephen Larson Paul Lendobeja		Kenneth Schumann Amy Windus	30	Peggy Steinhorst Evonne Warren Robert Warren
07	Logan Paske Annabelle Reynolds Stacie Wheeler Mark Witt	16	Michael Witkowski	31	Laura Gerstenkorn Michael Mulhern Sydnie Wheeler
		17	Russell Carrington Ronald Eddy Aubrie Kinzler Evan Kraucyk Robert McFarlane		
08	Michael Behnke Harold Erdman		Robin Herrick		
09	Pauline Koepp Theodore Richards Christian Somer Tiffany Welsh	18	Amber Schwartz		
		19	Nicole Moll		
10	Jordan Jones Karen Tessoroff	20	Joshua Krueger Lori Platt		
		21	Ronald Atkinson		
11	Janet Hasse Andrew Tamminga	24	Hunter Gitzlaff Diane Kesterton		
		25			

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- ♥ *Michael & Jennifer Kinzler — August 1*
- ♥ *Brian & Ann Yahnke — August 2*
- ♥ *William & Irma Brockley — August 3*
- ♥ *Andy & Amber Schwartz — August 4*
- ♥ *James & Joanne Sohl — August 8*
- ♥ *Raymond & Sharon Norland — August 9*
- ♥ *Gary & Liesa Zastrow — August 9*
- ♥ *Phillip & Judy Rygiewicz — August 13*
- ♥ *Grant Wotring & Kendra Dorn — August 14*
- ♥ *Harold & Suzanne Erdman — August 15*
- ♥ *Louis & Robin Herrick — August 18*
- ♥ *George & Pauline Koepp — August 19*
- ♥ *Mandrow & Kris Tomaszewski — August 19*
- ♥ *James & Jamie Moll — August 22*
- ♥ *Mark & Jeannie Mueller — August 23*
- ♥ *David & Jessica Fandrich — August 25*
- ♥ *Benjamin & Monica Neumann — August 25*
- ♥ *Theodore & Tammy Mootz — August 28*
- ♥ *Richard & Carol Beckett — August 31*
- ♥ *Don & Jan Weideman — August 31*

*Love* one another with genuine affection, and  
take delight in *Honoring* one another.

*Romans 12:10*

This year's school theme is Connected to Christ from John 15:1-5.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. <sup>2</sup> Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Watch each month as we teach our students some of the many ways we are Connected to Christ.



## OPEN HOUSE

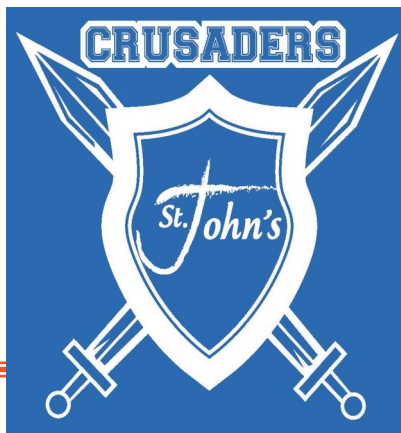
**Monday, August 21, 2023**

**5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.**

**St. John's Lutheran School**

Come to school and drop off your school supplies, meet your teachers, catch up with friends, sign up for PTL, or Volleyball. Come and get excited for the first day of school, August 23th!

We look forward to seeing you, Monday, August 21 for the Back to School Open House!



**@**  
**St. John's Lutheran School**  
**Wednesday, August 23, 2023**  
**8:00 a.m. – 3:05 p.m.**

Everyone is invited to 9:00 a.m. Chapel @ St. John's Lutheran Church with Pastor Hovland. Join our PTL for coffee before chapel.

Log into your Sycamore accounts for the school supply list, calendar, and the Free & Reduced Lunch application. Go to <https://www.stjohnsportage.com/information> for help logging into Sycamore.

### INVITE A FRIEND TO SCHOOL!

- The new school year is fast approaching. There are a few seats available. Ask a friend or family member to check us out: [stjohnsportage.com/school](https://www.stjohnsportage.com/school). Bring your friends to school with you!
- There are monthly payments, and the school would be happy to assist in creating a plan.
- At St. John's Lutheran School, our Christ-Centered education sets apart from all other schools. Help us grow the kingdom of God.

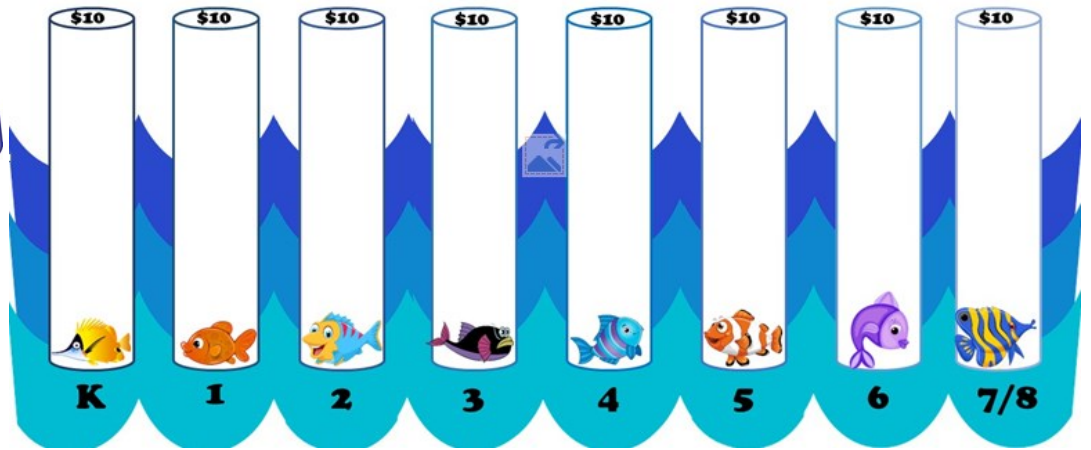
**Thank you for helping grow St. John's Lutheran School!**





Aug & Sept

Classroom Competition!  
Help the fish get back to the ocean by scanning BOX TOPS for your class!



Parents, grandparents, teachers, students, and ministry families, it is time to start having fun with BOX TOPS! This school year classrooms will compete for an ice cream or popcorn party in May. Join us in the fun while we raise money for our school!

**How does the BOX TOPS classroom competition work?**

- Download the BOX TOPS for Education app on your phone.
- Choose St. John’s Lutheran School as your school.
- When shopping, look for the BOX TOP symbol on specially marked items like food, school supplies, and more.
- Save your receipt to scan using the BOX TOP app.
- Credit your class by choosing which grade your child is in or which grade you would like to support.
- Finally, click submit.

The class with the most BOX TOPS money collected by April 30, 2024 wins an ice cream or popcorn party!



**August 10**  
**August 16**



**PARENT TEACHER LEAGUE**

**EVENTS**  
Coffee Hour before Wednesday Chapel @ Church  
August 23, 2023  
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

**MEETINGS**  
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
School Cafeteria  
9/5/2023  
12/5/2023  
4/2/2024

**TEACHER WISH LIST**  
(Please donate to our class)



**Wondering how or what you can do to help?**  
Check out the school’s wish lists in Amazon.

These are items to do special activities and enhance our student’s education experience. Feel free to help provide some of our staff wishes to help them go above and beyond to share the love of Christ at St. John’s Lutheran School.

Wish List Link: <https://a.co/5WBo0GB>

# St. John's Ministries Monthly and Special Event Calendar

August—10

## August

- Th 03 Heritage House Monthly Worship**  
11:00 a.m., Heritage House
- M 07 Health and Wellness**  
1:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- Tu 08 Executive Committee**  
6:00 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- F 11 Cornerstone Submission Deadline**  
12:00 p.m., churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com  
Submission Guidelines can be found on our website,  
*stjohnsportage.com/resources/the-cornerstone-submission-guidelines*
- Su 13 Blood Pressure Screening**  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., Church Nursery
- M 14 Tivoli Monthly Worship**  
10:00 a.m., Tivoli
- Th 15 Board of Stewardship**  
6:00 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- W 16 All ministries offices closed**
- Th 17 School Office Closed**  
**Columbia County Health Care Monthly Worship**  
11:00 a.m., Columbia County Health Care
- M 21 Back to School Open House**  
5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m., School
- Tu 22 Board of Elders**  
6:00 p.m., Church Christian Life Center  
**Prayer Shawls**  
6:00 p.m., Church All Purpose Room
- W 23 First Day of School**  
**School Chapel,**  
10:00 a.m., Church Sanctuary
- M 28 Board of Finance**  
4:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- W 30 School Chapel,**  
10:00 a.m., Church Sanctuary

## September (proposed)

- M 04 Happy Labor Day!**  
All ministries offices closed
- W 06 Jr. Youth Group**  
4:30 p.m., School Gym  
**Sr. Youth Group**  
6:30 p.m., School Gym
- Th 07 Heritage House Monthly Worship**  
11:00 a.m., Heritage House
- F 08 Cornerstone Submission Deadline**  
12:00 p.m., churchoffice@stjohnsportage.com  
Submission Guidelines can be found on our website,  
*stjohnsportage.com/resources/the-cornerstone-submission-guidelines*
- Su 10 Blood Pressure Screening**  
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., Church Nursery  
**Sunday School**  
9:15 a.m., School Cafeteria
- M 11 Tivoli Monthly Worship**  
10:00 a.m., Tivoli  
**GriefShare**  
4:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center  
**New Member Class**  
6:30 p.m., Church Narthex
- W 13 Confirmaion Parent and Student Meeting**  
6:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- Th 14 New Member Meal**  
5:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- M 18 GriefShare**  
4:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- Tu 19 LWML**  
6:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center
- W 20 Confirmation Class**  
630 p.m., Church Christian Life Center and  
All Purpose Room
- Th 21 Columbia County Health Care Monthly Worship**  
11:00 a.m., Columbia County Health Care
- M 25 GriefShare**  
4:30 p.m., Church Christian Life Center  
**New Member Class**  
6:30 p.m., Church Narthex
- Tu 26 Board of Elders**  
6:00 p.m., Church Christian Life Center  
**Prayer Shawls**  
6:00 p.m., Church All Purpose Room
- W 27 Confirmation Class**  
630 p.m., Church Christian Life Center and  
All Purpose Room

### August Altar Guild

1. Nancy Malloy  
697-3314, nancymalloy@yahoo.com
2. Phyllis Zimmerman  
745-4290, simm3366@gmail.com
3. Irma Brockley  
429-3917, ibrockley043@gmail.com

# Life News

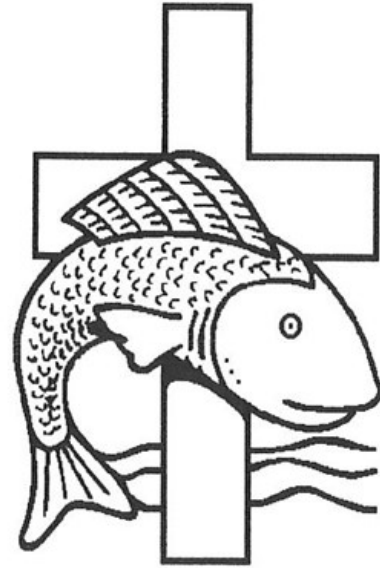
Lutheransforlife.org | July 2023 issue

## Speaking up For Life

“Neither America, nor democracy, nor capitalism, nor socialism, nor military might, nor diplomacy can even come close to beginning to solve the problems that exist in this world. Even in America, without Christ, we are without hope. And really, what a wonderful message of joy that is. It is not man that will change the world, but Christ alone, for in the end, the world cannot be changed; it is fully and completely at enmity with God.” *Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan*

“Abortion advocates have no fear asserting what they imagine the Scriptures say or don’t say about the sanctity of life. Why shouldn’t our enthusiasm overshadow theirs? If Satan’s grown comfortable convoluting our truth, doesn’t the certainty and sensitivity our Savior has given welcome and even compel us eagerly to call out the devil’s lies?”  
*Pastor Michael Salemink*

“God has come down and given us His Son. But in times of doubt or struggle, we can clearly see—through the eyes of faith—Christ the Savior, shining bright into our world. And so, we go down the mountain to the everyday and even the unknown. Like the disciples then, we go with Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”  
*Rev. Cody Copper, guest speaker on The Lutheran Hour*



**Immanuel Lutheran Church of Westfield presents its 28th annual Fish Boil** on Friday, August 4. Serving will be from 4:30-7:30 p.m. at the church located at 210 S. Charles St. The cost is \$10 per person. Tickets are available by calling 608-296-2088 and will also be available at the door.

The menu includes fish, potatoes, onions, cole slaw, beans, bread, beverage and dessert.

Proceeds from the dinner go to the Orphan Grain Train, Wisconsin Division, to help people in need.

## June Memorials and Offerings

<b>School</b> \$105.00 In memory of <i>Carol Stafford</i> In memory of <i>Lovice Klemp</i>	<b>Undesignated</b> \$155.00 In memory of <i>Carol Stafford</i>	<b>Unified Fund</b> <b>\$49,484.38</b>	<b>School Tuition Relief</b> <b>\$3,439.49</b>
		<b>Capital Improvements</b> <b>\$1,305.00</b>	<b>Organ</b> <b>\$0.00</b>
		<b>Missions</b> <b>\$125.00</b>	<b>Total</b> <b>\$54,558.87</b>
		<b>Almoners Fund</b> <b>\$70.00</b>	<b>Contributions</b> <b>\$54,558.87</b>
		<b>Orphanages</b> <b>\$135.00</b>	

**St. John’s Ev. Lutheran Church**  
850 Armstrong Street  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608) 742-9000  
fax 742-7154  
Rev. Greg Hovland,  
Senior Pastor  
(c) 608-571-3360  
ghovland@stjohnsportage.com  
Rev. Rod Armon,  
Pastoral Care  
rarmon@stjohnsportage.com  
Catharine Daily,  
Ministries Coordinator—Church  
cdaily@stjohnsportage.com  
**Office Hours:**  
**M—Th | 8:00a–3:30p**

**St. John’s Lutheran School**  
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phone (608)742-9000  
Jim Krupski,  
Principal  
jkrupski@stjohnsportage.com  
Amanda Kohn,  
Ministries Coordinator—School  
akohn@stjohnsportage.com  
**Office Hours:**  
**M—F | 7:00a–3:15p**

**St. John’s Child Development Center**  
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Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608)742-9000  
Debra Drew,  
Director  
ddrew@stjohnsportage.com  
cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com  
Tonya Edwards,  
Assistant Director  
tedwards@stjohnsportage.com  
**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:  
Bob Fairfield 296-4012, Chairman  
Roger Baerwolf 617-6088  
Ken Chvojicek 697-2102  
Bill Hageman 279-0272  
David Hall 493-2125  
Ron Mueller 369-1845  
Pete Smith 697-3807  
Gene Thompson 697-4786  
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