

August 6, 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 (06)

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

### Monday (07)

- 1:30 p.m. Health and Wellness, Church CLC

### Tuesday (08)

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study, Portage Airport
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Church CLC
- 6:00 p.m. Executive Committee, Church CLC

### Wednesday (09)

- 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 (10)

- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Study, Church CLC
- 5:00 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Church CLC

### Friday (11)

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

### Sunday (13)

- 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

**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):  
Pastor Robert Benson for 40-year Anniversary of Ordination

### Medical

*Don Kohrt, Kimberly Ingram, Jane Kaiser, Sandy Hutler*  
Pastor Mark Meier

### Long-term Illness/Treatment:

*George Koepp, Stacie Wheeler, Cathy Dehn, Tom Waddell, Babette Schumann*  
Lani Kohrt (daughter-in-law of *Don* and *Carol Kohrt*)  
Lisa Priske (daughter of *Betty Mootz*)

### Mourning:

Family of Eric Pollex (brother of *Danielle Rabl*)

### **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.**

## Ministries Offices Closed

All St. John's Lutheran Ministries offices will be closed on Wednesday, August 16 for our annual staff meeting.

## Blood Pressure Checks

**St. John's Health & Wellness Ministry will be offering blood pressure checks at church Sunday, August 13 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!

## Attention Bakers!

**Do you like baking desserts and goodies?**

Evangelism is sponsoring a free cookout at the homeless shelter and would also like to provide baked goods. A sign up sheet is at the Welcome Center. Please bring desserts to the church kitchen in the Christian Life Center on August 16 and 17.

## Let's Celebrate

**Join us in celebrating Pastor Robert Benson for 40 years of service!** Pastor Benson was a full-time LCMS pastor for many years and then a fill-in pastor for churches throughout Wisconsin, including St. John's. A card will be at the Welcome Center on August 5 and 6 if you would like to extend your thanks and well wishes to Pastor Benson.

## Save the Date for New Member and Refresher Class

**Basic Bible Teachings –  
An Introduction to the Lutheran Faith**

New Member and Refresher class for Saint 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

Please register before September 8.

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.

New Member / Refresher  
Membership Class - Fall 2023



## 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](https://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!



## Get Involved

God has given all of us talents to use in the spreading of the Gospel message. **The Adult Choir invites you to use your musical talents to help us sing the good news, Jesus Christ is our Savior.** We practice on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. in the church balcony starting September 6. We sing two times a month at alternate services. If you don't read music, we can help. We work around various schedules. Come and join this wonderful choir family.



**Grief Ministry** provides follow-up/contact after a church member has had a family member pass away. There is a packet with a contact letter, Bible verses, letters of encouragement and a four-book collection, "Journeying through Grief", published by the Stephens Ministry group that is distributed throughout the first year of the family member's passing. The goal is a once a month contact with the person – letter, phone call or visit. We also have resource materials/books if needed.

Grief Ministry members should be willing to make a monthly contact through letter, phone call or visit. Member will purchase postage and mail the letters or books. Postage cost for the book is less than \$2.00. A member should be willing to attend a meeting, if necessary.

Contact: Beth Manthey 608-742-5216 or Danielle Rabl 608-745-0141

## We're Hiring!

# WE ARE HIRING



## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

### Part-time Cook

608-742-9000 x 109



## Community Events

**Portage/Columbia County Touched Twice Clinics** provides (upon availability): Medical care, in the form of: diabetes screenings, blood pressure readings, health education, and referrals; Chiropractic care through adjustments and manipulations; Dental care through screenings and cleanings; Spa services: haircuts, and mini-massages; Financial counseling; Family portraits. Also, St. Vincent De Paul, the Portage Food Pantry, Columbia County Health & Human Resources and more will be present to promote the services they offer. We would also like to provide all participants and volunteers a free hot lunch.

**Date:** August 12, 2023

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Location:** Portage Fair Grounds/Veterans Field

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER



Touchedtwiceportage@gmail.com



### Save the Date!

2023 Pregnancy Resource Center Golf Scramble  
Saturday, September 23  
Portage Country Club

To register, call Peter Bartaczewicz at 608-617-6997.

## 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.

## Daily Lectionary

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

<b>Sunday,</b> 1 Sam. 20:1-23 & Acts 28:16-31	<b>Tuesday,</b> 1 Sam. 24:1-22 & 1 Cor. 1:26-2:16	<b>Friday,</b> 1 Sam. 26:1-25 & 1 Cor. 5:1-13
<b>Monday,</b> 1 Sam. 20:24-42 & 1 Cor. 1:1-25	<b>Wednesday,</b> 1 Sam. 25:1-22 & 1 Cor. 3:1-23	<b>Saturday,</b> 1 Sam. 28:3-25 & 1 Cor. 6:1-20
	<b>Thursday,</b> 1 Sam. 25:23-44 & 1 Cor. 4:1-21	

## Life Thoughts

**August 6 – Pentecost X (Proper 13A)** – Why should anxiety over expenses darken a terminal diagnosis? Why should panic about poverty affect a surprise pregnancy? He who sends mouths also sends meat, even conjuring necessities out of thin air (Matthew 14:19). Our gracious Savior bestows in abundance, and the Body of Christ knows how to share. If God spends His riches on relationships, how can we do any better?

## Stewardship Thoughts

**Matthew 14:17-18** – “They said to him, ‘We have only five loaves here and two fish.’ And he said, ‘Bring them here to me.’” The five loaves and two fish were all that the disciples had. But when they handed them over to the Lord, the multitudes were fed. Apart from Jesus, all we do and all we have comes to nothing. But in Jesus, the Lord blesses all we do and all we have for His gracious work.

## Weekly Offerings

**August 6** In-person Attendance: 239  
Unrestricted Unified Received: \$10,052.00  
Restricted Contributions Received: \$515.00  
TOTAL: \$10,567.00  
**Weekly Unrestricted Unified Needed: \$12,885.00**  
YTD Unrestricted Unified Giving: \$56,601.19  
**YTD Budgeted Unrestricted Unified Need: \$64,425.00**  
(week 5)

## LCMS Memory Verse Challenge

*Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.*

Ephesians 4:29

## 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)

August 06:	Dennis & Karen R. and Kathy G.
August 13:	Open
August 20:	Open

## 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).