



The **St. Johns Servant**

St. Johns
Lutheran Church

Park Rapids, Minnesota

June, 2021

COVID Update

Wow! We were all stunned by the CDC's mask announcement and Governor Walz' decision to follow suit. They had become such a part of our daily life that "I feel kind of naked" has been a common comment. We even put one in our time capsule (more on the time capsule on page 5.)



What does this mean for St. Johns? First, masks are not required unless you feel more comfortable wearing one. Second, since social distancing requirements are being lifted, you can sit wherever you want in church (back to your favorite pew!) and no restrictions on the number of people attending either. The hymnals, Bibles and friendship registers will return to the pews. Please sign the black friendship register if you are in church as we won't be signing people in as they arrive anymore.

What's staying the same? We will continue to live stream. After over a year, we're hoping we have most of the kinks worked out and we realize in person worship isn't possible for everyone. The noon communion service will continue for sure through June and probably through the summer. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available.

We're looking forward to seeing all your smiling faces in worship again!

Bi-Annual Voters Meeting



Our bi-annual Voters Meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 1 at 7:00 p.m. Much of the church business, practice and policy is decided at these meetings. Agenda items include electing new board members and an update on the front entry project.

All communicant members age 18 and over are eligible to become voting members. If you are a voting member and will not be able to attend the meeting, please call the church office to be excused.

Youth are Invited to Biking, Mini Golf and Ice Cream

All youth in grades 5-12 are invited to bike to Dorset on Sunday, June 6. We will meet at Heartland Park at 2:00 p.m. and bike to Dorset and play mini golf, enjoy ice cream, then bike back to Heartland Park. The Youth Board will pay for mini-golf. Bring money for ice cream. Any questions contact Pastor Newton or the church.





Noon Concerts are Back!

Noon concerts were cancelled last year but now they're back (except no treats and any remaining COVID guidelines will be followed). Carolyn Spangler has arranged a great line up of artists and musicians this summer. Concerts run from 12:15—12:45 p.m. A free will offering is taken for the artists.

- June 17** Wood Wind Clarinets: Deane Johnson, Beth Hahn, Vicki Magnuson, Peg Rickert, and Sarah Sunken at Calvary Lutheran Church
- June 24** Angie Doty, organ at St. Johns
- July 1** Timothy Pinkerton, violin, and Sarah Carlson, piano at Calvary
- July 8** Brass Group: Craig Swartz, trumpet, Ryan Webber, trombone, Brennan Paulson, tuba, Eve Sumsky, horn, and Kyle Riess, trumpet at Calvary
- July 15** Eric Haugen and Claire Gunsbury, cello and flute at Calvary
- August 5** Matthew Lorenz, piano at Calvary
- August 12** Evan Boyle, voice and Sarah Carlson, organ at St. Johns
- August 26** Bob Madeson, euphonium, Sarah Carlson, piano, Tyler Bublitz, drums at Calvary



Choir Continuing through the Summer

The Senior Choir is planning to continue through the summer. Practices will be on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. and they will sing at worship once a month. New members are welcome. Call or text Sarah Kaufenberg for details at 651-260-3350.



God's Wonder Lab Vacation Bible School Planned for August

At God's Wonder Lab VBS, your children will look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, and discover that Jesus does the impossible, giving us eternal life with Him! Jesus shows that He is God with amazing miracles. And He shows us that He loves us by using His power to do marvelous things on our behalf!

Last year's evening VBS worked out well so we're planning to do it again this year, Sunday-Thursday, August 8-12. We'll start at 5:30 p.m. and wrap up each evening around 8:00 p.m. You can register online by going to www.stjohnspr.org, and clicking the God's Wonder Lab VBS tab or stop by the church to pick up a form. VBS is open to 4 year olds through 6th grade (just completed). There is a \$5 registration fee per student with a \$10 cap per family.

Help of all kinds is needed—leaders, helpers, crafters, games, and more. If you're interested in being a part of VBS, please talk to Sarah Kaufenberg at 651-260-3350.





Lutheran Island Camp Scholarships Available

Lutheran Island Camp is open and ready to welcome campers this summer. Their theme this year is “God of Wonder.” There’s great camps for all ages. You can go for a week or just a weekend. We didn’t get brochures this year but you can check out their website and register online at www.islandcamp.org.

We have scholarships available, too! Stop by the church office to pick up a scholarship form, fill it out and drop it off at the church office. We send the scholarship funds directly to camp.

If you get to go to camp just once, you’ll be hooked and want to go every year!



New Summer Office Hours

Starting June 1 our office hours will change slightly. The office will be open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. The office will be closed on Friday instead of being open from 8:30 a.m.—noon.

Of course, we’re always open Sundays!

What’s On The Lutheran Hour

- 06/06 “Out of the Depths”
- 06/13 “Clearly Christian: Good”
- 06/20 “Clearly Christian: Spiritual”
- 06/27 “Clearly Christian: Judgmental”

Listen to the Lutheran Hour every Sunday on KPRM 870 AM at 9:30 a.m. or KTIG 102.7 FM at 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. You can also listen on Sirius XM Family Talk Channel 131, Sundays at 9:00 a.m. or any time on SENTRadio at lhm.org/sentradio.

The Lutheran Laymen’s League sponsors the program on KPRM each Sunday. If you would like to help sponsor the program your gift may be placed in the offering and earmarked “Local Lutheran Hour.”

† Baptism

05/16 Aspen Faye Leckner
Jackson Leckner & Shania Johnson



† Funeral

05/25 Carol Holter





“Main Street Living North” for June



“MAIN STREET LIVING” is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30 minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North and North Dakota Districts of our LCMS, along with a 30 minute Lutheran Hour program (normally “This Is the Life,” along with occasional church season specials). Programs are broadcast at 9:00 a.m. central time on FOX station KVRR Fargo-Moorhead Channel 15.1. Or you can watch archived episodes any time on their website at www.mainstreetliving.com (then click on “North (Fargo).”

Here’s the programs for June:

June 6:

Rev. Ross Fritz, Grace Lutheran Church, Breckenridge, MN, presents the message “So, What Do You Call a Crazy, Crooked, Kleptomaniac?” based on Mark 3:20-35. “This Is The Life” episode: “Some People Need Help” (1975) - A crusty amputee from a Veteran’s hospital must learn that hurting others will not help him.

June 13:

Rev. Clark Jahnke, St. Andrew Lutheran Church, West Fargo, ND, presents the message: “While in the Body...,” based on 2 Corinthians 5:1-17. “This Is The Life” episode: “Jeremy” – Deals with the relationship between a mother and a mentally challenged son who lives in a home.

June 20:

Rev. Joel Newton, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Park Rapids, MN, presents the message: “Peace, for You,” based on Mark 4:35-41. “This Is The Life” episode: “The Other Wise Man” – The story of Artaban, the Persian scholar, who sets out to meet his friends with three precious jewels as gifts for the newborn King.

June 27:

Rev. Matthew Tooman, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Wahpeton, ND, presents the message “Stewardship,” based on 2 Corinthians 8:1-9. “This Is The Life” episode: “Amazing Grace” – A man who has come from a poor beginning to a rich and full life must learn not to forsake his Christian faith.

If your cable doesn’t have KVRR, you can watch a different version (different pastors, mainly from Minnesota South) on WFTC out of the Twin Cities, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.



New Prayer Chain Option Coming

We’re working on starting an e-mail prayer chain. If you’re interested, please go to our website, www.stjohnspr.org, click the following: About Us, Contact Us, then click the “Send us an e-mail” and say you want to join the prayer chain. We’ll send details back as soon as we get everything worked out.

[e-m@il prayer.chain](mailto:e-m@il.prayer.chain)



Stewardship Review—April

Avg. Sunday Worship Attendance: **169**

Total Offerings: \$43,128	Total Offerings, April, 2020: \$36,415
Total Expenses: \$37,944	Total Expenses, April, 2020: \$37,748
Difference \$5,184	Difference - \$1,333

Avg. Weekly Offerings \$10,782	Budget/Week \$9,855
Avg. Weekly Expenses \$ 9,486	Budget/Month \$42,705
Difference \$ 1,296	

CNB Checkbook Balance as of 04/30/21: \$91,332	Our Healthy Balance Goal \$74,000
Less Dedicated Accounts \$1,704	Raised so far \$49,901
Difference \$89,628	Still need \$24,099

Kitchen Payable: **\$20,021**

Taking A Look at the Time Capsule

One of the things we discovered during the entry expansion was a time capsule behind the cornerstone. On Sunday, May 9 we opened it up and took a look at the contents. You can see photos of the items and a video of the event on the website under, "News—Time Capsule." After being displayed for a week everything was put back inside along with a few new items (including a mask) and sealed back up for future generations to discover.



Leo Kaufenberg and Brad Dahn held the time capsule lid open while Pastor Newton live-streamed.



Mike Poole and Brad Dahn sealed the time capsule back up after putting everything back in. The cornerstone will be replaced when the project is complete.



Sunday School Page



Make a sunflower, which turns its head to follow the sun.

What you need:

- Paper plate
- Yellow marker
- Scissors
- Yarn (black and brown)

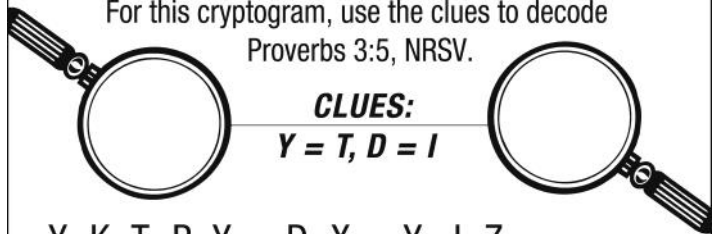


What you do:

1. Color the entire plate yellow.
2. Around the edge, cut out an odd number of triangles. Evenly space the cuts to form flower petals.
3. Poke a hole in the plate's center. String black yarn through the hole and over one triangle cut. Tie a knot at the back of the plate.
4. Continue looping yarn through the hole and over the remaining cuts. Secure the end. The flower should look like a wagon wheel with black spokes.
5. Tie the brown yarn to a black "spoke." Weave the brown yarn over and under the spokes in a circle. Continue until the sunflower has a large center. Then tie the end.
6. Display your craft as a reminder to follow the Son, Jesus!

Puzzle!

For this cryptogram, use the clues to decode Proverbs 3:5, NRSV.



CLUES:

Y = T, D = I

Y K T P Y D X Y J Z

V Q K R F D Y J O V V

C Q T K J Z O K Y, O X R
 _____,

R Q X Q Y K Z V C Q X

C Q T K Q F X D X P D L J Y.
 _____.

Answer: Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. Proverbs 3:5, NRSV



Happy Birthday!

- 6/01 Eli Maves
- 6/07 Knox LeGrand
- 6/07 Aiden May
- 6/16 George Newton
- 6/20 Hadley Branstrom
- 6/27 Kellan Eidsmoe

Baptismal Birthdays

- 6/26 Layla Arndt
- 6/26 Camdyn Quinn
- 6/26 Cecilia Quinn
- 6/28 Bria McMahan
- 6/29 Natalie Tretbar



Scenes from St. Johns



Sixteen young members were confirmed on May 2. Bottom Row: Madison Laferriere, Vivian Harju, Abby Eskola, Maari Clark, Talen May. Second Row: Emma Berghuis, Brandi Novak, Jordyn Ostlund, Rachel Ulvin, Laura Kaufenberg. Third Row: Olivia Kimball, Natalie Berghuis, Draydin Johnson, Kale Ravnaas, Leo Kaufenberg, Isaac Knaack. Top Row: Pastor Newton, Pastor Neubauer



Six young members were recognized at a reception on May 16 as they graduate from high school. Pictured (left to right): Jaynine Borders, Brooke Knutson, Brody Hagen, James Hartig and Chaise Persons. Ellie Ulvin was out of town.



Wednesday Bible Study wrapped up on May 26 with a delicious potluck meal.



They're making amazing progress on the front entry project. In the past few weeks, walls, ceiling, electrical, windows and brick have been added. By the time you read this, the old window and door should be gone. Our contractor, Eric Haataja of Haataja Construction, is working hard to complete the project by the first part of June.



St. Johns Lutheran Church

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Pastor James Neubauer

Pastor Joel Newton



The Lutheran Church -- Missouri Synod

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