



The **St. Johns Servant**

**St. Johns
Lutheran Church**

Park Rapids, Minnesota

July, 2021

Our New Entry is Almost Done

We just have a few items left to finish up on our entry expansion project. Sanquist Construction is installing a rock garden to help direct drainage away from the building. The sprinkler system needs to be reconnected and some landscaping done. Thanks to Randy Griess for volunteering to paint the rest of the front lobby! We've already been using the interior space and hope to be able to come in the new front door soon. Watch for details on a dedication service.



Check Out Our New Bus

Earlier this summer we discovered that the bus needed a new fuel pump that would cost around \$3,700. Over the past few years we've spent \$5,000 in repairs on the bus. The Parish Planning Council debated if it was worthwhile to make the repair. In the meantime the Board of Young People had planned for many activities where the bus would be useful.

Some generous donors came to our rescue with the funds to purchase another bus. Jerry Grudem scoured the internet and found us a dealer who had this beautiful 2012 Ford 20 passenger bus with wheel chair lift. It was formerly owned by a city in Connecticut. After an independent inspection, we decided to purchase the bus. The dealer arranged for a driver to bring it out to us. Innovative Graffix is



working on signage. Otherwise it's ready for it's maiden voyage which will probably be taking the youth on their Crow Wing float trip.

We're still looking at options as to what to do with the old bus. Anybody want to buy it?



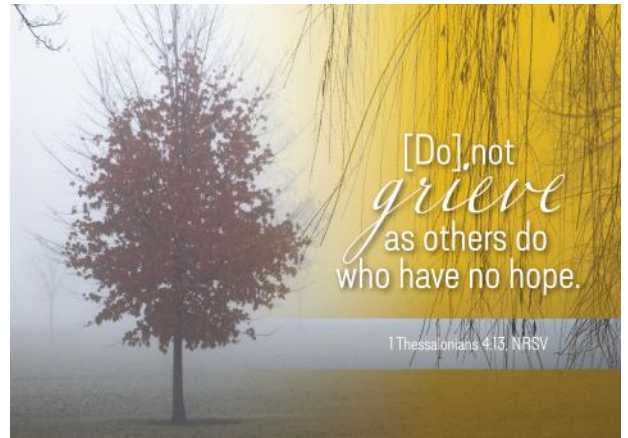


Ponderings from the Pew



"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope," 1 Thessalonians 4:13.

These words from God resonate with me. I hear them often in my head and carry them in my heart. Grief is a mysterious thing to live with. It changes a person. It weaves itself into the fabric of life until you cannot recall what life was without it. Grief divides life into before and after, and most of both is a bit out of focus. Grief is a unique experience for every single person. One person may not be able to look at pictures of the loved one they lost. Another person may cling to photos as though they are life preservers. One person may visit the place their loved one is buried, the sight of their future resurrection, often. Another person may never go to the cemetery because we know the soul is no longer here. One person may be angry with God for allowing death, and another may never question God's will, but place the blame squarely on Satan's shoulders. One person might seem perfectly fine on the outside, while another seems broken. Grief does not follow rules. Grief smothers, devastates, rips hearts in pieces and moves in to stay.



What makes grief different for Christians then? For lack of a better way to put it, what makes it more bearable? We have hope. We have Jesus. We have the assurance of eternity with God. We know this is not where it ends. Our vision of heaven includes those who have preceded us as Thessalonians goes on to say, "For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep. ... For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord," 1 Thessalonians 14-17. "And so we will always be..." And so = like this – together – we will always be.

I so appreciate how our funerals offer this hope. One can be wiping tears of sorrow away at the same time the heart is lifted with the wonderful encouragement our Savior offers us. Yes, we are sad. Yes, we are broken hearted. Yes, there will be days grief overwhelms. BUT! But Christ is risen – and we too shall rise. Together. We have HOPE.

To God alone be the glory.

Renee' Anderson

† Baptism

06/20 Grayson Bernard Roman
Alex Roman & Michelle Erno

† Weddings

06/05 Stacey Kimball & Justin Frette
06/12 Michael Ferris & Marisa Sappenfield

† Funerals

06/01 Susan Johnson
06/21 Keith Gulbranson



“Main Street Living North” for July

“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 KVRN 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 July:

July 4: Rev. Matthew Meyer, Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Callaway, MN, presents the message “They Rejected Jesus Too,” based on Mark 6:1-13. “This Is The Life” episode: “The Selling Price” - A father and son face the issue of ethics, and how it relates to God’s law.

July 11: Rev. Leo Deitemeyer, First American Lutheran Church, Mayville, ND, presents the message: “Praise the Triune God Who Saves You,” based on Ephesians 1:3-14. “This Is The Life” episode: “Flight Plan” - A man has to deal with the death of a young boy with a terminal illness. Will it strengthen his faith or destroy it?

What’s On The Lutheran Hour

07/04 “Clearly Christian: Scientific”

07/11 “Inheritance as Intended”

07/18 “The Problem and Promise of Deathbed Conversion”

07/25 “The Peace Child”

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.”

July 18: Rev. Ronald Hobbie, Zion & St. John’s Lutheran Churches, Ada, MN, presents the message: “No Longer Desolate,” based on Mark 6:31. “This Is The Life” episode: “No Laughing Matter” - A woman must learn to deal with her past in order to help someone else in her present.

July 25: Rev. Larry Harvala, retired, Osage, MN, presents the message “Jesus Enables James,” based on Mark 10:35-45. “This Is The Life” episode: “My Husband, My Sorrow” - A man and woman must deal with whether they should consummate an adulterous affair.

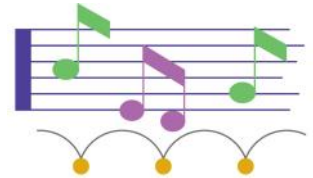
If your cable doesn’t have KVRN, you can watch a different version (different pastors, mainly from Minnesota South) on WFTC out of the Twin Cities, Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Main Street Living receives no money from the Synod or any District budgets so donations are appreciated. To help support the ministry, send your check to Main Street Living, 821 5th Ave. S., Fargo, ND 58103.



July Noon Concerts

- July 1 Timothy Pinkerton, violin and Sarah Carlson, piano at Calvary Lutheran Church
July 8 Brass Group featuring Craig Swarts and Kyle Riess on trumpet, Ryan Webber on trombone, Brennan Paulson, tuba, and Eve Sumsy, horn at Calvary
July 15 Eric Haugen and Claire Gunsbury, cello and flute at Calvary
July 22 A last minute concert addition featuring a soprano at Calvary



Concerts run from 12:15—12:45 p.m. Due to COVID, no refreshments will be served. A free will offering is taken for the artists.

Tubing on the Crow Wing



The youth in grades 5-12 are invited to go tubing on the Crow Wing on Tuesday, July 13. We will meet at church at 1:00 p.m. and return around 5:00 p.m. We're planning to take the new bus! Cost is \$2 and friends are welcome. Wear your swimsuit and aqua socks, put on your sunscreen, bring your towel and plan on a fun float. Contact the church office (218-732-9783) or Pastor Newton (815-222-1359) to sign up!

Family Kickball and Whiffle Ball

Join us for kickball and whiffle ball in the picnic area out back on Friday, July 23 from 4:30—7:00 p.m. We'll also be grilling for supper. Please bring a side or snack to share. Friends welcome!



Camping Lock Out



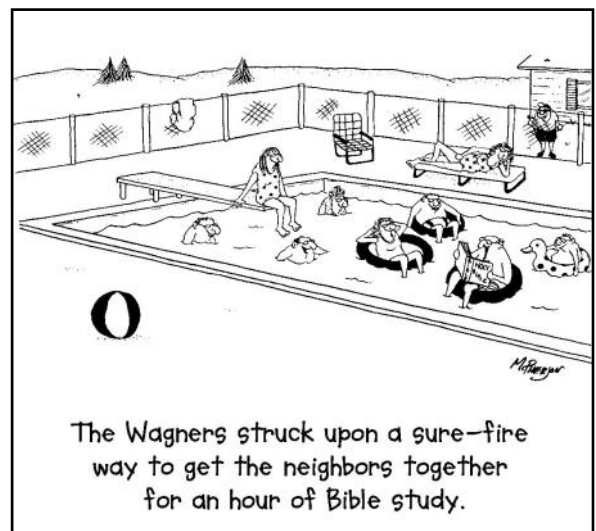
Outgoing 8-12th graders are invited to spend the night out back of the church after kickball. Bring camping gear (tent, sleeping bag, etc.) if you've got them and a snack/drink to share. We'll make breakfast over the fire. Friends are welcome! Please RSVP by July 18.



Monday—Thursday
8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Friday-Saturday
Closed

Always open Sundays!





Noon Communion Service Offers Another Worship Option

We've decided to continue the noon communion service through the summer. This is a short (25 minute) service held each Wednesday at noon. Attendance is usually around 12-15 people. Communion is given to each person in the pew rather than coming forward as we do on Sunday morning. It's intended for those who need to avoid being around larger groups of people or who may not be able to attend Sunday worship for other reasons.



What is Cultural Marxism and Why Should You Care?



Cultural Marxism is the topic of Pastor Newton's Sunday morning Bible study. And no, it's not "a far-right antisemitic conspiracy theory" (what you get if you Google "cultural marxism definition.") Pastor Neubauer's explanation is, "it's *taking historical Marxism and applying it to modern issues.*" Pastor Newton leads this study. Come join us between services to find out more about what cultural marxism is and how it is influencing our lives and society today. We are no longer live streaming Sunday Bible study since not many people were tuning in.

Have You Turned in Your Survey?

The Evening Guild and Ladies Aid are planning to merge into one group. Since they usually take care of funeral lunches and Sunday coffee we're working on a new system for these events. A survey was recently sent out to see who is available to help and how. We'd appreciate it if the surveys could be returned by July 11. You can send in the paper form or fill it out online at our website. Thanks!



We're Having a Booth at the Fair ...

And we're looking for people interested in manning it. If you'd like to take a turn (or two), please sign up on the sheet by the front office. The booth will be open Thursday, July 15—Sunday, July 18. Even if you can't help at the booth we'd love to have you stop by.

God's Wonder Lab Vacation Bible School Coming in August

This year we're moving to an evening VBS, 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. Our next VBS planning meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 18 after the 10:30 a.m. service in the social hall. If you're interested in being a part of VBS, please talk to Sarah Kaufenberg at 651-260-3350.





Sunday School Page

Puzzle!

Complete this Bible passage by adding the missing vowels.



Th_r_for_

_s G_d's ch_s_n p__pl_

h_ly _nd d__rly l_v_d, cl_th_

y__rs lv_s w_th c_mp_ss__n,

k_ndn_ss, h_m_l_ty, g_ntl_n_ss

_nd p_t__nc_. B__r w_th

_ch _th_r _nd f_rg_v__n_

_n_th_r _f _ny _f y__ h_s _

gr__v_nc__ g__nst s_m__n_.

F_rg_v__s th_ L_r_d f_rg_v__ y__.

C_l_ss__ns 3:12-13, N_V

Answer: Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. Colossians 3:12-13, NIV

Happy Birthday!

7/06 Annie Mayer
7/08 Samantha Fiemeyer
7/20 Alex Lof



As sweet as honey



Honey is both a sweetener and a medicine.
How can our words be used in the same ways?



Directions: Use the hexagon key to fill in the missing vowels and complete Proverbs 16:24, NIV.



Gr__c__s w__rds

__r__ h__n__c__mb,

sw__t t__ th__ s__l

__nd h__l__ng



t__ th__ b__n__s.



PROVERBS 16:24, NIV

Answer: Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. Proverbs 16:24, NIV

Baptismal Birthdays

7/06 Cash Luther
7/09 George Newton
7/12 Olivia May
7/14 Ketch Luther
7/27 Dylan May





**Parish Planning Council
May 25, 2021**

Rod Helm called meeting to order. Present: Rod Helm, Pastor Newton, Pastor Neubauer, Lori Griess, Ginny Ranisate, Jerry Grudem, Shirley Potter, Mike Poole, Connie Fondow, Elayne Luiken, Brad Dahn: Absent: Pam Heeren, Brandi Backmann. Opening devotion by Pastor Newton

Approval of the Parish Planning Council Minutes for March 23, 2021. Motion to approve as printed in newsletter – Elayne Luiken, Second – Lori Griess, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Ginny Ranisate

Year	Income	Expense	Difference
	(includes 60,000 PPP Loan)		
2020	240,924	193,732	47,192
2021	187,051	178,143	8,908
Difference	53,873	15,589	--

Approval of treasurer's report—Motion to approve – Jerry Grudem, Second – Elayne Luiken motion carried.

2020 figures are through the end of the month. 2021 figures are to date. We still have one more week of offerings and end of month payroll for this month.

CNB Checking Account as of 05/25/21 95,167
Less Dedicated Funds 1,015
Available Funds \$94,152

CNB Dedicated Funds Savings as of 05/25/21 \$81,499

LCEF Current Fund as of 05/25/21 116,022
Less Endowment Fund Interest 2,052
Less Parsonage Proceeds 18,548
Less Healthy Balance (Goal is \$74,000) 50,262
Less T. Haberer Memorial/Interest 21,627
Less T. Haberer Trust 19,085
Less R. Haberer Memorial 1,168
Available Funds \$3,280

Kitchen Payable \$17,437

Pastors Reports

Membership changes -- Transfer Out Rev. William and Diane Knaack to Gethsemane Lutheran, Snellman, MN. Motion by Jerry Grudem to accept transfer – second Connie Fondow – motion carried.

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Pastor Neubauer's Report

Asked Parish Planning Council for input on new COVID restrictions. After much discussion it was decided to remove all signage regarding COVID, return Bibles, Friendship Register and Hymnals to the pews, keep offering plate at the back of church but have the ushers bring to front for blessing. Communion will continue as walk through at least through June.

Pastor Newton's Report

General

Wednesday Bible Class on "Keeping the Story" concludes tomorrow (May 26)

Summer Sunday Bible Class: "Come and See"

Finishing up the last grad school course this summer, followed by the comprehensive exam.

Youth

Concluded "The Story of Everything" Bible study with King Saul

May 23rd, 1-5 pm: **Fishing at Many Points Scout Camp** (thanks to Scott Hollerman the camp director, Terry and Laurie Kimball, Justin Frette, Stacey Kimball, and Jody Yliniemi!) – caught 8 fish total, I think. The food was incredible.

May 31st, 6:30 pm: **Memorial Day Plunge** (Please consider pledging!) – we will show the video the Sunday after during Bible study hour.

June 6th, 2-6 pm: **Bike to Dorset, Mini Golf, and Ice Cream** - Grades 5-12 and friends welcome. Bring money for ice cream, we'll buy mini golf!

July 13th, 1-5 pm: **Tubing the Crow Wing** - meet at church, \$2/person, bring friends.

July 23rd, 4:30 -7 pm: **Family Kickball/Whiffle Ball Game** - at church, grill out supper provided, please bring side or snack to share. Friends welcome!

July 23rd, 7 pm- July 24 9 am: **Camp Lockout** – Outgoing 8-12th graders. Directly following family kickball/whiffle ball, we will spend the night out back of church. Bring a snack and a drink to share, and we will make our own breakfast over the fire. RSVP by July 18th. Bring camping gear (tent, sleeping bag, etc), if you've got it. Friends welcome!

Personal

Sarah, George, Norah, and Olga are all healthy (Norah's learning to talk and properly use the bathroom!)

Board Reports

Elders – Jerry Grudem – no report

Evangelism – Connie Fondow - The Board of Evangelism is moving ahead on the following projects/events:

Live Nativity (Early December)

St. Johns Hubbard County Fair Booth (July)

Trivia (Fall)

Christian Education – Lori Griess

Preschool

Total Enrollment at this time is 20 in the 4-year-old group and 10 in the 3 year old. Closing Program and graduation will be held May 18 and 19. Kim received a \$200.00 gift from Thrivent to help cover the cost



of the treats. Last day of class will be Friday the 28th. June 1, 2, and 3 will be staff days. Pre enrollment for the 21-22 year, so far we have 8 in the 3 year olds and 18 in the 4 year old group. They have had a successful year considering the changes that needed to be put in place due to the Cov-id guidelines. As approved in previous years, we voted and approved paying Kim for up to 90 hours for the work she puts in during the summer in preparation for the upcoming year. Wage will be set at \$9.75 per hour (current aid wage). Approved rate changes for next year: 2 day/week: \$90 (up from \$85), 3 day/week: \$120 (up from \$115), 4 day/week: \$155 (up from \$140), 5 day/week: \$175 (up from \$160). We do have scholarship funds available. Thank you to Kim and Mary for all their hard work.

Sunday School: Teacher appreciation Dinner will be held Sunday June 13th at Pastor Newtons. We really appreciate the time that the teachers put in to teach our children, not just on Sunday morning, but throughout the week as they prepare the lessons. We will be continuing the current series of material for next year's classes. Hopefully now that restrictions are being lifted, we will be seeing more of our children attending Sunday School.

Vacation Bible School: This year's theme is Science. The next scheduled planning meeting is scheduled for June 6th at 12:00 following the 2nd service. We are hoping to help with a booth at the fair to promote VBS.

Board Members: Will continue to have the same members. Thank you to all who have given their time.

Young People – see Pastor Newton's report

Church Properties – Brad Dahn

The board got together and cleaned up around the outside of the church. Broken tree branches, fixed snowplow sod berms, a little bit of raking.

The bus needs repairs: The high-pressure fuel pump needs replacing, to the tune of about \$3700. Possibly from sitting for some time. We hope that it will start to get used more now that things are getting back to normal. We have put a considerable amount of money into the bus the last few years. But the way it is, is neither sellable nor usable. We must make a decision on what to do with the bus. Maybe have a Sunday special donation with a catchy phrase.

The church canopy and entry addition is coming along very well! We have not run into any big or expensive issues on the project, and are running close to budget with a few exceptions. We have made decisions along the way to make it better, like a bad spot in the old roof that was fixed while up there, a rock garden to catch excess rainwater that will be coming off the roof, a little bigger concrete pad under the canopy, and a remote wireless remote door lock, controlled from the office.

Funds received		
Proceeds from Insurance	45,760	
Donations from Members	5,550	
Grant Nunn Memorial	61,403	
Total Funds Received		\$112,713
Expenses		
Backwoods Design (Office Plans)	140	
Haataja Demolition*	3,281	
Haataja 5% down	8,967	
Haataja Progress Payment (04/30/21)	56,350	
Expenses to date		\$68,738
Funds Remaining		43,975
CNB Line of Credit		75,000
Remaining Available Funds		\$118,975
Haataja Bid	179,337	
Paid to Date	-65,317	
Remaining	114,020	
*Not part of original bid		

(Continued on page 10)



(Continued from page 9)

Yes, these few things may be above the estimate, but surely is the time to do them. Working with Eric has been going very well, and he really keeps us on top of what is going on and when! BIG, BIG changes by this Sunday the 30th!! You will have to come to Church to see!

The "Time Capsule" has been put back in the wall along with a few new items (COVID masks etc.) to be opened in the future!

Stewardship – Pam Heeren absent – no report

Parish Fellowship – Elayne Luiken

Served pizza and ice cream bars for the confirmand meal on Wednesday, April 28. Will assist the evangelism board with refreshments when they hold Trivia Night sometime in the fall. Will also assist the evangelism board with refreshments when the live nativity is held in December. Will assist Pastor and Sarah Newton in hosting a picnic supper for the Sunday School teachers and board of education in June.

Public Relations – no report

Old/New Business

Canopy Update – see Church Properties report. Canopy/Entry Finances as of 05/17/21

Board Nominations - reviewed the list of board nominations that will be presented at voters meeting for approval in June.

Voters meeting – reviewed agenda for voters meeting

Church office will be closed on Friday's during the summer months.

Next Parish Planning Council meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2021 at 6:00 pm

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Potter

Voter's meeting—June 1, 2021

Call to Order – Rod Helm

Opening Devotion – Pastor Neubauer

Roll Call of Voting Members – 37 in attendance

Receiving of new voting members. Motion to accept new voting members, Jerry Grudem Second Lori Griess

Steve Schauland, Elizabeth (Liz) Smith, Betsy Vrudny, Motion carried

Approval of the Minutes of November, 24, 2020 Voters meeting. Motion by Elayne Luiken to approve minutes as printed, second Brad Dahn, motion carried.



Treasurer's Report – Ginny Ranisate

Please note Ginny's NEW EMAIL - [stjohnsprofficermanager@gmail](mailto:stjohnsprofficermanager@gmail.com)

Our income so far this year is \$187,431 and expenses are \$180,111 with income exceeding expenses by \$7,320. Last year at this time our income was \$240,924 (including \$60,000 PPP loan) and our expenses were \$193,734 with income exceeding expenses by \$47,190.

CNB Checking Account	92,747
Less Dedicated Funds	<u>- 1,057</u>
Available Funds	91,690

CNB Dedicated Funds Savings	81,499
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LCEF Current Fund	116,033
Less Parsonage Proceeds	- 18,548
Less Healthy Balance (Goal-74,000)	- 50,267
Less End. Fund Interest	- 2,053
Less T. Haberer Memorial/Interest	- 21,629
Less T. Haberer Trust	- 19,087
Less R. Haberer Memorial	<u>- 1,167</u>
Available Funds	3,282

Kitchen Payable	\$17,437
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Motion to accept treasurer's report Tim Huwe – second Donna Neumann – motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS

Elders - Jerry Grudem

Elders continue to:

- Meet normally on first Tuesday of each month.
- Assist with Communion for 8:00 service on second and fourth Sundays.
- Assist with Communion for 10:30 service on first and third Sundays.
- Assist pastors with showing concern for members not attending worship frequently.
- Review and council pastors regarding their duties and activities each month
- Review service schedule changes
- Help oversee the scheduling of ushers.
- Attend annual public questioning of confirmands.

Evangelism – Connie Fondow

In 2021 the Board of Evangelism is planning on moving forward with the following projects/events:

- Looking into St. Johns booth at the Hubbard County Fair (July 14-18) --
- Trivia night in February 2022
- Live Nativity in early December
- Recognition of Park Rapids area postal workers

Please prayerfully consider assisting with one or more of these projects. We enjoy initiating these events, but we do count on St. Johns members to help us carry them out, as you have done so faithfully in the past.

(Continued on page 12)



(Continued from page 11)

Education – Lori Griess

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Board Members: Will continue to have the same members. Thank you to all who have given their time.

Young People – Brandi Backmann

Thank you for your generous donations toward the 2022 National Youth Gathering. The soup to go, and Easter breakfast to go were well received.

March - soup to go

April - Easter breakfast, Minute to win it

May- kick ball, Senior Recognition, and Memorial Day jump

June - Bike to Dorset for mini golf and ice cream

July - tubing down the Crow Wing, kickball and camp out

August - Evergreen Park, NYG sign up meeting

Church Properties – Brad Dahn

The board got together and cleaned up around the outside of the church. Broken tree branches, fixed snowplow sod berms, a little bit of raking.

The church canopy and entry addition are coming along very well! We have not run into any big or expensive issues on the project and are running close to budget with a few exceptions. We have made



decisions along the way to make it better, like a bad spot in the old roof that was fixed while up there, a rock garden to catch excess rainwater that will be coming off the roof, a little bigger concrete pad under the canopy, and a remote wireless remote door lock, controlled from the office. Yes, these few things may be above the estimate, but surely is the time to do them. Working with Eric has been going very well, and he really keeps us on top of what is going on and when! Stucco is currently being put on the addition matching the bell tower.

The "Time Capsule" has been put back in the wall with the original contents and a few new items (COVID masks etc.) to be opened in the future! There is also a Time capsule at the flagpole.

Status on replacement of the bus: Our original 2002 Freightliner bus is very sickly. We have newer tires and brakes but to get it to move we need to spend \$3700 to replace a fuel pump and then we do not know if anything else will be or go wrong. The Board of Church Properties was directed by the Parish Planning Council to find out what possibilities we have to salvage as much value as possible from this bus.

We have found a used 2012 Ford Model E450 Econoline Commercial Cutaway 6.8L V10 gasoline engine, Five(5) speed automatic transmission, twenty(20) passenger bus with wheelchair lift and places to accommodate two wheelchairs. The bus has DOT equipment throughout. Seats with seatbelts. An independent inspection was made last Friday. As a result of the inspection (which confirmed everything was in working order) the bus will have 6 new or almost new tires. One owner vehicle used in a city in Connecticut for nine years and has 65,680 miles. The bus was located on the internet in Westbury New York. Ginny is scheduled to wire payment for this vehicle tomorrow. An independent driver will probably drive this bus from Westbury, NY to Park Rapids starting this Thursday or Friday. Innovative Graffix (Pat and Tiffany Ahmann) has been contacted to letter this bus with the St. John's and ABC Preschool and a 3-cross logo. Cost for this bus will be covered outside the St. John's budget by an anonymous group of donors. What to do with the old bus will be determined later.

Stewardship – no report- Pam Heeren was absent

Fellowship -Elayne Luiken

The board served pizza and ice cream bars for the confirmand meal on Wednesday, April 28. The board will assist the evangelism board with refreshments when they hold Trivia Night sometime in February 2022. The board will also assist the evangelism board with refreshments when the live nativity is held in December. Our board will assist Pastor and Sarah Newton in hosting a picnic supper for the Sunday School teachers and board of education on June 13.

PASTORS AND DEACONESS REPORTS

Pastor Neubauer's Report

Worship:

Organized Seeing Clearly Lenten theme

Primarily responsible the PowerPoint and the live stream. Looking at paid options since we have had troubles with FaceBook.

Teaching times:

Sunday Morning Sunday School lessons

Tuesday morning 1 and 2ish Thessalonians

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(Continued from page 13)

No Release Time this year, hoping that it will return next year.

Confirmation 22 students total with 16 confirmed at the beginning of May.

ABC Preschool:

Help with closing

Devotions

Other:

Working on shut-in visits.

Better on visits and phone calls but still not up to my desired 30 contacts/month

Had the joy of meeting with several people who are interested in joining.

Set up the web page with the contents of the time capsule.

Did a video interview with Kip Lof, last living member on the original building committee. Audio wasn't great but was able to enhance it. A transcript was included in the time capsule.

Have only 1 wedding this summer

Subbing: 5 Full days; 3 afternoons; 2 mornings (the only Friday's)

District/Regional Events

Participated in Making Disciples for Life Conference

Right now, Orbiting Christ: Belonging, Believing, Behaving Adult Faith formation

Pastor Newton

Bible Study

Wednesday, 10:30am – We finished out the year on Keeping the Story: how to consider the story, and how to pass it on.

Youth

Bible study for this year was The Story of Everything. We talked through stories of the Old Testament and how they relate to the stories that are told in the world and the stories we tell. Most importantly, we explored the story that God tells us about his relationship with us.

Past Events: College Breakfast, Sledding, Broomball, Snow Sports, Confirmation Lent Suppers, Soup-to-Go Fundraiser, Easter Breakfast Take-and-Bake, Video Game Tournament, Minute-to-Win-It, Confirmation Kickball, National Youth Gathering Informational Meeting, Family Whiffle ball/kickball, Yard Work Fundraisers, Senior Appreciation, Fishing at Many Points Scout Camp, Memorial Day Plunge Fundraiser

Upcoming Events:

Bike to Dorset, Ice Cream, and Mini Golf – June 6, 2-6pm

Tubing the Crow Wing – July 13, 1-5pm

Family Kickball/Whiffle Ball – July 23, 4:30-7pm

Campout – July 23, 7pm-July 24, 9am

Evergreen Park – August 31, 1-4pm

Families and Young People Task Force

Will convene in the Fall

Graduate School

Finishing the last course, which is followed by the comprehensive exam in the Fall. Graduating Spring 2022.

**Family**

Sarah and Baby Adalwolfa are both healthy, thanks be to God! Norah's running all over, learning to talk and bathroom training is going well. George had a ball with preschool and Sunday School (many thanks to our very patient teachers) and is learning to ride his bike. We'll be heading to Dallas in the end of June for my sister's wedding.

Deaconess- Sarah Newton**Women's Bible Study**

Sunday Morning Women's Bible Study has been on hold since Covid policies went into effect. It's wonderful to have returned to normal, but since we don't typically meet in the summer and there will be a new addition to our family sometime in early August, we'll most likely resume after Christmas. We have books ordered for when we are finally able to meet again!

Midweek Women's Study

This originated as a Sunday School Teacher's Group but was opened up to all women of St. John's (please get in touch with me if you would like to participate!).

We have been going through Dr. Paavola's book on the Lord's Prayer, Our Way Home and will continue to do so throughout the summer.

Meetings take place at 7:30 PM (moving to 7 PM) on the last Thursday of each month, and are now in person!

I plan to continue facilitating through the Fall, most likely taking a month off when the baby is born.

Parish Professional Collaboration

This year Joel and I completed our final year of PALS, Post-Seminary Applied Learning and Support. It's been a wonderful experience and we feel both we and our ministry here at St. Johns is better for it. Thank you for supporting us in this endeavor!

Baby #3

Everyone is healthy! We're eagerly anticipating baby girl's arrival and can't wait to introduce her to all of you!

Motion to approve board reports, Tim Huwe --- Pastor Neumann seconded. Motion Carried.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Canopy Project – see Church Properties report above

Church Board Member nominations

Motion to approve board nominations as printed – Brandi Backmann, second Pat Nevala, Motion carried.

Pastor Neubauer reviewed changes in worship service with the COVID restrictions being lifted.

Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Potter



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Pastor Joel Newton



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