

**ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER
AUGUST 2019**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
821 Denver Street Schuyler, Nebraska 68661
402-352-3550**

office.stjohns821@gmail.com

Our Mission: to witness and serve in the name of Jesus Christ

Ministers: the People

Pastor: Day Hefner

August Assignments

Head Usher/Greeter: Karen Henry

Communion Assistant: Tracey Kracl

Lector:

Green Team:



August Birthdays

7 Brenna Parry
10 Connor Bywater
14 Cindy Plummer
18 Steve Nelson
21 Riah Callahan



24 Chrissi Bywater
25 Jackie Pickhinke
29 Jalaine Vavricek
30 Cory Petersen
Kevin Syring, Sr

Anniversaries

1 Mike & Jackie Pickhinke



St. John's Reservation Book If you have received approval to utilize the Church/Social Hall/Classrooms from the St. John's Church Council, please utilize the Blue Day Planner in the Church Office to block out your date and times.



Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:19-21

Faith has always been an integral part of my family's life. From the time I was small, I was surrounded by examples of people doing their level best to live their lives in a way that kept Christ at the center. My dad was my chief teacher in life and faith, and I can remember many a lesson taught sitting at our kitchen table, from how to balance a checkbook to understanding the meaning of grace. But one of the lessons I remember best was the one that had to do with this scripture above about where you keep your treasure and your heart.

At the beginning of every month, my dad would sit down at that kitchen table with his checkbook. And before anything else – even before the bills or the groceries – Dad would write out the checks for his charitable giving. “God gave us everything we have,” he told me, “So I give the first part of what I receive back to God. See, here's my check to the church,” he said, “And here, one for the American Cancer Society, and another one for this organization that helps firefighters...” and so on. For my dad, giving was a profound act of gratitude for all God had given him. And while I never really absorbed the lesson about balancing my checkbook, this lesson about generosity has stuck with me.

Giving is about gratitude. And giving is an expression of who we are – and who we would like to be. Fundamentally, this is what Jesus is getting at in these words from Matthew. We invest our time and treasure in the things we care about, the things that reflect who we are. And where we invest, our hearts follow – and vice versa. My dad, for instance, is a deeply faithful man who donates his time to the church and on the volunteer fire department and who lost his wife to cancer: things that are reflected in his giving. I personally give to a few congregations I have been a part of over the years, including St. John's, as well as to organizations like Lincoln Literacy (where I used to work), Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS), and Kids in Need of Defense (KIND). You can tell a lot about who I am and what I care about just by looking at where I choose to give my money.

We are all capable of generosity and gratitude, and I don't doubt that each of you finds many ways to express these things in your own lives. I'd like to invite you to reflect on what these ways are. Who are the examples you look up to for practicing generosity? Where do you choose to invest your time and treasure, and what does the picture look like that it paints of you? How do you feel about that picture? What would you like to change? How do you think God might be calling you to paint a different picture?

Here's hoping our hearts stay free of moths and rust and thieves!

Faithfully,
Pr. Day



WORSHIP IN AUGUST



All Services at 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Sunday Aug 4, 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23, Psalm 49:1-12, Colossians 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21

Sunday Aug 11, 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 15:1-6, Psalm 33:12-22, Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16, Luke 12:32-40

Sunday Aug 18, 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:23-29, Psalm 82, Hebrews 11:29--12:2, Luke 12:49-56

Sunday Aug 25, 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 58:9b-14, Psalm 103:1-8, Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17

*God of fresh beginnings, you make all things new in the wisdom of Jesus Christ.
Make us agents of your transforming power and heralds of your reign of justice and peace,
that all may share in the healing Christ brings. Amen.*

Year C focuses on the Gospel of Luke. The second, New Testament, readings are chosen mainly from Galatians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Timothy and 2 Thessalonians.



St. John's Women of the ELCA "Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."

All women of St. John's are invited to participate in the activities of the Women of the E.L.C.A. WELCA embraces all kinds of ministries that support our mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. There is a place for you in Women of the ELCA at St. John's. We're a community of women where fellowship, friendship, study, service and advocacy are nurtured.

St. John's Women of the ELCA

"Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Aug. 1 Annual Salad Luncheon

Aug 4 Serve coffee fellowship

Aug 13 1:00 General Meeting with Bible Study

Aug 27 Quilting 1:30

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF QUILTING

"THOSE WHO SLEEP UNDER A QUILT, SLEEP UNDER LOVE."

Quilting in fellowship hall August 27 at 1:30

Quilting Lutheran World Relief mission quilts are a valuable tool to show God's love and compassion around the world. Help us help others. No experience is necessary. Quilts are ready to tie or there is fabric to be cut. If you would like to sew at home, we can provide the materials.



THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM

Thank you to all Thrivent Members who have chosen St. John's as the recipient of your Thrivent choice dollars. Since January we have received \$3126.00.

June Financial: June Worship Offerings for budgeted expenses: \$6169.00
Needed each Month: 7667.00
\$1497.00

Total budgeted offerings: \$38156.89
Projected budget offerings needed \$46000.00
Shortage thru June: \$7843.11



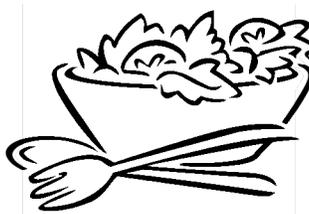
A note on these numbers:

It's not unusual to get behind on the budget, but as you can see, we have fallen significantly behind so far this year. Your dollars are needed to help get us back on track, especially with another month left of the "summer slump." Let's step up and get ourselves "back in the black"!

Other news.....

ST. JOHN'S 9th ANNUAL SALAD LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2019
11 AM – 1 PM
Cost \$ 7.00

Invite and bring your neighbors, friends, relatives!



Received in Holy Baptism on Sunday, July 21.

Evan Fickle and Riah Callahan became our newest child of God.
Lord's family!



We welcome you into the

Coffee Fellowship:



In need of hosts for Coffee Fellowship on Aug. 25 and the Sundays in September. Please sign up in the Narthex on the Coffee Fellowship sheet if you can host a Coffee Fellowship. Originally thought of 3 families hosting Coffee Fellowship a week but it can be less and even 1 family a Sunday. Please check your calendars and help fill up the Coffee Fellowship sign up sheet!! Thank you!!

Mobile Food Bank will be Thursday, August 8. From 4-6pm. set up is at 3pm.



We really appreciate all the help that we been getting with the food bank.

We are continuing to accept bottle water for the Mobile Food Pantry participants.

Please put your bottle water in the Southeast Sunday School room on the table with the other bottled water.



Women Bible study August 13 at 1:00pm.

Next Worship and Music meeting will be after worship on August 25.

Council Meeting will be August 14 at 5:00pm. Everyone is welcome

School and health kits: We will need these items to assemble kits later in the year: kid scissors blunt point, pencil sharpeners, Crayola crayons, 12" rulers w/centimeters, 4oz bars of soap and toothbrushes. Cash donations are also welcome.



Evangelism & Social Ministry will meet after worship on August 11.

"Back to School Bash" Our second annual "Bash" will be on Wednesday, August 21, from 4 - 5:30 p.m. at the church parking lot. Everyone is invited to participate in outdoor games, enjoy a beverage and feast on watermelon. Come for the food, fun and fellowship.

YOUTH GROUP START-UP GATHERING – POOL PARTY!!
Sponsored by St. John's Christian Education Committee

FOR: St. John's youth in grades 7-12

WHEN: Sunday, August 11 from 5:00 – 8:30 NOTE: Times may change...listen for announcements.
Swim from 5:00- 7:00 and food and fellowship following at the Boy Scout Cabin near the pool from 7:00 – 8:00 or 8:30. *Admission to the pool will be paid for all who attend.

WHERE: Schuyler Swimming Pool /Boy Scout Cabin

BRING A FRIEND OR TWO AND COME JOIN THE FUN!!!
QUESTIONS?? See Shanda Hall or Lori Benesch

Here's two delicious recipes. ↓

FROZEN RASPBERRY & CREAM SQUARES

Ingredients

- 2 cup Keebler® Vanilla Wafers
 - 1/4 cup butter or margarine, melted
 - 2 cups frozen red raspberries
 - 1 cup half-and-half
 - 3/4 cup sugar
 - 1 cup sour cream
- Prep Time: 15 min
Total Time: 255 min
Servings: 9



Directions

1. In small bowl toss together wafers and margarine or butter. Press half of mixture on bottom of 8 x 8 x 2-inch pan. Sprinkle with raspberries.
2. In medium bowl whisk together half-and-half and sugar until sugar dissolves. Gradually whisk in sour cream. Pour over berries. Sprinkle with remaining crumbs. Cover and freeze at least 3 hours or until firm.
3. Let stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before cutting into squares.

FROZEN WHOOPIE PIE

Ingredients

- 1 cup marshmallow creme
- 1/2 cup canned vanilla frosting*
- 20 Keebler® Chips Deluxe® Rainbow™ Chocolate Chip cookies with M&M'S® Chocolate Candies

Directions

1. In medium bowl fold together marshmallow crème and frosting. Spread about 2 tablespoons on the bottoms of 10 of the Keebler® Chips Deluxe® Rainbow™ Chocolate Chip cookies with M&M'S® Chocolate Candies.
 2. Top with the remaining 10 cookies, bottom sides down, gently pressing together to make sandwiches. Individually wrap in plastic wrap. Place on baking sheet. Freeze about 2 hours or until firm. Store in freezer for up to 1 month.
- *NOTE: If desired, substitute another 1/2 cup marshmallow crème for the canned frosting.



August 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Salad luncheon From 11am to 1pm.	2	3 
4 Worship at 9:30a	5	6	7	8 Mobile food bank From 4-6pm.	9	10
11 Worship at 9:30a Evangelism & Social Ministry hosts coffee fellowship and has a meeting after fellowship. Youth Group Pool Party, 4-7p	12	13 Bible study at 1:00pm.	14 Council meeting At 5:00pm.	15	16	17
18 Worship at 9:30a	19	20	21 "Back to School Bash" 4 - 5:30 p.m.	22	23	24
25 Worship at 9:30a	26 	27 Quilting at 1:30pm	28	29 Deadline for announcements for newsletter.	30	31 

If you want to add an event to the calendar let Esme know before the last Thursday of the month.

June Council Meeting

St. John's Lutheran Church Congregational Council Meeting June 12, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 2:37 pm by Council President, Mike Benesch. Council members present were Jalaine Vavricek, Pastor Day Hefner, Bob Svoboda, Chellee Nelson, Larry Konz and John Sayer. Absent was Vicky Borman.

Devotion/Prayer: Jalaine Vavricek gave a devotion

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the May 8, 2019 Congregational Council meeting were presented. A motion was made by Konz and seconded by Vavricek to approve these minutes. Motion carried.

Open Forum/Correspondence: A thank you note from the Rocha family was presented.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Day presented her report for May (see attached).

President's Report: Benesch reported on happenings at Synod Assembly.

Christian Ed Committee Report: Proceeds from yard sale were \$1039.00. Committee is still in the planning stages for summer and fall youth group activities.

Finance & Stewardship Committee Report: The May financials were presented. The committee needs to meet.

Property Committee Report: Laminate flooring will be layed in living and hall area at the parsonage by Mike Benesch and Jim Folken. Steve Nelson will tear out the old flooring. Concrete by downspout near east side door is being replaced. Weeds need to be taken care of on church property.

Worship & Music Report: Has not met since last meeting.

Evangelism & Social Ministry Report: See attached report from Vavricek.

Pastor Day made a motion, seconded by Vaveicek to approve the committee reports. Motion carried.

Old Business: 3 bids have been received for the digital screen project formerly known as the projection system project. Svoboda made a motion seconded by Pastor Day to approve the \$7487 bid from Midwest Sound & Lighting in Lincoln. Motion carried. A congregational council meeting will be scheduled for July 14, 2019 to vote on this expenditure. The constitution and bylaws are in the process of being updated. The final tally for donations to Nebraska Synod Flood Relief were \$1073.00.

New Business: Pastor Day presented information on a grant available from Immanuel Vision Foundation. More discussion on this will be needed at the next meeting. Svoboda made a motion, seconded by Nelson to have the Holiday Fair on Sunday, December 8, 2019 (due to Thanksgiving late in November). Motion carried.

Executive Session: None

Adjournment: Sayer made a motion, seconded by Benesch to adjourn the meeting at 3:58 pm. Motion carried. Next meeting July 10 at 5:00 pm.