NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S SEPTEMBER 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

Please check out the information from the latest Bugenhagen Conference found in this newsletter!!

OFFICIAL ACTS

Funerals:

Marlene Roepke 8-19-2024 Bernard Clark 8-29-2024

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Just a reminder that we will go back to our regular worship schedule on Sunday, September 8 and will return to two services on Sunday at 7:45 and 10:15am. Bible study and Sunday School will be held in between the services. The midweek Divine Service will return to the shorter communion service on Wednesdays at 6pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

Sunday School begins on September 8. We meet from 9:00-10:00. Bring your children and grandchildren to hear the stories of God's love. What greater gift can you give them? **NEW this year is a class for our high school students**. Our classes meet in the following locations:

3, 4, & 5 year olds — Pre-K 4 classroom in the basement 1st & 2nd grades — Chapel by the Erie Street door 3rd, 4th, & 5th grades — Library on the second floor 6th, 7th, & 8th grades — Faculty room near the N Wisconsin Street door High school students — 7th grade room on the second floor

VOTERS' MEETING

Our next quarterly voters' meeting will be held on Sunday, September 22 in between the services at 9am in the sanctuary.

LADIES' BIBLE STUDY

Our Ladies' Bible Class will begin Thursday, September 5. We will be studying the book of Ecclesiastes. The class meets from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the church basement. Please enter through the school doors. All ladies are welcome.

"BIBLE AND BREW" MEN'S STUDY

All men but especially men with children or grandchildren are invited to our "Bible and Brew" men's study on Wednesday, September 25 at 8:30 p.m. at Pastor Gilbert's home (501 Augusta St.). This study takes place on the last Wednesday of every month and will be held at one of the pastor's homes alternating between them each month. You are invited to bring your favorite beverage and enjoy fellowship and conversation relevant to biblical masculinity, headship, and fatherhood. We will begin by working our way through the book "Man Up" which discusses biblical masculinity. If you are interested in joining us, RSVP using the link here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040B4AAC A62EA3FB6-50895660-bible or by contacting church Kimberly the office chapman@stjohnsracine.org or (262) 637-7011.

CALL FOR ACOLYTES

We are looking for boys (Ages 10-16) who are members of St. John's and who are interested in serving as acolytes. This would be a commitment to learning the role and duties of an acolyte and serving regularly during our worship services in various ways, but especially the lighting/extinguishing of candles and occasionally taking part in processions for feast days.

This opportunity provides a way for boys to learn responsibility and duty, to see first-hand how services are conducted, to take an active role in reverent worship, and give them a glimpse of what it is like to be a pastor. We pray that this can foster a love and appreciation for the importance and beauty of Lutheran liturgy for a lifetime of active membership.

We will have an acolyte orientation during the Bible Study hour on Sunday, September 15th. Parents are encouraged to attend with their sons.

If this day does not work for you, it can also be scheduled by appointment with Pastor DeYoung— call: (262) 900-7448 or email: deyoung@stjohnsracine.org.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Our next New Member Class will begin on Sunday, September 22 at 9:00 am. We will meet in the Fifth Grade Classroom (upstairs in the school building). The class will conclude on December 22. If you or someone you know would like to become a member at St. John's, please enroll in this class through the church office at 637-7011 or by email at chapman@stjohnsracine.org).

The material used for the class will be provided during our first morning together. The class is also open to any current members of St. John's who would like a refresher on what we believe and why!

FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY

Join us on Friday, September 20 from 5:30-7:30pm for our Fellowship Friday get together. Pizza will be served as the main meal. Everyone connected to St. John's is invited to attend this event. Please come as individuals or families. and if you do, please bring a side, dessert, or drink to share. If you are coming as a family with younger children, please consider bringing a game of some kind to perhaps play with others. The gym will also be open for part of the evening. If you plan attend, email Kimberly to (chapman@stjohnsracine.org) Sharon or (adel@stjohnsracine.org).

COLLEGE/MILITARY ADDRESSES

If you have a child that is in college or the military, and you would like them to receive information and gifts from St. John's, please fill out the form in the back of church, call or email the church office with the address of any military/college member as soon as possible. We are also asking for their semester end dates for our college students. If your child has graduated, please let us know that as well. Thank you!

SERMONS ON YOUTUBE

We now have the ability to stream live content through YouTube. The easiest way to be able to watch the sermons live is to subscribe to the channel and turn the notifications on. Our channel can be found by searching "St. John's Lutheran Church and School Racine, WI." Every time a live video is being broadcast, you will get an update and will be able to watch it. The sermons are also archived on the channel, but are now accessible through the tab that says "Live" rather than the "Videos" tab.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN TRIP

Please join the Stewardship Board on Saturday, September 14th, for a fall field trip to Feed My Starving Children, a Christian organization in Libertyville, Illinois that utilizes volunteers to pack meals for children in need around the world.

Last April, we packed 140 boxes of food, which will feed 82 children for an entire year. That is 30,240 meals...and we are hoping to see those numbers grow this fall!!

Our packing time is from 11:30 am - 1:15 pm. We plan to meet at the Park and Ride on Highway 20 and leave at 10:15 am to caravan down to Libertyville.

This is a wonderful opportunity to give back - we hope that you and your family will be able to join us. Please Note: For safety reasons, Feed My Starving Children does require that anyone participating is at least 5 years old.

Please sign up at http://www.fmsc.org/join-group?joincode=KD4M2D

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Welcome! Join our Senior Choir and/or Handbell Choir

September 3, 2024 Senior Choir and Handbell Choir will begin the season with a Masterclass Music Workshop led by Reverend Stephen Johnson, Director of Music Our Father's Lutheran Church and School, Milwaukee. This evening is a great way to 'try out' our choirs.

Rehearsals are held Tuesday evenings – Handbells 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm and Senior Choir 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

The <u>Organ Console Rebuild</u> began on August 20th. The organ will be up and running in mid-September. Any questions please reach out to me any time.

Thank you for your love and your continued support-Sharon Adel (262)822-1338.

"I will sing with the spirit and with understanding also." 1 Cor. 14:15

Psallam spiritu et mente!

SCHOOL NEWS CORNER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As much as we hate to say goodbye to summer, it is always a blessing for St. John's to have our halls filled with the excitement and enthusiasm of our students! We kicked off our 2024-2025 school year on August 19th. It is certainly my privilege to work with our incredible teachers and staff members, and we welcome Mr. Roger Johnson, our new 6th grade homeroom and science teacher, as well as several new aides and support staff- Kristine Borgardt, Roni McCluskey, Trina Vinson, Penny Paulson, and Beth Douglas! In athletics, our volleyball, soccer, and cross country teams have already been practicing, and a few teams even start games this week. As we head into September, we want to invite you to join us each Wednesday morning at 9am for our chapel services for grades 1-8. The pastors are focusing on a different Psalm each week, and for this first full month, we have one of the students' favorite hymns- Thy Strong Word, guaranteed to be sung with gusto each week! We hope to see you there. We are thankful for the continued support of our congregation members!

PTL ELEGANT FARMER PIE SALE

The PTL will be holding their annual fall Elegant Farmer Pie sale — but earlier this year. Please consider selling or just buying one for yourself. **All items come frozen.** They will be great for the holidays! Every sale helps the St. John's PTL provide money for student events.

Sale Starts: September 13th

Forms & Payment* Due: September 27th

<u>Pick-Up</u>: October 23, 3:30-4:15 pm (Delivery or other pick up arrangements can be made if this is not convenient for church members.)

*Return form with full payment. Make check(s) out to St. John's Lutheran PTL.

Questions: Please contact Amanda Kotowski (414) 423-7279 or akotowski@wi.rr.com

DINING OUT NIGHT AT NOODLES & CO.

Join us for our first Dining Out Night at Noodles and Company, 5720 Washington Ave., on Tuesday, September 17 from 4-8pm. St. John's will receive 25% of all qualifying purchases. Please mention or show the flyer for St. John's to get credit for your purchase. A flyer is attached to the emailed newsletter or can be picked up in the back of the sanctuary. Hope to see you at this tasty fundraiser!

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL POLICY REVIEW

Our policy committee has written a new Safety and Crisis plan for St. John's Lutheran School. If you would like a copy to read, please contact the church office. The policy will be reviewed at the September Board of Christian Day School meeting.

<u>LIFE THOUGHTS FOR LUTHERANS –</u> SEPTEMBER 2024

Trinity XIV – Jesus' merciful words and ways work life and healing (Proverbs 4:20-22). He brings forth brilliant and abundant fruit (Galatians 5:22-23) even from flesh like ours (Galatians 5:19-21) that was born broken. We who take these words to heart—and the hearts we touch with them—will live indeed. *Gracious Savior, bring life to us and bring life through us. Amen.*

Trinity XV – Our God Jesus has set us free from sin, death, and the power of the devil. He also gives us the gift of dependence, to depend upon Him in faith and on one another in love and service (Galatians 6:2). Rather than diminishing our humanity, mutual dependence dignifies it. Lord Jesus, help me to depend upon You with Your people and defend those who depend upon me. Amen.

Trinity XVI – In both the Old Testament and Gospel readings we see the ultimate miracle, sons raised from the dead (1 Kings 17:17-24, Luke 7:11-17). Yet they present but a tiny picture of what will happen because God raised His Son from the dead! All the dead in Christ will be raised to eternal life. Death is a defeated enemy! Prayer: Lord, may Your defeat of death give us courage as we confront a culture of death. Amen.

Trinity XVII – In Christ God embraced and befriended hearts and bodies ruined by sin. He allowed neither disabilities nor disobedience to separate anyone from His love (Luke 14:1-4). This forgiveness heals us to share the same gracious kingdom with the ones right in front of us who struggle with impairment and iniquity (Luke 14:12-14). *Prayer: Extend Your kingdom, Lord Jesus, through me to those who are broken like I am. Amen.*

Trinity XVIII – Those who see abortion as just "another issue" and would support or encourage a woman to make such a choice fail to understand the scriptural concept of "neighbor" and have a false sense of what it means to love. Those who see both mother and unborn child as "neighbor" and take action to bring help and hope fulfill the second greatest commandment in the Law and reflect the love of Christ (Matthew 22:34-40).

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1-Sept	Eliza Hansing	18-Sept	Chris Barber
2-Sept	Mason Klees	18-Sept	Annette Matera
3-Sept	Gus Duchac	19-Sept	Hannah Messersmith
3-Sept	Nick Gasau	20-Sept	Bonnie Beversdorf
4-Sept	Christopher Petkus	20-Sept	Carla Hammermann
5-Sept	Lyndee Anzalone	20-Sept	Asher Howard
5-Sept	Adeline Gasau	20-Sept	Iris Howard
5-Sept	Sandy Kolbow	20-Sept	Sofie Kading
5-Sept	Tanner Naegeli	20-Sept	Kristine Metz
7-Sept	Dean Bartel	20-Sept	Laura Terselic
7-Sept	Reed Bowe	21-Sept	Leslie Lofquist
7-Sept	Carissa Naegeli	21-Sept	Marlene Perkins
8-Sept	Brennan King	21-Sept	Heather Summerford
8-Sept	Janet Pesch	21-Sept	Logan Widmar
8-Sept	Thomas Sollman	22-Sept	Kayla Schulz
9-Sept	Jack Lofquist	22-Sept	Cameron Yohn
10-Sept	Barry Anderson	23-Sept	Samuel Albright
10-Sept	Savannah Fernandez	23-Sept	Diane Andersen
11-Sept	Darius Davis	25-Sept	Jason Block
12-Sept	Mindy Schalinske	25-Sept	Catherine Lie
13-Sept	Sharon Adel	25-Sept	Debbie Lovdahl
13-Sept	Rich Radtke	25-Sept	Andrew Schuler
14-Sept	Avery Wasik	27-Sept	Kris Phillips
16-Sept	Dannilynn Griner	28-Sept	Klara Peterson
16-Sept	Christian Pallamolla	29-Sept	Eli Al-Jehani
16-Sept	Daniel Pallamolla	29-Sept	Jaxson Fisa
16-Sept	Kathleen Smith	29-Sept	David Rossman
17-Sept	Ravi Velasquez	30-Sept	Shannon Porcaro



We apologize if we have forgotten anyone.

Please contact the church office at 637-7011 to correct.

Thank You!

VANCO MOBILE AND ONLINE GIVING

Giving is easier than ever through St. John's Vanco online or the Vanco Faith mobile app. You can access <code>Vanco online giving</code> by going to the St. John's Church and School website; stjohnsracine.org. Under the church heading, click online giving. This page allows you to give to different church funds. You can choose a one-time contribution or set up recurring contributions through this site. Giving is also available through the <code>Vanco mobile app</code>. Vanco, our eGiving provider, has launched an updated mobile app called Vanco Mobile Faith. Downloading the new Vanco Mobile is easy! Head over to the App Store or Google Play to download Vanco Mobile for free.

To use Vanco Mobile, follow these easy steps:

- Search for our church by entering St Johns Lutheran. Do not use any punctuation, and it is case sensitive
- 2. Create a new account or login
- 3. Select your gift amount, fund, and frequency
- 4. Enter your payment method and click submit to complete your donation.

Please contact Kimberly in the church office if you have any questions about or need assistance with the Vanco online or mobile app giving. chapman@stjohnsracine.org or (262) 637-7011.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER – SEPTEMBER 2024

Sept. 1 – Trinity 14

Luke 17:18–19 – "[Jesus answered,] 'Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' And he said to him, 'Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well."" Faith and thanksgiving go together. How could they not go together? Our Lord gave Himself for us and we trust Him and His every Word. Once we have this faith, we want to say thank you — it's only natural. And thus, our stewardship is a natural part of the Christian faith. We thank the Lord with our gifts which enable the church to reach more people with the Good News of Christ.

Sept. 8 – Trinity 15

Matthew 6:24 – "You cannot serve God and money." In today's Gospel, Jesus gives the first and last word about our stewardship — well, you have to go back a few verses to verse 19 to get the whole thing: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Read Matt. 5:19–34 again this week at home and consider your generosity to the Lord's work in light of what Jesus says.

Sept. 15 - Trinity 16

Ephesians 3:14–15 – "For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named." We don't call our heavenly Father by that name by analogy to our earthly fathers — it's the other way around: God sets the pattern and image for earthly fathers to follow. He is the real and true Father: kind, loving, strong, faithful, generous, righteous and self-sacrificing. Knowing this Father is the basis for growing into His image, which is the goal of our sanctification.

Sept 22. - Trinity 17

Luke 14:5 – "And he said to them, 'Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" The time is always ripe to do right. God is always calling us to faithfulness and love, which is the fulfillment of the Law. The Pharisees wanted an easier law, something less than love, which was easier to keep. Why? Because they thought they had to in order to be saved. But since we know that Jesus saves by His sacrifice, we are free to see the real Law of love and to strive to fulfill it not out of fear, but out of thanksgiving.

Sept. 29 – Trinity 18

1 Corinthians 1:4 – "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus." The grace of God and thanksgiving go together. When God gives to us, thankfulness wells up inside of us. How could it not? And as Paul shows us here, it's not only the grace given to us that causes us to give thanks, but even the grace given to others. We certainly have much to be thankful for when we look at the gifts of grace all around us.

VARIOUS FUNDS AND SPECIAL OFFERING INFORMATION

<u>Endowment Fund:</u> To perpetuate all parish programs. The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to receive and administer gifts and primarily for the enhancement and furthering the work and ministry of St. John's Congregation, the enhancement and extension of the LCMS, and for the benefit of other worthwhile Christian programs and projects.

Rev. A.C. Schaefer Scholarship Fund: For the training of pastors and teachers. The purpose of this fund is to encourage and assist qualified persons to prepare for professional church work in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod.

St. John's School Technology Fund: Donations to this fund help in the purchasing of technology materials such as chrome books, Smartboards, laptops, printers, internet, etc. for St. John's Lutheran School.

Renovation for Church and School: Any monies given to the renovation of the church and school goes into an account specifically designated for renovation costs that occur at both our church and school. At times, there will be specific requests for renovation project donations.

<u>Altar Guild:</u> The Altar Guild uses funds to purchase communion elements, floral arrangements as necessary, and various other projects overseen by the Altar Guild and the pastors.

<u>Families in Need:</u> The Families in Need fund is designed to help member families that are struggling financially. This may include help with paying bills, buying groceries, or other needs that may arise. The Stewardship Board along with the pastors at St. John's oversee this program.

Congregation Approved Capital Expense Fund:

These are funds that are set aside in a designated checking account to be used for larger projects or special expenditures as approved by the congregation. As part of the annual budget process, money is already being set aside monthly in this account. Donations to fund these congregational projects are also accepted into this account.

The Bugenhagen Conference 2024





Note: Videos from the conference are available on YouTube by simply searching "Bugenhagen Conference 2024"

Note: Neither pastor at St. John's was on the winning softball team. Pain.

The Bugenhagen Conference went very well again this year and included four worship services, three keynote addresses, and 40 workshops, with 206 registrations an estimated 178 pastors in attendance. Our building was again put to excellent use!

Above: All attendees of the Matins service on July 30.

Left: Rev. Brady Finnern, President of the Minnesota North District of the LCMS, preaches a Matins service on July 30.

Below: Rev. Aaron Uphoff of Watseka, IL offers a

workshop.



Thank you to all of the congregation for supporting and being willing to host this conference! A special thanks goes to all who volunteered with set up, food preparation, serving, and clean up!

Below are some of the many thank you notes from the attendees of the Bugenhagen Conference:

Thank you so much for sponsoring this conference. It has proved to be a very edifying experience for me, and I definitely intend to come again in the future. I'm very grateful for all your hard work. Thank you!

Vicar Will Ebel (Faith Lutheran Church – Green Bay, WI)

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Thank you for hosting this conference—for the use of facilities, the financial time commitment to providing meals, and for the time that the committee put into planning the conference. It is a wonderful opportunity to be among the brothers and hear so many excellent presenters.

Pastor Norlyn Bartens (Grace Lutheran Church – Neligh, NE)

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Thank you dear saints in Christ at St. John's and St. Paul's and Messiah! I always learn a lot and enjoy our time together at this conference.

Pastor Alex Post (Redeemer Lutheran Church – Marshalltown, IA)

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Thank you so very much for all your work to make the Bugenhagen Conference such a magnificent event. You have given us pastors such a wonderful blessing!

Pastor Jacob Hercamp (Christ Lutheran Church – Noblesville, IN)

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God bless you all, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for providing this treasure of a conference year after year. The 420-mile (one way) drive is more than worth making to come experience your hospitality and support for those laboring in the ministry. You are a gift to Christ's Church in serving us this way. Thank you, a million times over!

Pastor Jonathan McCall (Our Savior Lutheran Church – North Royalton, OH)

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Thank you so much for your generous support of the Bugenhagen Conference. I am very grateful for your willingness to keep this wonderful conference free for the pastors who attend. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel.

Pastor Timothy Sheridan (St. Luke Lutheran Church – Harrison, MI)

Every year I begin to look forward to this conference the day I return from the conference. It is the best! And I know that it would not be possible without your generous support. This conference is a gift to the pastors who attend and for that I am thankful to the Lord.

Pastor Greg Truwe (Trinity Lutheran Church – Cole Camp, MO)

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Thank you for your generosity and hospitality in sponsoring and putting together the Bugenhagen Conference. This is my favorite conference! The Lord bless and keep all of you in His grace!

Pastor Joshua Willadsen (Bethel & Trinity – Fort Smith, AR & Sallisaw, OK)

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Thank you so much for making this conference happen. It was a fantastic shot in the arm. This conference is a wonderful gift to the Church.

Pastor Peter Kolb (St. Mark Lutheran Church – Waco, TX)

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The encouragement I received at the Bugenhagen Conference is what I hope all participants will take home and put into practice in their congregations and circuits to strengthen the proclamation of our Savior Jesus Christ. My greatest appreciation to you for sponsoring this conference.

Pastor Samuel Morsching (Peace Lutheran Church – Phillips, WI)

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Thank you for your sacrifice in putting on this conference year after year. It is a huge blessing to us pastors—and in turn—a blessing to God's people in our individual congregations. God's peace to you!

Pastor Joel Sutton (St. Timothy Lutheran Church – Vandalia, OH)

FALL IS FOR GETTING BACK TO ROUTINE! Can our Shut-Ins be a part of yours?

"As was His custom, He (Jesus) went to the synagogue on the Sabbath Day and stood up to read." Luke 4:1. So, Jesus attended the weekly meetings, "...as was His custom."

One does not ask oneself daily whether you should go to work, and whether you should brush your teeth. They are just good habits! Can you include a new habit into your life as you begin the new routine that we all get back to in the fall?

Can you write some letters the first week of fall?

Can you make a few phone calls the second week of the month?

Can you send a bouquet of flowers the third week of the month?

Can you stop at someone's residence to say hi, at any time of the month?

Can you include even just one of these things into your month?

Please pray about how you might include the shut-ins of our congregation into your daily, weekly or monthly routine. Please feel free to email or call me to help you on your way to a new "routine" of serving these precious members of our church family.

Thank you,

Louise Borgardt: 262-886-4941 or louiseborgardt@gmail.com

SHUT INS

Name	Address	Phone Number
Ann Beckett	6603 Medley Drive, Racine, WI 53402	
Pat Cole	6551 Mariner Drive, Unit 6, Racine, WI 53406	
Sue Erickson	5101 Wright Ave #121, Racine, WI 53406	
Gary & Shirley Filicetti	4710 N Main St, Racine, WI 53402	
Janet Fisa	McMynn Tower	
	110 7th St, Racine, WI 53403 Room #904	
Marcella Geyer	3139 Conrad Drive, Racine, WI 53404	
Gail Gotch	1916 Wisconsin Avenue, Apt. 359, Racine, WI 53403	
Joanne Griffin	3920 N. Green Bay Road, Rm. 74, Racine, WI 53402	
Mimi Hynek	5321 Douglas Avenue, Apt. 1156A, Racine, WI 53402	
Susan Monson	418 Shoreland Drive, Racine, WI 53402	
Kathy Patzman	5404 Idlewood Drive, Racine, WI 53402	
Art Preuss	5643 Erie Street, Room 219, Racine, WI 53402	
Linda Puchter	8500 Corporate Drive, Mount Pleasant, WI 53406	
Joanne Ruble	1108 N. Sunnyslope #104, Racine, WI 53406	
Judy Schweitzer	5643 Erie Street, Room 247, Racine, WI 53402	
John Smith	1636 Raintree Lane, Racine, WI 53406	