

NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S

SEPTEMBER 2023

FROM THE PASTOR

For 160 years St. John's has been firmly committed to the Lutheran education of children. To put it simply, St. John's Lutheran School exists so that they might know Jesus. And thanks be to God, this mission has not changed and continues to this day. But though the mission has not changed, the world certainly has. Among the school children there are fewer and fewer who are connected to a church, and fewer still who attend church with any kind of regularity. This is a real challenge, but it is also an opportunity for us to share the gospel.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

This year is the second year we are offering a short education hour for parents in our school who want to know more about what we believe, teach, and confess as Lutherans. Our desire is that this be additional open door between the church and the school and foster a relationship between the parents and the pastors of St. John's. We also hope this will serve as a bridge to the new member class. Additionally, this year we will be taking time every Thursday to give a short lesson/devotion from PK3 through 4th grade. Our goal is to build familiarity and trust between the students and pastors of St. John's. These are some steps we are taking to further our commitment to the mission of bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to all the children and families affiliated with St. John's. We ask that you continue to pray for us and all our faculty, staff, students, and families.

May the Lord continue to bless us as we continue in his service. Amen. Pastor DeYoung

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Our next New Member Class will begin on Sunday, September 17 at 9:00 am. We will meet in the Fifth Grade Classroom (upstairs in the school building). The class will conclude on December 17. 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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL INFORMATION

Would you consider giving your children or grandchildren a wonderful gift? Send them to Sunday School! Our season begins on September 10. We have classes for children age 3 through 8th grade. Our teachers have been busy planning and preparing to share with your children the stories of God's love. We begin each Sunday at 9:00 and end around 10:00. We will meet this year in the following rooms:

***Grades 6-8** will meet in the faculty room near the North Wisconsin Street door.

***Grades 3-5** will again meet in the library on the second floor.

***Grades 1-2** will continue meeting in the Chapel by the Erie Street door.

***Grades PK3-Kindergarten** will meet in the Music Room in the basement corridor.

The PK4 room downstairs will again be open for parents and their younger children.

VOTERS' MEETING

Our next quarterly voters' meeting will be held on Sunday, September 24 in between the services at 9am in the sanctuary.

FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY

We are looking forward to the next Fellowship Friday on Friday, September 15 from 5:30-7:30pm. Tacos will be served as the main meal by the Board of Christian Day School. 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 to attend, please email Kimberly (chapman@stjohnsracine.org) or Sharon (adel@stjohnsracine.org).

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN TRIP

Please join the Stewardship Board on Saturday, September 23rd for a fall field trip to Feed My Starving Children, a Christian organization in Libertyville, Illinois that utilizes volunteers to pack meals for kids in need around the world.

Last April, we had a group of 50 people attend who helped to set a site record for number of boxes packed and meals shipped. We packed 166 boxes which provided over 83,000 meals and will feed 229 children for an entire year!

Our packing time is from 11:30-1:15. We will 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

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0e49acaa28a7f58-feed1>



Feed My Starving Children Trip in April

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Welcome! Join our Senior Choir and/or Handbell Choir

On September 12, 2023, Senior Choir and Handbell Choir will begin the season with a Masterclass Music Workshop led by Reverend Stephen Rosebrock, Kantor - Mt. Olive Lutheran Church and Day School, Milwaukee. This evening is a great way to 'try out' our choirs.

Here is what is 'required' of you as you consider joining one or both choirs:

1. You must be able to carry light musical notes part way across the church.
2. You must be able to see the director;
3. You will receive satisfaction and joy in serving God;
4. Come on Sunday mornings with occasional opportunities for overtime – i.e., afternoon Reformation services, Christmas Concert.
5. No particular age is required, but it is generally determined by prayer, printed notes getting too small, notes too high, church too hot (or cold);
6. No need to 'apply' just attend the first rehearsal and **enjoy**.

- Rehearsals: Tuesday evenings

Handbells 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Senior Choir 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

The relationships we have, over the years, developed is a beautiful woven tapestry of connections! Let us remember that whatever we do, do it all to the Glory of God.

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!

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1-Sept	Eliza Hansing	17-Sept	Ravi Velasquez
2-Sept	Brennan King	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	Carla Hammermann
4-Sept	Christopher Petkus	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	Janet Pesch	21-Sept	Heather Summerford
8-Sept	Thomas Sollman	21-Sept	Logan Widmar
9-Sept	Jack Lofquist	22-Sept	Kayla Schulz
9-Sept	Eleanor Suszek	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
15-Sept	Janet Benner	28-Sept	Klara Peterson
16-Sept	Dannilynn Griner	29-Sept	Eli Al-Jehani
16-Sept	Christian Pallamolla	29-Sept	Grayson Burman
16-Sept	Daniel Pallamolla	29-Sept	Jaxson Fisa
16-Sept	Kathleen Smith	29-Sept	David Rossman



We apologize if we have forgotten anyone.
Please contact the church office at 637-7011 to correct.
Thank You!

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

St. John's began its 2023-2024 school year on Monday, August 21st, and so far it looks like it will be a great year. There are a lot of new faces in our hallways this school year. Please be sure to welcome our new middle school teachers when you see them around church: Mr. Jon Grant and Mr. Melvin Beversdorf! We also welcome our new aides and extended care staff- Mrs. Beyer, Miss Maeden, Miss Brenda, Mrs. Perona, and Ms. V. We are so excited to have them join our staff. Our church members are always welcome to join us on Wednesday mornings at 9:00 am for our weekly chapel service, where you will hear our 1st-8th graders singing God's praises. We hope to see you there!

KOHL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

St. John's Lutheran Families,

Please click on the link below if you would like to nominate a teacher for the Kohl Teacher Fellowship Program. If awarded, the teacher would receive \$6,000, and the school would also receive \$6,000. Applications are due November 7, 2023.

<https://www.kohleducation.org/teacherfellowship/>

There is also a Principal Leadership Award and scholarships available for high school seniors if you would like to check out those programs, also. If you have any questions, please let me know. - Miss Pesch



Submitted by Peter Glassen

VARIOUS FUNDS AND SPECIAL OFFERING INFORMATION

Endowment Fund: 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.

Altar Guild: 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.

Families in Need: 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.

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 **Vanco online giving** 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 **Vanco mobile app**. 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:

1. 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.

"..Let him give; not
grudgingly, or of
necessity: for God
loveth a cheerful giver."

2. Corinthians 9:7

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

September 3 – Trinity 13

Luke 10:25 – “And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, ‘Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?’”

That’s just not a good question! Doing and inheriting just don’t go together. What can you do to inherit the Rockefeller fortune? Nothing. Inheriting is about birthright; doing is about merit. We receive eternal life by birthright in our Baptism into Christ. All of our doing in the kingdom of God flows from this, from who we are by our new birth. It can never be the other way around.

September 10 – Trinity 14

Luke 17:18-19 – “Then 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. 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.

September 17 – Trinity 15

Matthew 6:25 – “Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on.” Our anxieties and fears all come down to one thing: worrying that we will not have what we think we need. But God is our loving heavenly Father. He will always care for us, His will is always best, and He actually knows what we actually need. That confidence should set us free from worry and make us free for service according to the callings God has given us.

September 24 – 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 have a Father in heaven. He cares for us. He knows how to give us all good things. This knowledge frees us from worry and anxiety. Jesus returned to this theme again and again, and we should take Him at His Word. Our Father will care for us, so we can be secure in generosity and faithful living.

LIFE THOUGHTS FOR LUTHERANS – SEPTEMBER 2023

Trinity XIII – The compassionate Samaritan does not euthanize or terminate the already half-dead traveler. He treats this stranger and rival not as less human but as dear neighbor and trades his own convenience, cost, and comfort to help a brother (Luke 10:33-35). Our Savior showers us with just such grace so that we may share it as well. *Dear Savior, grant me fully to appreciate Your grace to me and freely to extend it to all in need. Amen.*

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.*

Can you help bring “Christ Comfort” to our Shut-Ins?

“Blessed be God...who comforts us...that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction.”

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Our shut-ins suffer from the affliction of being a shut-in. I will be one some day. You will be one some day. You will no longer get to come to church and see your family of believers. You will miss your family. These very special and precious members of our church family need some comfort; the comfort Christ gives them through the promise of life eternal and also the comfort Christ moves us to give them. Please share a note, phone call or visit with one of our shut-ins. It will truly be a gift of “Christ comfort.” If you would like to be a shut-in visitor, please contact me:

Louise Borgardt – louiseborgardt@gmail.com or 262-498-9581

SHUT INS

Name	Address	Phone Number
Joyce Anderson	Woods of Caledonia , 5737 Erie Street, Rm. 105, Racine, WI 53402	262-989-6942
Ann Beckett	6603 Medley Drive, Racine, WI 53402	
Leola Christian	5321 Douglas Avenue, Apt. 1123, Racine, WI 53402	262-886-0734
Pat Cole	6551 Mariner Drive, Unit 6, Racine, WI 53406	
Sue Erickson	5101 Wright Ave #215, Racine, WI 53406	262-260-8454
Gary & Shirley Filicetti	4710 N Main St, Racine, WI 53402	262-639-3721
Janet Fisa	6101 – 16 th Street, Room 54, Mount Pleasant, WI 53406	262-234-9859
Marcella Geyer	3139 Conrad Drive, Racine, WI 53404	262-634-8105
Gail Gotch	1916 Wisconsin Avenue, Apt. 359, Racine, WI 53403	262-221-6912
Mimi Hynek	5321 Douglas Avenue, Apt. 1156A, Racine, WI 53402	
Susan Monson	418 Shoreland Drive, Racine, WI 53402	262-639-8490
Kathy Patzman	5404 Idlewood Drive, Racine, WI 53402	
Art Preuss	5643 Erie Street, Room 219, Racine, WI 53402	
Linda Puchter	1463 28th Ct, Kenosha, WI 53140	262-553-9470
Marlene Roepke	1201 Kingston Avenue, Racine, WI 53402	
Joanne Ruble	1108 N. Sunnyslope #104, Racine, WI 53406	262-498-3476
John Smith	1636 Raintree Lane, Racine, WI 53406	262-498-6554