

NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S

OCTOBER 2024

FROM THE PASTOR

The Psalter

This year we have chosen to focus on appointed psalms for our day school chapel services and for our midweek evening services. The importance of the Psalter cannot be overstated or overlooked. If you do not have a devotional habit, a great place to start is with the Psalter. Begin reading them devotionally and you will find in them beauty and insight, wisdom and instruction, law and gospel. You will hear musings on the wonder of God's creation, words of lament and sorrow, along with words of faith and abiding trust in the Lord. Martin Luther, for his part, loved the Psalter. He learned to make it his daily devotional tool and indeed was a key for him to understand the rest of Holy Scripture. It is likewise true that the Psalms are not intended only to be read silently, but heard out loud, and even sung. Every Sunday we sing the Introit which usually contains segments of thematically appropriate psalms. For chapel services we are having the children read the psalms out loud. These words are not only meant to be heard like a lesson but are also to be on our lips and in our hearts.

As you read the psalms you will notice that each one has a different theme. Luther gives us a guide to five different themes which I will outline here. The first are psalms of *prophecy*, which usually contain messianic predictions and laments which align with the ministry of Christ or with a particular eye toward the eschaton (the end times). Think, for example, of Psalm 22 "**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**" words which were on the lips of Jesus on the cross and as the psalm goes on, you'll see even more words which are particularly prophetic of Jesus' crucifixion. The second are psalms of *instruction*, which teach us things to do and things to avoid and often point to the folly of the wisdom of man in light of the true wisdom of God. The third are psalms of *comfort*, which point to the everlasting peace that comes through faith in an almighty and merciful God. The fourth are psalms of *prayer*, which teach us how we are to pray especially in times of hardship. The fifth are psalms of *thanks*, where we are taught to glorify God in all that he has done for us in body and spirit.

And so, I encourage you, as you are able, to spend time in the psalms. Read them aloud or sing them if you are able. In your hymnal they are pointed to be sung, and you will find before the psalter an index of the different tones you may use. Many of them should be familiar to you as we sing them in church, moving through them seasonally. May the Lord continue to bless you as you hear, meditate, and respond with faith and thanksgiving to the blessings found in the Psalter.

-Pastor DeYoung

OFFICIAL ACTS

Funerals:

Lois Rose	9-9-2024
Elizabeth Donaldson	9-11-2024
Marilyn Dargin	9-30-2024

SPECIAL REFORMATION SCHEDULE

On Sunday, October 27, St. John's will hold only one service in the morning at 9:00 am. There will be no Bible Class, New Member Class, or Sunday School. Later that afternoon, we will host the annual Racine/Kenosha circuit Reformation Service at 4:00 pm. Rev. Walter Otten will be the guest preacher. Everyone who is interested in singing with the mass choir is welcome to do so. A cake and coffee reception will follow the service, so we ask that you consider bringing a dessert item to share if you plan to attend. Please join us for this special event!

FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY

Fellowship Friday will not be held in October due to the Trunk or Treat event. Please consider participating in Trunk or Treat instead. More details about this event can be found in the "From the Principal" section in the School News Corner.

"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, October 30 at 8:30 p.m. at Pastor DeYoung's home (1106 Hialeah Drive). 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/9040B4AACA62EA3FB6-51738966-bible> or by contacting Kimberly in the church office at chapman@stjohnsracine.org or (262) 637-7011.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

The St. John's Altar Guild will meet on Monday, October 21st at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Dinner will be served. ***This meeting is for all current and new members. If you are interested in learning more about the Altar Guild, you are also invited to attend.*** If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly in the church office at chapman@stjohnsracine.org; (262) 637-7011 or Curt Adel at (262) 681-1114.

FALL CLEANUP DAY

Come join us for our annual Fall Cleanup Day on Saturday, November 2nd from 9 - 10am. We will spend 1 hour cleaning up in the neighborhood around church and school. This is a wonderful way to give back to the community that directly surrounds your church and school. We hope that you can join us!

"And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8

Please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0E49ACAA28A7F58-50517495-fall>

COFFEE WITH THE CRADLE ROLL

Please join us for a play date! Intended for the youngest among us (newborn to those who haven't started school yet). For the parents(s) there will be coffee and other adults to talk to, and for the kiddos new friends to be made and different toys to play with. Meeting Tuesday October 22nd at 9am at the Peterson House (1423 Borgardt Rd, Sturtevant). Please RSVP to Stephanie Peterson at 815-931-8790.

THE LEAVES ARE FALLING....

Just in time for fall...300 leaves have been purchased to fill a new section of tree branches that will be installed in the hallway outside of the pastors' offices!

There are three levels of leaves that will be available for purchase: \$300, \$200, and \$100. All proceeds from the purchase of these leaves will be put in our Church Renovation Account and be utilized to help fund the eventual replacement of the church's roof.

Thank you to Kris Reisdorf for this fundraising idea and for coordinating the ordering of the new tree branches and leaves!

Order forms will be available in the church office and in the back of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Kimberly in the church office.

CRAFT SALE SAVE THE DATE

Save the date for our Craft Sale! Please join us in between services and after late service. All money raised from this sale will be used to help support the Bugenhagen Conference. Our crafters do not receive any money for their materials or time.

Please come and check out the wonderful selection of cards, floral arrangements, unique handmade gifts, Curt Adel's famous Dill Pickles and so much more!

If you have any questions or would like to donate some craft items to the sale - please contact Diane Schweitzer (262) 635-3879. We look forward to seeing you. **CASH OR CHECK ONLY.**

SERMONS ON YOUTUBE

We are now streaming live content through YouTube. The easiest way 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.

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Senior Choir and Handbell Choir attended a workshop on September 3, 2024 working with Stephen Johnson, Our Father's Lutheran Church, Milwaukee. I am so happy to say that we have welcomed new members to our Senior Choir. We are now working towards Reformation and All Saints Festival services as well as our Christmas Concert. Save the Date: Sunday, December 15th – 6:00 pm.

How wonderful to hear our Children's Choir and Cherub Choir again this season. We are grateful to have so many beautiful voices in these choirs. Throughout the season, Cherub Choir is accompanied by various piano students. We are truly blessed to have students willing to serve the Lord with gladness as they share their musical talents throughout our Church and School.

Welcome back, 7th and 8th grade Handchime Choir. This year, the Handchime choir has grown to 18 students! Children's Choir and Handchime Choir will be part of the 10:15 am service on October 13th, please join us.

We are all, through faith, serving the Lord with gladness! It brings us joy to come into His presence whether it is through using our voices to sing or hands to ring! God's Blessings! Sharon Adel

Psallam spiritu et mente!

"I will sing with the spirit and with understanding also."

1 Cor. 14:15

SCHOOL NEWS CORNER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It's hard to believe that we're already over halfway through our 1st quarter of the school year. Our days have been filled with math facts and science experiments, story writing and history projects, lessons on faith and beautiful chapel music. Outdoor Education is right around the corner for our 6th and 7th graders, who will be heading to Phantom Ranch once again on October 2nd-4th. Our volleyball team is hosting its annual Play for Pink game to support those who have been impacted by breast cancer- this year we play our fellow Lutheran school, Trinity Lutheran. Chapels for our 1st-8th grade are always held Wednesday mornings at 9 am, and we'd love for you to join us! The pastors are examining the psalms as the focus of this year's messages.

We'd also like to extend a special invitation to our congregation members to participate in our school's annual Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 18th. Come decorate the trunk of your car and hand out candy to our students as they trick-or-treat their way through the parking lot and stay for concessions sponsored by our PTL! The trunk-or-treat event will take the place of our regular Fellowship Fridays, so we'd love to see our congregation members come and join with us for some fellowship that evening! You can arrive between 4:45 and 5:00 to set up your car, and trick or treating will begin at 5:30. We hope to see you there!

DINING OUT NIGHT AT CHIPOTLE

Join us for our next Dining Out Night at Chipotle, 5720 Washington Ave., on Tuesday, October 15 from 4-8pm. St. John's will receive 25% of all qualifying purchases. Please use the code 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!

NEW POLICY UPDATE

Act 20 3rd grade promotion policy

(This would be its own policy or added to our current retention/promotion policy.)

Wisconsin Act 20 mandates all schools in Wisconsin adopt a promotion policy for students progressing from 3rd to 4th grade based on his/her reading proficiency as evidenced through a nationally normed reading assessment. St. John's Lutheran students who score more than one year below grade level norms on the MAP reading assessment in 1st-3rd grade will receive intervention that may include, but is not limited to, the following: small group instruction, reteaching using the St. John's prescribed curriculum, Title services, and/or referral to a summer school program. Students will receive intervention until MAP assessment scores are within one year of the student's assigned grade level at St. John's or until the exceptions below are met. Parents will be notified of the criteria used to determine the need for intervention and the plan for support. Students who are not performing at grade level on the 3rd grade nationally normed reading assessment will receive intervention as explained above and may be retained in 3rd grade per state law.

The following students are exempt from this Act 20 policy in accordance with the law:

- Limited-English pupils as defined in s.115.955
- Pupils with IEPs who have been exempted because taking such assessments are not appropriate for the pupil
- A pupil who scores as proficient on an alternative assessment approved by DPI
- A pupil with an IEP or 504 plan that indicates the pupil received more than 2 years of intensive intervention and was previously retained
- A pupil who received more than 2 years of intensive intervention and was previously retained



The Lutheran Witness

"Parents, it is optional to teach your children chess or sewing or how to change a tire. It is not optional for you as a parent to teach them about Christ. It is not the Sunday School teacher's job. It is not your pastor's. It is your duty. And to be able to make a good confession, you must study and learn good theology. Start by going to your pastor's Bible study. He is there to help you." - Rev. Daniel Preus

Submitted by Peter Glassen

RACINE LUTHERAN HIGH OPEN HOUSE

Don't miss out—check out the all-new, freshly updated Racine Lutheran High School website at racinelutheran.org! It's packed with exciting new features and resources to keep you informed and connected. Explore everything RLHS has to offer, from academic programs to student life, upcoming events, and more!

It's already time to start planning for the 2025-2026 school year! Join us for Racine Lutheran High School's Open House on Monday, October 14th, from 5 PM to 7 PM. This informal, drop-in event is the perfect opportunity for prospective students and their families to explore our campus. No registration is required! Take a guided tour with our Student Ambassadors, who will share a glimpse of life at RLHS. You'll also have the chance to meet our dedicated faculty, staff, and coaches, and discover what sets Racine Lutheran High School apart in academics, spiritual growth, and community engagement.

RACINE LUTHERAN HARVEST FAIR

The Harvest Fair will be Saturday, Nov. 2nd from 9am-3pm at Racine Lutheran High School, 251 Luedtke Ave., Racine. We are handicapped accessible with free admission. Come browse through the many booths of bakery, fresh fruits and vegetables, gifts, jewelry, household helpers, antiques and collectibles, linens, needle crafts, books, purses, toys, sports items and memorabilia. The snack bar has homemade sandwiches, soups, salads, desserts and coffee. Many outside vendors and independent sales consultants will be selling their products. To reserve a booth, call 262-498-8782. Live music will be provided for your enjoyment. Free parking and strollers are welcome. Presented by the Racine Lutheran High School Ladies Guild with all profits going to the school.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1-Oct	Patricia Bertermann	17-Oct	Nancy Preuss
1-Oct	Alexandria Dickey	18-Oct	Claire Holewinski
1-Oct	Kathy Hagemann	19-Oct	Tracy Wasik
1-Oct	Camryn Mang	20-Oct	David Donaldson
2-Oct	Timothy Jaeck	20-Oct	Eli Gasau
3-Oct	Brynn Beier	20-Oct	Mimi Hynek
3-Oct	Eva Chaudoir	20-Oct	Louise Rodriguez
3-Oct	Beverly Trobaugh	21-Oct	Kristin Chiappetta
4-Oct	Ashleigh Dickey	22-Oct	Carl Seils
4-Oct	Aaron Douglas	23-Oct	Alyssa Gilliam
5-Oct	Carol Day	23-Oct	Alice Peterson
5-Oct	James Riegelman	23-Oct	Lucia Peterson
5-Oct	Alex Van Schyndel	23-Oct	Pamela Sorenson
6-Oct	Samantha Andersen	24-Oct	Jim Beversdorf
7-Oct	Kristina Beier	24-Oct	Alisha Burger
7-Oct	Tracy Naegeli	24-Oct	Peggy Busarow
7-Oct	Joanne Ruble	24-Oct	Rebekah Gilbert
8-Oct	Wayne Henslin	24-Oct	Andrew Rosenberg
10-Oct	Sharon Polack	24-Oct	Joseph Zanotti
11-Oct	Joelle Griner	25-Oct	Gregory Clausen
11-Oct	Griffin Radtke	25-Oct	Emily Polack
11-Oct	Evelyn Schneider	26-Oct	Patricia Clemons
12-Oct	Jennifer Kellner	25-Oct	Amanda Patzke
15-Oct	Noah Fisa	27-Oct	Emily French
16-Oct	Ayden Hlavacek	28-Oct	Christopher Davis
16-Oct	Megan Sollman	29-Oct	Evelyn Olley
16-Oct	Analisa Trevino	30-Oct	Abigail Grant
17-Oct	Marilyn Davis	30-Oct	Debora Riegelman
17-Oct	Shirley Filicetti	31-Oct	Brianna Davis



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 **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.



STEWARDSHIP CORNER
OCTOBER 2024

Oct. 6 – Trinity 19

Ephesians 4:24 – “**Put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.**” The battle between the old self in Adam and the new self in Christ is fought in the heart and mind of every Christian. Paul encourages us to put on the new man which is created in the image of God. Our sanctification, our growth in godliness, is a growth into God’s image. So we do this by keeping our eyes on Christ and imitating Him in everything: in love, in kindness, in self-giving generosity.

Oct. 13 – Trinity 20

Isaiah 55:2 – “**Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?**” What Isaiah says here is reminiscent of what Jesus says about putting our earthly wealth in places where “moth and rust destroy” (Matt. 6:19). Where we put the money God has given us to manage says a lot about the way in which we actually view life. What do your spending priorities say about what you think is truly important in life?

Oct. 20 – Trinity 21

Genesis 1:1 – “**In the beginning God created ...**” Many studies report that atheism is on the rise in our culture. The appeal of atheism is in the denial of a Creator. If the world just happens to exist, and we are just accidents that arose out of a long process of random, directionless evolution, then we get to make our own rules, and nobody has any right to tell us otherwise. Because if there is a Creator, then obviously He would know best, and we would do best, to follow His commands. Of course, we Christians know this Creator very well, and we have seen not only His power and commands, but also His grace and mercy in His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

Oct. 27 - Reformation Day

Romans 3:20 – “**For by works of the law no human being will be justified in His sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.**” The Law of God is good — it’s just that we sinners cannot save ourselves by the Law. Salvation is a free gift of God because that is the only way we could ever be saved. The Law shows us God’s holiness and thus our own sin. And now in Christ we can look at the Law and see it in a new light as well: as a guide for how to live a godly life in thanksgiving to God for His gracious forgiveness in Christ.

LIFE THOUGHTS FOR LUTHERANS –
OCTOBER 2024

Trinity XIX – The horror of abortion happening over 3,000 times each day in the U.S. should make Christians angry. The silence of the Church and the indifference of fellow congregational members should make Christians angry. But anger must not lead us to sin (Ephesians 4:26). Screaming and yelling and returning evil for evil is not the way of the body of Christ. The truth needs to be proclaimed but without “bitterness and wrath” (4:31).

Trinity XX/Reformation Sunday – The Reformation truths Lutherans have celebrated for 500 years apply beautifully and powerfully to life issues. A human being’s identity and sanctity come from God’s grace in creating, redeeming, and calling each one. Abilities or accomplishments, efforts or emotions cannot establish anyone’s value or invalidate anyone’s worth. *Prayer: Gracious Savior, let us honor with You the preciousness of every human person because of Your grace, forgiveness, and free salvation. Amen.*

Trinity XXI – The picture of the armor-clad Christian in Ephesians 6:10-20 is one of defense not offense. We are not fighting to obtain truth. We have the truth. We fight to defend the truth upon which we stand. Be encouraged in this spiritual battle that can seem so frustrating at times. “[B]e strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might” (6:10). *Prayer: Thank You for Your truth, Lord, and Your armor. Help us stand firm. Amen.*

Trinity XXII – God would have us forgive each other “from your heart” (Matthew 18:35). When terrible sins are involved, such as abuse or incest, it is no easy matter to forgive—maybe it even seems impossible. The same is true when trying to forgive ourselves when we have committed some horrible sin, like abortion, for example. The starting point for forgiveness in all situations is not what we should do but what God in Christ has done for us. Only His complete forgiveness can give us peace as we strive to forgive others and ourselves. *Prayer: Father, forgive our many sins for Jesus’ sake and give us opportunity to share this forgiveness freely with others. Amen.*

THE CRISP AIR BRINGS NEW RHYTHMS AND NEW BEGINNINGS
FOR THE SAKE OF OUR SHUT-INS

WELCOME FALL! As anticipation fills our hearts, let's open them to the confident hope that the Lord has something beautiful prepared for us in this new season and beyond. Maybe that includes a renewal of hospitality and community focused on our **SHUT-INS!**

- Add a fallen leaf from your yard into your next greeting card to them.
- Drop a pretty, little pumpkin off to the shut-in you visit.
- Offer to take someone on a drive to see how God is painting our trees.
- Bring some pumpkin spice creamer to your next coffee visit.

This would be a wonderful season to think of our Shut-Ins. Make a call, arrange a visit, drop a note or say a special prayer for these special members.

And if you need any help in getting started, just call or email me!

Louise Borgardt: 262-886-4941 email: louseborgardt@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	