

NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S

October 2022

FROM THE PASTOR

This month we continue to focus on those whom we commemorate in the Lutheran Church throughout the year. In the month of October, we begin with Henry Melchior Muhlenberg (10/7) and the patriarch Abraham (10/9). From there, we remember Philip the Deacon (10/11), Ignatius of Antioch (10/17), St. Luke the Evangelist (10/18), James of Jerusalem, brother of Jesus and martyr (10/23), Dorcas, Lydia, and Phoebe as faithful women (10/25), Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, and Paul Gerhardt as hymnwriters (10/26), and St. Simon and St. Jude, apostles (10/28). Of course, we end the month of October with Reformation Day (10/31).

Paul identifies every believer as the offspring of Abraham and connects his faith to Christ (**Galatians 3:27**). This is an amazing and important promise, although it also inspired a certain children's song that might not leave your head for a while now. The role Abraham plays in God's plan of salvation is significant. As the author of Hebrews puts it: "*By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise...*" (**Hebrews 11:8-9**). Knowing nothing other than the powerful Word of God by which he was directly called, Abraham came to recognize the eternal value in trusting that Word. In time, as promised, that Word came into our flesh through Abraham's line, and he was used to bring about blessings to "*all the families of the earth*" (**Genesis 12:3**). It is also of note that when God established His covenant with Abraham, he was sleeping and a mere passive recipient of what God assured him He would do! On October 9, I encourage you to read about this in **Genesis 15**, with an emphasis on verse 12! We are saved by God's grace alone, through His gift of faith alone, as delivered by His Scriptures alone!

St. Luke, the author of the Holy Gospel that bears his name, is remembered each year on October 18. We have just begun our study of this book during our Sunday morning Bible Class. We meet each week at 9:00 am downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. It is time well spent with our fellow members at St. John's, so please join us if you are not already a part of it! Luke's gospel stands out as one that most likely made use of Jesus' mother Mary for some eyewitness accounts of what took place in His life, including the angel Gabriel's visit to her (**Luke 1:26-38**), which resulted in the incarnation of our Lord as He took on our flesh to bring about the salvation promised to our father Abraham! There are also a number of pieces of our liturgy that are drawn from Luke's gospel including the Magnificat (**Luke 1:46-55**) in *Vespers*, the Benedictus (**Luke 1:68-79**) in *Matins*, and the Nunc Dimittis (**Luke 2:29-32**) in the *Divine Service, Setting III*. What a wonderful reminder that our worship services stand firmly on God's Word alone! St. Luke also wrote the book of Acts, which gives us a helpful view of what the Early Church looked like in the time following our Lord's ascension (**Luke 24:50-53**).

On October 25, the Church remembers three faithful women: Dorcas (known also as Tabitha), Lydia, and Phoebe. While the Scriptures make it clear that God designates different abilities and responsibilities to men and women, and that the pastoral office is reserved for men (**I Timothy 2:12**). Still, as Luke details for us in the book of Acts, these and many other women served the Early Church well. Dorcas was "*full of good works and acts of charity*" (**Acts 9:36**), having offered her talents in producing clothing and garments for those in need. Upon her untimely death, Peter raises her with the words "Tabitha, arise" (**Acts 9:40**). Again we see the power of God's Word and how it inspires loving work by those who hold it sacred and take it to heart! Lydia is identified as a "*seller of purple goods*" (**Acts 16:14**), which implies that she was among the wealthy people living in her city of Thyatira. By the preaching of Paul and Silas, she came to the faith and offered her home to them during their time in this region. Finally, Phoebe is known as another servant of the Lord and a co-worker of Paul. Identified as a deaconess, she played a role in delivering what we know to be the book of Romans as one of Paul's epistles, or letters, to the believers in Rome (**Romans 16:1-2**). Each of these women, and many others including so many among us as St. John's today, show us what living out the faith God gives us looks like!

Finally, each year on October 31, we give thanks for the work God inspired in Martin Luther as he freed the gospel for the people, standing on the "three *solas*" of the Reformation: *sola gratia* (grace alone), *sola fide* (faith alone), and *sola Scriptura* (Scripture alone). Please join us on Sunday, October 30 for one service at 9:00 am and our annual Racine/Kenosha circuit-wide service at 3:00 pm. Our guest preacher will be the recently retired Pastor Karl Fabrizio, who served at Our Father's Lutheran Church and School in Greenfield for the past 20+ years. A reception with cake will follow. Please consider singing in the mass choir (along with members from area sister congregations), and feel free to bring along dessert items to share for the reception. Oh, and the Packers are scheduled to play the evening game at 7:20 pm, so there's plenty of time for both.

God's blessings to us all as the month of October goes forward and these commemorations take place!

In Christ,

Pastor Gilbert

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptism:

Alice Windrow Farley 9/4/2022

Funeral:

Lana Dresen 9/15/2022

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Our next New Member Class will begin on Sunday, October 2 at 9:00 am. We will meet in the Fifth Grade Classroom (upstairs in the school building). The class will conclude on December 18. 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 (637-7011; 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!

SPECIAL REFORMATION SCHEDULE

On Sunday, October 30, 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 3:00 pm. Everyone who is interested in singing with the mass choir is welcome to do so! Our guest preacher for the afternoon service will be Rev. Karl Fabrizio, who recently retired from serving many years at Our Father's Lutheran Church and School in Greenfield, WI. A reception with cake will follow the service, so please consider bringing a dessert item to share if you plan to attend. Please join us for this special event!

FELLOWSHIP FRIDAYS

Join us for the next Fellowship Friday on Friday, October 21 from 5:30-7:30pm. This month's theme will celebrate Oktoberfest!

Please come as individuals or families, and if you do, please bring a drink or dessert 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. Everyone connected to St. John's is invited to join us each month! If you will be in attendance on October 21, please email Kimberly Chapman (chapman@stjohnsracine.org) or Sharon Adel (adel@stjohnsracine.org).

CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTOGRAPHY MAKE-UP DAY

If you weren't able to make the photography dates in September for the new church directory, we have one make-up day scheduled for Monday, October 10. You can go online to schedule your picture for that day!

1. Go to www.ucdir.com and click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side of the page
2. Enter **wi204** in the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the Church Password field.
3. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.
4. Please contact Kimberly in the church office (information below) if you need help signing up or have any questions.

If you are unable to sign-up online, please call Kimberly in the church office, and she will sign you up. (chapman@stjohnsracine.org or (262) 637-7011)

CRAFT SALE TO BENEFIT THE FAMILIES IN NEED FUND

Please join us on Sunday November 13th in between services and after the late service. All money raised from this sale will go directly to the Families in Need fund. Our crafters do not receive any money for their materials or time. Please come and check out the wonderful selection of cards, German Stars, Curt Adel's famous dill pickles, floral arrangements, unique handmade gifts and so much more! If you have any questions - please contact Jean Adel (262)886-1645 or Diane Schweitzer (262)635-3879.

We look forward to seeing you. **Cash or Check Only.** Come and take some wonderful treasures home!

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Annual Fall Cleanup Day

Our annual Fall Cleanup Day is planned for Saturday, November 5th at 9am. It will take place in the neighborhood around church and school. Watch for a signup in the back of church and more information in upcoming bulletins.

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, or email with the address of any military/college member.

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Gratitude is a condition of being thankful for, or the readiness to show much appreciation. It is a feeling and a disposition. Each week, we have the opportunity to come to a beautiful sanctuary, listen to God's Word and receive Sacraments, and sing the most beautiful hymns accompanied by our awesome pipe organ. This enlivens our worship. Our worship time begins and ends with a grateful heart.

The hymnal we sing out of each week is actually overflowing with gratitude. Look at 'For the Fruit of All Creation' for example, it names blessings big and small! How about "Oh, That I had a Thousand Voices' - how can we sing this hymn without great enthusiasm and joy!

I am very happy to have added a 7th and 8th grade Chime Choir to our music program. The Chime Choir already played for us on Sunday, September 25th and I look forward to having this choir join us for our Christmas Concert.

Please join us on Sunday, October 30, 2022 for our Reformation Service in the morning as well as what is now becoming our traditional Reformation Festival Service in the afternoon. I have invited our circuit LCMS church choirs to join us in participating in Mass Choir anthems during the Festival Service.

The Christmas Concert is scheduled for Sunday, December 11th, 2022. Mark your calendars for a beautiful tradition which St. John's Lutheran Church has held for many decades!

Thank you! Sharon Adel

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus 1
Thessalonians 5:16-18.*

FALL BLOOD DRIVE

Did you know that in the U.S., someone needs a blood transfusion every 2 seconds? Did you know that blood cannot be manufactured and can only come from a person donor? Did you know that one donation can save more than one life?

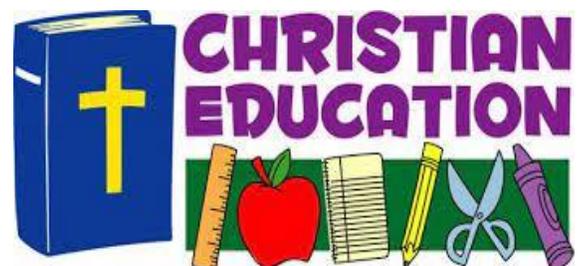
Our church and school will be hosting an American Red Cross blood drive on Friday, October 14 from 10am-3pm. The drive will take place in the school gymnasium. This is a wonderful opportunity to give a gift to a person in need! Please see the attached flyer for more information. If you need help registering, please reach out to Rachel Duchac at duchac@stjohnsracine.org.

DINING OUT NIGHT AT CULVER'S

Join us for our October Dining Out Night at Culver's, 5801 21st Street, Racine, from 4-10pm on Tuesday, October 11. St. John's will receive 15% of the net earnings! Please show the flyer attached to this newsletter or pick up a copy in the back of the sanctuary so that St. John's receives credit for your purchase. Thanks for supporting this tasty fundraiser!

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL POLICY REVIEW

The Board of Christian Day School met on September 14. During the meeting several policies were reviewed. If you would like to see a copy of these policies, please contact Mrs. Chapman in the church office.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

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



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

THANK YOU FROM OUR SEMINARIAN

Dear Saint John's

Greetings in Christ. My wife and I offer our utmost thanks for adopting me as a student while I study at seminary. Your generosity greatly supports us during our time here.

So you may get to know us, here are a few details about our family: My wife, Abby, and I have been married for over a year. During summer Greek, we welcomed our first child into the world. His name is Oliver Robert. We were proud to have him baptized into Christ, with Rev. Joshua DeYoung and Kaitlyn DeYoung as the sponsors.

As I write, week three of Fall Quarter begins here at CTSFW. Even in these two first weeks, studying here has benefitted me greatly. I am excited for the many weeks and classes to come.

May the Lord Bless You All,

Jacob and Abigail Stefanec



STAR FUND LETTER

Members of St. John's Lutheran Church,

I want to thank the congregation members that have contributed to the STAR Fund during the past decade. Thank you also to those whose thoughtfulness and work brought about the establishing of the fund itself. The money received through your offerings have helped numerous families to be able to attend St. John's Lutheran School. I am grateful for the support you have given this program for so many years.

Because of your generous donations and more families being accepted into the Racine Parental Choice Program, the STAR Fund is at a point that the current funds will be sufficient to help families financially for many years to come.

I would encourage you to consider giving your offerings to other programs that we offer at St. John's such as the Families in Need Fund, our Endowment, or to help support missions. There are also many school projects that are in need of funding. If you are interested in funding a school need, please contact me.

Janet Pesch
Interim Principal

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 give using 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.

LIFE THOUGHTS FOR LUTHERANS – SEPTEMBER 2022

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).

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.*

SHUT-INS ARE PART OF "A FAMILY OF LOVE"

The Senior Choir and the Children's Choir will join together on Sunday, October 16th, in the late service, to sing a new anthem called, "**A Family of Love.**" This song of thanksgiving reminds us that we, all of the members of St. John's Lutheran Church, are a Family of Love. It's what God wants us to be and how He wants us to live. As I sing it, I am reminded that as some of our family grows older, they can become less visible. We are not to lose sight of them! We are not to forget them! We are to be "with them" even as we are "apart from them." Please consider joining me in the support of our **Shut-Ins** by praying for them, visiting them, calling them or writing them letters of encouragement and love. This part of our family needs us more than you could ever know. Please read the list below and pray that God directs you to share your Christian love with one of them. Call me if you don't know how to get started. I would love to help you.

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

SHUT INS

Name	Address	Phone Number
Merle Barta	5321 Douglas Avenue #304, Racine WI 53402	262-898-4000
Ann Beckett	6603 Medley Drive, Racine, WI 53402	
Betty Borgardt	Home Inspired 1201 Village Center Drive, Kenosha, WI 53144	262-859-2500
Leola Christian	5321 Douglas Avenue, Apt. 1324, 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	Elizabeth Gardens 5111 Wright Avenue, Room 203, Racine, 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	
Linda Puchter	1463 28th Ct, Kenosha, WI 53140	262-553-9470
Edna Roberts	5321 Douglas Avenue #1323, Racine, WI 53402	
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	262-456-0073