



Josie Frey and Ava Sandeman, Fifth grade

---

Prairie du Sac, WI

September 2017

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

By the time you read this, our Intern Derek Rosenstiel will have been at St. John's for nearly three weeks. He will have preached his first sermon, been installed and led worship. He will also be preparing, along with Becky, to welcome a baby.

For those of you who are parents, you may remember (or are in the midst of) all the newness that comes with welcoming a new person into the world. For many of you parental leave was a gift you received from your work that allowed you time to make this transition.

Our ELCA Synodical guidelines, which help congregations at joyous times like this, state that rostered leaders are to receive six weeks of maternal/paternal leave after the birth of a child. St. John's personal guidelines related to paternal/maternal leave are modeled after the synod guidelines and state the same leave is to be granted.

This is all to say that after the birth of their child, Derek will be on leave for up to six weeks.

We are excited to be a congregation who gets to welcome a new child into our midst. On average Sally and I get the chance to hold and pray for nearly 20 babies a year. We look forward to holding Derek and Becky's child in September (they are due September 6<sup>th</sup>).

During Derek's absence, if you wish to send a card, you can send it to the parsonage, 75 First Street, Prairie du Sac. I know they already appreciate your welcome and I know that your continued support during this time of transition will be a great gift to them.

Internship is a special time where students prepare to serve as a pastor in the ELCA. It is a time of growth and challenge, a time to experience new things, work through unexpected situations and grow in the capacity to be a disciple of Christ, called to serve both a congregation and the larger church. The same things hold true for an internship congregation.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a horizontal stroke at the end.

### **Congregational Meeting**

On Oct 1st, after the first service, we will have a congregational meeting to approve our 2018 budget, elect members to our Parish Planning Council and to elect three congregational members to serve on our Nomination Committee. Please join us for this important meeting.

### **Worship Services Time Change**

Beginning September 10<sup>th</sup> we will have worship at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Fellowship will follow the early service at 9:00 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Education are at 9:15 to 10:15 a.m.

Please join us!

## Parish Planning Council Members:

Executive Director	Ken Carlson	370-1356
Assistant Exec Director	Jon Sandeman	643-5006
Secretary	Kathy Lovell	643-2075
Treasurer	Butch Passehl	643-3008
Evangelism Board	Gwen Ringelstetter	643-6922
Fellowship Board	Lori Hegge	592-3196
Lay Ministry Board	Ruth Lohr	225-8477
Member at Large	Linda Lintl	370-7455
Member at Large-Youth	Ally Dunnum	644-0041
Parish Education Board	James Newman	512-7623
Properties Board	Roger Clason	576-0343
PR and Social Concerns	John Schmidt	643-2171
Stewardship Board	Nancy Kaufman	963-0151
Women of ELCA	Eunice Yanke	643-8289
Youth Board	Marvin Hupp	643-0653

### The Staff:

Pastors: Fred Rilling [fred@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:fred@stjohnssaukprairie.org) (h) 644-1359

Sally Williams [sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org) (h) 643-7810

Intern Derek Rosenstiel [derek@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:derek@stjohnssaukprairie.org)  
(h) 370-7392

Office and Communications Coordinator: Linda Hines

[linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org) (h) 544-2409

Youth-Education: Abby Bennett [abby@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:abby@stjohnssaukprairie.org)

(c)370-2380

Director of Music: Connie Burton [connie@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:connie@stjohnssaukprairie.org)

(c)393-4291

Custodian: John Hines [john@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:john@stjohnssaukprairie.org) (c)393-2325

St. John's Lutheran Church: 643-2439 [www.stjohnssaukprairie.org](http://www.stjohnssaukprairie.org)

Like us on Facebook at St Johns Lutheran Sauk Prairie

*Mission Statement: Christ, our strength and refuge, calling us to serve*

**Food Pantry Sunday is September 10th.** Food, paper products and cleaning supplies may be brought to the table in the gathering area. These items are distributed to many families in the Sauk Prairie community. The food pantry especially needs:

Cereal	Tuna
Peanut Butter	Jelly
Shampoo	Toothpaste

Keep this list handy as you do your grocery shopping during the next few weeks.

*Many parishioners find it easier to bring the items to the gathering area of the church at other times during the month. We appreciate the donations at any time.*

### **Birthday Greetings**

We hope you take a moment to send greetings to the following people who have birthdays in September. The date is in parentheses.

Zona Roewer (12)  
930 Prairie St., Apt. 106  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

### **Moving? Change of Address? Going to a College Dorm?**

Contact the church office (643-2439) if you or your post-high school student will be changing addresses. We like to keep in touch with you!

## Women of the Church News

Hannah Circle: Next meeting October 3, at 6:30 p.m.

Lydia Circle: Thursday, September 14, 1:00 p.m. at Lynnette Wick's, 2012 Mustang Dr., Prairie du Sac

Martha Circle: Thursday, September 7, 9:00 a.m., at Dianne Effinger's, W14204 Selwood, Prairie du Sac

Mary/Sarah Circles: Tuesday, September 5, 1:30 p.m., at St. John's Library

Ruth Circle: Monday, September 11, 9:00 a.m. at Carolyn Gilbertson's, w14410 Vista View Ct., PdS



In September we begin our new series, which is on the Apostles Creed. The first session is: "We Believe in God". This lesson will be led by Fay Rentmeester, Marge Erlandson, Kathy Lester and Marian DeGiovanni. **NOW** would be a very good time to join a Circle and get in on these interesting studies. Besides these great Bible Studies, being in a Circle is a great opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. Of course, it is also fun to be a part of a variety of wonderful and very worthwhile activities. Look at the times above that the different circles meet, and choose the one most convenient for you.

The most exciting projects we are working on right now are all of the kits for Lutheran World Relief, which includes the quilts, personal care kits, sewing kits, baby kits and school kits. On other pages of this newsletter are complete lists of these kits and the supplies to make each one. We are hoping everyone will help as much as possible with supplies for any of these kits. The deadline for bringing things in is September 20<sup>th</sup>. This is so the volunteers will have time to put the kits together for packing. The various kits must be packed in boxes and ready for shipment by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Ruth Circle visited Special Friends in June and July. Sarah Circle is visiting them in August and September. Martha Circle visits in October and November.

The Baraboo Fall Conference will be on September 16<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Lutheran Church in Leland. Pastor Don Glazer will be the speaker. Before becoming a pastor, Pastor Glazer was a detective for the FBI. This should be very interesting and we are hoping we will have several ladies who can attend this meeting. Registration is 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. After the meeting and program there will be a lunch at noon. (ALWAYS VERY DELICIOUS!) The cost is \$7.00. There will be ride-sharing so you should call the church office if you plan to go.

The South Central Wisconsin Synodical Women's Biennial Convention is on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-Verona Campus, West. Deadline for registration is September 11<sup>th</sup>. The cost of registration including morning refreshments and box lunch is \$25. Checks are made out to Women of the ELCA. Worship sermon will be given by Bishop Mary Froiland. Churchwide Woman of the ELCA Representative Rev. Gwendolyn King will also speak. The Rev. Brad Pohlman will be the Keynote Speaker and will look at some of the major impacts of Luther and the Reformation. One of the workshops will be a pictorial view of some of the major places of the reformation.

Other workshops offered will be: Behavior Finance, Climate Change, Everyday Yoga, Healing and Forgiveness, Katie Luther-the Runaway Nun, My Super Power is Invisibility, Our Piece of the Racism Puzzle, Protecting Yourself from Fraud, UPAVIM Mission Trip, Women & Incarceration. Your Circle Chair has more information. If you would like to attend this conference call the church office. There will be ride-sharing.

The offering at this Convention will be shared: ½ to WELCA churchwide, ¼ to Katie's Fund and ¼ to workshop organizations. In-kind gifts will be collected for the Dane County Jail Ministry and Transition Education Program for homeless children in the Madison Metropolitan School District.

Pennies for Poverty in 2017 will be given to Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. We have \$91 in our Pennies Fund to contribute so far.

Bible Study Leaders' meeting for September will be on Tuesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Intern Derek will be leading this meeting.

Read this month's Prayer for Peace in this [Visitor](#) on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **Attention Fiber Artists**

We thank you for sharing your talent in knitting or crocheting to furnish St. John's with prayer shawls and baby hats for our Baby Care kits. Your work is greatly appreciated!

The next meeting of Sharing Stitches is Tuesday, September 12 at 9:30 a.m.

### **Older Wiser Livelier Seniors (OWLS)**

We will gather on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. with Mary Ann Marx from True North Life Coaching. Our topic will be stress reduction. Please let Pastor Sally know if you have any ideas or requests for future OWLS events or topics!

### **Women's Book Club**

Our September book is The Alliance by Jolina Petersheim. We will meet on Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the church library and 6:30 p.m. at the Blue Spoon.

### **Fall Adult Education Schedule**

Our regular Sunday adult education schedule will start up again on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m. in room 1.

"The battle of the soul at the polls." This is the theme for the adult classes on the Sundays of September 24<sup>th</sup>, October 1<sup>st</sup> and October 8<sup>th</sup>. During those sessions we will explore how our Christian Faith influences our vote at the polls as well as other areas of our lives as Americans. Primarily The Sermon on the Mount, from the Gospel of Matthew (Chapters 5-7) will serve as the Biblical basis. Eldor Fruehling will lead the class.

On Wednesday evenings (beginning October 4<sup>th</sup>) at 6:00 p.m. we will gather to study the Gospel lesson that will be read the following Sunday. All are welcome to come at 5:20 p.m. and enjoy a meal. Cost is only \$1 with a maximum of \$5 per family.

### **Hannah Circle**

The Hannah Circle will not meet during the summer months. Please join us again on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

# SPECIAL PRAYER

We invite you to pray for peace on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of each month. On September 20<sup>th</sup>, please repeat the following prayer:

Gracious heavenly Father,  
renew us in faith and love  
that we may always be intent  
on fostering unity and peace.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

## **Milestone Ministry Events: Back-to-School Blessing**

With another school year just around the corner, we want to celebrate and bless the beginning of the school year with the special Back-to-School blessing! On Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> students of all ages are welcome to attend either the 8:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. worship services. We also want to encourage teachers, principals, administrators, school office personnel, cooks, librarians, custodians, bus drivers...anyone who plays a role in our school systems...to come on September 10<sup>th</sup> to be blessed, affirmed in your vocation, and encouraged as you serve children and families in your daily work. Join us for this Milestone Ministry event!

## **3 Year Old & 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Presentation**

On September 24<sup>th</sup> at the 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., services we will present Bibles to our 3 year olds and third grade youth. In our baptismal liturgy we promise to place the Holy Scriptures in the hands of our candidates. If you did not receive a letter, please contact Abby Bennett to be sure your child's name is put on the list.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I write this I am getting ready to head out for vacation, and as I look ahead to some sabbath rest I cannot help but look back at our life together these last few weeks. Our St. John's family has said goodbye to many loved ones due to cancer and other illnesses, we had 70+ kids and volunteers fill our building with laughter and praise to Jesus during VBS, and we are welcoming Intern Derek and Becky.

The variety of activities, events, and opportunities to gather in worship remind me of how active God is in our daily lives. Whether it's jumping up and down singing, "I was made for this" or serving at a funeral luncheon, God is present, moving within us, and working through us.

Thank you, friends of St. John's, for allowing God to shine through your words and actions.

We are at the beginning of another school year, and I am looking forward to the many opportunities to worship together and serve our neighbor. Please take a look in this newsletter and in our weekly bulletins at our stewardship focus this year of caring for God's children. Our Sunday School offerings will go to 6:8's Backpack program and our adults will be raising money for the orphanage in Haiti. Together we can serve our sisters and brothers in Christ near and far away!

I look forward to the new energy that will fill our building as our educational programming starts back up again. But ultimately I give thanks for the many ways that you proclaim Christ in our midst!

Peace to you on the journey,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally".

### **St. John's Web Page**

Be sure to go online and look at our web page. See the changes at [stjohnssaukprairie.org](http://stjohnssaukprairie.org). Or follow us on Facebook at St Johns Lutheran Sauk Prairie

HELLO  
my name is

INTERN

---

Greetings Siblings in Christ,

Becky and I are beginning to settle into our new home here in Sauk Prairie and we would like to express our deep gratitude for the warm welcome which we have received from everyone! Without the help of many of you as well as the support and kind embrace that has been extended to us, this transition would not have gone so smoothly. The abundance of gifts, moving assistance, and loving words that you have given to us have truly been blessings to our entire family. We THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts and are excited to continue to get to know you and grow with you over the course of this year!

As I begin to ease into a new role and a new place, I have had the pleasure of sampling a foretaste of the feast to come while I participate in the many great ministries that St. John's carries out in this loving community! VBS this last week was so much fun and getting to know the kids and volunteers was a great beginning experience. One of our more furry and rambunctious members of the family (our cat Nori) and I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the petting zoo. The kids were a delight to visit with, and both Nori and I got a taste of what it feels like to be worn out after a long day with children. This was good practice for the exciting experience our whole family has in front of us as we anticipate the birth of Becky and my first child.

As I mention the joyous occasion of our child's birth, I am filled with gratitude and excitement. Excitement in realizing the fact that it is literally right around the corner with an expected date for the birth set on September 6th! It is so hard to believe that the time has flown this fast. Also gratitude at the gracious gift that St. John's is extending to our whole family by giving me the opportunity to spend time at home in those cherished first moments with our child. Becky and I are very thankful for the paternity leave that is being given to me and words cannot express how blessed we feel for this gift. While I will be gone for some time during this leave, I know that you all will be holding us in your prayers and thinking of us. We want you to know we welcome you to send us cards at the parsonage, and that you are welcome to call us to check in or even to set up a time to meet our new little one.

In the mean time I can't wait to begin to participate more fully in worship leadership and continue to become involved in the many great ministries that occur here in this faith-filled community of St. John's. I have a passion for pastoral care and the home communion visits as well as the hospital visits have been absolutely sacred moments. Many firsthand experiences in pastoral calls have conveyed to me how Christ comes to us in the midst of the storm and makes it known to us that we are his beloved children whom are cared for and saved by grace through faith in him. I am humbled to be able to have the chance to continue to proclaim and experience this good news as I learn, live, and grow with you all over the course of this coming year.

As Becky and I explore our new home here in Sauk Prairie, we welcome you to come up and say hello to us in and about the community and feel free to contact me either by phone in the office or by email to set up times for us to get together for longer visits as well. We look forward to this year ahead and can't wait to see and experience all that it may hold for us! See you around and thank you again for everything!

God's Peace,  
Intern Derek & Becky

**We conferred the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on the following children during August.**

Hannah Marie Bischoff, daughter of Jay and Amanda Bischoff. Hannah's sponsors are Marina Mitchell and James Mitchell. Her congregational sponsor is Christina Himebauch.

Oliver Charles Newman, son of James and Heather Newman. His sponsors are Otto and Kris Dingfelder. Oliver's congregational sponsors are Jon and Carin Sandeman.

Addison Frederick Thomas Klaetsch, son of George and LeAnn Klaetsch. Addison's sponsors are Dawn Karls and Dan Meise. His congregational sponsor is Laura Collins.

St. John's reports many of the names of our hospitalized and recently discharged members in the monthly newsletter. We include only those who have given us permission to print their names. You may send cards or telephone them and pray for their improved health.

**Hospitalized/Recently Discharged**

Dave Lohr  
Roger Seymour  
Claire Richardson  
Stacey and Laila Steinmetz

**With Sincere Sympathy**

We offer our condolences to the following families this month:

Dick and Shirley Uttech and family on the death of their son, Scott.

Gary and Deb Lohr-Foster and family on the death of Gary's mother, Marion Foster.

Norma Newman and family on the death of Norma's husband, Rich.

Harold Carlson on the death of his wife, Barbara.

Bob and Dede Egan on the death of Bob's mother, Gwen Egan.

*Thank  
you*

To our St. John's Lutheran family,

Thank you for the prayers and love only you can provide at this sad time in our lives. Scott so dearly loved you all.

Dick and Shirley Uttech

## Happy September Birthday!

(The date is in parentheses.)

### Our Youngest

Ira Opie (3)	Olin Frey (4)
Ryan Bakken (7)	Elliot Harms (10)
McKayla Peterson (24)	Caleb Anderson (27)

### Our Sunday School Students:

Ramona Blau (2)	Emma Rhyner (2)
Audrey Sandberg (3)	Malania Hitchcock (4)
Masen Schmidt (8)	Evelyn Fritsch (9)
Gavin Sawyer (9)	Olivia Stephen (9)
Lucas Muehrer (12)	Austin Urban (12)
Corbin Colby (13)	Emily Cook (13)
Cannon Esser (15)	Claire Hartman (15)
Ryan Jager (16)	Brooke Braund (17)
Callie Lohr (17)	George Colby (18)
Lauren Endres (18)	Micah Boerger (19)
Ellery Apel (20)	Erelyn Apel (20)
Michael Blau (21)	Matthew Johnson (24)
Alaina Kraemer (26)	Micael Louis (28)
Rylie Louis (28)	Malea Schonenberger (28)
Jaycie Riha (29)	Jaylyn Riha (29)

### Our Youth:

Ben Chao (2)	Briar Lohr (2)
Gavin Tompkin (4)	Chris Kepler (5)
Samantha Johnson (7)	Annika Braund (10)
Ashley Pape (17)	Kalyn Schmit (17)
Grace Fauerbach (18)	Madie Hohenstein (18)
Kyra Manning (18)	Kaitlin Graves (20)
Carly Coy (22)	Katie Yanke (27)
Dawson Evert (27)	Madison Stronach (27)

### College and Career-age Young People:

Claire Meixelsperger (3)	Brooke Herschleb (9)
Kyle Johnson (10)	Lucas Johnson (10)
Lizzie Hupp (12)	Sean Collins (16)
Luke Tilkens (17)	Nick Sailor (28)

## Serving in September

### Ushers:

September 3

8:00 a.m.

Rob Risley  
Molly Ballweg

9:30 a.m.

September 10

8:00 a.m.

Linda Meyer  
Roger Maynard  
Karen Bader  
Michael Endres

10:30 a.m.

Kyle Dregney  
Deb Westphal

September 17

Brody Ballweg  
Roger Clason  
Bev Clason  
Dorothy Halverson

Haylee Goetsch  
Norma Newman

September 24

Emma Kinnamon  
Terry Roach

Gavin Tompkin

### Acolytes:

September 3

8:00 a.m.

Brody Ballweg  
Ava Roach

9:30 a.m.

Zach Guentherman  
Jordan Chao

September 10

8:00 a.m.

Wesley Himebauch  
Jonah Richard

10:30 a.m.

Emily jCafilisch  
Jaxson Dunn

September 17

Drew Marshall  
Jonah Richard

Ethan Jones

September 24

Gavin Tompkin  
Jaxson Dunn

Anna Francour  
Ruby Sandeman  
Kyle Dregney

### Readers:

September 3

8:00 a.m.

Malea Niesen

9:30 a.m.

Malea Niesen

September 10

8:00 a.m.

Nancy Kaufman

10:30 a.m.

Donna Knickmeyer

September 17

Mary Halweg

Bev Clason

September 24

Linda Hines

Aaron Braund

### Cantors:

September 3

8:00 a.m.

Bill Burton

9:30 a.m.

Connie Burton

September 10

8:00 a.m.

Senior Choir

10:30 a.m.

Senior Choir

September 17

Marv/Janelle Hupp

Doris Lohr

September 24

Dennis Fisher

Cathy/Katie Yanke

**Communion Assistants: 8:00 a.m.**

September 3 Ava Roach  
**8:00 a.m.**  
September 10 Linda Hines  
September 17 Marilyn Herschleb  
September 24 Kathy Lovell

**9:30 a.m.**

Jordan Chao  
**10:30 a.m.**  
Donna Knickmeyer  
Doris Lohr  
Deb Westphal

**Assisting Ministers: 8:00 a.m.**

September 3 Kathi Risley  
**8:00 a.m.**  
September 10 Kyra Manning  
September 17 Audrie Nurkala  
September 24 Bev Clason

**9:30 a.m.**

Kathi Risley  
**10:30 a.m.**  
Kyra Manning  
Audrie Nurkala  
Bev Clason

**Communion Set Up/Clean Up 8:00 a.m.**

September 3 Deb Corrao  
**8:00 a.m.**  
September 10 Scott Graves  
September 17 Dorothy Halverson  
September 24 Linda Hines

**9:30 a.m.**

Sue Ann Schwanke  
**9:30 a.m.**  
Kyra Manning  
Ginny Nimmow  
Deb/Gerry Westphal

**Nursery Staff:**

September 3 Zach Guentherman  
Jordan Chao  
**8:00 a.m.**  
September 10 Scott Graves  
Ashley Pape  
September 17 Scott Graves  
September 24 Briar Lohr  
Sam Beattie

**9:30 a.m.**

Ruby Sandeman  
**10:30 a.m.**  
Haylee Goetsch  
Jay Dregney  
Emily Cafilisch  
Kyra Manning  
Jay Dregney

**Coffee Set-Up/Clean-Up: 7:30 a.m.**

September 3 Linda Michaels  
September 10 Jonah Richard  
September 17 Jonah Richard  
September 24 Jaxson Dunn

**9:00 a.m.(Serve)**

Linda Michaels  
Ashley Pape  
Scott Graves  
Haylee Goetsch

**Sunday Stewards: 8:00 a.m.**

September 3 Jon Sandeman  
**8:00 a.m.**  
September 10 Linda Lintl  
September 17 Roger Clason  
September 24 Marv Hupp

**9:30 a.m.**

Eunice Yanke  
**10:30 a.m.**  
Linda Lintl  
Ruth Lohr  
Jon Sandeman

<b><u>Greeters:</u></b>	<b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>	<b><u>9:30 a.m.</u></b>
Sept. 3 (Sanctuary)	Linda Lintl	Wolfgang/Diane Reich
(Front doors)	Cliff/Cindy Thompson	Dave Carlson
(Side doors)	Bob/Josie Fentress	Norma Newman
	<b><u>8:00 a.m.</u></b>	<b><u>10:30 a.m.</u></b>
Sept. 10 (Sanctuary)	Karen Bader	Ed/Ginny Nimmow
(Front doors)	Dick/Jan Dobryznski	John/Ellen Mast
(Side doors)	Monte/Lynette Wick	Candy Buckles
Sept. 17 (Sanctuary)	Molly/Brody Ballweg	Anna Francour
(Front doors)	Carley Coy	Jacob Schweitzer
(Side doors)	Courtney Lautenbach	
Sept. 24 (Sanctuary)	Roger Maynard	Dave/Ruth Lohr
(Front doors)	Jeannine Robertson	John/Aletha Ballweg
(Side doors)	Dan/Kathy Lovell	Doris Lohr

*\*\*\*Feel free to add your name to the kiosk in any of the open positions. We are grateful for your help.*

### **Congregational totals**

	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Offering</b>
July 30	228	\$ 6,197.07
August 6	233	\$ 7,603.25
August 13	275	\$10,723.87
August 20	229	\$ 7,903.05

We recently received monetary gifts in memory of Linda Lou Rowe, Rich Newman and Scott Uttech. We are grateful when our congregation is remembered in this manner. These gifts will be used to benefit our church.



**Congratulations** to Brandon and Stacey Steinmetz on the birth of daughter Laila Eve. She is welcomed home by big sister Olivia and grandparents Dan and Janis Baun.

### **Diapers for Sauk Prairie Food Pantry**

The Sauk Prairie Food Pantry (SPFP) is always in need of diapers. Donna Knickmeyer is looking for 40 people who are willing to donate \$20 about 6 times a year (\$120 per year). Carol Gagnon of SPFP watches for sales of diapers. She would email each of us when she is ready to purchase diapers and wipes. Each donor would then send \$20 to the Sauk Prairie Food Pantry, P.O. Box 652, Sauk City, WI 53583. In this way, we can give something that they desperately need at the Food Pantry. If you are willing to donate in this way, please contact Donna at 643-4543. She will need your name and email address to pass along to Carol.

### **Shoes for HOPE of Sauk Prairie**

Join members of the HOPE Sauk Prairie team in September as we take a moment to reflect on those we have lost, encourage those who may be struggling, and raise awareness for the local resources that are available. Our goal is to prevent suicide. Show your support by taking part in our month long memorial and attend this special event on:

Sunday, September 24, 2017, 1pm-3pm  
Meyer Oak Grove Park, Sauk City

## **Special Thanks!**

We had 45 K-6th graders and 25 preschools signed up.  
Wow!

I would like to take the opportunity to thank many volunteers who helped Vacation Bible School go off smoothly! Bible Study teachers: Linda Hines, Stacy Williamson, Becky Francour, Maren Andersen-Boerger and Marv Hupp. They did an amazing job!

Pre-school teachers: Paige Ederer, Laura Collins and Alissa McLaughlin. It takes a lot of patience to teach 3 & 4 year olds and they were wonderful!

Youth helpers: Courtney Lautenbach, Ally and Cora Dunnum, Haylee Goetsch, Audrie Nurkala, Karlie Harpold, Karley Blau, Jay and Kyle Dregney, Jack Boerger, Anna Francour, Julia Jones, Wesley Himebauch, Jordan Small, Meadow Lietdke, Ainsley Apel, and Lauren Wideen. They did skits, led worship, helped with Bible Study and many other odds and ends. What great role models for our kids!

Other assistants: Megan Tarnutzer, Christina Himebauch, Jason Himebauch and JoAnnah Sorg who helped with Arts & Crafts and much more!

Linda Yanke, Jeanne Haroldson, Donna Knickmeyer, Heather Newman, and Kelly Schultz for preparing snack.

Ruth Lohr for accompanying us on her guitar!

Emily Renniecke, Tanner Wideen, and Kelly Breunig for planning games.

Everyone in the congregation who donated clay pots.

Beth and Jeff Yanke for organizing the petting zoo.

John Hines for the extra clean up of the building.

It really takes an "army" to put on a week of Bible School, and the week would not have been such a success without each and everyone's help! It was a blessing to be able to plan a week of Bible School with my sister, Stacy Williamson.

During the week, the kids learned about Creation, and our theme Bible verse was Psalm 139:14: "I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works! My soul knows it very well." Be sure to check out the mural in the Fellowship Hall that the kids worked on all week.

Thank you for a great week! We can't wait for next year!

Abby Bennett

## **Sunday School Rally Day**

Sunday School students 3 year olds – 6th grade and families, plan on joining us September 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:15-10:15 a.m. for Rally Day in the Fellowship Hall. This is your chance to sign-up for Sunday School, meet your teachers, take a tour of our Sunday School Hallway and have some fun! If you are unable to attend and would like to sign your child up for Sunday School please contact Abby Bennett at 643-2439 or [abby@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:abby@stjohnssaukprairie.org)

The first regular Sunday school class will be Sunday September 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:15-10:15 a.m.

## **Parish Education Staff Installation**

We will install our 2017-2018 educational staff on September 17<sup>th</sup> at both our 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services. Included in this group are our Sunday School teachers and assistants, librarians, adult education teachers, confirmation teachers and aides, director of music and education board members. Please join us as we rejoice in God's gifts made manifest in these individuals.

## **Hay Ride**

Mark your calendars for the annual hay ride on October 1<sup>st</sup> from 12:00-2:30pm! All Sunday School students and their families are invited to join in a day of lunch, games, fellowship, fun and SMORES!! Permission slips will be available on Rally Day, or contact Becky Francour ([rafrancour@yahoo.com](mailto:rafrancour@yahoo.com)) for more information.

*Thank you*

Dear St. John's Sunday School,

Thank you for expressing your faith in such a loving, community caring way. Raising funds for those in need of safe drinking water is a great way faith impacts our community and our world.

State Representative, Dave Considine

## **Important Sunday School Dates**

September 10<sup>th</sup> – Rally Day

September 17<sup>th</sup> – First Day of Sunday School

September 24<sup>th</sup> – Bible Sunday (3 year olds and 3rd graders)

October 1<sup>st</sup> – Hayride 12:00-2:30pm

## **Confirmation First Meeting**

September 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00-7:00 p.m.

All confirmation students and their parents should be at our first scheduled confirmation class time this year. We will offer our regularly scheduled confirmation dinner at 5:20 p.m. and begin with the orientation meeting at 6:00. Please contact Abby Bennett if you are unable to attend.

## **Milestone Ministry: New Driver Blessing**

On Sunday, September 17th, at both the 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. services, we are having a special blessing for all students who have recently begun or will begin driving in 2017. We will have you stand up in your pew at the beginning of the service, the pastor will say the blessing, and then the student can sit down again. Please plan to attend so that we may lift you up in prayer!

<b>Budget Items</b>	<b>2017 Actual Budget</b>	<b>2018 Proposed Budget</b>
<b>Administrative Expenses</b>		
Salaries: pastors, treasurer, secretary, intern, music director, youth director, custodian, snow removal/lawn care staff and payroll taxes	\$256,580.70	\$289,826.25
Office supplies:	\$17,000.00	\$19,500.00
Other Expenses: pensions, car allowance, health insurance and convention expenses	\$72,906.69	\$44,041.51
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$346,487.39</b>	<b>\$353,367.76</b>
 <b>BOARDS</b>		
Lay Ministry Board	\$7,670.00	\$9,070.00
Evangelism Board	\$880.00	\$880.00
Stewardship Board	\$1,860.00	\$1,600.00
PR and Social Concerns	\$8,400.00	\$7,400.00
Parish Education Board	\$19,750.00	\$18,250.00
Youth Board	\$4,900.00	\$26,700.00
Fellowship Board	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00
Properties Board	\$59,680.00	\$61,810.00
Lutheran Church Women	\$3,075.00	\$3,075.00
<b>TOTAL OF BOARDS</b>	<b>\$109,815.00</b>	<b>\$132,185.00</b>
<b>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE</b>	<b>\$53,725.00</b>	<b>\$63,325.00</b>
<b>LOAN/BUILDING FUND</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>	
 <b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	 <b>\$515,527.39</b>	 <b>\$548,877.76</b>

## **Pet Blessing Service**

On Sunday, October 9, we will have our annual Pet Blessing Service outdoors after 10:30 a.m. worship. Pets hold a special place in our hearts, and this service is one way to remind us that God loves and cares for all of God's creatures, even the furry and feathered ones!

You are welcome to bring your well-behaved and social pet. In the past years, we have seen a variety of pets in attendance - dogs, cats, hamsters, and even horses! If your pet doesn't enjoy being around other animals or people, or has passed away, consider bringing a favorite photo.

The following are reminders for an "uneventful" event:

- Pets must be kept on a short leash or kenneled at all times.
- Bring domestic animals only; no "exotic" pets.
- Pets are to stay outdoors while on church grounds.
- Parents must be present to assist small children with their pets. We ask that parents tend to the pet during the service.
- Be respectful of other pets. Since pets can be nervous in group situations, respect a pet's "space" by not crowding around them. If you wish to approach a pet, ask the owner first.
- Do not bring pet food or treats with you to the service.
- You are responsible for your pet at all times. Please have clean-up bags with you (just in case...).

See you there! In the meantime, we invite you to share a favorite photo of your pet with us on the St. John's Facebook page!

## **Four year olds' prayers and confessions**

"And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets".

Dear God, "I think of you sometimes even when I am not praying".

## **Lutheran World Relief Parish Projects**

Groups in our congregation have a number of ongoing projects for Lutheran World Relief. You may be interested in contributing to one of them. Items may be left in one of the bins in the Fellowship Hall or the church office. Our kits will be shipped on October 7 this year, so please bring your items before September 28<sup>th</sup>. LWR asks that we do not use items with a U.S. flag, military symbols, camouflage or religious symbols on them.

## **School Kit Supplies**

We are asking for your help in gathering supplies for our School Kits again this year. The kits are sent to Lutheran World Relief each fall.

Each kit needs:

**Four** 70-sheet notebooks

**One** 30 cm. ruler (or one with inches and cms.)

**One** pencil sharpener

**One** blunt scissors

**Five** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers

**Five** black or blue ballpoint pens

**One** box of 16 or 24 crayons

**One** 2 ½ inch eraser

## **Personal care kit supplies**

One bath-size towel (not longer than 48" please)

Two bath-size bars of wrapped soap

One adult-size toothbrush in its original wrapping  
or sealed in a business size envelope

One sturdy comb

One metal nail clipper

## **Fabric kit supplies**

Two pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric, cut into pieces measuring:

2 ¼ yards of 60" wide, **OR**

3 yards of 44" wide, **OR**

4 yards of 36" wide fabric

Two spools of matching **OR**

neutral-colored general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each

## **Baby care kit supplies**

Two cotton/cotton-blend t-shirts  
Two gowns or sleepers w/o feet  
Two receiving blankets  
Four cloth diapers  
One hand towel, dark color  
One sweater, sweatshirt, or  
jacket with a hood, or include  
a baby cap  
Two pairs of baby socks  
Two bath-size bars of gentle soap  
in its original wrapping  
Two diaper pins or large safety pins

*Sizes up to 24 months may be used. Consider varying the sizes of the clothing items so the layette will continue to be useful as the baby grows.*

*Gently used, clean items may be substituted for new ones.*

Ordinary items become extraordinary gifts when you send LWR Quilts and Kits around the world!

## **Coats for Kids**

St. John's will again partner with Concordia United Methodist Church to collect winter wear for children in need in the Sauk Prairie School District. Please keep this in mind as you clean out your closets this fall. Bring your gently-used coats, boots, hats, mittens, scarves and gloves to the back area of the coat room. We need all sizes.

## **Eye Glasses for the Lions**

Did you know that St. John's collects old, used eye glasses for the Lions Club? We do!

If you have out-grown your glasses, changed styles, or have found those old lost pair of glasses from behind the desk, bring them to St. John's cloakroom to the collection box just inside the entry, on the floor by the west wall.

A member of the local Lions Club will collect them and take them to be "sized" (strength identified), refurbished and given to those in need.