



Bryce Ballweg, 2nd grade

Prairie du Sac, WI

June 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On June 17 we will have one service at 9am. On this day we will join together as the people of St. John's and celebrate the ministry and person of Connie Burton.

It was Ash Wednesday, 2001, when we were first introduced to Connie and her considerable gifts. Connie combined skills in organ and directing choir and took over for Aaron Jansen, our organist and Lynn Gunnell, our choir director. As those two moved on to new work, it had become clear that our needs had grown. We knew finding a person who could both play organ and direct a choir would be a reach, but one we needed to make. In finding Connie, we got both and more!

Now it is easy to say that Connie is a gifted musician. That much we all can agree upon, but she brings so much more. Trained in Lutheran liturgy and theology, skilled in writing music and above all, attuned to the needs of individuals and the community we call St. John's, Connie has built a solid foundation of excellence that future music staff will find to be a blessing.

Part of our staff's weekly rhythm includes planning Sunday worship. Bulletins are checked and double checked, music is chosen based on Biblical texts, church seasons and the needs of the community. In this collaboration, Connie is thoughtful, faithful and diligent in her desire to guide and contribute to the overall worship experience. Her keen theological mind along with her

capacity to question and pursue excellence, is a great gift to the staff and has blessed the worship life of this congregation these seventeen years.

As I consider Connie's retirement, it is hard to explain how much Connie will be missed. You may have had some experience in your life where a person at work has left. Finding a replacement staff person is one thing, finding a colleague, a trusted partner, is quite another. Quality relationships do not just happen, they are built slowly and carefully. Connie is a vital partner in ministry and is a critical element in the organization we call St. John's. She is a trusted partner and contributes to the wellbeing of her colleagues. Yes, her retirement will leave additional work to be shared until another person comes on staff, but we will be different after she leaves, just as we have become different because of her partnership. I rejoice with Connie on this next step, but I wonder, "What will we look like after she leaves?"

Now having said much about Connie's leaving and how much she will be missed, I also know that there are other gifted people who will follow, not only Connie, but all of us. Just look at how we have been blessed by those who have come before us. Just in my short time here, I remember Musicians; Lynn, Kathy, Aaron, Pastors; Don, Sally, Youth and Education Coordinators; Jessa, Abby, Office Staff; Almay, Mary Ellen, Shirley, Linda, Custodians; Linda, Jake, John, Snow Removal; Brian, Dan, Roger, Steve, Lon, Groundskeeper and Lawn Care; Bob, and Treasurers; Ron, Kathy, Donna, Lynn, Butch, and this is just to name paid staff. I cannot even begin to count those volunteers that have stepped in to play music at the last moment, shoveled snow on those days that snow simply did not stop or those who, like Deloris, led the Messengers, and Singpiration leaders, Kathy, Melani and JoAnnah. These paid and unpaid staff, along with countless others, have made St. John's a place of welcome, grace and mercy.

Connie is retiring. It is clear that tears will be shed, joys will be shared and together we will rejoice in the partnership we have had for seventeen years. Please join us in worship at 9:00 a.m., on June 17, and then following the service for fellowship, as we continue to wish Connie and Bill our best and pray that their next steps into retirement will be full and joyous.

Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'J' or similar character.

P.S. Connie will be playing on June 24 and worship will include a service of sending for her on that day.

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	Sheila Dittberner	370-1550
Fellowship Board	Lori Hegge	592-3196
Lay Ministry Board	Melani Wheeler	544-2711
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	Bob Lange	434-2271
Women of ELCA	Eunice Yanke	643-8289
Youth Board	Megan Tarnutzer	963-0396

The Staff:

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

Sally Williams sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org (h) 643-7810

Intern Derek Rosenstiel derek@stjohnssaukprairie.org
(h) 370-7392

Director of Music: Connie Burton connie@stjohnssaukprairie.org
(c)393-4291

Youth-Education: Abby Bennett on leave until June 17, 2018

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

Office and Communications Coordinator: Linda Hines
linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org (h) 544-2409

St. John's Lutheran Church: 643-2439 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 June 10. 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	Boxed Potatoes
Pancake Mix	Syrup
Pudding Cups	Cake Mix

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 June. The day is in parentheses.

Jan Floeter (7)
722 Risley Court
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Lyla Schabacker (12)
Maplewood of Sauk Prairie
245 Sycamore Street
Sauk City, WI 53583

Anita Key (21)
Maplewood of Sauk Prairie
245 Sycamore Street
Sauk City, WI 53583

Myrna Engh (23)
Lake Winona Manor
865 Mankato Ave., Room 222
Winona, MN 55987

Erna Dieterle (June 27, 1915)
Maplewood of Sauk Prairie
245 Sycamore Street
Sauk City, WI 53583

Women of the Church News (WELCA)

Hannah Circle: No meetings over summer months

Lydia Circle: Thursday, June 14, 1:00 p.m. at St.

John's Library, Carol Benson, Hostess

Martha Circle: Thursday, June 7, 9:00 a.m. at

W11396 Bay Drive, Lodi, Marge Erlandson, Hostess

Ruth Circle: Monday, June 11, 9:00 a.m. at Sauk Prairie Grill

(Leystra's), Sauk City

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



In May, 36 Ladies attended Circle meetings with Anne Klinkner, Bev Clason, Mary Weeks, Maren Andersen-Boerger and Kathy Lester leading the Bible Study. In June, Fay Rentmeester, Barb Salvesson, Marian DeGiovanni and Kathy Lester will be leading the Study.

We will not have our regular Circle meetings in July. Instead, we hope everyone will be able to come to the All Circle Summer Picnic on July 19th at 9:30 a.m. at the Blue Spoon. We will have some good musical entertainment and Intern Derek has kindly consented to lead the Bible Study. We are all going to be very sad to see him leave soon after this event. He has been a real blessing to all of us. We hope to have a good attendance at this special occasion....so we can show Derek how much we appreciate him and give him a good send-off! Be sure to mark July 19th on your calendar and plan to come and bring a guest. More details in the July Visitor.

Read this month's Prayer for Peace found in this Visitor on June 20.

Ruth Circle has been visiting Special Friends in April and May. Sarah Circle will visit them on June and July.

Women's Book Club

Our June book club will discuss I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou. We will meet on Tuesday, June 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the church library. A copy is in the church library, and there are several copies in the public library system.

Older Wiser Livelier Seniors (OWLS)

All 55+ members and friends of St. John's are invited to gather together at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 21. Mary Ann Marx will join us to teach us and lead us in meditation and mindfulness (She was unable to be here in April.). We hope you can join us!

If you need a ride to the OWLS gatherings, please call Darlene Holl at 643-8413.

OWLS will not meet during July or August.

Adult Education

Adult Education and Text Study will not meet June, July, and August, but you are encouraged to continue your own study and conversation with one another informally. We will resume our group study together in September!

Hannah Circle

Thank you to everyone who attended the Hannah Circle meetings this past year. Our circle was small but we enjoyed our meetings. Come join our group! For 2018-2019, Hannah Circle will meet the third Thursday of each month at 6:15 p.m. from September, 2018 to April, 2019 EXCEPT FOR the month of December, 2018. Enjoy the summer off. Please join us again on Thursday, September 20 at 6:15 p.m.

New Member Exploration

Every year we are delighted to welcome new members to our congregation. As part of our new member process, we feel it is important that our new members (as well as our current members) have the opportunity to learn more about our history as the Lutheran Church, how it is structured, and what it means to be stewards and members of God's Church as well as of St. John's.

Please plan on attending our Wednesday evening sessions on June 13, 20, and 27 at 6pm.

The official New Member Installation and Reception will take place on Sunday, July 15 at the 9:30am service.

We hope you will take seriously our invitation to engage in this congregation as though you are already members. You are welcome to attend adult education classes, get involved in the work of one of our boards, volunteer to help with worship, and attend any congregational events.

Please contact Pastor Williams with any questions or concerns.

Text Study

Text Study will not meet in the summer months. Join us again in September.

Sharing Stitches

Sharing Stitches, a group of those who like to knit and/or crochet, will meet on June 12 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in St. John's library. They will not meet in July or August, but resume again on September 11. Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting, or learning how to knit or crochet, is welcome.

SPECIAL PRAYER

We invite you to pray for peace on the 20th day of each month. On June 20, please repeat the following prayer:

God of wholeness, God of Grace,
to you we bring our thanks and praise.

To a world that searches
you are a lamp that shines,
to a world that is hungry
you are food that sustains,
to a world that suffers
you are hope of release,
to a world that's broken
you are one who restores,
to a world full of hate
you are love that forgives,
to a world that denies
you are truth that endures.

To you we bring our thanks and praise,
God of wholeness, God of Grace.

©John Birch

With Sincere Sympathy

We offer our condolences to the following families this month:

Eleanor Ferry on the death of her special friend, Alvin Prochnow.

Marge and Carroll Erlandson on the death of their son-in-law, Bob.

Derek, Becky and Theodore Rosenstiel on the death of Derek's aunt, Virginia.

Patti and Scott Kippley, Bob and Almay Nelson, Doug and Donna Nelson and family on the death of Patti and Scott's daughter, Sara Jo Kippley.

Diane and Henry Elsing on the death of Diane's sister, Reta Brown.

Please keep these families in your prayers.

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

Larry Hitchcock
Pat Osterfund
Dale Haroldson
Steve Barritt

Baby Congratulations

Stephanie and Brandon Ballweg welcomed Lyla Lynn to their family on April 19.

Abby and Jon Bennett are happy to welcome Alice Ann into their family. Alice was born on May 3 and is little sister to proud brother, Micah. Tom and Cheryl Schneller are her delighted grandparents.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Every year our Parish Education Board talks through how we can continue to encourage our Sunday School aged children about stewardship and reaching out to those in need with the gift of money.

This year our focus was on a local need, the Backpack program through 6:8, a local nonprofit group. And because we know that God's church reaches beyond our doors, and beyond our community, we challenged the entire congregation to donate enough money to buy 50 new mattresses for an orphanage in Haiti.

Well, St. John's children and adults, you've blown me away once again with your generosity.

Our children gave \$1,392.76 for the backpacks and our congregation gave \$5691 toward mattresses, which means not only did we get enough for 100 mattresses, but there's over \$600 left to go toward blankets, pajamas, and mosquito nets.

Thank you! Your generosity inspires me, encourages me, and might even make me brag about you a little bit (shhh...but don't tell anyone).

Deuteronomy 15:7-8

If among you, one of your brothers or sisters should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother or sister, but you shall open your hand to them and lend them sufficient for their need, whatever it may be.

Whether it has been mattresses or mosquito nets, socks and underwear for our school kids, or clean water wells you have responded with open hands and open hearts.

I am grateful for you St. John's. So very grateful.

With sincere gratitude,

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

Greetings Siblings in Christ,

I am grateful to have had the chance to attend the 2018 Synod Assembly this year with our group from St. John's. Before entering seminary, I had little knowledge of the governance structure of the ELCA. In fact, I had no idea what a bishop did, nor did I know that voting members from each congregation in a synod were the ones who elected the bishop. It was exciting and interesting to have witnessed for the first time an election of a bishop!

I soaked it all in as I watched the process unfold and listened to the different nominees speak. I was empowered by the atmosphere of anticipation and the prayerful way that the whole election was carried out. I especially thought it was beautiful that before each set of ballots were cast, the moderator of the election asked for a time of prayer to be had. The group was led into their deliberation time by calling upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit so that they would be grounded in the wisdom and peace of Christ as they made their choice.

This gathering was a concrete example to me of how we as individual members and as specific communities of faith are inextricably connected to a much larger whole. This whole is the body of Christ, the universal Church that was created and is sustained by the grace of God. As we gather on Sundays in the name of Christ, we are uniting our voices in prayer and praise with the voices of billions of other people. This chorus of voices is in many different languages and takes many different forms. This is amazing if you really think about it!

If you get the chance, ask one of the members of St. John's who attended the Synod Assembly to share with you their experience. Tell them thank you for representing this community of faith through their voting and attending. Alongside this, as you come to worship on a Sunday I invite you to think about how you are participating in that large chorus of voices. I invite you to think about how you are joining your voice with all kinds of people from this community here in Prairie du Sac to communities of faith all across the nation and the world.

I pray that through this connection you may be enlivened and empowered in your faith, just as I was while attending this event. May you find peace in the beauty of the united prayer of the Church that declares: "Come, Holy Spirit, Come!"

God's Peace,
Intern Derek

Retirement Celebration

St. John's is hosting a Retirement Celebration for Connie Burton, our Director of Music, on Sunday, June 17. We will begin with just **one worship service at 9:00 a.m.** that day and continue with a special reception in Connie's honor in the fellowship hall. There will be treats, stories and great fellowship to share. A card box will be provided for cards and written stories sharing special memories of Connie and your time with her here at St. John's. Come to wish Connie well and thank her for her many years of wonder-filled and wonderful music at St. John's.

ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX

St. John's is sending twenty youth and four adults to attend the Youth Gathering in Houston. They will be leaving June 25 and returning July 2. Youth are: Sam Beattie, Emily Caflisch, Jordan Chao, Cole Douglas, Kyle Dregney, Eleri Fester, Leah Froehlich, Carley Frosch, Zach Guentherman, Samantha Johnson, Lillian Jones, Julia Jones, Emma Kinnamon, Sawyer Ladd, Elisabeth Miller, Hannah Miller, Tekla Nimmow, Ava Roach, Grace Sandeman, Ruby Sandeman, Adults going: Eric Kaul, Karissa Kaul, Amy Beattie and Pastor Fred. There will be a sending service Sunday June 24 at both 8:00 and 9:30 worship services. Please keep this group, along with the other 35,000 participants, in your prayers.

Ordination Anniversary

Many of you know Rev. Eldor Fruehling. You may know him through his work on the Prairie du Sac Village Board or from his periodic teaching and leading of worship here at St. John's. If you have been a member for more than 26 years, you also know he served as pastor to this congregation from 1957 until he retired in 1992. Prior to coming to St. John's, he also served Christ Lutheran Church in LaMars, IA from 1953-1957. He graduated from Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, IA, and was ordained on July 5, 1953.

On July 8, 2018, we will celebrate Rev. Eldor Fruehling's 65th ordination anniversary. Please join us in celebrating this milestone in Eldor's life and the life of St. John's. Cake will be served between services.

Thank you to the crew that cleaned and spruced up the Memorial Garden: Kathy Ochsankehl, Okla Yanke, Janet Hanson, Maren Andersen-Boerger, Lynnette and Monte Wick and Donna Nelson. It is looking beautiful!

*Thank
you*

St. John's,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to My Neighbor in Need. These funds will help to pay the tuition for a student to attend Kids' Ranch Summer Camp this summer. We have three kids hoping to attend and are thankful for all donations we receive.

The My Neighbor In Need Board

(St. John's was able to send \$138.50 from our offerings collected during the ecumenical services on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.)

Thank you!

So many thanks! The Good Neighbor Clinic of Sauk Prairie extends our appreciation for the generous donation of \$138.55 in support of our medical services. Thank you for your kindness.

(St. John's was able to send \$138.55 from our offerings collected during the ecumenical services on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.)

thanks!

Dear St. John's Staff and Parishioners

Thank you so VERY much for your generous Lenten Offerings donation to Sauk Prairie School District Homeless Students.

Just this week, I was able to help a homeless senior with cap, gown, Senior fees, gas and food. Your donations allow me to help so many students! I am so thankful that we have such a wonderful parish as yours in our community. Many other social workers in surrounding communities cannot believe the help I receive in Sauk Prairie. You always answer my prayers. Thank you.

Sincerely, Susan Baumann Duren

(St. John's was able to send \$1796.43 to SP Schools from our Lenten offerings)

Happy June Birthday!

The day is in parenthesis

Our Youngest:

Eleanor Muehrer (3)	Allie Lochner (8)
Harper Kirk (15)	Roman Koenig (16)

Our Sunday School Students:

Kya Pickarts (1)	Sara Francour (4)
Gavin Goetsch (4)	Gracyn Hehenberger (4)
Sophia Vest (4)	Jacob Lins (6)
Owen Louis (7)	Samuel Krueger (8)
Collin Lins (8)	Alexis Graber (9)
Liam Hart (9)	Jenna Shimpach (9)
Natalie Ballweg (12)	Mason Ramirez (15)
Tori Breunig (16)	Alyssa Himebauch (16)
Michael Jolicoeur (16)	Dylan Quayle (16)
Braylin Breunig (19)	Ava Shimpach (19)
Dominick Desso (20)	Jameson Tepe (20)
Reese Bletsch (21)	Carson Lohr (24)
Charles Lueck (24)	Cameron Ederer (28)
Chloe Graber (29)	Lee LaVigne (30)
Olivia Wiese (30)	

Our Youth:

Tyler Hopfensperger (4)	Cora Dunnum (7)
Austin Keyser (7)	Cole Douglas (8)
Jace Elsing (9)	Chris Leatherberry (13)
Samuel Hohenstein (14)	Zach Guentherman (16)
Leah Froehlich (17)	Trevor Harms (18)
Alia Schlimgen (20)	Brody Ballweg (22)
Amelia Breunig (22)	Gabe Harter (22)
Jacob Braxton (27)	Wesley Himebauch (29)
Jenna Pistono (29)	

College and Career-age Young People:

Tim Garman (5)	Evan Schmit (9)
Alexis Andrews (12)	Lauryn Froehlich (12)
Tyler Ederer (14)	Gracie Koenig (14)
Jack Baldwin (15)	Tyler King (16)
Emily Sauer (21)	

Serving in June

Ushers:

June 3

8:00 a.m.

Jeff Ochsankehl
Claire Thiede

9:30 a.m.

Herb Yanke
Jeff Yanke
Katie Yanke
Cathy Yanke
Jon Cafilisch
Kathy Cafilisch
Emily Cafilisch
Haylee Goetsch

June 10

Jeff Ochsankehl
Drew Marshall

June 17

9:00 a.m. Andrew King

June 24

Brody Ballweg

Jon Cafilisch
Kathy Cafilisch
Emily Cafilisch
Charlie Homp

Acolytes:

June 3

8:00 a.m.

Chloe Wernsing
Colin Wernsing

9:30 a.m.

Gavin Tompkin

June 10

Jack Boerger
Matthew Johnson

Charlie Homp

June 17

9:00 a.m. Wesley Himebauch
Eliot Carlson

June 24

Wesley Himebauch
Randy Trudell

Alia Schlimgen
E. Apel

Readers:

June 3

8:00 a.m.

Chloe Wernsing
Mary Halweg

9:30 a.m.

Megan Small
Dale Clason

June 10

June 17

9:00 a.m. Linda Hines

June 24

Roxanne Small

Dale Clason

Cantors:

June 3

8:00 a.m.

Janis Baun
Katie LaVigne

9:30 a.m.

Deb Lohr-Foster
Doris Lohr

June 10

June 17

9:00 a.m. Marv and Janelle Hupp

June 24

Bill Burton

Bill Burton

Communion Assistants: 8:00 a.m.

June 3 Colin Wernsing
 June 10
 June 17 **9:00 a.m.** Marilyn Herschleb
 June 24 Roxanne Small

9:30 a.m.

Megan Small
 Dale Clason
 Dale Clason

Assisting Ministers: 8:00 a.m.

June 3 Bev Clason
 June 10
 June 17 **9:00 a.m.** Jordan Small
 June 24

9:30 a.m.

Bev Clason

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

June 3 Linda Meyer
 June 10 Patty Passehl
 June 17 **9:00 a.m.** Jack Boerger
 June 24 Deb Corrao
 Josie Fentress

9:30 a.m.

Dale/Dave Clason
 Brody Ballweg
 Dave/Dale Clason
 Barb Salvesson

Nursery Staff:

June 3 Addison Douglas
 Nick Dunnum
 June 10 Anna Bruckert
 Haylee Goetsch
 June 17 **9:00 a.m.** Ashley Pape, Chesney
 June 24 Drew Marshall
 Megan Small

9:30 a.m.

Nick Dunnum
 Haylee Goetsch
 Scott Graves
 Drew Marshall
 Schonenberger
 Scott Graves
 Drew Marshall

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

June 3 Haylee Goetsch
 June 10 Lily Fauerbach
 June 17 **9:00 a.m.** Fellowship Board
 June 24 Apel Family

9:00 a.m.(Serve)

Haylee Goetsch
 Lily Fauerbach
 Apel Family

Sunday Stewards

June 3 **8:00 a.m.** Kathy Lovell
 June 10 Melani Wheeler
 June 17 **9:00 a.m.** Eunice Yanke
 June 24 Linda Lintl

9:30 a.m.

Sheila Peak-Dittberner
 Jon Sandeman
 Linda Lintl

<u>Greeters:</u>	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
June 3 (Sanctuary)	Dan Baun	Candy Buckles
(Front doors)	Shirley Anding	Jake and Sally
(Side doors)	Marilyn Brecka	Degenhardt
June 10 (Sanctuary)	Darlene Holl	John/Ellen Mast
(Front doors)	Jim/Betty Sauer	Jake/Sally Degenhardt
(Side doors)	Rich/Jane Calenzo	Jackie Frosch
June 17	Gil/Kathy Danz	Tammy Frey family
	<u>9:00 a.m</u> (Sanctuary)	Kyra Manning
	(Front doors)	Ashley Pape
	(Side doors)	Ethan Jones
June 24 (Sanctuary)	Karen Bader	Caroline Morrow
(Front doors)	Don/Vi Bohler	Norma Newman
(Side doors)	Shirley Anding	Jake/Sally Degenhardt

Congregational totals

	Attendance	Offering
April 29	292	\$7,835.51
May 6	198	\$5,873.36
May 13	467	\$11,593.95
May 20	300	\$8,440.83

Thank you for your continued support, Stewardship Board

Mattresses for the Orphanage

We reached our first goal of providing 100 new mattresses for the House of Jesus' Children Orphanage and additional funds were collected to purchase sheets, towels, pajamas and mosquito nets for use at the orphanage.

We have collected **\$5,691**. Thank you!

St. John's is truly a generous community!

THANK YOU

Dear Staff and Parishioners of St. John's Church,
Thank you so much for the use of your parking lot for the training event for our members held on April 14. We appreciate the continued support of our service and value you as neighbors.

Thanks again,

The members and staff of Sauk Prairie Ambulance

Blessings in a Backpack

The Sunday School children have been donating their offering to 6:8's Blessings in a Backpack program this year and we are happy to announce that they have collected \$1,392.76 for that program! What a wonderful blessing!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be running the week of August 6 through August 10, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., and will be Monday through Friday. Please note that it will be free of charge, for both the Preschool camp (3 and 4 year olds), and the older kids (Kindergarten through 6th grade). If you are interested please contact Abby Bennett via email at abby@stjohnssaukprairie.org. She is currently on maternity leave, but will respond to your email upon her return after June 17.

Looking to Get Involved this Summer?

We need adult volunteers during Vacation Bible School August 6-10 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to lead Bible Studies, prepare and clean up the snack, and help with games. Youth help is also welcomed, and will count as a service project in the fall. If you can help all week, one day, or even a couple hours, please contact Abby Bennett (abby@stjohnssaukprairie.org). She is currently on maternity leave, but will respond to your email upon her return after June 17.

Summer Camp

Summer may seem very far away, but Bible camps are getting ready for your children's registrations. See the Youth Info Board, located in the hallway before the pastors' offices, for information regarding camps at Sugar Creek, Lutherdale, and Bethel Horizons.

St. John's Lutheran Church contributes \$80 towards the cost of camp for those youth who attend a week at an ELCA Bible camp, and \$35 for a 2 or 3 day camp.

Congrats Quinn Baier, Kyra Manning, Samantha Johnson, Drew Marshall, Cole Douglas, Kyle Dregney and Hailee Radel on completing your sermon notes!

Affirmation of Baptism

The following young people affirmed their faith on May 13. Please keep them in your prayers and congratulate them on achieving this milestone of faith.

Anna Ballweg	Molly Ballweg
Samuel Beattie	Emily Caflisch
Jordan Chao	Cole Douglas
Kyle Dregney	Cora Dunnum
Michael Endres	Carley Frosch
Zachary Guentherman	
Olivia Joyce	Briar Lohr
Hailee Radel	Ava Roach
Ruby Sandeman	Cayden Wernsing

High School Graduates

The following students were recognized on May 20 for graduating from high school. Keep them in your prayers as they move forward in the new stages of their lives.

Jacob Braxton	Benjamin Chao
Alexandra Dunnum	Dawson Evert
Kaitlin Graves	Jacob Guentherman
Margaret Harter	Bailey Herschleb
Brendan Holl	Sarah Hupp
Tekla Nimmow	Jacob Pape
Molly Pistono	Ethan Schad
Drew Schlimgen	Evan Schmit

Post-High School Graduate

This spring, Chad Keller graduated from UW Madison Farm & Industry Short Course. Congrats Chad!

Stock the Schools

In cooperation with the Sauk Prairie community, St. John's is collecting items to be given to Sauk Prairie students in need. Each month we will have different items to collect that will help our local students. Some of these items can be used in school and some at home. June's items are **peanut butter, jelly, leggings and sweatpants**. Clothing is needed for sizes child 6 up to adult 2XL. They are looking for new or gently used, clean clothing. Look for the red bin in the gathering area by the church office to drop off your donations. Thank you.

Sunday School Teachers Needed

Are you interested in working with children? Encouraging them in their faith through stories, lessons, arts and crafts, and music? We are looking for some more people to join our Sunday School team! Please prayerfully consider if God is calling you to be a teacher, helper, or perhaps even the Sunday School Superintendent! Our openings include:

3yr olds – 1 teacher to alternate with 2 others already in place

4K – 2 teachers

1st Grade – 2 teachers

4th Grade – 2 teachers

Please contact Pastor Sally if you are interested in serving in any of these positions. We are flexible with schedules and encourage more than one teacher in each room so that you are not committed every weekend.

Sunday School Superintendent Needed

We are grateful for Becky Francour's time as Sunday School Superintendent. Her energy, dedication, joy, and organization were a huge gift to our program. We will miss her in this position!

We are now looking to fill this position. This person works closely with our Youth Coordinator, Abby Bennett, to find teachers, choose curriculum, gather attendance and offering, serve on the Parish Education Board, work with volunteers to create and implement activities and events, and have a lot of fun getting to know our children! (We are open to co-superintendents!)

Please contact Pastor Sally if you are interested!

Synod Assembly Bishop Election 2018

At the Synod Assembly this year there was a vote held for the election of our next bishop. The Rev. Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld of Beloit, Wis., was elected during this vote to serve a six-year term as bishop of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We invite you to hold Rev. Thomas-Breitfeld in your prayers as she transitions into this office of leadership in our synod, and to give thanks for the gifts that she brings with her into this role. Read more about Rev. Thomas-Breitfeld on the synod website found at <http://scsw-elca.org/> under the Communications and Events tab.

Synod Council

St. John's member, Alan Hines will be ending his second term with the South Central Synod of Wisconsin Board. He has served the Synod well, helping congregations learn to manage congregational meetings, revise their church constitutions and settle disputes. We wish Alan well and thank him for his dedication and leadership in the work of our synod.

Evening Book Discussion in 2018

This group is open to all: men and women, young and old, members and non-members, anyone who enjoys reading and talking about it. We want to know, How did this book affect you? What do you take away from this book?

Come and join us at the Blue Spoon in Prairie du Sac on the last Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

On June 26 we will discuss the book *Change Agent* by Daniel Suarez. This story is an exhilarating sci-fi thriller exploring a potential future where CRISPR genetic editing allows the human species to control evolution itself.

Contact Susan Heide, sheide@merr.com, if you have any questions or suggestions.

Worship Time Change

Services will be at 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

Columbarium Meeting

There will be a columbarium meeting on Sunday, July 15 following the 9:30 a.m. service. This meeting is for anyone interested in learning more about a proposed columbarium here at St. John's. The committee hopes to answer any questions you may have regarding this proposal.

For more information please pick up the tri-fold brochure on the columbarium in the church office or contact one of the committee members; Nick or Kathy Lester, 643-4145 (kcnl@merr.com), Linda Hines at the church office, 643-2439 (linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org) or Roger Clason 576-0343 (rclason43@gmail.com).

What is a COLUMBARIUM?

A columbarium is a vault with niches for urns containing the ashes of cremated remains. The columbarium used as an example in the tri-fold brochure is a pre-assembled unit with 64 niches made by Eickhof Columbarium. Each niche has space for two urns. The vault in the example is a circular unit that stands 5 feet high and is 5-foot, 4-inches in diameter. An artist's rendering of the columbarium will soon be available to view in the church office. The above mentioned brochures are available on the name tag table or in the church office.

Feel free to contact one of the committee members; Nick or Kathy Lester, 643-4145 (kcnl@merr.com), Linda Hines at the church office, 643-2439 (linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org) or Roger Clason 576-0343 (rclason43@gmail.com) if you have questions.

Congregational Vote

In order to actually purchase a columbarium, we will need to have a congregational meeting at which we vote on whether or not we make that purchase. Before we can bring this matter to the congregational meeting, we need to secure pre-subscriptions for 15 niches. The deadline to secure the pre-subscriptions is September 30.