



Intern John's office door – reminiscent of Martin Luther?

Prairie du Sac, WI

October 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

History records events that have forced those effected to adapt and change how things are done. Wars, financial crashes, natural disasters, pandemics are just some of the life-altering events that demand changing how we go about our daily lives.

St. John's has adapted to the pandemic but we have continued to engage in the mission we have been given; to declare God's love in Christ through word and deed. Some of this engagement looks rather similar. Last month quilts were boxed up and delivered to a train yard in Madison. For fifty years the people of St. John's have made and delivered quilts, school kits and a host of specific kits throughout the world.* These ministries have been part and parcel of our work for generations.

Making quilts, contributing to food pantries, giving sewing machines and donating interview appropriate clothing to ministries beyond our doors are part of our 'normal' ministry. Yet we have found new ways to continue our mission.

We have a camera in our sanctuary and equipment that allows for broadcasting our worship services via the internet. People all over the world can see and hear the message of Christ because of this equipment and those who have stepped up to learn and operate this technology. Who would have thought we would ever have done such a thing?

Our response to the world has always been guided by the message of Christ. Pandemic, climate crisis, the many 'ism's' of our time; none of these or a host of other challenges change what we are called to do, they simply call for creativity, flexibility and an openness to imagine doing things in new ways.

We have been creative over these past several years. We have created new curriculums for education. We have changed locations for worship. We have embraced new technology. We have looked beyond our normal practices related to the sacraments and have found new ways to share communion and baptize individuals. We have responded faithfully to our calling and found new ways to live out that calling in this time and place.

When you think about it, ministry has always required an openness to change. Sometimes you get to choose it. Sometimes it forces itself on you. But whether chosen or forced, change is part of living. Our challenge today (and everyday) is to see change as a traveling partner rather than our enemy. When we can embrace change, we can move forward focusing not on what is different, but rather on what holds us together.

May we continue to be the gathered people of God in this place, proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ, no matter what may come our way.

Shalom,



*See the WELCA report for 2022 totals.



Reverend Duane Lokken's Ordination Anniversary

On October 25th, Rev. Duane Lokken will be celebrating his 47th ordination anniversary. We give thanks for his answer to call, his leadership and his ministry to God's people. If you would like to send him a note his home address is: 1253 S. Forest Lane, Prairie du Sac, WI 53578. Congratulations Rev. Lokken!



Parish Planning Council Members:

Executive Director	Janelle Hupp	643-0653
Assistant Exec Director	Nancy Kaufman	963-0151
Secretary	Cathy Yanke	434-4869
Treasurer	Donna Nelson	393-4660
Evangelism Board	Sheila Dittberner	370-1550
Fellowship Board	Linda Michaels	643-8286
Lay Ministry Board	Gina Varley	544-5002
Member-at-Large	Roger Seymour	588-3198
Parish Education Board	James Newman	512-7623
Properties Board	Lon Kaderavek	434-2928
PR and Social Concerns	Patty Barritt	393-5218
Stewardship Board	Anne Klinkner	393-6453
Women of ELCA	Marian DeGiovanni	643-4514
Youth Board	Megan Tarnutzer	963-0396
Youth Member-at-Large	Jonah Richard	347-0488

The Staff:

Pastors: Fred Rilling fred@stjohnssaukprairie.org 963-4706

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

Intern: John Evans johnEVANS@stjohnssaukprairie.org 643-2439

Director of Music: Ruellene Seymour

ruellene@stjohnssaukprairie.org (h) 588-3198

Youth Director: Penny Johnson penny@stjohnssaukprairie.org
643-2439

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

Office and Communications Coordinator: Linda Hines

linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org (h) 544-2409

Sunday School Superintendents: Joanna Jones and Miranda Jager

sundayschool@stjohnssaukprairie.org 643-2439

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

St. John's Lutheran Church
100 Oak Street
Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin 53578



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Christ,
our strength
and refuge,
calling us
to serve

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 23
Prairie du Sac,
Wisconsin 53578



Food, paper products and cleaning supplies may be brought to the table in the gathering area at anytime. These items are distributed to many families in the Sauk Prairie community. The food pantry especially needs:

Spaghetti	Spaghetti Sauce
Granola Bars	Crackers
Soup	Cereal
Graham Crackers	Frosting

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 October. The day is in parentheses.

Dean Pfaff (4)
1050 Prairie Street
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Norma Newman (4)
11020 Thousand Oaks Dr
Huntersville, NC 28078



Jim Sauer (10)
88 Norfolk Pine Ln
Naples, FL 34114

Yvonne Richard (14)
930 Prairie St., Apt. 211
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Diane Tenley (18)
245 Sycamore Street
Sauk City, WI 53578

Dorothy Halverson (18)
9456 County Road Y
Sauk City, WI 53583

Karen Bader (27)
N2388 Trails End Rd
Lodi, WI 53555

	Women of the Church News	
	<u>Lydia Circle</u> Thursday, October 13, at Dorothy Halverson's, 9456 County Rd. Y, Sauk City	1:00pm
	<u>Martha Circle</u> Thursday, October 6, in St. John's Library, Marilyn Herschleb, Hostess	9:30am
	<u>Ruth Circle</u> Monday, October 10, at Cathy McAlexander's, 2104 Mustang Dr, Prairie du Sac	9:00am
	<u>Sarah/Mary Circle</u> Tuesday, October 4, in St. John's Library	9:30am

Twenty-five ladies attended Circle meetings in September. We began with a very interesting study, Session 1 "Jesus and Nature: Teachers of Faith," which was led by Diane Elsing, Barb Salveson, Kathy Lester and Marian DeGiovanni. In October, Session 2 of the same series will be led by Diane Elsing, Mary Weeks, Kathy Lester and Patty Barritt.

We are very happy that all of our Kits and Quilts were boxed up and taken to the Boxcar Loading for Lutheran World Relief in Madison on Saturday, September 17th. Sincere thanks goes to Henry Elsing and Roger Maynard for taking them in to Madison, Henry, Roger, Lon Kaderavek and Don Bohler for loading the boxes in the trailer and all the people who worked so diligently in getting everything purchased and packed up to go. The numbers are as follows: 310 Quilts, 18 Sewing Kits, 65 Personal Care Kits, 75 Baby Care Kits and 200 School Kits.

Five ladies will be attending the WELCA South Central Synodical Retreat at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Sun Prairie on Saturday, September 24th. We will report on that meeting in November's Visitor.

The Thankoffering Service will be Sunday, November 20th. This is a special opportunity to honor God by making a donation, thanking Him for all He has done for us. Put your contribution in an envelope marked "THANKOFFERING." There will be a marked basket outside the sanctuary for this purpose. The offering goes to the National WELCA and provides funds for World Hunger, global missions and other important programs.

PLEASE NOTE: The Pennies for Poverty Jar will be out on the name tag table for the next few months. We have chosen to give our Penny Jar money to Hope House in Baraboo. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause that helps women and children in need, it would be very much appreciated. Pennies...larger

coins...paper money...it all counts up and it all helps a lot! We know the good that Hope House provides and there is always great need for help.

Martha Circle has been visiting Special Friends during August and September. Sarah/Mary Circle will visit them during October and November.

The Bible Study Leaders' Meeting for November will be Tuesday, October 25th at 9:00am.

Remember to look in this Visitor for the Prayer for Peace to be read on October 20th.

Adult Education

Our Adult Ed text studies meet on Sundays at 9:15am in the church library. All are welcome as we read the upcoming scripture lessons and learn more about the bible together. Later this fall we will have opportunity to hear more about Pastor Sally's sabbatical learning and participate in sessions led by Intern John Evans.



90th plus Birthday Celebration

Join us on October 30th as we rejoice with our St. John's family members who have celebrated 90 or more birthdays. We will have warm wishes cards to sign in our gathering area. Watch the upcoming bulletins for more details.



St. John's is scheduled to deliver Mobile Meals October 10-14 and October 17-21. These are meals delivered from the Sauk Prairie Healthcare Center and go to help many in the Sauk Prairie community. If you are interested in delivering meals, please sign up on the kiosk. There are directions also posted on the kiosk, but if you have any questions email Patty Barritt at pattybarritt@outlook.com or you may phone her at 393-5218 for details on how delivery works.



MEETING

Congregational Meeting

On Oct 16th, at 9am, we will have a congregational meeting between services in the sanctuary to approve our 2023 budget, elect members to our Parish Planning Council and elect three congregational members to serve on our Nomination Committee. Please join us for this important meeting.

Outgoing Parish Planning Council (PPC) Members

We are grateful for the wonderful work all of our PPC members have done this past year. Four of those leaders will be going off the council this year. Janelle Hupp, James Newman, Patty Barritt and Marian DeGiovanni. They all have served two years or more during a time when the pandemic challenged all of our assumptions about what it meant to be 'church.' They are amazing leaders and used their varied gifts and talents for the sake of the gospel. Please take a moment to share your gratitude with these members for their service.



Stewardship Pledge Sunday

Nov 13th is 'Pledge Sunday.' On this day we ask that you return your commitment cards for God's ministry at St. John's for 2023. You can place your card in the offering baskets, mail it to the office or email Linda Hines (linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org) with your pledge. If you are using Simply Giving, our automatic bank transfer program, or another regular auto contribution mechanism, we will assume that is your pledge for the year. For those who use electronic giving, we encourage you to consider an increase for 2023. We encourage all members to use 'Simply Giving' or other electronic giving methods as a way to consistently support the ministry we all share. Please look for this mailing this month.



Dear Friends in Christ,

It is good to be back with you! I have really enjoyed seeing all of your faces again and catching up on the events of your lives over the summer. My sabbatical was truly a gift for me personally and professionally. Here are some of the highlights:

- I read several books on trauma and our bodies, grief, and how the church might respond and support one another in the midst of it all.

- I took two online classes: Grief Counseling and Treatment in a Pandemic of Loss, and Child and Adolescent Mental Health in an Uncertain Time: Reintegration Strategies for Classroom and Community. I also watched the lectures and sermons from the Festival of Homiletics.

- Our family enjoyed a trip to Disney World, the Northwoods and Milwaukee. We also enjoyed a slower pace of life and a lot of time together. Our dog wasn't sure what to do with our constant presence!

Thank you very much for the support and love you give to your pastors and for the gift of this sabbatical. I am very grateful for our staff whose workloads increased so I could have this time away. I am incredibly blessed to minister to you and with you in this place.

I look forward to sharing more about my learning over the next several months (once I get my bearings again!).

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally". To the right of the signature is a vertical line.



A big thank you to all those special people who sent me so many beautiful birthday cards. You made me feel so wonderful. You made my day special. Thank you one and all.

Jeannine Robertson

From the Desk of Intern John Evans:

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.” – Matthew 5:17-18

Roots and heritage matter. As Lutherans, we bear the unique heritage of the Reformation in our common life, worship, and heritage. We are blessed with an inheritance of generations gone before, namely immigrants from central and northern Europe who valued their faith so deeply, that they would leave their respective home countries to live freely and worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The same God who meets humanity in our condition as Jesus of Nazareth, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Yet, there is also an unfortunate history of antisemitism within our Lutheran heritage. Martin Luther himself infamously wrote a pamphlet towards the end of his life called “On the Jews and their Lies”. This document was used by the Nazi Party in Germany to justify a state takeover of the Protestantkirch (Lutheran and Reformed Christians), to deny the importance of God’s Law, to erase the fact that Jesus himself was Jewish, and to censor any and all clergy who dared to speak out against the Holocaust, including a certain bespectacled prophet named Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

The tendency to skip over the Hebrew Bible, to relegate it as the “Old Testament” that no longer matters because of the so called “New Testament”, the Gospel, is pervasive not just amongst Lutherans, but many Christians. The popular image of the God of the Hebrew Bible being angry, vengeful, and inconsistent in action, has made people want to relegate chunks of the Hebrew Bible to mere Sunday School lessons and nothing more. Rare is it to find a preacher who will dare to preach on the fiery words of prophets like Jeremiah, Amos, or Hosea. Yet Jesus states clearly in the Gospel of Matthew (the most Jewish of all the Gospels) that he has not come to abolish the law, but fulfill it. After all, he was stepping into the same mantle established in the prophetic tradition of Israel. In other words, the Law still matters. You cannot have Gospel without Torah. As Christians, we owe it to ourselves, our Jewish siblings, and yes, our Muslim siblings, to re-examine the Hebrew Bible and the merciful, engaged God it depicts.

I am a Jewish Christian. I am a Jew who believes that Jesus is the Messiah. That may seem to be quite a contradictory statement, but it is true. I am the son of Sephardi Jews who fled

Iberia during the Spanish Inquisition in 1492, worked their way up through central Europe, and ultimately came to settle in the town of Swansea, on the coast of Wales by the 1720's. There, they would adopt a common Welsh surname, convert to Christianity, but retain knowledge and practices to honor Shabbat (Sabbath), the Law (Torah), whilst also accepting that Jesus (Yeshua) is the promised Messiah that the prophet Isaiah foretold of. In other words, my family's Jewish identity has been passed down, because that identity is a sacred one. My ancestors immigrated to South Carolina in the 1830's, only to flee to the mountains of North Georgia after South Carolina seceded from the Union in 1861. They even fought with the 1st Georgia Infantry Battalion, a mixed-race unit that participated in the battles of Chickamauga, Kennesaw Mountain, Atlanta, and Franklin. My family took their heritage as Jews so seriously, that they were willing to fight and die alongside African Americans, because they remembered the chains of their own ancestors in Egypt, and the horrors of the Spanish Inquisition. The Talmud, the book of Rabbinical wisdom, states that "For whoever saves one life, they have saved an entire world." They viewed Jesus as the Messiah who has saved the lives of not just one nation, but all. And because of this salvation, the Law and the Gospel, for my family, demanded service to others, and protecting the God-given dignity of every human being.

As I became a Lutheran, I found and discovered a history of Jewish Lutherans who have made a difference. Felix Mendelson, the son of Jewish philosopher Moses Mendelsohn, was a composer and music minister who single-handedly re-discovered and re-popularized the works of the great Lutheran J.S. Bach; or Wilhelm and Eva Leo, holocaust survivors who would help shape Wartburg Theological Seminary into the beacon of the Gospel it is today for so many.

Our roots and heritage matter. As children of God, redeemed in Christ Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, we have a responsibility to uphold both Law & Gospel, to fulfill, not abolish Torah. For as Moses told the people Israel thousands of years ago, "Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."

– Deuteronomy 6:4-9



Veteran's Day Pictures

Veteran's Day is Friday, Nov 11. We invite veterans to share a picture with us. Please bring a photo to church to be displayed on Sunday, Nov 13th. You can also email a photo to Linda Hines linda@stjohnssaukprairie.com along with a brief description of who is in the photo and any other information you would like to share (rank, location of the photo, places you served, etc.) The pictures can be of you in uniform or not. They can be of you currently or younger. We are asking you to share a picture so we can celebrate with you the service you gave to our country. Thanks for your service!

SPECIAL PRAYER

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

Merciful God,

We praise you because you know all things, see all things, and remember us. Thank you that we can depend on your presence with us in every season and situation, that each time has purpose and meaning. We are grateful that each season is orchestrated by you, even the harder ones. Help us to see your hand and guidance in our lives as we go through changes, the highs, and the lows. May we grow in trust and persevere in the valleys. How great you are, oh God, for being so intentional to care for us in every season. For even when things seem glum, your light continues to shine on us in mercy and grace. Amen.

Thank You!

Thanking God for you my special St. John's family, for the blessing you brought in making time to remember me with the beautiful cards, notes, phone calls and all your caring ways. You all helped me to have a wonderful birthday!

Thank you.

Gloria Moles



With Sincere Sympathy

We offer our condolences to the following families this month:

Shea and Ben Ganser, Erin Breunig, Megan and Jordan Frey and their families on the death of their grandmother, Karen Breunig. JoAnna Breunig was also a special friend of Karen's.

Steve and Robyn Coy and their family on the death of Steve's grandmother, Gladys Hendricks.

Gwen and Doug Ringelstetter, Deane Yanke, Dale Haroldson and the many friends of Gwen's cousin, Rick Luck.

Family and friends of Phyllis Perry.

Kris and Gene Eagan on the death of Kris's brother, Scott Mahn.

Please keep these families in your prayers.



BAPTISM

We welcome new sisters into the family of Christ through Baptism during September.

Lillian Marie Carpenter, daughter of Kolton and Sabrina (Yanke) Carpenter was baptized on September 4. Her sponsors are Erica Hakes and Peyton Ballweg. Lillian's congregational sponsor is Lisa Davis.

Margaret Lea Johnson, daughter of Craig and Hana (Conway) Johnson was baptized on September 18. Her sponsors are Morgan Johnson and Derek Johnson. Margaret's congregational sponsors are Marcia and Roger Howard.



**American
Red Cross**

Thank you

Dear St. John's,

Thank you so much for your help with the Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, September 19. We collected 69 products exceeding the goal of 62. It takes a team and we appreciate all you and your staff do for us!



Coats for Kids

St. John's is working 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. Thank you.



Pet Blessing Service

On Sunday, October 9th, we will hold a Pet Blessing Service outdoors after the 10:30am service, beginning at **12pm** (this is a slight shift from the original plan). 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, feathered and scaled ones! You are welcome to bring your well-behaved and social pet. 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!

Serving in October

Ushers:

October 2

October 9

October 16

October 23

October 30

8:00 a.m.

George Colby

Gina Wyttenbach

Alyssa Himebauch

Lon Kaderavek

Doug Nelson

Austin Urban

Lon Kaderavek

Lee LaVigne

Doug Nelson

Austin Urban

Dorothy Halverson

10:30 a.m.

Cannon Esser

Ryan Jorgenson

Jenna Shimpach

Austin Urban

Tyler Jorgenson

Acolytes:

October 2

October 9

October 16

October 23

October 30

8:00 a.m.

Bryce Ballweg

Micah Boerger

Bryce Ballweg

Ella Stephan

Evelynn Brennan

10:30 a.m.

Jason King

Tyler Jorgenson

Kylie Hutchins

Ian Quayle

Ryan Jorgenson

Readers:

October 2

October 9

October 16

October 23

October 30

8:00 a.m.

Linda Hines

Carrie Richard

Marilyn Herschleb

Nancy Kaufman

10:30 a.m.

Okla Yanke

Marian DeGiovanni

Doris Lohr

Carol Benson

Cantors:

October 2

October 9

October 16

October 23

October 30

8:00 a.m.

Pr. Sally Williams

Bill Burton

Senior Choir

Becky Weittenhiller

10:30 a.m.

Pr. Sally Williams

Bill Burton

Senior Choir

Becky Weittenhiller

Assisting Ministers: 8:00 a.m.

October 2

October 9

October 16

October 23

October 30

Connie Burton

Jordan Small

Donna Knickmeyer

Noelle Small

10:30 a.m.

Connie Burton

Jordan Small

Donna Knickmeyer

Noelle Small

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

October 2 Donna Knickmeyer
 October 9 Alice/Joe Chenoweth
 October 16 Alice/Joe Chenoweth
 October 23
 October 30

10:30 a.m.

Holy Kindschi
 Jason King

Communion Assistants: 8:00 a.m.

October 2 Kim Larson
 October 9 Donna Knickmeyer
 October 16 Roxanne Zick
 October 23 Jayne Carlson
 October 30 Linda Hines

10:30 a.m.

Doris Lohr
 Ginny Nimmow
 Anne Klinkner
 Gerry Westphal
 Kim Larson

Sunday Stewards

October 2 Janelle Hupp
 October 9 Patty Barritt
 October 16 Nancy Kaufman
 October 23
 October 30 Nancy Kaufman

10:30 a.m.

Roger Seymour
 Roger Seymour
 Linda Michaels
 Linda Michaels
 Gina Varley

Greeters:

Oct. 2 (Sanctuary)
 (Front door)
 Oct. 9 (Sanctuary)
 (Front door)
 Oct. 16 (Sanctuary)
 (Front door)
 Oct. 23 (Sanctuary)
 (Front Door)
 Oct. 30 (Sanctuary)
 (Front Door)

8:00 a.m.

Todd/Gina Wyttenbach
 Rich/Kris Frey
 Don/Vi Bohler
 Micah Boerger
 Ella Stephan
 Don/Vi Bohler
 Roxanne Zick
 Don/Vi Bohler
 John/Linda Hines

10:30 a.m.

Tom/Gina Varley
 Jackie Frosch
 Denny/Bonnie
 Dederich
 John/Ellen Mast
 Bryce Ballweg
 Jason King
 Doris Lohr
 Deb/Gerry Westphal
 Ginny Nimmow
 Tom/Gina Varley

Technology Help:

October 2 Liz Leith
 Malcolm Leith
 October 9 Lisa Davis
 Amy Nelson
 October 16 Lisa Davis
 Charlie Kruchten
 October 23 Ellen Jorgensen
 October 30 Ellen Jorgensen
 Amy Nelson

8:00a.m.**10:30a.m.**

Roger Seymour
 Jeff Sandberg
 Nicole Sandberg
 Ellen Jorgensen
 Nicole Sandberg
 Jeff Sandberg
 Liz Leith
 Malcolm Leith

Coffee Servers:

October 2	Cheri Kehl
October 9	Patty and Steve Barritt
October 16	Linda Michaels and Donna Nelson
October 23	Cheri Kehl
October 30	90 th Birthday Celebration – Fellowship Bd.

Congregational totals

	Attendance	Offering
August 28	168	\$5,022.00
September 4	223	\$8,561.40
September 11	199	\$6,400.45
September 18	232	\$9,067.00

Thank you for your continued support, Stewardship Board

Agrace to Offer New Volunteer Orientation in October

Agrace is seeking volunteers in Sauk, Columbia, Juneau, Adams and Marquette counties to assist local hospice patients.

Agrace will hold volunteer orientation at its Baraboo office on **Friday, October 21, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Pre-registration is required. Prior to orientation, volunteers must complete an application and an interview with Agrace staff. Call (608) 327-7163 to register or visit Agrace.org/Volunteer to apply online.

Agrace Offers Virtual Grief Support in October

This October, Agrace is offering one-on-one grief support and a professionally led, virtual grief support group to *anyone*, even if the person who died did not have hospice care:

- **One-on-one grief support** is available by phone or video chat.
- **Bridges** is for adults grieving the death of any loved one. Virtual meetings are October 12 and 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Pre-registration is required.

There is no fee for people whose family member was in hospice care in the past 12 months; fees for others can be lowered or waived, if needed. Call (608) 327-7118 with questions, to register or make an appointment.

Sunday School News

Sunday School Events

We are excited to welcome our Sunday School students to the new education year!

Hayride

We will gather at the Keller Farm on Sunday, October 2nd at 1-3pm for a fun hayride, sweet treat, and free pumpkins for each person who attends. The address is W13769 Wisconsin 60, Prairie du Sac. It is the first farm/house on the right after you pass the 188 Intersection. Please look for the parking guides to avoid parking on their lawn.

To reach our Superintendents, Joanna Jones and Miranda Jager, please use Sunday School's email:
sundayschool@stjohnssaukprairie.org



3-Year-Old & 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

On October 2nd at the 8:00am & 10:30am, services we will present Bibles to our 3-year-olds and third grade youth. Those children receiving Bibles are:

Our three-year-olds: Eli Emerson, Calvin Ganser, Elliot Herbrand, Layla Kelley, June Lochner, Tate Neubacher, Jesse Paque , Kane Schwartz, Nicole Scott, Tatum Sorg, Bennett Steinmetz, Paisley Stuetgen, Annabelle Sweeney

Our third graders: Reese Bletsch, Corbin Colby, Maxximus Ederer, Eliana Greene, Henry Hart, Avery Jorgenson, Macelyn Krintz, Samuel Krueger, Cashton Lane, Declan Leith, Hank Lochner, Callie Lohr, Milo Lueck, Emily Ramirez, Andrew Ryan, Brielle Schell, Addison Schulenburg, Jarod Steinhorst, Pria Steinmetz, Olivia Stephan, Harper Wasserberg

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

It's time for the St. John's trip to the Treinen Farm Corn Maze!

Who: St. John's Middle and High School students and friends (chaperones needed too!)

When: Wednesday, October 26th

Time: 3:45pm-6:15pm

We will leave St. John's parking lot at 3:45pm and return approximately 6:15pm

Cost: \$12/person + additional money for snacks if desired.

Please pay when you arrive on the 26th.

Sign-Up: Must sign up in advance! Add your name to the Youth Info Board, our SignUp.com list or by e-mailing penny@stjohnssaukprairie.org

Dress for the weather and bring a flashlight

YOUNG ADULTS

Young Adult Updates

New job? Accepted into a new program? Won an award? Need prayers for something specific? Please email Pastor Sally sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org or message her on Facebook with any updates, so that we may continue to celebrate and pray for you in your life in Christ.



Stock the Schools

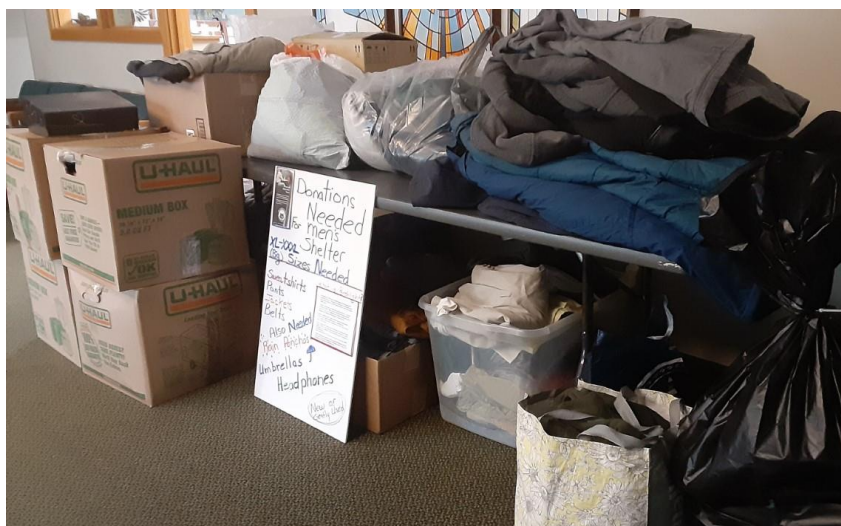
In cooperation with the Sauk Prairie community, St. John's is collecting items to be given to Sauk Prairie students in need. Each month we will have different items to collect that will help our local students. Some of these items can be used in school and some at home. Items for October are: granola bars, breakfast bars and new or gently used zip hoodies (size Small or Medium). Look for the red bin in the gathering area by the church office to drop off your donations. Thank you.

THANK YOU, ST. JOHN'S

You are truly a congregation of great generosity! You have spent countless hours volunteering for worship jobs such as playing, singing and directing music, ushering, reading, setting up and cleaning up communion, being cantors, acolytes, communion assistants, assisting ministers, tech team members and coffee servers, but so much more! We have Quilters, Circle members, Sunday School teachers and assistants, Confirmation teachers, choir members, handbell choir members, workers for the Wednesday night meals, and add those who have helped pack quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief this fall and kits for Global Health Ministries in the spring. And so many trips delivering our donations for the Food Pantry, Dress for Success, sewing machines and Stock the Schools items!

We were able to send 18 Sewing Kits, 65 Personal Care Kits, 75 Baby Care Kits, 200 School Kits and 310 Quilts to LWR.

Below is a photo of part of the donations collected to help those at Porchlight of Madison – in just one week's time!



Your generosity also extends to making cash donations to help those neighbors who are far away. We have collected over \$3,000 to send to Puerto Rico to purchase food and drinking water for those in need. Our Sunday School is collecting their donations to send to the ELCA's World Hunger program.

So much generosity and kindness! St. John's staff is so proud of the work you accomplish and we hope you are too.

Thank you, St. John's.

PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES

DATE: September 6, 2022

Present: Janelle Hupp, Donna Nelson, Cathy Yanke, Fred Rilling, John Evans, James Newman, Megan Tarnutzer, Roger Seymour, Gina Varley, Marian DeGiovanni, Sheila Peak Dittberner, Anne Klinkner, Linda Michaels and Jonah Richard

Absent: Sally Williams, Lon Kaderavek, Nancy Kaufman, Patty Barritt

Call to Order/Opening Remarks:

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Janelle Hupp. Janelle asked for approval of the agenda. Motion to approve was made by Marian and seconded by Megan. Motion carried. A devotion/prayer was then given by Marian.

Secretary Minutes:

The August minutes were submitted online by Nancy Kaufman. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Gina and seconded by Donna. Motion carried.

Treasurer report:

The committee reviewed and discussed the August 2022 Treasurer Report submitted by Donna Nelson.

- Thanks to an unexpected contribution of \$23K this month, we ended the month of August with an income of \$15K which is unusual for the month of August.
- The furnace installation bill has not arrived yet but will expect to pay that in September.

A motion to approve the financial report was made by James and seconded by Megan. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Evangelism: Sheila Dittberner reported:

- New Member Pics completed and update Entry Bulletin Board.
- Send Visitor Post Cards.
- Next event Pet Blessing scheduled October 9, 2022.
- New member scheduled June 19, 2023 at 9:30 am.
- Review committee roster and responsibility confirmed.
- Budget 2023 submitted.

Fellowship: Linda Michaels reported:

- Final stories for the Faithful Service unless someone still wants to submit
- We honored the quilters with a special social hour
- We welcomed John Evans with treats from Just Bakery
- Sally's welcome will be next week

Lay Ministry: Gina Varley reported:

- No report

Parish Education: James Newman reported:

- Parish Ed fun day. August 14th after outdoor second service
 - o Activity Stations of sidewalk chalk, bubbles, scavenger hunt, target bean-bag toss, golf balls balanced on spoons while racing
 - o Refreshments: Water / lemonade / freeze pops
 - Meet Penny Johnson our new staffer
 - Parish ed members will be available at 9:00am to do a quick setup
- Confirmation orientation. Looking for one teacher for either 7th or 8th grade
- Sunday School. Rally Day. September 18th
- Teachers – need an adult helper for pre-k, adult co-lead 5th and 6th grade, 2nd grade teacher, adult helper for 1st grade
- Hayride--End of August James will call Terry Slotty for hayride date. Ideal Oct 2nd and Oct 9th.
- Children's choir starting 14th of September grades 2nd through 6th

Properties: Lon Kaderavek reported:

- Ducting being insulated now. Done in about a week.
 - There needs to be a gas leak on the roof fixed before heat can be hooked up and run
 - Stone in outside Front of church was cleaned this month, so was carpet in fellowship hall, and shed was painted.
 - Sink in parsonage repaired and walls painted in living room.
- Would like to thank all involved

PR & Social Concerns: Patty Barritt reported:

- Yard Signs "Worship With Us"
- Mobile Meals Volunteers needed weeks of October 10th and 17th
- Just Bakery to resume deliveries in October, November, and December.

Stewardship Board: Anne Klinkner reported:

- No report

Women of ELCA: Marian DeGiovanni reported:

- Check Visitor for upcoming Circle times and dates. Gather magazine is delayed but check online or Linda has made copies of Bible study for us.
- WELCA Synod Retreat at Our Savior's Sun Prairie Sept. 24.
- Pennies Jar will continue to be out on name tag table with proceeds going to Hope House in Baraboo.

Youth Committee: Megan Tarnutzer reported:

- No report

Member at Large: Roger Seymour reported:

- No report

Youth member at Large: Jonah Richard reported:

- School has started
- Football has broken its 19-game losing streak
- All fall sports are continuing to do good this season
- Everyone is doing their part to spread the message of be kind
- Homecoming is next month

Executive Comments – Director:

- We continue to follow the Covid County numbers and will use those each week to determine whether masks are required in our building.
- Welcome to our new intern, John Evans!
- The Site Rental Agreement between Sauk Prairie School District and St. John's has been signed, so we are now officially a site for the district to operate its KinderPrep program.
- Our congregation has an opportunity to participate in the 2022 Fall Session of the ELCA Vital Congregations Training. The conference is designed to benefit congregations who are looking to take steps for renewal and revitalization. This is a 4-session training on 10/6/22, 10/20/22, 11/3/22 and 11/17/22. Training sessions are offered 2 different times on each day 1:30-3:00pm (eastern time) and 7:30 – 9:00pm (eastern time) so participants can attend the session that best aligns with their schedule. Sessions will also be recorded and made available to all registered attendees. Registration is free and Pastors and congregations are encouraged to attend in groups of 3-5 people. If anyone is interested in attending, see Pastor Fred.
- We are still in need of people to fill vacancies on Parish Planning Council. We have interested candidates for Assistant Executive Director (Nancy Passehl), PR and Social Concerns (Ellen Jorgensen), and WELCA (Eunice Yanke) committees but haven't

found folks for Parish Ed. If you are interested in serving in one of these important roles or know someone who might be, please contact me, Pastor Fred or Pastor Sally.

- We will have a congregational meeting on October 16, 9 am, for approval of the 2023 budget and to vote on new nominees for Parish Planning Council.

Pastor/Intern Reports

Fred's Report:

- John Evans has arrived and begun his internship at St. John's. He is moved in and transitioning well.
- A big thanks goes out to the Intern Committee and all the work they did to get the parsonage ready for John.
- Penny Johnson, our Youth Director, is engaging our youth, found confirmation teachers for this year, and is doing well in her new position.
- I am grateful for our council and staff as we have navigated the covid 'color changes' of our county. I look forward to conversations at our PPC meeting on Sept 6 as to our next move.
- Sally returns to the office on Sept 7. I am grateful for our congregation seeing the importance of sabbaticals and look forward to her return.
- I also look forward to our fall programming. I love teaching confirmation and look forward to a weekly engagement with our 7-9th grade youth.
- I continue to be thankful for Lon Kaderavek and all the work he has done managing our various projects. We are lucky and blessed to have him as our Properties Chair.
- Today I celebrate 24 years of ordination. I am grateful that all of those years have been spent at St. John's. I cannot express enough my gratitude for the people I am privileged to serve.

Sally's Report:

No report. On sabbatical.

Old Business:

- Christmas service schedule is not yet completed
- Update on AC Units. Working on duct insulation now. Heat is not yet working because of gas leak found outside
- Properties is getting new bids for snow removal
- KinderPrep update. Contract was presented to committee after having been signed. Kids started last week. Eight students and two teachers

- Covid updates. Will continue to use community levels to determine caution level for activities. In green and yellow, usual protocol. If in red, will mask, and change. Will schedule volunteers as usual and when level is announced on Friday, will adjust activities and volunteers needed.
- Nominating Committee update. See Exec Director notes for update

New Business:

- ELCA Vital Congregations Training—this is a 4-part revitalization webinar held in October and November for interested congregations. Members will participate.
- October Congregational Meeting will be held October 16 at 9 am.

Next meeting is Tuesday, October 4, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

- Recruitment for Internship Committee – 3 open seats (2 co-chairs and 1 committee member) when the 2022-2023 intern departs in July 2023
- Welcoming LGBTQ community members

Devotion will be given by Donna. James made a motion to adjourn our meeting, and the motion was seconded by Sheila. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35 pm. with The Lord's Prayer lead by Janelle Hupp.

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Yanke.

Technology Help

Are you available to help on a Sunday morning? Are you friends with technology? We are looking for a few more people to join our Technology Team. This team works in pairs to provide our Sunday morning ZOOM broadcasts. You can work the 8:00am worship service, the 10:30am worship service (or both! Roger Seymour is the team leader and very knowledgeable in teaching you what is needed. It is a flexible schedule and you can work just once every 4-5 weeks if you want to. Contact Roger Seymour if you are interested, rcmor@gmail.com or (608) 588-3198, or Pastor Fred at fred@stjohnssaukprairie.org or 643-2439



Happy October Birthday!

The day is in parenthesis

Our Youngest:

Briggs Katzman (10)

Violet Udelhofen (13)

Leonard Pickett (15)

Owen King (30)

Our Sunday School Students:

SJ Udelhofen (1)

Sam Philo (2)

Vada Steinmetz (2)

Emelia Greene (4)

Layla Kelley (4)

June Lochner (5)

Vivianne Herbrand (8)

Beckett Suchla (8)

Elsie Kinney (13)

Kane Schwartz (13)

William Wiese (18)

Declan Leith (19)

Della Kaderavek (25)

Milo Lueck (25)

Ella Herbrand (26)

Kellen Ryan (29)

Khloe Walker (29)

Matthew Peterson (31)

Our Youth:

Boden Frosch (1)

Kaitlynn Lins (3)

Joslyn Schultz (7)

Ethan Jones (9)

Weston Smith (12)

Thea Harpold (16)

Logan Buchanan (17)

Simon Homp (19)

Jason King (23)

Ava Sandeman (23)

Randy Trudell (25)

College and Career-age Young People:

Cayden Wernsing (26)

Jacob Schweitzer (29)