



*Kendall Koenig, second grade*

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Prairie du Sac, WI

June 2023

Dear Siblings in Christ,

The grass is greening, the fruit trees are flowering and the dandelions are taking over – the transformation from Spring to Summer is in full bloom (pun intended!)

As I look out my office window and see the change from brown to green taking place, I am reminded that this cycle is part of our life. It used to be in the fall I was saddened by leaves browning and then falling to the ground. Now I simply see that fall leads to winter, winter to spring, and spring to summer. The seasons come and go. They are not something to fear, but rather something that is part of the normal rhythm of life.

High school graduations will be taking place this month. Students will walk across platforms, shake hands (maybe hug) and receive a diploma. This yearly event marks the normal transition of our young people getting older and taking on new roles in their community. They will always be someone's son or daughter, but now they will gain new titles. No longer will they be a senior in high school, now they are an alumnus.

Graduation also means that while seniors leave, new seniors arrive. Getting older changes you. One moment you were an 8th grader, the oldest students of middle school. Now you are the newest (and youngest) member of high school. I suspect that for these transitioning students, change brings along with it a bit of fear and trepidation. Yet this changing process has been going on for generations. Everyone is a bit afraid when the change happens,

yet 5th graders move to the middle school, 8th graders move to the high school, seniors move to ??? People forget that they are only part of a school building for a while. They know this, they just forget until it happens. Then they are forced to remember.

I invite you to look around and notice students who are transitioning from one school to another. Pay attention and acknowledge this change. I also invite you to notice others who are transitioning. Teachers, parents, siblings, neighbors, employers and a host of others affected by this seasonal change. Listen to those who grieve, pay attention to those who long for more time and remember that while these changes are normal and expected, they still can be jarring and shake us. They remind us that change is always happening – even when we aren't expecting it.

Shalom,

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

### **Ordination Anniversary!**

Many of you know Rev. Eldor Fruehling. You may know him through his many years of service 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 of this congregation for more than 31 years, you also know he served as pastor to St. John's 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 Warburg Seminary in Dubuque, IA, and was ordained on July 5, 1953. This year Eldor will celebrate his **70th** ordination anniversary. Please send him a card thanking him for his service. His address is: Eldor Fruehling, 1425 Hemlock St., Apt. 107, Sauk City, WI 53583.



## Parish Planning Council Members:

Executive Director	Nancy Kaufman	(608) 963-0151
Assistant Exec Director	Nancy Passehl	(608) 219-1936
Secretary	Cathy Yanke	(608) 434-4869
Treasurer	Donna Nelson	(608) 393-4660
Evangelism Board	Sheila Dittberner	(608) 370-1550
Fellowship Board	Linda Michaels	(608) 643-8286
Lay Ministry Board	Gina Varley	(608) 544-5002
Member-at-Large	Roger Seymour	(608) 588-3198
Parish Education Board	<b>Your Name Here</b>	
Properties Board	Lon Kaderavek	(608) 434-2928
PR and Social Concerns	Ellen Jorgensen	(262) 995-3248
Stewardship Board	Anne Klinkner	(608) 393-6453
Women of ELCA	Eunice Yanke	(608) 643-8289
Youth Board	Megan Tarnutzer	(608) 963-0396
Youth Member-at-Large	Jonah Richard	(608) 347-0488

## The Staff:

Pastors: Fred Rilling [fred@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:fred@stjohnssaukprairie.org) (c) 963-4706

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

Director of Music: Ruellene Seymour

[ruellene@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:ruellene@stjohnssaukprairie.org) (h) 588-3198

Youth Director: Penny Johnson [penny@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:penny@stjohnssaukprairie.org)

(w) 643-2439

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

Office and Communications Coordinator: Linda Hines

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

Sunday School Superintendents: Joanna Jones and Miranda Jager

[sundayschool@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:sundayschool@stjohnssaukprairie.org) 643-2439

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*

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.  
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Prairie du Sac,  
Wisconsin 53578



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:

Granola Bars	Mayo/Salad Dressing
Ketchup	Mustard
Mac 'N Cheese	Cookies

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

*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.

Roger Maynard (6)  
7429 North Street  
Sauk City, WI 53583

Maureen Patterson (6)  
703 Phillips Street  
Sauk City, WI 53583

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

Ruth Tupper (16)  
1050 Prairie Street  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Roger Clason (18)  
1050 Prairie Street  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Carol Ellingson (19)  
2012 Taylor Trail #2  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Bob Nelson (21)  
821 Hanksfield Place  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Caroline Morrow (24)  
8387 Rimmel Court  
Dane, WI 53529

Pam Pickens (25)  
345 – 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578



## Worship Time Change

We have changed to our summer worship schedule. Services will be at **8:00am and 9:30am** from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

Our worship services are held in St. John's sanctuary and all services are available on Zoom. An easy way to connect to Zoom is to go to our website, [stjohnssaukprairie.org](http://stjohnssaukprairie.org) and click on the "Join Us Live for Worship" button in the upper right corner of the opening page.

## Adult Education

Stay tuned for information about some adult education opportunities this summer!



## Coffee Serving Contest



The Fellowship Board is running a contest beginning May 7th. This contest will allow the winner to donate their winnings to a charity of their choice from the list of organizations that St. John's supports (Bible Camp, World Hunger, Food Pantry, Good Neighbor Clinic, etc. A more complete list is on the kiosk). This donation can be made in your name. The amount that will be given to the winner is the amount we collect from our "coffee basket" during social hour for the whole month of September.

On the kiosk outside our parish office, there is a sign-up sheet for all the Sundays for the rest of the year to volunteer to serve coffee. Once we have someone signed up for **EVERY** Sunday for the rest of the year, a "winner" will be chosen.

How can you qualify you ask? Simply sign up to be willing to make coffee and serve that along with donut holes for a particular Sunday. For **EVERY** Sunday you sign up, beginning May 7<sup>th</sup> your name will be entered into the drawing. The more you sign up, the better chance you have to win. The drawing will take place on December 21<sup>st</sup> at the Fellowship Board meeting.

What a fun way to assist in our social hour and help your choice of charity. Please join us in making this a success.

Thank you. The Fellowship Board

	<b>Women of the Church News</b>	
	<b><u>Lydia Circle, Martha Circle, Ruth Circle, Sarah/Mary Circle</u></b> Thursday, June 22, in St. John's Fellowship Hall, Combined Circles	10:00am

In May there were 32 members and 1 guest who attended Circle Meetings. Diane Elsing, Barb Salveson, Patty Barritt and Kathy Lester led the Bible Study Devotion "Love in Action: The Art of Intergenerational Hospitality." In June, we will not have our individual Circle get-togethers. Instead, all of the Circles will meet together for a "picnic" on Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. This will be a brunch at 10:00am in the fellowship hall. Members of the WELCA Board (Eunice, Marian, Kathy, Darlene and Ruth) are happy to furnish the food (breakfast casseroles, cheese, coffee cake or muffins, fruit, juice and coffee). The rest of you do not need to bring a thing...just bring yourselves and invite a guest. Pastor Sally has graciously agreed to be our Bible Study Leader for the day. The deadline for having our various Lutheran World Relief kits ready for shipping is September 14<sup>th</sup>...so VERY SOON we will all be busy collecting items for those kits. Ginny Nimmow will be our speaker at the picnic. She has been helping the Martha Circle with School kits the past several years and because of this, Martha Circle has been able to send a lot more school kits than they would have normally. Ginny is a member of Thrivent and knows about the procedure for asking for a \$250 grant for projects like these kits. It is possible to apply for money for the Sewing, Baby and Personal Care kits and Quilts as well. There must be a member of Thrivent to apply for each separate project. We really hope for good attendance at this special event. Good food...Good Bible Study...Good info from Ginny!

In July and August each Circle can do what they would like. One circle is getting together for a social gathering in July and will have a regular meeting/Study in August, and one will have a regular circle meeting/Study in July. One circle is getting together in August to work on their kits. Whatever each circle does, we will not be taking a real break in July/August...because we will be diligently working on these important projects. We will resume our regular meeting schedule in September.

There were eight ladies who attended the Baraboo Conference Spring Gathering at Bonnet Prairie Lutheran Church in Rio on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Eunice Yanke, Marian DeGiovanni, Darlene Holl, Kathy Lester, Barb Salveson, Sandy Frey, Diane Elsing and Ruth Dresser. The speaker was Deb Bauer from Hope House in

Baraboo. They had sent us a list of items needed for Hope House and Linda had done a very good job of making these needs known. We were so excited and amazed at the response from the people of St. John's. There was a SUPER HUGE pile of those needed items! Marian's extra-large SUV was half-filled! The other half was filled with 4 of the women who went along. Darlene's SUV provided transportation for the other 4 ladies and she also brought along a wagon to help us get the items into the church in Rio. We are so grateful that Marian and Darlene are always so nice to drive for us. Hope House provides short-term emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse. Hope House services over 2000 survivors a year. Only about 100 of those stay in the shelter. Many more receive assistance over the phone, through email or in-person meetings at places including Hope House, libraries, clinics, courthouses, churches and schools throughout the five-county region (Sauk, Adams, Columbia, Marquette and Juneau). The role of Hope House is to inform victims about available resources at Hope House and in their community. The staff will discuss options, steps to take, and help survivors recognize their own strengths.

There were 40 ladies in attendance at this meeting, including women from St. Paul's Lutheran in Baraboo. They had been with us a long time ago, but have not been with the Baraboo Conference for many years. Now they are back and they invited us to come to their church for the Baraboo Spring Conference in 2024. Everyone is so happy that they will be with us again. Donna Peterson, Synodical President, gave us information about the Triennial Convention in Phoenix, held September 19-22, 2023. Two ladies present at this meeting plan to go. (Marian and Kathy had planned to go last time, but it was cancelled because of covid.) Marian and her daughter are working on some coasters from Wisconsin printed fabric to be used at that Convention. (WELCA had sent us patterns.) Thanks to Marian and Gina for doing this! Donna also reminded us about the Biennial Convention for South Central Synod at Midvale Community Lutheran Church, 4329 Tokay Blvd., Madison on October 7<sup>th</sup>. We have time to do some serious thinking about attending. It is always a very worthwhile event.

After the meeting, a nice meal was served which included HUGE croissant chicken salad or egg salad sandwiches, a pasta salad and cheese cake for dessert. It was Earth Day and the door prizes were trees to be planted and some useful grocery items.

Martha Circle has been visiting Special Friends in April and May. Sarah/Mary Circle will visit them in June and July.

Remember to read the Prayer for Peace in this Visitor on June 20<sup>th</sup>.





## Be A Yard Sign Host!

Sign up TODAY! Show your support of St John's, by hosting a yard sign this summer. We have a limited number and would like to rotate them through the community. If you would like to host a yard sign, please complete the form from the kiosk and place in the offering plate or return to the office.

## SPECIAL PRAYER

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

Almighty God, We bless you for our lives, we give you praise for your abundant mercy and grace we receive. We thank you for your faithfulness even though we are not that faithful to you. Lord Jesus, we ask you to give us peace in our mind, body, soul, and spirit. We want you to heal and remove everything that is causing stress, grief, and sorrow in our lives.

Please guide our path through life and make our enemies be at peace with us. Let your peace reign in our families, at our place of work, and in everything we lay our hands on.

Let your angels of peace go ahead of us when we go out and stay by our side when we return.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

## *Thank you*

Thank you to the following people for representing St. John's at the 2023 Synod Assembly held on May 20.

Pastor Fred, Pastor Sally, Executive Director Nancy Kaufman, Doug and Donna Nelson and Derek Rosenstiel.



# BAPTISM

We welcome this new sister and new brothers into the family of Christ following their baptisms during the month of May.

Lainey Mary Keller, daughter of Jacob and Katelyn (Meissen) Keller. Lainey was baptized on May 7 and her sponsors are Keahn Dunn and Jamie Erickson. Her congregational sponsor is Diane Jolicoeur.

August Shane Zasada, son of Scott and Shantele (Tammi) Zasada was baptized on May 7. His sponsors are Joshua Tammi and Madelyn Snapp. August's congregational sponsor is Melani Wheeler.

Emmett Donald Fuchs, son of Adam and Bailey (Leister) Fuchs was baptized on May 21. Emmett's sponsors are Tanner Leister and Katrina Henn. Cydney and Jeremy Kruchten are Emmett's congregational sponsors.

Please keep them in your prayers as they begin their journey in faith.



## With Sincere Sympathy

We offer our condolences to the following families this month:

Ginny Nimmow, Donna Hosking, Beth and Early Pippin, Jeff and Becky Nimmow and their families on the death of Ginny and Donna's sister and Beth and Jeff's aunt, Maurine Richolson.

Linda Lintl and her family on the death of Linda's son, Lee.  
Please keep these families in your prayers.

## Agrace Offers Virtual Grief Support Group in June

In June, Agrace is offering **Bridges**, a professionally led, virtual grief support group. Bridges is for adults grieving the death of any loved one. Meetings are held every other Wednesday via Zoom. In June, meetings are June 14 and 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

There is no fee for this program if a participant's family member was in hospice care in the past 12 months; fees for others can be lowered or waived, if needed. Pre-registration is required for each session; call (608) 327-7110 with questions or to register.



Dear Friends in Christ,

Sometimes in life it's hard to know when the busy season is ending and a quieter season is beginning. Does a quieter season even exist anymore?

While it may not be quiet, we are at the very least entering a different season, School is ending, vacations are starting (hopefully!), days are longer, and the weather is changing. It is a good time for us to intentionally make time to be still.

I recently discovered a beautiful litany to help us be still. I invite you to pray through this litany; whether on your own or with others. Make time to be still. Make time to be quiet. Listen for God's voice. Look for Jesus' in your midst. Feel the Spirit at work within you.

#### Litany for Inner Stillness

God, we know that when we wait upon you  
Our strength is renewed.

We know that your presence can grow in us  
When we become still.

You are exalted in our hearts  
When we contemplate your goodness.

That we often avoid quiet reflection  
We confess to you, Oh God.

That we often mistake stillness for sloth,  
We confess to you, Oh God.

That we often become hoodwinked by our culture of excess,  
We confess to you, Oh God.

That intentional stillness often requires great effort from us,  
We confess to you, Oh God.

When we are running around, attending to our to-do lists,  
It's you we seek.

When we are looking for pleasure and consolation,  
It's you we seek.

When we are in need of affirmation and success,  
It's you we seek.

When we are avoiding our pain, or nursing our wounds,  
It's you we seek.

We cease our striving and sink now into the stillness of this moment

For we have composed and quieted our souls.

We immerse ourselves into your loving, always-available presence,

For we have composed and quieted our souls.

We make it our ambition to be deeply familiar with you

For we have composed and quieted our souls.

We meditate upon the beauty of God,

For we have composed and quieted our souls.

Renew us now

As we wait quietly, in stillness, for you.

Amen

In stillness,



*Litany printed with permission from Fran Pratt*

*<http://www.franpratt.com/>*



## **Car Wash FUN-rasier**

Calling all St. John's families. The Youth of St. John's will be having a Car Wash Fundraiser on Sunday, June 4 from 7:30am to Noon, we want to make these cars shine! Drop your car off with one of the adults at the car wash and have it cleaned while you attend worship!

# **Sunday School News**

## **Sunday School Offering**

Our Sunday School children collected \$1,744.46 toward their offering project! The offering is being divided among the top 3 choices made by the students. We will purchase 19 Water Filters, 58 Backpacks Stocked with Food, and 58 single person Mosquito Nets. Thank you for your generosity, students, families and friends!!

# Middle and High School News

## Summer Worship Jobs

Confirmation students should sign-up for at least three Worship Jobs during the “summer” season which is June thru September 2023. Online registration is available at <https://signup.com/go/HtCaUTB>

Additionally, students can get a jump start on next year’s confirmation program by completing Sermon Notes and Service Projects during the summer.



## ELCA Youth Gathering

It may seem far away, but we are already preparing for the ELCA Youth Gathering. In Summer 2024 the Gathering will be held in New Orleans, LA, July 16-20, 2024. St. John's will be helping support any of our congregational youth (Grades 8-12) who want to attend.

The Gathering is open to all 8<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders, giving them opportunities for faith formation through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service and fellowship. It is an amazing event to see our youth from Lutheran congregations across the country gathered together in one place!

Youth participants must be in 8th to 12th grade at the time of registration (fall 2023). This is a powerful and transformational ministry if you are brave enough to let your guard down long enough for the Spirit to enter in, if you can be quiet long enough to listen to someone different from yourself, if your prayer is to be open to what God is calling you to, if you realize the strong roots of a community will ground you no matter the strength of life’s storms, if you imagine yourself as part of something bigger than you.

If you are thinking about sending your young person to the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering, please plan to meet on Wed August 16, 2023, at 6:00pm, in St. John's Fellowship Hall for an information meeting. Both youth and guardians must attend.

Contact Penny with questions (email [penny@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:penny@stjohnssaukprairie.org) or call 608-643-2439). Watch for more information to come throughout the Summer.



## High School Graduates

The following students were recognized on May 21 for graduating from high school. Keep them in your prayers as they move forward in the new stages of their lives.

Brody Ballweg

Jack Boerger

Carly Coy

Morgan Evert

Karlie Harpold

Wesley Himebauch

Ethan Jones

Ben Levers

Audrie Nurkala

Jonah Richard

Chloe Wernsing

Karley Blau

Annika Braund

Jaxson Dunn

Haylee Goetsch

Leo Hartman

Charles Homp

Courtney Lautenbach

Kyra Manning

Jenna Pistono

Chesney Schonenberger

## Young Adult Updates

Did you recently earn a degree from college or a tech school? Are you starting a new internship or job? Celebrations or prayer requests? Contact the pastors or the church office at [linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:linda@stjohnssaukprairie.org) and we will include it in our next Visitor!



## Stock the Schools

Working 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: **boxes of Cereal and Backpacks** (sizes for elementary, middle school and high school students). Look for the red bin in the gathering area by the church office to drop off your donations.

## Serving in June

### Ushers:

June 4

### 8:00 a.m.

Lon Kaderavek

Dale Haroldson

Lee LaVigne

June 11

Lon Kaderavek

Dale Haroldson

June 18

Lon Kaderavek

Dale Haroldson

June 25

Dale Haroldson

Lon Kaderavek

Caden Argall

### 9:30 a.m.

Kathy Lovell

Tom Varley

Austin Urban

Gerry Westphal

Deb Westphal

Brooke Braund

John Mast

Ellen Mast

Gerry Westphal

Deb Westphal

### Acolytes:

June 4

### 8:00 a.m.

Charlie Lueck

June 11

Ella Stephan

June 18

June 25

Willy Pickett

### 9:30 a.m.

Clay Hutchins

Chesney Braund

Elio Piccinelli

### Assisting Ministers:

### 8:00 a.m.

June 4

Donna Knickmeyer

June 11

June 18

June 25

Janelle Hupp

### 9:30 a.m.

Donna Knickmeyer

Jude Hanna

### Readers:

June 4

### 8:00 a.m.

Marilyn Herschleb

June 11

Janelle Hupp

June 18

Mary Halweg

June 25

Dale Haroldson

### 9:30 a.m.

Kathy Lovell

Doris Lohr

Denny Dederich

Jude Hanna

### Cantors:

June 4

### 8:00 a.m.

Bill Burton

June 11

Doug Slater

June 18

Pastor Sally Williams

June 25

Jeff/Kathy Ochsankehl

### 9:30 a.m.

Bill Burton

Doug Slater

Pastor Sally Williams

Jeff/Kathy Ochsankehl

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

June 4

Darlene Holl

Diane Williams

June 11

Jane/Rich Calenzo

June 18

June 25

Dottie Maly

Marilyn Herschleb

### 9:30 a.m.

Jude Hanna

Barb Salvesson

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

June 4 Patty Barritt  
 June 11 Alice Chenoweth  
 June 18 Kris Frey  
 June 25 Donna Knickmeyer

**9:30 a.m.**

Dede Egan  
 Marilyn Herschleb  
 Doris Lohr

**Greeters:****8:00 a.m.****9:30 a.m.**

June 4 (Sanctuary)	Cliff/Cindy Thompson	Bob/Dede Egan
(Front doors)	Steve/Cheryl Sprecher	Tom/Gina Varley
June 11 (Sanctuary)	Don/Vi Bohler	Steve/Cheryl Sprecher
(Front doors)	Rich/Kris Frey	Ginny Nimmow
June 18 (Sanctuary)	Charlie Lueck	Chesney Braund
(Front doors)	Dylan Walker	Brooke Braund
June 25 (Sanctuary)	Gina Wyttenbach	Doris Lohr
(Front doors)	Todd Wyttenbach	Jackie Frosch

**Technical Support: 8:00 a.m.**

June 4 Lisa Davis  
 June 11 Lisa Davis  
 Charlie Kruchten  
 June 18 Ellen Jorgensen  
 June 25 Alyssa Himebauch  
 Ellen Jorgensen

**9:30 a.m.**

Eric Kaul  
 Charlie Kruchten  
 Jeff Sandberg  
 Nicole Sandberg  
 Audrey Sandberg  
 Jeff Sandberg  
 Nicole Sandberg  
 Audrey Sandberg  
 Sean Jager  
 Eric Kaul

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

June 4 Megan Tarnutzer  
 June 11 Jonah Richard  
 June 18 Cathy Yanke  
 June 25 Ellen Jorgensen

**9:30 a.m.**

Gina Varley  
 Sheila Peak Dittberner  
 Linda Michaels  
 Nancy Kaufman

**Congregational totals**

	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Offering</b>
April 30	307	\$ 6,280
May 7	301	\$12,254
May 14	244	\$ 4,851
May 21	228	\$ 9,838

*Thank you for your continued support, Stewardship Board*





## Worship Volunteers

We have the links for Usher sign-up, Communion Assistant sign-up, Greeter sign-up and Communion Set/Clean-up sign-up all in one place now! Check out St. John's webpage at [stjohnssaukprairie.org](http://stjohnssaukprairie.org) and click on the story of "Sign Up to Help with Worship" to find the links. Sign up today!

If you would like to be a Reader, contact Kathy Lovell at [lovellkat@yahoo.com](mailto:lovellkat@yahoo.com) or (608) 643-2075. Late service readers are especially needed.

If you would like to be an Assisting Minister, contact Pastor Sally at [sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org](mailto:sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org) or the office phone (608) 643-2439.

Will you help by making and serving the coffee during Fellowship hour on Sunday morning? If so, sign up on the kiosk. If you have questions, please contact Linda Michaels at 643-8286 or [tmichaels8286@charter.net](mailto:tmichaels8286@charter.net).

## Agrace to Offer New Volunteer Orientation in June

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 **Friday, June 9, 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](http://Agrace.org/Volunteer) to apply online.



St. Johns is scheduled to deliver mobile Meals June 5-9 and June 12-16. Meals to be delivered are picked up at the Sauk Prairie Healthcare Center and help many in our community. For more details and to volunteer, please see the kiosk in the front gathering area of the church. We are in need of someone to deliver on Wednesday, June 7 yet.

## **Post High School Graduate**

Dr. Krista Grinde will complete her bone marrow transplant fellowship training at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital on June 30, 2023.

She has accepted a position with the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital in the division of pediatric hematology/oncology as a bone marrow transplant attending physician.

Krista is the daughter of Roxann and Chris Grinde.

## **Good Neighbor Clinic of Sauk Prairie**

The Good Neighbor Clinic is a primary care clinic that provides care for non-emergency medical conditions, serving individuals with no medical insurance or whose medical insurance fees keep them from accessing care. They are a non-profit organization that strives to improve the health and lives of people who face financial, cultural, or language barriers that prevent access to quality health care.

The clinic was started in 1999 by Dr. Haakon Carlson, with the establishment of a Board of Directors. It opened to clients in November of that year with the support of local physicians and over 50 volunteers. The first clinic was established right here in the educational wing of St. John's.

The clinic is staffed by professionals who volunteer their services to enable all to have access to healthcare. Their mission is to improve the health and lives of people who face financial, cultural, or language barriers that keep them from accessing quality healthcare. They serve the residents of Sauk Prairie and the surrounding community.

The clinic is staffed by volunteers who are physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, nurses, medical assistants, social workers, and interpreters. They have expanded to include a small number of paid staff as the clinic has grown. They have received generous ongoing in-kind support from the Sauk Prairie Health System and three Sauk Prairie pharmacies over the years.

If you would like to know more about the Good Neighbor Clinic or about volunteering with the clinic, contact Nancy Kaufman at [nancy.kaufman0151@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.kaufman0151@gmail.com).

# Thank You!

Thank you for your outstanding donation to the Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry. Your gift of \$3,707.00 is sure to make a positive impact for families in the area. Thanks to your generosity, those in need have access to healthy, nutritional food and personal care items.

Thank you also for your continued monthly donations of needed items. They are a great help to our neighbors in need. We are so fortunate to have individuals and organizations like you as part of our community.

Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry

*(Our donation is from offerings collected during our Lenten worship services. Thank you for being so generous!)*

## Thank you

Dear Pastors Sally and Fred, and St. John's Members,

Thank you so much for your recent "Stock the Schools" donations. The personal care items and snacks are so very helpful for our students.

Thank you for always remembering others in need.

On behalf of the Sauk Prairie School children,

Sincerely, Susan Baumann-Duren

SPSD Social Worker

Thank  
You

Dear St. John's family,

Thank you for all of the wonderful birthday cards and telephone calls with wishes for a great day. I really enjoyed hearing from you all. It was a good birthday. Thank you.

Denise Baars

# PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES

DATE: May 2, 2023

**Present:** Donna Nelson, Nancy Kaufman, Nancy Passehl, Cathy Yanke, Fred Rilling, Sally Williams, Eunice Yanke, Roger Seymour, Gina Varley, Jonah Richard, Ellen Jorgensen, Sheila Dittberner, Anne Klinkner, Linda Michaels

**Absent:** Megan Tarnutzer, Lon Kaderavek

## **Call to Order/Opening Remarks:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Nancy Kaufman. Nancy K asked for approval of the agenda. Motion to approve was made by Linda and seconded by Eunice. Motion carried. A devotion/prayer was then given by Eunice.

## **Secretary Minutes:**

The April minutes were submitted online by Cathy Yanke. A motion to approve minutes was made by Gina and seconded by Donna. Motion carried.

## **Treasurer report:**

The committee reviewed and discussed the April 2023 Treasurer Report submitted by Donna Nelson.

- Lenten offerings totaled \$3707 and a check was sent to Sauk Prairie Food Pantry.
- April's net income was \$1500.00. Sunday giving has increased slightly which resulted in the ability to pay all bills.
- Feedback from board chairs is requested regarding preference for monthly quick reports or year-to-date reports.
- A reminder that receipts for Menard's purchases during rebate days should be submitted prior to deadline for rebate.

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Eunice and seconded by Nancy P. Motion carried.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Evangelism:** Sheila Dittberner reported:

- New member pictures posted on bulletin board
- PPC member pics set for May/June 2023 timeframe
- Guestbook update
- Remind and encourage members to participate with services, communion setup, reader, usher, greeters, etc
- Discussion of Evangelism Board Chairperson options (target August/September 2023)

**Fellowship:** Linda Michaels reported:

- Affirmation of Baptism – great turn out for cake after the 10:30 service. We ran out of cake but luckily, I saved enough so that any of the confirmation kids that wanted a piece, got a piece.
- We will be celebrating Darlene Holl's birthday on May 14th. She is providing cake, cheese, and crackers.
- May 21 – Graduation. Stephanie Scallon will be making special cookies for our graduates.
- Several tops are missing from our coffee carafes so replacements need to be ordered.

**Lay Ministry:** Gina Varley reported:

- Ask website manager to add the individual links to the online sign-up for greeters, communion assistants, ushers and eventually technology assistants to the St. John's website home page.
- We will send a welcome email to the new members with information on volunteer jobs.
- 533 people attended Easter services, up significantly from last year.
- 81 orders for Easter flowers.
- Geranium sales for Pentecost Sunday will be May 7 & 14.
- Summer worship schedule, 8 am and 9:30 am, begins 5/28 through 9/3.

**Parish Education:** Included in Sally's report

**Properties:** Lon Kaderavek reported:

- Have roof leaks in sanctuary around cupola.
- Will be getting drywall repaired from previous water issues outside office.

**PR & Social Concerns:** Ellen Jorgensen reported:

- Yard sign campaign will start in May. Look for a sign-up sheet on the kiosk.
- Just Bakery will be sold between services on May 21st. This will be the last sale until fall.
- May educational topic - May 21st Accessible Healthcare/Good Neighbor Clinic

**Stewardship Board:** Anne Klinkner reported:

We evaluated our Jan 2023 Church Financial review report. Anne Klinkner will update the document and send it out to the Stewardship Board. Follow-up actions have been assigned to Anne and Cathy.

Donna Nelson presented a brief summary of some of the ideas from the Stewardship breakout session from the Lead Event. Some of them were:

- 1% increase in giving challenge
- Reward for enrolling in Simply Giving
- There are some year-round ideas on the ELCA website
- Wall of Giving Thank Yous
- Pray for what you want to have happen as part of what you do during the year as a congregation

The agenda for the May 9, 2023 meeting will be

- Review Minutes and Financial Statements
- Presentation by Nicole Sandberg for methods to increase giving among younger members (this still needs to be confirmed with Nicole.)
- Stewardship Ideas from the Lead Event

### **Women of ELCA:**

Eunice Yanke reported:

- Eight women from St. John's attended the Baraboo Conference Spring Gathering at Bonnet Prairie Church on Saturday, April 22. A full report will be given at our next meeting.
- All-Circle Picnic will be Thursday, June 22 at 10:00am in St. John's fellowship hall. Pastor Sally will lead the devotion and Ginny Nimmow will be our guest speaker talking about Thrivent grant money.
- The Gather magazine with the May and June Bible Study was late again. We were able to get a pdf print-out of the May study in time for our Bible Study Leaders' meeting with Pastor Fred. An article in the "Trumpeter" stated that the Churchwide ELCA were having trouble finding paper for printing and had laid off some staff during covid. More staff funding is available now with hopes of getting the magazine out more timely.
- A reminder that the Penny Jar on the name tag table helps women and children in need. Please remember to donate!
- October 7 is the date for the WELCA South-Central Synod Biennial Convention, taking place at Midvale Community Lutheran Church in Madison.

### **Youth Committee:**

Megan Tarnutzer reported:

- Youth board will meet next week. We plan to discuss upcoming summer events. Possible fundraising ideas. ie: car wash. We are looking at outings for the summer such as a Dells trip, Devils Lake, or similar.

- Confirmation went well this past weekend and we congratulate all of those students!

**Member at Large:** Roger Seymour reported:

- No report provided

**Youth member at Large:** Jonah Richard reported:

- Spring sports are well under way.
- Prom is May 13 at the High School
- Graduation is June 2 at 7:30 pm and they will live stream it as well.
- The forensics team did very well at state with 12 first places.
- Annual Middle and High School Student art exhibit is going on now to May 24 at the River Arts Center.

## **Pastor/Intern Reports**

**Fred's Report:**

- Thanks to Bishop Joy for joining our worship on April 23. She presided over communion and preached that day. We are grateful for her partnership with our congregation and her work in our synod.
- Affirmation of Baptism Service (Confirmation) was April 30. I invite you to look at the list of young people and continue to keep them in your prayers and invite them to continue to be active in the work of the congregation. Asking someone personally to help is the surest way of getting a 'yes.'
- I took part in a Middle School program designed to help with financial literacy. This all-day event had numerous tables set up in the two gyms where 6-8th grade young people were given salaries and then had to deal with the costs of everyday decision-making. Members were present from our community with expertise in housing and other areas of daily living. The middle school youth learned a lot.
- Sally and I continue to conduct funerals for the many deaths that have recently taken place. I am grateful for our staff and volunteers who help during this difficult time for families.
- It was a joy to see many of our members attend our Holy week services. Some new faces have been returning as well as first time people. I am grateful for the way our congregation welcomes visitors and members alike.
- April 26 was Administrative Professional Day. Linda Hines has been in that position for several years. Her work ethic, professionalism and caring concern for our members continues to be a blessing to us all. I am grateful that Linda continues to serve in

this role. Please take a moment to remind her that you are grateful as well.

### **Sally's Report:**

- Check out "The Search For A Church" by Kathryn Hauelsen in the May/June edition of Living Lutheran. It has a few thoughts about welcoming folks at church.
- Affirmation of Baptism is Sunday, April 30th at 10:30. Please considering coming to worship as St. John's leadership to support our youth and/or drop them a card in the mail.
- The education year is wrapping up and we are working as a board to extend our gratitude to all of our volunteers who make our programs happen. Please reach out with thanks to our incredible team! And a special thanks to Penny for her hard work. Her first year as Youth Director has been full of creativity and relationship building with students and families. We are very blessed by her!
- I will be working with our adult education group to gauge their interest in summer learning. A couple options include weekly text study, a series on the intersection of civic life and faith (there is an ELCA study coming out that we are invited to try and give feedback before it's published). I look forward to hearing more ideas from the group.
- I had the privilege of leading the assisted living and nursing home services in March and April. Many of our members comment on how much they appreciate Zoom. We also had a number of funerals where the family requested Zoom. I am grateful for Roger Seymour and Ellen Jorgensen who have been willing to serve with short notice as tech for these services.
- I am working with Ellen Jorgensen, Abbey Nolden, and Penny Johnson on our social media presence. Penny has surveyed some of our youth to see which platforms are most used and is thinking through how we might use some of them as we build relationships with our teens. Abbey has been updating our website as needed, and we are working on building our 'library' of photos to be used online. Miranda Jager has agreed to take photos that will be stored in our Google photos.

### **Old Business:**

- Membership calls—this project is to confirm membership, addresses, continued interest in receiving the Visitor, and thanking for their support. Fred will send the list and ask each member to call 3-4 names. He will provide a proposed script for the calls.
- LGBTQ update Synod Reconciling In Christ. PPC members were asked to review the RIC webpage. In reviewing the website, this is



a project that will need commitment and time. Sally knows a contact that may be willing to present their recent experience on this journey.

- Childcare update

Update/Next Steps: Information from Tywana German, SP Chamber of Commerce

1. Sandra Briesath is an early education expert, with over 30 years in childcare center leadership management, who they have hired to lead this project for us.

She currently is the director of a Pre-School / Lutheran Church partnership and can speak to the success and challenges of working collaboratively in a church environment.

- a. Officially begins her duties on May 30th and continues through August 31st.

1. Sandra is planning on scheduling a time for the pre-licensing team to tour the space again with her and she will reach out to St. John's directly to schedule that.

2. I am hopeful that by mid-June, we can have a final recommendation on location.

- PPC Retreat Follow-up

Continue welcoming attendees

### **New Business:**

- Length of current services—discussed that services seem to be longer and may be frustrating some attendees. Call to worship song has been eliminated due to copyright issues combined with Zoom requirements.

- Discussion of other ELCA church services to compare and gain new ideas.

- July's meeting will be held on July 5 due to the holiday.

Next meeting is Tuesday, June 6, at 6:00 pm. Devotion will be given by Gina. Gina made a motion to adjourn our meeting, and the motion was 2nd by Sheila. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:11 pm. with The Lord's Prayer lead by Nancy Kaufman.

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Yanke.

*St. John's Mission Statement: Christ, our strength and refuge, calling us to serve.*



## **Happy June Birthday!**

*The day is in parenthesis*

### **Our Youngest:**

Briley Schwarz (7)

Brinley Myhro (13)

Kolt Steinmetz (16)

Jessica Bradley (20)

Collins Neubacher (21)

### **Our Sunday School Students:**

Eleanor Muehrer (3)

Emma Kraus (4)

Samuel Krueger (8)

Collin Lins (8)

Allie Lochner (8)

Jesse Paque (13)

Mason Ramirez (15)

Roman Koenig (16)

Reese Bletsch (21)

Carson Lohr (24)

### **Our Youth:**

Gavin Goetsch (4)

Jacob Lins (6)

Liam Hart (9)

Jenna Shimpach (9)

Natalie Ballweg (12)

Dylan Quayle (16)

Alyssa Himebauch (16)

Michael Jolicoeur (16)

Ava Shimpach (19)

Brody Ballweg (22)

Charlie Lueck (24)

Wesley Himebauch (29)

Lee LaVigne (30)

Olivia Wiese (30)

### **College and Career-age Young People:**

Austin Keyser (7)

Cole Douglas (8)

Alia Schlimgen (20)