

Prairie du Sac, WI

September 2025

We are delighted to officially welcome Pastor Tom Kreis to our community and are eager to walk with him in faith. Please join Pastor Tom and Pastor Sally during worship on September 7th.



Congregational Meeting

On November 9, after the first service, we will have a congregational meeting to approve our 2026 budget, elect members to our Parish Planning Council (PPC), elect 3 representatives to attend the Synod Assembly in 2026 and to elect three congregational members to serve on our Nomination Committee for 2026.

We will be voting to fill the open positions on our PPC. Our nominees are: Stewardship Board – Anne Klinkner, Member-at-Large – Mary Weeks, Lay Ministry Board - **Open**, and Secretary – **Open**. Current PPC members who are eligible and interested in a second two-year term include: Evangelism Board – Gwen Ringelstetter, Fellowship Board – Cathy McAlexander,

Youth Board – Tracy Pape, Parish Education – James Newman, and Youth Member-at-Large – Sean Jager.

We will also vote on congregational members to attend our Synod Assembly next spring/summer. We need three adults and can have one youth member. Nominees for the Nomination Committee for 2026 will be taken from the floor on the day of the meeting.

If you are interested in filling any of our open positions or would like to attend the Synod Assembly as a voting member representing St. John's, please see one of the pastors, Nancy Passehl or Nancy Kaufman. Mark your calendars to join us for this important meeting.

St. John's Budget for 2026 We will be voting on the 2026 Budget at our Congregational meeting on November 9. A more itemized listing of the various board budgets will be available in the church office once approved by the PPC. **The tentative budget is below and will be voted on by the PPC on September 2nd.**

PROGRAM	APPROVED 2025	BUDGETED 2026	% CHANGE
Administration	\$481,750.00	\$428,666.00	-11.02%
Lay Ministry	10,000.00	9,350.00	-6.50%
Evangelism	600.00	500.00	-16.67%
Stewardship	2,700.00	2,400.00	-11.11%
PR & Social Concerns	3,350.00	3,000.00	-10.45%
Parish Education	13,710.00	12,070.00	-11.96%
Youth Board	5,900.00	4,800.00	-18.64%
Fellowship	3,000.00	2,400.00	-20.00%
Properties	49,450.00	63,800.00	29.02%
Lutheran Church Women	2,500.00	2,250.00	-10.00%
Benevolence	52,250.00	45,400.00	-13.11%
Total	\$625,210.00	\$574,636.00	-8.09%



The Staff:

Pastor: Tom Kreis tom@stjohnssaukprairie.org

608-643-7810 (home)

ruellene@stjohnssaukprairie.org

Custodian: John Hines john@stjohnssaukprairie.org

Financial Secretary: Bruce Fritsch bruce@stjohnssaukprairie.org

sundayschool@stjohnssaukprairie.org

www.stjohnssaukprairie.org

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.

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Christ,
our strength
and refuge,
calling us
to serve

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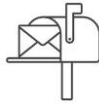


Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry

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

- Toilet paper
- Condiments (especially ketchup and mayonnaise, jelly)
- Baking mixes (such as muffins and pancakes)
- Box meals (e.g., Hamburger Helper)
- Canned meals (e.g., spaghetti, ravioli, etc.)
- Baking supplies (white and brown sugar, flour, oil)
- Diapers – sizes 4, 5 and 6

Thank you for helping others in our community.



Birthday Greetings

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

Fay Rentmeester (5)
930 Prairie St., Apt. 203
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Almay Nelson (13)
821 Hanksfield Place
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Joyce Kinnamon (18)
1008 Elm St., Apt 204
Wisconsin Dells, WI 53965

Janet Anderson (22)
1020 Monroe St.
Sauk City, WI 53583

Benny Stenner (10)
415 Brigham Lane
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Mary Risgaard (17)
507 Lake Wisconsin Dr
Merrimac, WI 53561

Henry Elsing (21)
2020 Hanksfield Pl
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

Dick Yanke (26)
S9080 Meadowdale Rd.
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578

	Women of the Church News	
	<u>Lydia Circle</u> Thursday, September 11, at hostess Dorothy Halverson's home	1:00pm
	<u>Martha Circle</u> Thursday, September 4, at St. John's library, Ruth Dresser, Hostess	9:30am
	<u>Ruth Circle</u> Monday, September 8, at St. John's library, Marian DeGiovanni, Hostess	9:00am
	<u>Sarah/Mary Circle</u> Tuesday, September 2, at St John's library	9:30am

In September, we will begin a Bible Study "Money, Stewardship and Generosity" by Rev. Christa Von Sychin. Mary Weeks, Marian DeGiovanni, and Kathy Lester will be leading the study. Session One: Money. The love of money is a powerful source of argument, lies and liberal enslavement. During August, all the Circles met, but we didn't have our Bible Studies because we all had our Lutheran World Relief kits to work on. The deadline is September 12th for having them all finished, packed up and ready for shipping. We still have lots to do.

We are making plans for attending the Synodical Biennial Convention on Saturday, October 4th at New Heights Church at the Grove: Regional Community Center in Mazomanie. The deadline for early-bird registration was August 17th. WE STAND WITH YOU IN LOVE is the theme of the day. Before August 17th, the registration cost is \$30. After that it is \$50. The registration amount covers Worship, keynote speaker, several workshops, lunch with a choice of 3 different kinds of sandwiches. Most of the ladies who are going have already registered in order to get the saving in registration costs. (Kathy Lester, Ruth Dresser, Darlene Holl, Gloria Moles, Marian DeGiovanni). Kathy Lester will be the "voting member" and she will go to the early meeting at 7:00 a.m. Workshop Topics: Climate Justice: You can make a difference, Chair Yoga, Heights Unlimited Workshop, The Little Heart Project, Sharing God's Love Through the Written Word, and Let's Create Triennial Swap Bookmarks.

In-kind donations will go to Heights Unlimited Community Resource Center (Food Pantry @New Heights Lutheran). Items we can donate: Condiments (catsup, mustard, BBQ sauce); Progresso and chunky-style soups (not tomato or chicken noodle) Salad Dressings; Pasta (not spaghetti), Flour, Sugar (white, brown, powdered) Fruit juices, Canned pineapple, canned tuna/chicken, Pancake mix and syrup, Cereals, Flavored rice potato, pasta packets/boxes; Cake Mixes, Crackers (saltines, graham, snack),

Cleaning supplies, Dishwashing liquid, Laundry detergent, small bottles, Toilet paper, Paper Towels, Tissue, Shampoo and Conditioner (approx 12 oz.) Feminine Hygiene products, Deodorant, Body Soaps (approx. 2 oz.) Anyone can donate and we will take any of these items with us to the meeting on October 4th. The Offering will be collected in a basket/collection container at the back of the worship space. The offering plate will not be passed. We will be carpooling, and you should let Aletha know if you plan to go. We will let you know what time to be at church to be included in the carpool.

The Pennies for Poverty Jar that we have on the Name Tag Table is in connection with this meeting. We have chosen to give this money to 6:8 here in our own community, instead of the one they chose in Madison. We are hoping that everyone will be generous in giving pennies, bigger coins, dollars and checks to the worthy cause of helping to support the many wonderful things done by 6:8. Last year we gave \$500 to 6:8 and we hope to be able to do the same (or more!!) this year. Remember to toss some coins (or bills or checks) in the PENNIES FOR POVERTY JAR while you are making out your name tags. It all adds up and we need to help support 6:8!

Lydia Circle is visiting Special Friends during August and September.

The Bible Study leaders meeting for September will be on Tuesday, August 26th at 9:00 a.m. The leaders' meeting for October will be on Tuesday, September 30th at 9:00 a.m.

Remember to read the Special Prayer found in this Visitor on September 20th.

WELCA Pennies for Poverty Jar

We remind you to look for the Penny Jar on the name tag table each Sunday and donate! Little coins can add up to big amounts! The offering will be given to 6:8 in conjunction with the WELCA 2025 Biennial Synodical Convention which will be held on Saturday October 4th.



Thank You

I am so glad to be a member of St. John's. There are so many wonderful people who are a very important part of my life. Thanks to all that helped celebrate my 97th birthday. ~ Ruth Dresser



Fellowship Committee

A BIG "Thank You" for those contributing goodies for our Sunday coffee time. If you want to add to what is being served, feel free to bring your item and add it to the serving table. If you would like to donate all of the treats for a Sunday (whether homemade or purchased) please contact Cathy McAlexander (402-689-5196) so that we can plan accordingly. What a wonderful way to share with our church family.

Please continue to volunteer and sign up to serve coffee to your church family. It's fun, it's easy and we are here to help. You can find the sign-up sheet posted on the kiosk in the foyer.



The **Evangelism Board** is looking for a new member to be our photographer. This person will mainly be responsible for new member photos after installation in February and at the Pet Blessing in early October. Please contact Board Chair Gwen Ringelstetter or the church office if you are interested in serving in this capacity.



FALL CHOIR SCHEDULE

Singers and ringers - choir rehearsals will begin soon! New members are welcome to ALL groups:

- Senior Choir rehearsals begin Sept 3. Rehearsals are every Wednesday from 7-8pm. Senior Choir typically sings 3 times each month. This group is full of energy and is a fun way to praise our amazing God! Come check out this great group!
- Kids of the Kingdom, children's choir for grades 1 through 6, will begin Wednesday, September 24. This choir meets weekly from 5:00-5:45pm and typically sings for services twice a month. If your child is unsure of whether he/she would like to join, please come and "try us out" for a few weeks, and then decide. Please let me know if your child will be coming so that I can prepare a folder for them. We look forward to seeing some new faces!
- The Handbell Choir will begin rehearsals on Thursday, Sept 25. Rehearsals are every Thursday from 6-7pm. If you have not rung before, but would like to try, please let Ruellene know by Sept 9 so she can plan accordingly.

Questions? Contact Ruellene Seymour, Director of Music,
ruellene@stjohnssaukprairie.org c. 608-459-5074

Dear Friends in Christ,



Pastor Preston Fields, Campus Pastor at UW-Madison, recently wrote about campus ministry, *"We're not the flashiest thing happening on campus. We don't have a worship band with smoke machines or an app that tracks your Bible reading streak...this ministry is quieter than that. Slower. More human. The loudness isn't in volume. It's in presence. It's the kind of loud that holds your hand through grief. The kind that remembers your name and your dog's name and asks how your exam went."*

I often hear the longing of our adult members to have more connection with our youth. To see them here in the building and participating in a lot of the same rituals and traditions as when we were young. Things are simply not the same for our students.

Expectations of involvement in activities, clubs, and sports are higher than ever. Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings are not left for churches (though I must share our district is INCREDIBLE at honoring Wednesday nights). Life goes at a dizzying speed. **But...**

That doesn't mean our students aren't engaging in their faith or at church. We just need to know where to find them and how to engage with them. Here are some ideas for you!

Our children are here between services in Sunday School. Volunteer to read to them at library time. Put your name down as a substitute. Simply walk down the hall just before pick up (10:15) and introduce yourself to their parents. Our teens are here on Wednesday nights. Volunteer to set up, serve, and/or clean up the meal. You eat for free as a volunteer and you get a chance to meet our youth. Also, they serve in many roles on Sundays. Seek them out!

They're also out in the community serving through 6:8, playing sports and performing and using their minds and their skills to better this earth. They're passionate for justice and helping others. Go find them – check out the school activities calendar and show up at their events!

Sometimes it is just as simple as finding out their dog's names.

If we get stuck in the mindset that they have to come to us we'll miss them every time. But when we go to them we can create some awesome relationships.

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

With Sincere Sympathy



We offer our condolences to:

- Janel and Dan Endres and their children and Sandy Osgood on the death of Janel's mother, Sandy's sister-in-law, Wanda Kohlman
- Dale Clason and the family of Roger Clason, Dale's brother-in-law
- The family of Diane Tenley
- Caroline Morrow, Brenda Schweitzer and their family on the death of Caroline's sister, Brenda's aunt, Betty.
- Matt and Abbey Ballweg and their children, Hudson, Hallie and Hayden, on the death of Matt's mother, Cathy Ballweg.
- Marv and Janelle Hupp and family on the death of Marv's mother, Eunice.
- Michele and Shane Tammi, Jessica and Scott Frey, Jamie and Dan Brice, Josh Tammi, Shantele and Scott Zasada and their families on the death of Ellen Hamlin
- Claire and Brad Reinke and family on the death of Claire's father, Jerome Ullmer.

Please keep these families in your prayers.



BAPTISM

We welcomed a sister into the family of Christ through baptism during the month of August.

Braelyn Adelyne Treffert, daughter of Michael and Bethany Treffert was baptized on August 3, 2025. Braelyn's sponsors are Dani and Kyle Orris.

Please keep her in your prayers as she begins her journey in faith.



JUST BAKERY

A JustDane Initiative

Just Bakery will be back on Sunday, September 21 between our worship services. Stop in the fellowship hall to check them out!

Sunday School News



Sunday School Teacher Orientation

All Sunday School Teachers, Classroom Helpers, and Sunday School staff should plan to attend orientation in Room 5 (the purple room) on Sunday, Sept. 14 at 9:15am. If you cannot attend, please contact

sundayschool@stjohnssaukprairie.org

Sunday School Rally Day

Rally Day is Sept. 21 at 9:15am. All families should plan to attend this orientation to Sunday School, meet the teachers, participate in Singspiration and have fun! **We will start by meeting in the Sanctuary for a large group activity (this is different from past years) at 9:15 and the activities will end by 10:15am.** You can register for Sunday School during Rally Day or at <https://tinyurl.com/StJohnSundayReg>. Find all Rally Day information at <https://tinyurl.com/StJohnRallyDay>

Back To School Blessing

We want to celebrate and bless the beginning of the school year with a special back to school blessing, also on Sunday, September 21, at the 8am and 10:30am services. We invite students of all ages, teachers, principals, administrators, school office personnel, cooks, librarians, custodians, bus drivers...anyone that plays a role in our school systems...to come and be sent with blessings for a successful school year ahead. Join us for this Milestone Ministry event!

Prepare for Sunday School

The first day of regular Sunday School classes will be Sunday, Sept. 28 at 9:15am. You can find the entire Sunday School calendar at <https://tinyurl.com/SunSchoolCalendar>

St. John's Hayride 2025!

Join us for some fall fellowship and fun! We will meet at Keller's farm, enjoy a fun hayride, play games, eat some tasty treats, and of course – pumpkins! The Hayride will be October 5, 2025, from 1:30pm – 3:30pm (end time is estimated) at Keller's Farm, W13769 Hwy 60, Prairie du Sac. Note: It's the first farm/house on the right after you pass the 188 intersection. We will ride the wagons together, so please make your best effort to be there at 1:30 so you don't get left behind! After, we all pick out our pumpkins and we will ride the wagons back to our cars. In order for us to have enough supplies and on hand, please register at

<https://tinyurl.com/stjohnhayride>

Sunday School Offering Project

Our offering for the 2025-2026 Sunday School year is being designated for Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry. A nutritious diet is important to a child's health. Foods high in protein and vitamins help keep tummies full and immune systems strong. Offering and items will be collected every Sunday we have Sunday School. Students are welcome to give each week or as they are able. EVERY gift counts. It's not the amount we give, but the reason we give we are God's Helping Hands. There will be a basket to put donations in by the Children's Library.

3-Year-Old & 3rd Grade Bible Presentation

On Sunday, October 5, at the 8am & 10:30 services we will present Bibles to our 3-year-olds and third grade youth. In our Baptismal liturgy we promise to place the Holy Scriptures in the hands of our candidates. A letter was sent home at the end of August with more details. If you did not receive a letter and would like your child (grandchild, neighbor, and friends!) to receive a Bible, please contact Pastor Sally at 608-643-2439 or sally@stjohnssaukprairie.org.

SCHOOL STAFF



Parish Education Staff Installation

We will install our 2025-2026 educational staff on September 28 at the 8am and 10:30am services. Included in this group are our Sunday school teachers, librarians, adult education teachers, confirmation teachers and aides, director of music and education board members. Please join us as we rejoice in God's gifts made manifest in these individuals.



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Thank you for the use of your building – it is perfect for our group!

The Sprecher family reunion committee
(Marilyn, Brenda, Jean and Terrianne).

Middle and High School News

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation classes begin Wednesday, September 24th! All confirmation students and at least one guardian should plan to attend. Our fellowship meal starts at 5:30pm, and the Welcome Back program begins at 6:00pm. Meet our confirmation teachers, complete the required paperwork, pick up your students' workbooks and get to know the other confirmation families that make this a great program. You can find the full confirmation calendar at <https://tinyurl.com/ConfirmCal>

ELCA Youth Bible Study

Did you know that the ELCA Youth Ministry offers a weekly bible study, specifically for our youth? You can follow the "Faith Lens" bible study for youth at <https://blogs.elca.org/faithlens/> These Weekly Bible studies engage youth and young adults in connecting world events with the Bible, faith, and everyday life.

Youth Trip to the Corn Maze

St. John's Middle and High School students and friends (chaperones needed too!) will travel to the Treinen Farm Corn Maze on Wednesday, October 15, 2025. We'll gather at St. John's parking lot no later than 4:45pm – that's when the bus leaves to the Corn Maze. We'll return approximately 7:15pm. Must sign up before 10/10 at <https://signup.com/go/RTYDrFS>.



Stock the Schools

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. Items for September are: **Hygiene products (full size): shampoo/conditioner, body wash/bar soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, tampons, feminine pads and pantyliners.** Look for the red bin in the gathering area by the church office to drop off your donations. Thank you.

Adult Education News

Adult Education Schedule

Community Wellness and Safety Education

Over the next several months, St John's will offer educational opportunities addressing a variety of community wellness and safety topics for both younger and older adults. This might include local speakers and presentations, a book study or two, and a sponsored community event. Watch for more details in the upcoming Visitors and weekly bulletins. Our first session will be on Sunday, September 28 at 9:15 in the church library. See the bulletin for more information.

September is Suicide Prevention Month

September is a month to raise awareness and spark meaningful action around an urgent mental health issue, suicide. Talking about suicide isn't harmful, silence is. If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, text 988 or contact 988lifeline.org. You can also visit NAMI.org (National Alliance on Mental Illness), the suicide prevention resources page on DHS.Wisconsin.gov, or contact Pastors Tom or Sally for guidance on finding a mental health professional.

Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit Shipping

We blessed our quilts and LWR kits during worship on August 24th. They will soon be packed in boxes and ready for transport to Madison where they will be loaded in a boxcar to travel to Minneapolis, MN. From Minnesota they will be sent around the globe to destinations in East Africa, West Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America, to the people and places in the most need of aid. We are reaching hundreds of people! Each quilt or kit helps change someone's daily life. Thank you for reaching out to others.



St. John's is scheduled to deliver Mobile Meals from the Sauk Prairie Hospital two weeks of October. The dates are October 13 – 17 and October 20 – 24. Delivery time is usually one hour with pick up time 11:20-11:30am. For more details and to volunteer, please see the kiosk in the front gathering area of the church. If you are interested and have questions, please contact Melani Wheeler at wheelermelani6@gmail.com.

SPECIAL PRAYER

We invite you to repeat the following prayer on September 20th:

Creator God,
In love you have fashioned the human family
in a variety of races, languages, and cultures.
Do not let our diversity divide us,
but help us to welcome the gifts
we can give and receive from one another.
Save us from prejudice, arrogance and fear,
and teach us how to live together
as members of one family,
sharing one home,
as the children of one God.
Amen.



American
Red Cross

Red Cross Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is holding a Blood Drive in St. John's fellowship hall on Monday, September 15 beginning at noon. Go to redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

Appointments do tend to fill up quickly, so check it out today!



Worship Time Change

Beginning Sunday, **September 7** (the Sunday after Labor Day), we will transition to **8:00am and 10:30am worship services** with the ZOOM option available at both services.

PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES

DATE: August 5, 2025

Present: Nancy Passehl, Sally Williams, Tracy Pape, Gwen Ringelstetter, Marv Hupp, Eunice Yanke, John Ballweg, Gina Varley, James Newman, John Brennan, Cathy McAlexander, Todd Wyttenbach, Sean Jager

Absent: Roger Seymour, Cathy Yanke, Melani Wheeler

Call to Order/Opening Remarks:

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Nancy Passehl. Nancy P asked for approval of the agenda. Motion to approve was made by Gina Varley and 2nd by John Ballweg. Motion carried. A devotion/prayer was then given by James Newman.

Secretary Minutes:

The July minutes were submitted online by Cathy Yanke. A motion to approve minutes was made by Gina Varley and 2nd by Cathy McAlexander. Motion carried.

Treasurer report:

The committee reviewed and discussed the July 2025 Treasurer Report submitted by John Brennan.

July report numbers

Current month income	YTD income	Current month expense	YTD expenses	YTD budget
\$46,966	\$344,420	\$42,517	\$325,274	\$364,706

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Marv Hupp and 2nd by Todd Wyttenbach. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Evangelism:

Gwen Ringelstetter reported:

- The Evangelism Board is still looking for a photographer-member to photograph just two events.

Fellowship:

Cathy McAlexander reported:

- We recognized Rev Dan Odden with a card signed by church members and a reception as he celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination.
- We hosted a Continental Breakfast Reception to honor our Volunteers for their work in the church and for Intern Elise as she completed her internship year with us.

Lay Ministry:

Gina Varley reported:

- Lay Ministry did not meet in July.
- We are happy to welcome Kim Sisbach to the board as Special Flowers coordinator, taking over for Jennifer Sawle in September.

Parish Education:

James Newman reported:

Parish Ed did not meet in person in July; the following was discussed via email.

- Middle school and Highschool aged youth went camping at White Mound on July 11-13.
- Vacation Bible School is currently ongoing.
- Sunday school Rally Day is set for September 21
- First day of Sunday school is September 28
- Sunday School hayride is October 5

Properties:

John Ballweg reported:

- Properties Board had a working meeting at the parsonage on July 29. We took advantage of the dumpster sitting in the driveway to clean out a number of items from the parsonage. Several of the refurbishing tasks are already complete, while many others are underway. Thanks to the many congregational members who have been helping out - everything is on schedule at this time.
- A smaller, i.e., bottom tilt-open, window was cracked this week when a stone was picked up by the lawn mower. Fortunately, the inner pane of glass is still in one piece, so we'll be able to schedule the replacement at a convenient time over the next month or so.

PR & Social Concerns:

Melani Wheeler reported:

- No report provided.

Stewardship Board:

Anne Klinkner/Todd Wytenbach reported:

- The proposed 2026 budget for PPC is to be reviewed/discussed.

Women of ELCA:

Eunice Yanke reported:

- There were 37 attendees at the "All-Circle Picnic" in July. Marina Wittmann from ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) was the featured guest. Many women expressed an interest in the fall prevention program. We hope to have one in our community in the fall of 2026.
- Each circle is meeting in August to work on their various kits for Lutheran World Relief. They will be shipped out in September.
- The WELCA Biennial Convention will be held on Saturday, October 4, at The Grove in Mazomanie
- Pennies for Poverty offering will be collected in connection with the convention but sent to 6:8
- The Triennial Convention is in Des Moines, IA, July 16-19, 2026.
- Lydia Circle will visit Special Friends in August/September.
- The Bible Study Leaders meeting for September will be on Tuesday, August 26. Regular Circle Meetings will resume in September.

Youth Committee:

Tracy Pape reported:

- Meeting is postponed to Wednesday, August 13.

Member at Large:

Roger Seymour reported:

- No report provided.

Youth member at Large:

Sean Jager reported:

- The competitive seasons of Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Boys' Soccer, Girls' Swimming, and Girls' Tennis start this month. Kids are also involved with marching band, and they are practicing.

Pastor/Intern Reports

Lead Pastor's Report:

No report provided

Sally's Report:

- The last few months have been full of transition with Linda's retirement, Aletha taking over as Office Admin, Elise completing her internship, and Pastor Tom being called. I stand in awe at the beautiful ways St. John's welcomes and

bids farewell to their beloved leaders. You are so loving. It's been a whirlwind, but a good one. Thank you.

- Our attention is now turning to everything Fall! I encourage you to continue to find ways to work alongside one another in our programming and to especially welcome our newer members and visitors to different events and opportunities.
- Donna Nelson is resuming the Wednesday night meals for our confirmation families. While we encourage the parents to help set, serve, and clean up, sometimes that's just not possible as they juggle multiple children's schedules. Please consider supporting this ministry to our confirmation families. You can sign up with Penny.
- I am excited to be part of a team again! Please remember that Pastor Tom and I will share the pastoral acts of weddings, baptisms, and funerals. While it would be an absolute honor to be part of all of these events, our ministry will be a shared ministry, and working with him will allow you all to build a great relationship with him as your new pastor, as you have with me over the years.

Old Business:

- Safety Teams Update
- Parsonage Update
- New members and update – how many introduced themselves
- Nominating committee update
- Budget Approval

New Business:

- PPC involvement with Pastor Tom
- Wellspring Neighborhood Meeting
- Reminder to keep Aletha Ballweg and John Hines informed when events and/or hall usage

The next meeting is Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 6:00 pm.
Devotion will be given by Melani.

Sean Yager made a motion to adjourn our meeting, and the motion was 2nd by Eunice Yanke. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:14 pm. with The Lord's Prayer led by Sean Yager.

Respectfully submitted by Tracy Pape.



Happy September Birthday!

The day is in parenthesis

Our Youngest:

Skye Paque (18)

Waylon Sweeney (26)

Our Sunday School Students:

Metta Opie (1)

Ira Opie (3)

Olin Frey (4)

Raegen Roessler-Hamilton (5)

Ryan Bakken (7)

Olivia Stephan (9)

Tate Neubacher (10)

Elliot Harms (10)

Teddy Rosenstiel (13)

Corbin Colby (13)

Max Nelson (15)

Vinny Meyer (15)

Callie Lohr (17)

Hayden Ballweg (23)

Mckayla Peterson (24)

Nicole Scott (27)

Caleb Anderson (27)

Owen Robertson (29)

Our Youth:

Audrey Sandberg (3)

Malania Hitchcock (4)

Claire Hansen (5)

Josey Thomas (5)

Gavin Sawyer (9)

Lucas Muehrer (12)

Austin Urban (12)

Cannon Esser (15)

Brooke Braund (17)

George Colby (18)

Micah Boerger (19)

College and Career-age Young People:

Ramona Blau (2)

Emma Rhyner (2)

Masen Schmidt (8)

Claire Hartman (15)

Ryan Jager (16)

Lauren Endres (18)

Ellery Apel (20)

Erelyn Apel (20)

Michael Blau (21)

Matthew Johnson (24)

Malea Schonenberger (28)