

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

April 2017



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

200 South Main Street
Charles City, IA
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641-228-3397

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“God’s Love in Action”

Call Committee Gearing Up!

By the time you read this article, your call committee will have met at least two or three times, getting ready to do first interviews. Many hours of reflection, data gathering, and self-study have gone into the completed Ministry Site Profile to get to this final chapter in the interim process.

The call committee has been asked (and required) to publicly update the congregation as to progress in their search. This will be done publicly during worship announcements by a designated member of the committee after they have met together previously during the week. Their updates will be brief (60-90 seconds) and will include what they accomplished, goals for their next meeting and when they will meet again.

Expanded summaries of their meetings will be publicly displayed in the Call Committee Minutes three-ring binder. This will be available in the narthex for anyone to see at any time. Also, included in the binder is a copy of (1) the Ministry Site Profile and (2), a copy of the Senior Pastor Job Description —both of which were shared at the March 19th congregational meeting. As explained that day, this reminds everyone as to what the call committee will be searching for in your next pastor so that there are no surprises.

Anxiety (and anticipation) usually ‘amps up’ at this stage of the interim process which is why we communicate with the congregation as much as we can. At the same time, we ask that you let them focus upon their work and that you be patient with them, especially as they develop an interview strategy to begin talking to potential candidates. The last thing the committee needs is people in large numbers constantly asking them about progress, time-line to completion and who they are interviewing (they will not tell you!)—such things do not help but only put them under pressure to ‘hurry up’ the process and ‘get it over with.’ The risk of giving in to people’s pressure is an undermining of their discernment process and getting the wrong candidate.

*What does this committee need the most from the congregation they represent? (1) **Your prayers!** Can we ask you to commit to that? (2) **Your patience.** This is a process, not a quick fix solution for someone’s impatience, anxiety, or disagreement with how this search is being conducted. (3) **Your encouragement.** Things like, “I’m praying for you,” “We’re with you!” “We’re behind you,” will do far more to help them in their search than a battery of constant questions. The published minutes and verbal reports during worship will give you all the updates you need. What they know, you will know, at these designated points of information.*

Right now, this committee sees the work and attention to detail required to complete the search process. They have myself and the Assistant to the Bishop in their court for personal and professional help, support, and guidance.

If it’s any comfort to anyone, Pr. Brackett mentioned at our first meeting that he was “very impressed” with the completed profile, how it was written, its contents, and the call committee resource notebook. That says a lot and it also says St. John will surely be attractive to draw candidate interest.

Kathy Crooks will serve as the Chairperson and Ana Blickenderfer will serve as the secretary. Ana will take minutes and send them electronically to the church office for printing and insertion into the Call Committee Minutes three-ring binder for public viewing. More later, as things unfold!

Pr. Bill Odermann, Interim Pastor



Holy Week & Easter 2017
 Sunday, April 9th – Palm Sunday
8:00 & 10:15 a.m. Worship

Thursday, April 13th – Maundy Thursday
4:15 & 6:15 p.m. Worship/Comm

Friday, April 14th – Good Friday
7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

Sunday, April 16th – Easter Sunday
6:30 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m. Worship



Easter Morning Worship

YOUTH EASTER BREAKFAST
APRIL 16TH - from 7:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Youth will be making & serving breakfast

Menu: eggs, ham, hash browns, pancakes, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk, and coffee



If you would like to donate toward the Easter lilies this year, call Kathy in the office by April 5th at 228-3397.

The glass box in the Narthex is for your **Lenten Offering**. Please consider an extra gift of at least a dollar a day during the approximately 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter.

The Family Board will be hosting a **Mother-Daughter Luncheon on Sunday, April 30th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall**. All mothers, daughters, aunts, and sisters are welcome! This fun event will include fellowship, lunch, dessert, a short program, and a pretty "photo booth" to snap a few cute pictures of your group so bring your camera! Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for girls ages 6-12. Under 6 is free. Tickets may be purchased in the church office until April 23rd.



Family Board's Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 15, 9:00 a.m.
St. John Parish Hall
 Children up through 5th grade & their families!
 Crafts, activities & egg dyeing
 (Donations of wrapped Easter candy by the congregation would be appreciated!)

**OF
NOTE...**

**A note
From
Janet
Petefish
About the
E-skinny!**



The Mats for the Homeless project will finish the bags on April 6. We will meet from 9 a.m.-12 noon with the purpose of sorting and cutting the bags. Tying can begin, but may have to continue at home as we did at the last event. Please bring back your cutting board equipment if you have them. The place may be the parish hall or basement; to be determined. This is an opportunity for those who couldn't join us at the last event. You may enjoy learning to recycle your bags in a new way. GO GREEN! For those who have been tying and making balls at home, you can bring them back to the church when done. Those wanting to crochet mats can pick up the balls of plastic yarn. Check the e-skinny and bulletin for further information.

If you are not receiving the e-Skinny let me know because there seems to be a problem for some people, including my husband, getting it every week. The Constant Contact program which is the outlet for this email has added servers and some email ISP's are not recognizing the e-Skinny as being a legitimate email to you. **First** check back through your hundreds of e-mails and see if it is there. (If you don't check it often, this is not a joke.) **Next** check your spam folder. You can possibly fix this problem by using your email program and **allowing** email from that source, basically it is "Not Spam". If you still have problems email e-skinny@stjohncharlescivcity.com and I will send you an email that can be sent to your email server, like Mediacom, to tell them to allow a list of the Constant Contact ISP's. It sounds complicated, but the letter just needs edited with your name and email address and can be sent off to Customer Service. You would then have to let me know what they say. If it is not their problem, then we may have to see what Constant Contact can do. I hope this helps and please let me know if you are still not getting it. We certainly want you all to be in the loop of the church's current events.

The St. John Youth will be hosting a meal during RAGBRAI. We are planning to feed about 500 people, so we will need a lot of volunteer help for this event! We will be serving from 5-8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 26, 2017. Youth and parents - get this date on your calendars now. This is a GREAT opportunity to raise some money for St. John!

Wednesday Night Supper

April 5: B.B.Q. pork sandwiches, ranch potatoes, lettuce salad, corn, ice cream sandwich

April 19: Meat loaf, baked potatoes, green bean casserole, coleslaw, Éclair dessert

April 26: Chicken casserole, roasted mix vegetables, fruit cake

Alzheimer's Support Group will meet April 18th at 4:00 p.m.

ALTAR GUILD – APRIL

Kathy Crooks, Linda Reit

Do Day Quilters

Meets April 13 & 27

Prayer Shawl Ministry

April 20th, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.
Knit/crochet group

The Parkinson's support group will meet April 6th at 1:00 p.m. All are welcome. Contact Carol Quade at 330-3268 or 228-5053 for more information.

St. John Lutheran Card Ministry: Will meet April 10th at 1:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

The St. John book club will meet **April 24 at 7:00 p.m.**

They will be reviewing the book *Feathers from My Nest: A Mother's Reflection* by Beth Moore. *Feathers from My Nest* is a collection of vignettes, as Beth reflects on items belonging to her daughters who have left the nest for college. As she ponders each item, rich in memories, Beth draws from its spiritual significance. This book not only tugs gently on the sentimental heartstrings of parents, it also reminds us all of the gift of grace children offer our lives every day.

Sunday School for **Adults & Seniors** is for you! Sundays 9:15 - 10:00

Study God's Words & Fellowship.

Everyone is welcome.



Topics:

4/02 - Jesus said: "Do You Love Me?"

4/09 - God Cares!

4/23 - What's So Amazing About Grace!

4/30 - Praying the Lord's Prayer in a New Way

April Birthdays

2 nd	Georgena Miller	17 th	Harlan Kolb
2 nd	Mike Leraan	19 th	Mabel Kreger
3 rd	Russell Frascht	20 th	Leon Hall
3 rd	Beverly Wolff	23 rd	Kathy Schilling
8 th	Annabelle Grimm	24 th	Dorothy Watson
14 th	Margaret Stohr	26 th	Marilyn Kolb
16 th	Beverly Sears	30 th	Wyonna Delap

April Anniversaries

April 11, 1965	Jack & Gloria Hulbert
April 20, 1963	Donald & JoAnn Knowlton
April 26, 1959	Rodney & Ruthanne Ellis



"God's
Love
in Action"

Memorials have been given in memory of:

Willard Fred Wolf: Tilleen Litterer

Mary Grace Aird Eckhoff: Charles & Alice Krumwiede, Cal & Joyce Wood, Arlene Thomas

Marcus Erwin Quade: Lynn & Peg Poppen, Arlene Thomas

Funeral:

March 22, 2017 *Mary Grace Aird Eckhoff*

St. John's Parent Support Group will be meeting on an **as needed basis ONLY**. Anyone who needs to meet should contact Jill Connell at 319-215-8252 or jillconnell@hotmail.com.

APRIL FUNERAL CALLERS & HELPING HANDS:

CALLER – Sandy Miller

Thanks to our March caller Katie Hammond

HELPERS – Sharon Bledsoe, Viva Boerschel, Helen Bond, Sondra Coen, Judy Hauser, Marilyn Isakson, Diann Jacobson, June Kehret, Linda Klemesrud, Brandi Lantz, Carleen Laue, Angel McKenzie, **Sandra Miller**, Deb Montagne, Pat Peterson, Connie Rasmussen, Shirley Regel, Donna Stewart, Pat Townsend, Myrna Ward, Arlene Wegner

“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My Word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish My purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.” Isaiah 55:10-12

Blessings,
Laurie Heidebrink

YOUTH NEWS

The Youth Board's annual **Easter Breakfast** is on **April 16th from 7-9:30am**. The menu is eggs, ham, hash browns, pancakes, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk, and coffee. Come and enjoy! Free-will donation.

Summer Mission Trip 2017 – We will be going to **Kentucky July 5-9, 2017**. Mark these days on your calendar now and be watching for additional information in upcoming newsletters, bulletins, etc.

The St. John Youth will be hosting a meal during RAGBRAI. We are planning to feed about 500 people, so we will need a lot of volunteer help for this event! We will be needing more than just the youth to pull this event off. We will be serving from 5-8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 26, 2017. Please put this date on your calendars now. This is a GREAT opportunity to raise some money for St. John!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

April will be **Soap Month**. We are asking students to donate soap each Sunday of April. The items collected will be given to Northern Lights/New Beginnings Men's and Women's Shelters in Mason City. Thank you to all who feel called to donate to this worthy cause

The PreK-2nd grade Sunday School students will be singing on April 9th at the 10:15am worship service.

SAVE THE DATES: VBS - Monday through Thursday, August 7th- 10th. Plan to have your kids attend Monday-Thursday from 5:30pm-8pm each evening! We will also be singing on Sunday, August 13th. Look for more information in the upcoming bulletins and newsletters. If you are interested in volunteering with VBS, please contact Laurie.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Well, the After School Program will soon be starting back up after taking some time off for Lent. We will meet starting the Wednesday after Easter from 3:30-5pm on the third floor. We will wrap up our year on May 3, 2017. Thank you so much for all the donations we received for snacks! The hungry tummies of our 25 enrolled students (AND the helpers!) are very grateful.

FAMILY BOARD

The Family Board will be sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt on **Saturday, April 15th** for children up through 5th grade & their families! There will also be a few crafts & other activities, including some hard-boiled eggs to color. The fun begins at **9:00 a.m.** in the Parish Hall!

We will also be hosting a Mother-Daughter Luncheon on Sunday, April 30, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. All daughters, mothers, aunts, nieces, and sisters are welcome! Including honorary ones! This fun event will include fellowship, lunch, dessert, a short program, and a pretty “photo booth” to snap a few cute pictures of your group! Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for girls ages 6-18. Under 6 is free. Tickets may be purchased in the church office until April 23rd.

APRIL 2017

Bulletin Stuffer: Colton Crooks

Sunday Acolytes: Cameron Kakac, Rosie Baldus, Josiah Hervert

Lenten & Easter Sunday Acolytes: Cameron Kakac, Justin Heyer, Joshua Laue,
Madisyn Millermon

Sunday Worship Assistants: Joslyn Cotton, Brooke Vance, Joey Heidebrink, Sami Prigge,

Mandy Thursday Worship Assistants: Sammi Prigge, Joslyn Cotton

Easter Sunday: Lauren Connell, Sami Prigge, & Makenna Schmiedel

Wednesday night supper: Lexi Vance, Alex Litterer, Jacie Wink

*Dates & times when the youth are serving are posted on the bulletin board
outside the Business Manager’s office.*

REMINDER: Those students attending a Lutheran college who would like to receive an EPIC grant must notify the church by **May 1st**.

St. John scholarship applications for non-Lutheran colleges are available online or can be emailed to you and should be emailed to the office by **April 1st**.

APRIL IS SOAP MONTH!

The Sunday School children are asked to bring soap each Sunday in April.

Soap collected will go to the Northern Lights/New Beginnings Men’s &
Women’s Shelters in Mason City, Iowa

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Will be coming **AUGUST 7TH - 11TH**

5:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

More information will be shared in
upcoming newsletters.



**LAST DAY OF SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

Will be April 30th.

St. John Youth Mission Trip

July 5th - July 9th



The St. John Youth Board would like to invite any St. John students who have completed 6th- 12th grade to join us on a youth/mission trip to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We would also encourage you to bring a friend.

Please sign up by June 5th on the bulletin board
outside of the Youth & Family office.



***"We all clap and sing. The stone is rolled away,
Jesus is alive and He is with us every day!"***



**"God's
Love
in
Action"**

Spring greetings from your friends at St. John Christian Preschool! Our little ones have been excited to see the signs of spring around our community. It is truly refreshing to see the hope in the eyes of our young friends when the "grumpy" teachers are sure that warm weather is never going to arrive! It is hard to imagine that we are getting close to the end of another great year at St. John Christian Preschool. The time has gone by so fast!

Our year is quickly winding down to a close, but we are still very busy at SJCP. We have been doing many fun activities with the letters E, T, G, Y, W, & Z. It won't be too long until we conclude our yearlong study of the alphabet. All the little ones got to easel paint, which is always a class favorite. The older friends are also working on some Kindergarten Readiness Skills! Some other topics that have been covered are the Water Cycle, Temperature, and signs of Spring!

This month we will take all of our friends on a walk through the church the week before Easter and introduce the concept of Good Friday to them. We will also be excited to take that same walk on the Monday following Easter to celebrate our Risen Savior and to notice the differences in our church.

We currently have openings left in our 4-year-old classes for the 2017-2018 school year. Please call 228-7274 or stop by the preschool for more information on the current enrollment.

With HIS love, Whittney Franke

Spring is Here

Spring is here! Spring is here!
Winter is gone and two flowers appear.
Three little robins begin to sing.
Four bicycle bells begin to ring.
Five children come out and jump the rope.
Spring is here now! I hope, I hope!



April 2017 Birthdays!!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						Colton Crooks Kathryn Winkleman
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Myron Leraaen Georgena Miller	Imhuicha Bohner Russell Frascht Zachary Schilling Beverly Wolff	Richard Harrington Koen Tibbitts Marilyn Venz	Greig Grimm Michael McKenzie Sarah Murray Sara Reeder	Colin Johanningmeier Shirley Platte	Jolene Bilharz Blake Dean Cooper Holm Andrew Janssen Carter Johanningmeier	Annabelle Grimm Marcia Olesen Emma Schmiedel
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Nicole Fullard Curt Hallet	Al Brandau Elsie Ferguson Diane Loudermilk Keith Westergard	Torey Buenger Jeffrey Heiter Elli Pospisil Brian Voelker Joyce Wood	Bennett Hansen Ann Kabele Falyn Knecht Jared Koenigsfeld Steven Litterer	Sharon Aringdale	Austin Hicks Sydney Hinz Connie Rasmussen Margaret Stohr	Owen Prichard Tammy Quade
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Beverly Sears	Carol Hovden Harlyn Kolb Mariah McKenzie	Cameron Hanson Carter Hanson Pamela Lumley Nancy Scherer Shannon Venz	Linda Hughes Kaylie Keyes Mabel Kreger	Leon Hall Mariel Kilby Donaven Sande Emilee Sande	Barbara Bunston Jodi Heyer David Litterer	Cora Crooks Callie Hammond Nancy Heiter Julie Vance Carter West
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Kaylee Michael Kathleen Schilling Matt Vance	Kaitlyn Ross Dorothy Watson	Jessica Hoeft Abigail Lacour Heidi Nielsen Darci Tracey	Marilyn Kolb		Dennis Kreger Danyelle Lanenga	Paul Augustin Paul Veen
30						
Bruce Boerschel Wyonna Delap						

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Communion Sunday	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Deacons 9:00 a.m. Stewardship 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 9:15 a.m. Youth board 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:20 a.m. Parish Ed 11:30 a.m. Communication 6:00 p.m. Haiti meeting	6:00 p.m. Cub scouts 7:00 p.m. Building & Grounds	8:30 a.m. CC Mom's group 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible study 5:15 p.m. Fitness class	4:30 p.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Supper 5:30 p.m. Carol Choir 5:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble 6:15 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. Trinity Choir	1:00 p.m. Parkinson's Support group 5:15 p.m. Fitness class		4:30 p.m. Wedding Stirling & Ciavarelli
9 Palm Sunday	10	11	12	13 Maundy Thursday	14 Good Friday	15
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:20 a.m. Family board	1:00 p.m. Card making at St. John 6:00 p.m. Finance 6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts 6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible study 5:15 p.m. Fitness class 7:00 p.m. Council	No Activities	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters 4:30 p.m. Worship/Comm 6:15 p.m. Worship/Comm	7:00 p.m. Tenebrae service	9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt 
16 Easter Sunday	17	18	19 Newsletter Deadline	20	21	22
6:30 a.m. Worship 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship 7:00 - 9:30 a.m. Youth Easter breakfast 	Office Closed	8:30 a.m. CC Mom's group 4:00 p.m. Alzheimer's support group 5:15 p.m. Fitness class 6:30 p.m. Preschool board	3:30 p.m. After School 5:00 p.m. Supper 5:30 p.m. Carol Choir 5:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble 6:00 p.m. Confirmation 7:00 p.m. Trinity Choir	9:00 a.m. Prayer shawl meeting 5:15 p.m. Fitness class		
23 Communion Sunday	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education hour 10:15 a.m. Worship	6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts 7:00 p.m. Book club	1:30 p.m. Assemble newsletters 5:15 p.m. Fitness class	3:30 p.m. After School 5:00 p.m. Supper 5:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble 6:00 p.m. Confirmation	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters 5:15 p.m. Fitness Class		
30	1-May	2	3	4	5	6
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Mother/Daughter luncheon	7:00 p.m. Building & Grounds	8:30 a.m. CC Mom's group 5:00 p.m. Women's Ministry 5:15 p.m. Fitness class	3:30 p.m. After School 6:00 p.m. Confirmation study session	9:00 a.m. Parkinson's Support group 5:15 p.m. Fitness class		