

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER



2022



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

"God's Love in Action"

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
200 South Main Street
Charles City, IA 50616-2751
Phone: 641-228-3397

Website: www.stjohncharlescity.org



Find & like us on Facebook!

Subscribe to the E-Skinny by emailing Kathy
at

khoeft@stjohncharlescity.com

Worship service is now live streamed &
can be viewed on our website or the St John
Charles City YouTube channel
& will be broadcasted live on
KCHA FM 95.9 at
9:00 a.m. on Sunday

The live broadcast is also recorded and is
available on the St. John website & YouTube

Pastor Russ Leeper:
rleeper@stjohncharlescity.com

Office Secretary: Kathy Hoeft
khoeft@stjohncharlescity.com
Office Hours: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Business Manager: Linda Hughes
lhughes@stjohncharlescity.com

Music Director:
Melanie Johanningmeier
mjohanningmeier@stjohncharlescity.com

Youth & Family Coordinator:
Laurie Heidebrink
lheidebrink@stjohncharlescity.com

Custodian: Jamie Carolan
jcarolan@stjohncharlescity.com

St. John Christian Preschool
641-228-7274

Preschool Director: Whitney Franke
wfranke@stjohncharlescity.com
Teacher: Carleen Laue



From Pastor Anita Nuetzman

June 29, 2022

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
200 South Main St.
Charles City, IA 50616

Dear Pastor Leeper, staff, council, and congregation members,

I am writing today to inform you of my resignation from St. John as your Visitation and Preaching Pastor. My final day of visits will be Wednesday, July 20. For the remainder of July, I intend to use the second of four weeks' vacation provided per year by my Letter of Call.

It has been a holy privilege to proclaim the gospel and to accompany so many saints along their baptismal journeys. I will treasure all those relationships. However, I have discerned a new call to transitional (interim) ministry and am looking forward to working with congregations that do not currently have a pastor.

Thank you for all the love and support I have received over the past one and a half years. I trust that the same Holy Spirit who called me to be with you is already at work preparing someone else to serve this congregation's homebound members and care facility residents.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Anita Nuetzman

Not one sparrow falls to the ground without your Father knowing it. Matthew 10:29

Rally Sunday!



Sunday, September 18th!

Mark Your Calendars!!!
Sunday, October 30th will be St. John's 150th Anniversary Celebration!

We will celebrate with a free dinner, activities & a craft fair.

Plan to join us as we celebrate 150 years of
"God's Love in Action" !



Notes from the 150th Anniversary Committee

The next meeting of the Anniversary committee will be August 1 at 10 a.m. in the chapel. Anyone that has an interest can attend. We are getting down to the last details for the dinner and craft fair. If you have some interest, we would love your input.

We are also getting down to the finishing work on our crafted table arrangements. I have heard from a few more people wanting to help with this and would love having more crafty hands to get through the volume we will require. Heads up to those following this, these will also be part of the craft fair so you will have the opportunity to purchase some if they interest you. We meet Thursdays at 1 p.m. in the chapel. Our craft fair will feature hand crafted and donated heritage and modern crafts, home baked goods, jams, salsa, etc. The recipient of the funds from the craft fair is still under consideration, but we will announce that, hopefully, next month.

Great news about our Anniversary celebration! The assistant to the Bishop, The Rev. Liz Albertson will be joining us for our celebration. We look forward to a wonderful day in worship and then fellowship during the meal. This is a good time to think about all that has gone on in the last 150 years as well as in just the last year. I think we have celebrated in unique and interesting ways. We hope you have enjoyed the events and historical items that have been displayed so far.

We will start taking reservations in early September for the free Anniversary dinner on October 30, because it will be catered by U2 BBQ and we will need an accurate count. More details on the menu will follow.

August will be a quiet month for the committee. We will display some more items on August 14th. That is also the day we celebrate Pastor Leeper's 30 years in the ministry. Come see our display and then have some Aromas coffee, some food and congratulate Pastor on his dedication to us and the other churches that he's served in those years.

Crafters and Gardeners!

Part of our 150th celebration on October 30th will be a craft show with donated items to sell. Get your "creative" on & bring crafts, jams, jellies, baked goods, etc. to help make the event a success!



God's work.
Our hands.

God's Work. Our Hands Sunday

September 11, 2022

Planning group: Jeremy Heyer, Don Holm, Susan Leeper,
Alison Pettit, Katie Prichard, Kathy Rogotzke, Kim Watkins

God's Work Our Hands: Sunday, September 11, 2022

We are excited to participate again in the ELCA God's Work Our Hands Day of Service on Sunday, September 11. This day is where all around the world (and in particular in Charles City, Iowa) we can demonstrate St. John's mission: God's Love in Action, by reaching out in our community to serve and love our neighbors.

We offered several projects last year and plan to offer some of the same ones along with some new ones. We need your help in the following:

1. Volunteering/participating in one or more of the projects on Sunday, September 11
2. Helping us identify people/projects in our community that we could do
3. Helping collect materials for some of the projects
4. If you are a Thrivent member selecting one of the projects we are doing to submit for Thrivent matching funds to help (we will be getting more information out about how to do this and what is needed).

Below is a link to the ELCA website about the day including a special hymn composed for the event.

<https://www.elca.org/dayofservice>

Some Information about Thrivent Actions Teams:

Each Thrivent member is eligible to lead (one or two action teams—depends on the type of membership you have) a year. Thrivent provides a kit (including up to \$250 seed money) for action team projects. We will provide more information to Thrivent members on how to access this benefit for those who are interested.

Below is a link to more information about the Thrivent Actions Teams:

<https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-action-teams>



People's Page...

August birthdays of our members who are 80 & older!

8/14 Ruth Farmer
8/18 Delbert Ward
8/18 William Hollar
8/21 Diane Cross
8/21 Lenis Buseman
8/22 Elaine Eckebrecht
8/23 Robert Friend
8/27 Harlan Reints
8/28 Rosie Pieper
8/29 Marian Hoeft
8/29 Arlene Hollar
8/31 Helen Hagen
8/31 Diann Jacobson

August anniversaries of our members who have been married 50 or more years!

8/23/1969 John & Geneva Rima
8/31/1963 Roger & Shirley Regel

After Worship Social Time

Coffee & a treat are served in the Parish Hall each Sunday! If you would like to volunteer to bring the treats, please sign up on the chart just inside the doors on the table or call Kathy in the office.

What you choose to bring for a treat is entirely up to you! Coffee & napkins are provided by St. John.

With sympathy, the death of:
James Gaven Grob, 7/5/2022

The funeral of...
Judith Ann Troge, 7/30/22

Memorials were given in memory of...

Marilyn 'Tootie' Jane Slinger Kolb: Kip & Judy Hauser,
Mary Ann Townsend, Monte & Kathy Waldorf, Bette
Gullickson, Arlene Thomas, Karla Breed

Terry 'Mike' Dugan: Don & Shirley Holm



*Our newest member!
Sue Hawke (on right)
with sister Teresa
Knecht*

On August 14th we will celebrate Pastor Leeper's 30 years in the ministry. Join us for worship on that day and then stay for Aromas coffee, food and a chance to congratulate him on 30 years of dedication to our Lord, the ministry, and the people that he has served. We are blessed to have him at St. John so come enjoy some fellowship and share a moment with him and his family.

Gardeners! There is a table in the Narthex for you to share your extra produce with the congregation!
Veggie lovers...when there is produce on the table feel free to take as much as you want!

Youth & Families...

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"
Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." *Isaiah 6:8*

Blessings,
Laurie Heidebrink

YOUTH NEWS

This year's youth mission trip was to the Badlands of North Dakota from July 5th-9th. This mission trip was open to St. John 6th-12 graders and friends. We had 13 youth and 3 adults attend. Our youth ranged from 12-17 years old and for those of you who like statistics – here are a few for you: One-quarter were female, and three-quarters were male. Of the female students, we have one Freshman, one Sophomore, one Junior, and one Senior. Two participants are Middle Schoolers and 11 are High Schoolers. Three-quarters of the youth attending are members of St. John and one-quarter were invited by St. John youth. All 13 were a pleasure to have as members of our group. What a great trip we had with an incredible group of young people!

This mission trip was a great opportunity to serve and to have some fun doing it! We had service projects planned with the National Park Service, with the US Forest Service, and with the McKenzie County Food Pantry. However, due to heavy rains and illness with federal staff members, we were only able to work with the Food Pantry at a scheduled service project. So, we made do and picked up trash everywhere we hiked (like we usually do) and we helped clean up a section of the Missouri River shoreline north of Watford City.

For fun, we visited the North and South Units of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Ft. Union Trading Post National Historic Site, Tobacco Garden State Rec Area, and the shops in the town of Watford City. We held a bake sale on June 12th as a fundraiser to help offset the cost of those attending. Thank you very much to all those who donated items to sell AND to all those who purchased the items! You made it a success! Thank you to everyone who had any part in getting the bus ready for our trip. Thank you to Greg Heidebrink and Don Holm for being a great part of this trip and Brad Toppin for volunteering to drive us. Those of you who haven't been on a mission trip may not understand how vital it is to find a bus driver who is willing and able to drive a 29-passenger bus full of youth that never run out of energy and adults that don't always know where to turn. ☺ We are very blessed to have a bus for these trips – even if it isn't always cooperative!

Thank you SO much to all of you who supported us in any way, whether it was financially, or with words of encouragement or with prayers for us. We definitely felt the power of prayers this trip!

CONFIRMATION

Those students who have finished the third year of our confirmation program are required to write personal faith statements to put on their display board for the Confirmation Fair on Wednesday, October 5th. The congregation is invited to attend this event in the Parish Hall after supper to ask the confirmands about their faith boards. The writing of these faith statements will hopefully give the students an opportunity to reflect on what they have learned, what they believe, and how their faith will affect the way they live their daily life following Confirmation Sunday. The display boards will also contain some other information such as, reflections on their baptism, and their favorite service project. Confirmation Sunday is October 9, 2022.

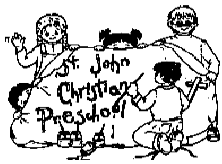
PARISH ED NEWS

"MONUMENTAL – Celebrating God's Greatness" ----- June 14th-17th we held VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

We were so glad to be in-person and see the smiling faces of the **46** kids that attended from 5:30pm-7:30pm on Tuesday-Friday evenings! VBS is an amazing ministry!

Thank you to the Parish Ed board and ALL the wonderful people who volunteered to help with VBS!

I can't thank this congregation enough for how supportive you are when we ask for supplies! We received almost all the supplies we asked for on our donation board! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!



St. John Christian Preschool...

We are off to explore another year, here at St. John Christian Preschool and we couldn't be more excited!

August is a busy month at the preschool. This year, on August 15th, we will be holding informational parent meetings for each age group. These meetings are great opportunities for question and answer sessions and for our families to get to know the other families that will be in their child's class.

August 23rd is our "Get Acquainted" open house date. This evening is planned to allow our little ones to explore our center in the comforting presence of their families. They also get to drop off their school supplies, meet the teachers and take their school pictures. It's a busy evening, but makes for a smooth start to our school year.

Just an update: We have gone forward and partnered with the Charles City Community School District to join the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program! What this means for our families is the same great, quality education you are used to knowing/hearing about from SJCP, but now it is FREE for your 4-year-old! We will be offering this free class, four days a week: Tuesday through Friday from 12:30-3:30 pm. Scheduling this way will align with the other SWVPP preschools in town and will allow our staff to attend the same trainings and professional development as the other preschool teachers, as well! BUT if families would like to still come the additional fifth day (Monday), there will only be a monthly charge of \$50. This will be a whole new learning experience for all of us and we appreciate your understanding through this transition. We thank you in advance for supporting us in the work we do, and we trust we can all move forward with the most important job of all - the education of our little ones! Also, our 3-year-old program will remain the same. ☺

Our first day of school is August 29th and we are excited to be welcoming back some familiar faces and also some new faces to our center. We currently have spots available. If you know of someone still in need of a preschool for their little one (who is or will be turning 3 or 4 on or before September 15th), please give us a call at 228-7274 and we will do our best to help out!

Blessings!

Whittney Franke



August 2022 Schedule...

Sundays: 9:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

Communion is the 1st & 3rd Sunday

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Aug 1st: 10:00 a.m. 150th Committee

Aug 9-10 **Office Closed** – Main hallway maintenance

Aug 14th: 10:00 a.m. Reception for Pastor Russ' 30th ordination anniversary

Aug 15th SJCP Parent meetings

Aug 17th: Do Day Quilters

Aug 24th: **Newsletter Deadline**

Aug 29th: SJCP classes begin

Board Meetings:

Building & Grounds: 8/2 6:00 p.m.

Council: 8/16 6:00 p.m.

Deacons: TBD .

Family Board TBD

Finance Board 8/9 5:00 a.m.

Parish Ed 8/21 10:00 a.m.

Stewardship 8/16 2:00 p.m.

Youth 8/14 10:00 a.m.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Chad Kakac Khloe Kubik	Elijah Lumley			Alesia Garden Alyvia Vance	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Vicki Hoffman Linda Klemesrud	Ali Blickenderfer Barbara Fuls Ann Prichard		Gloria Frerichs	Katie Hammond		Daniel Caffrey Janet Petefish Laura Walker
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Olivia Ayers Ruth Farmer Karen Hagarty		Tim LaBarge Joshua Laue Kathy Michael	Katherine Prichard	William Hollar Delbert Ward	Kyle LaBarge Doris Lovejoy Mary Mooberry	Olivia Litterer
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Lenis Buseman Diane Cross Chris Garden Sandra Hicks	Elaine Eckebrecht	Karol Carpenter Bob Friend		Kaleb Davis	Mason Meyer	Erin Cassman David Lindaman Shirley Regel Harlan Reints Alexis Vance
28	29	30	31			
Julie DeBower Stephanie Hanson Quincy Johnson Rosalie Pieper	Marian Hoeft Arlene Hollar Jennifer Lessin Evan Marten Lukas Vance	John Marth	Helen Hagen Diann Jacobson Jenette Kakac Jim Kreger			