

# THE GOOD NEWSLETTER



2022

The office will be  
closed Monday,  
July 4<sup>th</sup>!



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](http://www.stjohncharlescity.org)



Find & like us on Facebook!

Subscribe to the E-Skinny by emailing Kathy  
at  
[khoeft@stjohncharlescity.com](mailto: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](mailto:rleeper@stjohncharlescity.com)

*Rev. Anita Nuetzman*  
Part time Visitation/Preaching Pastor

*Office Secretary:* Kathy Hoeft  
[khoeft@stjohncharlescity.com](mailto: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](mailto:lhughes@stjohncharlescity.com)

*Music Director:*  
Melanie Johanninger  
[mjohanninger@stjohncharlescity.com](mailto:mjohanninger@stjohncharlescity.com)

*Youth & Family Coordinator:*  
Laurie Heidebrink  
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*Custodian:* Jamie Carolan  
[jcarolan@stjohncharlescity.com](mailto:jcarolan@stjohncharlescity.com)

St. John Christian Preschool  
641-228-7274

Preschool Director: Whitney Franke  
[wfranke@stjohncharlescity.com](mailto:wfranke@stjohncharlescity.com)  
Teacher: Carleen Laue



## Pastor Anita Nuetzman:

### Dear Friends in Christ,

As far as the church year calendar goes, we are now well into what's known as "ordinary time," which is the favorite of altar guilds everywhere because they can leave the green paraments in place until Reformation Sunday, at the end of October. (That one's red.)

When we hear the word, "ordinary," though, we tend to think "average, or maybe even "boring." But "ordinary" isn't necessarily a *bad* thing. In fact, after two years of living with the upheaval and uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic, many of us are more than happy to return to something that more closely resembles the "ordinary" times of days gone by. (*What do you miss most?*)

The bible often reports encounters with God as *extra*-ordinary events, such as burning bushes and mountain tops. Yet, Jesus describes the kingdom of God in very *unremarkable* terms, like a barely-visible mustard seed.

That's one of the reasons Carrie Newcomer's song "Geodeses" has become one of my favorites:

*'Round here we throw geodeses in our gardens.*

*They're as common as the rain or corn silk in July.*

*Unpretentious browns and grays the stain of Indiana clay,  
they're what's left of shallow seas, glacial rock and mystery,  
and inside there shines a crystal bright as promise.*

*All these things that we call familiar, are just miracles clothed  
in the commonplace.*

*You'll see it if you try in the next stranger's eyes.*

*God walks around in muddy boots, sometimes rags and that's the truth.*

*You can't always tell, but sometimes you just know.*



"Incarnation" is the churchy word that means in the human body of Jesus Christ, God chose to be clothed in the commonplace, which I think makes perfect sense. After all, how could you put your trust in a God who doesn't understand *intimately* every aspect of human existence, including the gritty, boring, mundane stuff? A God who's confined to some distant, lofty, spiritual realm doesn't have much credibility, as far as I'm concerned.

So, instead of being an excuse to take a break from our spiritual life, the long days of summer actually offer us a great opportunity to encounter God in places we may not have had time to notice before.

Author Hans Christian Andersen wrote; *The whole world is a series of miracles, but we're so used to them we call them ordinary things.*

I pray you experience many miracles "clothed in the commonplace" throughout the summer. Sharing them with one another on Facebook or Instagram could help us all get into the habit of noticing God's presence in #ordinarymoments.

Embrace ordinary!

Pastor Anita



### 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.

## COUNCIL NOTE...

### June Council Highlights:

- Continuing to gather ideas of how our Council can continue to build our vision for God's Love in Action, we look forward to building off of the ideas presented at further council meetings.
- Continued working on a project to update the Fireside Room and accepted a generous memorial donation from Cherie Schafer for new furniture for the room!
- We are looking forward to celebrating Pastor Leepers 30th anniversary of ordination with a small celebration on Sunday, August 14th. Mark your calendars!
- Continued discussion on installing some type of lift system in the church. Approved moving forward with collecting a comprehensive bid for the project from Randall Construction.
- Donated our Monthly Benevolence to Charles City Lions Club which will lead to the addition of flags on campus for various yearly events!
- Excited to approve God's Work Our Hands event on Sunday, Sept. 11th, 2022!! If you are interested in helping serve on the planning committee, please let Kathy in the office know. Be on the lookout for more details soon.
- Another big thank you to Monte and Kathy Waldorf for attending a two-day event at Wartburg College on June 10th-11th. Thank you to Monte and Kathy for fulfilling this important service to our church.

Thank you and please let us know if you have any thoughts, questions, concerns, etc.

**-St. John Lutheran Church Council**

The Youth Board is sponsoring a  
**summer mission trip to the North Dakota Badlands from July 5-9, 2022.**

We have 13 youth going on the trip & if you feel called to donate towards the cost of fuel for the bus and/or travel supplies we would appreciate the donation.

**Helping Hands** has about 20 people ready, willing, and able to help run errands, do minor household help, and provide transportation in town. If you need any of these services, please call Kathy at the church office during regular business hours. Someone will contact you within 48 hours of receiving the message to make arrangements to help. We will continue this ministry as long as we have volunteers to serve.

**On July 10th, the 150th Anniversary committee will be displaying many historical pictures and articles about past choirs, organ installation, early ladies organizations and past Luther League information. The display will be in the Narthex for your viewing. There are many interesting pictures, possibly of someone you have known. Enjoy.**

**Crafting Group:** Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. our new crafting group will meet to begin projects for the **150th Anniversary** dinner and craft fair in October. The **crafting session** will start with simple projects at first such as the candle and angels. We can work into more involved folded books after working on these.

We are asking for crafting material from anyone who has extra to donate! So, clean out your junk craft drawers, closets, and bookshelves! We need bits and pieces of lots of things. If you're a crafter, you understand. Some items needed: Clean paperback books (any kind) or hard cover books (350-500 pages); cloth type ribbon, bling such as pearls, rhinestones, beads, etc.; buttons; flat lace (1/2 – 1 inch; silk flowers & leaves; mini glue sticks &/or glue guns. **Remember that there is a craft fair in October. We are looking for heritage as well as modern crafts. Maybe some jams or jellies or salsa as we work with our gardening. Keep it in mind as the year goes on.**

**Questions?** contact [petefishj@mchsi.com](mailto:petefishj@mchsi.com).



## People's Page...

### *July birthdays of our members who are 80 & older!*

7/3 Loyal McLean  
7/4 Judith Troge  
7/8 Lola Vest  
7/9 Robert Peterson  
7/11 Bobby Wolff  
7/13 Carl Johnson  
7/14 Tilleen Litterer  
7/20 Shirley Ripley  
7/21 Patricia Miller  
7/24 Karen Streich  
7/29 Glenn Jacobson  
7/31 Anna Mae Woolworth



### *July anniversaries of our members who have been married 50 or more years!*

7/10/1970 Eugene & Ina Heitz  
7/12/1969 Paul & Mary Augustin  
7/16/1966 Jerry & Carol Meader  
7/29/1968 Ron & Vicki Hoffman

#### *Celebrating the wedding of...*

Matthew Holschlag & Jennifer Davidson,  
June 25, 2022

#### *Celebrating the Baptism of...*

Khloe JoLynn Kubik, June 5, 2022

*With sympathy, the funerals of:*  
Marilyn "Tootie" Jane Slinger Kolb,  
June 22, 2022  
Terry "Mike" Dugan, June 28, 2022

### *Memorials were given in memory of...*

*Dale Lamprecht:* Karen Streich, Scott & Sarah Kendall,  
Paul & Yolanda Van Ausdall, Larry & Sondra Coen

*Dorothy Elenora Ibsen Rodda:* Diane Melrose

*Ron Leraaen:* Russ & Betty Ball

## Headin' Home Quartet



Mike Rochholz J.D. Smith Jim Seiberling Bill Tharp

**Date:** July 31, 2022  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Location:** St. John Lutheran Church  
200 South Main  
Charles City, IA 50616

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is sponsoring the gospel group Headin' Home, July 31. They will be doing the entire service so it should be a song-filled inspirational experience. We will just be seeing a trio because of a date conflict for one of the gentlemen.

This group is based out of the First Baptist Church in Colfax, IA. They came together in 2001 to sing special music in their church on Sundays, but word spread and soon they were in demand around the area.

The event is free, but they will have some items for sale after the service.

More information can be found on their website  
[www.headinhomequartet.com](http://www.headinhomequartet.com)

## 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

The Youth Board is sponsoring a **summer mission trip to the North Dakota Badlands from July 5-9, 2022**. This trip is open to St. John students who have **completed 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades** and their friends. We have 13 youth planning to participate in this trip! We plan to visit Theodore Roosevelt National Park and some of the other National Historic Site areas nearby in addition to serving each day. I'm so excited!

Thank you to everyone who purchased items or donated at our bake sale on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> in the Narthex. The youth participating in the mission trip baked many of the pies and other goodies sold before and after worship service. This money offsets the costs for those going on the trip. We are so very grateful for your generous support!

We are also very thankful for the donations we have received for bus fuel. If you feel called to donate towards our trip, please mark your check/envelope "Mission Trip" when placing in the offering plate or see Linda in the Business Office. Thank you!



### PARISH ED NEWS

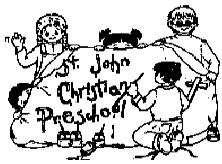
**"MONUMENTAL – Celebrating God's Greatness" ----- June 14th-17th we held VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

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...

Things are a lot quieter around St. John Christian Preschool during the summer months, but we are still keeping busy! We are excited to be gearing up for the new school year with some cleaning projects around the preschool and the assembly of our family packets. We are definitely enjoying the slower pace of the summer and extra time with my family, but we are also eagerly anticipating the start of the new St. John Christian Preschool school year!

Families will need to pick up their information packets July 20-22. These packets are full of information for the upcoming school year! Our parent information meetings will be in August, so look for that information to come later. These meetings are a great opportunity for question-and-answer sessions and for our families to get to know the other families that will be in their child's class. Open houses will also be in August, and we look forward to seeing all the littles with their families!

Carleen and I would also like to take a moment to thank the preschool board members who work so very hard to keep our program running smoothly: Brittany King, Jessica Hoeft, and Leslie Trettin. It is with their dedication and hard work that our preschool program continues to thrive! THANK YOU!

Thank you for the many blessings that you bestow upon our preschool program. Without your prayers and support we would not be able to do what we do. We love sharing God's love with our friends and we thank you for helping us share that important message!

In closing, we do still have some openings in our program. Our morning class is open to any child who will be at least 3 on or before September 15, 2022. Our afternoon classes are open to any child who will be at least 4 on or before September 15, 2022. Please call the preschool (228-7274) or email [wfranke@stjohnncharlescity.com](mailto:wfranke@stjohnncharlescity.com), if you would like more information.

With HIS Love,

Whittney Franke



Happy 4th of July!

## June 2022 Schedule...

**Sundays: 9:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary**  
**Communion is the 1st & 3rd Sunday**

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July 4: **Office closed – 4<sup>th</sup> of July**  
 July 5<sup>th</sup>–9<sup>th</sup> Mission trip to North Dakota  
 July 10: 10:15 a.m. 150<sup>th</sup> Committee in Chapel  
 July 17: God's Work/Our Hands Committee  
 July 20<sup>th</sup>–22<sup>nd</sup> SJCP Parent Packet pickup  
 July 20: 9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters  
 July 26: Stephen Ministry  
 July 31<sup>st</sup> Headin' Home Quartet for worship

## Board Meetings:

Building & Grounds: 7/5 6:00 p.m.  
 Council: 7/19 6:00 p.m.  
 Deacons: 7/10 11:00 a.m.  
 Family Board TBD  
 Finance Board 7/12 5:00 a.m.  
 Parish Ed  
 Stewardship 7/19 2:00 p.m.  
 Youth 7/10 10:00 a.m.



## JULY BIRTHDAYS!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
					Jeanette Anderson	Anna Mehmen Susan Shankland
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
Wayne McClintock Loyal McLean	Emmitt Marten Judith Troge	Chris Hoeft	June Kehret		Mark Kabele John Rima Lola Vest	Bob Peterson
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
Jodi Milleson	Jeanne Hansen LaVonne Reysack	Lisa Garden Devon Murray Ed Platte Emma Wolf	Carl Johnson	Tilleen Litterer	Jacquie Watson	Don Holm Rylie Keyes
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
	Katherine Ortmayer David Seckar		Craig Begemann Dewey Chase Joslyn Cotton Marron Murray Shirley Ripley	Madelynn Hoeft Patricia Miller Scott Kendall	Rosie Baldus Gloria Hulbert	Todd Prichard
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
Wendy Castillo Aaron Lacour Karen Streich		Linda Girken Harley Hinz	Carly Marten		Glenn Jacobson	Ana Blickenderfer Michael Quade
<b>31</b>						
Kayden McDonald Anna Mae Woolworth						