

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

Rev. Anita Nuetzman
Part time Visitation/Preaching Pastor

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



Pastor Russ Leeper :

Several years ago, I purchased a fire pit for our back yard. It was, basically, a deep metal ring with a lip that was placed into the middle of a circle of built-up landscaping blocks. It seemed simple enough that even I could build it. And yet, as I was bolting together the parts that make up the ring, somehow, I managed to hit myself in the face with the wrench! I laid on the ground with a small trickle of blood on my chin and I couldn't help but laugh at myself. I'm so bad with tools that I couldn't even bolt together two pieces of metal without causing injury to myself.

As I lay there trying to decide if I was going to tell my wife what had just happened, I thought about how few and far between my home improvement successes have been over the years and I started to feel a little sorry for myself. I just didn't inherit my dad's skill at fixing and building things and I was feeling pretty useless. But then, I realized that my dad may be much better at using tools than I am, but he's never preached a sermon or kept the attention of 15 confirmation students for 45 minutes or steered a canoe or made a video, and that's the stuff that I'm good at.

I think that often we're reluctant to offer our gifts and talents at church because we think that our particular gifts aren't needed or valued. But the truth is, we can use the particular gifts that God has given you! We need people who can use tools without injury and we need people who can teach without fear. We need people who are good with technology and people who are good with children. We need people who can steer a canoe and people who can steer a board. The gifts you have were given to you for a reason, and part of that reason is because we need them!

But here's the thing ... you know what your gifts are and we don't. So, we depend on you to let us know what you can do and to step up when you see the opportunity to use them. That's what makes the church work and that's what keeps things fresh and interesting at St. John! So, let us know what you're good at and we'll find a way to use your gifts!

Peace,
Pastor Russ

COUNCIL NOTE...

May Council Highlights:

- Approved for purchase of upgraded wireless microphones with the hopes of having that system updated in June!
- Brainstormed 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 discussion on installing some type of lift system in the church. Example of a possible vertical platform lift system was presented and more estimates for total cost of installation will be gathered this Spring/Summer.
- Donated our Monthly Benevolence to help cover the cost of the Youth Mission Trip to North Dakota this summer!
- Voted to not hold service on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th as we felt that it was an important day for staff to celebrate with their families after providing so much during Christmas Eve services on Saturday, December 24th.
- Big thank you to Monte and Kathy Waldorf for agreeing to serve as our Synod voting members and attending a two-day event at Wartburg College on June 10th-11th. Thank you, 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



Sesquicentennial Celebration Hymn Sing Sunday

In continuing our sesquicentennial celebration at St. John, we will be having an “Old Fashioned, Hymn Sing Sunday” on Sunday, June 12, 2022. Please come and enjoy and learn the stories behind some of the hymns we sing in church.

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.

Adult Bible Study - Sundays at 10:15 in the Chapel

June 19 & 26

We will be taking a closer look at the Bible readings for the previous Sunday. It's a chance to go deeper in the scriptures for that week and have conversation about them.

VBS: “Monumental – Celebrating God’s Greatness” June, 14th-17th

- The link for online registration is <https://vbspro.events/p/7fb3bc>
- Walk-in registration will begin at 5:15pm on the 14th.
- Plan on having your kids attend from 5:30pm-7:30pm on Tuesday-Friday!
- We will serve a light supper for the kids each evening.
- VBS is open to kids in Preschool-5th grades.
- There is no registration fee for VBS this year thanks to Kans for Kids!
- If you are interested in volunteering at VBS, please contact Laurie.



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 6th-12th grades** and their friends. Sign up on the bulletin board outside Laurie's office.

The Youth Board would welcome any donations toward the cost of fuel for the bus. If you feel called to donate stop in and see Linda in the Business Office.

Put **Sunday, June 12th** on your calendar to attend the **Youth Bake Sale** in the Narthex. The youth participating in the mission trip will again be baking pies and other goodies to sell before and after worship service.

Helping Hands has about 20 people ready, willing, and able to help run errands, do minor household help, and provide transportation. 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.

OF NOTE...

Coming in June: The prayer shawl group will continue on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month. The 2nd & 4th Friday will be a Craft Time! We will make some items for the **150th Anniversary** dinner and craft fair in October. This **crafting session** will start with simple projects at first. One possible project will be the LOVE folded book pictured on the right. Materials will be provided.



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.

Items we need: please bring them to the church.

***Paperback books any kind and hard back books** 350-500 pages. The page ends need to be clean and the pages not old and stiff.

***Ribbon** cloth type (not curling ribbon or paper), 1/2 inch to one inch. Plain colors are best, but buffalo check and even a Christmas print would be good.

***Bling** like **strings** of pearls, rhinestones, beads (Like from dollar store). Beads should be on the petite side, less than 1/4 inch.(Or some bling are in 1-inch rows but can be cut down.)

***Buttons** that are unique are also great. Christmas ones also a plus.

***Flat lace** around 1/2-1 inch. white, beige or colors that are kind of antique would be best. Maybe even a red or green could be used. flat on one side and wavy on the other side is fancier, but wider straight will work.

***Silk type flowers and leaves.** Mostly like 1-2.5 inch, but some bigger ones are OK. We would even like some of the flowers that are burlap and burlap ribbon.

*If you have some **snowflake** sequins or table scatters that would work into the crafts, too.

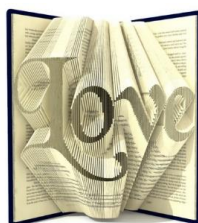
***Mini glue sticks** we go through them like water.

*An **extra glue gun** would be helpful.

*Also, the prayer shawl group could use some cotton, **dishcloth yarn** in solid colors. Variegated doesn't work for the prayer cloths.

Prayer shawl 1st and 3rd Friday afternoons at 1 p.m.
Craft time on the 2nd and 4th Friday afternoons at 1 p.m.
Both are in the Chapel

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.



People's Page...

June birthdays of our members who are 80 & older!

6/1 Jim Gambaiani
6/4 Roger Jacobs
6/9 Janice Dana
6/15 Louis Streich
6/18 Kip Hauser
6-21 Gary Dana
6/21 Clarice Leraaen
6/24 Helen Schmidt
6/25 Shirley Hall



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

6/10/1972 Glen & Nancy Johlas
6/26/1948 Robert & Eunice Tommingo
6/30/1957 Ronald & Connie Rasmussen

Meet our newest members!
Alison Pettit & her children
Hunter, Laila, Samuel & Finley!



Altar Flowers & Radio Broadcast

Call the office at 641-228-3397 to sign up to sponsor Altar flowers &/or radio broadcasts in 2022. We have many radio dates open. Several of our members can only listen to the radio and do appreciate being "a part" of the service as a listening member.

Memorials were given in memory of...

Sandra Lee Ballou Link: Cal & Joyce Wood

Ron Leraaen: Robert & Judy Mulcahy, J. & J. Scoles, Myron & Clarice Leraaen, Peg Poppen, Harry & Vivian Zipse, Maggie Schultz, John & Maxine Green

With sympathy, the funerals of:

Renee Christy Usher, 5/23/22
Dale Edward Lamprecht, 5/27/22

Our Generosity in April

Your offerings to St. John were shared beyond our walls in April in the following ways:

8% of our regular April offering (\$2,531.66) went to support the mission of the larger church.

2% of our total offering goes to support our community needs. In April (\$930.79) was given to the Easter European Crisis Response

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 6th-12th grades** and their friends. Sign up on the bulletin board outside Laurie's office by June 5, 2022.

The Youth Board would welcome any donations toward the cost of fuel for the bus. If you feel called to donate stop into the Business Office, or put **Sunday, June 12th** on your calendar to attend our **bake sale** in the Narthex. The youth participating in the mission trip will again be baking pies and other goodies to sell before and after worship service.



PARISH ED NEWS

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

- You can register online by visiting our website stjohncharlescivcity.org or clicking the link on the VBS Facebook post
- Walk-in registration will begin at 5:15pm on the 14th.
- Plan on having your kids attend from 5:30pm-7:30pm on Tuesday-Friday!
- We will serve a light supper for the kids each evening.
- VBS is open to kids in Preschool-5th grades.
- There is no registration fee for VBS this year thanks to Kans for Kids!
- If you took a donation note off our board, please return by June 7th! Thank you for donating!!





St. John Christian Preschool...

It's hard to be unhappy when God blesses us with a beautiful springtime world! While it was sad to say good-bye to our little ones who are moving on to Kindergarten, it is a blessing to be able to continue touching the lives of new friends who will enter our preschool in the fall.

We are excited to welcome many of our preschool friends back for classes next year and are also anxious to meet many new friends. We do have a few openings in our program, but spots are filling up fast! Our **morning** class is open to any child who will be at least 3 on or before September 15, 2022. So please let us know if you or someone you know is looking for a preschool for his/her 3-year-old! Our **afternoon** classes (there is a 3-day and 5-day option) are open to any child who will be at least 4 on or before September 15, 2022. Please call the preschool (228-7274) if you would like more information.

We, also, wanted to update everyone on the situation pertaining to joining the district under Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program. Yes, SJCP will be joining the district as a community partner in the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program (SWVPP). We will be meeting with the administration team at Washington Elementary soon to discuss the ins-and-outs of the program. With that said, being under the SWVPP will only pertain to our 4-year-old program. SWVPP gives all 4-year-olds the opportunity to receive high-quality early childhood education at no cost to the family. We will still be upholding our faith-based mission and instruction in both classes; however, faith-based instruction will be limited in our 4-year-old program. Also to note, the SWVPP gives each school a certain amount of money for each 4-year-old that attends that particular preschool program. These monies will greatly help us financially. If you have any questions about this program, I will do my best to answer them! I'm still learning about it, as well. 😊

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 HIS Name,
Whittney Franke



The Robin Makes a Laughing Sound

BY SALLIE WOLF

The robin makes a laughing sound.
It makes me stop and look around
to see just what the robin sees—
fresh new leaves on twigs of trees,
a strong, high branch on which to rest,
a safe dry ledge to hold its nest.
The robin makes a laughing sound.
I stop. I always look around.

June 2022 Schedule...

Sundays: 9:00 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary
Communion is the 1st & 3rd Sunday
10:15 a.m. Adult Bible study in the Chapel

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June 10: Synod Assembly
 June 11: Synod Assembly
 June 12: Hymn Sing Sunday
 Youth Mission Trip Bakesale
 May 14- 17: Vacation Bible School, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
 June 15: 9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters
 June 21: Stephen Ministry
 June 22: Newsletter Deadline
 June 23: 6:30 p.m. Mission Trip meeting PH
 June 25: 3:30 p.m. Holschlag/Davidson wedding

Board Meetings:

Building & Grounds: 6/7 6:00 p.m.
 Council: 6/14 6:00 p.m.
 Deacons: 6/12 Email.
 Family Board 6/22 11:00 a.m.
 Finance Board 6/14 5:00 a.m.
 Parish Ed 6/5 11:00 a.m.
 Stewardship 6/21 2:00 p.m.
 Youth 6/12 10:30 a.m.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			Jim Gambaiani Mikaela Kreger	Melanie Johanningmeier	Mike Cotton Randy Evans Sara Titus	Roger Jacobs
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Lindsay Wiltse	Angela Ayers Greg Heidebrink Morgan Kellogg Kash Kubik Roger Michael		Annemarie Hansen Jacob Vance	Janice Dana	Kyleigh McDonald Kerry Mehmen	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Alvin Marth			Joshua Johnson Louis Streich	Hallee Hoeft		Kip Hauser Cory Marth
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Isaac Oetken		Gary Dana Randy Heise Clarice Leraaen	Gavin Connell Quinn Heidebrink Jeremy Heyer Addison Tracey	Christian Kreger Sue McDonald Colleen Ortmyer Dennis Petersen	Clint Murray Mandi Sande Helen Schmidt	Shirley Hall Kay Slindee John Swiggum
26	27	28	29	30		
Brent Hinz Tyler Kubic Brandi Lantz Kari Unga	Dennis Brinkman	Sonja Cotton Benjamin Tracey	Wendy LaBarge Diane Sande	Gary Quade		