

St. John's

monthly

LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEWS &
INFORMATION



MAY 2024



A May 2024 Message from your Pastor,

Greetings to you in the powerful name of our Risen Lord!

Spring has sprung! "Where flowers bloom so does hope." – Lady Bird Johnson. Our hope is in the Lord!

The first Sunday of May, May 5th, three young people will receive their First Holy Communion. Addyson Barnes, Alex Shoener, and Tyler Stahl will receive Holy Communion for the first time. Please keep them in your prayers.

Mother's Day weekend is the following weekend. We give thanks to and for our mothers and for all the people who have been a model and mentor of motherhood in our life.

The weekend of May 18th & 19th, we will remember and honor our High School Graduates. We have two High Schoolers graduating this year, they are Morgan Potter and Douglas Shoener. The quilt blanket to be presented to them has been made with care and prayer. We pray for the High School Senior class as one chapter of their life comes to an end and a brand-new chapter begins.

May 19th will be the last day of Sunday School. Thank-you parents for bringing your child to Sunday School. And a special thank you to our Sunday School teachers: Miss Nancy, Mr. Wayne, and Miss Ellie for teaching our children faith in God in creative ways. Also, a special thank you to our Sunday School helpers and substitute teachers. These dedicated people

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FROM OUR PASTOR

are resourcefully teaching the faith to the next generation of believers.

The final weekend of May is the Memorial Day weekend. Please note that our service time on Sunday, May 26th, will change from 9:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Worship time will remain at 9:00 a.m. until mid-September when Sunday School resumes.

*“Fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right
hand.” Isaiah 41:10*

God's Blessing & Peace,
Pastor Chris Schoon

Attention All Ladies!

The Fellowship and Hospitality Committee is sponsoring a **LADIES SALAD LUNCHEON on May 11 in the Fellowship Hall** . We will begin at noon with lunch followed by a presentation on spring flowers by Angie Grandgeorge of IVY OAKS FLORAL in Somonauk. Angie grew up in Somonauk and started her own floral business. Many of the flowers she sells are grown locally.

Please bring your favorite or most famous salad. Also bring a friend or several friends. This program is for ladies of all ages. A sign up sheet is in the Welcome Center. Please sign up by May 1.





Tom Harmon	05/01	Lynn Skrzypiec	05/18
Erik Wold	05/03	Nancy Larson	05/19
McKayla Eaton	05/06	Coleton Eade	05/20
Grant Shoener	05/12	Emma Reuter	05/23
Dayton Rogers	05/13	Payton Christopher	05/24
Nicholas Dingman	05/13	Ava Lindstrom	05/25
Linda Martin	05/14	Liam Wold	05/25
Monda Denault	05/15	Diane Rogers	05/26
Nancy Miller	05/16	Andrew Hallman	05/26
Mike Hamer	05/17	Jackie Wendland	05/28
Bob Reis Sr.	05/17	Richard Lumsden	05/28
Mary Burgin	05/18	John Guehler	05/30



Happy Anniversary



Dave & Lee McKenzie

May 6, 1961

Erik & Jessica Wold

May 6, 2006

Richard & Cheri Kossak Sr.

May 7, 1983

Tyler & Julie Christopher

May 10, 2014

John & Angie Shoener

May 17, 2003

Maury & Cara Killey

May 29, 1971

St. John's Lutheran Church Council minutes for April 11, 2024

Members present: Bob Fraley, Connie Hamer, Mike Hamer, Scott Horsch, Cindy Karp, Wayne Karp, Jeanette Pfeifer, and Pastor Schoon.

Connie read devotions based on 1 Corinthians 15, 1-11

Wayne called the meeting to order at 6:33

Mike made the motion to accept the consent agenda, Connie seconded. Motion carried. Scott presented the treasurer's report.

He noted the \$42 amount which was questioned last month was corrected.

Cindy asked how often the synod is paid. Scott said they are paid 15 percent monthly.

Cindy made a motion to move \$50 from Esther Circle to Growing Hope because Esther Circle membership is down to a few members. Jeanette seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Fellowship/Hospitality – There will be a ladies luncheon May 11th with Angie Grandgeorge from Ivy Oaks presenting.

Outreach – Scott asked if we have an AED machine. Wayne reported that we no longer have it because the fire station is right next door.

Finance – No report

Mission/Stewardship – See report. There is a new director for the Sharing Pantry. Doris Miller is no longer our church's representative. She has been replaced by Chuck Lee.

MOG – They met April 2nd. \$86,540.28 balance. Members were asked to look over the by-laws to see if any changes need to be made.

Parish Education – Pastor Kris has met with Pastor John from Salem and will get together this summer to go over the curriculum. Vacation Bible School will be July 22 – 25 and will be shared with five churches.

Drew was not present but Bob reported that the downstairs storeroom was cleaned and organized.

Worship – No report, did not meet.

Tech – Bob asked if we should contact Lincoln or our cable company to remedy our wifi situation.

Pastor's report – See report

Jeanette made the motion to decrease the limit on the church's debit card to \$1000 from \$3000. Cindy seconded. Motion carried.

Our church has been asked about participating in the Christmas Parade in November. We will think of ways in which to participate.

Pastor brought up concern for what to do in an emergency situation. There was discussion regarding an emergency plan. Local law enforcement could give us some direction regarding that.

Tom Reyes has agreed to be our supply pastor for a couple weekends. There was discussion regarding lodging and should we provide payment for that. Mike made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Connie seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37.

In God's service, Bob Fraley



Hang onto **'IT'** until June!



Dear St. John's Congregation,

We are asking that you hold onto your blood until June when once again St. John's will be hosting our blood drive on

Thursday, June 6th, 2:30-7:00p.m.

We tried very hard last year to reach the goal of 15 units. Versiti had taken us off their list of possible drives because our numbers had fallen significantly. However, last year we had 21 people sign up and gathered 14 units. That was fantastic!

Versiti Blood Center of IL was founded in 1943.

Based in Aurora, Versiti serves 63 hospitals in a 12 county area and collects 155,000 units annually. Versiti's core values include do right always; strengthen the team (US!); find a better way; and make results happen. They recognize that the gifts of blood and life are precious.

1 bag = 3 saved lives

At critical times, we depend on our brothers and sisters for this life-saving gift. Many health and eligibility questions are answered on Versiti's website (<https://www.versiti.org>).

Walk-ins are always welcome. Appointments can be scheduled by:

Calling 800-786-4483 (Versiti)

Calling 815-498-3667 (our church office)

E-mail: donate.il@versiti.org

Please, please help if you can as we'd love to keep this ministry going!

News from St. John's Committees

STEWARDSHIP/MISSION MINUTES 4-3-24

The April meeting was called to order at 8:52 a.m. Present at this meeting were Pastor Chris Schoon, Karol Grandgeorge, Lynn Skrzypiec, and Connie Hamer. Pastor led us in a prayer asking that God help us to determine what His stewardship and mission focus is and therefore, ours.

The February minutes were approved. (We did not meet in March.)

Michael's offering report for March was as follows: General Fund - \$21,894.91; Capital Fund - \$1404.04; Good Samaritan - \$636.00; Personal Care Kits - \$305.67; Growing Hope - \$271.00; Habitat for Humanity - \$152.00; VBS - \$100.00; Sunday School - \$131.00; Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets - \$50.00.

Karol spoke with a gentleman named Earl Schaefer who works at Our Sharing Pantry about other mission opportunities should the ones in which we are currently participating ever be dissolved.

Both the capital fund and blood drive articles were submitted. Connie will write the article for the June emphasis which is Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets. The Thursday, June 6th blood drive with Versiti has been confirmed. It will be from 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LWR current baby care needs are: 12, 18, & 24 month T's, 24 month boy's pants, 18 & 24 month jackets, 18 month pjs, and lightweight hand towels. May's emphasis is LWR Baby Care Kits.

Mark will start signing up drivers for June's Meals-on-Wheels. He will also be distributing the Time and Talent brochures for committees to make changes.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1st, 2024 at 8:45 a.m.

We adjourned at 9:42 a.m. by praying The Lord's Prayer.

MOG Financial Report

MGRDX	552746356	MFS INTERNATIONAL GROWTH R6	281.232	\$10,333.73	\$11,862.37	\$1,528.64
NDVXX	552982696	MFS NDW DISCOVERY VALUE R6	293.861	\$4,836.86	\$5,424.67	\$587.81
PIIDX	74256W59 2	PRINCIPAL INTERNATIONAL I R-6	1196.384	\$14,472.31	\$17,072.40	\$2,600.09
TBGVX	901165100	TWEEDY BROWNE INTERNATIONAL VALUE FUND	424.034	\$10,962.91	\$12,207.94	\$1,245.03
VCOBX	922020839	VANGUARD CORE BOND FUND AD-MIRAL SHARES	3888.945	\$70,715.11	\$69,495.45	-\$1,219.66
VAIPX	922031737	VANGUARD INFLATION-PROTECTED SECS ADM	751.65	\$17,858.88	\$17,257.88	-\$601.00
VFIDX	922031810	VANGUARD INTERM-TERM INVEST-MENT-GRADE	2046.209	\$17,308.04	\$17,536.01	\$227.97
IICIX	929131684	VOYA INTERMEDIATE BOND FUND CLASS I	8072.262	\$70,201.95	\$70,147.96	-\$53.99
		TOTAL FOR ALL ASSETS		\$467,768.43	\$500,702.21	\$32,933.78
		Designated funds inside of Money Market				
		Audio/Visual	\$100.00			
		Lexan Window Covers	\$415.00			
		Parsonage	\$3,666.00			
		Pew Fund	\$2,350.28			
		Unspecified Memorials	\$8,243.33			
		Total designated funds	\$14,774.61			
		Money Market	\$86,540.28			
		less designated funds	\$14,774.61			
			\$71,765.67			

LWR Lutheran World Relief Work Days

**MAY 21st 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and
7:00 pm to 9:00pm Bring a Lunch**

MAY 22nd 9:00am to 3:00 pm Bring a Lunch

In May we celebrate Mother's Day and graduations and it is also the month we emphasis Baby Care Kits for LWR. We will be collecting items for Baby Care Kits and money to help buy the material for diapers and the soap that goes in each kit. For the kits we need the following items:

Lightweight cotton long or short sleeve shirts (no Onesies) They may be print or colored, but nothing sleeveless

Long or short-sleeved sleepers (without feet)

Jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with or without a hood

Stocking caps for babies

Socks

Hand towels (dark color recommended)

1 ¼ yard of Cotton Flannel Material to be made into blankets by us

All items used in the kit should be 12,18 or 24 months is size. If you want us to shop for you, please put your donation in a blue envelope and mark it clearly for Baby Care Kits. The items used for these kits may be new or gently used without stains. Garage Sales and resale shops are a great place to find many of these items.. Remember we can't send American flags or camouflage and you do not need to buy every item. We put them together with what we already have!

(continued next page)

In May we will be sorting the donated items, taking apart some of those things that came in, tying quilts, cutting school bags and sewing around the tied quilts. There are a variety of jobs that need to be done. Some of the jobs do require standing, but we also have sitting down jobs. At this writing, we are running low on cotton material to cut into blocks for the quilts tops. If you have spare material or know someone who does, please keep us in mind.

We do enjoy fellowship with each other as we work on projects to help those less fortunate.

There usually is a treat or two to enjoy for break or with our lunch. Will you please come spend a few minutes helping with our projects? There is such a great need all over this world! Remember...

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS!



Esther Circle

Date: Wednesday, May 1st

Time: 9:00 am

Location: St. John's Fellowship Hall

Women of the Bible Speak Book Study

Rebekah Circle

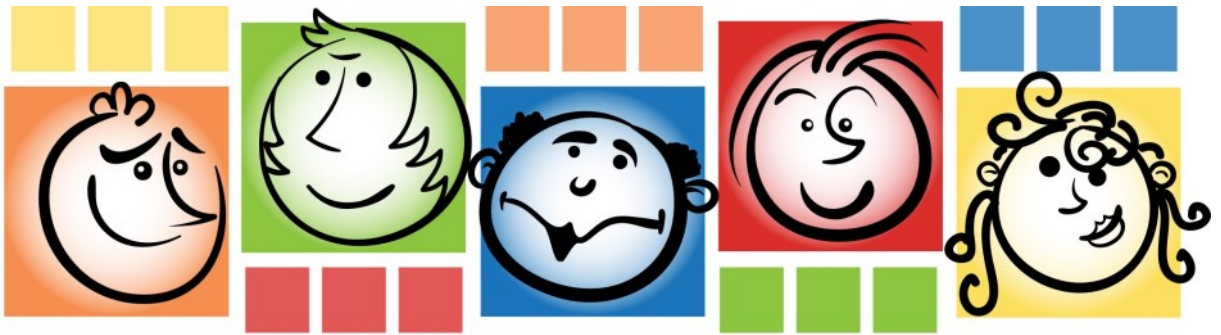
Date: Thursday, May 16

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: St. John's Fellowship Hall

Lesson 2: Act Boldly with Balance, Session 3

Leader: Stella Gardner



MEETING

Stewardship Committee

8:45am Wednesday, May 1



Esther Circle

9:00am Wednesday, May 1

Property Committee

10am Wednesday, May 1



Worship Committee

10:15am Thursday, May 2



MOG Committee

6:30 pm Tuesday, May 7



Endowment Committee

6:30 pm Tuesday, May 7



Church Council

6:30pm Thursday, May 9



Fellowship & Hospitality

10:30am Wednesday, May 15

Rebekah Circle Meeting

1:00pm Thursday, May 16



OUR SHARING PANTRY UPDATE



Nora Cromwell has retired as the pantry director after having served for 30 years. Michelle Henson is replacing her effective April 1. Michelle has been a teacher, assistant principal and principal at various schools in the East Aurora School District. She now resides at Lake Holiday. We welcome Michelle and her leadership to Our Sharing Pantry. Also, Chuck Lee has replaced Doris Miller on the pantry board of directors.

Congratulations,
Morgan Potter and Douglas Shoener
on your High School Graduation this month!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>May</p> <p>2024</p>		<p>10:00am Fellowship & Hospitality</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8:45 Stewardship & Missions 9am WOTB <i>Speak</i> book study 10am Property Committee</p>	
<p>5</p> <p>8:30am Sunday School 8:30am Adult Forum 9:45am Worship (First Communion)</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 MOG Committee Meeting</p>	<p>8</p>	
<p>12 MOTHER'S DAY</p> <p>8:30am Sunday School 8:30am Adult Forum 9:45am Worship</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>LWR Workday 9am-3pm 7pm-9pm</p>	<p>15</p> <p>LWR Workday 9am-3pm</p>	
<p>19</p> <p>8:30am Last Day of Sunday School an Adult Forum 8:30am Adult Forum 9:45am Worship Graduate Recognition Noisy Coin Collection</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	
<p>26</p> <p>Worship Time Change for Summer: 9:00am</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study 1:30pm Worship Committee</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:00pm Worship</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study</p> <p>6:30pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>12:00pm Ladies Luncheon</p> <p>5:00pm Worship</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:00am Bible Study (Last Day until the fall)</p> <p>1:00 pm Rebekah Circle @ St.</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:00pm Worship</p>
<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>5:00pm Worship Graduate Recognition</p>
<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	



The Parents Corner

When I was involved in a Bible study group, one of our members was in a transitional stage of her life. Her son had been born physically and mentally disabled. She had cared for him at home through his childhood but now he was an adult. She was older, he was much larger and she could no longer care for him as she had in the past, so he was going to live away from her. A remark was made that they didn't know how she had done it all these years. She replied that it might look hard to others, but when you are in the situation, you just do it.

Where there is love, there is no burden. I had begun to learn that several years earlier. My second daughter was born with a club foot.

While I cared for my newborn baby and a lively two-year old, who had reverted to now wanting a bottle again and (thankfully) a nap, I also had to massage and exercise my baby's foot into the shape it should be. No burden. You just do it.

Every experience I have since had in life has only reinforced that knowledge. God will give strength. Holy Week was an ultimate example of bearing a burden out of love. Our burden of sin. His Love.

Submitted by Lois Spizzirri

Church Staff

A. Administration

- i. Office Secretary: Julie Horsch

b. Business

- i. Financial Recorder: Mike Hamer
- ii. Treasurer: Scott Horsch

c. Facilities

- i. Building Superintendent: Diane Wold

d. Worship

- i. Accompanists: Jessica Ortega, Toni Lundeen, Becky Stephens, Margaret Page

Church Council

President: Wayne Karp
Vice-President:
Secretary: Bob Fraley

Congregation Council

Andrew (Drew) Hallman
Michael Hamer
Connie Hamer
Cindy Karp
Jeanette Pfeifer

Lutherdale Bible Camp Representatives-2024

Karol Grandgeorge, Nancy Miller

Synod Assembly Representatives-2024

Pastor, Lynn Skrzypiec

Cemetery Ministry Team

Bob Fraley, Glen Reuter, Doug Stahl

Endowment Ministry Team

Mike Hamer, Wendy Merkel, Jeanette Pfeifer, Dale Robinson

Finance Ministry Team

Chuck Hoepe,

Bob Mueller, Joanne Robinson

Memorial and Other Gifts Fund Team

Kathy Anderson, Connie Hamer,

Nancy Miller, Lynn Skrzypiec

Church Ministries & Organizations Contacts

Altar Guild

CROP Walk: Mark Lee & Mike Hamer

Growing Hope: Jerry & Toni Lundeen

Global Missions: *In need of leadership*

Habitat for Humanity: Karol Grandgeorge

Hearts & Hands: Stella Gardner

House of the Little Ones: Linda Johnson

LSSI Christmas Hope Chest: Karol Grandgeorge & Julie Horsch

LWR Projects (Mission Quilts, Baby Care Kits, School Kits,

Personal Care Kits, Sewing Kits): Karol Grandgeorge

Meals on Wheels: Mark Lee

Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans: *In need of leadership*

Our Sharing Pantry: Chuck Lee

Partners In Mission - Uganda, Africa: *In need of leadership*

Prayer Chain: Karol Grandgeorge,

Parish Education

Confirmation

- a. Primary Instructor—Pastor Chris & Scott Horsch
- b. St. John's Congregational Council

3N1: 7—12 gr. Youth Ministry:

Coordinators: Jason & Kim Boczko

from Salem Lutheran Church, Sandwich

Youth Ministry Connection from St. John's—Julie Horsch

Esther Circle: Jeanette Pfeifer

Rebekah Circle: Connie Hamer

Sunday School Coordinator: Nancy Miller

Chairpersons/Ministry Summaries

(Listed alphabetically by ministry)

Cemetery Ministry: Doug Stahl

Oversees the care of the church cemetery, maintenance and improvements.

Communications Ministry: Bob Fraley

Seeks to improve communication with members and the community.

Fellowship & Hospitality Ministry

Plans activities and recreational outings to promote friendship and fellowship in our congregation and community.

Finance Ministry: Scott Horsch

Proposes the budget and administers incoming and outgoing funds.

Outreach Ministry: Jeanette Pfeifer

Reach out to the community by welcoming new neighbors with bread, hosting/participating in community events, following up with visitors, and bringing God's love to St John's 'special members' from cradle roll through the homebound.

Parish Education Ministry:

Oversees Sunday School Program, Summer Bible Day Camp, and youth related activities.

Property Ministry: Drew Hallman

Oversees the care of the church facilities and grounds, maintenance and improvements.

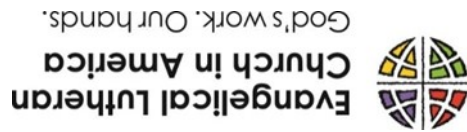
Stewardship /Missions Ministry: Lynn Skrzypiec

Provides opportunities for members of our congregation to use their gifts and resources, which includes raising funds for special projects. Provides a variety of opportunities to do God's Work with Our Hands. Organizes activities, publicize events and coordinate participation. Please join us in any way that works for you.

Worship Ministry: Cindy Karp

Striving to provide Spirit filled worship opportunities in an atmosphere of hospitality.

Newsletter of St. John's Lutheran Church
May 2024



We're on the Web:
www.elcastjohns.com

235 South Green Street
P.O. Box 245
Somonauk, Illinois 60552

Church Office 815-498-3667
office@elcastjohns.org

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churchsomonauk/](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnslutheranchurchsomonauk/)*