

A June 2024 Message from your Pastor ...

Nature's Prayer

For flowers that bloom about our feet;
For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;
For song of bird, and hum of bee;
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!
For blue of stream and blue of sky;
For pleasant shade of branches high;
For fragrant air and cooling breeze;
For beauty of the blooming trees,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee! Amen.

—*Ralph Waldo Emerson (from "We Thank Thee")*



The month of June and beyond will be filled with many opportunities for us at St. John's:

Take note of our worship times. Saturday worship time remains the same: Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Please remember that our worship time throughout the summer on Sundays will be at 9:00 a.m.

On June 6th from 2:30 – 6:30 p.m. there will be a Versiti blood drive here at church. Go online or call the church to register to donate lifegiving blood.



Continued on page 2

We will honor Father's Day on Saturday, June 15th & Sunday, June 16th.



**FROM OUR
PASTOR**

Happy
Father's
Day

Steve and I will leave for some time away on Sunday, June 13th and return July 3rd. Pastor Dennis Heaney will be our supply pastor on Saturday & Sunday, June 15th & 16th and Pastor Tom Rogers will come to St. John's June 22nd & 23rd and June 29th & 30th. Thank you for the opportunity to take some vacation time.

May we all enjoy God's
Blessings & Peace
Pastor Chris Schoon



It's time to save a life!!!



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!



Jaxon Palmer	06/02	Jamie Johnson	06/19
Gary Gord	06/03	Jeanette Pfeifer	06/20
Jackie Eade	06/04	Calleigh Rogers	06/20
Marlene Allen	06/06	Aiden Wold	06/21
Sarah Palmer	06/07	Rose Rubis	06/22
Wendy Merkel	06/11	Cynthia Reuter	06/24
Connie Hamer	06/12	Dan Denault	06/24
Emma Horsch	06/12	Jase Lindstrom	06/26
Donna Guehler	06/13	Brooke Wilson	06/26
Andrew Reuter	06/14	Julie Gottlieb	06/26
John Weber	06/15	Doris Miller	06/27
Ray Raupp	06/17	John Johnson	06/28
Rylie Merkel	06/18	Daniel Hallman	06/30



Christopher & Jeannine Dingman	06/10
Mike & Connie Hamer	06/11
Glen & Cynthia Reuter	06/12
Larry & Doris Rogers	06/14
Homer & MaryAnn Hulon Sr	06/17
Jack & Evelyn Smith	06/18
Michael & Terry Hulon	06/21
Becky & Kevin Anderson	06/24
Ron & Wendy Merkel	06/26
Neil & Doris Miller	06/29
Jerry & Toni Lundeen	06/30



JOB OPPORTUNITY

For the 2024-25 School Year
 United Kids After School Assistant
 United Church of Sandwich;
 3 days per week: Tues/Wed/Fri
 2:30-5:30pm

Job description and how to apply
 available in the Welcome Center



**Happy 69th
 Wedding Anniversary,**

Jack & Evelyn Smith!
 6/18/1955

A card shower is being
 held for them...
 please send cards to:

Jack & Evelyn Smith
 3662 Governor Beveridge Hwy
 Sandwich, IL 60548

St. John's Lutheran Church Council minutes for May 9, 2024

Members present: Bob Fraley, Connie Hamer, Mike Hamer, Cindy Karp, Wayne Karp, Jeanette Pfeifer, Pastor Chris Schoon

- Mike opened with devotions.
- Wayne called the meeting to order at 6:33.
- Mike made the motion to accept the consent agenda as amended. Connie seconded. Motion carried. The April minutes were corrected to read Tom Rogers not Tom Reyes.
- Connie requested that the Rebecca Circle money be sent to Safe Passage.
- Wayne related we are \$15,000 ahead heading into summer and is hopeful we will remain so financially.

Committee Reports

Fellowship/Hospitality – none

Outreach – None. Mike reported that the endowment committee gave \$1000 to the outreach committee.

Finance – None

Mission/Stewardship – See report.

MOG – None

Parish Education – May 19th last day of Sunday School. VBS is July 22-25 with other church's participating. Hoping to get high schoolers to help Worship – No report, did not meet.

Property - Ward Hearn, Jackie Harmon, and Mike and Nancy Maroscia trimmed the bushes in front of the church. Pastor reported some soffit trim blew off the garage.

Worship - Jeanette made the motion to give the organists \$50 extra for any weekend when special music is being organized. Ex: Christmas and Easter. Mike seconded. Motion carried.

Tech – None

Endowment - Mike presented their list of most recent donations (see report).

- Pastor's report – See report.
- Mike made the motion to approve Tom Rogers (supply pastor) lodging and that it not to exceed \$200/night. Connie seconded. Motion carried.
- The June council meeting was moved to June 6th to accommodate Pastor being gone.
- Wayne presented a letter asking for council membership consideration to go out to the congregation.
- Diane Wold mentioned to Pastor the carpets in the welcome center need cleaning. Next year the sanctuary.

- There will be a quarterly meeting June 2nd.
- Cindy moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29. Jeanette seconded. Motion carried.

In God's service,

Bob Fraley

News from St. John's Committees

ENDOWMENT MINUTES 5-7-24

Those in attendance: Mike Hamer, Ward Hearn, Wendy Merkel, Pastor Chris

Treasure's Report \$11,506.20

Funded

Good Samaritan's \$1000.00
LOMC \$1000.00
Fox Valley Comm Center \$1000.00
Midwest Shelter Homeless \$1000.00
School Kits \$1000.00
Lutherdale \$1000.00
Meals on Wheels \$1000.00
Worship/Altar Guild \$1000.00
Outreach \$1000.00
Lily Horsch \$500.00
Isaac Ortega \$500.00

Total Distributions: \$10,000.00

Mike Hamer goes off the committee in January 2025
Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Merkel, Secretary

STEWARDSHIP/MISSION MINUTES 5-1-24

The May meeting commenced at 8:49 a.m. with Karol Grandgeorge, Pastor Chris Schoon, Michael Hamer, and Connie Hamer present. Our gathering prayer was from Ralph Waldo Emerson's "We Thank Thee", thanking God for green grass, flowers, blue skies and streams, birds, bees, and all the beauty around us.

The April minutes were approved as read.

Because several members of Stewardship will not be able to make the regularly scheduled meeting in June, we changed the June meeting to **Wednesday, May 29th at 8:45 a.m.**

Michael's offering report for April was as follows: General Fund - \$11,181.91; Capital Fund - \$2435.88; LSSI - \$163; and Sunday School - \$259 (current total - \$433).

Karol submitted the article for May's emphasis which is Baby Care Kits. She will put up the display this weekend. Cindy Karp (Baby Care Kit coordinator) is still in need of 18 & 24- month jackets, and 12, 18, & 24 - month T-shirts.

Connie will put up a display for our June emphasis, MSHV, and has the article ready to submit for the Journal.

Mark oversees Meals-on-Wheels drivers for June and getting Time & Talent brochures to the various committees.

Our June 6th (2:30-7:00 p.m.) blood drive with Versiti has been confirmed. Connie will begin phone calls and Mark and Michael will distribute flyers to the following organizations or businesses: Art's, Rambo's, Pancake House, Country Kitchen, Doug's Barber Shop, Casey's, Somonauk Library, the High school, Bud's, and J. C. Fitness. Someone from Stewardship will also sign-up donors before and after church on some Sundays in May. Connie called Versiti and donors can go to Yorkville to donate and can have their donation credited to our drive.

We adjourned at 9:25 a.m. by praying The Lord's Prayer.

READING BUDDIES

WITH MRS. MERKEL'S KINDERGARTNERS

SEE YA IN THE FALL!

MAY



LWR Lutheran World Relief Work Days

June 18 **9:00 am to 3:00 pm and
7:00 pm to 9:00pm Bring a Lunch**

June 19 **9:00am to 3:00 pm Bring a Lunch**

We would like to thank you for your donations to the Baby Care Kits in May. Cindy Karp is the Baby Care Kit gal and usually gets 20 kits done a month. That means 40 t-shirts and 20 pairs of pajamas, and two blankets. We send one pieced blanket and one flannel or crocheted blanket in each kit. That means the sewers, knitters and crocheters are busy all month to keep the blankets available.

Because we were short on cotton cloth to cut blocks, several people have spend time looking for and buying material. This material will be sorted and pressed for cutting in June. Plus I believe some people have cleaned out their stash, and donated material. This also needs to be sorted and pressed. We will continue to make piece maker packets and tie quilts. Schoolbags will be cut and sewn. Many jobs are available! Come see how you can help.

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. There is such a great need all over this world! Please come help with our projects.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS!



Dear Parishioners,

As it has been for several years, St. John's emphasis for June is Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets (MSHV). MSHV has a commissary where their clients can purchase or receive supplies. One of the times that we delivered supplies, I was thanked profusely by one of the volunteers who said, *"Thank heavens, we really needed paper towels as we were getting ready to make a delivery."* This comment made me realize that some of their vets cannot make it to the commissary. MSHV volunteers often make deliveries throughout the 13 counties and 700 households that they serve.

MSHV is our opportunity to lift up and THANK those who have given so much for us. Founded in Wheaton, IL by 2 veterans, Bob Adams and Dick Enger, MSHV operates on the vision of no veteran left behind due to homelessness, poverty, joblessness, and/or mental health issues. This non-profit agency provides: affordable and transitional housing; permanent supportive housing; support services for vet families; GPD case management; employment programs; and the freedom commissary. MSHV desires to ease the suffering for veterans and their families and to empower them to become productive members of their communities. MSHV is a non-profit 501(C)3 organization and their tax ID# is 36-4337985 (for your tax purposes).

St. John's will be accepting supplies and monetary donations throughout the month of June.

Following is a partial list of needed supplies (the full list is available at our display):

Clothing:

- Coats – men & women sizes M and up
- Hats & gloves
- Men's white T-shirt sizes L & 3XL
- Men's white briefs sizes M, L, and 3XL
- Men's boxer briefs sizes M & L

Household:

- Paper towels, toilet paper, kleenex
- Kitchen garbage bags
- Kitchen and bath garbage cans
- Mops (Swiffer) and pads
- Brooms

Kitchen:

- Microwaves, toasters, coffee pots
- Dish sets
- Pots & pans
- All sizes ziplock bags
- Food storage containers
- Knife sets
- Paper plates, napkins

Bedding & Bathroom:

- Comforters – all sizes
- Sheet sets – king, queen, & full, pillows
- Bath rugs & towel sets
- Bath cleaners & toilet bowl brush

Cleaning supplies:

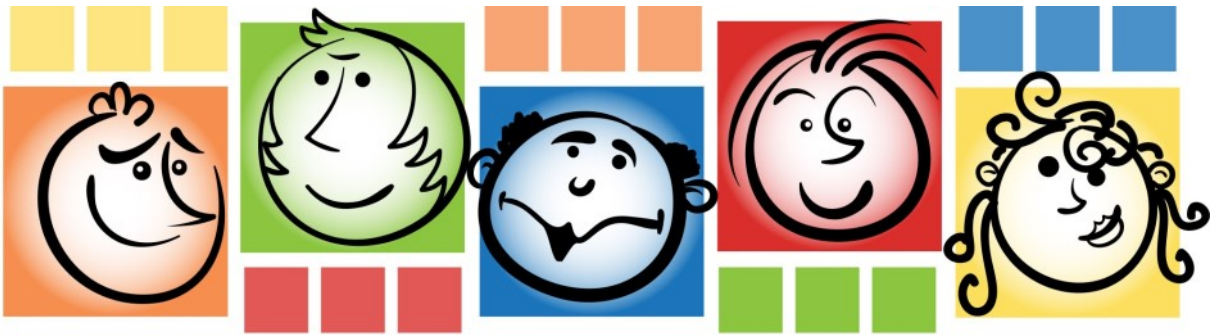
- Laundry pods, dryer sheets
- Disinfectant & cleaner sprays (Lysol)
- Bleach, disinfectant wipes
- Windex
- SOS pads, scrub brush

Personal Care Items:

- Body wash, shampoo
- Hand soap
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Lip balm, dental floss (spools)

MSHV no longer accepts gift cards or used items. Consider supporting local businesses or if you would prefer, you may go to <https://a.co/b3ifTXn>

All of you at St. John's are such a blessing!
Let's pass some blessings on to others.



MEETING

Stewardship Committee

8:45am Wednesday, July 3



Property Committee

10am Wednesday, June 5



Fellowship & Hospitality

10:30am Wednesday, June 5



Church Council

6:30pm Thursday, June 6



MOG Committee

6:30 pm Tuesday, July 2





CHARITY PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT



A 501(c)(3) organization linking the grassroots energy and commitment of rural communities in the U.S. with the capability and desire of smallholder farmers in developing countries to grow lasting solutions to hunger.

June 22nd & 23rd

**\$55/
Team
Entry**
T-shirt included
with registration

Register for bracket play at 1 of 4 locations:

**Lake Holiday, Plano,
Sandwich or Somonauk**

The top 4 teams from each location will advance to the championship bracket. Each team is guaranteed to play 2 matches. (2-3 games in a match) on Saturday. Championship bracket play is held in Somonauk on Sunday, June 23rd.

*Please note: Lake Holiday will only accept registrations from Lake Holiday residents

Proceeds check will be written in honor of 1st place team!
1st-3rd place will receive medals

Interested in becoming a sponsor?
Email tjlundeen@gmail.com

In partnership with



Visit foxvalleymca.org to register your team or scan the qr code

Growing Hope Globally, the Fox Valley YMCA, the Sandwich Park District and the Village of Somonauk are sponsoring a Pickleball Tournament to benefit Growing Hope Globally. The play in round will be played on Saturday, June 22 beginning at 9 am at four locations--Sandwich Park District, Lake Holiday, Central Branch of Fox Valley YMCA (Plano) and Somonauk Park 131 S Depot St. Four teams from each location will advance to the championship round on Sunday, June 23 beginning at 9am. Entry fee for each team is \$55 and can be done at foxvalleymca.org Each participant will receive a t-shirt and other assorted goodies. The top three teams on Sunday will receive some really nice medals. Proceeds from the event will be given to Growing Hope Globally in honor of the winning team. The deadline to register your team is June 7th.

If you are not a pickleball player or you do not advance to the championship round, Sunday is the day for you! Championship play will begin at 9am. and conclude about 1pm It will take place at Somonauk Park 131 S Depot St.. A DJ will provide entertainment through much of the day. We will be selling food approximately 11-1 (menu to be determined but we know it includes "pickle cookies" from Angie's Sugar Buzz Bakery), a beer garden, raffle baskets, and Elena Ortega will be donating her time and talent doing face painting. We have secured many wonderful sponsors so please come out to show your gratitude. It should truly be a party atmosphere!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>June</p> <p>2024</p>				
<p>2</p> <p>9:00am Worship (Congregational Quarterly Meeting)</p>	3	4	<p>5</p> <p>10am Property Committee 10:30am Fellowship & Hospitality Meeting</p>	
<p>9</p> <p>9:00am Worship</p>	10	11	12	
<p>16</p> <p>9:00am Worship Pastor Dennis Heaney</p>	17	<p>18</p> <p><i>LWR Workday</i> <i>9am-3pm</i> <i>7pm-9pm</i></p>	<p>19</p> <p><i>LWR Workday</i> <i>9am-3pm</i></p>	
<p>23 9:00am Worship Pastor Tom Rogers</p> <p>GROWING HOPE PICKLEBALL TOURN.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9:00am Worship Pastor Tom Rogers</p> <p style="text-align: right;">30</p>	24	25	26	

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>1 5:00pm Worship</p>
	<p>6 2:30-7:00 Blood Drive 6:30pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 5:00pm Worship</p>
	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 5:00pm Worship Pastor Dennis Heaney</p>
	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 5:00pm Worship Pastor Tom Rogers GROWING HOPE PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT</p>
	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 5:00pm Worship Pastor Tom Rogers</p>

The Parents Corner

Supposedly, forgetfulness is part of getting old, but I've been good at being forgetful in all the ages of my life. I have forgotten things. While returning at dusk from a day spent on our boat, my family stopped at a restaurant for supper. Arriving home with two sleepy children, I reached for my purse and realized I had left it at the restaurant. We called and "Yes, they had it." I tucked my children in bed and then waited for my husband who made the forty mile trip to retrieve my purse.

I have forgotten people. My daughter and I went grocery shopping, and she asked if she could visit the drug store next door while I shopped. She was a well-behaved person, and the store owner knew her, so I said "O.K." I shopped, paid for our food, loaded the car and zipped on home to store my purchases. While doing so, I asked my daughter a question, to which she wasn't there to answer, and I was horrified that I had left her at the shopping center. I rushed back hoping I could get there before she realized I had forgotten her. Alas, she had already seen the car was gone. When her sisters begin recalling Mother's Misadventures, she has a singular story to tell.

I have forgotten promises. Having accepted a task, I promptly stored the job someplace other than my memory, forcing someone else to scramble to get it done.

My memory losses of things, people and commitments have affected others in time, inconvenience and emotion. There is one important memory loss that affects me greatly, so I am grateful for thoughts written by Denise F. Ludwig, that too often, I use. "Be with me Lord, as I go down the path I have chosen. Guide me to do what is right and forgive me when I fail. Pick me up when I fall down. Heal my wounds when I get hurt. Lift my spirits when I am low, and remind me always how much you love me, especially when I forget that you do. Amen."

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
June 2024

Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



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

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

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