

St. John's

monthly

LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEWS for
INFORMATION



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

JUNE 2026



Dear Parishioners,

As it has been for several years, St. John's emphasis for June is Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets (MSHV). MSHV is our opportunity to lift 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. Their efforts in this regard are evident in that they are serving fewer households (over 500 in a 13 county area) than a couple of years ago. Vets must meet lifestyle and income requirements for some services. MSHV is aiming to establish three Hero Homes sites over the next 5 years, beginning in Wheaton - a 20-unit affordable housing community for veterans. 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 (made out to St. John's and marked MSHV) 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 - all sizes
- Hats & gloves, socks
- Men's white T-shirt sizes - all sizes
- Men's underwear - all sizes
- Women's underwear - all sizes

Household:

- Paper towels, toilet paper, kleenex
- Kitchen garbage bags (13 gal)

Kitchen:

- Microwaves, toasters, coffee maker
- Dish sets, silverware sets
- Pots & pans, crock pot
- All sizes ziplock bags
- Food storage containers
- Knife sets, towels, dish cloths
- Paper plates, napkins, plastic wrap

Bedding & Bathroom:

- Comforters - K & Q
- Sheet sets - king, queen, & full, pillows
- Bath rugs & towel sets, shower curtain
- Bath cleaners & toilet bowl brush

Cleaning supplies:

- Laundry & dishwasher pods, dryer sheets
- Disinfectant & cleaner sprays (Lysol)
- Bleach, disinfectant wipes

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Windex, dish soap,
SOS pads, scrub brush

Personal Care Items:

Body wash, shampoo
Hand soap, body wipes
Deodorant
Razors, toothbrush, toothpaste
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.



Birthdays

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



Anniversaries

Christopher & Jeannine Dingman	06/10 20
Mike & Connie Hamer	06/11 54
Glen & Cynthia Reuter	06/12 50
Homer & MaryAnn Hulon Sr	06/17 60
Evelyn & Jack Smith	06/18 71
Michael & Terry Hulon	06/21 23
Ron & Wendy Merkel	06/26 33
Neil & Doris Miller	06/29 63
Jerry & Toni Lundeen	06/30 53

Reading Buddies
for the 2025-2026
school year has come
to a close. It was a
fun morning for kids
and adults alike with
ice cream, hugs and
well wishes for the
new first graders!



St. John's Lutheran Church Council Minutes - May 3, 2026

Members present: Bob Fraley, Connie Hamer, Mike Hamer, Scott Horsch, Cindy Karp, Wayne Karp, Joanne Robinson, and Pastor Selena Blackwell.

(Please note: Due to Mother's Day, the council meeting was moved up a week.

Many committees had not met yet at the time and the Treasurer's report was abbreviated.)

- Wayne led devotions on Joy, one of the fruits of the spirit.
- Wayne called the meeting to order at 10:50.
- Consent agenda was tabled until next month.
- Treasurer's report: Scott mentioned that under the Illinois Secure Choice Plan our church must offer a retirement plan to our employees. It is a Roth IRA account and would be of no cost to the church other than payroll services may be increased. We currently have eight employees.
- Committee reports:
 - ◆ Fellowship and Hospitality: There will be fellowship on June 7th.
 - ◆ Outreach: None
 - ◆ Finance: None
 - ◆ Missions and Stewardship: None
 - ◆ MOG: Total \$582,101.64 Money Market \$102,876.24
 - ◆ Parish Ed: There will be a practice for confirmation
 - ◆ Property: The raised beds are in the process of being installed.
 - ◆ Worship: None
- Tech: None
- Pastor's report
- Pastor will be gone May 25th thru May 29th and July 20th thru July 27th.
- Glory Way concert is confirmed for October 25th at 6:00. The cost is \$300 with a free will offering. It is open to the community.
- Cindy, Wayne, and Pastor Selena will attend the Synod convention June 11th thru the 13th.
- Connie made the motion to adjourn, Cindy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:24. Respectfully submitted, Bob Fraley



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the date for Vacation Bible School!

July 20-23, 2026

**Registration forms can be picked up in
the Welcome Center.**

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES 5-6-26

Present: Lois Spizzirri, Julie Horsch, Toni Lundeen and Cindy Karp.

We began our meeting with prayer at 1:05pm.

Organists are almost all scheduled for June. Last year we did a favorite hymn pick from the congregation and we received ALOT. So for June we will be singing some of peoples' favorites.

Liturgy will stay the same until Lent.

Robin Raupp will be taking over the community dinners For Karol. There will only be 3 this year and St. John's Lutheran Church will host in October.

Saturday, 5-9-26 there will be a blessing for the new planter boxes for the Sharing Pantry at 8:30 am.

May 24th is Pentecost and we will also go back to summer service time at 9:00 am.

Pickle ball tournament will be on 5-30-26 starting at 9:00am at the park. Haven't heard any details for the Church picnic yet.

Back in 2022 we had a gospel band here at St John's called Glory Way. They recently reached out to us to see about coming here again. So the date was set for 10-25-26. We will invite the other churches and the community to come.

Pastor, Wayne and I will be attending Synod Assembly on June 11-12-13.

We closed our meeting with the Lord's Prayer.

In God's service, Cindy Karp



The next Community Feast will be held on Tuesday, June 23rd from 4:30-6:00pm at the United Church of Sandwich.

St. John's is responsible for providing 10 desserts that will serve 12-15 people each.

Please sign up in the Welcome Center

STEWARDSHIP/MISSION MINUTES 5-6-26

The May Stewardship meeting began at 9:48 a.m. with Karol Grandgeorge, Mike Hamer, and Connie Hamer present. The April minutes were approved.

LWR updates: On Saturday, May 2nd, 4 vehicles from St. John's took 44 boxes of LWR projects up to Bethlehem Lutheran in St. Charles. Bethlehem was hosting an ingathering. For future reference, we must remember to count the number of boxes and how many of each kit in each box. May's emphasis is LWR Baby Care Kits. Karol will put up a display. Karol and Cindy Karp went to Bugaboo Consignment at the Kendall County Fairgrounds. This group which meets twice a year sells children's merchandise from preemie to size 14 as well as maternity items. Karol and Cindy spent about \$200 on baby care kit supplies.

Michael's offering report for April: General Fund - \$34,813.40; Capital Fund - \$2346.11; Sharing Pantry - \$400; Good Samaritan - \$28; and Habitat for Humanity - \$100 (total - \$370).

Mark Lee reported that we do not need to sign up any drivers for June's Meals-on-Wheels.

June's emphases are the June 4th Blood Drive and Midwest Shelter for Homeless Vets (MSHV). Connie submitted the blood drive article and will write and submit one for MSHV. She will set up the display for MSHV. Mark will cover the blood drive from 2:00-4:00 p.m. and Connie from 4:00-6:00 p.m. We will try to sign up folks before and after some of the church services in May. Connie has not yet received the flyers for distribution to businesses and organizations.

Karol reported on the April 30th Community Fellowship Dinner meeting. Present were Karol, Marilyn Wouda (Salem), Shalley Wakeman (United Church of Sandwich) and Robin Raupp (St. John's). Karol gave all previous paperwork to Robin. Dinner dates are as follows:

Tuesday, June 23rd, 2026 UCS hosts (St. John's brings desserts)

Tuesday, October 27th, 2026 St. John's hosts

Tuesday, February 23rd, 2027 Salem hosts (St. John's brings casseroles)

Connie will ask church council about Time and Talent brochures.

There will NOT be a June Stewardship meeting. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, July 1st, 2026 at 8:45 a.m. We adjourned at 9:17 a.m. by praying The Lord's Prayer.

LWR Lutheran World Relief Work Days

May 12th

9:00 am to 3:00 pm Bring a Lunch

May 13th

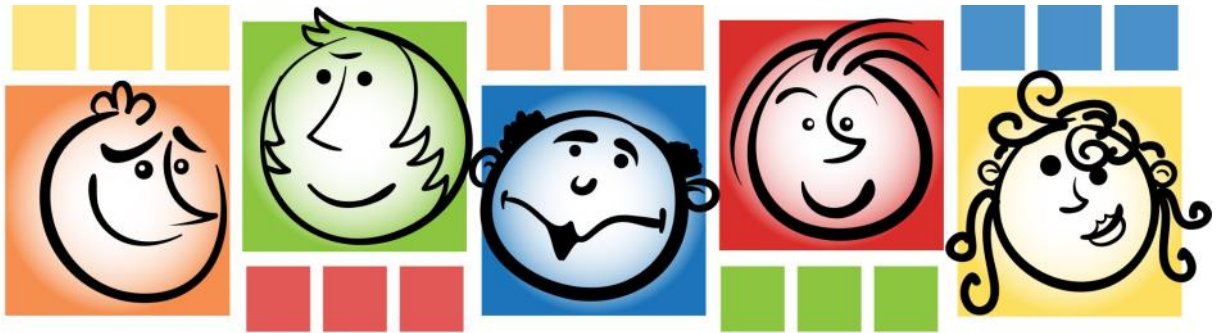
9:00am to 3:00 pm Bring a Lunch

We would like to thank everyone who has helped with the Baby Care Kits in any way. We were able to go to the Kendall County Fair Ground the first weekend in May for a Children's Clothing Consignment Sale and purchased many like new items at garage sale prices. It is truly amazing what people are getting rid of and some with the tags still on. You may contribute items for Baby Care Kits any time during the year. We make Kits every month!

The month of June will find us busy doing the usual jobs of putting large and baby quilts together, making Baby Care Kits, cutting out school back packs, taking apart sheets, and sorting donations. The "sewers" who have been working on the school backpacks at home during the year are making great progress. We will have some extra work days the end of July to string backpacks and get things ready for putting in the bags. This includes taking packaging off the scissors and erasers and banding pens and pencils together. There are always jobs for many workers, so please take a few moments to come and give us a hand. GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS!

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MEETING

Worship Committee

1:00pm Wednesday, June 3

Church Council

10:45am Sunday, June 14

Stewardship Committee

8:45am Wednesday, July 1

Altar Guild

6:30pm Tuesday, August 18

DONORS Needed in June



St. John's is once again sponsoring a blood drive on **Thursday, June 4th** from **2:00-6:00 p.m.**

1 bag = 3 saved lives

Be a hero and save 3 lives today!

Versiti no longer has the program which allowed for giving at an earlier date and crediting our drive. So, you must attend and donate on **June 4th**. Walk-ins are always welcome. IDs required. Appointments can be made by:

Calling 800-786-4483 (Versiti)

Calling 815-739-6207 (Connie Hamer)

E-mail: donate.il@versiti.org

Direct donor link:

https://donateblood.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/11641521

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p><i>June</i></p> <p>2026</p>	1	2	3 1:00pm Worship Mtg.	
	7 9:00am Worship	8	9 <i>LWR Workday</i> 9:00am-3pm	10 <i>LWR Workday</i> 9:00am-3pm
14 9:00am Worship 10:45am Church Council Meeting	15	16	17	
21 9:00am Worship	22	23 <i>Community Feast</i> <i>United Church of</i> <i>Sandwich</i> 4:30-6:00pm	24	
28 9:00am Worship	29	30		

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Blood Drive @ St. John's 2:00-6:00pm	5	6 5:00pm Worship
11	12 Kane County Cougars game 6:30pm	13 5:00pm Worship
18	19	20 5:00pm Worship
25	26	27 5:00pm Worship

The Parents Corner

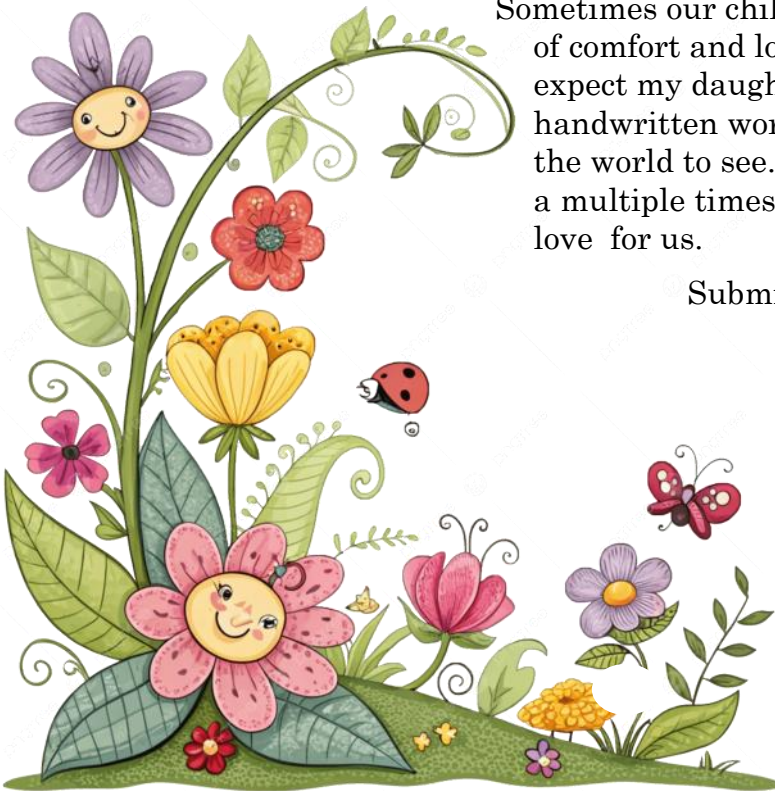
When my adult child had done everything she could to change a taxing situation without success, she despaired. Having experienced situations like that myself, I wrote her a little note which ended with “Let go and let God”.

God knows our bad times and will reassure us of His concern, care and love, if we let God.

After Noah and his family experienced the destruction of God’s wrath, their faith was shaken. In Genesis 8:21, God calmed them (and us) with His promise, “Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood, and never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.”

Sometimes our children do listen to our words of comfort and love. I, however, didn’t expect my daughter to have my handwritten words tattooed on her arm for the world to see. She told me she did so as a multiple times a day reminder of God’s love for us.

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

Mary Carlson
Mike Hamer
Connie Hamer
Cindy Karp
Joanne Robinson

Lutherdale Bible Camp Representatives-2026

Karol Grandgeorge, Nancy Miller

Synod Assembly Representatives-2026

Wayne & Cindy Karp

Cemetery Ministry Team

Bob Fraley, Glen Reuter, Doug Stahl

Endowment Ministry Team

Marion Gaffney, Dan Denault, Ward Hearn, Cara Killey, Wendy Merkel

Finance Ministry Team

Chuck Hoepe,
Bob Mueller, Joanne Robinson

Memorial and Other Gifts Fund Team

Kathy Anderson, Connie Hamer, Linda Johnson, Adam Killey
Jerry Lundeen, Nancy Miller, Anita Milligan

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:

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: Jerry Lundeen

Prayer Chain: Karol Grandgeorge

Parish Education

Confirmation

- a. Primary Instructor—Scott Horsch, Maury Killey
- b. St. John's Congregational Council

3N1: 7—12 gr. Youth Ministry:

Coordinators:

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: Bob Fraley

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:

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:

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

Stewardship /Missions Ministry:

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 2026

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God's work. Our hands.



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