

St. John's

monthly

LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEWS & INFORMATION



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

MAY 2025



A May Message from your Pastor,

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



On Mother's Day, May 11th two young people will affirm their faith in the Rite of Confirmation. Please keep Kherington Killey and Liam Wold in your prayers. 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.

Our Sunday School year is winding down as well as Thursday Morning and Sunday Morning Bible Studies. May 18th will be the last day of Sunday School and Adult Forum. Thursday Morning Bible Study will conclude on May 15th. Sunday School and both Bible Studies will resume mid-September. 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 thank you to our Sunday School helpers and substitute teachers. These dedicated people 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 25th, 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.

Continued on next page...



*“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

The Sunday School kids smashed it out of the park with their food drive. Over 660 cans were collected, which resulted in Pastor Chris and company dressing up for worship on Holy Hilarity Sunday!



Mr. Wayne - a Minion

Miss Nancy - Hello Kitty

Steve - Donald Duck

Pastor Chris - Minnie Mouse

Rebekah Circle

Date: Thursday, May 15

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: St. John's Fellowship Hall

Lesson: Pray Always

Session #2: Waiting with Patience and Hope

Leader: Karol Grandgeorge

Hostess: Cheryl Hearn

LWR Lutheran World Relief Work Days

May 20th

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

May 21st

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

Because May is the month of Mother's Day, we will be emphasizing Baby Care Kits. For a Baby Care Kit we need:

Lightweight cotton t-shirts Sizes 12 month to 24 month

Gowns or sleepers without feet Sizes 12 month to 24 month Can also use 2 -piece pajamas without feet

Light weight jacket or sweatshirt Size 12 month to 24 month

Stocking caps for infants

Socks Size 12 month to 24 month

Light weight Hand towel (dark color preferred)

1 ¼ yard of flannel (Will be made into blanket at church)

All items must be new or like new with no stains or rips. Any donations should be put in the hamper which is in the hallway by the kitchen. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please indicate that on your regular offering envelope or on a blue envelope.

Work days in May will be used for cutting school bags and getting the packs ready for people to sew at home. We will cut blocks for the Piece Maker packets which go home to be sewn into quilt tops. These tops are matched with a center and a back when they are returned, so ties can be made on them. The ties hold the layers together and then they are stitched around. After sewing, they are packed in boxes to go to Elgin and later transported to New Windsor, Maryland. We also put items together to make Baby Care Kits. There are many towels that need the paper tags removed so we can make more Personal Care Kits. There are always many jobs to be completed, so come spend some time with the LWR group!

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS!

St. John's Lutheran Church Council Minutes - April 13, 2025

Members Present : Mary Carlson, Connie Hamer, Scott Horsch, Cindy Karp, Wayne Karp, Joanne Robinson & Pastor Chris Schoon.

- Mary gave Devotion from Savannah Guthrie, Mostly What God Does.
- Wayne called meeting to order @ 10:53.
- Joanne made motion to accept consent agenda. Mary seconded. Motion Carried.
- Treasurers Report. Scott said we are still doing ok financially.
- Committee Reports:
 - ◇ Fellowship- Women's Luncheon May 3rd, Sunday Social June 22nd, Church Picnic Aug. 3rd at Somonauk Park.
 - ◇ Outreach- Ellie Kulton has volunteered to help. Jeanette continues to mail information to the home bound and outreach is contacting those on Prayer List checking to see how they are doing and asking if they want visits.
 - ◇ Communion visits continue.
 - ◇ Next step will be to reach out to congregation members who have not been attending church and ascertain their questions and concerns.
 - ◇ Finance-Will plan meeting soon. Also in need of another member for finance committee.
 - ◇ Mission/Stewardship- See Report
 - ◇ MOG- New contact at Resource Bank, Kathy Walsh. They will plan a meeting. New oil-filled Pascal candle has been received.
 - ◇ There have been no new requests From MOG.
 - ◇ Parish Ed- confirmation resumes April 23rd and April 30th. Confirmation will be May 11th with practice on May 7th.
 - ◇ Sunday School Can Drive to date, collected 657 cans for food pantry.
 - ◇ Property-Will have fellowship hall lights changed to LED. And have them check Welcome Center for cost.
 - ◇ Also will start getting bids for asphalt repair or sealcoating and striping.
 - ◇ Worship- See Report.
- Pastor's- See Report
- Cindy made Motion to Adjourn. Joanne seconded. Motion approved. Meeting Adjourned 11:30
- Closed with praying The Lord's Prayer
- With God's Help, Wayne Karp

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES 4-2-25

Present: Pastor Schoon, Lois Spizzirri, Cindy Karp and Julie Horsch.
We began our meeting with prayer at 1:00 pm.

4-13-25 is Palm Sunday. Julie is ordering the Palms.

9 people have signed up for Easter Lilies, we can still use maybe 3 more.

On Maundy Thursday, 4-17-25, we will be celebrating 1st communion with 5 of our children during service.

4-27-25 is Holy Hilarity, the Sunday school kids will be participating in the service with some jokes. Also, the challenge was made to collect 150 canned goods for the Sharing Pantry, WE HAVE SURPASSED THAT BY A LOT!!! So as a reward we will get to see some people dressing up. Nancy Miller will be Hello Kitty. Wayne Karp will be a Minion, the little yellow guys that talk funny. Pastor Schoon will be Minnie Mouse and Steve will be Donald Duck. As of right now we have collected 563 canned goods. What a fun way to help others! Thank you to all who donated!

On 5-11-25 we will celebrate Confirmation with Liam Wold and Kherington Killey.

The last day of Sunday School is 5-18-25.

On 5-25 Sunday Service will be 9:00am for the summer.

Vacation Bible school starts on 7-21-25 and goes through 7-24-25.

One last thing we talked about was the piano, where are we at on that situation? Brad Haas has a baby grand piano and Doris Miller has an older Yamaha piano which is not as big as our current one.

We closed our meeting at 1:25pm with the Lord's Prayer.

In God's Service, Cindy Karp

STEWARDSHIP/MISSION MINUTES 4-1-25

The April Stewardship meeting was called to order at 8:49 a.m. with Pastor Chris Schoon, Michael Hamer, Karol Grandgeorge, and Connie Hamer present. We prayed a prayer reminding us that all that we have is a gift from God and that we should be good stewards of those gifts.

The February minutes were approved as read.

Michael's offering report for March was as follows: General Fund - \$39,181.86; Capital Fund - \$4,265.32; Sunday School - \$631.58; Sharing Pantry - \$419.00; Habitat for Humanity - \$133.00; Good Samaritan - \$345; Community Feast - \$80 (ytd-\$330).

Emphases information: Karol did the Capital Fund article for April and will include Baby Care Kits (May emphasis) in her monthly LWR article. Connie did the Blood Drive article for the April and May newsletters and will write up the June emphasis for MSHV. The blood drive is scheduled for Thursday, June 5th from 2:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Connie received an e-mail from Zeke Trevino letting us know that Dr. Ranallo (our previous contact) is no longer with Versiti. We have not received further information such as schedule sheets, flyers, etc. currently.

Connie will contact Mark about Meals-on-Wheels which we do in June.

LWR updates: All are invited to hear Tim Krick speak on LWR projects on Monday, April 7th at 9:00 a.m. Connie will purchase some snacks and Karol will make coffee. Other churches have been invited. We will finish up the Personal Care Kit project in July.

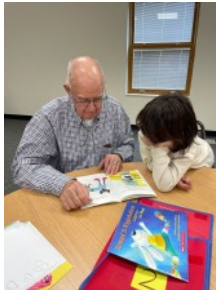
Karol will call Salem Lutheran to find out about the May Community Feast.

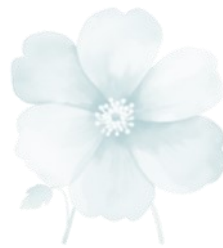
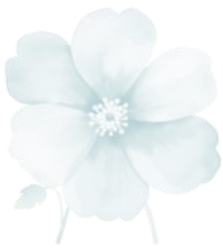
Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 7th at 8:45 a.m. We adjourned at 9:28 a.m. by praying The Lord's Prayer.

LAST **READING BUDDIES** OF THE YEAR

TUESDAY, MAY 27TH

**Join Us for a Special Ice Cream Treat!
Sign up in the Welcome Center to read with Wendy
Merkel's kindergarten class.**





CONGRATS *Graduates!*

We wish the best of luck to our St. John's high school graduates:

Taylor Johnson

and

Calleigh Rogers





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 5th, 2:30-7:00p.m.

We tried very hard last year to reach the goal of 15 units. After many phone calls and some very generous dedicated people, we **MADE IT!** Several people who couldn't donate on our drive date went to a Versiti site, donated, and had it credited to the St. John's drive.

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.

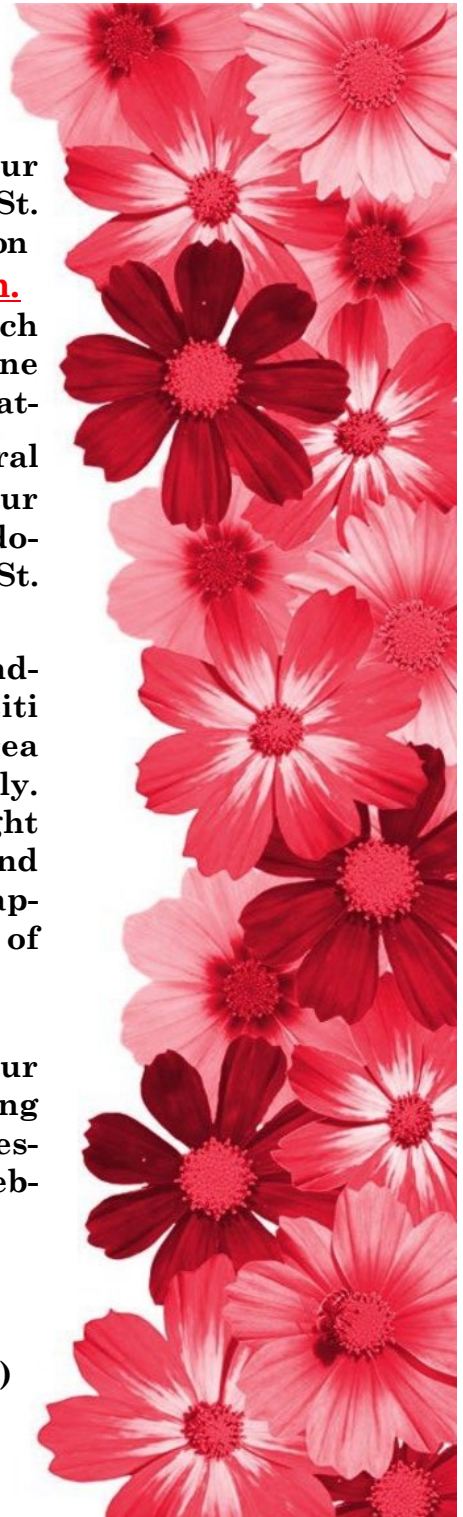
Appointments can be scheduled by:

Calling 800-786-4483 (Versiti)

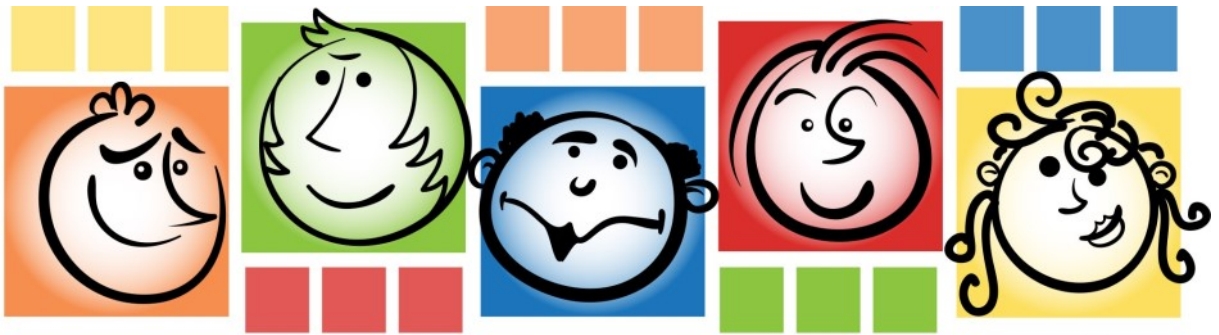
Calling 815-498-3667 (our church office)

E-mail: donate.il@versiti.org

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



EVERY DROP WILL HELP!



MEETING

Stewardship Committee

8:45am Wednesday, May 7



Property Committee

10am Wednesday, May 7



Worship Committee

1:00pm Wednesday, May 7



Fellowship & Hospitality

2:00pm Wednesday, May 7



Endowment Committee

6:30 pm Thursday, May 15



Rebekah Circle Meeting

1:00pm Thursday, May 15



Church Council

10:45am Sunday, May 18



Altar Guild

6:30pm Tuesday, May 20



Quarterly Congregational Meeting

10:45am Sunday, June 8



MOG Committee

6:30 pm Tuesday, July 1



Tom Harmon	05/01
Erik Wold	05/03
McKayla Eaton	05/06
Grant Shoener	05/12
Dayton Rogers	05/13
Nicholas Dingman	05/13
Linda Martin	05/14
Monda Denault	05/15

Nancy Miller	05/16
Mike Hamer	05/17
Bob Reis Sr.	05/17
Mary Burgin	05/18
Lynn Skrzypiec	05/18
Nancy Larson	05/19
Coleton Eade	05/20
Emma Reuter	05/23
Payton Christopher	05/24
Ava Lindstrom	05/25
Liam Wold	05/25
Diane Rogers	05/26
Andrew Hallman	05/26
Jackie Wendland	05/28
Richard Lumsden	05/28
John Guehler	05/31

Erik & Jessica Wold	05/06
Tyler & Julie Christopher	05/10
John & Angie Shoener	05/17
Maury & Cara Killey	05/29



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
May 2025				
4 8:30am Sunday School 8:30am Adult Forum 9:45am Worship	5	6	7 8:45am Stewardship & Missions Meeting 10:00am Property Mtg. 1:00pm Worship Mtg. 2:00pm Fellowship & Hospitality 6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's	8
11 8:30am Sunday School 8:30am Adult Forum 9:45 Worship w/ Confirmation	12	13	14 6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's	15
18 8:30am Sunday School 8:30am Adult Forum 9:45am Worship 10:45am Church Council Meeting	19	20 <i>LWR Workday</i> <i>9:30am-3pm</i> <i>7pm-9pm</i> 6:30pm Altar Guild Mtg.	21 <i>LWR Workday</i> <i>9am-3pm</i> 6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's	22
25 Worship time changes to 9:00am Worship	26	27 10:00am Reading Buddies 4:30-6:00PM COMMUNITY FEAST AT SALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH - SANDWICH	28 6:30pm Confirmation @ St. John's	29

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 9:00am Bible Study	2	3 12:00 Ladies Luncheon 5:00pm Worship
	8 9:00am Bible Study	9	10 5:00pm Worship
	15 9:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Rebekah Circle 6:30 pm Endowment Committee Meeting	16	17 5:00pm Worship
	22 9:00am Bible Study	23	24 5:00pm Worship
	29	30	31 5:00pm Worship



The Parents Corner

When my daughter and her family were living in a Mississippi city on the Gulf of Mexico, my husband and I went for a visit. While there, we went to dinner at an elegant restaurant beside the water while the sun was setting. We were dressed in our finest clothing. The two boys wore white shirts and small ties. Before and during our meal, their parents quietly explained what was happening and how to behave. They were very young gentlemen.

When I was in high school, our football team was undefeated for the public league championship. We were going to meet the best Catholic League Team for the city championship. Our principal, Mr. Seney, called an assembly to remind us how Fenger students were to behave whether we won or lost. No cat calls. No rioting. We were to rise above provocation. Our team played to a tie and lost by the toss of a coin. At that outcome, we went home quietly just as we did the next year when the same thing happened.

This preparation and aspiration was followed in the school our daughters attended, and in our family.

There are standards of behavior in life, especially for followers of Christ. Our guide and our encouragement come to us in the book of God, our Bible. Sometimes these standards may be difficult for us to follow. After all, we are called to love one another despite our differences and our faults.

God help 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

Connie Hamer

Cindy Karp

Joanne Robinson

Lutherdale Bible Camp Representatives-2025

Karol Grandgeorge, Nancy Miller

Synod Assembly Representatives-2025

Karol Grandgeorge & Steve Schoon

Cemetery Ministry Team

Bob Fraley, Glen Reuter, Doug Stahl

Endowment Ministry Team

Marion Gaffney, Mike Hamer, Ward Hearn, Wendy Merkel

Finance Ministry Team

Chuck Hoepe,

Bob Mueller, Joanne Robinson

Memorial and Other Gifts Fund Team

Kathy Anderson, Connie Hamer, Linda Johnson,

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: Stella Gardner

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

Prayer Chain: Karol Grandgeorge

Parish Education

Confirmation

- a. Primary Instructor—Pastor Chris & Scott Horsch, Maury Killey

- b. St. John's Congregational Council

3N1: 7—12 gr. Youth Ministry:

Coordinators: Jason & Kim Boczeko

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: 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 May 2025

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



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

Follow and like us on Facebook

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