



The Voice

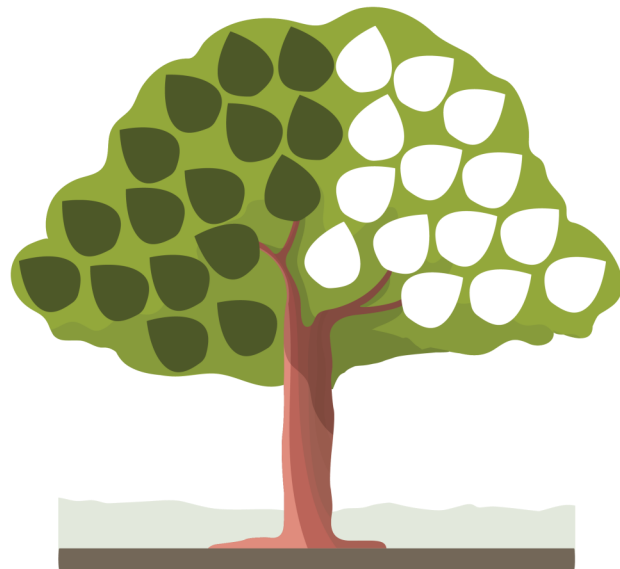
OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Inside this issue:

- 3 From Our Pastors
- 4 St. John's Forums in April
- 5 Lutheranism 101 Class
- 6 Coming This Summer! Camp Firelight! (VBS)
- 6 Important Dates for Children to Remember
- 7 Wednesday Night Programming for Youth
- 8 Courageous Conversations
- 9 Women of the ELCA's Cannon River Spring Conference
- 9 Mission Morning
- 10 Wednesday Night Meals Menu
- 10 Special Seminar "Finding Our Way"
- 11 New Art Exhibit During April
- 11 Annual Spring Church Yard Cleanup
- 12 Sacred Sites Tour
- 12 Habitat for Humanity Home Builds in Northfield
- 13 St. Olaf is Highlighted at Out'n About: Conversations with Minnesotans
- 15 Northfield Earth Day 2024



Sustaining Grace

On behalf of the capital campaign planning committee, we are pleased to announce the launch of the Sustaining Grace Campaign.

Last August our congregation voted to approve an exciting plan to restore our facility, reduce our carbon footprint, and extend benevolence into our community. In recent months, church leadership has transformed that general charge into a specific list of projects.

When the Sustaining Grace Campaign is completed, it will have a meaningful impact on our physical plant, our congregational life, and our community. We will renew our church building and our investments in renewable energy will improve our planet's health. Additionally, the benevolence component will directly enhance the lives of others in and around our community.

Each green leaf in the graphic above represents \$25,000 that has already been pledged or given towards the campaign goal of \$750,000.

Please join us as we renew St. John's and together prepare for the future!

WORSHIP SERVICES
8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

LIVESTREAM
8:30 a.m.

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

RADIO BROADCASTS
8:30 a.m. Sundays

KYMN Radio 1080AM/95.1FM
kymnradio.net

TV BROADCASTS
NTV Channel 187

7:30 p.m. Mon. / 7:00 p.m. Fri.
12:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. Tuesdays
2:00 p.m. Wednesdays

Join Us for Worship!

Worship Services

8:30 a.m. & 10:45 a.m., Sundays

Livestream

8:30 a.m. Sundays
www.StJohnsNorthfield.org



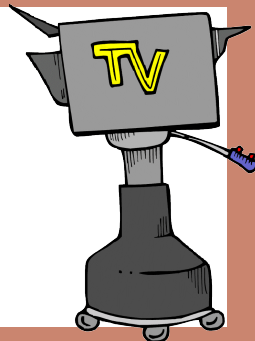
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2:00 p.m. Wednesdays
7:00 p.m. Fridays
NTV Channel 187



www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

WELCOME STATEMENT

St. John's Lutheran Church is a community grounded in the promise of God's grace and called to extend Christ's welcome to all people. Every day, Christ meets us all just as we are, extending love to people of every age, race or ethnicity, physical appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, marital or relationship status, economic circumstance, educational achievement, political affiliation, or religious background.

While we do not always agree, we choose to walk and grow in faith together, believing that God creates diversity, and loves and welcomes us.

We warmly welcome you here.

Blessing Box at St. John's

"Take something if in need; leave something when blessed."



The congregation of St. John's continues to support the "Blessing Box", a mission that started in the fall of 2017. It is similar to the Little Libraries found around town except the Blessing box is filled with donated non-perishable food and personal hygiene products. The idea is that anyone who may be struggling can use the goods to make ends meet. The community is welcome to donate to the box being mindful of Minnesota's temperature changes. Donation Ideas (please check expiration dates): canned goods, pasta, flour, sugar, coffee, crackers, soap, mittens, toothbrush, baby items, such as diapers and pacifiers. The box is located in the drive-up on the north side of St. John's.

From Our Pastors

My daughter and a college friend were comparing their high school experiences. They noted that her friend's high school (which shall remain nameless) had two words emblazoned in the building as their motto: "Excellence. Pride."

Northfield High, on the other hand, used PRIDE as an acronym; Excellence and pride were there, but alongside being Prepared, Respect, Integrity, and Dependability. Maybe it was a harder motto to remember, but it seemed to these women like a more well-rounded set of virtues to aim for than simply "excellence and pride."

When someone tells you they "have values," it doesn't tell you much. WHICH values we have, how we balance them, and how we intend to embody them, makes all the difference. And if values come into conflict with each other (say, pride in one's success vs. respect for those who have different abilities), only something deeper than a list of buzz words tells us what matters most. But how do values get embodied in our lives? And how do we live when the realities of the world seem to make any ethical choice a compromise?

This is why I'm so excited about our upcoming interfaith seminar, *Finding Our Way*, on Sunday, April 14. Anthony Bateza from St. Olaf and Jonathan Zasloff from UCLA will lead us in conversations about how our Jewish and Christian traditions shape our respective ethical traditions, and how those traditions help us think about "the Other" in our lives. Our guests both have extensive experience leading these conversations that tend to the *inside* of our traditions as well as the *public* impact of our ethical choices.

First, we will turn to our Scriptures – unique texts that shape each of our traditions' understanding of what a good life looks like. Then, in the afternoon, we will dive into virtue ethics; what does it mean to be formed and shaped by our values in such a way that we live lives that give life and light to the world? What are the ways that our faith traditions have not just thought about ethics, but formed people in virtue? (If this doesn't sound very Lutheran to you, rest assured, Dr. Bateza will help us with that).

Back in the spring of 2023, when we began planning this year's series of forums and book groups about reading Scripture with sensitivity to our Jewish neighbors, we couldn't have imagined how these topics would sound post-October 7. As the war in Gaza has continued on, interfaith relations in this country are more fraught than ever, but as a people called to be peacemakers, the Christian community has a particular duty to listen and respond. Christians in Palestine are a tiny minority, bearing witness to our faith and often caught in the middle of the violence between the Israeli state and Hamas. As siblings in faith to them, and citizens of a world on fire, we need to dwell in the roots of our faith and our values more than ever.

We invite you to join us to listen and learn, and invite others to join us in this dialogue.

From Our Pastors



Pastor Pam Fickenscher



Pastor Jonathan Davis

Prayer and Care Ministry

Prayer Chain:

Prayer requests are welcome for any concern or thanksgiving. Requests are kept confidential and not included in Sunday morning prayers unless specifically requested. Contact Mary Cisar with a prayer request or to become a prayer chain volunteer: macisar@gmail.com or 507-663-1097.

Grief Care Resource:

Care Notes are one of the grief support resources at St. John's. Stop by the Commons to pick one up for yourself or for a loved one.

Grief Booklets:

"Journeying through Grief" is a resource for those grieving the loss of loved ones. Contact one of the pastors if you would like a copy or if you would like to give a copy to a friend or family member.



The following St. John's members died in these months last year.

We list them so that we can remember these loved ones and their families in prayer "with reverence and affection."

April 8, 2023
Jennifer Bothun

St. John's Forums in April 9:45-10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

April 7

The Moon, the Sun, and the Son: Why Easter moves around and how we get the calendar we do.

Pastor Pam will offer a forum on the liturgical calendar and how it evolved. Ever wonder why some holy days change, and others don't? Join us for the fascinating, complicated story of our worship calendar.

April 14

Finding Our Way: Jews and Christians Thinking through Scripture

If you've ever left a Sunday forum wanting to learn more, mark your calendar and plan to attend this special event on Sunday, April 14. In the Sunday morning forum, Jonathan Zasloff and Anthony Bateza will



explore virtue ethics through the lens of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount and an early Jewish interpretation of the Torah called *Pirke Avot* (Sayings of the Fathers). What do these distinctive Christian and Jewish texts have in common? How do they differ? And what light does each shed on the moral life? After the 10:45 a.m. service, we'll



continue our exploration over lunch and an extended afternoon session. Jonathan Zasloff is professor of law at the UCLA School of Law, and Anthony Bateza is associate professor of religion and department chair of race, ethnic, gender, and sexuality studies at St. Olaf College. (See page 10)

April 21

Sustaining Grace: St. John's Capital Campaign Information Session

Last fall, the St. John's congregation voted to initiate a capital campaign to address a number of needs of the church with a focus on becoming more "green," achieving greater sustainability, lessening our impact on the environment, and heightening our benevolence beyond our church walls to our community and global neighbors. We invite all members and friends to join us for an information session to learn more about the Sustaining Grace Capital Campaign. We are already raising funds to support the three-year campaign and we invite you to an information session to learn more. **Please join us in St. John's Hall to learn more about this exciting initiative.** We are hoping to have as many people as are available to attend. You'll be glad you did!

April 28

Valley Grove Tapestries - Meet the Artist

During the month of April, you might have noticed the new art exhibit of four tapestries hanging in St. John's Hall created for Valley Grove Church in Nerstrand, MN. This morning we welcome the artist, Minneapolis weaver Robbie LaFleur, and Margit Johnson, a member of the Valley Grove Preservation Society. They will share about the process of creating these tapestries and then we will explore all the fun details and history included in each piece.

St. John's Forum in May 9:45-10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

May 5

Exploring the Bible with Interfaith Sensitivity: Jason Ripley - Is the New Testament Anti-Jewish? The Letters of Paul.

This session explores aspects of the broad question, "Is the New Testament anti-Jewish?" Special attention will be given to Paul's letter to the Romans, addressed to a mixed community of Gentile and Jewish followers of Jesus in the center of the Roman empire, facing challenges across religious, cultural, social, and political issues. We will explore how Paul engages the questions "Has God abandoned the Jewish people - and what might the implications be for Gentile followers? Can Jewish followers of Jesus still keep the Torah commandments? Must Gentiles? Does following Jesus entail rejecting Judaism?"

Jason Ripley is currently chair of the religion department at St. Olaf. A New Testament scholar specializing in the Gospel of John, he teaches courses on biblical interpretation and regularly leads students on study-abroad programs. His publications address topics of religious violence, gender, and reinterpretation of the Hebrew Bible in early Judaism. He has been attending St. John's Lutheran Church since 2020.

Lutheranism 101 Class April 28, 12:15 -1:45p.m., Fireside Room

Are you new to Lutheranism and wondering why we do somethings in a certain way or why we talk so much about grace? Maybe you have some language or phrase that feel like "insider Lutheran speak" and you're wondering what that all means. Or maybe you've been a Lutheran your whole life but still have some questions about how we read the bible or what it means to be a saint and a sinner (at the same time!). Pastors Pam and Jonathan would like to invite any and all people, who are curious about what it means to be a Lutheran, to their **Lutheranism 101** class on Sunday, April 28, after the second service. We will meet in the Fireside Room and spend time learning and asking questions together. All are welcome!

St. John's Stephen Ministers have been trained to walk with those who are facing a challenge in life, whether it be of mind, body, or spirit.

If you know of someone who could benefit from a Stephen Minister, call one of the pastors (507-645-4429) or Jo Franklin (720-281-5107).

Life and Growth

Deaths

February 19, 2024

Dalton Distad

March 14, 2024

Jane Gelle

March 18, 2024

Wendy Scholz



Radio Broadcasts in March

March 3, 2024

Given by George & Judy Pinc in memory of parents Joe & Cynthia Wang and George & Marion Pinc.

March 10, 2024

Given in memory of Ken Struss and Elmer & Cora Schultz by Marie Struss and family.

March 17, 2024

Given by Ruth Smestad Anglin and Ronnie Anglin in memory of their daughter Helene Anglin and Ruth's mother Eulalie Smestad and their March birthdays.

March 24, 2024

Given by Sharon Bishop in memory of her parents.

March 28, 2024

Given by a member of St. John's in gratitude for KYMN broadcasts.

March 29, 2024

Given by friends of St. John's.

March 31, 2024

Given by friends of St. John's.

If you would like to sponsor a broadcast (\$160), please contact the church office by phone at 507-645-4429 or email at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Children and Youth

Important Dates for Children to Remember

Sunday School Schedule

April 7, 14, 21 & 28
April 14: Toddler Time

Wednesday After School Schedule

April 3, 10, 17 & 24

Prayer Buddy Get-Together

Wednesday, April 3
5:35 p.m., Fireside Room



Toddler Time

Each month, children who are 2 years old (by 9/1/23) and our preschool Sunday school class, along with their parents, are invited to attend Toddler time.

Jenny Nystrom leads the children in song, games, crafts and story time. Toddler Time meets at 9:45 a.m. in Room 14.

Here is the schedule for the year:
April 14

Annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, March 30

St. John's Annual Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, March 30, starting at 9:30 a.m. at St. John's.

Families with kids 5th grade and younger are welcome to hunt. Invite friends and neighbors too!



Coming This Summer! Camp Firelight! (VBS)

When: June 10-13, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Who: Kids entering Kindergarten - Grade 3 (2024-2025 school year)

Where: St. John's Lutheran Church

Cost: \$15/Child, Max of \$30/Family

Watch for registration in April!

We are looking for volunteers to help with VBS! (Middle and High School Youth too!) If you are interested, please contact Julie Brehmer, Children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Mentor & Mentee Meetings

Working one-on-one with youth is a meaningful experience that we take seriously. The first Sunday of each month is designated as a Mentor/Mentee Sunday. If necessary, mentoring pairs can make arrangements that fit their schedule.

Service Project Events are also meant to put our faith into action and to enhance the Mentor/Mentee relationship. Opportunities for community events will be in the E-Voice, The Voice, and on the St. John's website.

Mentor/Mentee Sundays Coming Up: April 7 and May 5

Why do we do this?
**"To care for each other as we learn to
 live Christian lives together"**
Wednesday Night Programming
Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 p.m.

April

Middle School Confirmation

(Grades 6-8)

The middle school confirmation class continue to explore what it looks like to live and care for each other as we live Christian lives together. Additionally, in April we are planning an interfaith visit and will begin a four-week series on faith and money.

- April 3 6:15-7:30 p.m. Interfaith Dialogue - Learn about Eastern Orthodox Church
- April 10 5:00-9:00 p.m. Offsite visit to St. George Greek Orthodox Church in St. Paul (drivers needed)
- April 17 6:15-7:30 p.m., meet in Fellowship Hall for the first in a series on faith and money.
- April 24 6:15-7:30 p.m., meet in Fellowship Hall for a second in the series on faith and money.



High School Youth Group

(Grades 9-12)

The high school will return to meeting in the youth room to connect, check in, enjoy some snacks, and explore questions about God, faith, and our lives.

- April 3 & 10 Interfaith Dialogue - An offsite visit and a session to reflect on the experience. See above for details.
- April 17 & 24 6:15-7:30 p.m., Youth Room

Sunday Morning Youth Group
(Grades 6-12)
9:45-10:30 a.m., Youth Room

On Sunday mornings during the school year, all youth are invited to meet in the Youth Room at 9:45 a.m. for treats, highs and lows, and interactive faith discussion. Each week we get a little practice using our Bibles and practice telling our shared story as a community of God's children. Every week in April.

Children and Youth

**Thinking Ahead
 to Summer**

What else does summer hold in store for you and your family? Are there ways you would like to interact with the St. John's community during the less structured time of summer?

Are there service projects, outings, or get-togethers you would enjoy? Send along your ideas in [this quick form](#) or email Kristin.



**Northfield Week
 at Good Earth Village
 along with Bethel and
 St. Peter's Churches
 June 23-28**

Good Earth Village offers camps for grades 2-7 with 2 or 5 night options (depending on grade).

Use code NORTHFIELD24 for an additional \$100 off a full week or \$50 off a half week as a "campership" from St. John's.

Visit

<https://goodearthvillage.org/northfield>
 for details or contact Julie or Kristin with questions.

the WOMEN'S page



March Gatherings

Baby Boomers

Saturday, Apr. 6, 4:30-6:00pm
Sara Bright, host
St. John's Fireside Room

Women's Breakfast Group

Saturday, Apr. 13, 9:00am
St. John's Fireside Rm

Elizabeth Circle

Thursday, Apr. 4, 1:30pm
St. John's Library

Lydia & Paul Circle

Wednesday, Apr. 9, 9:30am
Coffee and Conversation
10:00 Bible Study
St John's Library

Mary Circle

Friday, Apr. 12, 1:00pm
St. John's Fireside Room

Wellspring

(for 30-50 somethings)

Monday Apr. 8, 6:30-8:00pm
St. John's Library

Knitters (Prayer Shawls)

2nd & 4th Thursday
10:00am St. John's Library

Knitters (World Vision)

1st & 3rd Wednesday, 10am
Kathy Vang's home
414 Waterwheel Dr. Dundas

Night Knitters!

1st & 3rd Wednesday
6:00pm, St. John's Library

Quilters & Bandage Rollers



COURAGEOUS

CONVERSATIONS

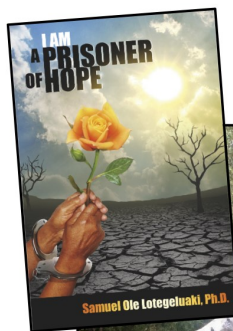
presents

Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy
Thurs., April 4, 2024 7:00pm
FROM TRAUMA TO TRIUMPH
Hope and Resilience - A Lakota
Perspective



KELLY SHERMAN-CONROY
NATIVE THEOLOGIAN

Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy, a prominent member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and trailblazer within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is the first Native woman to earn a Ph.D. in theology in the ELCA. Born in South Dakota, her Lakota roots deeply influence her unique theological perspective. A dedicated educator, she teaches on social justice and spirituality's role in societal change. Beyond academics, she actively advocates for marginalized groups and policy changes. Known for her compassion and humor, she



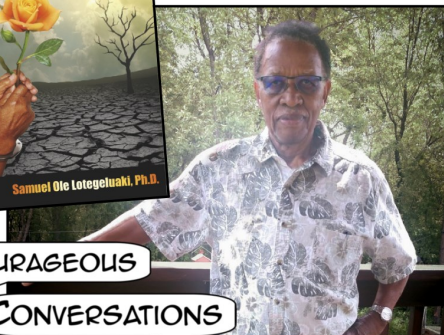
St. John's Samuel Lotegeluaki will speak on his new book "I Am A Prisoner Of Hope" for our May Courageous Conversations.

Thursday, May 2, 7:00pm

This book is written at a time when political divisiveness, polarization, extremism, hate crimes, xenophobia, and violence are increasing an alarming rate. The racial inequality and injustices that led to the Civil Rights Movement have not been fully remedied.

COURAGEOUS

CONVERSATIONS



Lotegeluaki will offer insight into the assumptions, attitudes, fears, and greed that have led to some of these current problems. Hope is seen as the driving force that sustains people through horrific circumstances and propels them to seek a better situation. We are thrill to host a member of our own congregation, on such a timely topic, completing our 2023-2024 "Courageous Conversations: Hope is a Muscle" program year.



Like us & Friend us on Facebook: "Women of St. Johns" @ Kvinner St. Johns (Kvinner: Norwegian for "Women" 🇳🇴)

Web pages:

www.stjohnsnorthfield.org/women

Contact:

women.stjohns500@gmail.com



WOMEN OF THE ELCA's CANNON RIVER SPRING CONFERENCE

May 11, 8:30 Registration, 9:00-Noon Conference and lunch

Join ELCA women from all over Southeastern Minnesota as St. John's hosts this year's annual conference.

We welcome Dr. Jacqueline Bussie as our keynote speaker. Bussie is an award-winning author, professor, theologian, public speaker, and student of life in all its messy beauty. She is a much sought after speaker and workshop facilitator. Her books *Love Without Limits* (2018) and *Outlaw Christian* (2016) have won national and international awards.

An active servant-leader in the ELCA, Jacqueline spent the last twenty years teaching religion to undergraduates at ELCA colleges and serving as the founding director of the Forum on Faith and Life For Concordia College. Every day Jacqueline is amazed and grateful that she gets to 1) write and tell her own story; 2) empower other people to write and tell theirs, and 3) accompany marvelous people like you on your journey of faith, hope and healing.

Register by May 1st, \$15 includes lunch. Registration forms are at the St. John's Women bulletin board.



Six women visited Global Health Ministries on March 5th to deliver quilts, rolled bandages, sheets and pillowcases. The women stayed to volunteer, sorting eight different types of bandages, and helping to prepare a shipment of medical supplies that will go to hospitals and clinics in Tanzania.

Global Health Ministries



Personal Care Kits and Hospice Kits

- Bandages (any brand like Band-Aid, medium size only): 300
- Petroleum jelly (4oz. jar or tube): 50
- Heavy duty disposable kitchen gloves (medium size): 50 pairs
- Bath soap, fragrance-free (4-5oz, like Dove Sensitive Skin): 50
- Bath soap, any brand (4oz): 92
- Bath towels, light weight, dark colors preferred, 40" to 52" long: 92
- Washcloths, dark colors preferred: 6
- Toothbrushes (individually wrapped): 25
- Pick-style combs: 45
- Wide-tooth combs (not pick style): 45
- Nail clippers (large size): 50
- Nail clippers (any size): 35

Baby Care Kits

(size 0-24 months)

- Bath soap, fragrance-free (4-5oz, like Dove Sensitive Skin)
- Hand towels, new, dark colored, light weight
- Cloth Diapers
- Pajamas/Sleepers without feet
- Sweaters, sweatshirt, or jacket with hood, or cap
- Socks
- Diaper pins

All donations are due by April 14

Above numbers indicate totals needed for 50 kits, donate any number of items, remainder will be purchased after April 14 deadline.

Donations of money are also welcome. Make check to WELCA, with Mission Morning in the memo line.

Supplies can be left in the baskets under the Women's bulletin board in the Commons.

Join us for a fun morning of coffee, treats, kit-packing, fellowship, new friends, and changing the world for the better.

One kit at a time.

News and Updates

St. John's Wednesday Night Meals

Let's get together for Dinner -
Come, share a meal!

All are welcome, it's a fantastic time for
fellowship for ALL ages!

Supper is served from 5:15-6:15 p.m.
in St. John's Hall.

Free will offering appreciated!

Wednesday, April 3
Mostaccioli

Wednesday, April 10
Totchos

Wednesday, April 17
Scalloped Potatoes with Ham

Wednesday, April 24
Enchilada Casserole

Wednesday, May 1
Chicken Pot Pie

Wednesday, May 8
Taco Boats



Special Seminar, Sunday April 14 "Finding Our Way: Jews and Christians Thinking Together about Ethics"

St. John's will be hosting a Jewish-Christian dialog on ethics as part of our year-long series on reading Scripture with interfaith sensitivity.

Dr. Anthony Bateza and Dr. Jonathan Zasloff will lead us in conversation starting with our Sunday morning adult forum, and continuing into the afternoon.

Session #1

Adult Forum, Sunday April 14, 9:45-10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

"Finding Our Way: Jews and Christians Thinking through Scripture"

Our guests will look together at two texts key to our traditions: the Sermon on the Mount, and the Pirkei Avot. How does our interpretation of these texts shape our everyday living?

Session #2

12:00-2:30 p.m., St. John's Hall

"Finding Our Way: Jews and Christians Thinking about Virtue"

Our presenters will lead us in dialog with each other. Lunch will be provided. PLEASE RSVP to the afternoon lunch and session by April 11. Lunch will be provided with a suggested donation of \$5.



Session #3:

Pub Theology, Monday April 15, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

"What Keeps us up at Night: Relating to 'the Other' in Jewish and Christian Ethics"

Join us for Q & A time with our presenters over a cold beverage.

Anthony Bateza is a specialist in Martin Luther, moral theology, and Christian ethics. Luther's political theology is his primary area of research, focusing on the reformer's understanding of human agency and the virtue tradition, and Augustinian thought. He is also personally and professionally invested in questions of race, identity, and social justice. He has written on Black liberation theology and connections between Lutheran teaching and confronting racism in the United States. Dr. Bateza is also an ordained pastor in the Lutheran Church (ELCA) and the chair of the ELCA's task force for a Social Statement on Faith and Public Life.

Jonathan Zasloff is Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law, where he teaches classes in Property, Land Use, and Talmud (although not at the same time). He received his Ph.D. in American History from Harvard and his J.D. from Yale Law School. He is also an ordained rabbi who writes on Jewish ethics, the prophetic tradition, and Talmud. He is currently working on a commentary on *Pirkei Avot*, the central rabbinic ethical text. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife, daughter, and two dogs.

New Art Exhibit During April

During April you are invited to view a new art exhibit in St. John's Hall of four tapestries created to celebrate the history of Valley Grove Church in Nerstrand, MN.



The tapestries were created in 2020 by Minneapolis weaver, Robbie LaFleur, using the historical Norwegian billedvev technique.

The designs focus on the plants and animals of the Valley Grove area, the church buildings, and the Lutheran church community of Norwegian immigrants.

The tapestries hang in the 1862 stone church from May through October each year.

Join us on Sunday, April 28, during the forum time for a chance to hear from the artist and learn about her weaving process.



Annual Spring Church Yard Cleanup Saturday, April 27 8:00 a.m.—Noon

The Property & Grounds Board requests your assistance. All are welcome to attend, as many hands make less work!



Please bring your own brooms, gloves, rakes, wheel barrows for spreading mulch, shovels, leaf blowers, tarps, leaf bags, clippers, and dandelion diggers. Garden trailers and/or trucks are needed.

Thank you!

News and Updates

Pub Theology in April

What is Pub Theology?

It is weekly conversation around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, current events, and culture. No fancy theological or biblical knowledge needed in order to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences.

We will meet on Monday,
April 29
from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

The topics vary and will be published ahead of time on Facebook, in the E-Voice, and an email list.

Contact Pastor Jonathan
(jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org)
to add your name to the email list.



News and Updates

Lenten Soup Suppers: Thank You!

It was a pleasure working with several members of our boards during our 5 weeks of Lenten Soup Suppers!

Thank you to all who helped in the kitchen either serving the soup or washing dishes, and to those who helped clean up in the dining hall at the end!

Thank you to Peggy Dell and Kristy Harms who volunteered to make 2 of the soups for our first soup supper!

A very special thank you to Martha Erickson who made 8 different delicious soups from scratch to be served during the remaining 4 weeks of Lent!

Thanks also to Chris Erickson and Doug Johnson who assisted in preparing the soups with lots of peeling and chopping!

Thank you to Dean Christensen of the Brick Oven Bakery for generously donating a large variety of wonderful bread!

Angie Gehring, Shared Ministry Coordinator



Sacred Sites Tour

As part of Healing Minnesota Stories' effort to create dialogue, understanding and healing between Native and non-Native peoples, Minnesota Council of Churches is offering a Sacred Site Tour of the Twin Cities area. These tours aim to create greater awareness and understanding of the Dakota people, the original people of this area.

The tours offer an opportunity to learn about Minnesota history from a native perspective through storytelling and experiencing the sites in silence/mediation/reflection.



Tour information:

- Date: Saturday, June 1, at 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Cost: \$30/person paid by Sunday, April 14. Make checks payable to St John's.
- Meet at the Church of St. Peter, 1405 Sibley Memorial Highway, St Paul. Carpooling is being arranged.
- Sites visited are around the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers.

Habitat for Humanity Home Builds in Northfield

Homes are being built for Partner families in Northfield this year. Partner families are selected by three main criteria: a need for housing, the ability to partner with Habitat in sweat equity (building with the volunteers on their own house or the house of another partner family), and the ability to pay an affordable mortgage when the build is complete.

Habitat for Humanity will be looking for helpers with these home builds this spring. "St. John's Habitat for Humanity Volunteer Day" will be Saturday, May 11.

If you'd like to check out the website to learn more, go to habitatricecounty.org/volunteer.



St. Olaf is Highlighted at April 22 Out'n About: Conversations with Minnesotans

The speakers for the April Out'n About will be St. Olaf President Susan Singer and the Director of the St. Olaf Choir Professor Anton Armstrong.

The morning will begin at 9:00 a.m. with registrations and coffee. The first speaker will be President Singer at 9:30 a.m. There will be a break beginning at 10:15 a.m. with Professor Armstrong's talk to begin at 10:45 a.m. A bag lunch prepared by the Hideaway Vault will be served at 11:30 a.m.

Out'n About is sponsored by St. John's Adult Ministry & Education Board and Northfield Retired Educators. The purpose of these events is to provide a learning experience as well as an opportunity to socialize with others.

Pre-register by Wednesday, April 17, by calling 507-301-9094 or emailing outnabout022@gmail.com. Please include name(s) and contact number. Cost for the morning is \$15 (cash or check only) payable day of event.

Reminder of Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements:

Wednesday by 2:00 p.m.

The Voice (May 2024 Edition):

April 15

Please send submissions electronically via email to Leah Garlie at office@StJohnsNorthfield.org or the [Announcement Request Form](#) found on our website.

News and Updates



Make a Difference, Save a Life.

St. John's has hosted several American Red Cross blood drives already during 2023.

Just one unit of blood has the potential to save 3 lives.

There is always an ongoing need, and we invite you to consider making a difference by donating blood.

Upcoming Blood Drive

Friday, April 26, 2024

12:00-5:00 p.m.

in St. John's Hall

You can sign up online at www.redcrossblood.org or by calling 1-800-733-2767.

News and Updates

Sunday Hospitality

Who doesn't enjoy having a treat while visiting with friends, fellow church members, and guests?

If you can share a dozen or so treats, or would like to help with the serving or clean-up on any particular Sunday, you can either sign-up in CCB (a direct sign-up link can be found in the weekly E-Voice) or contact Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

It's a fun way to help foster connections among people and provide a welcoming atmosphere!



Coffee Sales

Fair trade sales of coffee and more during will be on the following Sunday:
April 7

If you need items other times during the month please contact Dawn Tommerdahl at dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com or 701-238-5038.

Conference on Worship, Theology, and the Arts at St. Olaf College

The Lutheran Center for Faith, Values & Community and the Nourishing Vocation Projects at St. Olaf College would like to invite you to this year's Conference on Worship, Theology, and the Arts from Monday, July 29 through Wednesday, July 31, St. Olaf College.

This year the conference will combine signature CWTA musical experiences with innovative and imaginative work being done by both the Nourishing Vocation Project and Nourishing Vocation with Children, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Char Rachuy Cox.

What to expect:

- Inspiring worship ~ A pick-up choir under the direction of Dr. Anton Armstrong.
- Networking
- Music Reading Sessions
- Arts Encounters
- Daily plenaries
- Theology-in practice through child-attentive, arts-enriched, user-ready ministry ideas for you to take home and implement.
- Nourishing conversations

You can look forward to all this and so much more! St. Olaf College looks forward to welcoming all participants to The Hill and hopes you will mark your calendar for CWTA 2024. Registration can be found at our website, <https://wp.stolaf.edu/cwta/>, starting January 16.

Electronic Giving

Electronic giving is great way to support the on-going ministry of St. Johns, even when you are out of town or unable to worship in person. To sign up for electronic giving, contact Leah in the church office at (507) 645-4429, or by email: office@StJohnsNorthfield.org. "I give electronically" cards are available in the pew racks, so you can show your support during the Sunday morning offering.



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
500 Third Street West · Northfield MN 55057

I give electronically.
www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Contact the church office for details.
507.645.4429 / office@StJohnsNorthfield.org

St. John's
ELCA NORTHFIELD, MN



Northfield Earth Day 2024

Northfield will hold its 15th perennial Earth Day Celebration on Friday, April 26. and Saturday, April 27. This year, the theme for the Celebration is: "It's Up to Us", hoping to provide ideas and inspiration for all of us to take action.

The Celebration kicks-off the night before, Friday, April 26, with an evening Contra Dance at Armory Square in Northfield.

The next day, Saturday, April 27, at Armory Square, the Celebration continues. It starts with a great lineup of morning workshops from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and continues into the afternoon with the Earth-Friendly Action and Idea Fair exhibitors from 12:00-4:00 p.m. At the same time, from 12:00-4:00 p.m., outside Armory Square, along Division Street, we will have Farmer's Market Vendors, children's activities, music, food vendors, the Northfield Public Library Bookmobile, an electric vehicle (EV) display, and more.

Wrapping up the Northfield Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 27, 4:30 p.m. at the Armory will be our amazing speaker Pete Wycoff. He is the Assistant Commissioner in the Energy Division at the Minnesota Department of Commerce, and we are super excited for him to update us on the Federal Inflation Reduction Act and answer your questions.

Join us for this interactive, informative event where you can collaborate, connect, build awareness, and take action in the face of climate change to ensure sustainability, resilience, and a healthier planet for all.

Please check out our website for more information as the day unfolds at [Northfield Earth Day](#).

If you would like to sponsor this event, be an exhibitor or a market fair vendor, please contact us at northfieldearthday@gmail.com Thanks!

News and Updates

Senior Pastor

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Associate Pastor

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Director of Children's Ministry

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Early Childhood Specialist

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David Sims and Will Fecko - Directors of
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OFFICE HOURS

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. M-Th

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Fri

