



The

Voice

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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APRIL 2019

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Earth Day is April 22



Palm Sunday, April 14

Procession with Palms and Holy Communion
8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 18

Holy Communion
12 noon and 6:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 19

Liturgy of Good Friday
12 noon and 6:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 20

The Great Vigil of Easter
8:00 p.m.
Boe Chapel, St. Olaf College

Celebration of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday, April 21

8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.
Holy Communion at all Services
Easter Breakfast from 8:30-11:00 a.m.
9:30 a.m. service broadcast on KYMN 1080 AM / 95.1 FM

WORSHIP SERVICES
8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Sundays
FELLOWSHIP
9:30 a.m. Sundays

LIVE BROADCASTS
8:30-9:30 a.m. Sundays
KYMN Radio 1080AM/95.1FM
kymnradio.net

TV BROADCASTS
NTV Channel 180
7:30 p.m. Mondays
7:00 p.m. Fridays

Join Us for Worship!

Worship Services

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

Nursery Hours

8:15 a.m. - Noon Sundays

Learning and Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Sundays

All Ages from September - May

Live Broadcasts

8:30-9:30 a.m. Sundays

KYMN Radio 1080 AM / 95.1 FM

kymnradio.net

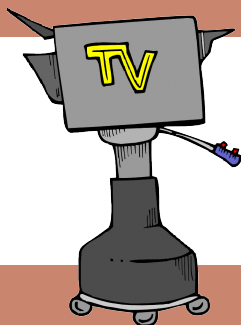


TV Broadcasts

7:30 p.m. Mondays

7:00 p.m. Fridays

NTV Channel 180



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...

Dear friends in Christ,

In the church April is *usually* the time when our preparation for Holy Week reaches its climax and we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. It is truly the *most* important moment in the liturgical year, the center of our faith - but because its dates move around, the rest of the world doesn't always help us keep it sacred. On the other hand, because the day moves around our, each year offers its own unique lens. This year I'm finding that lens in that Easter Sunday is April 21, and Easter Monday, April 22, is Earth Day.

As Lutherans, we hold the cross and resurrection at the center of our faith because it is in the cross that we confront our limits as human beings. When we remember that Jesus met none of the standards of success of his own day, we have to put our own striving and our own confidence in our abilities in perspective. Any time we imagine that we can "get to God" by our own efforts or righteousness, the cross brings us back to reality. Even our best spiritual efforts, those things we think we are doing "for God," are corrupted by our misguided attempts to go it alone.

April is also the time when our broader culture lifts up care of the earth. Earth Day celebrations range from frivolous to profound, but they are increasingly taking on urgency as we see that our changing climate is throwing many communities around the world into chaos. One recent study showed that many of the most politically turbulent places in our world have experienced violence in the wake of climate change, which makes water supply and food production less reliable. Earth Day more than any other reminds us that we are NOT in this alone, and that no "success" by our usual economic standards can be called success if it damages our common home.

When Earth Day meets Easter, we confront our limits again. We may *want* to do a better job caring for creation, but our own selfishness and attachment to our comforts can get in the way. We may *know* what concrete steps we can take to reuse and recycle, but we are caught up in an economy that is heavily invested in getting us to consume MORE, MORE, MORE.

Truly caring for future generations calls us to the disciplined pursuit of LESS - less consumption, less energy use, less growth for growth's sake. It is precisely in our less-ness, in our limits, that God meets us. Jesus joins us in our mortality and our weakness, and in being WITH us he turns all our efforts to be and do more on their heads.

My prayer for you this Earth Day is to see your own small part in making our planet habitable for the future, and in the disciplined pursuit of LESS, may you hear a call to new life full of Easter joy.

Pastor Pam

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 this month last year.

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

April 20, 2018
Nordis Christenson

What is Stephen Ministry?

St. John's has a long history with Stephen Ministry. If you are wondering what Stephen Ministry is, or how to get involved, here are some facts:

History

Stephen Ministry began in 1975 when the Rev. Kenneth C. Haugk, Ph.D., a pastor and clinical psychologist, trained nine members of his congregation in St. Louis to be Stephen Ministers. They assisted him in providing Christian care and support to people in the congregation and community who were experiencing life difficulties. These trained caregivers encouraged Dr. Haugk to offer Stephen Ministry to more congregations.

Over the next few years, Dr. Haugk traveled to other congregations and trained Stephen Ministers. This quickly proved to be inefficient, since he could visit only a limited number of congregations, and these congregations were then dependent on him to train additional caregivers. So in 1978 Stephen Ministries held the first Leader's Training Course and trained the first Stephen Leaders - representatives of various congregations who then returned home to train and supervise their own Stephen Ministers. Since then Stephen Ministries St. Louis has specialized in "training the trainers" through the Stephen Series ministry system.

The Name

The name Stephen comes from St. Stephen, who was the first layperson commissioned by the Apostles to provide caring ministry to those in need (Acts 6).

Stephen Ministry Statistics

- Over 12,000 congregations are enrolled in the Stephen Series. They represent 172 different Christian denominations and come from all 50 states, 10 Canadian provinces, and 27 countries.
- More than 70,000 pastors, church staff, and laypeople have trained as Stephen Leaders. These Stephen Leaders have trained more than 600,000 congregation members to be Stephen Ministers.

If you would like to learn more about being trained as a Stephen Minister or if you would like to meet with a Stephen Minister, please call one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

St. John's Forums in April

April 7:

Anti-Judaism, Anti-Semitism, and the Use of the Passion Story in Churches, with Michael Gottsegen (Sanctuary)

As Holy Week approaches, how do we read and use the central story of the suffering and death of Jesus, with care and compassion for our Jewish siblings in faith? Dr. Michael Gottsegen will speak on *Anti-Judaism, Anti-Semitism, and the Use of the Passion Story in Churches*. He is a professor of Jewish Studies in the Department of Religion at St. Olaf College.

April 14:

Congregations as Communities of Christian Care: St. John's Lutheran Church as a Model, with Rev. Dr. Rolf Jacobson (Sanctuary)

A number of years ago, Rolf Jacobson, son of Pastor Del and Katherine Jacobson, was diagnosed with cancer as a high school student. As his congregation, St. John's surrounded him and his family with much needed care and support, as he experienced two leg amputations, over 20 surgeries, and chemotherapy. Since then, Rolf has gone on to be a Lutheran pastor and an Old Testament Scholar at Luther Seminary. At this forum, Rolf will reflect on his time here at St. John's and how this congregation showed him what it looks like to be a caring Christian community.

April 21:

No Forum - Youth Breakfast in St. John's Hall

See page 10 for additional information.

April 28:

No Forum - Anniversary Event

See page 8 for additional information.



Prayer Buddy Get-Together

During this Lenten season, 17 of our 4th and 5th grade Catechism kids have an adult member from our congregation as their "Prayer Buddy". Prayer Buddies pray for their buddy during the Lenten season, from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday.

On Wednesday, April 24, our Prayer Buddy get-together is in the Fireside Room starting at 5:30 p.m. for Prayer Buddies and their child/family to share their experience. The Wednesday meal will be served in the Fireside Room.

Life and Growth

Births

March 8, 2019

Thomas Allen Ohland Toov
Son of Alysa and Mark Toov

Weddings

March 30, 2019

Logan Kochendorfer and Tyler Carpenter



Radio Broadcasts

March 3, 2019

Given in celebration of
Eulalie Smestad's 90th birthday
by Ruth Smestad Anglin and Ronnie Anglin.

March 10, 2019

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

March 17, 2019

Given in memory of
Elaine Kringen and Peggy Kringen Soden
by Duane Kringen.

March 24, 2019

Given in loving memory of
Sawyer Garlie
whose 7th birthday would have been today
and in celebration of his cousin
Rhett Garlie's birthday on March 23 and his
brother Brody Garlie's birthday on March 30.

March 31, 2019

Given by
Anthony Becker and Rebecca Judge.

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

9:45-10:30 a.m.

April 7	Sunday School
April 14	Sunday School
	Toddler Time
April 21	No Sunday School (Easter Sunday)
April 28	Sunday School

ROCK - Wednesday Afterschool Programming

April 3	ROCK
April 10	ROCK
April 17	ROCK
April 24	ROCK

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20, 9:30 a.m. at St. John's

Prayer Buddy Get Together

Wednesday, April 24
5:30 p.m., Fireside Room



Toddler Time

Each month, children who are 2 years old (by 9/1/18) 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
9:50 a.m. in Room 14 (lower level).

Here is the schedule for the remainder of the year: April 14 and May 5.

Please feel free to give Julie Brehmer a call if you have questions at 507-645-4429.

Summer Camp for Ages 3 – 5th Grades

Summer is just around the corner and with summer comes great outdoor experiences!

This year, kids are invited to participate in these Summer experiences:

- **June 10–13: VBS is at St. John's!**

Ages 3-Grade 2 (completed)

Blast off with the first VBS to land on the moon! *To Mars and Beyond* will help kids discover the wonders of God's universe. Registration forms are available in both the upper and lower Commons and online at www.StJohnsNorthfield.org. The cost is \$15 per child with a \$30 family limit. (Scholarships Available)



- **June 23–28: Good Earth Village Pathfinders**

Grades 3-5 (completed)

Campers blaze new trails in their faith as they explore what it means to follow Christ, meet new friends, serve others, and learn more about God's creation through hikes in the woods and spending time with their on-site naturalist. Campers stay in the Hilltop Cabins. For more information and registration go to www.goodearthvillage.org and click on Summer!

- **June 26-28: Settlers**

Grades 2-4 (completed)

Three exciting days and two fun nights make for the perfect camp experience for younger campers. Your child will make new friends and grow in faith through fun, action-packed days. This camp also introduces campers to elements of our week-long camp such as Cabin devotion time, Canteen, and campfire worship. Campers stay in Log Lodge. For more information and registration go to www.goodearthvillage.org and click on Summer!

We Need Many Volunteers for VBS "To Mars and Beyond!"

- Crew Leaders – lead a small group of children to various stations
- Station Leaders and Assistants – lead music, crafts, games, Bible storytelling, snacks
- Decorating and Prep – prior to VBS
- Help with Registration on Monday, June 10
- Nursery Care

Please contact Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429 or fill out the Volunteer page in the Registration packet if you are willing to help.

Volunteer Acolytes Needed for Easter Sunday, April 21

We ask youth grades 4th-8th who will be attending Easter worship at St. John's to please consider being an acolyte! Your service will be greatly appreciated, and it's fun to be a participant in this joyful celebration of Jesus' resurrection!

We need 2 acolytes for each worship service (8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.).

Please notify Angie Gehring at 507-645-4429 or youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you can help by being an Easter acolyte. Thank you!

Middle School Youth Group

All Middle School Youth (6th-8th grade) are invited to meet in the Youth Room at 9:45 a.m. on Sundays for treats, highs and lows, and interactive faith discussion! Discussions are lead by St. Olaf College student, Emerson Clay (our Interim Youth Support Staff).

We return from Spring break asking and discussing these questions:

- April 7: Did Jesus know he was God?
- April 14: If Jesus was God, why did he have to die?
- April 21: Easter Sunday! All youth grades 6-12 are invited to volunteer to help with the Easter Breakfast Fundraiser!
- April 28: Is Believing in Jesus the only way to get to heaven?

Confirmation for Grades 6-8

- April 3 and April 10: We continue with Lenten worship in the Sanctuary from 6:30-7:00 p.m., followed by meeting in small groups with group guides for a highs/lowes check-in and discussion time until 7:30 p.m.
- April 17: Holy Week (No Confirmation)
- April 24:
 - * Grade 6: Manna and Mercy book discussion, "The Risen People Share God's Dream"
 - * Grades 7 and 8: Confirmation resumes with Parent Night, which will include a field trip visit to a local funeral home.

High School Youth Group

- April 3 and April 10: We continue with Lenten worship in the Sanctuary from 6:30-7:00 p.m., followed by meeting in the Youth Room for a discussion and activity time until 7:30 p.m.
- April 17: Holy Week (No High School Youth Group)
- April 24: Free Night. Meet in the Youth Room from 6:15-7:30 p.m.

Children and Youth



9th grade Mentor and Mentee Meeting

**Sunday, April 7
9:45 - 10:30 a.m.**

Find each other between services
for faith discussion time.

Upcoming Middle School and High School Youth Event!

A visit to Trapped Puzzle Rooms in St. Paul!

What:

Enjoy the challenge of escaping either a Spy vs. Spy room, or a Harry Potter room! *The middle school and high school youth can decide to either be kept in separate age groups or mix together, which ever is decided by the majority that day.* Afterwards, you'll all go out for ice cream at nearby Nelson's, where the scoops are huge!

When:

Sunday, April 7

Time:

Meet at St. John's at 1 p.m. to carpool over!

Cost:

\$10, plus ice cream money

There is a limit of 14 spots, so RSVP right away by emailing Angie at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org or putting your name on the sign up sheet hanging outside the Youth Room!

St. John's 150th Anniversary



St. John's 150th Anniversary Celebration Events

We invite you to **mark your calendars** for these special anniversary events:

Sunday, April 28

(For more details,
please see the article on this page.)

Sunday, July 14

We will get outdoors together and celebrate with a family friendly social event.

October 26-28

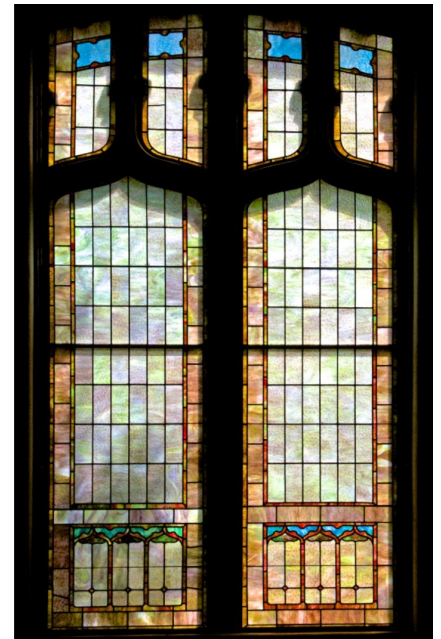
Our **Capstone Event** will include something for everyone... kids, neighbors, history buffs, and people who just love to get together, share food, and celebrate.

150th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, April 28

The next event celebrating St. John's 150th anniversary will be held on Sunday, April 28.

At the church services and during the Forum the contributions to St. John's by liturgical composers, artists, and architects will be highlighted. Through the past 150 years, these composers, artists, and architects have made significant contributions to St. John's, and in many cases the contributions extend far beyond St. John's.

The church service will feature music honoring some of the composers. Displays by the artists and architects will be in St. John's Hall, the Commons, the Fireside Room, and the Library. Between services, Nathan Proctor will speak about the liturgical composers and Judy Swanson will speak about liturgical art and architecture at St. John's. This is an opportunity to learn more about the rich history of St. John's and the arts.



Creative Arts Group

Join us for the next Creative Arts Group as part of the *Grace Overflowing* anniversary campaign at St. John's on Wednesday, April 10, from 5:45-6:30 p.m. in St. John's Library.

These monthly groups focus on building relationships through shared art and music experiences.

Please join us and support this effort to build community between church members and your LBSA neighbors. No previous art or music experience required for any of these sessions!

The next group will be an Art Night. Make art individually and contribute to a collaborative piece! Come willing to meet new people, try something new, and make art together.

Lenten Wednesdays Continue

The Gospel of Luke is known for its many stories of healing - so much so that tradition has held that the author was a physician. Healing and salvation are words with common roots, and while in our times we often separate the physical from the spiritual, the Bible usually makes no distinction. We are healed as whole persons - mind, body and spirit all held in God's grace.

As we celebrate 150 years at St. John's, we know that the arts have been a major part of the healing grace offered in this place. Music, visual art, and poetry have all been part of how salvation is celebrated and experienced by many in this congregation. Sometimes the arts celebrate what God has done, but just as often they are the vehicle through which God's healing hand is at work.

This year our Lenten series will invite five members of the congregation to reflect on the ways that the arts and healing have intersected in their faith lives. Whether reflecting on a favorite hymn or sharing a story of the process of creating art, they will give us glimpses of the mysterious ways God's grace comes to us as we create and as we are created anew in Christ's love.

- April 3: Melissa Berthelsen
- April 10: Nathan Knutson

April's Courageous Conversation Presentation: *"Immigration Law - What is and isn't Working?"*

Thursday, April 4, 2019 | 7:00 p.m. | St. John's Hall



Sylvie Bisangwa of the Immigration Law Center of Minnesota (ILCM) formerly worked for UNHCR (the UN Refugee Agency) in various capacities for six years, after graduating from law school at UW-Madison, and most recently as a consultant in the UNHCR West Africa regional hub in Senegal.

ILCM is a nonprofit agency with whom St. John's has partnered to provide free legal services. ILCM provides immigration legal assistance to low-income immigrants and refugees in Minnesota, working to educate Minnesota communities and professionals about immigration matters, advocating for state and federal policies which respect the universal human rights of immigrants.

News and Updates

St. John's Lenten Soup Suppers and 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
Chicken Tortilla
Creamy Tomato

Wednesday, April 10
Swedish Meatball
Baked Potato

Wednesday, April 17
No Meal - Holy Week

Wednesday, April 24
Pizza Burgers and Salad



News and Updates

Annual Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 20



The Annual St. John's Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, April 20 at 9:30 a.m. at St. John's.

This event invites children up to 5th grade, along with parents, to meet in the Commons at 9:30 a.m. for the egg hunt.

Make sure to bring a basket or bag for collecting eggs and feel free to bring friends!

Can you help?

We need individually wrapped candy and small items to fill the eggs and help hiding eggs the day of the hunt.

A donation basket will be in the upper and lower Commons starting March 20.

Thanks so much!

The Easter Breakfast Fundraiser is Easter Sunday, April 21!

Time: 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Cost: Suggested Donation - \$6 per individual, \$24 per family

Menu: Veggie, Meat & Gluten-Free Egg Bakes, Fruit, Muffins, Coffee, Milk, and Juice

Attention Families of Youth!

We need your help and food donations to make the Easter Breakfast Fundraiser a success! The money raised will go toward St. John's Youth Ministry and help reduce the cost of this summer's youth trips to Camp Amnicon and Camp Christikon.

We ask you to donate the following food items for this event based on your grade:

- **Grade 6** - 2 containers of strawberries
- **Grade 7** - two dozen muffins
- **Grade 8** - 2 containers of strawberries
- **Grade 9** - one dozen muffins and one gallon of milk
- **Grade 10** - one dozen muffins and one gallon of orange juice
- **Grade 11** - one dozen muffins and one gallon of orange juice
- **Grade 12** - fresh fruit (your choice of grapes, melon, or pineapple)

If you are signed up to go to one of these summer camps and will be in town for Easter, we strongly encourage you to volunteer your time with either breakfast preparation on Saturday morning, April 20, or working a 1-2 hour shift during the breakfast (serving food, busing tables, pouring beverages, etc.). Watch for breakfast volunteer shift times to sign up for, soon to come! It's fun, and you will be doing your part to help earn the profits that will benefit you and your peers!

Easter Garden Orders

If you would like to order a flowering plant in memory or honor of a loved one, the Chancel Guild will continue taking orders on Sundays, March 31 and April 7, between services. They will also be taking orders on Wednesday night, April 3, at the soup supper.

There will be an assortment to choose from with different price ranges.

Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church.

The flowers will be labeled with your name behind the bow and may be taken home after the last service Easter morning.



Northfield Community College Collaborative: Education Fellows Program

From Northfield Promise: March 1, 2019

Yamile Hernandez wants to help children grow and develop. With the help of the Northfield Community College Collaborative (NCCC) and its new Education Fellows program, she's on her way.

After she graduated from Northfield High School in 2018, the Education Fellows program helped Yamile secure a full-time position as a Minnesota Reading Corps tutor at Greenvale Park Elementary School. She works one-on-one with students in grades K-3 at the same school she attended.

"[Reading Corps] has taught me a lot of responsibility, because it's a Monday through Friday job," says Yamile. "I have to keep up with their scores and their charts, and I have meetings every month to talk about each student, and what we could do to help them grow."

After school, it's Yamile's turn to be the student. The Education Fellows program helps her with a laptop, books, materials, and tuition for Riverland Community College courses through the NCCC. She completed biology and French courses online this fall through Riverland, and took a sociology course in-person at the NCCC's downtown Division Street location. This semester, she's taking a full-time course load on top of Reading Corps.

Yamile also appreciates the educational support that she receives through the NCCC and the Education Fellows project.

"Personally, it's kind of hard to find my way through [the college system], because my parents don't know about how things run, because they weren't from here," Yamile explains. "So it's a good support to go to for them for any questions." NCCC staff are available to help Yamile figure out how to set up college visits, fill out applications, seek financial aid, and find tutors.

Her goal is to take the credits and wisdom she's built up this year and head to a four-year college next fall.

The Education Fellows program is striving to diversify the local education workforce by supporting postsecondary education for local students of color interested in careers in education. The program is made possible by a Pathways to Prosperity grant from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development and a multitude of local partnerships, including Northfield Public Schools, Minnesota Reading Corps, Riverland Community College, and Tackling Obstacles & Raising College Hopes (TORCH). Eight fellows earned a cumulative 54 college credits this fall (the program's first semester) with an average GPA of 3.14.

The NCCC receives financial assistance from the Minnesota Office of Higher Education, Women In Northfield Giving Support (WINGS), and St. John's Lutheran Church, as well as other local donors.

News and Updates

Can You Help with Holy Week Hospitality?

All Members of St. John's are invited to sign up to help during Holy Week!

This is what we need:

Maundy Thursday

Greeters for both the noon and 6:30 p.m. services, and help with evening service communion prep and clean up.

Good Friday

Greeters for both the noon and 6:30 p.m. services.

Easter Sunday

All positions are open and waiting to be filled!

These include greeting, communion prep and clean up, communion servers, and communion tray holders.

You can sign up for Holy Week hospitality by using any of the following ways:

[online thru CCB](#)

(selecting Groups, then Holy Week Hospitality, then Needs, and then clicking on the day, service time and job you'd like to do)

or

paper sign-ups in posted in the Commons

or

emailing Angie Gehring at sharedministry@StJohnsNorthfield.org

Thank you!

the WOMEN'S page

April Gatherings

Baby Boomers

Saturday, Apr 6, 4:30-6:00
Patsy Ophaug's home
6385 134th Street East

Breakfast Women's Group

Saturday, Apr. 13, 8:30a
St. John's Fireside Rm

Elizabeth Circle

Thursday, Apr. 11, 1:30p
Jo Kleber's home
616 Meldahl Lane

Lydia Circle

Wednesday, Apr. 10
Bible Study 10:00a
Lunch 11:30
St. John's Hall

Mary Circle

Friday, Apr. 12, 1:00p
Mary Holleque's home
1501 Waters Edge Circle

Ruth Circle

Thursday, Apr. 11, 9:30a
Parkview West Fireside Rm

Knitters (Prayer Shawls)

Thursday, Apr. 11 & 25
10:00a Room 19

Knitters (World Vision)

Tuesday, Apr. 9 & 23, 10am
Kathy Vang 645-4849

Quilters

Mon. Apr. 15 & Thu. Apr. 18
8:30a - noon, Fellowship Hall

SAVE THE DATES:

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS:

Thursday, April 4, 2019 7:00pm St. John's Hall

Sylvie Bisangwa, of the Immigration Law Center of Minnesota
"Immigration: What Is and Isn't Working"

(Open to the public)



Monday, April 8, 2019 8:45-3:00 Fireside Room

St. John's Women Executive Board Annual Workshop



COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS:

Friday, May 3, 2019 2:00pm St. John's Hall

Jenny Nystrom *"Me Too: Telling our Stories and Helping to Heal"*
(women only)



Saturday, April 27, 2019

Cannon River Conference Spring Event

First English Lutheran 204 2nd St. NW, Faribault

8:00-Noon Registration/coffee/displays

9:00 Sam Ouk, Diversity Coordinator Faribault Public Schools

"Understanding and Enaging our Immigrant Populations"

Cost: \$12 Lunch included

Registration: Contact Marilyn Calcutt by phone (507) 645-2814
or email at merilyn.calcutt@gmail.com



Thank you, St. John's!

In February you raised
\$1,409 and delivered 68
quilts to Lutheran
World Relief.



Visit our web page:

<https://stjohnsnorthfield.org/congregational-life/women/>



like us on Facebook: "Women of St. Johns"
friend us @ Kvinner St. Johns
(Kvinner: Norwegian for "Women" 🙄)

Correspondence: women.stjohns500@gmail.com
Publicity: Julie Zdenek



The Library at St. John's From the Adult Ministry & Education Board By Genevieve Quarberg

Our Library Committee must be living in the continual *hope* of a Minnesota March. We have, with the help of many people, changed the library into a welcoming, peaceful room where people can find books and magazines and comfortable chairs to relax in. It is also a perfect place for small groups to meet and for families with small, restive children to be during a church service. We *hope* to install a TV screen where those families can see and hear the worship service. We *hope* to buy a computer and digital program that would serve like the old card catalogues did in the past. Our book "give-away" netted only \$90, but some people have offered money gifts to help us realize the purchase of the computer and digital program.

Another hope is to be able to have art work by St. John's artists on display in the library. We do have a set-apart area for books written by St. John's members, some of which have been used a lot, so we will accept used books that are in good condition.

When you check out and read a book from our library, we *hope* you will jot down a memorable saying and give it to one of us. We would like to post memorable sayings in the library to share.

When April is here we will of course still be living in *hope*. As we go toward Easter, you may want to choose one of our display books - - - they are meant for you to read and ponder over. Give yourself a little time each day for hearing words from another person, perhaps words that will encourage the *hope* in you.

Courageous Conversations Book Discussions Continue Wednesdays in April

May's book is *White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide* by Carol Anderson. The book group will meet in the Fireside Room from 5:30-7:00 p.m. May 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, co-facilitated by Jo Franklin and Dawn Tommerdahl. Books are available at Content for a 10% discount when you mention the book group.



To sign-up, email dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com.

About *White Rage* from the publisher, Bloomsbury...
"From the Civil War to our combustible present, acclaimed historian Carol Anderson reframes our continuing conversation about race, chronicling the powerful forces opposed to black progress in America."

- National Book Critics Circle Award Winner
- New York Times Bestseller

News and Updates



Pub Theology Winter Schedule

What is Pub Theology?

It is conversation led by Pastor Pam and/or Pastor Jonathan 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 the following Mondays
from 6:00-7:30 p.m. (location TBD).

April 1

April 15

Feel free to invite family and friends, neighbors, and strangers.

Each week, the topic will be different and will be published ahead of time on Facebook, in the News Blast, and an email list.

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

News and Updates

Palestine/Israel

Learn the truth about the conflict between Palestine and Israel.

Bring your questions and articles for a discussion of the conflict.

This will be followed by a book discussion, but it is not necessary to have read the book. Please join us, all are welcome!

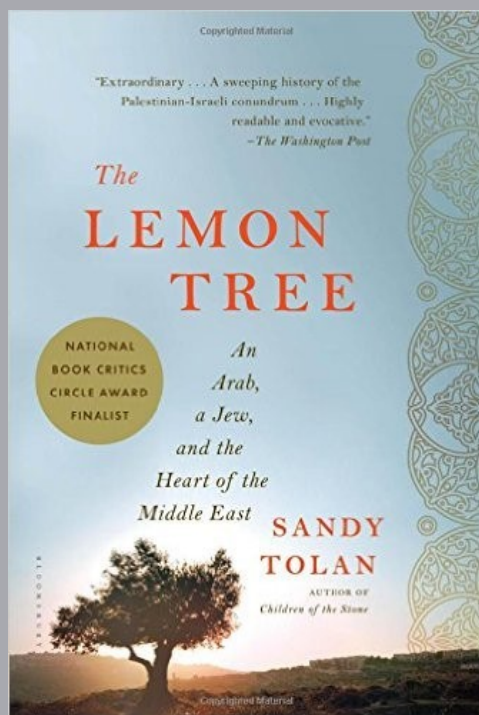
The Lemon Tree by Sandy Tolan

"In 1967, Bashir Khairi, a twenty-five-year-old Palestinian, journeyed to Israel with the goal of seeing the beloved stone house with the lemon tree behind it that he and his family had fled nineteen years earlier.

"Sandy Tolan brings the Israel-Palestinian conflict down to its most human level, demonstrating that even amid the bleakest political realities there exist stories of hope and transformation."

Tuesday, April 2, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room

For more information call:
Darlene Hand at 507-645-5078



Free Legal Help is Now Being Offered at the New Legal Clinic in Northfield

The clinic opened in December and will continue to open on the second Tuesday of each month. St. John's, in collaboration with the the Volunteer Lawyers Network (VLN), the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota (ILCM), the Church of St. Dominic, the United Methodist Church, and the Community Action Center, launched the clinic to help people in our community who are not able to afford legal help. Legal services are provided by staff and volunteer lawyers of the Volunteer Lawyers Network coordinated by attorney Colleen Beebe and the Immigrant Law Center Of Minnesota by attorney Sara Karki.

Free private legal consultations with a lawyer are offered to walk-ins on a first-come, first-served basis. Legal matters may include immigration, bankruptcy, family, housing, employment, and other civil law.

People needing legal advice are encouraged to visit the clinic at the Church of St. Dominic Youth Building, 122 Spring St. N, Northfield, on the second Tuesday of the month from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. Clients must meet income guidelines and live in the Cannon Valley region. As the news of this clinic is spread through word of mouth, church, and civic groups, it is hoped that the numbers will increase and people will find the legal help that they need. To quote Pastor Pam, "money should never keep us from justice."

St. John's is a vital partner in the clinic, having provided grant money to the Immigration Law Center of Minnesota through the Grace Overflowing Campaign. In addition, Kathy Schuurman is the hospitality coordinator, representing St. John's each month. As the volume of clients increases, volunteers will be needed to provide light snacks, plus hospitality to clients as they wait in the waiting room to meet with a lawyer.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Kathy Schuurman at 507-645-9617 or kathy.schuurman@gmail.com.

Fair Trade Sales in April

Fair Trade sales of coffee and more will be on Sunday, April 7, between services in the Commons.

If you would like to order something before May please contact Dawn Tommerdahl at dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com.

From Bread for the World

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's leaders to end hunger at home and abroad. God's grace in Jesus Christ



moves us to help our neighbors whether they live in the next house, the next state or the next continent. Bread also believes that it is the moral calling of all Christians to be politically engaged. Practicing faith-filled citizenship is our right under the U.S. Constitution.

Hunger is a profoundly political issue and one that should be a top concern of our government. We are serving God when we raise issues of hunger and poverty with our government.

Advocacy is hard work, and sometimes the victories do not come right away. But Bread has been doing this work for decades and has the expertise, experience, and track record for bringing hope and opportunity to people in the U.S. and abroad.

Bread lobbies Congress and the president on a wide range of issues that impact hungry people - including child nutrition, immigration reform, incarceration, and international development assistance. Over the years, Bread has touched the lives of hundreds of millions of hungry people. And we have seen that a series of advocacy victories can build momentum toward a change in national priorities.

Our first victory more than 40 years ago laid important groundwork that we've built on ever since. In 1975, the year after bread was founded, Congress passed the Right to Food Resolution. It declared that everyone has a right to food. It was the most sweeping statement on hunger Congress has ever made.

While Bread urges elected leaders to enable people in the U.S. and abroad to feed their families and move out of poverty, bringing about change for hungry people depends on the actions of people like you - citizens and residents who communicate with our elected representatives as we have done last month in the 2019 Offering of Letters.

Learn more about the founding of Bread for the World, led by Lutheran pastor Arthur Simon, and the impact Bread has had in the years since 1975 at bread.org/history-mission.

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WEBSITE

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OFFICE HOURS

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

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

Easter Sunday is April 21



Earth Day is April 22