



The

Voice

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MAY 2018



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Congrats Class of 2018!

On Sunday, May 6, during the 10:45 a.m. service, St. John's will recognize our graduating High School Seniors.

After worship, the seniors and their families, along with the students' confirmation mentors will share lunch in St. John's Hall (from the Quarterback Club).

As a special gift from St. John's, each senior receives their own beautiful quilt!

God's blessings on your future plans!

Congratulations to the following seniors from St. John's:

Emily Canedy, Anne France, Dylan Gehring,
Jacob Gonnerman, Viveka Hall-Holt, Caroline Hummel,
Jada Johnson, Matthew Knutson, Cole Little,
Ryan Malecha, Sam Motzko, Courtney Nelson,
Kenyon Nystrom, Jaime Rice, Griffin Rod

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 187
7:30 p.m. Mondays
7:00 p.m. Fridays

Join Us for Worship!

Worship Services

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

8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Sundays beginning May 27

Nursery Hours

8:15 a.m. - Noon Sundays

Learning and Fellowship

9:45-10:30 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

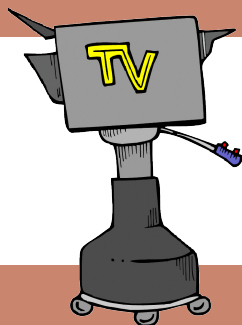


TV Broadcasts

7:30 p.m. Mondays

7:00 p.m. Fridays

NTV Channel 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."



St. John's Sunday school children are supporting a new mission at St. John's this year: "Blessing Box". 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 walking by 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: canned goods, pasta, flour, sugar, coffee, crackers, soap, mittens, toothbrush, baby items, such as diapers, pacifiers. The box is located in the drive-up on the north side of St. John's.

Dear Friends in Christ:

This month on Pentecost, we will be giving thanks for all the gifts of the Spirit - the many ways we share in ministry together, visible and invisible.

Our Stewardship Board wanted to lift up the many ways people give of their time and talents, but we quickly realized that there was no way we could generate a comprehensive list that could truthfully encompass all the different roles we take in community. Some “volunteer jobs” are well-defined, while others, no less important, are less about particular times and places and more about the outpouring of a person’s spiritual gifts into community.

We also want to make clear that giving of time and talent, like giving of treasure, are acts of generosity that are the natural overflow of faith.

After 20 years of working in the church full-time, I’ve learned a few things about generosity:

Generosity of time and generosity of treasure are often interlinked.

It’s almost never an either/or proposition, because both are part of how we give our whole lives back to God. While what we have available to us in treasure or ability may vary over a lifetime, generosity tends to flow from one part of our lives to another.

Generosity has nothing to do with income or with how “busy” you are.

Some of the most limited income people give sacrificially year after year. Some of the busiest people are the most reliable volunteers. It seems that God always provides what we need in gifts of both treasure and time to accomplish important mission. When we answer God’s call, there will be enough.

Generosity does have something to do with trust. Generally speaking, people give when they care deeply about a place and when they are engaged enough to trust that their gifts will be used wisely. That’s why it’s so important for a congregation to be a good steward of gifts, being both efficient in the use of money, careful about honoring the use of time, and extremely compassionate in how it treats people.

Generosity grows when we take risks. Someone who has not had a habit of giving rarely decides to become generous when their income goes up. Usually it’s more the other way around – someone learns that giving sacrificially feels good, and once they know that feeling, they want to continue it even when their circumstances change, whether for better or for worse. The same is true for gifts of time – the most exhilarating gifts of talent are the ones when we try out something new or grow our skills.

Over the past months many of you have stepped out in boldness in your generosity – giving extra to our Grace Overflowing Campaign, or stepping up to a new volunteer role, or simply extending your own relationship circle a little outside your comfort zone. THANK YOU!

The waters of our baptism call us over and over again to trust that God’s grace will overflow. As we celebrate the gifts of the Spirit, let us continue to trust that these waters do not run dry.

Pastor Pam Fickenscher

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."

May 10, 2017
Thelma Nitz Lee

May 10, 2017
Basil Mroz

May 25, 2017
Warren Wold

Stephen Ministry: Our Labyrinth - A Peaceful Path

The 10th Annual World Labyrinth Day is May 5. Through history, labyrinths have served as a substitute for making pilgrimages to holy sites like Jerusalem or Rome.

Embedded in the tile floor pattern in the Commons is a labyrinth. If you enter the labyrinth and follow the path, it will lead to the center and then back out again. Basically, it's walking a meditative path that is laid out before you. You just walk and follow the path that allows you to quiet your mind.

When you enter the labyrinth, consider your intentions for walking with a question, statement, or image. Focus and quiet your mind. Here are some questions to ponder when walking the labyrinth:

- What do I need from this walk?
- What questions am I carrying in my heart?
- Am I perceiving reality truthfully?
- Is there something that does not fit in my path?
- Do I have a decision to make?
- What is my next step?
- Is it a good step for me?

As you walk, you are looking inward and outward trying to be in relationship and harmony with yourself, others, and God. The path is walked slowly and contemplatively as a spiritual exercise of bringing mind, body, heart, and soul into harmony with God.

If you or someone you know, could benefit from sharing what's on your mind, contact a pastor (507-645-4429) or Joan Halvorson (507-645-8445) and request a Stephen Minister.

From the Faith & Health Board: American Red Cross Blood Drive

On Wednesday, June 6, from 8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., the American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at St. John's. Here are a few reasons why you should consider donating blood:

- Every day in the U.S., roughly 41,000 blood donations are needed. That means nearly every two seconds someone needs blood.
- Blood products are essential for the treatment of accident victims, surgical and sickle cell disease patients, those receiving cancer treatments, premature babies, and others.
- Every donation may help save up to three lives.
- Patients are counting on us to donate blood.



**GIVE
BLOOD**
SAVE A LIFE

Appointment times will be scheduled mid-May. For more information or to schedule an appointment contact Jennifer Edwins at 507-645-9653.

Learning and Fellowship in May

May 6:

Youth Ministry in the 21st Century: Youth Transition Team Update

Since February, and in light of staff turnover, a small group of adult leaders (Youth Transition Team) have been meeting to discern what we want for our youth here at St. John's. This is a big question and a big task. They will present on what they have been learning and some suggestions to consider for next steps in this process of discernment. Please join us for this important conversation!

May 13:

Intergenerational Event: Personal Care Kits

May 20:

Stewardship Celebration of Time and Talents

PERSONAL CARE KITS INTERGENERATIONAL EVENT
Sunday, May 13, 9:45-10:30

ITEMS NEEDED:



Dark Bath Towels



Clippers



ITEMS NEEDED:



Wide Tooth Combs



4-5 OZ Bath Soap Bars

Deposit in "Personal Care Kit" box by St. John's Women bulletin board, or in the baskets in the Commons.



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



St. John's
Women
of ELCA

Blessing and Sending of Rebekah Thomas – May 20



Rebekah Thomas, a senior St. Olaf Student, has been one of our Youth Ministry Support Staff this past year, helping with our Wednesday and Sunday programming. She has been such a gift to us with her bright spirit, caring heart, and leadership in youth ministry. Rebekah is graduating from St. Olaf this month and, in June, she will be leading our Middle School Mission Trip to Milwaukee, WI. Following her time

here and at St. Olaf, Rebekah will start seminary in the fall, while working as a youth director in Montana.

On Sunday, May 20, during worship, we will say thank you to Rebekah for her ministry here and will surround her with our prayers and blessings for her bright future. Please join us to give thanks for Rebekah!

Life and Growth

Deaths

April 20, 2018
Nordis Christenson



Radio Broadcasts

April 1, 2018

Given by Sharon Bishop
in memory of her parents.

April 8, 2018

Given in loving memory of
Don McRae
by Marilyn McRae Raadt and family.

April 15, 2018

Given by
George and Judy Pinc
in honor of their 55th wedding anniversary
on April 30.

April 22, 2018

Given in celebration of
Joe Shaw's birthday
by his daughters.

April 29, 2018

Given in memory of
Roger and Lee Mahachek
by Beverly Mahachek.

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.

May 6 Sunday School
(Parents Invited Too)

May 13 Sunday School
(Intergenerational Event)

ROCK - Wednesday Afterschool Programming

May 2

May 9

May 16 YMCA End of Year Celebration

Summer Activities

June 11-14 VBS

June 24-29 Shores of St. Andrews Bible Camp



Summer Nursery Schedule

Starting on Sunday, May 27, the Nursery will be providing childcare only at the 10:00 a.m. worship service during the summer months. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in the Nursery, feel free to contact Julie Brehmer.



Andy's Gang, Shores of St. Andrews Bible Camp, June 24-29

Kids in 2nd - 5th grades! We'd love to have you join us at Shores of St. Andrew Bible Camp this summer in New London, MN. Feel free to invite a friend!

St. John's will be attending the week of **June 24-29**.

To find out more info about camp or to register online, go to <http://www.gllm.org/>. Everyone receives money from St. John's towards their registration fee, so please pay only the deposit of \$125.

If you are in need of a scholarship, please feel free to talk with Julie Brehmer. We want everyone have the opportunity to attend.

YMCA End of Year Celebration for K-5th Grades

All St. John's children in grades kindergarten - 5th are invited to the Northfield YMCA on Wednesday, May 16, for our end of year celebration!

We'll be boarding our Wednesday after school bus to take to the "Y". Even if you did not ride our bus during the school year, you are welcome to hop on board.

Here's the plan:

- 3:45 p.m.: Bus leaving St. John's for the Y - meet the bus on the east side of the building by the playground.
- 4:00 p.m.: Snack at the Y
- 4:15-5:15 p.m.: Kids can play either in the gym or in the pool. Kindergarteners need an adult with them in the pool.
- 5:15 p.m.: Parent pick up at the YMCA

A YMCA permission form is needed for each child to participate. They will be available in the lower commons. Parents - If you can help chaperone, please email Julie at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Third Grade CAT Retreat

Third graders, along with their parent(s), are invited to attend our last Catechism retreat of the year on Wednesday, May 2, from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Undercroft. Our topic is the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

At the retreat our third graders, along with their parents, will be making Communion bread to share with the congregation at the May 6 worship services.

Please RSVP to Julie Brehmer at 507-645-4429 or children@StJohnsNorthfield.org or if you are unable to attend.



VBS is Coming June 11-14 For Age 3 (by 9/1/18) – 2nd Grade (completed) 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Experience the ride of a lifetime with God!

Experience the ride of a lifetime with God!

Along the river, children discover that life with God is an adventure full of wonder and surprise, and that they can trust God to be with them through anything.

St. John's, Bethel, Emmaus and St. Peter's Churches come together to provide this fun-filled summer camp experience.

This year's VBS is at Emmaus Church.

The cost is \$15.00 per child with a \$30.00 family limit.
(Scholarships available)

Registration forms will be available in the lower and upper Commons and online at St. John's website, www.StJohnsNorthfield.org.

We need many volunteers for Rolling River Rampage!

- Small Group Helpers - 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 11
- Nursery Care

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

Children and Youth

High School Youth Group Event

When:
Friday, May 18

What:
Latino (and Friends!) Play Performance

Where:
NAG Theater
411 3rd St. W (one block from St. John's)

Time and Meeting Place:
Meet in the St. John's parking lot
at 6:30 p.m.
We will walk to the theater together
and get our tickets at the door.

We'll watch the
performance (7:00-9:00 p.m.)
and then walk to another nearby
location (*still to be determined*)
to enjoy a treat and engage in a
discussion led by Pastor Jonathan.

More details to come!



News and Updates

Grace Overflowing The Work Begins!

Two of our anniversary capital projects begin and will cause some disruption to the Sanctuary for the week of April 30.

Work on the Good Shepherd window will begin on the afternoon of Monday, April 30.

In addition, our new HVAC unit installation will begin, which requires shutting down heat in the Sanctuary for a week.

If you run cold, consider dressing warmly for worship on May 6.

THANK YOU for your generous gifts that are allowing this important restoration and updating of our facility to begin.



Laura Baker Services and St. John's Creative Arts Group

"Campfire Sing-Along"
Bring your favorite songs to sing!

Wednesday, May 16th
6:00-6:45 p.m.
St. John's Library

All ages invited!
Come make friends and a joyful noise!

What is Happening with Youth Ministry at St. John's in 2018-2019?

In the February Newsletter, we shared that a small group of adults would be gathering to talk about what we want the future of youth ministry to look like at St. John's. We are calling this group the Youth Transition Team. The work of this group has proven to be a much bigger conversation than anticipated, as there is much to learn and think about regarding current trends and best practices for youth ministry in the 21st Century.

This group has been meeting with Karen Gieseke, from Luther Seminary, who has taught us about the original purpose of things like Sunday school and youth groups when they started developing in the late 19th and early 20th Century. This has led us into big questions like – *what is the purpose of youth ministry here at St. John's in this time and place? What do we want our youth to experience during their time here?*

These are important questions and conversations that we want to have with parents, youth, and other adults. The Youth Transition Team will lead an adult forum on May 6 to share about our process of learning and some of our suggestions going forward. Your participation in this conversation is critical to the future of youth ministry at St. John's. Please plan to attend.

Following discussions with the St. John's Executive Committee and the Church Council, we have decided to continue with our current interim staffing structure for 2018-2019. We feel strongly that discerning a faithful future for youth ministry at St. John's warrants additional time.

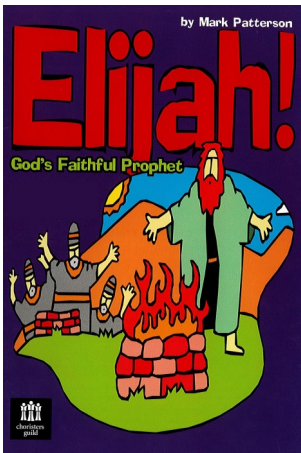
Angie Gehring will be staying on as Youth Ministry Support Staff, and we will be looking for another Youth Ministry Support Staff person to help out with Wednesday and Sunday programming. Our current staff person, Rebekah Thomas, graduates in May and begins seminary and a youth directorship in Montana this fall.

Stay tuned for further updates and do not hesitate to direct questions to Pastor Jonathan at 507-645-4429 or jdavis@StJohnsNorthfield.org.



Jubilate Choir Presents the Musical, Elijah!

The Jubilate Choir will be presenting a musical on Wednesday, May 9, in St. John's Hall. It will follow the Wednesday Night Meal, beginning about 6:00 pm.



The musical is based on the story of God's faithful prophet, Elijah. The events of the story are taken from the Old Testament, 1st Kings, chapters 17 and 18. It tells about Elijah confronting King Ahab, who is leading the people away from the true God, Jehovah. The story continues as Elijah goes into hiding and is given bread to eat by a poor widow whose oil and flour are almost gone. Later, we hear about the showdown between the prophets of Baal and the prophets of Jehovah. It is a dramatic story about a faithful prophet and a faithful God. Come and

hear this story as it is sung by our talented third, fourth and fifth grade singers.

St. John's Welcomes Global Visitors Wednesday, May 2

On Wednesday evening during our regular Wednesday programming, St. John's will welcome Bishop Alex Mkumbo of the central diocese of Tanzania, and Bishop Atahualpa and Pastor Angelica from Colombia. All three are in Minnesota for the Southeastern Minnesota Synod's Assembly on May 4 & 5.

We will formally welcome them during the Wednesday Night Meal at 5:45 p.m. Bishop Alex will also be preaching at daily chapel at St. Olaf at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 3.

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, May 2
Sloppy Joes

Wednesday, May 9
Chicken Dinner

Last Meal of the Year
Wednesday, May 16
Tater Tot Hotdish

*Wednesday Night Meals
will take a break during the summer
and resume on Wednesday, September 12.*



Served from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. in St. John's Hall
All are welcome!

News and Updates

Welcome to St. John's All Newcomers!

We're glad to have you worshipping with us and becoming part of this community!

The newcomers listed below were introduced during worship on April 22.

Afterward they enjoyed a Welcome Luncheon with sponsors/welcomers and church staff, catered by our own Pat Fick and Kristy Harms.

Look for newcomers' pictures in the Commons display case, and give them a warm St. John's welcome.

Thank you!

Isabella (Izzy) Anderson

**Jim & Rachel Brownlee,
Owen, Jonah, and Jacob**

Amber & Jeff Damm, Ava and Ezra

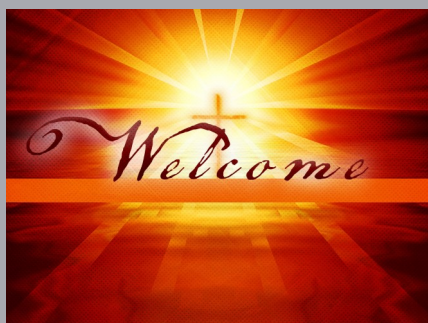
Randy & Valorie Denison

Kathleen Hanson

Fred Huemoeller

Louise Lurye

Jerry Ugland



Wednesday Meals -- A Gathering Place for Community

St. John's welcomes around 200 people weekly during the academic year to enjoy an evening meal together. They come from St. John's, many of them, and an increasing number of people from the wider Northfield Community are attending. If you haven't yet enjoyed a Wednesday Meal, consider yourself, and your neighbors, invited!

New at Wednesday Meals -- Once a Month Clean Up Crews!

A BIG THANK YOU to Georgene Johnson, Clean Up Crew Organizer, and each of the 26 people on the four Clean Up Crews (and Substitutes!) that serve once a month after the Wednesday Meal. This April began the first ever regular teams to be trained and scheduled to be here to relieve the cooks, Peggy Dell and Kristy Harms, and the Set Up & Serve Crew who come faithfully every week!

A BIG THANK YOU to all who have served regularly at Wednesday Night Meals, to all who have chipped in from time to time wiping down tables or sweeping, and to all those who have donated YUMMY DESSERTS! It's been a GREAT Year!

Thank You...

Thank you Wednesday Volunteers!

May 16 is the last Wednesday for afterschool bus service and children's programming! A great big thank you to our Wednesday afterschool volunteers this year:

- St. John's Members: Amy McBroom, Betsy McLaughlin, Angie Gehring, Emily Westerback
- St. Olaf Students: Monique, Rebekah, Anna
- Middle School: Will Becker

Thank you Nursery Volunteers!

Many thanks to our Nursery Volunteers who help with our littlest ones during Sunday worship services at St. John's. Thank you to Hannah Wenzel and Sara Small, St. Olaf students, who served in our Nursery, and Amy McBroom who coordinates our Nursery volunteers throughout the year.

Thank you from the YMCA:

Last year \$500 was given to the Northfield YMCA by the Benevolence & Social Concerns Board. The Y has sent a note of thanks for our gift, which will be used to "ensure the Y is accessible to all." A recognition banner, with St. John's name on it, now hangs in the Y gym. You are invited to stop by to see it.

Special Offering in May for Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) helps families in the world's poorest communities. In 2017, your support of LWR reached 3,163,673 people in 32 countries through 131 projects. LWR works to improve livelihoods and to assist in emergencies.

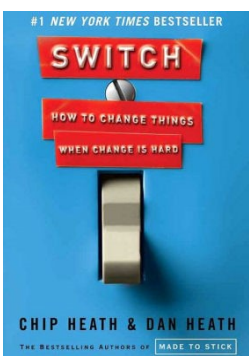
For example, the lives of millions of small farmers and their families are improved through sustainable agriculture projects. Did you know that coffee is the second-most traded commodity in the whole world, second only to crude oil? LWR works with smallholder coffee and cocoa producers. With expertise developed over decades, LWR brings a unique perspective and skill set to improve producers' lives from the ground up.

LWR's emergency operations are designed to address the most urgent and basic needs of communities hit by war and natural disasters. One example is in Mosul, Iraq, the city once known as Nineveh – where God sent Jonah almost three thousand years ago. Days after Mosul's liberation from the Islamic State (IS) in July 2017, Lutheran World Relief began serving thousands of people who were scarred, scared, and longing for lives free of risk and repression. LWR is carrying out the city's only psychosocial counseling and recovery support, and is one of only a few international nongovernmental organizations working in the area. The task is great. The damage to Mosul included 4,000 civilian deaths, 30,000 IS militant deaths, the flight of 900,000 people, and more than 90 percent of houses and buildings destroyed. LWR's work helps people heal and build hope as they return after the war.

All this is because of the generous support of people like you. Use the LWR envelope in your offering packet, or make an on line donation with your electronic giving to St. John's.

Saturday Morning Discussion Group Featuring Ideas from *Switch: How to Change Things When Change is Hard*

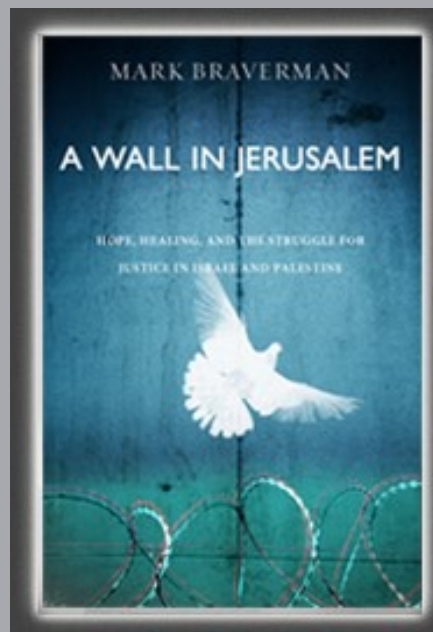
May 12 - June 16 at the Hideaway downtown Northfield



Start your Saturday mornings with a cup of Hideaway (fill in your favorite beverage) and humorous discussion! No reading required. Gather between 8:30-9:00 a.m. Informal topic discussion begins at 9:00 a.m. Come anytime. Questions? Contact Christy Hall-Holt at connect@stjohnsnorthfield.org or 507-645-4429.



News and Updates



Study Group Discussion:

A Wall in Jerusalem by Mark Braverman

Tuesday, May 1

7:00 p.m.

Fireside Room

Learn the true consequences
of the conflict between
Israel and Palestine.

This study group will meet every other
month and is sponsored by
Northfielders for Justice and Peace.

For more information
contact Darlene Hand
at 507-645-5078.

the WOMEN'S page

May Gatherings

Elizabeth Circle

Thursday, May 12, 1:30p
Darlene Hand's home
1109 Farehaven Court

Lydia Circle

Wednesday, May 11, 9:00
Coffee, 10:00 Bible Study
St. John's Fireside Room

Mary Circle

Friday, May 13, 1:00p
Winnifred Alberg's home,
11125 Kane Trail

Ruth Circle

Thursday, May 12, 9:30am
Parkview West Fireside Rm

Sarah Circle

Wednesday, May 11, 9:30
Contact Char Nelson
(612) 770-0411

Bold Cafe

Thursday, May 17, 7:30p @
the Hideaway
Sunday, May 20, 9:45
Room 19, downstairs

Baby Boomers

Saturday, May 5, 4:30-6:00p
Barbara Wilson's home
1118 St. Olaf Ave.

Saturday Breakfast Club

Saturday, May 12, 8:30am
St. John's Fireside Rm



MAY PROGRAM

**LATINO
(AND FRIENDS)
POETRY
AND STORIES**

Northfield
Highschool's
ESL students

**Thursday, May 3rd
1:00pm
St. John's Hall**

**Northfield
New Ecumenical
Women**



Fellowship of the Least Coin offering www.flc.net.ph

May 5, 2018 - 9:30am

St. Peter's Lutheran Church, N'fld

Refreshments & Program:
Touching lives and improving health
with therapy animals.
R.S.V.P. 507-663-6056/ shirleyshaft@yahoo.com

DONATION OPPORTUNITIES for LWR Quilts:

Sheets (flat, any size but twin, any color)

Fabrics (cotton, large enough for 10 1/2" squares)

Thread (any color)

People (men, too!) willing to cut fabric squares – can work on quilting
days at church or at home using rotary cutters and mats

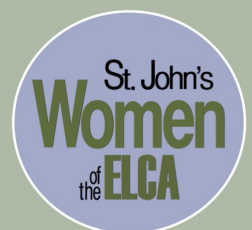
Visit our web page:

<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



LEGACY OF A ST. JOHN'S WOMAN

By Shirley Keltto

This is a continuation of a series on women who have served in the church and given much toward its ministry. This month Elaine Feroe is introduced to you.

Elaine was born in Minneapolis and later the family moved to Eau Claire, Wisconsin, where her dad continued in his pastoral ministry.

She entered St. Olaf College, majoring in History. While in school, she had the opportunity to attend an Ashram at Lake Geneva, WI. It was there that she met a "bachelor pastor" (her description),

Jennings Feroe, who was serving a congregation in Fox Lake, Illinois.

Jennings observed Elaine playing ping pong and was impressed with her athletic playing ability and invited her for a round of golf. She declined the invite. Later, he asked again. She declined again.

After that weekend, their contacts continued with letter writing. But due to WWII, Jennings now was in the U.S. Navy, serving as a chaplain. On one leave, he came to visit Elaine at St. Olaf, appearing in his Navy Whites. She says he caused quite a stir amongst the female students.

Time moved on. Jennings was due to be sent to Hawaii for his second deployment and their plans were to be married and he to take Elaine with him. However, the war, then, was declared over, and Pastor Feroe accepted a call to Bethlehem Lutheran in Mankato, MN. Elaine says that he was called, with a salary, but the congregation expected the wife to "serve for free," which she did!

They were in Mankato for 28 years, had five children, and Elaine kept very busy working with the youth in Luther League, teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, leading the women's organization, and producing and running off the Sunday bulletins on the church mimeograph.

In all this time in Mankato, her husband presided in about 700 weddings and Elaine, again, was expected to be at the rehearsal dinners and the wedding receptions. No remuneration, even though she needed to hire a baby sitter for her young family.

But Elaine said that the one service she could not provide as a pastor's wife was the ability to play the piano or sing. And she was thankful she was spared that expectation!

They moved to Northfield, after Mankato, where her husband was a fund raiser for St. Olaf for several years and then served as a visitation pastor at St. John's for five years. In these years, for Elaine, there were not the expectations so she enjoyed functioning as a regular member of the congregation.

In retirement, her travels with her husband took them to Arizona, and to the countries of Norway, Germany, Austria and India.

Pastor Feroe died seven years ago and now Elaine dearly enjoys her family, likes to play bridge and attends the wonderful programs where she lives.

With many retired pastors and spouses in the Northfield community, Elaine had the role that was expected of many from those earlier decades when the wives "came with the package." Devoted, kind, quiet, in loyal servitude.



INTER-GENERATIONAL EVENT

SUNDAY, MAY 13

9:45-10:30

ST. JOHN'S HALL

LWR Personal Care Kits

**Items Needed:
Dark Bath Towels**



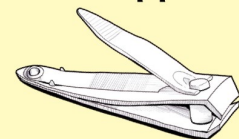
4 - 5 oz Bar Soaps



Wide-tooth Combs



Nail Clippers



**Deposit items in the
Personal Care Kit box
beneath the St. John's
Women bulletin board,
or in the baskets in the
Commons.**

News and Updates



Pub Theology

What is Pub Theology?

Led by Pastors Pam and Jonathan, it is a 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 the following Mondays
in May from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
at Froggy Bottoms:

May 7
May 21

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

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

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

From the Adult Ministry & Education Board: Library Ministry By Genevieve Quarberg

A Library Ministry committee was recently initiated and appointed by the Adult Education and Ministry Board. Before explaining that, it is important to first say *Thank You* to Norma Gilbertson and her special volunteer Mary Polzin, and to Marvis Canon and her daughter Susan Canon (and her kids!) for bringing their professional expertise and passion to the task of looking after the library at St. John's. They have been faithful stewards of the library for many years, often with little encouragement and support. *Thank you*, each of you.

Realizing that the library was under its umbrella, the Adult Education & Ministry Board appointed Marilyn Calcutt, Norma Gilbertson, Anita Hellie, and Genevieve Quarberg to a Library Ministry committee. We have met and are determined that we will do all we can to make sure members of St. John's have knowledge of the library, especially as we are able to add new books; that they are able to have digital access to the titles, authors, and subject matter of the books in the library; and that they know this library is there for everyone, adults, and children. We want it to be a much used corner of St. John's (that "corner" is just inside the southwest entrance to the building). One of us will be in the library on Wednesdays, 5:00-7:00 p.m., and on Sundays between services. Please come, visit the library -- even check out a book! -- and tell us your ideas for the library.

It will take us time and money to get where we want. Immediately, we need to upgrade the current online catalogue ability, ResourceMate, and consequently, get a new computer and printer. In the future, we envision better lighting, new shelves, and clearer book categories, visibly marked. This wonderful room can be an even more inviting place, filled with books and art (some of it by members of St. John's), a place for parents of active young children during worship, and a place for small groups or individuals to sit, read, and reflect. Which books invite you to do so?

LATINO
(AND FRIENDS)
POETRY
AND STORIES

 **Northfield**
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ESL Students
present original
poetry

Thursday, May 3rd
1:00pm
St. John's Hall

 **ImMigration:**
Cultivating Diversity, Equity and Justice

From Bread for the World

About 1,000 faith advocates from different traditions met in Washington, D.C., from April 20-23 for Ecumenical Advocacy Days 2018. This



year's theme, "A World Uprooted," was explored through prayer, worship, advocacy training, and networking. The event culminated with Capitol Hill visits to advocate for policy changes that address the root causes of conflict, persecution, economic disparities, climate change, hunger and poverty.

As we reflect on the pain and suffering of this uprooted world, we lift this prayer of lament written by Bishop Teresa E. Jefferson-Snorton, presiding bishop of the Episcopal District, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

Lord, we pray today even though we despair and feel hopeless. There is too much suffering, poverty and need.

We feel the pain of those we want to help, but feel our own lack. We hear the cries of those who feel forgotten and those affected by tragedy, natural disaster and manmade calamities.

We confess that we are often part of systems and institutions that show a lack of compassion and that our own apathy, hopelessness or distraction prevent us from doing what we can.

Give us a renewed sense of hope, a revived sense of faith and a restored sense of joy in your promises to be present with us.

Amen.

Synod Assembly: May 4 and 5

The Southeastern Minnesota Synod will gather for its annual assembly on Friday, May 4, and Saturday, May 5, in Mankato. The theme of this year's assembly is accompanying our global partners, and guests from the synod's global partners in Colombia, Tanzania, and South Sudan will all be present for this assembly.

At our annual meeting in January, St. John's elected voting members for the assembly. In addition to Pastors Fickenscher and Davis, St. John's will send Kristin Partlo, Martin Thorsheim, and Tarkel Price.

Synod assemblies include worship, workshops, Bible study, and reports from all the working tables of the synod. Resolutions brought forward from the conferences are considered, and members of synod council and committees are elected. This year will also include election of voting members to the Churchwide Assembly in 2019.

The 2019 synod assembly will include the election of a new bishop. Bishop Steven Delzer has announced he will not seek another term, and none of the current synod staff are seeking election either. Bishop Delzer has invited the whole synod into a time of discernment in the year ahead as we prepare to identify a new bishop.

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OFFICE HOURS

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

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

**150th Anniversary Project:
Laura Baker Services -
St. John's Creative Arts
Group**

"CAMPFIRE SING-ALONG"
BRING YOUR FAVORITE
SONGS TO SING!

WEDNESDAY,
MAY 16TH
6:00 - 6:45 P.M.
LIBRARY



All ages invited!
Come make friends and a joyful noise!