



The

Voice

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Planning Our Future Together

You are invited to participate in a series of gatherings to be held at St. John's this fall. We hope to hear from everyone as we imagine together how to build a bright future for our congregation and community.

This is a great time to do some thoughtful planning. We have all experienced such a disruption to our lives during the pandemic, and we learned new ways of doing things and formed new habits. It doesn't seem wise to assume that things will automatically return to pre-pandemic patterns. For example, we have found that some types of gatherings can work well with a remote option, allowing additional people to participate. Our building isn't set up to make that as easy as it could be, but it seems like something we should consider improving.

As another example, we want to think about the best uses of our physical space. As community gatherings resume, could St. John's Hall and our kitchen be used in new ways? Do we have other spaces that could be used more effectively or for new purposes? Even the parking lot might be reimagined as a

Continued on page 13

WORSHIP SERVICES
See Page 2

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

RADIO BROADCASTS
8:30-9:30 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

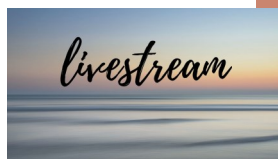
Join Us for Worship!

Worship Services

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

Livestream

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



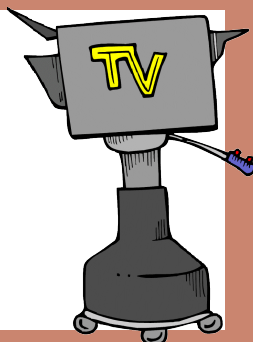
Radio Broadcasts

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7:30 p.m. Mondays
12:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. Tuesdays
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

Dear Friends in Christ:

Occasionally I get asked by outsiders, in a very general way, how church has “handled the pandemic.” The question is phrased in such a way that it sounds like they expect we had simply stopped in time, and now are trying to “get back” to some place before March of 2020.

But we know that time did not stop in 2020. Children kept growing. All of us kept getting older. People got married, people retired, people left some jobs and began others. Health situations changed. Some of you started new degree programs and, of course, many of us buried people near and dear to us. And, during all this time, some people left Northfield and other new neighbors moved in.

We are not the same community we were 30 months ago. There are many new faces among us, and other faces that look quite different than they did. In order to be church together in 2022, we need to not simply look back, but look around at who we are NOW.

These first months of the program year we will be inviting you into doing just that:

1. We will have “speed socials”: times to quickly meet a number of people old and new, so you have somewhere to start conversations again the next time you see them.
2. We will have Wednesday Night Meals every week again. Take the time to break bread with someone new in St. John’s Hall.
3. We will be starting work on a new picture directory, so we all have a reminder of the names and faces who make up St. John’s now.
4. We will be inviting you into PEEL workshops next spring (see page 10), where you can try out seeing and being seen by someone else new.
5. We will invite you into conversations about our facilities and ministry going forward (see page 1), so that we can better align who we are now with the ministry God is calling us to in this time.

This is a new time. It is not our job to judge it better or worse than what came before, but to look clearly at our community and humbly ask God for guidance in giving witness to the Gospel in this time. We hope you’ll join us in this. There are lots of new companions on the way waiting for you here.

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:

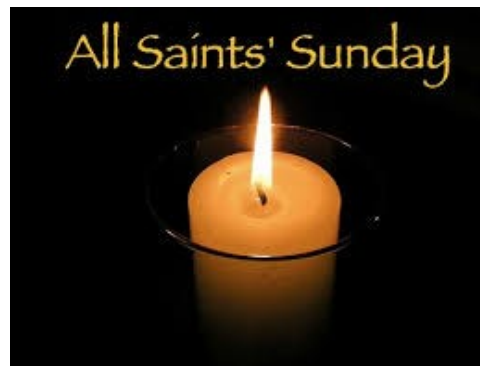
"Journeying through Grief" is a resource for those grieving the loss of loved ones. Contact one of the pastors if you would like a copy or if you would like to give a copy to a friend or family member.



If you are stressed or are going through a difficult time, you may benefit from a caring listening ear.

St. John's Stephen Ministers have been trained to offer this kind of support.

Please call one of the pastors (507-645-4429) to request a Stephen Minister if you feel this could make a difference for you.



November 6 is All Saints Sunday

This is the day the church particularly gives thanks for those who have gone before us in faith.

St. John's will remember by name those members who have died in the past year, ringing the bell, and lighting candles in memory of each of them.

Jane Koskovich
Marland Madson
Carolyn Moe Buzza
Duane Benson
Mary Ingbritsen
Virley Brown
Beverly Mahachek
Jim Bierman
Howard Thorsheim
David Gangsei
Sigrid Johnson
Lois Rand
Carole Nesheim
Gertrude Swanlund
Elvin Heiberg
Duane Kringen
Dale Gehring
Charlene Albers
Carol James
Otto Reitz
Arlene Sivanich

St. John's also rejoices with thanksgiving at these new saints who have entered the baptismal waters in the past year.

Leo Dale Kuehn
Luke Joseph Thorsheim
Sigrid Wanken
Eleanora Josephine Luckman
Robin Lawrence Lichti Hendrickson
Elijah Anthony Rydberg
Olive Mae Barvir

Radio Broadcasts

August 7

Given in memory of Susie Gasho Rezac
by the Gasho Family.

August 14

Given by Gordie and Dodie Mickelsen
in memory of their son Brian who died 15 years ago this month.

August 21

Given by Elouise Quinnell and family
in memory of Milo Quinnell on his birthday on August 25.

August 28

Given in honor of the baptismal anniversary of Emily Judge-Becker
from her family.

September 4

Given in memory of Gert Brosz by Wil Brosz and family.

September 11

Given in loving memory of Cora (on her birthday) & Elmer Schultz and
Ken Struss by Marie Struss and Family.

September 18

No Broadcast - Power Outage in Northfield

September 25

Given by his family in loving memory of Fred J. Gaggioli
on the fifth anniversary of his passing into the next realm.

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.

Life and Growth

Baptisms

August 28, 2022

Olive Mae Barvir

Daughter of Amy Kraushaar and Scott Barvir

Deaths

August 8, 2022

Charlene Albers

September 6, 2022

Carol James

September 13, 2022

Otto Reitz

September 19, 2022

Arlene Sivanich

September 24, 2022

Romulus Busa



*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."*

October 29, 2021

Helen Radtke

October 29, 2021

Jim Thompson

October 30, 2021

Paul Raadt

October 31, 2021

Eldora Seitz

November 1, 2021

Rae Pearson

November 12, 2021

Jane Koskovich

November 17, 2021

Marland Madson

November 23, 2021

Carolyn Moe Buzza

Children and Youth

Important Dates for Children and Youth to Remember!

Online Registration for 2022-2023
Now Open

Sunday School Schedule
October 2, 9, 16, 30
November 6, 13, 20
No Sunday School
October 23, November 27

Wednesday After School Schedule
October 5, 12, 26
November 2, 9, 16, 30
No Wednesday Programs
October 19, November 23

4th and 5th Grade Catechism Starts
Wednesday, October 5, 4:00–4:45 p.m.,
Room 9

3rd Grade Catechism Retreat
Saturday, October 29, 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Details in the Article at Top of the Page

Trunk or Treat!
During Sunday School on October 30
Details in the Article at Bottom of the Page

PJ Movie Morning
Monday, November 7
Watch for more info!

Advent Fair
Wednesday, November 30, 5:15–7:00 p.m.
Article on page 11

3rd Graders to Receive Bibles

3rd graders and parents meet in St. John's Hall on Saturday, October 29, from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for a Retreat on the Word - An Introduction to the Bible.

This class will be a primer on the Bible for students who will receive their Bibles at the 8:30 a.m. service on Sunday, October 30. Please call Pastor Pam or Julie Brehmer if your child is unable to attend either day.

Toddler Time

Each month, children who are 2 years old (by 9/1/22) 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 year: Oct. 9, November 13, December 11, January 15, February 12, March 12, April 23.



Trunk or Treat, October 30 during Sunday School, 10:00–10:30 a.m., at St. John's

Last year's Trunk or Treat was so much fun, we're doing it again this year. Kids are invited to dress in costume and trick or treat at a variety of decorated car trunks! Games and activities too!

Email Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org if you are willing to decorate your car trunk, or help with games and activities.

Confirmation Rally

The Northfield collaboration for confirmation J-term will kick off on Wednesday, October 12, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. with a Confirmation Rally at Northfield High School auditorium featuring the Lutheran bluegrass band, "The Fleshpots of Egypt."

Speaking will be Dr. Rolf Jacobson, Dean of Faculty and Professor at Luther Seminary, on How to Care for One Another as Christians. We invite parents and their youth to this event.

This event is a collaborative effort by Northfield area churches to bring all confirmation students and their parents together.

Get involved with Children's Programming at St. John's

An ambitious array of activities means more volunteer opportunities for St. John's members - parents, grandparents, high school and middle school youth! Are you able to help on Wednesdays or Sundays? Whether you enjoy working with large or small groups of children or behind the scenes, there is a place for you. Many opportunities can fit into your schedule.



Wednesday afternoons:

- Snack Servers - help serve snacks on Wednesdays
- Bus Angels at Bridgewater - check children on the bus at one of the elementary schools (about a 5 minute time frame)
- Adults share a hobby/passion/interest with kids on Wednesdays.

Sunday Mornings:

- Sunday School team teachers for Preschool
- Nursery volunteers
- Music volunteers

Please contact Julie Brehmer at children@StJohnsNorthfield.org or 507-645-4429, if you have questions. Our thanks to you in advance!

Children and Youth



Confirmation Retreat for 10th Grade

Saturday, October 8

Gustavus Adolphus College.

We plan to leave Northfield at 8:00 a.m. and head back at 2:30 p.m.

This retreat is only for 10th grader students and not their parents.

Confirmation Rally

Wednesday, October 12, 7-8 p.m.

Northfield High School

The Confirmation Rally will feature the Lutheran Bluegrass Band, "The Fleshpots of Egypt" and a special message from Rolf Jacobson, Dean of Faculty and Professor at Luther Seminary, on How to Care for One Another as Christians.

We invite parents and their youth to this event. This event is a collaborative effort by Northfield area churches to bring all confirmation students and their parents together.

More information about courses to come.

Confirmation Breakfast

Saturday, October 29

Students, parents, and mentors will gather at 8:00 a.m. for pictures and service rehearsal followed by breakfast and presentation of projects.

Rite of Affirmation of Baptism Sunday

October 30, at the 10:45 a.m. Service

the WOMEN'S page

Gatherings

Baby Boomers

Saturday, Oct 1, 4:30-6:00
Jennifer Edwin's home
106 Nevada St.

Women's Breakfast Group
2nd Saturday of the month
@ 9:00am, St. John's Library

Elizabeth Circle
2nd Thursday of the month
1:30pm
St. John's Library

Lydia Circle
2nd Wednesday of the month
9:00am
Coffee and Conversation
10:00 Bible Study
St. John's Hall

Mary Circle
2nd Friday of the month
1:00pm
St. John's Fireside Rm

Ruth Circle
2nd Thursday of the month
9:30am NRC
Parkview West Fireside Rm

Knitters (Prayer Shawls)
2nd & 4th Thursday
10:00a Room 19

Knitters (World Vision)
2nd & 4th Tuesday, 10am
Kathy Vang 645-4849

Quilters
Thursdays
8:30a - noon, Fellowship Hall



ABORTION What should we do?

Jeffrey D. Nelson, M.D., family physician, Lutheran, and author of "What Should I Do?" will discuss abortion, religious freedom, and difficult reproductive decisions.

Courageous Conversations
October 13, 2022

7:00pm via Zoom

Register:

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/courageous



TRUST WOMEN: A progressive Christian Argument for Reproductive Justice

Courageous Conversations Book Club Fall Read

Author: Rebecca Todd Peters

As women's reproductive rights are increasingly under attack, a minister and ethicist weighs in on the abortion debate - offering a stirring argument that "the best arbiter of a woman's reproductive destiny is herself." (Cecile Richards, former President of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America)

4:00-5:30pm via Zoom

October 27

November 10

December 1

For information and the Zoom link,
contact Dawn Tommerdahl at
dawn.tommerdahl@gmail.com

Books are available at Content Book Store in downtown Northfield.



"I raise up my voice - not so that I can shout, but so that those without a voice can be heard. ... We cannot all succeed when half of us are held back." - Malala Yousafzai

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS - NOVEMBER TWO COMMUNITIES: Creating Space to Heal

Michelle Leise, Community Engagement Facilitator of Red Wing, along with a representative of the Prairie Island Indian Community, will share how city officials and the native tribe members work together to honor the spiritual and sacred spaces of the tribe on He Mni Can/Barn Bluff and the surrounding area. Not only have they designed the He Mni Can story panels at the base of Barn Bluff, there is also a new collaboration between the city, the county, the tribe, and the Red Wing Arts council (*including students*), to create a huge mural on the bridge over the Mississippi.

Thursday, November 3, 2022

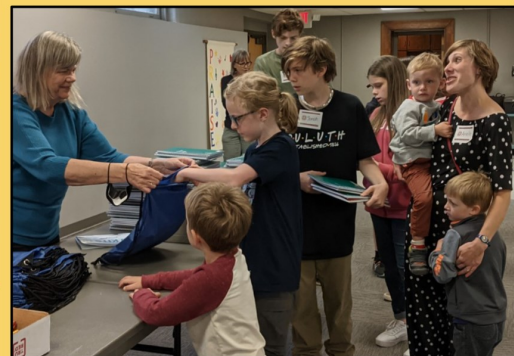
7:00pm via Zoom Registration: www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/courageous



Recommended reading: Indigenous author and professor Denise K. Lajimodiere writes about US boarding schools, including those in Minnesota, in *"Stringing Rosaries: The History, the Unforgivable, and the Healing of Northern Plains American Indian Boarding School Survivors."*

A book for middle schoolers, *Runs with Courage* by Joan M. Wolf, tells the story of fictional 10-year old Lakota girl sent to a South Dakota boarding school in the 1880's.

St. John's Women, along with the kindergarten through fifth graders assembled 200 School Backpack Kits for Lutheran World Relief



St. John's Women

Visit our web pages: www.stjohnsnorthfield.org/women



Like us on Facebook: "Women of St. Johns"

Friend us @ Kvinner St. Johns

(Kvinner: Norwegian for "Women" 🙄)

Correspondence: women.stjohns500@gmail.com



News and Updates

Pub Theology Schedule

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 the following Mondays
from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Locations to be determined.

October 3

October 17

November 7

November 21

December 5

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

Contact the church office
(office@StJohnsNorthfield.org)
to add your name to the email list.



Tenth Graders to Affirm their Baptism

St. John's gives thanks to God that the following young people in our congregation have indicated their desire to publicly affirm their baptism by participating in the **Rite of Confirmation** on **Sunday, October 30**, at the **10:45 a.m. service**: Seth Knutson, Edy McLaughlin, Gavin Moore, Emmett Norrie, Emmett Peterson, Joran Peterson, Elizabeth Tracy, Alec Vatter, Jackson Volkert, and Louise Welbaum.

This rite follows a seven-year education and reflection program at St. John's beginning with Catechism (CAT) classes in grades three, four, and five; weekday and Sunday classes in grades six, seven, and eight; and classes, retreats, and a mentor relationship in grade nine. The program concluded with a retreat at Gustavus on Saturday, October 8. Please pray for these young people and their faith and life as they make this commitment and affirmation.

St. John's Forum - October 9

This past year, a small group from St. John's had the opportunity to experience a weekend creative workshop called "PEEL." PEEL was developed by a Christian art director in London as an experience designed to help young people creatively reflect on self-identity in a way that goes deeper than social media.

A PEEL workshop engages participants with poetry and photography experts in their respective crafts, and then invites each person to share who they are with one fellow participant. A poem and portrait is created for each person.

This coming year, St. John's has grant funding to host several more of these workshops. Come learn about the experience with the pastors and Kristin Partlo sharing their experience from this past spring.

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS
moving - forward - together -

ABORTION: What Should We Do?

presenter: **Jeffrey D. Nelson, M.D.**

Family physician and author of "What Should I Do?" will discuss abortion, religious freedom, and difficult reproductive decisions

Thursday, October 13
7:00pm via Zoom

Register: www.StJohnsNorthfield.org/courageous

Courageous Conversations is sponsored by St. John's Women

Thanksgiving Eve Ecumenical Service at St. Peter Lutheran Church



St. John's will be gathering in worship together with our Lutheran brothers and sisters on Thanksgiving Eve.

We will gather at St. Peter's Lutheran Church at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, for worship with hymns, homily, and prayers, and then gather in their fellowship hall for fellowship. Our offering for the evening will benefit the Community Action Center of Northfield's food shelf. A pickup choir led by Pete Schleif will sing.

From the Worship & Arts Board

St. John's has joined a growing number of congregations starting the practice of musical reparations. This means we acknowledge that many of our hymns or songs sung in worship are from Black and Indigenous sources who had their humanity stripped away by a Christian white majority.

We lift up that our worship and understanding of God has been enriched immeasurably by the artistic contributions of people of color for which they were never paid, and that we desire to make amends financially and through relationships and acknowledgement.

With the goal of beginning to repair our relationships on behalf of the church, the Worship & Arts Board has decided to start contributing an amount equal to our annual copyright license payment, about \$500, and this year we have made a contribution to Hopewell Music Cooperative in North. This amount will fund a semester of music lessons for a student. Hopewell is an organization with the mission of "improving access to music education in North Minneapolis through affordable, inclusive, and engaging music programs." For more information go to <https://hopewellmusic.com>.

We pray that every time we sing a hymn or anthem written by a person of color, named or unnamed, we are reminded of the blessings of art and music to transform our understanding of God and our need to make amends for the sake of our church and our neighbors.

News and Updates

St. John's Advent Fair Wednesday November 30

Everyone is invited to St. John's Advent Fair on Wednesday, November 30, in St. John's Hall.

Come enjoy our Wednesday Night Meal and Advent activities for all ages.

We encourage you to bring friends.
The more the merrier!

Time:

5:15-6:15 p.m.

Wednesday Night Meal

5:45-7:00 p.m.

Advent Fair Activities

Can you help with Advent Fair?

- Dinner - set-up, serve, or clean-up
- Help with crafts/shops
- Food demonstration – show how to make your favorite Christmas treats

Fair trade sales of coffee, tea, and chocolate will be available.

Contact Julie Brehmer if you have questions at 507-645-4429 or children@StJohnsNorthfield.org.



News and Updates

We're Bringing Back the Community Christmas Dinner!

Before the pandemic forced us to hit pause providing this special meal on Christmas Day, that is open to all in our community, has been a beloved tradition for many years at St. John's.

Now that we are finally able to host it again, the team leaders are working on planning the next steps. This event requires many helpers to succeed.

Watch for announcements and opportunities to sign up to volunteer or to donate food or funds during the upcoming months!



Ringling of the Bells in Remembrance of Veterans Day

On Friday, November 11, St. John's will toll its bells 11 times at 11:00 a.m. in remembrance of Veterans Day.

The tolling of bells on 11/11 is a practice dating back to Armistice Day that ended World War One as a prayer for peace.



St. John's Lutheran Church



Fall Clean Up

Saturday, November 5 • 8:30-Noon

Bring your favorite yard tools!

In case of rain: November 12 • 8:30-Noon

Annual Fall Church Yard Clean Up Saturday, November 5, 8:30 a.m.- Noon (If Rain, November 12)

The Property & Grounds Board kindly requests your assistance. Many hands make less work! Bring gloves, rakes, wheel barrows for spreading mulch, leaf blowers, tarps, leaf bags, tip baskets, clippers, and dandelion diggers. Garden trailers and/or trucks are welcome. Thank you!



Reminder! Daylight Savings Ends Sunday, November 6

Set clocks back one hour
at 2:00 a.m.

Planning Our Future Together

Continued from page 1

potential resource. We know many share the desire to use energy and resources as efficiently as we can.

As the Church Council has discussed our future, we see the need to be thoughtful about our mission and ministries to do successful long range planning. We need to understand our local demographics and other community trends. And we need to hear from you.

- What are your dreams for St. John's?
- How can we use our strengths to serve our congregation and our community?
- How can we do better at promoting diversity, inclusion, and equity?
- What mission areas should be our priorities?

This fall, we will hold 3 open meetings, hoping that everyone is able to attend at least one:

- **Between services on Sunday, October 2**
- **Between services on Sunday, October 16**
- **At 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening, October 26**

All will be held in St. John's Hall. We will organize our discussions into 4 general areas:

- intentional building of relationships,
- using our facilities as a resource for mission,
- engaging the wider community, and
- stewardship of our planet, and our financial resources.

You will also be able to share your ideas by filling out an online survey or by speaking with Pastor Fickenscher or Congregation President Rod Christensen.

After hearing from everyone, we will compile our collective thoughts, find areas of consensus and new ideas to investigate, and bring a report to the annual meeting. Then, we will likely convene a special workgroup to do some deeper study and bring recommendations that include both current needs and longer term planning. The Church Council doesn't know exactly where this will lead, but we are confident that by sharing our ideas, listening to one another, and letting the Spirit guide us, we will find exciting paths to follow. Won't you help us

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!



Coffee Sales

Fair trade sales of coffee and more during
will be on the following Sundays:
October 2 and November 6.

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



News and Updates

Operation Joy

Operation Joy is a community-wide gift sharing program of the Community Action Center and is set to take place on December 7, 2022. While the pandemic has changed some aspects of Operation Joy, the CAC's goal remains the same: to provide a joyful holiday experience for all children in our community.

The best way to support this goal is through monetary donations. Donations are used to purchase gift cards so families can select gifts their children will enjoy the most. If you would like to support Operation Joy, donations can be made by:

Going online at:

communityactioncenter.org/operation-joy

Send a check directly to:

**Community Action Center
c/o Operation Joy**

**1651 Jefferson Parkway, Suite HS-200
Northfield, MN 55057**

**Donations are appreciated by
November 18, 2021.**

In keeping with tradition, children will still each receive a pair of pajamas and families will receive a blanket.



ELCA World Hunger Appeal


In November, as we prepare for Thanksgiving and feel grateful for the bounty of food so easily available to us, we also remember those less fortunate for whom healthy food and clean water are daily challenges. These needs become more widespread and serious with the increase in devastating floods and hurricanes brought on by climate change. People in the U.S. and around the world need our help with growing and distributing sufficient food and procuring clean water. We can provide that help through the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Working with and through our congregations in the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas, and other partners, ELCA World Hunger is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to microloans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Hunger facts:

- 821 million people around the world - that's more than 1 in 10 - can't access the food they need to live active, healthy lives. According to the most recent estimates, 736 million people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day. That's 10% of the world's population.
- At some point in 2017 (the most recent year available), more than 40 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal might come from.
- 39.7 million Americans were living in poverty in 2017. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$25,094.

Your support makes a difference. Please consider a gift to ELCA World Hunger during the November appeal. Use the specially marked envelope in your packet or use St. John's online donation system. Make checks payable to St. John's, noting ELCA Hunger Appeal on the memo line. Thank you.



**YOU ARE INVITED TO
SIGN UP FOR SUNDAY HOSPITALITY!
GREETING, COFFEE, & COMMUNION
SERVICE**

SIGN UP ONLINE, IN THE COMMONS,
OR CONTACT ANGIE GEHRING
SHAREDMINISTRY@STJOHNSNORTHFIELD.ORG

Stewardship Appeal 2023

We gather together. Those words mean so much more to us all, as we continue to move forward and learn how to be together, again.

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. – Ephesians 3

You've been reading stories from the Stewardship Board about the rich ministries that nourish us here at St. John's. You had the opportunity to stroll through the Ministry Fair in St. John's Hall and learn about ways to engage and share your time and talent. Your financial gifts support the vibrant ministries that we value as a congregation.

St. John's is financially stable at this time because of commitments made, formally and informally, during last year's giving campaign. If you already pledge your financial support to St. John's, we thank you, and urge you to continue increasing your support as you are able. If you haven't pledged before, we encourage you to consider making a first-time pledge. Writing it down makes it happen.

We'll keep sharing more information about the exciting and meaningful work that happens here at St. John's. Let's continue to celebrate being together for worship on Sunday morning, for a shared meal on Wednesday evenings, and for the ways that we at St. John's make a difference for our community.

Yours in faith,
Kristy Harms, Bob Nyvall, Dawn Tommerdahl, Grant Aaseng

Acoustic Improvements in St. John's Hall

The St. John's Church Council approved a bid to make acoustic improvements in St John's Hall, with the goal of better acoustics for conversation and fellowship in this room that is a key resource for our congregation and the whole community. \$13,000 has been pledged so far toward this project, and designated gifts are now being accepted, with a goal of raising at least half of the project's \$44,000 cost. Gifts should be designated to "acoustic project."

Reminder of Deadlines

Sunday Bulletin and E-Voice Announcements:

Wednesday by 2:00 p.m.

The Voice (December 2022 / January 2023 Edition):

November 15

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

St. John's Staff

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WEBSITE

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

OFFICE HOURS

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

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

A New Picture Directory for St. John's!

We are producing a new pictorial directory!

We are partnering with Universal Church Directories for this important project. They are providing the directory at no cost to our church. Each participating family will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory and have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family & friends.

Please participate! Our directory won't be complete without YOU!

You can sign up online at www.ucdir.com
(church code: **mn256** / password: **photos**)
or call the church office at 507-645-4429,
or email office@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Photography Dates:
Monday, October 17 - Friday, October 21
Tuesday, Nov. 8 - Saturday, Nov. 12
Hours of Photography:
2:00-9:00 p.m. weekdays
and 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Saturday

