



The Voice

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOLUME 58, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2018



Houston Mission Trip Chaperones and Participants

Milwaukee Mission Trip Chaperones and Participants



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Summer Youth Mission Trips: June 16 - 24

On Saturday, June 16, the high school mission trip group going to Houston, TX will hit the road! We will be doing service work through CSM (Central Service Mission). The ministry focus is on serving people, with an emphasis on creating relationships. This might be at a food pantry, or a kids summer camp, or homeless shelter. Please keeps us in your prayers as we partner with the good people in Houston in ministry!

On Saturday, June 16, the middle school mission trip will leave for Milwaukee, WI, where we will serve with the organization called Serve Boldly. During our time in Milwaukee, we will be serving at sites that prepare and serve a warm breakfast for people who are hungry, a Boys and Girls Club, a Community Garden that helps provide healthy foods for all people, and more! Please keep us in your prayers as we partner with the good people in Milwaukee in Ministry!

Please see page 5 for the names of participants and chaperones. Please note that not all chaperones and participants are pictured.

WORSHIP SERVICES
8:30 & 10:00 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!

www.StJohnsNorthfield.org

Worship Services

8:30 & 10:00 a.m. Sundays

Nursery Hours

10:00-11:15 a.m. Sundays

Learning and Fellowship

9:45-10:30 a.m. Sundays

All Ages from September - May

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.

Live Broadcasts

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

KYMN Radio 1080 AM / 95.1 FM

kymnradio.net

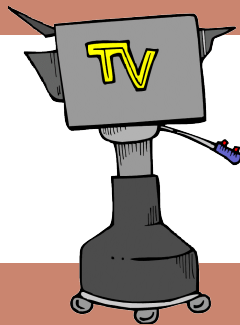


TV Broadcasts

7:30 p.m. Mondays

7:00 p.m. Fridays

NTV Channel 187



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:

As summer (finally!) descends upon us, I am thinking a lot about the youth mission trips that are happening this month. On June 16, fourteen high schoolers and chaperones will be departing for Houston, TX, while another twenty middle schoolers and chaperones will head off to Milwaukee, WI. I will be leading the trip to Houston, while Rebekah Thomas will be leading the Milwaukee trip. It is an exciting time for those of us going on these trips. We hope that this will be a great opportunity for our youth and adults to connect with each other around their faith and to experience serving their neighbors in love.

But, to be honest, something about mission trips also generates a little anxiety in me.

No, not because I *have* to hang out with high schoolers for 8 days. Trust me, I *get* to hang out with them. It's a privilege. You should try it.

What generates a little anxiety is this question: *What is the purpose of a mission trip?*

Before I ever went on a mission trip, I was suspicious of them. What difference could it really make? It seemed like the purpose was simply to gain new Christians. To introduce people to God in Christ and to get them to think like me. In the end, it seemed like I was privileged enough to have something (God, faith, hope, love) that other people needed, and isn't it so kind and generous of me to give it to these poor people? It made me the center of attention, the Savior-figure, and I did not like that idea at all. It didn't seem to really be about helping people.

But then when I was a youth director and leading mission trips, it seemed more about getting our youth out of their comfort zones and growing in faith in ways they could not do in their home town. It became about exposing them to real poverty and suffering, and doing God's work for those in need. These trips also seemed to have the narcissistic effect of making them more thankful for their Xboxes, cell phones, and family vacations.

As a result, this seemed to make the trip all about the youth. They were the central point of the mission trip – to get them to do God's work for the sake of others and to grow in faith. Oh, and getting to see another part of the country is a pretty good perk too.

But is that *the purpose* of a mission trip?

Believe it or not, I think those are important parts of mission trips - youth (and adults) getting to see poverty up close and in a way that they haven't before; learning to serve others in need even when it is uncomfortable; and growing in faith with your faith community. Those are formative experiences for us all on a mission trip.

But I think the purpose of the mission trip is less about what we are doing and how we are impacted by it, and more about what God is already doing in a community. God is already there and at work, in and through the people with whom we will be serving. God is always seeking to bring about abundant life in a community, and as missionaries (if you will), we simply become participants in the coming of the

Continued on page 4

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."

June 9, 2017
Siri (Thompson) Raskob

June 10, 2017
Laura Tverberg

Stephen Ministry: Confidentiality Secures Relationships

Stephen Ministers work quietly with adults living in stressful situations. Those situations may be described as sad, anxiety-producing, and even dangerous. Whatever is in the heart or on the mind of a care-receiving individual must be kept strictly private. For that reason, Stephen Ministers offer the promise of confidentiality as part of their Christian love and support.

Everyone recognizes the importance of confidentiality between lawyers and their clients, and expects teachers to protect the privacy of their students. Physicians and clergy also maintain confidentiality as care-giving professionals. Prayer groups like the one at St. John's have a clear understanding that information shared is always confidential, and that is true for Stephen Ministers as well.

In addition to meeting regularly with their care receivers, Stephen Ministers gather once a month to improve their caregiving skills and give one another love and support. Although they may discuss some aspects of their caring relationships, names and other identifying information about care receivers are never divulged. Confidentiality always limits the information shared.

If you or someone you care about would benefit from a safe and loving relationship with a Stephen Minister, contact Joan Halvorson at 507-645-8445 or one of the pastors at 507-645-4429.

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

For more information or to schedule an appointment contact Jennifer Edwins at 507-645-9653.

Summer Mission Trips: Chaperones and Participants

High School Mission Trip

Chaperones: Pastor Jonathan Davis, Rob Nutt, Jane Rizzo, Emily Westerback

Youth: Mia Becker, Clayton Garlie, Dylan Gehring, Viveka Hall-Holt, Kaylee Malecha, Aidan Nutt, Tarkel Price, Jack Rizzo, Katie Schroeer, Carl Welbaum

Middle School Mission Trip

Chaperones: Rebekah Thomas, Matt Garlie, Jenny (or Zack) Pelletier, Kris Vatter

Youth: Will Becker, Ada Gabert-Nicholson, Rhett Garlie, Annalise Hall-Holt, Seth Hansen, Clara Lippert, Charlie Neeb, Ainsley Nutt, Jeanette Pelletier, Halle Pinc Sutterfield, Vassar Price, Mary Rizzo, Bailey Sauve, Johann Schroeer, Gus Welbaum, Mason Vatter

Tuesday Weekly Lectionary Text Study Takes a Break

The group suggested that we take the summer off and try again in the fall.

From Our Pastors

Continued from page 3

kingdom of God that is already happening there. And not only will we be participants in the coming kingdom of God, but we just might also be recipients of it, too – as we are welcomed, loved, and ministered to by the good people of Houston and Milwaukee.

These short-term mission trips will not solve any problems in Milwaukee and Houston. However, by picking up a paint brush, by handing out a sandwich, by laughing with a kid at kid's club – by doing *something* – we become witnesses and participants in God's desired future. As my seminary professor, Andrew Root, has said, "The mission trip is not an all-purpose tool (we) use to shock kids into having spiritual epiphanies. The mission trip in youth ministry is a week of insignificant acts under the heavy shadow of oppression and poverty that seek to witness to God's new reality. We clothe the homeless now, knowing that one blanket doesn't solve their plight or get them off the streets; but one blanket is, to a freezing person, a taste of God's future."

Please pray for us and the people of Milwaukee and Houston. We cannot wait to tell you how God is at work there.

With great joy,

Pastor Jonathan

Life and Growth

Deaths

May 17, 2018
Joe Nesheim



Radio Broadcasts

May 6, 2018

Given in loving memory of Sawyer Garlie who died one year ago today and in celebration of his brother Lincoln Garlie's birthday on May 22.

May 13, 2018

Given by Shirley Falck in honor of grandson Bennett Falck's graduation from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. Bennett was baptized and confirmed here, one among many others nurtured by this congregation.

May 20, 2018

Given by Duane and Marie Benson.

May 27, 2018

Given by Anthony Becker and Rebecca Judge in dedication to the Class of 2018 of St. Olaf College graduating today.

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

**Watch for the
Children and Youth
Registration Packet
for the
2018-2019 School Year
Coming in June!**



thank
YOU

Thank You Sunday School Teachers

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers who led our Sunday School program this year:
Barbie Strese, Lynette Schroeter,
Erinn Gunn, Anne France,
Jacob Gonnerman, Trish Goodrich,
Dena King, Amy McBroom,
Hannah Williams, Kristy Harms,
Sue Brockman, Kris Vatter,
Betsy McLaughlin, Brian Evenson

**Thanks to all our
wonderful volunteers
who helped with
Children's Ministries
this year!**

**We couldn't do
great programming
without YOU!**



**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)

Register [online](#) or pick up a registration form in either the upper or lower Commons.

Looking Ahead to Camp!

Our prayers are with all of our campers as they head off to camp this summer, June 24-29!

Shores of St. Andrew, grades 2-5, New London, MN
Campers attending this year:

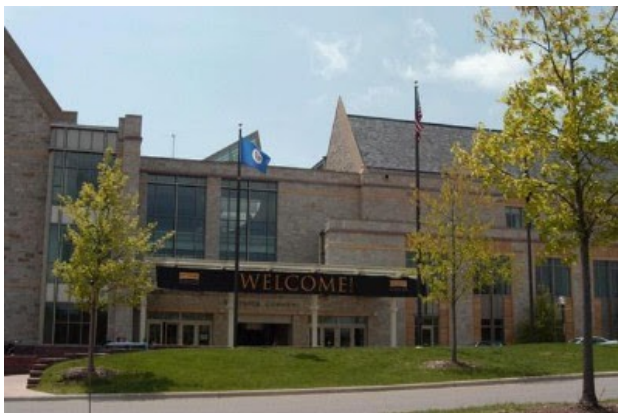
Elise Melby
Emmett Norrie
Wyatt Norrie
Emmet Peterson
Joran Peterson
Halle Pinc-Sutterfield
Marissa Vatter

Check Out Family Camp

Interested in going to family camp this summer?
Check out the family camp options at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN or at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN.

Go to Good Earth Village's website: www.goodearthvillage.org,
Green Lake Lutheran Ministry's website: www.GLLM.org
to find out dates and registration information.

Photo Scavenger Hunt at St. Olaf!



When:

Wednesday, June 13

Time:

12 noon - 2:00 p.m.

Who:

All high school and middle school youth from St. John's, Bethel, St. Peter's, and Emmaus are invited! Bring a friend!

What:

Meet at Buntrock Commons at St. Olaf for lunch. Following lunch we'll divide into small groups for a photo scavenger hunt on campus! There will be a prize for the group who finishes first!

Cost:

Bring money for lunch.

Adult chaperones will be needed.
(One adult per 5 - 7 kids)

Sign up by emailing Angie at youth@StJohnsNorthfield.org.

Get involved with Children and Youth Ministries!



For children and youth to feel connected to their church, it's important for them to build relationships with at least 5 adults, other than their parents. Please consider volunteering with children and youth programming this fall with Sunday Morning or Wednesday programming. We need volunteers to teach and/or help with a variety of activities.

Please talk with Julie Brehmer or check out the volunteer opportunities in the registration packet. **P.S.: High School students** – talk with Julie about how you can connect with our younger kids on Sundays and Wednesdays!

Children and Youth

Volunteer Opportunity for Middle School and High School Youth!

What:

Come help with Vacation Bible School (VBS) activities!

When:

June 11 - June 14 (Monday - Thursday)

Time:

9:00-11:30 a.m.

Where:

Emmaus Baptist Church

Volunteers can help in these fun ways:

Decorate and help with prep (prior to the start of VBS)

Be a station leader or assistant for leading music, crafts, games, storytelling, and snacks

Be a small group helper for leading groups of children to various activity stations

Help take care of small children in the nursery

You can sign up to help on whatever days work for you!

Contact Julie Brehmer if interested!

children@StJohnsNorthfield.org

507-645-4429

News and Updates

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

July 16-20

The Holy Spirit is the *Living Breath of God*. From the foundation of the world, the Holy Spirit **creates** new life. Through prophets old and new, the Holy Spirit **provokes** us, opening our eyes to God’s justice and mercy.

Today and every day,
the Holy Spirit **empowers** us
in faith and action.

Our conference week will focus on these workings of the Holy Spirit and our daily worship will be built on this foundation.

The St. Olaf Conference on
Worship, Theology and the Arts
offers professional development, spiritual
nourishment, and networking opportunities
for persons engaged in
congregational ministry.

At this conference, participants are invited to experience the “Living Breath of God” with the choral, organ, and handbell faculty of St. Olaf College and guest faculty from a range of denominations and ministries.

Registration is now open.
Go to <https://wp.stolaf.edu/cwta/>.

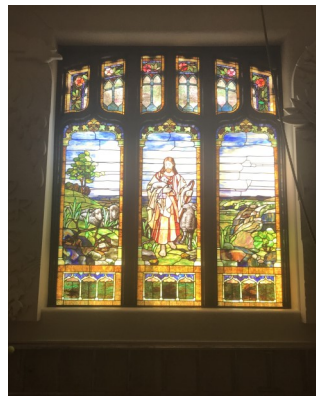
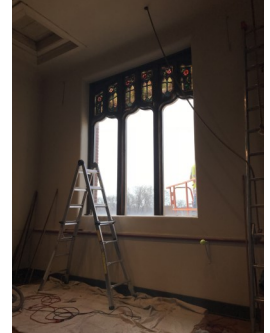


First 150th Anniversary Capital Projects Complete!

St. John’s beautiful generosity in our 150th Anniversary Grace Overflowing campaign has allowed us to begin work on some of the capital projects needed in our facility.

Good Shepherd Window Restored

The Good Shepherd window, one of the historic treasures of our 1913 Sanctuary, was partially removed and restored in the first weeks of May. We found the wooden sill underneath the old window disintegrating and bug ridden. ReinArts repaired cracked portions of the stained glass and replaced the sill. Thanks to Nathan Proctor and Zack Pelletier for their flexibility during this work as the usual balcony use was disrupted. The window will also be getting some new lighting that will allow it to be illuminated in the evenings to be seen from the outside.



New Air Handler and HVAC Controls Installed

A new air handler was ordered earlier this spring to replace our 60 year-old unit and is now installed on the east side of the building. Further duct work for the system is being done at the time of this writing. The new system will be more efficient, and have remote controls, enabling us to better keep the temperature stable in the Sanctuary. In addition to keeping us comfortable, good controls of our air conditioning system are essential to care of our valuable organ and grand pianos in the Sanctuary.

Wondering why “the boiler” is not also being replaced? Our heating system is not as old as the AC, and in fact we have not one “boiler” but three different units. However, the new thermostats and controls will work for the heating as well as cooling of our facility, so they are improvements for year-round maintenance.

What’s next?

Brick work for the second-oldest portion of our building – the offices, library, and music wing – is planned. We hope that tuck-pointing can be completed in this warm season.



Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals

Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals open their twelfth season this summer beginning June 27 and concluding on August 15. All six recitals will be held during the Wednesday noon hour from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. with the following schedule:

Wednesday, June 27

Martha Barth, Andrew Jacob, Matt Tykutki (St. Olaf Organ Students)
Boe Memorial Chapel, St. Olaf College
Holtkamp Organ, III, 90 ranks, 2007

Wednesday, July 4

No Recital

Wednesday, July 11

Richard Collman, Organ; Randall Ferguson, Guitar
United Methodist Church, 1401 S. Maple St.
Gabriel Kney Organ, II, 27 ranks

Wednesday, July 18

Catherine Rodland
Boe Memorial Chapel, St. Olaf College
Holtkamp Organ, III, 90 ranks, 2007

Wednesday, July 25

Noah Klein
All Saints Episcopal, 419 Washington St.
Reuter Organ, II, 9 ranks

Wednesday, August 1

Stephen May
First United Church of Christ Congregational, 300 Union St.
Johnson & Son/Schlicker/Rutz, III, 53 ranks

Wednesday, August 8

Joanne Rodland
St. John's Lutheran Church, 500 Third St. W
Dobson, II, 26 ranks

Wednesday, August 15

Janean Hall and Larry Archbold
Skinner Chapel, Carleton College
Rutz 2018, IV, 48 ranks

Some recitals will include a free-will offering to defray publicity expenses. For more information, contact Richard Collman at 507-645-1357 or email rkcollman@msn.com.

Worship In July

This year in July we will be trying something new...one worship service! On all 5 Sundays in July we will have only one worship service at 9:30 a.m. followed by coffee and fellowship. The service will be broadcast on KYMN radio at 9:30 a.m. Watch for more details in July's edition of the Voice.

News and Updates

Curtis and Katie Kline to Visit Sunday, June 10



Curtis and Katie Kline, our missionaries in Colombia, will be back at St. John's for a visit on Sunday, June 10. Some of you may remember their visit in the summer of 2016.

Curtis works with IELCO (the Lutheran church body in Colombia) in peacemaking and reconciliation efforts, and Katie works in women's education and health. Both of them blog regularly about their work at 8000 feet and counting: <http://8000feetandcounting.blogspot.com/>

If you would like to join the global mission team for a small group luncheon with the Klins following the 10:00 a.m. service that day, please contact Pastor Fickenscher.



THE BRIDGE

A Monthly Resource from the Southeastern Minnesota Synod



AN INTERVIEW WITH BISHOP ATAHUALPA HERNANDEZ OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF COLOMBIA (IELCO)

Bishop Atahualpa Hernandez will be one of the special guests at the 2018 Synod Assembly where the theme is "One Global Congregation." He is the current bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia (IELCO) which is one of our global church companions.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE THE PEOPLE OF THE SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD, ELCA TO KNOW ABOUT LIFE AND MINISTRY IN COLOMBIA?

The church in Colombia is 82 years old. It was founded by missionaries, including missionaries from Minnesota. Our history of being church together is long! IELCO is present in 13 cities across Colombia divided into 4 regions (similar to the synods of the ELCA), made up by 22 churches. There are currently 19 pastors, of whom 6 are women, there are also 3 others who are currently serving congregations in the process of ordination.

Since when IELCO started, it has been committed to the betterment of the society, especially including children, youth, women, small family farmers, and the elderly. Currently, IELCO, on the national level is made up of 6 ministries: Pastoral, Evangelism, Women, Youth, Education, and Diakonia. Their projects all have a focus in human rights from the perspective of the faith in the construction of peace. There are also four Lutheran Schools with education from pre-school through high school. With the current situation of Colombia, we are putting a lot of focus, from all the ministries of the church, in the construction of peace. Colombia is living in a historical moment since the peace agreement was signed in November of 2016.

WHAT DO YOU FIND MOST FULFILLING AND JOYFUL ABOUT YOUR ROLE AS BISHOP?

After a difficult time for IELCO including 2 years of crisis for the church, it is an honor and a privilege to be part of the team of people working towards the reparation of relationships, healing for the church, and living into the mission of God in Colombia. I find joy in being with

the people of the churches, learning from them, and seeing all that is happening in each congregation. I am hopeful that the IELCO is advancing towards mutual understanding and growth in the communities.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST SENSE A CALL TO MINISTRY?

I grew up in a Christian family from a young age. I had many good examples of pastors from my church and they inspired me follow in their footsteps. From that time, I have felt the desire to serve in the church. Even though I had a strong calling to serve in the church, I started at the university studying chemistry. However, in about the middle of my studies I could not deny my calling and I started studying theology. After I finished my Bachelor's degree, I served my internship in a rural community in the plains of Colombia and continued there for another year after the internship completed. I went on to study for my Master's degree in hermeneutics. I love the interpretation of the Bible and studying the various ways the messages in the Bible can be transmitted. After completing my Master's degree I became the director of the Lutheran School of Theology in Colombia. It was from that position that I, reluctantly, accepted the position of bishop.

WHY DO YOU THINK IT IS IMPORTANT TO NURTURE AND DEVELOP OUR GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS?

As it is written in Luke 24:13-35 in the story "On the Road to Emmaus" we are called to walk together to listen to each other. The model of accompaniment that I see in this story shows us how to cultivate our relationships. It doesn't matter if it starts from joy or sorrow, but we begin to walk together in the promise of the the resurrected Jesus. We join our strengths together; and at the same time, when one of the partners in suffering, being together makes the other strong.

During the difficult crisis of IELCO, we knew we were accompanied by the Southeastern Minnesota Synod. This accompaniment was through visits, prayer, presence in our assemblies, and sometimes, the most powerful was simply to just be listened to. We give thanks to you for the long history of accompaniment, and pray for the future of our mutual accompaniment!





Our Global Visitors on Wednesday,
May 2, from Tanzania and Colombia.

Blessing Others in Times of Grief: St. John's Funeral Hospitality Volunteers

Do you know how blessed we are at St. John's to have such a serving community of believers? So many people give of their time and talents, it is astounding. For example, we have had 15 funerals since May 2017, which means we have served almost 2,500 people with our funeral hospitality teams. Every funeral we serve we need at least 15 workers. Above and beyond the 15 workers who "work" the funeral, we also need people to set the tables, wash the tablecloths, clean up, bake bars or cakes, make phone calls recruiting the needed help and desserts, shop for the needed groceries, and act as a liaison between the funeral home, phone calling recruiter, and team leader. As you can see, it takes A LOT of people to provide this wonderful blessing of service to others during their time of grief.

A simple request for current volunteers.

If you receive a message / voicemail requesting your help, even if you cannot help, could you please return the call? It would be so helpful for our recruiter to know if she needs to move on to try someone else, instead of waiting for a return call which never comes. She then has to scramble to fill the opening at the last minute. Thank you for considering this request!

Have you been thinking you might like to be part of the funeral hospitality ministry at St. John's?

We are always thankful for volunteers willing to help even if they cannot physically help during a funeral luncheon. If you could drop off bars, or a cake the evening before or early the morning of the funeral, it helps. If you are unsure what serving roles would be the best fit for you, please contact Mary or Christy, and we would be happy to help you find just the right place to serve.

News and Updates

From the Peace & Justice Group

"Peace is in our hands" – do believe it
Do you want to know more?
Do you want to connect with peacemakers
from around the world?

If so, St. John's Peace & Justice Group
recommends the following:

UNESCO's Culture of Peace News Network (<http://cpnn-world.org/new/>)

To sign up to receive bulletins: click on
"bulletins" then "subscribe."
Bulletins arrive in your inbox monthly.

The latest bulletin features stories about
peacemaking activities in Korea,
the Middle East, and the US
along with an update from the
UN Commission on the Status of Women.

Nonviolent Peaceforce (<http://nvpf.org/>)

To sign up for their monthly e-newsletter,
click on "Take Action" then "subscribe."
A couple of NP volunteers shared their
experience as nonviolent witnesses in
conflict areas with St. John's in 2016.
NP's US office is in St. Paul.

Lutheran Peace Fellowship (<https://www.lutheranpeace.org/>)

Read the LPF's blog (or subscribe to it),
use some educational materials
(see PDF archive) with
school, church or community groups.
This website is full of great resources about
peacemaking at home and abroad.

the **WOMEN'S** page

JUNE GATHERINGS

Women's Breakfast Group

Saturday, June 9
8:30am
Fireside Room
Join us for
refreshments and
conversation

Baby Boomers

Saturday, June 9
4:30pm
Contented Cow
patio, (weather
permitting)
Join us for a
beverage,
popcorn and
conversation



NEW SEASON, NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

St. John's Women 2018-2019 board members were installed Sunday morning, May 13th.

Monday, May 5th the new and old boards met for an all day workshop to plan for the coming year.

Our programming for next year promises to be as relevant and interesting as in years past.

Watch for information
in the coming months.

President: Jane
Rinehart

Vice President:
Maribeth Beck

Outgoing President
Marilyn Calcutt

Programming: Anita
Hellie, Mary Holleque,
Julie Thorsheim

Discipleship: Jo Franklin, Jeanette Rondestvedt

Missions: Sue Sharrow, Frances Boehning

Secretary: Evie Bronson

Treasurere: Judy Cederberg

Publicity: Julie Zdenek



2018-2019 Theme:
Courageous Conversations
Watch for more information throughout
the Summer!



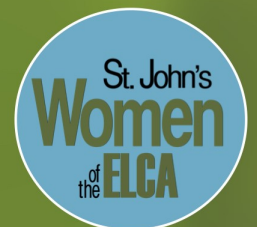
Visit our web page:

<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 column acknowledges women of St. John's who have served in various ministries. This month Judy Smith is featured.

A city girl meets a farm boy at a dance. After courting, they are married; it's been, now, 50 years. The city girl, Judy Smith, has been a member of St. John's for 50 years.

Judy grew up in St. Paul and graduated from Washington High School and settled into a rural life in the country.

A young farmer's wife, she admits that she was scared of farm animals. One day, while home alone, a pig got out of its pen. "I'll show that pig who's boss." Hurrying outside, she chased the pig, then the pig turned around and chased her! With that, Judy turned, RAN to the farm house, leaving the pig to roam until the men came home!

In those early years, Judy turned her energies to volunteering at St. John's where their children were so she volunteered in the nursery and then Sunday School.

For 40 years, she has belonged to a circle and way back, when the 'Old Service Groups' were in operation, she was responsible, one month each year, calling, getting members, to fill ALL the slots. Now this function belongs to the Monthly Hospitality Groups.

She quilts monthly, sets up the dining hall for funerals with Jim Enestvedt, gets the kitchen towels laundered one week a month, and sets up Communion, when needed.

Judy is one who, seemingly, never keeps idle. Besides volunteering, she has many hobbies: knitting, scrapbooking (a book, each, for nine grandchildren and 29 great-children), reading (a book a week), photography, volunteering at the book fair, jigsaw puzzles, "Letter Boxes", "Places, Please."

And one more thing: In 1978 she opened a day care center, having 10+ little ones at a time. For a time she had three babies at one time.

Her house is testament to the love of her family and her hobbies. She has "poster walls" where her photos cover the walls. At times, she finds family members quietly scanning the walls.

She and Joe keep a good-sized garden in their back yard, sharing the produce with family and friends. They love spending quiet summer evenings in the back yard, listening, watching the birds flying about in the tall trees surrounding their property.

With a chuckle, Judy, again, recalls those newly-wed days when Joe wanted to teach her how to drive a tractor...with no success. "I was fired." Looking back, she says, "He must have really loved me to put up with me!" She says, now, she would not move back to the city! She loves the farm and she loves the friends she has at St. John's.



News and Updates



Weekly Pub Theology Returns

Beginning on Monday, June 4, Pastors Pam and Jonathan are excited to launch weekly Pub Theology again!

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 Mondays from 6:00-7:30 p.m. at **Froggy Bottoms**. 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.

From the Adult Ministry & Education Board: Recent Additions to the St. John's Library By Genevieve Quarberg

We have added several books to the library, focusing on authors who look for the presence of God in daily lives, or as Edna Hong might say, searchers for "clues to the kingdom."

Virgin Time by Patricia Hampl, a Minnesota writer who grew up a Catholic, explores an individual's search for faith in a world that talks often of spirituality, but not so much about faith.

Kathleen Norris and her husband went to live in the small town of Lemmon, South Dakota, where she wrestled with the prairie like Jacob wrestled with the angel in her book, *Dakota, A Spiritual Geography*.

Anne Lamott, in her latest book, *Hallelujah Anyway*, continues her story of the necessity of mercy and forgiveness in our lives. We also have her more humorous book, *Operating Instructions, A Journal of My Son's First Year of Life*.

Jim Wallis' book, *Faith Works, How to Live Your Beliefs and Ignite Positive Social Change* is just what the title says.

Just one of many books by Madeleine L'Engle already in our library, *Two-Part Invention* is the story of her marriage, the difficult trials as well as the joys.

There are two novels by Ann Tyler. *Saint Maybe* is about a young man who takes on the task of raising his dead brother's children after he felt guilty about causing his brother's death. *Breathing Lessons* is about an ordinary married couple who discover while going to a friend's funeral that they live extraordinary lives.

There are three novels by Marilynne Robinson, all taking place in the small town of Gilead in Iowa. (She teaches at the Iowa Writers' Workshop.) *Gilead* is an account of himself and his forebears by an older pastor for his son. *Lila* is the story of a homeless woman who makes a remarkable connection with that older pastor. *Home* is about families, secrets and the passing of generations.

Open House in Celebration of Mary White's 100th Birthday

You are invited to join Mary on Sunday, June 10, between 2:00-4:00 p.m. to help her celebrate her 100th birthday.

The celebration will take place in the Parkview West Dining Room at the Northfield Retirement Center.



From Bread for the World: Analysis from a Bread Staff Blog

Comprehensive immigration reform is necessary to address root causes of hunger and poverty.



Without it, we will be unable to achieve our goal of ending hunger and poverty at home and around the world. Progress was recently made when a federal judge ruled that the Trump administration must resume accepting new applications for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, program.

Hunger occurs on both sides of the U.S.-Mexican border. As a result, it is crucial that we address immigration reform as an international and domestic issue. On the one hand we must address the root causes of migration such as food insecurity, deep poverty, lack of economic opportunity and extreme violence as factors that “push” people out of their home countries and into places of opportunity like the U.S. On the other hand we must address the domestic issues, including lack of citizenship, work protections, and support programs that cause and exacerbate hunger rates among undocumented immigrants, their U.S.-born children and the communities in which they live.

Protection for DACA youth and young adults is just one of many policies that need to be enacted. Bread will continue to support bipartisan legislation like the Dream Act and USA Act. Other policies that compromise a family’s ability to provide for their family and fight hunger will need to be addressed as well.

Bread believes in and will continue to fight for policies and practices that;

- unify families instead of separating them
- empower undocumented individuals and workers instead of disenfranchising them
- protect human rights instead of violating them
- address the root causes of migration
- improve the legal immigration system

Gathering For Those Suffering the Loss of a Loved One

Pastors Pam and Jonathan invite those who have suffered the loss of a loved one for dessert on Wednesday, June 27, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. This is an opportunity to spend time with our pastors and others who have experienced a loss.

If you have questions, call the church office at 507-645-4429.

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OFFICE HOURS

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

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

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

"Instrument Night"

**Wednesday, June 13
6:00-6:45 p.m.
St. John's Library**

Come and play a wide variety of instruments including technology and electronics that makes playing traditional and novel instruments fun for anyone! No experience is necessary - come willing to meet new people, try something new, and make music together!
Refreshments will be provided.