

THE VOICE

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Summer 2012

Volume 52, Number 6

*on the
inside . . .*

ACT Garage Sale

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Family Camp

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National Youth
Gathering

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Worship Services:

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

The *Voice* is a monthly publication of St. John's Lutheran Church, Northfield, MN. Articles for the *Voice* must be submitted by the 15th of each month:

office@stjohns-elca.org.

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website:

www.stjohns-elca.org

Church office hours:

Mon. - Thurs.

9:00 a.m. to noon and
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. to noon and
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

With Great Appreciation!

As we come to the end of the ministry program, there are so many people to thank. I want to thank all the choir directors, singers, and musicians for the beautiful music they have provided for us at worship. Also, thank you to the lay liturgists, cantors, communion preparers and servers, ushers, greeters and Chancel Guild members. We could not do worship without you. Also, thank you to everyone who helps with the fellowship events and dinners, those who set up and cleanup. These events are one of the jewels of St. John's. We are so fortunate to have so many willing helpers. As the saying goes, "Many hands make for light work." Thank you to all our volunteers.

Hiring Committee Formed

We keep in our prayers the following members who have agreed to serve on the hiring committee for the new Youth and Family Ministry Director:

Andrea Hoff - Chair

Barry Becker

Peggy Dell

John Reid

Kelsey Bull

Greg Pelletier

Pr. Mark Johnson

Please take time to thank these folks for their dedication to our young people's ministry!

Welcome New Staff

We welcome Leah Garlie to the church staff. She will serve as our new Office Manager. Leah is married and has two children. Stop by the church office to say hello. Also, we welcome Marvin and Irene Perez as our new security check and lockup team. They will also do some setting up and other odd jobs around the church. Marvin and Irene have two children and are members of St. John's. Please say welcome to Marvin and Irene.



SUMMER WORSHIP

Worship hours changed on
Sunday, May 27.

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship

10:00 a.m. Worship

See you at Church!

Prayer and Care Ministry

*Pray without ceasing.
1 Thessalonians 5:17*

Prayer Ministry

Prayers for healing, joys, and all concerns are offered every Sunday morning between services in the prayer chapel near the choir room on the second floor. Contact Jane Rinehart for more information about the prayer ministry team - jane.s.rinehart@gmail.com

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 663-1097.

*Bear one another's
burdens, and in
this way you will
fulfill the law of
Christ.
Galatians 6:2*



*Providing one-
to-one care and
encouragement*

One of the messages from the New Testament is that pastors are not the only ones equipped for ministry. In fact, one of the functions of the church is to help people discover their God-given gifts and to encourage them and to provide opportunities for them to use their gifts for the sake of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ. Jesus commissioned his followers to go and make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20), to be his witnesses (Acts 1:8), and to serve one another as he served them (John 13:13-15). Jesus commended the ministry of all who serve in his name, saying that when they cared for others in their need, they cared for him (Matthew 25:40). The apostle Paul portrays the church as the body of Christ in which the Holy Spirit gives gifts to every Christian, and each member of the body is to use his or her gifts for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). Ephesians 4 also describes the church as the body of Christ – saying that God equips people for all kinds of ministry.

Stephen Ministry is one way St. John's equips people to use their gifts in a ministry of Christian caregiving. Stephen Ministers help to extend the Christian care St. John's offers to St. John's members and members of the community – in addition to and in partnership with the pastoral staff. The following Stephen Ministers offered Christian caregiving as part of the outreach of St. John's this past year and we give thanks to God for their service in Christ's name: **Marie Benson, Nordis Christenson, Jennifer Edwins, Shirley Falck, Dan Franklin, Jo Franklin, Joan Halvorson, Chuck Jacobson, Barb Knaak, Nick Neeb, Carolyn Nitz, Jenny Pelletier, Ron Rodman, Sue Rodman, Jim Rossow, Pam Schwandt, Eulalie Smestad, Rachel Stark, Liz Wicks, Gary Wicks, Barbara Wilson**

*Blessed are they who
mourn, for they shall
be comforted.
Matthew 5:4*

Grief Support Ministry

Grief Support Ministry

Northfield Grief Support Coalition: A grief support group meets this month at Bethel Lutheran Church on Wednesday evenings from 7:00p.m. to 8:30 p.m. through June 27. Contact Cathy Cammack with questions or to register, 645-7532.

From our pastors . . .

"Young men and women alike, old and young together! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven."

Psalm 148:12-13



Drums, wedding cake, and the Chicken Dance are not part of the usual Sunday morning coffee and fellowship in St. John's Hall. They were last month, though, when the Sunday School teachers and students invited the congregation to be a part of a wedding reception following a dramatic telling of the story of the Wedding at Cana. As Christ blessed those who gathered at the wedding at Cana long ago, Christ blessed all who gathered in St. John's Hall that Sunday in May through the gospel story and through the community that gathered to eat cake, to visit, and to dance.

Opportunities to gather for fellowship, like the wedding reception and Wednesday Night Meals, have increased in the past few years at St. John's. Worship is the most important time we spend together as a congregation. It is a time when young men and women alike, old and young together gather to praise God, to hear the Gospel proclaimed, and to be sent back into the congregation and out into our communities to be witnesses to the love of Christ. But fellowship times help to enrich our worship life and all of our ministries.

Fellowship events provide time and space for us to get to know one another and as we get to know one another our sense of belonging and connection to God and to one another can grow. It's the Holy Spirit that brings this growth – calling us through the Gospel and enlightening us with gifts as Martin Luther describes it; strengthening our faith and trust in God's promises. It's the Holy Spirit that comforts us through the care of others and provides us with opportunities to love and care for one another; that teaches us to pray together and for one another; that opens our hearts to welcome strangers and to practice hospitality, and in the midst of all that could separate us, it's the Spirit, through the love of Christ, that gives us one voice to praise and worship God.

My internship supervisor described every congregation as "a workshop of the Holy Spirit." The Spirit certainly moves outside a church building and congregation but the Spirit is most certainly at work in a congregation to equip workers in God's Kingdom through word and sacrament ministry, through learning and prayer, through service and outreach, and through the relationships and the fellowship time that we share.

It shouldn't come as a surprise that the Youth and Family Transition Team identified relationship and a sense of belonging as some of the most important values we share as a congregation. In their recommendations to the congregation as it seeks to develop youth and family ministry and specifically to the committee that will hire a new youth director, the Transition Team identified the following core values: belonging, spiritual growth, bridge building (e.g. to build connections between youth and other members of the congregation and new ministries), service, leadership, and communication. While the focus of the team was on youth ministry their recommendations reflect the values of the congregation that emerged through the recent strategic planning process.

Praise God for the Sunday School teachers and students, for you "Chicken Dancers", for the members of the Transition Team, and for all of you members of St. John's – young and old and in between - for the variety of gifts you share at St. John's and in our community as a witness to the love of God in Christ Jesus. Pray for the work of the director of youth and family ministries hiring committee and for the congregation as we seek to continue to extend God's love through our fellowship and all the ministries we share.

Marks

May Actions

Memorials and Gifts

Please note, there are other memorials that came in in the months of April and May - we are getting those recorded and they will appear in the August issue of the Voice.

Baptisms

Isabella Marie Rudser, daughter of Amy Rudser & Joshua Gumm; sponsors are Kyle & Annalisa Rudser, Steve & Jen Prash and Anna Rudser; May 13, 2012

Deaths

Jean Batalden, April 28, 2012

Martin Gunderson, May 23, 2012

Radio Broadcasts

May 6, 2012, in memory of **Robert Brown** by his parents, Forest and Virley Brown

May 13, 2012, in memory of **Leon Ingram**, by his family

May 20, 2012, in memory of **Doris Marks** by Orv Marks on their 64th anniversary

May 27, 2012, in memory of **Robert Brown**, by his parents, Forest and Virley Brown

Music and Woship Life

Thank you to all the 4-5th Graders who participated in chime choir this year. We had twelve incredible musicians, some returning and some new. They practiced some challenging music and had quite a bit of fun together! Thanks to all of them:

4-5th Grade Chime Choir

Parker Aman

Ariana Beeby

Cate Carson

Erin Gunn

Elsa Hoff

Cole Johannsen

Willa Kmoch

Siri Lindell

Kucheang Mangok

Alex Redetzke

Anna Weber

Rikka Zillmer





Summer in Shared Ministry at St. John's!

Summer Meals

St. John's is once again providing monthly summer meals to continue the fellowship and ministry of our Wednesday Night Meals. This summer meals are planned for **Wednesday, June 13, Friday, July 13** and **National Night Out, Tuesday, August 7**.

We need volunteers for all of our meals, especially on August 7 as we consider this a significant outreach event (last year we fed over 200 people, many of them our guests!). Sign ups will be available in the Sunday worship folder the weeks preceding the meal. You may also sign up on the *Serve with St. John's* bulletin board or by contacting Regina Hassanally.

We're trying a new breakdown of volunteer shifts for meals and if this system works well we will incorporate it into our fall sign ups. Volunteer needs for summer meals are as follows:

Set Up and Oversee the Coffee and Beverage Table (4:45-5:05pm)

Prepare Dessert Platters (4:30-5:30pm)

Monitor and Replenish Serving Tables (5:15-6:15pm)

Serve Food (5:00-6:30pm)

Run the Dishwasher (5:30pm-6:15pm or 6:15pm-7:00pm)

Wipe Tables (6:30-7:00pm)

Donate a Dessert (to St. John's Hall by 5pm)

Summer Coffee

For the months of June, July and August coffee volunteers will be recruited through a sign up sheet in the commons. If you're interested in serving coffee this summer please sign up and take an instruction sheet (found in the envelope attached to the sign up board). If there are not enough volunteers slotted to serve on a particular Sunday no coffee will be served that morning. Contact Adult Ministry and Education Board member Richard Nelson (richardnelson_03@q.com) or staff Regina Hassanally with questions.

St. John's Serves at the local Food Shelf in July

For the past several years St. John's has had the opportunity to serve our community in Christ's name through providing volunteers to keep the local food shelf running through the month of July. Volunteers can expect to help stock shelves, organize the storeroom, and assist shoppers. Volunteers can sign up to serve with Don Sahling in the commons throughout the month of June. Volunteers should be able to stand on their feet, wear close-toed shoes, and Wednesday volunteers may be required to lift up to 50 pounds. Contact Don Sahling with questions or to volunteer for a shift.

Regina Hassanally
Director of Shared Ministries
reginah@stjohns-elca.org

SERVING TO LOVE  *LOVING TO SERVE*

. . . Mission Outreach



Laura Baker Gathering in June

St. John's members are needed to assist Laura Baker Staff in hosting a gathering time for children with special needs on Saturday, June 9 from 3-5 p.m. on the Laura Baker campus. Volunteers will engage in activities with kids and help staff where needed. Sign up in the Commons or contact the church office. For more information contact Leighton Hambrick, 507-301-1841.

Food Shelf in July

Members of St. John's are asked to help staff the Community Action Center Food Shelf in July. Volunteers should wear comfortable shoes and be able to lift 20-30 pounds if needed. Sign up in the Commons. For more information contact Don Sahling, 645-9220.

Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity in August

Volunteers are needed from St. John's to help build the Thrivent Builds/Habitat for Humanity house in Dundas, Saturday, August 4. Volunteers are also needed to provide lunch for the work crew. Watch for a sign-up sheet in the Commons. Along with other Lutheran congregations in Rice County, St. John's has also been asked to contribute financially to this year's Thrivent Builds house. The goal is to raise \$1,200. Checks can be made out to St. John's with "Thrivent Builds" in the memo line.

Partners in Hope

Southeastern Minnesota Synod congregations and individuals, including St. John's, helped to raise \$100,000 last summer and fall for Partners in Hope – a gift to support education in the Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Central Diocese. The gift was presented to the Central Diocese Bishop Eliuphoo Sima by Southeastern Minnesota Synod Bishop Harold Usgaard in December. St. John's members Bill and Char Carlson were also present – a part of the synod delegation. The following message was sent to the Southeastern Minnesota Synod from Bishop Sima:

Greetings from ELCT Central Diocese, Singida, Tanzania

Christ is calling you to live His life today! We have always experienced Christ's work, love, and service through your life. We were touched by your friendliness during your visit to Central Diocese, it has added faith, strengthened our relationship and taught us of the oneness of the Church. Today we express our gratitude for the great gift of money we received from our dear Brothers and Sisters of Southeastern Minnesota Synod. The Jubilee gift was a huge amount of money we never dreamed of. We are using the money for different purposes in promoting education for our diocese.

We give thanks to all who were involved in planning and managing the whole support, and we are so grateful to all hands which gave generously. I remember the day you inaugurated the funding, in the synod assembly. Your words, Bishop, were so touching, indeed you meant to help us, you stood on our behalf and faithfully made the people agree that they had to give for our church. As the Bible says, "Cast your bread upon waters...for you will find it after many days," Eccl 11:1-2. We regard the commitment of your walking with us during the celebration of a hundred years, and believe in seeing how God gives back to you as individuals, and to the whole Church.

Peace.

Bishop Sima

Serving on Sundays in June & July

Acolytes

- June 3** (8:30) Tim Gasior, Cameron Beedle; (10:00) Viveka Hall-Holt, Anne France
June 10 (8:30) Kate Erickson, Griffin Rod; (10:00) Madelyn Miller, Sydnee Eddy
June 17 (8:30) Evan Heather, Ellie Ims; (10:00) Andrew Becker, Logan Matson
June 24 (8:30) Taylor Pleschourt, Kenyon Nystrom; (10:00) Sydney Poquette, Anna Weber
July 1 (8:30) Alaina Falck, Ellie Ims; (10:00) Nic Zabel, Grant Huston
July 8 (8:30) James Bull, Halvor Bratland; (10:00) Willa Kmoch, Madelyn Miller
July 15 (8:30) Oliva Riggins, Isaac Riggins; (10:00) Isabele Hessian, Madelyn Hessian
July 22 (8:30) Ryan Buck, Jonah Berthelsen; (10:00) Rikka Zillmer, Hannah Pahs
July 29 (8:30) Bailey Dell, Lydia Storlie; (10:00) Sam Mikula, Creegan Croone

Ushers

- Jun 3/Jul 1** (8:30) Doug Child, Alan Alberg, Duane Benson, Len Hoffmann, Rick Hillard, Loren Lee, Dan Lueck, Gordon Mickelsen; (10:00) Wes Pearson, Brian Boyum, John Hanson, Peggy Hanson, Brandon Kimber, Dale Kimber
Jun 10/Jul 8 (8:30) Dan Franklin, Jim Enestvedt, Bob Johnson, Chuck Lunder, Rob McCarthy, Brent Mueller, Ruthie Neuger, Tom Porter, Don Sahling, Myron Solid; (10:00) Jonathan Norrie, Zachary Bahler, Andrew Dell, Terry Dell, David Halsor, Dick Kleber, Kristin Nichol, Michael Sylvester, Suzanne Sylvester, Steve Williams
Jun 17/Jul 15 (8:30) Mark Anderson, Jim Bierman, Jerry Bothun, Dave Hagen, Sue Hagen, Nicholas Gonnerman, Patsy Ophaug, John Ophaug; (10:00) Margaret Hayford O'Leary, Bonnie Jean Flom, Todd Iverson, Lowell Johnson, Andy Langehough, Greg Norman, Doug O'Leary
Jun 24/Jul 22 (8:30) Dallas Berg, Niles Austvold, Myron Dack, Erik Hong, Eric Lund, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert, Ken Wilkens; (10:00) Corrine Heiberg, Elvin Heiberg, David Rudser, Susan Rudser, Andy Westerback, Emily Westerback
Jul 29 (8:30) Dallas Berg, Niles Austvold, Myron Dack, Erik Hong, Eric Lund, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert, Ken Wilkens; (10:00) Corrine Heiberg, Elvin Heiberg, David Rudser, Susan Rudser, Andy Westerback, Emily Westerback

Transition Team

The Youth and Family Transition Team has been busy the last few months researching best practices for youth ministry to help determine where we want to go with youth and family ministry in the future. During this 3 month process, the team looked at recommended best practices for Youth Ministry thru the Exemplary Youth Ministry study. Next, they researched best practices in the area by interviewing church staff of churches around the synod to hear what was working in each of their congregations. They also collected information from the congregation as to where they are hoping to go in the future through small group meetings, congregational surveys and personal interviews. They put all this information together and came up with 6 areas they hope we will focus on as we move forward. These areas are:

Belonging

Spiritual Growth

Bridge Building

Service

Leadership

Communication

If you have questions or would like more information on the findings, please contact Tracie Peterson or one of the Transition Team members. We would like to thank the Transition Team for all their hard work. Please thank the following people next time you see them.

Committee Chair – Amy McBroom

Secretary – Peggy Hanson

Barry Becker

Dave Buck

Pat Fick

Christy Hall-Holt

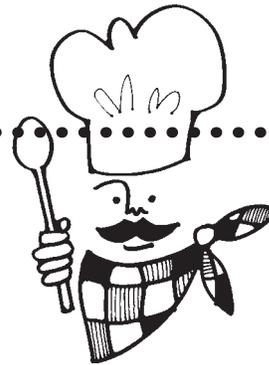
Andrea Hoff

Stephanie Huston

Kristy Mikula

Eva Posfay

Staff Liason – Tracie Peterson



St. John's Summer Meals

Enjoy fellowship and food this summer! Below are the opportunities for us to get together for a meal - make sure to invite your friends and neighbors. Everyone is welcome! See the Shared ministry page for opportunities to help make these meals a success!

Wednesday, June 13,

Friday, July 13

Tuesday, August 7

National Night Out

A HUGE thank you to our cooks and folks who serve regularly throughout the year to provide the congregation and our neighbors with a delicious meal!

News and Events

Debt Retirement Appeal

As you will recall, about one and a half years ago when we began our Debt Retirement Appeal, we recounted the story from the Gospel of John of the raising of Lazarus. Jesus prayed to his Father to give new life to his young friend who had died. As Lazarus walked out of the tomb, Jesus commanded the grievers around him to unbind Lazarus, for he was hobbled by constricting grave clothes as he walked out of death into his new life. We, too, as a congregation, felt hobbled – by too much debt – and we needed to hear Christ's command applying to our situation.

People of St. John's did hear that command with generous and, in some cases, with sacrificial giving. At this point over \$700,000 dollars have been paid on one of our \$800,000 loans. In the remaining six months of our two-year Debt Retirement Appeal, to finally erase that loan, we encourage you to continue such generous giving. If you were not able to pledge, you may still give, making note on your gift that it is for the Debt Retirement Appeal.

We want to thank you for making our task as leaders of this appeal so pleasant and renewing. You could have kept your money for your own welfare, but you chose to believe that the life-giving message of Jesus should and would continue to be told into the future in this congregation, in this place. You are making it possible for our congregation to plan for new paths of ministry to our own families, to Northfield, and to the world.

Genevieve and David Quarberg

Char and Bill Carlson

Celebrating the Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Parents who wish to have their baby or child baptized at St. John's are asked to attend a preparation session to discuss the meaning of baptism and to talk about the details of the day. Baptism preparation is held on the first Saturday of each month in the Fireside Room. The next sessions are Saturday, June 2 and July 7 at 10:30 a.m. Please call the Church Office if you plan to attend.

Children and Communion

Holy Communion is the meal of all the baptized children of God. If your baptized child has expressed an interest in receiving Holy Communion please contact a pastor. Preparation for children and parents is provided on an individual basis.

Sunday School Offering

Thank you to our Sunday School children and their families for giving to the Sunday School offering missions this year. Offering was given to provide support to the following:

- Our Compassion International child, Romario Vasquez Polo, from Bocachica, Columbia. Our \$38/month sponsorship provides Romario with Bible teaching, medical care, nutritious meals, recreational activities, academic support, educational classes and literacy training.
- \$240 was given to support the Minnesota FoodShare Drive to benefit the Northfield Food Shelf.
- \$286.79 was given to ELCA's God's Global Barnyard. Sunday School kids voted for which animals to purchase with our donations. The most votes went to – one sheep, one goat, one pig, one duck and twenty-five chicks!

ACT Garage Sale - Lighten Up!

Come to the Carleton College ACT Center's Lighten Up Garage Sale! This year, Lighten Up will take place on Friday, June 15 from 8am-7pm and Saturday, June 16 from 8am-12pm in Carleton College's West Gym. Come support this amazing fundraiser for Northfield Special Olympics, Northfield Union of Youth, and Project Friendship. Questions? 507-222-7020

News and Events

Thank You from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary and Luther Seminary

St. John's is committed to providing \$500 per semester to support each St. John's member who attends an ELCA seminary as a full-time student. Letters of thanks were sent to St. John's last month from the seminaries where St. John's members Gretchen Colby and Daniel Rinehart are studying. A portion of those letters are reprinted here:

Dear Friends, How very grateful we are for your gift of \$500 to Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in support of Gretchen Colby. With it, we will prepare and equip the next generation of leaders for our church. On behalf of all who will one day benefit from Gretchen's ministry, let me thank you again!

Joel S. Wudel, Vice President for Seminary Relations
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary

Dear Friends at St. John's Lutheran Church, Thank you for your gift of \$500 to support Daniel Rinehart's academic pursuits here at Luther Seminary! Your support eases the financial obligations of attending seminary, allowing Daniel to respond to the call of the Holy Spirit. Your gift is an investment in the next generation of bold and faithful Christian leaders.

Lynne D. Moratzka, Donor Relations Coordinator
Luther Seminary

Thank You Small Group Leaders!

St. John's has been blessed with many opportunities to connect and belong and to grow in discipleship through small groups. The following small group leaders have shared their gifts and time with the congregation this past year.

Thank you to: Dick Beckmen, Marie Benson, Marilyn Boschee, Gert Brosz, Cheryl Buck, Dick Dahlin, Barb Eaves, Phil Eaves, Sandi Gerdes, Ruth Hansen, Gretchen Hardgrove, Chuck Jacobson, Marilyn Jacobson, Barb Knaak, Bobbie Maakestad, Kathy Mellstrom, Delores Mickelsen, Char Nelson, Dean Ostlie, David Quarberg, Genevieve Quarberg, Jane Rinehart, Carol Schoen, Joyce Schrader, Rachel Stark, Judith Stoutland, Judy Swanson, Kathy Vang, Mary White

Something to think about over the summer!

For children to feel connected to their church, it's important for them to build relationships with at least 5 adults, other than their parents. With that in mind, please consider how you can help with children's programming in September by volunteering with Sunday School or Wednesday afternoon programming. We need volunteers to teach and/or help with a variety of activities. If you are interested, please talk with Julie Brehmer or check out the volunteer opportunities in the Sunday School registration packet. **P.S.: High School students** – talk with me how you can connect with our younger kids Sundays and Wednesdays too!

It's not too late to check out Family Camp, July 27-29!

Come to Family Camp at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN with other families to play, relax, learn, explore and worship together for a weekend. There will be organized activities as well as free time. Parents will have some time to relax while camp counselors engage the kids! There are a variety of rates depending on where you want to stay and how many are in your family. Check it out on their website, www.goodearthvillage.org.



Mission Statement:
TO MOBILIZE WOMEN TO ACT BOLDLY
ON THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST
 Lutheran Woman Today Bible study theme for 2011-2012 is
To Follow and to Serve: The Gospel of Mark

For newsletters and information: www.semnsynod.org and www.womenoftheelca.org

Women of the ELCA includes ALL women of St. John's!

News & Upcoming Events

The Ecumenical Women's meeting will be Saturday, June 9, 9:30 a.m. at the United Methodist church in Northfield. (1401 Maple St.) Least coin offering.

The quilters will meet June 18 and 21 and July 16 and 19 in Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m.

The knitters will not be meeting during the summer.

Women's Day at Good Earth Village is June 23, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person. Register at www.GoodEarthVillage.org

June 28 - WELCA Executive Board meeting. (No meeting in July)

June and July --- no general WELCA meetings

For a subscription to the LWT magazine, please email: subscriptions@augsborgfortress.org or ask one of the circle leaders for information.

NOTE: Some of the CIRCLES are not meeting this summer. Those that ARE meeting, are listed below.

Sarah Circle meets Wed. June 13, 9:30 a.m. at the home of Solveig Bailey 1906 Lincoln St. South.

Martha / Claudia Circle meets Thursday, June 14 at the home of Joyce Schrader, 12231 90th St. East.

Mary Circle meets Friday, June 8 for a pot-luck meal at the home of Cora Scholz 645-9266.

Women's Breakfast Group --- There are tentative plans to meet in a restaurant for their summer meeting.

NOTE: Keep checking the Sunday bulletins for any plans that may develop during the summer.

Please submit items for this information page to Marilyn Jacobson at cemja@charter.net or Marilyn Haugen at rhhmsh@charter.net .

Looking Ahead

August 2 Thursday 10:00 a.m. WELCA meeting --- birthday coffee, election of officers.

Women of the ELCA will celebrate their 25th anniversary in 2012. As part of the celebration, we honor women who have worked for justice and health for women and children around the world. There will be a special anniversary appeal, of which 50 percent of the total offerings received will go directly to the ELCA MALARIA CAMPAIGN --- toward three areas: medicine, clean water and advocacy. These funds will benefit the ELCA's Lutheran companion churches in eleven African countries.



One Week - Two Great Programs!

Programs hosted by the following churches:
Bethel, Rejoice! Emmaus, and St. John's

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School "Adventures on Promise Island" will be held the same week as "On the Road". Kindergarteners have the option of choosing either camp to attend. The VBS program starts on Monday, August 6 thru Thursday, August 9 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at Bethel Church. The cost is \$10.00 per child with a \$20.00 family limit. VBS registration is due by July 15.

VBS registration form can be found at www.stjohns-elca.org under Youth and Children. Scholarships are available for all summer camp opportunities.

"On the Road", Summer Camp

For kids completing Kindergarten – 4th grade, Good Earth Village, "On the Road" will be held at Emmaus Church. The week begins on Sunday with a 1 ½ - 2 hour welcome. Monday – Thursday, the program runs from 8:00 – 5:00 p.m. Campers can be dropped off anytime between 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. and picked up between 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. A closing program, open to everyone, will take place beginning at 4:00 p.m. Thursday. You may register online at www.goodearthvillage.com, click on summer programs, "GEV, On the Road", and choose the Northfield site. The deadline is August 1 or until the camp is full.

WE NEED MANY VOLUNTEERS for our summer VBS/ Summer program!

Volunteers needed for VBS (session held from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.):

Lifeguards – lead a small group of children to various stations

Station leaders and assistants– to lead music, crafts, games, Bible storytelling, snacks

Decorating and prep – prior to VBS

Help with registration on Monday, August 6 from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Nursery Care – help care for volunteer's children who are too young to attend VBS

Volunteers needed for "On the Road" (sessions held from 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.):

Provide an evening meal or housing for Good Earth Village camp counselors

Please call Julie Brehmer at 645-4429 or email at jbrehmer@stjohns-elca.org or fill out the Volunteer page in the Registration packet!



Looking ahead to Summer Camp!!

Shores of St. Andrew

Camp is just around the corner, June 17 – 22, at Shores of St. Andrew in New London, MN.

Campers attending Shores of St. Andrew, grades 3-5

Parker Aman	Kuchceang Mangok
Amelia Becker	Peter Neeb
Andrew Becker	Aidan Nutt
James Bull	

Settlers Camp

Settlers Camp is a three day, two night camp, June 10-12, at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN

Campers attending Settlers Camp, grades 2 and 3:

Nicholas Boehning	
Charlie Neeb	Thea Benson
Gunnar Benson	Annelise Hall-Holt

Our prayers are with all of our campers this summer. And, thank you St. John's for helping with the cost of camp by donating and participating in the fundraisers!

YOUTH MINISTRY @ ST. JOHN'S

Magical Mystery Tours

Join youth from all over Northfield for 3 adventures this summer. These events, tailored towards grades 6-8, are sponsored by the Northfield Area Youth Workers. Since the events are supposed to be a Mystery, parents will receive a letter a few weeks before each event, letting you know the details for each tour. Parents, please keep the event a mystery! This summer's events are scheduled for



June 15 @ 6:15pm
July 12
August 16

Mark your calendars and keep an eye out for the details for each trip. Hope you can make it.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year a success. Special thanks goes to this year's teaching staff

Sr. High – Faith Lens

Tony Becker
Peggy Hanson
Eva Posfay

Pr. John Quam
Pr. Randy Johnson

Middle School – Way to Live

Hannah Mardi
Allison Hartke
Brian Evenson
Tracie Peterson

Pr. Randy Johnson
Christy Hall-Holt
Peggy Hanson

We also want to thank those who provided Donuts each week

Cheryl Buck
Sandy Kimmes

Andrea Hoff

Thank you for your gracious service as we help youth and their parents live into their Baptismal Promises.

Part of the 9th grade Confirmation program is to have members of the congregation share their Faith story at various times during the year. We want to say a special thank you to those who were able to join us
David & Genevieve Quarberg
Jane Rinehart
Tom Porter



2012 National Youth Gathering

In July, 9 youth and 3 adults will be traveling to New Orleans to represent St. John's. Please remember to keep the following people in your prayers:

Bjorn Bade	Bennet Falck
Kirstin Buck	Michael Gasior
Michael DeCramer	Nick Hushley
Andrew Dell	Terry Dell
Irene Duba	Brian Evenson
Zac Evenson	Tracie Peterson

Looking for ways to be a part of the gathering at home?

1. In 2012, New Orleans needs books! Hurricane Katrina tore the scab off of the deep wound of generational, systemic poverty, and some of the wounds are still open. This is our church's opportunity to address one of the symptoms of recurring poverty in New Orleans -- illiteracy. This is God's work, too. Be a part of the largest book giveaway the state of Louisiana has ever seen. Go to www.gulfcoastsynod.org/books.html These are not just any books. New Orleans area teachers and librarians are asking for new, multicultural books that inspire learning, build vocabulary and come with teaching tools for parents and children.
2. On Sunday, July 22, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. CDT the 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering Closing Worship will take place in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome. The entire congregation is invited to consider joining this worship from your own location. ELCA Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson will be preaching. Watch for more details in the bulletin and website as to how you can be a part of this historic event.

Pastors

Randall Johnson

Mark Johnson

John Quam

Building Security

Marvin and Irene Perez

Children's Ministry

Julie Brehmer

Music Ministry

Daniel Fenn

Music Staff

Tyler Forsythe - Alleluia

Cathy Rodland - Jubilate

Ruth Legvold - Laudate

Office Manager

Leah Garlie

Parish Nurse

Lynette Marks

Shared Ministry

Regina Hassanally

Youth Ministry

Tracie Peterson

Congregation

President

Richard Falck



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Rhubarb Sunday is June 10!

It's time to cut the rhubarb, search for your special rhubarb recipe, and whip it up...and bring it to St. John's for Rhubarb Sunday on June 10. Whether you bring a rhubarb dessert or not everyone is welcome to enjoy all the delicious creations between services in St. John's Hall. If you can bring a rhubarb dessert please sign up in the Commons. We need 25 people to bring a dessert of their choice on Saturday, June 9 or before the first service on June 10. Questions? Call Guy Reid (645-7984) or the church office. (If you'd like to bake a dessert but need some rhubarb, watch for information about families who have rhubarb to share.) Coming Sunday July 8 – Strawberry Sunday!