

# THE VOICE

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Extending God's Love

November 2012

Volume 52, Number 10

*on the  
inside . . .*

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## ELCA World Hunger Appeal

November is a time to give thanks for the bounty of the harvest. It is also a time when St. John's makes our annual offering for ELCA World Hunger. ELCA World Hunger is a ministry that makes a difference. One billion of our neighbors – that's one in seven people in our world today – live in poverty. As members of the body of Christ we are called to respond to this need. Working through Lutheran connections in the United States and nearly 50 other countries around the world, ELCA World Hunger programs work with individuals and local communities to help break the cycle of hunger and poverty. From microloans to health clinics, water wells, to animal husbandry, gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that get at the root causes of hunger. Last year \$9,040 was raised at St. John's for ELCA World Hunger. Let's make it \$10,000 this year! How can you contribute? Use the special November 4 ELCA World Hunger envelope in your offering packet. Or use the ELCA World Hunger appeal envelopes in the pews. Through the partnership we share with ELCA World Hunger, we have another opportunity to extend God's love in Christ.

### Worship Services:

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 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 15<sup>th</sup> of each month:

[office@stjohns-elca.org](mailto:office@stjohns-elca.org).

For information, contact the Church Office:

**phone:** 507-645-4429

**fax:** 507-645-9633

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[office@stjohns-elca.org](mailto:office@stjohns-elca.org)

**website:**

[www.stjohnsnorthfield.org](http://www.stjohnsnorthfield.org)

### Church Office hours:

**Monday - Friday**

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

## Free Thanksgiving Dinner!

Laura Baker Services Association is hosting a free Thanksgiving dinner on Thursday, November 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Millis Dining Hall - 211 Oak Street in Northfield.

Everyone is invited for this delicious buffet-style meal – bring your family! If you need a ride or know of someone who needs a meal delivered to their home – call Jan, 645-8866, ext. 107.



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 21

5:45 - Family Choir Rehearsal  
in the Balcony

(All singers age 9th grade and up are  
invited to sing in the Family Choir)

6:30 Worship

7:15 - Potluck Pie Social

*Our Mission: As followers of Jesus Christ, the members of St. John's Lutheran Church welcome all people to join us in celebrating God's grace, nurturing their faith, and reaching out to the world in love and service.*

# Prayer and Care Ministry

*Pray without ceasing.  
1 Thessalonians 5:17*

## Prayer Ministry

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

*Galatians 6:2*



**STEPHEN  
MINISTRY**

*Providing one-to-  
one care and  
encouragement*

*Blessed are they who  
mourn, for they shall be  
comforted.*

*Matthew 5:4*

## Grief Support Ministry

**Gathered in the Word:** a time of prayer quided by scripture meets Thursday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. All are welcome.

**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.

### Forgive and...

As Lutherans we embrace the understanding that we are both sinners and saints. The sinner in each of us lives in need of daily forgiveness, and it is the saint in us that allows us to forgive—even when we have been wronged, even when justice has not yet been done, even when we hurt almost more than we can bear.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us." What do those words mean? And what do they require of us, as Christians, and as sinners? What images come to mind when you pray that petition with the congregation, and when you pray it alone?

When was the last time you were forgiven by a family member or a friend? What were the circumstances of the last time you offered forgiveness? How grave were the sins? How hard was it to forgive or to feel truly forgiven? Is it the before (naming the sin) or the after (moving beyond the sin) that characterizes believers? What does the act of forgiving accomplish or satisfy for the forgiver and for the forgiven? How can the ritual of forgiveness possibly make a difference?

What are the elements of a genuine apology? What is involved in asking someone to forgive you? How might you respond when someone asks for your forgiveness? What part does "making amends" have in the transaction of forgiveness? For the one wronged? For the one who did the wrong? Are there any sins so vile that forgiving them is impossible—at least for humans? How do you feel about God forgiving such a sin?

If you have struggled with questions like these, come to the forum between services on November 11, sponsored by Stephen Ministers. A panel will introduce the topic of forgiveness, field your questions, and encourage discussion. If you or someone you know use the support of a Stephen Minister to deal with issues related to forgiveness, contact Joan Halvorson at 645-8445 or a pastor at 645-4429.

**Grief Support Group** meeting this month at St. John's – Monday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 in the Fireside Room. For more information contact Barb Knaak, 664-0444. See page 11 for more information.

**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.



*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."*

November 8, 2011  
James Hillestad

November 18, 2011  
Adeline Roadfeldt

November 21, 2011  
Lee Mahachek

## From our pastors . . .

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*"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God"*

Ephesians 5:1-2



October 1 was my first day at St. John's as your Interim Senior Pastor. Thank you for your kind welcome and for receiving yet another "Interim" with an encouraging and open spirit. The St. John's staff and congregational leadership have been very helpful and supportive through these first weeks. With their guidance, I am learning my way around here and beginning to have a basic grasp, I think, of the culture of this congregation. It's a privilege to be in ministry with you!

November is the month we focus most directly on stewardship, giving thanks, making financial pledges, and reflectively and prayerfully re-committing ourselves to the mission and ministry of St. John's and the larger Church. Christian stewardship, of course, is about how we live and serve in our whole lives together. We are stewards, not owners, in relation to the world and its' resources. We are stewards, not owners, of the church and its' ministry. We are stewards, not owners, even of our individual lives, our abilities, our work, our time and our money. We are abundantly blessed and we are entrusted with much! Stewardship is our vocation as Christians, and a source of great meaning and joy in life. Let's celebrate "Stewardship-Thanksgiving Month" with pledges of faithfulness and generosity, remembering our call, through Jesus the Christ, who gave his life for us all.

*Pastor Mandsager*

### **An Open Conversation During This Time of Transition**

-Sunday, November 4 at 9:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room-

When a Pastor leaves a congregation, closure is important. There will be an opportunity for all who wish to come together on Sunday, November 4, to both express appreciation for work accomplished by Pr. Randy Johnson at St. John's and to express concerns related to his leaving. Interim Sr. Pastor Orlin Mandsager and Church Council Representatives will be present to listen and lead discussion.

### **Becoming a member of St. John's**

New member sessions continue this month on Sundays, November 4 and 11. New members will be formally received on Sunday, November 18. It's not too late to be part of this fall's new member group. Contact a staff member or the Church Office for more information. The next new member session will be offered in the spring.



Thank you to everyone who has been stepping up and helping with things such as Wednesday Night Meals and serving communion. I certainly appreciate the help from the folks who have been willing to serve during this time.

We could still use more volunteers for the **meals in November** – please take the time to sign up to volunteer on the board outside of the office, complete the form below or email [stjohnssharedministry@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnssharedministry@gmail.com)

We welcome **new members** to St. John's on Sunday, November 18. Would you be willing to serve as a host person/family to one of our families?

I'd LOVE to be a host family, sign me/us up!

Once again this year, we will be having our **Thanksgiving Pie Social** following our Thanksgiving Eve service. We need some folks to step up and be in charge of the evening. If there are not enough volunteers, we will forgo the social this year. Thank you for considering volunteering!

**Thanksgiving Pie Social Volunteers:**

- I can serve as the Coordinator for the Pie Social
- I can help plate pies for the social
- I will help clean up after the social

I am grateful and thankful to all of you who are helping to make this transition in our ministry easier by readily being willing to volunteer and help out. **There is a place for EVERYONE.** Contact me and I'll be glad to find a place to plug you into the ministries at St. John's!

Blessings,

Stephanie Aman  
Interim Shared Ministry Coordinator  
[stjohnssharedministry@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnssharedministry@gmail.com)

*SERVING TO LOVE*  *LOVING TO SERVE*

**Wednesday Night Meals**

I will help set up (3:30-5:00)  I will help serve (5-6:30)  I will help clean up (6:00-7:30)

I can serve on these nights; please add me into a schedule. By checking below you are NOT agreeing to all of the dates, just showing availability!

I'm typically at the meal; assign me to a date.

November 7

November 14

November 28

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

# *Serving on Sundays in September*

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## *Acolytes*

<b>November 4</b>	(8:30)Halvor Bratland, Trey Coudret; (11:00)Samuel Motzko, Bergen Hoff
<b>November 11</b>	(8:30)Kate Erickson, Alaina Falck; (11:00)Cameron Beedle, Matthew Knutson
<b>November 18</b>	(8:30)Emily Canedy, Ashley Canedy; (11:00)Elianna Ims, Madison Ims
<b>November 25</b>	(8:30)Nic Zabel, Gregory Pelletier; (11:00)Cheyanne Smith, Viveka Hall-Holt

## *Assisting Ministers*

<b>November 4</b>	Otto Reitz
<b>November 11</b>	Greg Colby
<b>November 18</b>	Patty Austvold
<b>November 25</b>	Mary Cisar

## *Nursery*

<b>November 4</b>	(8:30) Maren Bauer; (11:00) Alysia Ness, Anders Koenig
<b>November 11</b>	(8:30) Maren Bauer; (11:00) Sheri Williams
<b>November 18</b>	(8:30) Maren Bauer; (11:00) Amy McBroom
<b>November 25</b>	(11:00) Todd and Connie Menssen

## *Offering Counters*

<b>November 4</b>	Jim Enestvedt, Dick Dahlin, Beckie Judge
<b>November 11</b>	Jim Enestvedt, Dick Dahlin, Dan Franklin
<b>November 18</b>	Jim Enestvedt, Dick Dahlin, Chris Weber
<b>November 25</b>	Jim Enestvedt, Dick Dahlin, Dave Aman

## *Communion Preparers / Servers*

<b>November 4</b>	Dale and Karen Schuette; (8:30)Mary Cisar; (11:00)Char Nelson
<b>November 11</b>	Sharon Bishop, Ginny Shaw; (8:30)Mary Polzin; (11:00)Susan Canon
<b>November 18</b>	David and Cheryl Buck; (8:30)Pam Schwandt; (11:00)John Quam
<b>November 25</b>	Gene and Lois Bakko; (8:30)Jon Rondestvedt; (11:00)John Hanson

## *Ushers*

<b>November 4</b>	(8:30) Doug Child, Alan Alberg, Duane Benson, Len Hoffmann, Rick Hillard, Loren Lee, Dan Lueck, Gordon Mickelsen; (11:00) Wes Pearson, Brian Boyum, John Hanson, Peggy Hanson, Brandon Kimber, Dale Kimber
<b>November 11</b>	(8:30) Dan Franklin, Jim Enestvedt, Bob Johnson, Rob McCarthy, Brent Mueller, Ruthie Neuger, Tom Porter, Don Sahling, Myron Solid; (11:00) Jonathan Norrie, Zachary Bahler, Andrew Dell, Terry Dell, David Halsor, Dick Kleber, Kristin Nichol, Michael Sylvester, Suzanne Sylvester, Steve Williams
<b>November 18</b>	(8:30) Mark Anderson, Jim Bierman, Jerry Bothun, Dave Hagen, Sue Hagen, Nicholas Gonnerman, Patsy Ophaug, John Ophaug; (11:00) Margaret Hayford O'Leary, Bonnie Jean Flom, Todd Iverson, Lowell Johnson, Andy Langehough, Greg Norman, Doug O'Leary
<b>November 25</b>	(8:30) Dallas Berg, Niles Austvold, Myron Dack, Erik Hong, Eric Lund, Mark Polzin, Bruce Rickert; (11:00) Michael Gasior, Corrine Heiberg, Elvin Heiberg, David Rudser, Susan Rudser, Andy Westerback, Emily Westerback

# Music and Worship Life at St. John's

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## November Sunday Singing Schedule for Choirs

November 4: (8:30) Chorale; (11:00) Jubilate and Singers  
November 11: (8:30) Chorale; (11:00) Laudate  
November 18: (8:30) Chorale and Rejoice Ringers;  
(11:00) Alleluia, Hosanna, Jubilate, Rejoice Ringers  
November 25: (8:30) Chorale; (11:00) Laudate



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship Wednesday, November 21

5:45 pm – Family Choir Rehearsal in Fellowship Hall  
(Any and all singers 9<sup>th</sup> grade through adult are welcome to sing.)  
6:30 – Worship  
7:15 – Pie Social in St. John's Hall

## For whom does the bell toll? YOU!!

Rejoice Ringers is the adult handbell choir at St. John's. We strive to enhance your worship experience usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. But we also annually provide worship music at the Northfield Retirement Center, participate in a yearly handbell retreat with other area handbell choirs, and perform a year-end concert in St. John's Hall. Rejoice Ringers is a mix of longtime ringers and first-timers. We are a hard-working and fun-loving group who has chosen to share our gifts through handbell music. We invite you to answer the bell and come ring with us! If you can read music, don't let the fact that you have never (or have not in a long time) played handbells stop you. The sound is gorgeous and everyone in Rejoice Ringers will support you. Stop by a rehearsal on any Thursday in the sanctuary balcony from 6:15 - 7:30, talk to any of the Rejoice Ringers members, or give me a call if you have any questions (664-9296).

Zachery Pelletier, Director of Rejoice Ringers

## Koffee and Keyboards returns on November 25

The Sunday Morning Concert Series presents the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Koffee and Keyboards** at 10:00 a.m., Sunday, November 25, in St. John's Hall. Invite a friend!

## St. John's Singers – Save the Dates!

The **St. John's Singers** (an occasional choir for adults, college, and high school singers) will meet on November 4 and December 2 (note this altered date). This group rehearses during the Sunday School hour (9:45 to 10:45) and sings at the following service. For more information, contact Dan Fenn.

## Magnificat!

The adult choirs of St. John's, soloists, and orchestra will sing the Gospel Reading at both services on the Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 23) using the *Magnificat* by Johann Sebastian Bach. If you would like to participate in the choir for this day, all singers college-age and adult are welcome to participate. You will need to attend a portion (7:00 to 7:50 p.m.) of the weekly Wednesday evening choir rehearsals beginning November 7. There will be a final rehearsal with soloists and orchestra on Saturday morning, December 22. For more information, please contact Dan Fenn at [danieljfenn@gmail.com](mailto:danieljfenn@gmail.com) or at 507-645-4429 ext. 58.

# YOUTH MINISTRY @ ST. JOHN'S

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## Reflections from New Orleans

In July, members of St. John's travelled to New Orleans to attend the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Their reflections of where they saw God during their trip are printed as a way to share their faith and to thank the members of St. John's who supported them through prayers and financial contributions. Watch for more reflections in next month's *Voice*.

Where did you see God?

"...I saw God every day. Some of the days it was in the work we did. Other days it was listening to the stories of the speakers. There were many times when it was in normal people that showed God's work. Down there it was easy to find God because I was looking for him. For me to find God's work is easier for me now everyday."

**Andrew Dell**

"...God could be seen everywhere. God was in every person...and could be seen by the actions that we saw. Everywhere we looked we could see God's work. For instance, we saw God working in the lady that stopped in the street to offer an umbrella to one of the kids of the youth gathering. We saw God in the youth group that was offering pizza to those going into the Superdome. God was working everywhere we looked. And that was what made the Youth Gathering so powerful."

**Zach Evenson**

"...I saw God many different places. I saw God in the large group gatherings – all the energy and music and joy. I saw God in all the thousands of volunteers that made the entire gathering run as smoothly as it did. And I saw God in the people there with me, between the unendingly positive chaperones and the incredibly fun group of kids, it was an amazing experience."

**Irene Duba**

## Thrivent Special Event

**Wednesday, November 14<sup>th</sup>**, Andrew Gray from Thrivent Financial will be holding a special session on "Parents, Teens, and Money" during our regularly scheduled confirmation time for 7<sup>th</sup> graders, 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and their parents. It will be held in St. John's Hall starting at 6:15pm. Parents, this will be a great time to have a facilitated discussion with your child on what money means and how we can be good stewards of money.

## Confirmation



No confirmation  
on Wednesday  
November, 21  
due to  
Thanksgiving  
Break.

## Youth and Family Vision Meeting

**Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**, Mike Skunes will be hosting a meeting for parents and any other members who wish to hear about the vision going forward for the Youth and Family Ministry program. This will be an opportunity to hear about what it means to be a "family-based" ministry, to have input on the current vision, and to get to know your new Director of Youth and Family better. It will be held at **9:45am** up in the **Theater Room**.

**Important Dates to Remember!**

**Sunday School Schedule**

November 4 Sunday School  
(Daylight Savings Time)  
November 11 Sunday School  
November 18 Sunday School  
November 25 No Sunday School  
(Thanksgiving Break)

**ROCK – Wednesdays programming**

November 7  
November 14  
November 21 NO Programming -  
Thanksgiving Break  
November 28

**Breakfast, PJs and Movie Morning**  
Monday, Nov. 5, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Advent Fair, "A Day in Bethlehem"**  
Wednesday, Nov. 28, St. John's Hall

**"Pay It Forward", Service Project**  
Saturday, Dec. 1, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Children's Christmas Program**  
Sunday, Dec. 16, 11:00 a.m.  
St. John's Hall

**Parent Gatherings during the Education Hour!**

All parents/grandparents are invited to our next "Parent Gathering" with Roz Eaton-Neeb and Greg Kneser to discuss the topic, "Your Child's Transition from High School to College." We will meet in Fellowship Hall from 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 p.m.

**The original date was set for Sunday, November 4. Instead we will be meeting on Sunday, November 11.**

**Come in your PJs to Movie Morning!**

Kids 5<sup>th</sup> grade and younger are invited to come in their pajamas to movie morning at St. John's! Come for breakfast and stay to watch a movie! Feel free to bring friends!

**Where:** The Commons for Breakfast,  
Movie in St. John's Theater

**When:** Monday, November 5 – NO SCHOOL DAY!

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Children younger than kindergarten need to be accompanied by a parent. Sign up on the bulletin board in the Commons or call Julie at 645-4429, ext. 25.

**Blessings and congratulations to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders who received their Bibles in October**

Thea Benson, Lindsey Canedy, Trevor Dell, Oden Hoff, Annelise Hall-Holt, Spencer Klotz, Zachary McCarthy, Elena Mikula, Nickolas Mikula, Charles Neeb, Mitchell Newman, Ainsley Nutt, Alexander Organ, Jeanette Pelletier, Tate Sand and Kathleen Thompson.

The Bibles given to our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders are purchased using money from the Johnson Bible fund.

**Youth Blast 2012!**

We had a fantastic weekend in October at "Youth Blast", a retreat for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN. Thank you to Nick Neeb, Rob Nutt, Christy Hall-Holt and Jill Malecha for helping chaperone the event. Kids attending this year were: Delia Benson, Matthew DeBuse, Oden Hoff, Annelise Hall-Holt, Cole Johannsen, Aydn Math, Peter Neeb, Charlie Neeb, Kaylee Malecha, Aidan Nutt and Ainsley Nutt.



*On the bridge at Youth Blast with friends from other area churches.*



## Advent Fair, "A Night in Bethlehem", Wednesday, November 28

Are you ready to go back in time? Want to make memories you'll treasure forever? Come and experience "A Night in Bethlehem", our theme for this year's Advent Fair at St. John's. You'll taste, see and smell what daily life was like when Jesus was born. You'll find shops and activities for all ages. And, we encourage you to bring friends! The more the merrier!

When: Wednesday, November 28

Time: 5:15 p.m. – Wednesday Meal begins  
5:45 p.m. – Bethlehem shops open!

Where: St. John's Hall

*Can you help with the Advent Fair?*

- Dinner – set-up, serve or clean-up
- Set up and/or sell handcrafts from around the world (proceeds benefit Lutheran World Relief)
- Help with crafts/shops

Contact Julie Brehmer if you have questions at [jbrehmer@stjohns-elca.org](mailto:jbrehmer@stjohns-elca.org)



## St. John's Children's Christmas Program – December 16

Mark your calendars! St. John's Children's Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, Dec. 16 in St. John's Hall. The program, *Stars! Angels! Shepherds! Kings!* written by Patrick Messick, begins at 11:00 a.m. and is performed by children in preschool – grade 5. If your child is interested in performing either a solo or being part of an ensemble for the pre-service music, please contact Julie Brehmer. Also, if anyone is interested in helping with costumes, treat bags, set... give Julie a call! More information will be coming your way in the December Voice.

## 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.

## 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 session is Saturday, November 3, at 10:30 a.m. Please call the Church Office if you plan to attend.

# Notes of Thanks

In case you haven't noticed, our courtyard, with its columbarium, has become for many St. John's members a place of solace, a contemplative outdoor room, a sanctuary of sorts. This fall much work has been done to make the space even more satisfying and inviting.

For several weeks, a committee worked with Knecht's designers to develop a rather ambitious working plan for the several garden areas. When Andrew Dell learned of this, he suggested taking on the project as part of his Eagle Scout requirements. Suddenly there was hope of turning the plans into reality much sooner than had been thought.

Andrew ably organized a concentrated work day and to form a crew, he recruited several more Scouts plus several St. John's members. When they arrived on a cool September Saturday morning, they were met with coffee, juice, hot chocolate, pastries, and the promise of lunch—then were put to work with shovels, spades, forks, a wheelbarrow and a supply of work gloves.

In a single day they dug out compressed tangles of daylilies, divided hundreds of hostas, reworked soil, and planted a burgundy nine-bark shrub and three lovely trees: an Arctic Blue Willow, a Northern Glow Maple, and a good-sized rosebud. They replanted hostas and lilies, spread many bags of mulch, and then created an undulating "river" of granite rocks that, come Spring, will get ground cover planted on both "banks."

Thanks to Andrew and the entire Dell family, to Andrew's fellow Boy Scouts, and all the St. John's people who worked so diligently that day to make this happen.

Good Job!

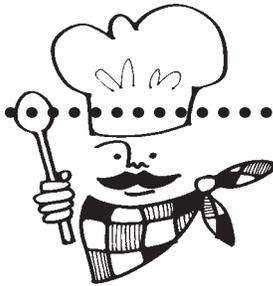


*Thank You . . .*

*for your prayers, generosity and support during this difficult time. We can see Gods' work through you.*

*God bless.*

*The family of Kim Motzko*



## St. John's Wednesday Night Meals

**Wednesday, Nov. 7**  
Pizza / Pasta and Salad

**Wednesday, Nov. 14**  
Scalloped Potatoes with Ham

**Wednesday, Nov. 21**  
NO Meal (Thanksgiving)

**Wednesday, Nov. 28**  
Tacos

Free will offering appreciated!

Come, Share a Meal!

# News and Events



## "Paying It Forward" . . . by grocery bagging?



Calling all youth in grades 4-9!!! On Saturday, December 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., we're heading down to Econo Foods to help bag groceries. **This is not meant to be a fundraiser**, but rather it's meant to encourage service by "Paying it Forward". What does that mean? It's something new and exciting, so come and see! If we have enough youth sign up, we can divide the time into shifts. We also need adults and high school kids to help supervise. Sign up in the commons or by talking with Mike Skunes or Julie Brehmer. This counts as a Hands and Feet project for those in confirmation!

## The Giving Tree, November 18 – December 7

Our annual "Giving Tree", a program sponsored by the Northfield Community Action Center, will be displayed in St. John's Commons from November 18 - December 7.

The Giving Tree is decorated with paper stars. Each star has a gift idea, along with the name, age and gender of a child whose family needs help purchasing Christmas gifts this year.



Purchased gifts should be placed, unwrapped, with the paper star attached, and put under the tree by Friday, December 7. In addition, we will also offer gifts to our partners in Tanzania and Colombia. The tree will be decorated with 50 envelopes for making donations to the Tanzania Scholarship Fund and to our partner congregation's preschool in Colombia. Thank you in advance for your donations!

## Kitchen News

The St. John's Kitchen Committee needs people to work at non-St. John's events like: wedding & anniversary receptions, business meetings, special events, etc. The duties would include: kitchen & dining room advisory and dishwashers. For these events, there is a monetary hourly compensation paid by the family or organization. Please contact Leah Garlie, Office Manager, for more information.

Thank you for using the new checklists for the kitchen/dining room. It really helps to keep this area of the Church tidy.

## GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP OFFERED THIS MONTH AT ST. JOHN'S

Recently Barb Knaak and I joined about 65 others for a lecture at Northfield Hospital by the Rev. Edward J. Holland, a clinically trained chaplain who has spent many years at Park-Nicollet Hospital in the Twin Cities working in the field of grief support. Dr. Holland began with the well-known five stages of grief described back in 1927 by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, and then went on to tell about newer, broader knowledge in this field.

Our next 6-week series of grief support meetings will begin at 6:30 on October 29 in the Fireside Room, and will continue each Monday through Dec. 3. All who are grieving loss, and that includes many of us, are welcome.

In our six years of meeting with people suffering losses of many kinds, we and our groups have learned that (1) WAAD (We Are All Different), so no one else can tell us how we "should" grieve, and yet the message always comes through; (2) You Are Not Alone. We try to offer a safe and confidential supportive environment for talking and listening, teaching and learning, encouraging self and others.

Alvhild M. Sherve, M.A.

# News and Events

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## St. John's Foundation

The St. John's Foundation is an endowment designed to provide additional resources to St. John's Lutheran Church of Northfield to help fulfill its mission of service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Val Hallan recognized the perpetuity of a gift to the St. John's Foundation when she bequeathed part of her estate to the Foundation. The Foundation received a gift of \$20,231 and it will receive another gift when her home is sold. A gift to the foundation is truly a gift for all time.

Founded in 1988 to support the congregation's ministry, the Foundation holds gifts in perpetuity, continually providing much needed revenue through the earned income on the investment of these funds. This ensures that the gifts given contribute to the service to God not only today, but for generations to come.

Gifts can be unrestricted or they can be designated to specific funds such as the Youth Fund, Music Fund or World Mission Fund. There are eight specific funds available. Bequests to the Foundation are easy to make and may provide for significant tax benefits. For many, financial needs for the future are uncertain. The Foundation is an avenue to leave a legacy through your estate by naming the Foundation in their will.

For questions or to talk about options, contact Jonathan Norrie at the following contacts: email: [jnorrie@bassford.com](mailto:jnorrie@bassford.com) or phone: 507-664-9488.

As you make decisions to honor loved ones, update your will, review your insurance beneficiaries or commemorate special events, please join people like Val in supporting this worthwhile option to support Christ's mission both now and in the future.

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## Small Groups Ministry

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*Providing small group study and fellowship opportunities*

What is it about small groups? Think of different types of groups, those centered around hobbies, reading, volunteerism, education, sports, health...the list goes on and on. As varied as these groups are, they all have some things in common; that is, they foster relationships, offer support and provide a sense of belonging.

So then, what is distinctive about small groups within a congregation like St. John's? In some respects, nothing: there are a variety of topics and interests from which to choose, and they, too, foster relationships, offer support and a sense of belonging. But they are unique because they take place within an environment in which faith shapes, molds, and informs our lives as people who have been captured by the mystery of grace—what a blessing!

A current catalog can be picked up at the Small Group bulletin board display in the Commons; it contains a brief description and contact person for each group. The Small Group Ministry Team, which provides support and initiative for small groups, is always open to suggestions and new considerations. Members of the team are Cheryl Buck, Sandi Gerdes, Barb Eaves, Pastor Mark Johnson, as well as liaisons from the Adult Ministry and Education Board: Dick Beckmen and Richard Nelson.

# October Actions

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## Baptisms

Mila May Strunic, daughter of Kylie Faust and Elliot Strunic, sponsors are Jennifer Paulson and Spencer Strunic, October 14, 2012.

Eddie Jean Taggart, daughter of Suzanne and Steven Taggart, sponsors are Allison Hunkins and Cordell Hunkins, October 28, 2012

## Radio Broadcasts

October 7, 2012, in memory of Teddy Miller by Van Miller.

October 14, 2012, in memory of Arne Nelsen by Elsie Nelsen.

October 21, 2012, in memory of our son, Robert Brown, by Forrest and Virley Brown.

## Deaths

Jane Nelson, October 10, 2012

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# Adult Ministry and Education

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## Education Opportunities for Adults on Sunday Mornings

Sunday Morning Learning and Fellowship

Fellowship Time begins at 9:30 a.m. & Education Hour begins at 9:50 a.m.

*Small Groups* are part of St. John's small group ministry and meet in various rooms as noted.

**November 4:**

*Coffee served in St. John's Hall.*

*St. John's Forum:* National and Global Economic Issues Part 2: "Everything you wanted to know about the economics of policy but didn't know how to ask", from the perspective of an economist and Christian. What are the values and economic thinking underlying government policy - beyond partisan politics? Topics will include globalization, social security, public sector unions, immigration, and the reasoning behind both fiscal stimulus and fiscal austerity policies. Presented by Karl Hella, **Sanctuary**.

*New Member Session:* New Member Connections, **Fireside Room**

**November 11:**

*Coffee served in St. John's Hall and Commons.*

*St. John's Forum:* Panel discussion on Forgiveness sponsored by Stephen Ministry. Participants include Pr. Orlin Mandsager, Dan Dimick-Licensed Psychologist and Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and Gregory Walters-Professor of Religion, **St. John's Hall**.

*New Member Session:* Shared Ministry, Part 2, **Fireside Room**.

**November 18:**

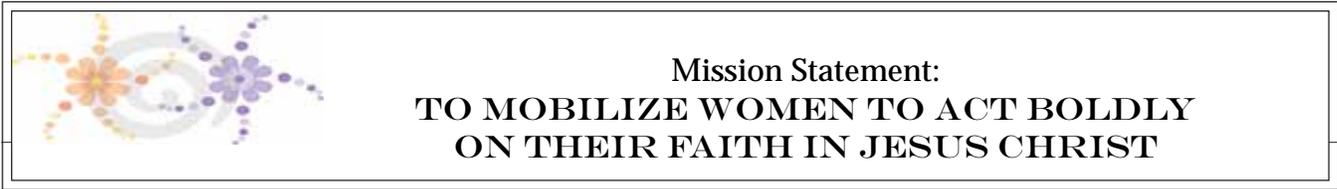
*Coffee served in St. John's Hall.*

*New Member Reception in St. John's Hall - No Forum*

**November 25:**

*Coffee served in St. John's Hall.*

*Sunday Morning Concert Series*



Mission Statement:  
**TO MOBILIZE WOMEN TO ACT BOLDLY  
ON THEIR FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST**

Women of the ELCA (WELCA) includes ALL women of St. Johns!

The study theme for 2012-2013 is **Gathered by God**, by Dr. Audrey West. This theme is found in the monthly "Gather for Faith and Action" magazine and will be studied at the monthly Circle meetings. To order or renew a subscription: [subscriptions@augzburgfortress.org](mailto:subscriptions@augzburgfortress.org) or [800-328-4648](tel:800-328-4648). If you would like to join a circle, call Marilyn Jacobson at [507 663-9060](tel:507-663-9060).

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Nov. 1, Thursday, 1:00 P.M. Speaker, Kathy Magnus: "The 25th Anniversary of the Women of the ELCA: We Make a Difference." Magnus was VP of the ELCA ('90-'97) and served on the staff of Lutheran World Federation. A Thankoffering (an expression of your gratitude for God's blessings, supports total outreach projects for the national Women of the ELCA) will be collected at this meeting. Women from Bethel and St. Peter's will be our guests at this meeting.

- Nov. 6: Bible Study Leaders meet at noon in Fireside Room
- Nov. 6 & 20: Knitters meet at 9:30 at home of Kathy Vang. 645-4849
- Nov. 7, 8, 9, 10, 15: Circles meet. Check with leaders for locations.
- Nov. 12 & 15: Quilters meet in Fellowship Hall from 9-11 a.m.
- Nov. 29: WELCA Executive Board meets at 9:30 in Fireside Room.

**CIRCLES:** PLEASE JOIN US! (call Marilyn Jacobson: [663-9060](tel:663-9060))  
Small groups of St. John's women meet for fellowship and Bible Study during the second week of each month (the week following the first Thursday), with a few exceptions as noted:

- Anna — 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room
- Abigail / Rebecca — Thursday, 2:00 p.m., NRC Parkview East
- Elizabeth — Thursday, 1:30 p.m.,
- Lydia — Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.,
- Martha / Claudia — Thursday, 9:30 a.m.,
- Mary — 2nd Friday, 1:00 p.m.,
- Sarah — Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.,
- Women's Breakfast Group — 2nd Saturday, 8:30 a. m., Fireside Room

**LOOKING AHEAD**

Dec. 8, Saturday, 9:30 A.M. Come join us for an Advent Brunch, with guest speaker, Shoonie Hartwig, on Mwangaza: Education for Partnership. Shoonie is a retired professor of Education at St. Olaf and a former ELCA missionary who lived and worked with the ELC in Tanzania for more than ten years.

**OTHER NEWS:**

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- **\*FAIR TRADE COFFEE** is sold
- in the Commons every third
- Sunday. Your purchase of Equal
- Exchange coffee helps Lutheran
- World Relief projects that
- support coffee farmers and their
- families.
- 
- **\*HELP NEEDED!!!**
- If you can sew a straight line,
- have a sewing machine at home,
- and have a limited amount of
- time to volunteer from your
- home, here is an opportunity for
- you:
- St. John's WELCA supports
- three important ongoing
- ministries that require sewing:
- SCHOOL KITS (sewing bags),
- QUILTS (piecing squares) and
- LAYETTES (hemming blankets).
- If you are willing to give an hour
- or two of your time, at your own
- convenience, please stop by the
- small table in the middle of the
- Commons to pick up all the pre-
- cut materials and directions.
- Completed projects can then be
- returned to the same table.
- 



Please submit items for this WELCA information page to: Jo Franklin, [danjofranklin@yahoo.com](mailto:danjofranklin@yahoo.com) or [720-281-5106](tel:720-281-5106)  
Please submit items for the Sunday bulletin to: Shirley Keltto, [kelttos@msn.com](mailto:kelttos@msn.com) or [785-317-9509](tel:785-317-9509).

## For your consideration from the Peace and Justice Group . . .

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### Reflecting on 2012 and Planning for 2013

**“Let Justice Roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.”**

Our last meeting in 2012, Nov. 5, will include decisions on distributing our budget, considering changes to our meeting time, and plans for 2013. Responses to emails sent in late October will help facilitate the considerations.

We will review the Forums and discussions on the ELCA Draft of Statement on Criminal Justice, and consider ways we can respond to the needs we are now aware of.

A goal of the Draft Statement and the Social Statement to follow is to inspire the church to “work for the fullest possible measure of earthly justice for all people.” Some of the pressing concerns noted in our recent meetings are: lack of funding; need for greater emphasis on mentoring those who have broken the law, especially the young people; an increase in restorative justice and an awareness of the limits of retributive justice; the “significant evidence that the institutions of justice in the United States are in urgent need of reform”; the challenge for the church to develop ministries of support for offenders, victims and their families; a careful look at private for-profit vs. state-run prisons; an evaluation of the current drug policy. We are guided by the words of the prophet Micah: “What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice and love kindness.”

All interested persons are most welcome. If you were unable to be at any of the events or have not received the materials, you can get the Draft at the Church Office.

### Travel to the Holy Land at the November 3 Palestine Fair

Northfielders for Justice in Palestine/Israel, an ecumenical group of community members, invite you to a Fair from 1-5 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 3 at the Northfield Methodist Church, 140 1 Maple Street.

Travelers' accounts, cooking demonstrations, historical artifacts, fashion, crafts, dancing and food make this a family-friendly event.

Members of the committee are available to speak about their experiences and to answer your questions.

To contact a member or for more information about the fair, go to [info@nip.org](mailto:info@nip.org)

### *JUSTICE CALENDAR*

Saturday, November 3:	Palestine Fair, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Northfield United Methodist Church
Monday, November 5:	The Peace and Justice Group Meets, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room
Sunday, November 11:	Veteran's Day (Armistice Day)- Day of fasting for justice and peace; details on the bulletin boards and in the Sunday Bulletin
Thursday, November 22:	Thanksgiving Day
Monday, January 21:	Martin Luther King Day / Community Celebration (Details TBA)
Sunday, February 24:	Northfield Community Celebration for Peace, Bethel Lutheran Church

**Pastors**

*Orlin Mandsager  
Mark Johnson  
John Quam*

**Security & Building**

**Maintenance**

**Assistants**

*Marvin and Irene Perez*

**Children's Ministry**

*Julie Brehmer*

**Music Ministry**

*Daniel Fenn*

**Music Staff**

*Daniel Fenn - Alleluia*

*Cathy Rodland - Jubilate*

*Ruth Legvold - Laudate*

*Zack Pelletier - Rejoice*

*Ringers*

**Office Manager**

*Leah Garlie*

**Parish Nurse**

*Lynette Marks*

**Shared Ministry**

*Interim Coordinator*

*Stephanie Aman*

**Youth Ministry**

*Mike Skunes*

**Congregation**

**President**

*Richard Falck*



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## *November Highlights*

***Wednesday Night Meals***

Wednesdays, from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. (No Meal November 21st - Thanksgiving Break)

***Daylight Savings Time (Fall Back)***

Sunday, November 4

***Movie Morning***

Monday, November 5, from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

***Parent Gathering***

Sunday, November 11, at 9:50 a.m.

***New Member Reception***

Sunday, November 18

***Thanksgiving Eve Worship / Pie Social***

Wednesday, November 21

***Koffee and Keyboards***

Sunday, November 25 at 10:00 a.m.

***Advent Fair***

Wednesday, November 28th

