

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.

# THE VOICE

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 56, Issue 2

February 2016

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Worship Services:  
8:30 a.m. & 10:45 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 to:  
[office@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:office@stjohnsnorthfield.org).

For information, contact the Church Office:  
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website:  
[www.stjohnsnorthfield.org](http://www.stjohnsnorthfield.org)

Church Office hours:  
Monday - Thursday  
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.

## Lent Begins February 10 with Ash Wednesday

Lent, our springtime period of renewal and focus on repentance and life in Christ, begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, with worship and the imposition of ashes at noon and 6:30 p.m.

Mid-week worship begins the following week, February 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. Our theme will be "Acts of Mercy" drawing on verbs from the Sunday Gospels as ways that God shows mercy: remembering, gathering, waiting, running, and pouring. Members of the congregation and community will offer reflections during Wednesday Vespers for further reflect on these verbs.



**Soup Suppers** precede each midweek service (excluding Ash Wednesday), serving from 5:15-6:15 p.m. in St. John's Hall.

## Worship Schedule - 6:30 p.m.

February 10  
Ash Wednesday

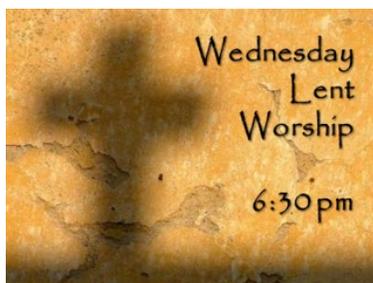
2 Corinthians 5: Appealing – Pastor Pam Fickenscher

February 17

Lent 1: Luke 4:1-13; Remembering – Joe Shaw

February 24

Lent 2: Luke 13:31-35; Gathering



## Accompany - Joining the St. John's Community

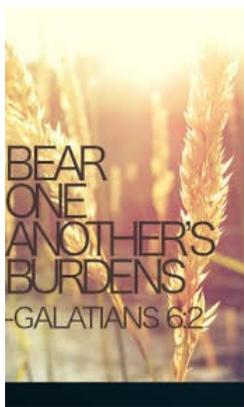
In the season of Lent we invite newcomers to St. John's to engage in small group gatherings. Participants learn to engage Scripture and worship in personal reflection and group conversation, and are accompanied by members of St. John's along the way.

Anyone interested – whether as a newcomer or as someone interested in renewing their own faith by being a sponsor – is invited to a sample session on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, at 9:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room.



Regular sessions will begin Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, and run through Easter. Contact either of the pastors for more information, or just come to the sample session.

## Stephen Ministers: Care Giving That Is Distinctively Christian



Much of what Stephen Ministers are taught comes from the field of counseling - active listening, assertiveness, maintaining boundaries, confidentiality - and these skills are neither Christian nor non-Christian. Also, in some cases, the care Stephen Ministers give may look, on the outside, like the care a good-hearted non-believing person might give to a friend or neighbor

going through a difficult stretch.

What then makes Stephen Ministers' care giving distinctively Christian?

1. Our motive: we offer care in the name of Christ, silently or explicitly.

2. Our trust in God's presence: we do not rely upon our own powers to help the one who suffers; we try to do our part faithfully

and trust that God will take care of the healing when the time is right.

3. Our Christian resources: we have at our disposal what Christ used in his ministry and taught his disciples to use. We can offer to pray and share Scripture with our care receivers, but if they prefer not to include these in our time together, when

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

## Grief Support Ministry

### Northfield Grief Support Coalition:

A grief support group meets on Mondays through February 8<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m., at the Northfield Retirement Community. For more information contact Tana Kelly, LSW, at 507-664-8821 or Pastor Kristine Braaten-Lee, at 507-664-3478.

### 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.

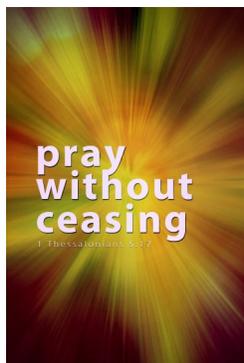
*The following St. John's members died in this month last year. We list them so that we can remember these loved ones and their families in prayer "with reverence and affection."*

*February 11, 2015  
Darlene Pfahning*

*February 19, 2015  
Kenneth Hagen*

*February 27, 2015  
Irene Nelson*

*February 28, 2015  
Charlotte Rasmussen*



## Prayer 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](mailto:macisar@gmail.com) or 663-1097.

## From our Pastors...

*All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5*

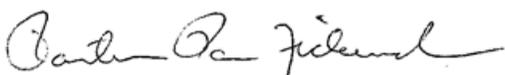
On February 10<sup>th</sup>, we enter into the season of Lent; in this season we naturally turn our minds to the work of God in Jesus, specifically the cross and resurrection. In this season of preparation we are invited to be mindful of how God loves and forgives us.

Often in the church our language for forgiveness has become formulaic and limited. We stick to stock phrases like "Jesus died for your sins" without really diving into the meaning of those phrases. Forgiveness is often envisioned as a sort of verbal transaction, rather than a true change of heart, a reconciliation and restoration of relationship. But on Ash Wednesday we hear this: "in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself." This is a bold, global claim. Even bolder -- God is making this appeal *through us*.

If we believe that God is transforming the world in Jesus, then it's worth our time and prayer to imagine how many different ways in our lives we need the mercy of God and the mercy of others; and we can also imagine how many different ways our own actions and habits and words might show mercy to others.

This year we will listen in each Sunday's Gospel for an "act of mercy," and then on Wednesday nights different members will be sharing their own stories of how mercy is shown in different acts of our lives. God remembers us in love; and we show mercy in our remembering others. Jesus longs to gather us up like scattered chicks, and our gathering of one another can be an act that reflects that love to the world.

How can you show mercy to others, as you have been shown mercy? The Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, and giving to the poor are a good start. Join us this season, because this world needs desperately to see and know God's mercy.



Pastor Pam



Pastor Jon

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## Stephen Ministers: Care Giving That Is Distinctively Christian

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we are alone we can pray for them, and on our own we can seek help and instruction in Scripture. We have other Christian resources to use if the time seems right: forgiveness, confession and absolution, blessings, a cup of cold water in Christ's name. We are taught to employ these powerful tools with discretion, never as bludgeons, but they are there for us to use, at the right time.

If you or someone you know might benefit from seeing a Stephen Minister, please contact a pastor, 645-4429, or Pam Schwandt, 645-6120.

## Important Dates to Remember!

### Sunday School Schedule

Feb. 7	Sunday School ( <i>Teacher Appreciation</i> )
Feb. 14	Sunday School Toddler Time
Feb. 21	Sunday School
Feb. 28	Sunday School

### "ROCK"-Wednesday Afterschool Programming February 3, 10, 17, 24

### Teacher Appreciation Brunch

Sunday, February 7, at 9:45 a.m. in Fireside Room

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade CAT Retreat

Wednesday, February 3, 5:30 – 6:45 p.m., Undercroft  
The Sacrament of Baptism

## Third Grade Catechism Retreat

Third graders, along with their parent(s), will meet Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 5:30 – 6:45 p.m. in the Undercroft for a Catechism retreat on the Sacrament of Baptism. If you are unable to attend, please call Pastor Pam or Julie Brehmer at 645-4429.



## Appreciation Brunch!

Sunday School teachers, assistants and Wednesday afterschool volunteers are invited to brunch on Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, at 9:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room. The brunch is an annual event to thank all the volunteers who help keep Children's Ministries thriving!

### Teachers and Assistants:

Preschool I:	Jenny Nystrom, Bailey Dell, Dodie Mikelsen, Linda Beckman
Pre 2 – K:	Trish Goodrich, Connie Menssen
First Grade:	Amy McBroom, Kristy Harms, Cole Little
Second Grade:	Emily Westerback, Elizabeth Evenson
Third Grade:	Rachel Saxton, Kully Vance
Fourth Grade:	Julie Becker, Kris Vatter
Fifth Grade:	Amelia Kimmes Kneser
Music:	Carol Benson
Library:	Susan Canon, Angie Gehring, Brenda Boone

### Wednesdays:

Frances Boehning, Elizabeth Evenson, Mike Skunes,  
Christy Hall-Holt, Connie Menssen, Sheri Williams,  
Amy McBroom, Betsy McLaughlin, Julie Becker,  
Katherine Norrie, Jennifer Paulson, Sara Redetzke,  
Kari Heistad, Jenn Welbaum, Michele Knutson,  
Shelby Goudey, Jordan Dull, Stephen Davick

## In this issue of the Voice...

### Summer 2016 for St. John's Children and Youth

Registration forms  
for children and youth summer camps  
are available on the children and youth bulletin  
boards in the upper and lower Commons.

### Youth Fundraiser is April 10

Proceeds help with the cost  
of summer activities for our kids  
participating in our summer programs.

Please let Julie ([children@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:children@stjohnsnorthfield.org)) or  
Mike ([youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org))  
know if you want to help  
with planning the Fundraiser!

## Faith and Family Night

**When:** February 20<sup>th</sup>, (5:30 p.m. Carpool leaves from St. John's)

**Where:** Target Center

**Cost:** \$25/person

**What:** Bring your friends and family with us as we go see the Timberwolves take on the New York Knicks and for a post-game concert by Christian rock-band "The Afters". As an added bonus, our group has the opportunity to high-five the players as they come out of the tunnel for warm-ups. Email Mike at [youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org) if you're interested in coming.



## Prayer Buddy "Meet and Greet"

During the Lenten season, our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Catechism kids are paired with an adult member from our congregation to be their "Prayer Buddy". The Prayer Buddy prays for their child from Ash Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> to Easter, March 27<sup>th</sup>. With this program, we are hoping to create spiritual and caring connections with children and adults in our church community.

On Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, we'll have a brief "meet and greet" in the Fireside

Room at 5:30 p.m. for our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders and their Prayer Buddies to meet and get to know one another. We would appreciate at least one parent/guardian to accompany their child. After the meeting you are welcome to go to St. John's Hall to enjoy dinner together!

Please contact Julie Brehmer at 645-4429 or [children@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:children@stjohnsnorthfield.org) know if you have questions.

Thank you to all who are participating.

*"With this program, we are hoping to create spiritual and caring connections with children and adults in our church community."*

## NAYW Romans & Christians Night

### NAYW Romans & Christians Night

**Where:** St. John's

**Cost:** \$5 (covers pizza costs)

**What:** St. John's is hosting another community-wide Romans and Christians night with other area churches. We'll play two games of Romans and Christians with a break for pizza and worship in between. Bring your friends!

**Middle School Night – February 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-10:00 p.m.**

**High School Night – February 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-11:00 p.m.**



## Sunday Learning and Fellowship in January

*Fellowship Time for children, youth, and adults begins at 9:30 a.m.*

*Sunday School (Lower Level) and Education Hour for adults begins at 9:45 a.m.*

### **February 7:**

*Coffee and Fellowship, Commons and St. John's Hall.*

*Fair Trade Sales of Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate Mix/Chocolate Bars, Commons.*

*Sunday School (Pre-K thru Grade 5), Lower Level Sunday School Rooms.*

*Life Groups (Grades 6-9) and Life Group Guides (Grades 10-12), St. John's Hall.*

*Sunday Morning Concert Series: Youth Recital, Sanctuary.*

*Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Brunch, Fireside Room.*

### **February 14:**

*Coffee and Fellowship, Commons and St. John's Hall.*

*Fair Trade Sales of Coffee/Tea/Hot Chocolate Mix/Chocolate Bars, Commons.*

*Sunday School (Pre-K thru Grade 5), Lower Level Sunday School Rooms.*

*Life Groups (Grades 6-9) and Life Group Guides (Grades 10-12), St. John's Hall.*

*Adult Forum: Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC), Sanctuary.*

*Toddler Time, Room 20.*

### **February 21:**

*Coffee and Fellowship, Commons and St. John's Hall.*

*Sunday School (Pre-K thru Grade 5), Lower Level Sunday School Rooms.*

*Life Groups (Grades 6-9) and Life Group Guides (Grades 10-12), St. John's Hall.*

*Adult Forum: Lutheranism 101 - How Lutherans Read Scripture and Still Disagree on Moral Issues, Sanctuary.*

*Bold Cafe, Fireside Room.*

### **February 28:**

*Coffee and Fellowship, Commons and St. John's Hall.*

*Sunday School (Pre-K thru Grade 5), Lower Level Sunday School Rooms.*

*Life Groups (Grades 6-9) and Life Group Guides (Grades 10-12), St. John's Hall.*

*Adult Forum: Lutheranism 101 - Saint and Sinner, Sanctuary.*

## Sunday Morning Concert Series - Youth Recital



Please join us between services on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, in the Sanctuary as our youth put their musical talents on display.

At 10:00 a.m., students will share their gifts that include playing the organ, harp, flute, piano, cello, and more.

Instrumentalists and vocalists alike are still welcome to sign up! If you are interested, please contact Nathan at [music@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:music@stjohnsnorthfield.org) to be part of the recital.

## Share the Love with “Baskets of Promise” During Lent

This season of Lent, St. John’s will be participating in Lutheran World Relief’s **Baskets of Promise** program. Each week, we will be collecting a different item that we’ll use to assemble Personal Care Kits. The kits give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life’s most challenging situations. We hope to assemble 100 LWR Kits during Lent.

### Here’s our collection schedule:

February 14	Bar of Soap (4 to 5 oz., any brand in original wrapping)
February 21	Bath Towels (light-weight, max. 52” x 27”, dark color recommended)
February 28	Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)
March 6	Wide Tooth Comb
March 13	Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)

You are welcome to give monetary donations for purchasing items or for shipping the kits.

On Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be assembling our Personal Care Kits in St. John’s Hall from 9:45–10:30 a.m. Thank you to Mary Circle for supporting this program throughout the years at St. John’s. If you have questions, please contact Julie at 645-4429 or [children@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:children@stjohnsnorthfield.org).

### BASKETS OF PROMISE



## From the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition (JRLC)

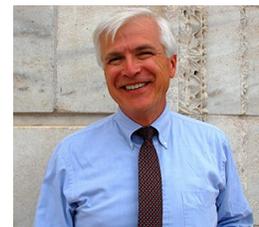
JRLC applies common moral teachings of Christian, Jewish and Muslim communities to legislation that determines how we as a society care for one another. Under girded by an extensive body of public policy studies and statements, JRLC leaders, member synods, conferences, councils, congregations and individual members continually influence Minnesota policy debates on

welfare reform, housing, health care, human rights, criminal justice, environment, tax policy, economic justice and other policy areas.

JRLC is authorized and governed by the Minnesota Council of Churches (of which the SE Minnesota Synod ELCA is a member), the Minnesota Catholic Conference, the Jewish Community Relations

Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas, and the Islamic Center of Minnesota.

Brian Rusche, JRLC Executive Director, will speak at **St. John’s Forum on Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>**. An ordained Presbyterian Elder, he brings clear Biblical-prophetic insight to his deep and broad knowledge of issues in public policy and political process.



Joint Religious  
**JRLC**  
Legislative Coalition  
INTERFAITH ADVOCACY FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



## Important Dates for New Board & Council Members

### Sunday, January 31

#### *Installation*

New board and council members will be installed at both worship services.

### Tuesday, February 9

#### *Board Orientation*

The meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. Pizza, fruit, and dessert will be served starting at 5:30 p.m. Please contact your board chair or the church office with any questions or if you are unable to attend.

### Saturday, February 13

#### *Council and Staff Retreat*

The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. at Christiana Highview Lutheran Church. Watch for additional information.

**“The book explores God’s welcome in Scripture and in our lives; focuses on how we can practice God’s welcome...”**

## 2016 Lenten Book Read

*God’s Welcome: Hospitality for A Gospel-Hungry World*, by Amy G. Oden is the book selection for this year’s congregational book read during the season of Lent. Amy Oden is professor of history of Christianity at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. She received her Ph.D. from Southern Methodist University.

This book takes welcome beyond coffee pots and nametags to understanding that “gospel hospitality is God’s welcome into abundant life, where all our welcome is rooted.” The book explores God’s welcome in Scripture and in our lives; focuses on how we can practice God’s welcome; and looks at Jesus as the pattern of God’s welcome.

Of God’s welcome Oden writes, “...in every moment and in every molecule, God is welcoming us deeper into the divine life. Powerful good news!”

Sign-ups to join the conversation take place in the Commons on Sundays through February 7<sup>th</sup>. The cost of the book is \$10.

Depending on the number of participants, groups will be formed to meet before or after Lenten worship on Wednesdays or during the educational hour on Sundays. Groups will meet for one hour each week over the period of four weeks during Lent. Wednesday groups will begin February 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday groups will begin February 21<sup>st</sup>.

## A Study of Philippians Continues in February



This bible study is for both women and men and meets once a month on the second Wednesday of the month (February 10, March 9 and April 13).

Come for coffee in St. John’s Hall at 9:30 a.m., then gather in the library at 10:00 a.m. for study of Paul’s most personal letter to the church in Philippi-

ans. David and Genevieve Quarberg will lead the discussion. The bible study is sponsored by the Women of St. John’s.

## ***WOMEN OF ST. JOHN'S***

**Mission Statement:  
TO MOBILIZE WOMEN TO ACT BOLDLY**  
Women of the ELCA includes ALL women of St. Johns!

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### **February Meetings**

- February 8:** Women of St. John's Board Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in Fireside Room  
Bible Study Leaders meet at 12 noon in the Fireside Room
- February 9 & 23:** Knitters meet at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Kathy Vang (507-645-4849)
- February 10:** **Lydia** - 9:00 a.m. in St. John's Hall for coffee, with Bible study to follow at 10:00 a.m.  
(bible study lead by Genevieve & David Quarberg)  
**Sarah** - 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room, contact Char Nelson, 663-0564
- February 11:** **Martha/Claudia** – 9:30 a.m. at Parkview West, contact Marilyn Jacobson, 663-9060  
**Abigail/Rebecca** – 2:00 p.m. at Parkview East
- February 12:** **Elizabeth** – 1:30 p.m. at Darlene Hand's, 1109 Farehaven Circle, 645-5078
- February 13:** **Breakfast Group** – 8:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room, contact Kathy Mellstrom, 663-1451
- February 15 & 18:** Quilters meet in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.
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### **Women of St. John's to Sponsor Art Crawl Thursday, February 4, 1:00 p.m.**

St. John's is fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful music and art. Many of the paintings, banners and sculptures have been created by our very own church members.

Presenters for this Art Crawl will be Bobbi Maakestad, Judy Swanson and John Walters. The Women of St. John's invite anyone who has interest in learning more about the history and inspiration in the making of these items to join them on Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. We will meet in St. John's Hall for introductions.

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### **Something New for Women of St. John's**

We have our own Facebook page!

- “Like” us to receive updates of upcoming women's events.
- View pictures of our activities or post your own.
- Share events or activities you have planned with other women at St. John's.

Find us at *Women of St John's* and “like” our page, or email us at [women.stjohns500@gmail.com](mailto:women.stjohns500@gmail.com) to receive a friend request.

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Submit items for the **Voice** to Merilyn Calcutt ([merilyn.calcutt@gmail.com](mailto:merilyn.calcutt@gmail.com))  
Submit information for the **Sunday Bulletin** to Mary Hoff ([ipmhof@msn.com](mailto:ipmhof@msn.com))

*“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.”*



## Volunteer to be an On-Call Snow Mover!

Is there a weekend or two this winter you could be **On-Call** to help shovel and clear snow and ice?

With the new sidewalk on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, the Properties and Grounds Board requested that we set up a system for volunteer snow movers, especially on the weekends when Tim is off.

Please sign up by calling or emailing Tim Byers at 645-4429 or [facility@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:facility@stjohnsnorthfield.org) or by clicking on this link: [https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/group\\_detail.php?group\\_id=122](https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/group_detail.php?group_id=122)

Tim will call you after 8:00 a.m. if we need help on the weekend you're on-call.

Thank you!

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## Wednesday Evening Meal Invitation and Request for St. John's Community, Friends, & Neighbors

We invite you to join us on Wednesday evenings for a home cooked meal and time to connect with each other in the middle of the week. We have a strong team who prepare the meals; we depend on everyone to take turns cleaning up/dishwashing and to bring desserts.

*"We have a strong team who prepare the meals; we depend on everyone to take turns cleaning up/ dishwashing and to bring desserts."*

If you enjoy Wednesday meals, help keep them sustainable. To sign-up, please call Christy at 645-4429, or email at [sharedministry@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:sharedministry@stjohnsnorthfield.org), or sign up online by clicking on this link: [https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/group\\_detail.php?group\\_id=109](https://stjohnsnorthfield.ccbchurch.com/group_detail.php?group_id=109)

### Instructions for Online Sign-Up

- Click on the above link.
- If you know your login information, log-in to the online directory (Church Community Builder - CCB). If not, please click on the "Sign Up" link under the grey "Login" button to get your username and password sent to you in your email.
- In the middle of the next screen you will see the "Needs" heading - click on this.
- Click on the blue link for the Wednesday on which you are available.
- Click on the check box next to the service for which you would like to sign up. This will add your name next to the item you selected.

Thank you!

Offers of assistance, no matter how small, are so important. If you can stay for a few minutes after you have finished your meal to bus some dishes or sweep up the serving area, don't hesitate to offer that at the kitchen window -- there's always something that can be done! If you prefer to plan ahead and spend a half an hour or more, take a look at the Wednesday Meal Sign Up table on Wednesdays or look for the sheets during the week on the "Volunteers Serving" bulletin board near the office door in the Commons.

## St. John's Wednesday Night Meals

Let's get together for Dinner -  
Come, share a meal!

All are welcome,  
it's a fantastic time for  
fellowship for ALL ages!

Supper is served  
from 5:15 - 6:15 p.m.  
in St. John's Hall.

Free will offering appreciated!

**Wednesday, February 3**  
Mac & Cheese and Hot Dogs

**Wednesday, February 10**  
Ash Wednesday - No Meal

**Wednesday, February 17**  
Lenten Soup Supper

**Wednesday, February 24**  
Lenten Soup Supper



## Radio and Video Broadcasts

Worship services are  
broadcast on KYMN 1080  
AM from 8:30-9:30 a.m.  
central time every Sunday.  
Christmas Eve, Christmas  
Day, and Good Friday ser-  
vices are also broadcast.

If you would like to spon-  
sor a broadcast (\$160),  
please contact the church  
office by phone.

Video broadcasts of St.  
John's worship services  
can be seen on Northfield  
Community Television  
(NTV) - cable channel 187,  
Mondays at 7:30 p.m and  
Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

### Radio Broadcasts

January 3, 2016  
Given in loving memory of Elmer & Cora Schultz and  
Ken Struss by Marie Struss and family.

January 10, 2016  
Given in memory of Della Gunderson by Lester Gunder-  
son, family, and friends.

January 17, 2016  
Given in memory of Loretta Siler by family and friends.

January 24, 2016  
Given in memory of Evelyn Flaten by Bob Flaten.

January 31, 2016  
Given in honor of Ken Schrader by Jean Schrader.

*“ Help us keep  
this ministry  
alive and  
sponsor a  
broadcast!”*

## Acts of Ministry

### Weddings

January 1, 2016: Hanna Svoboda and Luke Henderson

### Deaths

Sandra Ims Rowan, December 31, 2015  
Orwin Marks, January 18, 2016





## Celebrating (and Refining) the First Round of Monthly Hospitality Groups

In April of last year, St. John's launched a new Monthly Hospitality Group system. The whole congregation was divided up randomly into NINE groups. Each month the members of a new group provide Sunday morning hospitality: Coffee Service, Greeting & the Welcome Desk, and Communion Preparation and Serving. The last of the nine groups served during December, and we are back to Group 1 serving in January, Group 2 serving in February, and so on.

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## Calling St. John's People with a Heart for Hospitality: New Monthly Hospitality Group Co-Leaders Needed for Groups 1-9

***“Nothing teaches hope, kindness, courage, and compassion like helping others.”***

We are looking for new co-leaders in each group to begin learning the ropes for the next time your Group is serving. Please let Christy or your group co-leader know if **you are open to exploring being a co-leader for your group.**

- **Hospitality Groups work best when there are at least 3 households involved in co-leading each group (4 people plus ideally)**
- **We have some Groups who are in need of co-leaders immediately: Groups 3, 6, & 7**
- **Co-leaders serve 2 to 3 terms (once every nine months) and then hand over leadership to other members in their group**
- **2 to 4 co-leaders needed for each group for the 3<sup>rd</sup> rotation of Hospitality Groups beginning in October 2016**

## Thank You for Your Contributions to Making St. John's a Warm and Welcoming Place!

We want to know how this experience has been for you so we can continue to make it better for everyone. Would you please share your thoughts? Feel free to use the questions below as prompts. Then, please either turn in the response form below in the offering plate, or in the church office, or email Christy your thoughts at [sharedministry@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:sharedministry@stjohnsnorthfield.org)



### RESPONSE FORM

1. Which Monthly Hospitality Group are you a part of? \_\_\_\_\_
2. How did your Group Co-Leaders get in touch with you? Email / Phone / Letter (circle one)
3. Did the communication method work for you, or would you like us to let know a better way?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Were you able to get a hold of your Co-Leader or Christy if you had questions? Yes / No (circle one)
5. What is one thing you would change about how we provide hospitality on Sunday mornings?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. If you had to keep one thing the same, what would it be?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. If you have used the online sign-up method were you able to sign on easily?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Is there anything else you'd like to say about your experience with monthly hospitality groups?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Thank You to Co-Leaders of the Monthly Hospitality Group!

Please thank these people for their time and dedication to recruiting and organizing group members to serve hospitality on Sunday mornings throughout the year!

### Monthly Hospitality Groups: Months Serving & Co-Leaders . . . So Far!

Group Name & Months of Serving	Co-Leaders	Group Name & Months of Serving	Co-Leaders
<b>Group 1</b> April 2015 January 2016 October 2016	Barb Knaak Amy McBroom Alyssa Ness	<b>Group 6</b> September 2015 June 2016 March 2017	Trish Goodrich Anne Sovik
<b>Group 2</b> May 2015 February 2016 November 2016	Jo Ann Kleber Dick Kleber Eric Lund	<b>Group 7</b> October 2015 July 2016 April 2017	Becky Ness
<b>Group 3</b> June 2015 March 2016 December 2016	Judy Cederburg (Served Week 1)	<b>Group 8</b> November 2015 August 2016 May 2017	Audrey Moe & Bruce Moe Shirley Keltto & David Norman Donna Werdahl & Dick Werdahl
<b>Group 4</b> July 2015 April 2016 January 2017	Barb Eaves & Phil Eaves Norma Gilbertson & Terry Gilbertson Suzanne Pfau	<b>Group 9</b> December 2015 September 2016 June 2017	Georgene Johnson Sally Lindell & Erik Lindell
<b>Group 5</b> August 2015 May 2016 February 2017	Lois Bakko & Gene Bakko Sue Hagen & Dave Hagen Dodie Mickelsen & Gordie Mickelsen	<p><b>Co-leaders serve 2 to 3 terms and then hand leadership to other members in their group.</b></p> <p><b>Co-leaders needed immediately in Groups 3, 6, 7.</b></p> <p><b>2 to 4 co-leaders needed for all groups for the next round beginning in October 2016</b></p>	





## Summer 2016 for St. John's Children and Youth

Camp	Grade Completed	Dates		Cost	Deposit	Registration deadline
VBS Summer Camp	Age 2-4 <sup>th</sup>	June 13-16	Volunteers come together to provide this fun-filled week for age 2 through grade 4. Kids enjoy music, crafts, games, Bible stories and friendships building.	\$10 or \$30 per family	No Deposit	Registration coming in February
Shores of St. Andrew "Andy's Gang"	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup>	June 19-24	Spend the week on the beautiful shores of St. Andrews near New London, MN. Create crafts, sing songs, share in Bible devos, play lots of games, kayak and swim! <b>Ask about sibling discounts!</b>	\$420	\$125 payable to Green Lake Non-refundable	Registration Due by March 31 by 5/22
Chrysalis Crew	6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	June 21- 26	Chrysalis Crew is located at Green Lake in Spicer, MN. This week long camp is awesome, the best of summer camp! Come for a week of faith-filled experience. <b>Ask about sibling discounts!</b>	\$420	\$125 payable to Green Lake Non-refundable	Registration Due by March 31 Balance Due by 5/22
Christikon	9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>	July 22-31	A high-adventure trip awaits you in the beautiful mountains of Montana. Two leaders will take you into the wilderness for a week of hiking, creation-appreciation, bible-study, and high country camping.	Approx. \$560	\$100	Balance due May 1st

### REGISTER EARLY!

For Andy's Gang and Chrysalis – We have some spaces reserved.  
If registering after March 31,  
we'll check camp availability for space.



### Other stuff for middle school'ers... **MAGICAL MYSTERY TOURS!**

For youth completing 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades.  
Join us and other Northfield area churches for mystery events  
in June, July and August.  
More info will be coming your way this summer.

Questions? Contact Mike Skunes or Julie Brehmer at 645-4429, or email [youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org) or [children@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:children@stjohnsnorthfield.org)

Every camper receives about \$125 from our Youth Fundraiser towards the cost of camp  
Please feel free to ask about full/partial scholarships too.

**Senior Pastor**

*Pam Fickenschner*

**Associate Pastor**

*Jonathan Davis*

**Visitation Pastor**

*John Quam*

**Children's Ministry**

*Julie Brehmer*

**Facility Manager**

*Tim Byers*

**Financial Manager**

*Bernie Renander*

**Music Ministry**

*Nathan Proctor*

**Music Staff**

*Carol Benson - Alleluia*

*Cathy Rodland - Jubilate*

*& Jubilate Schola*

*Zack Pelletier - Rejoice Ringers*

**Office Manager**

*Leah H. Garlie*

**Shared Ministry**

*Christy Hall-Holt*

**Parish Nurse**

*Lynette Marks*

**Youth Ministry**

*Mike Skunes*

**Congregation President**

*Patsy Ophaug*

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

500 Third Street West  
Northfield, MN 55057  
507-645-4429

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Northfield, MN



**Missing something?  
Check the Lost and Found!**

The church lost and found is filling up.

Please be sure to check and see if anything is yours.

The items are in the Lost & Found box or on the rack  
near the bathrooms off the Commons.

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