

**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.

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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 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to:  
[office@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:office@stjohnsnorthfield.org)

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[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.

# THE VOICE

OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 56, Issue 6

June / July 2016

## The Adventures of Flat Jesus 2016!

Summer is a time for unique opportunities: travel, do different things and see different people. To help keep us connected this summer, St. John's is going to have its very own "Adventures of Flat Jesus!"

The idea is for kids to take Flat Jesus on summer adventures – be it near or far (and it does not have to be ONLY children!) You can take pictures of yourself standing with Flat Jesus in places you visit or things you do, and then share them with our congregation. Bring your photos to the St. John's Office or email to [children@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:children@stjohnsnorthfield.org). We'll be displaying them in the Commons during the summer months.



Don't have a Flat Jesus? Feel free to pick up one in St. John's Commons or print one from the St. John's website – decorate one for yourself (and a friend) and then take it with you on your summer adventures! Flat Jesus is a reminder that Jesus travels with us everywhere and that your church family is praying for you and looks forward to hearing about your adventures!

## Blessing of the Bikes: Sunday, June 12

As VBS week kicks off, ride your bike to church on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. We'll have a brief "Blessing of the Bikes" after both services, praying for safety and fun for all ages. After the 10:00 a.m. service, stick around for treats, free bike checks/adjustments, and a fun skills course! RIDERS OF ALL AGES are welcome. Rain or shine!

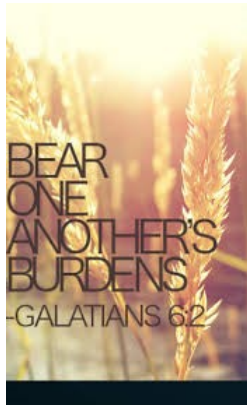


## Summer Worship Schedule

8:30 a.m.	Worship
9:30 a.m.	Coffee and Fellowship
10:00 a.m.	Worship



ST. JOHN'S STAFF are coming and going this summer in the midst of vacations, mission trips and continuing education. If you need to reach someone at the office, please be patient, and if you're not sure if they are around, ask the Office Manager, Leah Garlie.



## Recognizing Those Who Need Care

St. John's is a caring congregation. As a caring congregation, we recognize when people around us are experiencing difficult times. Some people may need our prayers and support. Others may seek help from pastors or health care specialists. Some may find it helpful to have a Stephen Minister, a Christian friend who listens and cares.

In our role as a caring congregation, it is always important for us to recognize when others might benefit from help, wherever we might encounter them. For example, I was grocery shopping when I ran into a

St. John's member. I greeted her warmly but noticed immediately there was something different about her. I asked her, "Are you all right?" And she said, "Not really." She proceeded to share that she was feeling down after experiencing so many deaths of friends and family members. "I've been to ten funerals this month. It's too much." Realizing she was going through a difficult time, I told her about Stephen Ministry.

I became her Stephen Minister. Over the coming months we talked about these losses - a grandchild, a sister, close friends at St.

John's. She shared that it was different talking with me, her Stephen Minister. When she talked about her losses with friends, they would change the subject and talk about their own losses. She could talk about and deal with each of these deaths comfortably with me because I was there to listen to and support her.

Sharing struggles with a Stephen Minister often lightens the load. If you or someone you know needs care and support at this time, please call one of the pastors or Joan Halvorson at 645-8445.

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

## Grief Support Ministry

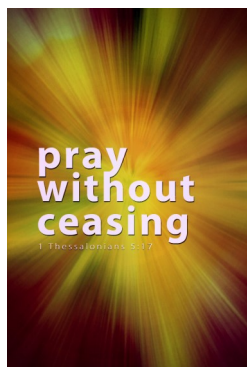
### Traumatic Brain Injury Support Group

A new support group for people with traumatic brain injury (TBI) will meet on the first Thursday of each month, beginning June 2<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00-8:00 p.m. at Northfield Hospital in Meeting Room A. This free support group brings people with TBI together to share their experiences, learn how others have adapted, and encourage each other. To learn more, contact group leader Shelley Klevos at 612-812-1311 or [shelleyklevos@gmail.com](mailto:shelleyklevos@gmail.com). For more resources, visit [www.braininjurymn.org](http://www.braininjurymn.org).

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

*June 16, 2015  
Loretta Mae Siler*

*June 21, 2015  
Lynn Steen*



## 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...

On May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Davis and I, along with Brad Kmoch, Rob Quanbeck, and Suzanne Pfau, attended the Southeastern Minnesota Synod Assembly in Rochester. Every year, voting members from across the 125 congregations and ministry partners of the Synod gather for reports, Bible Study, worship, workshops, and deliberations.

The synod has named very clear foci for its work: building leaders, equipping congregations, and accompanying global partners. These foci shaped the whole assembly, with themes of eating in Jesus' presence and healing from Luke's Gospel.

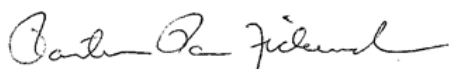
There were just a few resolutions to consider this year. One resolution, passed overwhelmingly, encouraged congregations to engage in the "My Neighbor is Muslim" study and to engage with issues of welcome and refugee resettlement – efforts that are already underway at St. John's. Another dissolved the statewide campus ministry board, since those efforts are now guided and funded at the local level.

**What does St. John's need to know?** First of all, St. John's is a *vital* partner of our synod. Your mission support, which is built into our annual operating budget, constitutes nearly 5% of the total mission support the synod receives. In addition, we are actively and generously engaged in supporting our global partners in Tanzania and Colombia through the relationships our synod has worked hard to foster over many years. There is much work that the church does better when it does it together, and we are grateful for a synod that assists with these partnerships so capably.

Secondly, St. John's is a consistent, generous giver to special appeals. Because the funding for campus ministry is shifting to primarily local support, our Benevolence board sent our voting members to the assembly with a special gift for campus ministry in our synod. And again this year we won the "River of Giving" award, designated for congregations in each conference that give the most to ELCA World Hunger.

Finally, we come away with a sense that Lutherans are looking outward and forward. Although the year 2017 could easily become a mere history lesson of the Reformation, the Lutheran World Federation will be meeting in Namibia that year, where the Lutheran church is rapidly growing. "Accompaniment" is the theme of much of the church's engagement in global ministry, no longer seeking to control or direct every mission effort, but instead to see where God is moving and come alongside brothers and sisters who are giving witness to God's love in many places.

Thank you for being a church that knows we are part of a greater whole. We come back inspired and excited for ministry here in Northfield, knowing our ministry here is both leading and accompanying many others in our church.




Pastor Pam Fickenscher



Pastor Jonathan Davis

## VBS is Coming June 13-16

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

### Surf Shack

**Age 2 (by 1/1/16) – Kindergarten (completed)**  
9:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. at St. John's

### Grades 1-4 (completed)

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at Emmaus Church

**There's still time to register!**



Registration forms can be found on the St. John's website at [www.stjohnsnorthfield.org](http://www.stjohnsnorthfield.org) under Children's Ministry or in the Commons at St. John's.

**Scholarships are available for all summer camp opportunities.**

## Get Involved with Children's Ministries!

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 (645-4429 or [children@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:children@stjohnsnorthfield.org)) or check out the volunteer opportunities in the Sunday School registration packet.

**P.S.: High School students** – talk with Julie Brehmer about how you can connect with our younger kids on Sundays and Wednesdays!

## Looking Ahead to Camp!

Our prayers are with all of our campers as they head off to camp this summer, June 19 - 24!

### Shores of St. Andrews, New London, MN

#### Grades 2-5

#### **Campers attending this year:**

Will Becker  
Rhett Garlie  
Cora McBroom  
Edy McLaughlin  
Gavin Moore  
Emmett Norrie  
Joran Peterson  
Halle Pinc-Sutterfield  
Marissa Vatter  
Mason Vatter

### Green Lake Lutheran Bible Camp, Spicer, MN

#### Grades 6-8

#### **Campers attending this year:**

Amelia Becker  
Thea Benson  
Trevor Dell  
Alex Dell  
Clayton Garlie  
Prescott Garlie  
Mack Haines  
Kaylee Malecha  
Charlie Neeb  
Peter Neeb  
Elsa Nystrom  
Stefany Perez

## Thank You...

to all our wonderful volunteers who helped with Children's Ministries this year! We couldn't do great programming without you!



## Magical Mystery Tour 1

**Who:** Grades 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Completed

**When:** June 15, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** It's a Mystery! (But meet at Bethel Lutheran Church)

**What:** Magical Mystery Tours are events organized by the youth directors of the churches in the Northfield area every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday during the summer for youth who've completed grades 5-8. The "mystery" part is that we try to keep our destination secret from the participants. Watch your mailbox for a letter detailing where we're going. Sign up outside the Youth Room or email Mike at

[youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:youth@stjohnsnorthfield.org)

**Upcoming Dates:** July 20 and August 17

MAGICAL  
MYSTERY  
TOUR I

## Check Out Family Camp!

Interested in going to Family Camp this summer? Check out the family camp options at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN or at Green Lake Bible Camp in Spicer, MN. Go to Good Earth Village's website: [www.goodearthvillage.org](http://www.goodearthvillage.org), or Green Lake Lutheran Ministry's website: [www.GLLM.org](http://www.GLLM.org) to find out dates and registration information.



## Summer Nursery Schedule

Starting on Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, the Nursery will be providing childcare at only the 10:00 a.m. service during the summer months.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer in the Nursery, feel free to contact Julie Brehmer at 645-4429 or [children@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:children@stjohnsnorthfield.org).



**Watch for Children and Youth Registration Packet for the 2016-2017 School Year coming in June.**





## Fruit Sundays



### Fruit Sundays this Summer

Have you been anticipating the joys of Fruit Sundays? Can you picture St. John's Hall dressed up with fresh flowers and colorful napkins and a myriad variety of fruit desserts spread over three serving tables? Who is invited? You and all your friends and family.

In preparation for Rhubarb Sunday, John Ophaug has again volunteered to provide some of his bumper crop of rhubarb to all of you who wish to fashion a rhubarb delicacy to share. Please call him to reserve a bundle.

**June 5 - Rhubarb Sunday**

**July 31 - Red, White, & Blue Sunday**

**(Vintage Band Festival will provide brass music during services)**

**August 28 - Apple Sunday**

### Summer Sunday Morning Hospitality: Everyone's Invited!

Thank you to the 9 monthly hospitality groups that have served on Sunday mornings this past year! **During June, July, and August, we are inviting everyone to extend a welcoming presence at St. John's.** What are some of the ways you can do this?



- Greeting and Welcome Desk
- Preparing Communion (this is a lot easier during the summer because we use intinction!)
- Serving Communion during one of the services
- Coffee making, serving, and clean up (St. John's is providing donut holes for treats!)

Please check your summer schedule and let us know a few dates you would be willing to be part of Sunday Hospitality at St. John's. Thank you everyone!

### Save the Date: Night to Unite on August 2

With the last Wednesday Meal behind us, we begin thinking about the next big meal we'll have together on the first Tuesday of August -- Night to Unite on August 2<sup>nd</sup> in the early evening.

**Please put this planning meeting on your calendar if you'd like to be part of the team: Wednesday, June 29, at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room**



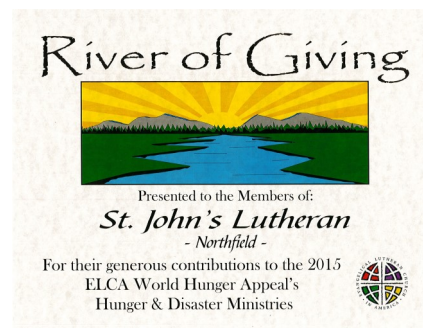
Otherwise, please let Christy know if you can provide one of the following:

- Showing/giving rides in your interesting vehicles (or those of a friend, loved one, etc.)
- Singing and playing instruments
- Acting and performing skits or stunts (unicycles, juggling, fire swallowing, etc.)
- Drawing, face-painting
- Setting up music for the time we don't have live music
- Making and/or distributing flyers
- Setting out chairs and tables in the parking lot
- Putting away Chairs and Tables

## River of Giving Award

St. John's has been honored with the River of Giving award by the SE MN synod, recognizing the congregations in the synod with the highest giving toward ELCA World Hunger. Our voting members at the Synod Assembly in May received the award on St. John's behalf.

THANKS to everyone whose contributions are already at work alleviating hunger in our community and in our world.



## 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 services are also broadcast.

If you would like to sponsor 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

May 1, 2016

Given in memory of Orwin Marks by family and friends.

May 8, 2016

Given in memory of Donna Lee from Walter Lee and family.

May 15, 2016

Given in memory of Margery Otterness by the Otterness family.

May 22, 2016

Given by Duane and Marie Benson in gratitude for the longevity of marriage.

May 29, 2016

Given in memory of Della Gunderson by family and friends.

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

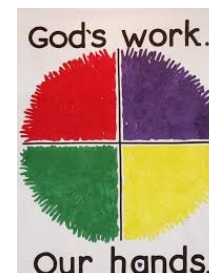
## Acts of Ministry

### Baptisms

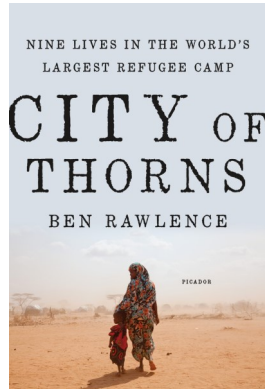
June 5, 2016: Lily Strunic,  
daughter of Kylie and Elliot Strunic

### Deaths

Roger Hand, May 6, 2016  
Keith Ingbritsen, May 11, 2016  
John Hjortland, May 17, 2016



## What Jonathan is Reading...



*Pastors Pam and Jonathan are taking turns writing the monthly missive for the Voice. So on alternate months they are adding a new feature: "what we're reading." Since so many of you share your reading lists with us, we will offer you a peek each month into something on our nightstands.*

*The City of Thorns, by Ben Rawlence*

Ben Rawlence, a researcher for the Human Rights Watch, spent three years researching the experiences of people living in Dadaab, the world's largest refugee camp. As Rawlence puts it, "To

charity workers, Dadaab refugee camp is a humanitarian crisis; to the Kenyan Government, a 'nursery for terrorists'; to the Western media, a dangerous no-go area; but to its half a million residents, their last resort." In this book, Rawlence tells the story of nine people living in Dadaab. As I read, I find myself both heartbroken and haunted by these stories. Heartbroken because the suffering and the desperation in this place is unimaginable. I am constantly asking, "How can this be happening in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?" I am also haunted because of how our government and many

others are complicit in this nightmare.

Overall, this book has been the most accessible snapshot of what it can mean to live as a refugee. I leave you with a quote from Rawlence that convicted my mid-Western good Christian sensibilities – "At a time where there are more refugees than ever, the rich world has turned its back on them. *Our myths and religions are steeped in the lore of exile and yet we fail to treat the living examples of that condition as fully human.*"

You will not regret reading this book.

## Pub Theology - Mondays at the Contented Cow



We are all theologians. Believe it or not, all of us are constantly doing theology as we think and wonder and ask big questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, and a life of faith.

Beginning on Monday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, join us at the Contented Cow from 6:00-7:30 p.m. for Pub Theology.

Throughout the summer, Pastors Pam and Jonathan and Mike Skunes will lead a weekly conversation around questions of faith, God, Jesus, the Bible, and current events. No fancy theological or biblical knowledge needed in order to participate. Just bring your questions, thoughts, and experiences

to the table. Each week, the topic will be different and will be published ahead of time on Facebook, the Newsblast, and an email list.

Contact Pastor Jonathan ([jdavis@stjohnsnorthfield.org](mailto:jdavis@stjohnsnorthfield.org)) to add your name to the email list.



## From Nathan Proctor, Organist and Director of Worship, Music, & Arts

Friends,

Greetings from Montreat, North Carolina, in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains. I am here for the next several weeks and will miss worshiping with you all at home at St. John's. While I am gone, I want to share a little bit about what Montreat is like and what I am doing here.

Montreat is a conference center supported by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) just outside of Asheville, NC. I first came to know Montreat back when I was a student at St. Olaf and Ferg (John Ferguson) recommended me for an internship in Asheville. Through that time and my years living in Raleigh, I became more involved in the many conferences and retreats here each year, doing everything from leading Sunday worship services, to conference planning teams, to leading music from the stage for conferences of youth and pastors.

This year I am co-directing the first two weeks of conferences for high school youth. I started work on this project eighteen months ago and the time is finally here! Our theme this year is *A World of Difference*. After a week of travel and final details, thousands of youth will be arriving at Montreat starting on June 5<sup>th</sup> for the conferences, which will happen in two back-to-back weeks. They will start each morning with music, energizers of dancing and silly movement to song, and keynote speakers to unpack scripture in new and creative ways. They will spend two sessions each day in their small groups, which are randomly assigned groups of 30 people from all different churches. There will be fun recreation events each afternoon and night, for time to play and have fellowship with each other, and explore the beauty of our mountain setting.

My favorite part of each day is when we all gather together in the evening for worship. I have worked with an amazing team of musicians, artists, liturgists and preachers to craft really interesting and creative worship services. It's powerful to hear all those young voices raised in song and proclaiming scripture. It's a beautiful picture of not the future of the church, but the church *right now*.

I am so thankful to the staff and congregation of St John's for supporting me through these long eighteen months of planning and for sparing me these coming weeks, to go be in service to the larger church. I can't wait to come home and share photos and stories of my time here. Thank you for your prayers and support.

Peace,  
Nathan



# THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GATHERING OF NORTHFIELD ECUMENICAL WOMEN\*

Celebrating  
60 years of  
Fellowship of  
the Least Coin

Pennies and prayers  
collected by concerned  
women, to help  
other women all  
around the world



9:30 AM  
Saturday  
June 4, 2016

at St. John's  
Lutheran  
Church  
3rd & Plum St.

Coffee, tea & cakes  
served first

\*N.E.W.~ Following Northfield's visionary, accomplished Church Women United



## Registration Time for Open Door Preschool

Open Door Preschool has openings for the 2016-2017 school year.

Open Door offers 2 and 3 day morning and afternoon sessions. Combinations and extended day options are also available.

Visit our website at: [www.opendoorpreschoolnorthfield.org](http://www.opendoorpreschoolnorthfield.org) or contact Barb Howe or Sue Anderson at 507-645-8532 for further information. Scholarships are available.

Open Door is proud to be a 4 star Parent Aware rated program.

## Study Opportunity: What does the Bible say about sexuality?

This year, St. John's has committed to intentionally study the topic of human sexuality, as we consider adopting a welcome statement that includes people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. At the center of faith-based conversations on the topic of homosexuality is the Bible. There are typically seven scripture passages that are referenced in conversations about homosexuality and the Bible.

Through these scripture texts, many people think

the Bible explicitly condemns homosexual behavior. Others, however, think the Bible is not speaking about homosexuality as we know it today.

Because the Bible plays an important role in our community of faith, and because sexuality plays an important role in everyone's life, it can be significant for us to explore these scriptures both closely and within the broader context of the Bible. It is also important to hear how people can

read them faithfully and come to different conclusions. Pastors Pam and Jonathan are considering a study on the Bible and sexuality this summer.

If you are interested in participating in this study, please let one of the pastors know, or sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office.

**"At the center of faith-based conversations on the topic of homosexuality is the Bible."**

## From Bread for the World

Excerpted from ***How Much is Enough? Hungering for God in an Affluent Culture*** by Arthur Simon, founder of Bread for the World

***For many, God is the God of our personal life, but not of economics and government, which supposedly isn't God's turf. That puts much of life off-limits to God and denies the truth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of a believer's whole life, not just selected parts of it. Christians often be-***

***have like believers when it comes to private morality, but not when it comes to public justice. They are then far more apt to judge economic and political policies by how their pocketbooks are affected, not by how these policies affect others.***

***... we can make a telling intervention for others. I have seen it again and again each year at Bread for the World, as thousands of ordinary citizens write letters and contact***

***members of Congress on a few key issues. Their efforts have leveraged benefits to hungry people in dollar value alone of a hundred times more than the amount contributed, not to count the far more important benefit of lives saved, suffering lessened, and opportunities opened.***

More Bread for the World information at [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org).



**breadfortheworld**  
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

## Stewardship for the Generations *from the Stewardship Board*



As individuals and groups, we are distinguished both by the generation in which we were born and grew up as well as by life changes we pass through. Our identities are further defined by the geographic and demographic boundaries that stake out our claims. “Builders” (born between 1925 and 45) still remember roller skates and favorite radio programs, “boomers” (born from 1946 to 64) recall the joy of roller blades and the entry and rapid popularization of television, beginning with the black and white set, many of Generation X (1965-79), while clad in torn jeans, watched the Berlin Wall come down, Generation Y (1980-94) got turned on to the Internet and baseball caps, and members of Generation X (those born since 1995) are patrons of Facebook and Twitter. We’re quite a mix! And while we cling to our preferences and dislikes, God doesn’t work that way. He invites us to be radically more open.

As proven on the cross, God’s love embraces all of

us - infants, toddlers, pre-teens, high-schoolers, young and older singles, married and unmarried couples, parents, those in middle age, seniors, grandparents, uncles and aunts and cousins, people of all colors and sexual orientations, rich and poor alike. The whole spectrum, all of creation, is under God’s care. Jesus charged us to care for one another and not limit our embrace only to those who are like us. Humanity is created in God’s image and is not defined by or limited to a reflection of our own selves (as in a mirror). God doesn’t play favorites with a particular generation, group, or class of individuals. As the Apostle Paul declared, “We see ourselves and others as in a glass darkly.” Despite our imperfect vision, we are called to see and love and serve others as if each were Jesus himself, our model to follow.

As we pass through one generation to the next, from youth to old age, we are called to bridge any divides and relate to oth-

ers of a generation that we have either yet to experience or are now remote from. What ties us all together is that we are a family, all children of God. It’s the ultimate extended family, one in which we are all adopted and steered to grace through baptism and faith. In the stewardship of our planet’s inhabitants, in allocating our love and care, we do not fulfill God’s vision when we separate ourselves from those we see as different. The divine plan is that we come together and stick together through love that transcends differences and overcomes what is clearly the easiest and most natural course - surrounding ourselves only with others who are like-minded and resemble us. The challenge for us is to be compassionate and to embrace all people regardless of where and how they live and what categories appear to define them as different from us, even if we feel like writing them off as a lost cause. Jesus writes nobody off. Nor should we.



## ***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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### **June Meetings**

- June 6:** Women of St. John's Board at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room  
**June 8:** Sarah Circle - 9:30 a.m. at the home of Solveig Bailey  
**June 11:** Breakfast Group - 8:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room, contact Kathy Mellstrom, 663-1451  
**June 13 & 16:** Quilters meet in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.  
**June 14 & 28:** Knitters meet at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Kathy Vang, 645-4849
- 

### **Women's Day 2016 at Good Earth Village**

**June 26 — 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. — Cost: \$30 (includes lunch)**  
 Women across generations are invited to encounter the hope that leads to action at Women's Day 2016. The day will begin with Keynote Speaker Pastor Margaret Kelly. After connecting over a delicious lunch, workshops ranging from hiking the trails to intergenerational ministry will be available. The day will close by worshipping together. To register visit [www.GoodEarthVillage.org/womensday](http://www.GoodEarthVillage.org/womensday) or call 507-346-2494.

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### **Women of St. John's Upcoming Events**

The Women of St. John's Board met recently to plan for the upcoming year. Some of the programs are:

- October: St. John's Art Crawl; another version of the Art Crawl that was held this past year.
- November: Field trip to Luther: Art and the Reformation at the Minnesota Institute of Art on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Ticket cost is \$25 and includes bus transportation and guided tour. A few tickets are still available.
- January: Lunch and Carol Sing at St. Olaf's Kings Room
- February: Author Mary Helene Rasmussen Jackson will speak about her book *Daughter of the Reformation*, the story of Catharina Von Bora Luther.
- March: Tea to honor our older women whose work and services helped our churches and our faith grow.

Look for more information about these programs and more for the other months in upcoming issues of the *Voice*.

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Submit items for the **Voice** to Marilyn 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."*



## Happenings in Colombia Curtis & Katie Kline Spring Newsletter, 2016



## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

### New Coordinator for the Human Rights Program, by Curtis

This May, the IELCO hired a new coordinator and my counterpart in the human rights program. Sara Lara has recently graduated with her degree in law, has been involved advising projects such as ASIVIDA (IELCO's project which accompanies people living with HIV/AIDS in protecting their rights) and the Indigenous Kogi Community. She has also assisted in projects for the United Nations Human Rights office in Colombia and projects with victims of Colombia's armed conflict through the Jesuit Refugee Services.

The expertise she brings to the coordination of the program is exciting and will no doubt bring new possibilities to the Lutheran Church of Colombia to involve itself in the implementation of the peace process. We are currently defining together how I can best accompany her in this new position and mutually create a vision for a successful program. We recently led some workshops together in the Boyacá region of Colombia with groups of *campesinos* (rural farmers) about their rights and focusing on the issue of food sovereignty. Based on those workshops, I think I can say we will work together well, and be a good team!

### Life is Happening, by Katie

In February (in the last newsletter) I wrote about our goal to live intentionally during Lent. I also asked for prayers as we discerned our future, and asked for prayers for the assembly. So much happens so fast! Lent is over; we both appreciated the exercise of daily photography for the blog, of slowing down, and of paying attention. IELCO held an assembly and elected a new bishop and is moving forward as a united church. We have accepted the offer from the ELCA and IELCO to extend our stay in Colombia for two more years. We are so thankful for the last few months and the numerous ways we see God working—God is good! As we prepare for our time in the states, we have been looking through our photos of the past two years in Colombia and trying to figure out how to tell our stories! So much has happened! As we look forward to the next two years, we can only dream about what all they will hold. Looking forward to seeing you soon and telling you all about it!



Right: Curtis and Sara at their desks in the IELCO central office.

Bottom: The pastors and workers of IELCO at a training in April.



### Home assignment:

During the last few months, we have been busy planning for our first Home Assignment. We are leaving in just a few days...hope to see you along the way!

May 29	Evergreen Lutheran	Evergreen, CO
June 5	Mount Calvary Lutheran	Johnston, SC
June 8	St John's Lutheran	Beaufort, SC
June 9-11	South Carolina Synod Assembly	
June 12	Our Savior's Lutheran	Greenville, SC
June 15	Our Redeemer's Lutheran	Benson, MN
June 19	Faith Lutheran	Dodge Center, MN
June 22	Good Shepherd	Wells, MN
June 26	St John's Lutheran	Northfield, MN
June 29	Vasa Lutheran	Welch, MN
July 3	Faith Lutheran	Janesville, WI
July 6	Grace Lutheran	Monroe, WI
July 10	Mount Olive Lutheran	Rochester, MN
July 11-15	Missionary Conference	Chicago, IL
July 17	St John's Lutheran	Oregon, WI

We love hearing from you!  
curtis.kline@elca.org  
kboander@gmail.com

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don't forget to subscribe:  
8000feetandcounting.blogspot.com

### Prayer requests

† IELCO as a united church, the new Bishop Benjamin Ojeda, and all the ministries and programs of IELCO  
† For our time in the U.S. on Home Assignment, for safe travels, for all the congregations we will visit, and for our time with our families

### YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE! HERE'S HOW TO GIVE:

By check: Make payable to "ELCA Global Church Sponsorship" with "Curtis and Katie Kline GCS2019" in the memo line. Give through your synod office or mail your check to: ELCA, Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.

By credit or debit card: <https://community.elca.org/Colombia> or call 800-638-3522 and specify "Curtis and Katie Kline GCS 2019".

By automatic monthly bank withdrawal, or to establish a covenant of prayer, communion and support: Contact 800-638-3522, ext. 2657, or [globalchurch@elca.org](mailto:globalchurch@elca.org)

## Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals 2016

Northfield Noontime Organ Recitals open their tenth season this summer beginning July 6 and concluding on August 10. All six recitals will be held on **Wednesday noon hour from 12:15 to 12:45 p. m.** with the following schedule:

*Wednesday, July 6*

Richard F. Collman (organ) and David K. Miller (piano)  
Northfield United Methodist Church, 1401 S. Maple St.  
Music by Buxtehude and Denis Bedard (Duet Suite)  
1993 Gabriel Kney tracker, 27 ranks, Steinway Piano

*Wednesday, July 13*

Rosalie Alcoser  
(Director of Children and Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian Church in Red Wing)  
First United Church of Christ, 300 Union St.,  
Music of Bach, Travis, Langlais  
Johnson & Son/Schlicker/Rutz, 3 manuals, 53 ranks

*Wednesday, July 20*

Catherine Rodland and Jamie Bobb  
(Professors of Organ and Church Music, St. Olaf College)  
Boe Memorial Chapel, St. Olaf College, during the Music and Theology Conference  
2006 Holtkamp Organ, 3 manuals, 90 ranks

*Wednesday, July 27*

Kraig Windschitl  
(Principal Organist Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, and Organist/  
Carillonneur at Breck School, Minneapolis)  
Music & Drama Center, Carleton College, 110 Winona St. N.  
1971 Holtkamp Organ, 3 manuals, 55 ranks

*Wednesday, August 3*

Stephen May (Director of Music, Cathedral of Our Merciful Saviour in Faribault)  
Carleton College, Skinner Chapel, 405 1st St. E.  
Fifth Sonata by Rheinberger  
1916 J. W. Steere & Son, Moller rebuild 1952, 4 manuals, 48 ranks

*Wednesday, August 10*

David Lim (Student, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN)  
St. John's Lutheran Church, 500 3rd St. W.  
Music of Bruhns, Bach, and Liszt  
1974 Dobson tracker, 2 manual, 26 ranks

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





**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*

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*Leah H. Garlie*

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## **St. John's Lutheran Church**

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### **Sunday, June 26**

Our ELCA Missionaries in Colombia, Curtis and Katie Cline,  
will be at St. John's to share about their ministry.  
(See their newsletter on page 14)

### **Friday, September 30 and Saturday, October 1**

Internationally known pastor and teacher Alan Storey will be here to  
teach a workshop on "Manna and Mercy".