



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church August Newsletter

August 2017



...Pastor Matthew P. Johnson

9141 County Road 101,
Corcoran, MN 55340
763-420-2426

Worship Schedule

Sundays:

8:00 am Divine Service
9:30 am Bible Study
10:30 am Divine Service

Mondays through Aug 21st:

8:00 am Divine Service

Address Updates:

Help us keep our files up-to-date. E-mail:
secretary@stjlutheran.org
or call 763-420-2426, ext. 10

Special points of interest:

- August Birthday's
- Monthly Calendar
- Worship Assistant Schedules and Those who Serve
- Minutes of the Deacon Council Meeting
- Misc. Information about our church and events



Please remember...

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, it is up to YOU to find someone who will take over for you.

On Saturday, August 19 we commemorate (remember as a fellow Christian) a Roman Catholic theologian and hymnwriter from the middle ages named Bernard of Clairvaux. Last month we looked at how Johann Sebastian Bach and his music helped spread the Lutheran Reformation. This month we look at a predecessor of Martin Luther who influenced him theologically from within the Roman Catholic church.

Bernard lived during the 1100's and was a leader of medieval monasticism in Europe. His view of monasticism was something that Lutherans (living 500 years later) might be able to adopt (partially). He wanted monasticism to maintain complete focus on Christ—for Bernard the Name of Jesus was something completely precious (as we will see below). He wanted monastic houses to be places of the Word, prayer, and profitable study. In Article XXVII of the Augsburg Confession we Lutherans argue that vows cannot be forced (Christians may gather voluntarily for study and prayer), vows cannot be added to the Gospel as if our righteousness comes from them and not from Christ alone, the original purpose of monastic houses should be restored—namely, to serve as places of learning where the vocations of other Christians (those who are married, preachers, rulers, etc.) are not denigrated.

Bernard had a musical theology and so he both studied and sang. His personal focus on Jesus is evident in his hymns, two of which are picked up in our Synod's hymnal (Lutheran Service Book). The first hymn we have of Bernard's is "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded," with both a four-verse version (see LSB 449 and note: with the musical setting coming from J.S. Bach!) and a fuller seven-verse version (see LSB 450). Bernard's devotion to Jesus is likewise heard in a hymn of his found in the "Redeemer" section of the hymnal: "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful" (LSB 554).

The hymn is not sentimental like many Pietistic hymns from 1750-1850 (i.e. the years after Bach's death). It speaks not in the first person singular, but first person plural ("we" or "our"). It serves even as a fitting hymn for the beginning of a school year in a Lutheran school, which is to be a place of prayer, growth in knowledge of Christ and His Word, and a singing confidence in God's love.

"When once You visit darkened hearts, then truth begins to shine, then earthly vanity departs, then kindles love divine. / O Jesus, light of all below, the fount of life and fire, surpassing all the joys we know, all that we can desire. / May every heart confess Your name, forever You adore, and, seeking You, itself inflame to seek You more and more! / Oh, may our tongues forever bless, may we love You alone and ever in our lives express the image of Your own!"

~Pastor Johnson



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council of Deacons Meeting Minutes-June 8, 2017

Deacon meeting was called to order by Chairman Greg Christopher at 7:00 P.M.

Pastor Johnson opened the meeting with a study from The Book of Concord (The Ecumenical Creeds and The Augsburg Confession).

In attendance: Greg Christopher, Peter MacMillan, Phil Koehler, Steve Kruse, Scott Kulberg, Kevin Pomerence, D.J. Schilling,

Dan Kappel, Pr. Johnson, Tom Gardner, Scott Kloetzke, Baron Cate, David Huth.

Deacon Minutes:

- M/S/P to accept the minutes from the May 11th Council of Deacons Meeting.

Church Secretary: Written report submitted.

New Members: None.

Transfer Out: Dan & Denise Cheek to Glory of Christ-Plymouth, MN.

Released: None.

Removed from Membership: None.

Baptisms: None.

Marriage: None.

Death: 5/11/2017 Donna Mae Preus; funeral and interment at STJ on 5/15/2017

Pastors Report: Written report submitted.

- The summer Monday night Divine Service will begin on Monday, July 10 and end on Monday, August 21.
- District Convention will be June 21-23, 2018
- Reformation Circuit celebration. Gathering to be held at St. John's on Saturday, September 30th.
- Scheduling to be discussed with how the pastors will handle responsibilities this fall.

Board of Administration: Written report submitted

- Sunday bulletin financial updates will be set up for the new fiscal year. The information reported will not include tuition and will be an equal 52 week division.
- All teachers have signed and returned their contracts for the next school year.
- Meetings will not be held in June and July. They will resume in August.

Board of Stewardship/Evangelism/Worship & Alter Care: Written report submitted.

- Soc-Hop will be August 19th.
- A fund raiser for Rick Bymark will be at the Monticello Legion on June 24th from 4-8 pm.

Board of Parish Education: No report.

School Administrator's Report: Written report submitted.

- Graduation was June 1st. Last day of school was June 2nd.
- Scotts last day will be June 30th, 2017.
- Student count for 2017/18: 151 including Pre-K.

**St. John's Lutheran Church
General Fund Budget Performance
June 2017**

	Year-to-Date (12 Month)						
	Current Month		July-June 17		YTD Budget		Annual Budget
	June 17	Budget	% of Budget	July-June 17	YTD Budget	% of Budget	
Income							
4010 · General Fund Income	53,003.51	33,668.59	157.43%	807,460.62	767,778.00	105.17%	800,182.01
4020 · Tuition	14,941.16	31,156.76	47.96%	525,397.17	558,779.00	94.03%	537,492.00
4400 · Other Income	0.00	5,073.74	0.0%	1,479.67	60,884.00	2.43%	0.00
4500 · Interest	1.87	0.00	100.0%	26.97	0.00	100.0%	0.00
Total Income	67,946.54	69,899.09	97.21%	1,334,364.43	1,387,441.00	96.17%	1,337,674.01
Expense							
6060 · Mortgage Payment	8,151.08	8,151.08	100.0%	97,812.96	97,813.00	100.0%	97,813.00
6200 · Salaries & Wages							
6201 · Pastors Salaries	16,280.32	10,002.19	162.77%	140,346.56	130,028.00	107.94%	127,217.00
6202 · Staff Salaries	66,614.06	45,238.42	147.25%	598,702.52	588,099.00	101.8%	519,316.00
6203 · Sub Teacher	226.00	0.00	100.0%	3,483.08	5,659.00	61.55%	5,600.00
6204 · Teachers Aide	1,325.57	1,203.10	110.18%	23,669.34	24,062.00	98.37%	22,217.00
6206 · Secretary	4,758.00	2,888.21	164.74%	42,194.25	43,429.00	97.16%	28,658.00
6207 · Custodial	4,570.00	2,685.29	170.19%	37,169.36	34,909.00	106.48%	34,363.00
6208 · Director of Music	3,099.09	2,066.04	150.0%	27,891.81	26,859.00	103.85%	26,333.00
6209 · Sub Organist	975.00	462.50	210.81%	4,325.00	3,750.00	115.33%	2,760.00
6210 · Bookkeeper	311.04	207.36	150.0%	2,799.36	2,696.00	103.83%	2,607.00
Total 6200 · Salaries & Wages	98,159.08	64,753.11	151.59%	880,581.28	859,491.00	102.45%	769,071.00
6400 · Benefits							
6401 · Benefits - Insurance	6,252.14	10,179.78	61.42%	97,051.84	117,459.00	82.63%	111,421.89
6402 · Disability & Retirement	5,473.34	6,815.17	80.31%	81,104.53	79,788.00	101.65%	81,790.18
6403 · Payroll Taxes	2,222.33	1,579.89	140.66%	20,484.37	20,538.93	99.73%	20,538.93
6405 · HSA Match	0.00	0.00	0.0%	12,000.00	16,000.00	75.0%	16,000.00
Total 6400 · Benefits	13,947.81	18,574.84	75.09%	210,640.74	233,785.93	90.1%	229,751.00
6501 · Staff Travel	839.90	706.75	118.84%	7,038.93	8,481.00	83.0%	8,120.00
6502 · Youth Expense	0.00	172.25	0.0%	1,550.00	2,067.00	74.99%	3,100.00
6503 · Continuing Education	0.00	171.33	0.0%	698.00	2,056.00	33.95%	1,750.00
6504 · Parish Education	0.00	210.83	0.0%	67.51	2,530.00	2.67%	2,700.00
6505 · Pastors Cont Ed	0.00	144.33	0.0%	832.86	1,732.00	48.09%	1,290.00
6506 · Promotions	0.00	208.33	0.0%	0.00	2,500.00	0.0%	7,500.00
6508 · Technology	329.38	358.92	91.77%	3,864.53	4,307.00	89.73%	7,000.00
6550 · Insurance	4,097.00	2,219.58	184.58%	31,121.60	26,635.00	116.86%	26,635.00
6560 · Supplies	3,870.76	3,891.67	99.46%	39,804.08	46,700.00	85.23%	40,704.00
6570 · Utilities and Maintenance							
6571 · Maintenance	9,185.40	3,369.92	272.57%	55,601.27	40,439.00	137.49%	47,060.00
6572 · Utilities	3,053.61	3,383.33	90.26%	46,783.24	40,600.00	115.23%	44,180.00
Total 6570 · Utilities and Maintenance	12,239.01	6,753.25	181.23%	102,384.51	81,039.00	126.34%	91,240.00
Total Expense	141,634.02	106,316.27	133.22%	1,376,397.00	1,369,136.93	100.53%	1,286,674.00

**St. John's Lutheran Church & School
Financial Report
June**

Endowment Fund

Endowment Fund Balance Beginning of Month	\$ 152,702.86
<u>Income / Receipts:</u>	
Missions Offerings	\$ 2,205.00
Altar Guild	200.00
Confirmation Banquet	-
Elementary Scholarship Fund	28.00
Improvement Fund	95.00
Mercy Fund (f/k/a Kindness Fund)	100.00
Youth	237.84
Memorial	200.00
Principal Paydown	783.00
School Fund	75,000.00
Interest	92.69
<u>Disbursements:</u>	
Principal Paydown	(783.00)
Mercy Fund (f/k/a Kindness Fund)	(1,810.59)
Missions Programs	(9,131.75)
Endowment Fund Balance End of Month	<u>\$ 219,919.05</u>

Fund Balances:

Fund Purpose / Notes

Altar Guild Fund	\$ 2,516.14	Fund administered by Altar Guild and used for altar paraments, communion ware, altar gowns and vestments and the like.
Confirmation Banquet	533.38	
Elementary (K-8) Scholarship Fund	76,185.85	Fund administered by Scholarship Fund Committee reporting to BOE. Used to grant needs-based tuition assistance to member families of St. John's Lutheran School.
Improvement Fund	5,869.24	Funds administered and approved by Board of Property & Grounds and used for capital improvements and major repairs of property and grounds (above \$500). Costs above \$2,500 also require Board of Deacons approval. Not to be used for smaller, normal operating repairs and maintenance expenses (i.e. those less than \$500), which should be paid for out of the General Fund.
Church Library Fund	4,399.87	Fund administered by Church Library Committee. Consists of designated memorial money to be used for the purchase of books, materials and software for the Church Library.
Memorial Fund	25,759.44	Fund administered by Board of Administration, funded by memorial contributions from individuals and estates and used for capital improvements and special purposes. Expenditures must be recommended by BOA for approval by Board of Deacons.
Mercy (f/k/a Kindness) Fund	7,786.70	Fund used for immediate emergency assistance to people in need. Administered by Marv Cummins and Gretchen Kliche.
Youth Fund	15,917.11	Fund administered by Youth Director(s). Fund consists of youth-sponsored fundraiser dollars allocated to individual youths and used to offset the costs of youth trips and events, which are not funded from the General Fund.
School Fund	75,008.15	Fund administered by BOE.
Mission Programs-Undistributed Offerings:		
Synod Missions Issues, Etc.	5,943.17	
Preus Mission Nigeria- Rev. Wokoma		
Japan - Jastrom		
Endowment Fund Balance End of Month	<u>\$ 219,919.05</u>	

Note: Except where specified, all Endowment Fund expenditures > \$5,000 require Board of Deacons approval.

Mortgage balance as of June 30, 2017 = \$717,785.29



ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

THE PASTOR CALL COMMITTEE has made good progress in developing a short list of candidates to recommend to the Council of Deacons. We have thoroughly reviewed the initial list of 25 pastor candidates and have reduced the list to five candidates. We have submitted the names of those five candidates to the District so that they can conduct background checks required by the state of Minnesota. We expect to hear back from the District on those background checks by mid-August. In the meantime, the Call Committee will be having conversations with the five remaining candidates with the hope of finalizing our short list and presenting our recommended candidates to the Council of Deacons by the end of August. Our objective is to be able to present the candidates to the Congregation at our regularly scheduled Congregational Assembly meeting in September. That meeting would serve as a Call Meeting when we would determine the candidate to whom we would extend a divine call. If you have any questions about this process, please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the Call Committee:

Paul Dolan	Brenna Koehler	Kevin Pomerence	Phil Schutte
Theresa Gaffer	Matt Kolander	Erik Preus	Dennis Steig
Ed Kemna	Nicoleen Meyer	Sue Reznecheck	Gary Volberding

INTERIM ADMIN PLAN: We are excited to announce the following changes for the 2017/2018 school year:

- Gary Volberding will serve as interim principal, as well as continue to teach some classes.
- Miriam Preus will join the faculty on a non-Called, 1 year contract to teach some classes and serve in the resource role.
- Suzanne Haag will serve in a non-Called role responsible for admissions, marketing, and communication applying her 14 years of marketing and communication experience.
- Ruth Kulberg will be stepping aside in this transition. We will miss Ruth's expertise and value she has brought to our School in the past years.

These are one year roles and the BOE will be resuming their search for an Administrator for the 2018/19 school year in October. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please reach out to BOE Chairman Brian Callahan at 763-242-3837, or e-mail brian.callahan@level3.com

BOARD OF EDUCATION is looking for Board members. This Fall, per constitution, (4) of our current board members will be rotating off our board. We are looking for members who would be interested in considering to serve. You do not have to have children in our school. Meetings are 3rd Tuesdays of every month. Please consider volunteering we need your help. Please contact Brian Callahan, at 763-242-3837, or, brian.callahan@level3.com, if you are interested.

SUMMER VACATION CLEANING & MAINTENANCE: is well underway at St. John's Church and School. As we all know, this is one of our biggest expenses and always a challenge to keep the costs in line. As of July 23rd, carpet shampooing has been completed (Classrooms, Hallways, Narthex, Sanctuary, Stairway Landings, Lobby, Music Room, Auxiliary Room, etc.). On the Lower Level, most tiled floors have been waxed and polished, what remains will be finished by the end of the month. The Gymnasium Floor will be refinished after the divider installation is complete. Please refrain from drinking any colored drinks (Coffee, Soda, and Juice) in any of the carpeted areas throughout the building. Painting has begun and will continue until school starts. Things are looking good; thank you for your help in keeping our facility in beautiful condition. ~Mr. D and The Building & Grounds Committee

ALTAR GUILD: Ever wondered who washed that communion cup that you just got done using or who changed the paraments on the altar? The Altar Guild is the answer, and we would like to encourage anyone who would like to find out more about the Guild to attend our next meeting on Thursday, August 17th at 7pm. The Altar Guild is a committee that fosters a better understanding of our Lutheran worship practices and is dedicated to the care of the altar linens and paraments, communion wear, and furnishings of the sanctuary. We decorate the sanctuary at Christmas and Easter, participate in the Easter holy week services of stripping and redressing the altar and may also be involved in purchasing new paraments, banners, or other items. On a more regular basis, we clean and maintain the chancel area, including washing the communion wear. Come to the meeting to learn more about how you can participate!

SAVE THE DATE!! 4TH ANNUAL ST. JOHN'S GOLF TOURNAMENT. Rush Creek Golf Club, Sunday October 4th at 1pm SHOTGUN. No Vikings game that day. Bring your friends, neighbors, relatives and co-workers. Support St. John's!!



THE SUMMER MONDAY NIGHT DIVINE SERVICE: Every summer we add a Monday night service at 7:00 pm which has the same liturgy, Scripture readings, and sermon as the previous day's Divine Service. The weekly summer evening services will run through *Monday, August 21st*.





CROSS...FOOD NEEDS: Each month CROSS collects food items to be donated to the needy. Items desired from STJL during August are: Crackers and Deodorant. Thank you for helping when you can; your contributions placed in the narthex area are greatly appreciated.



ST. JOHN'S SOCK HOP: The event to attend in August for a retro 50's and 60's evening of fun is the Sock Hop at St. John's on Saturday, August 19th from 5-9 pm. Members and Circuit Members have been invited to enjoy music, dancing, contests and food for purchase. Free Will Offerings at the door will benefit STJL Mission Programs. Look for a sign-up sheet for donations in the narthex. Mark your calendar to join in on the festivities!

Let's Go To The Hop!



Jr./Sr. High Youth

The Senior Youth trip to the Boundary Waters is July 31-Aug 5th!!!

Youth Camp



SCHEDULING CHURCH AND SCHOOL EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S! Please remember to check with the church/school secretary about scheduling any event! The Secretary keeps a main calendar and all church and school events need to be coordinated through this main calendar!





Those Who Serve In August

Altar Guild

Julie Mazurowski 763-519-1160
Brenna Koehler 763-242-4273

Money Counters

8/06 Duane Abraham, **Scott Kulberg**,
John Meyer, Bob Radintz
8/13 Cindy Kiekow, Tim Lodholtz,
Mike McFerrin, Bill Walters
8/20 Scott Brockberg, Randy Bredenberg,
Dave Giefer, Jack Wold
8/27 Mike DeSplinter, Russ Reznecheck,
Craig Schutte, Mark Schutte

8 am Ushers

Dana Christophersen, Thomas Gardner,
Ray Kaiser, Don Kalk, Davey Kulberg

10:30 am Ushers

Mike DeSplinter, Kelly Johnson,
Russ Reznecheck, Craig Schutte

Acolytes 8:00 am

8/06 Jenna Vogt & Isaac Vogt
8/13 Maddy Gangelhoff & Jake Gangelhoff
8/20 Andrew Wandersee & Leah Gordon
8/27 Sam Brustuen & Bradley Kruse

Acolytes 10:30 am

8/06 Matthew Koosman & Evan Pulju
8/13 William Schutte & Kristian Lodholz
8/20 Naomi Schilling & Reece Fish
8/27 Allie Cate & Dalton Cate

Acolytes Monday Night 7:00 pm

8/07 Allie Cate
8/14 Bradley Kruse
8/21 James Wicht



Worship Assistants 8:00 a.m.

8/06 Kevin Pomerence
8/13 Dan Kolander
8/20 Greg Christopher
8/27 Joe Koehler



Worship Assistants 10:30 a.m.

8/06 Ed Kemna
8/13 Dean Noren
8/20 Ross Meyer
8/27 Barron Cate

Worship Assistants

Monday Night 7:00 pm

8/07 Barron Cate
8/14 Todd Haag
8/21 Ed Kemna



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Phone: 763-420-2426
 Fax: 763-420-7198

Web Portal:
www.stjlutheran.org

E-mail:
secretary@stjlutheran.org

EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

EMAIL YOUR NEWSLETTER? Would you like to be added to our newsletter email distribution, or be notified of important happenings at St. John's? Email your request to: secretary@stjlutheran.org



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Mari Klesk Joshua Pomeranke Jack Wicklund	2 Andrew Lieske Christine Wood	3 Julie Christophersen Tammy Eastbourne-Clemens Joy Kooman Arlis Peterson	4 Lois Anderson John Barrett Ray Kaiser Gayle Schlueter	5
6 Janine DeSplinter David Kaik Samantha McDowell Daniel Orbin	7 Carter Cate Kaylee Isaacson Steve Lucas	8 Sarah Bahr Christian Beyreis Rebecca Gaffer Cadence Kliche Laura Kothrade Tori Kuehne Andrew Toelle Haley Wagner	9 Chelsi Briel Jessica McArthur Gary Volberding	10 Stephanie Abbott Nick Baltes AllyLodholz	11 Claire Bode Mackenzie Coombs Jill Noren Sarah Orbin Jisiah Phillips Evan Stockfisch Sienna Swanson	12 Hannah Schwecke
13	14 Mandy Gangschoff Sylvia Gopen Agena Hamilton Janelle Kliche Conrad Meyer	15 Ryan Bahr Kristi Holthus Angela Kaiser Naomi Schilling	16 Abbie MacMillan Bryen Unka	17 Brodie Ellavsky Brodie Ellavsky James Lynch	18	19 Delina Magnuson Dean Noren
20 Olivia Beyreis Gretchen Kliche Ramona Von Ende	21 Angie Plootte	22 Emma Bongertz Rebecca Brantner Melody Felber Jerome Fritz Carol Jobes Justin Maurer Mallory Nayes	23 Travis Cook Amos Kuehne	24 Jake Eckard Mara Robinson	25 Leonie Meyer Alexa Zupfer	26 Greg Brantner Daniel Kappel Inez Koehler Katherine Rogge Debra Weinand
27 Linda Eckard Nate Wicklund	28 Dusne Abraham Gina Dorothy LaVerne Franklin Terry Galle Joel Magnuson Steve Nelson Jerry Rogge James Wicht	29 Garrett Kothrade Jayme Kruse Robert Kruse Bette Lynch Marcia Schalo	30 William Cahlander Brian Knutson Todd Lucht Hannah Schutte	31 Scott Gehl		

August 2017

*Monthly events are subject to change

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:00 GALA Meeting	2	3 Deacon Reports Due--noon 7:15 pm Table Tennis	4	5
6 8:00 am Divine Service 9:30 am Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Service	7 7pm Divine Service	8	9	10 7:00 pm Deacons Council Meeting 7:00 pm Strategic Plng 7:15 pm Table Tennis	11	12
13 8:00 am Divine Service 9:30 am Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Service	14 7pm Divine Service	15 7:00 pm Board Meetings	16	17 DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER CHURCH NEWSLETTER 7:15 pm Table Tennis	18	19 5:00 pm STJL Sock Hop
20 8:00 am Divine Service 9:30 am Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Service	21 7pm Divine Service	22	23	24	25	26
27 8:00 am Divine Service 9:30 am Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Service	28	29	30	31 7:15 pm Table Tennis		

August 2017



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School
9141 County Road 101
Corcoran, MN 55340

Divine Services on Sundays are 8:00 am and 10:30 am
Bible Study is at 9:30 am



THE SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION is available by individual appointment through the summer. Take advantage of this opportunity to hear God's Word of forgiveness spoken to you individually in Jesus' Name. "If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

LAST ONE OUT, PLEASE REMEMBER TO LOCK THE DOORS, PICK UP AFTER YOURSELVES.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!