



October 2022



Worship Schedule

Sundays:

8:00 am Divine Service
(live-streamed on our website: stjlutheran.org)
9:30 am Adult Bible Study
10:30 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:

- October Birthdays
- Monthly Calendar
- Pastoral Inspiration
- Minutes of the Deacon Council Meeting
- Financial Updates
- History Committee notes



*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.*

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church October Newsletter



...Pr. Matthew V. Moss

9141 County Road 101,
Corcoran, MN
55340



What Is Pastoral Visitation?

I wrote in my letter for the Congregational Assembly that our Board for Spiritual Life and pastors are pursuing a “membership renewal” this year. Our goal is to engage all the member families of St. John’s, whether they attend every Sunday and are actively involved on committees and boards or we haven’t seen them in years but they may still desire membership and need some extra encouragement to attend Divine Service regularly. Wherever you find yourself our hope and prayer is that you will have a renewed love and appreciation for the gifts God gives in the Divine Service at your congregation, St. John’s.

A project like this will take years to complete as two pastors can only realistically visit a few families each week and we have hundreds of families/individuals/couples on our membership roster. As of today we have not created a schedule or a prioritized list of any kind. So feel free to reach out to one of us and invite us to a home visitation. It could be over a meal or just for an afternoon coffee. In the past some families have invited the pastor’s wife and/or children too, but often it is only the pastor; after all it is a professional, or *pastoral* visit more than simply a social call.

Fear Not – For Behold I Bring you Glad Tidings of Great Joy!

Don’t be afraid, even if it seems weird or scary to think of having the pastor come to your house. We are not visiting in order to judge and condemn. This is not a search-and-destroy mission. This is a visitation with the Minister of the Gospel coming to encourage you. We come to pray with your family, to pray over your home (which may also be your work-place now post-Covid), and to speak blessings from God’s Word upon your house and all who dwell there.

Believe it or not there are even more benefits than prayers and blessings! You and your pastor(s) will grow in your relationship to one another as shepherds and the sheep of God under the pastors’ spiritual care. Without fail, when pastors do a full visitation their *preaching* becomes better, too, more relevant, and practically applicable. The visitations help the pastors better see and hear what their people do for a living, how they live as a family, and what challenges they face. We all then gain fresh insight into what the people of God need to hear from God’s Word.



Many Purposes for Visitations

Visitation is always part of pastoral ministry, even if it is not exactly like this one where we seek all households, whatever their status. Sometimes we make very specific visits for very specific reasons. When new people seek membership in our church we make visitations to discuss their faith and our church's life together. When catechumens are about to be confirmed we make a visitation for a similar reason, to hear their confession of faith and help prepare them for that great day. When people are sick and hospitalized, or if they are permanently homebound, or when they are nearing death – these are common times that the pastor will visit to pray over the individual, commune them if they are able, absolve them if they are troubled in heart and mind, and also prepare them through the Word of God to bear the cross of suffering and to face death as a confident Christian, with faith and hope in Christ's atoning sacrifice. We pastors also often make visits to homes to check in with newlyweds, when a new baby comes home, or if the home is a newly purchased house, in order to bless the families in these joyous times.

Normally I sign off on my letters with "See you *Sunday*" but in the exciting prospect of visiting with you I'll tweak it a bit –

See you *someday* soon!

~Pastor Moss



	<p>The Five Solas</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sola Scriptura (by scripture alone) 2. Sola Fide (by faith alone) 3. Sola Gratia (by grace alone) 4. Solum Christus (Christ alone) 5. Soli Deo Gloria (glory to God alone)





God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven, be with your servants who make art and music for Your people that with joy we on earth may glimpse your beauty. Bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection that will be ours as we stand before Your unveiled glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.
(Collect for church musicians and artists, LSB p. 307)

When did you last experience something beautiful? A sunset on the lake this summer? Meeting a new grandchild a few hours after birth? Maybe you received a lovely handmade card for a special occasion?

I have a particularly “beautiful” memory from 2011. I belonged to a choir that was singing a “Requiem Mass” by French composer Maurice Durufle. Our conductor was a strict taskmaster, and the preparation process was very intense. When the evening of the performance arrived, I wondered how our conductor would react – he was such a perfectionist! When we arrived at the loudest, most dramatic moment of the entire piece, our conductor suddenly stopped directing. Instead, he looked up, closed his eyes, stretched out his arms, and smiled as we continued to sing. It was a beautiful moment, not only because of the music we created, but because he was showing us how much he trusted us and appreciated our hard work. I smile every time I think about it!

In the prayer at the beginning of this note, we are reminded that church musicians are given a special purpose by God. As they create music, they are giving us a glimpse of the beauty we will experience in eternal life. Even though their musical offerings may be riddled with mistakes, these imperfections serve as a reminder that our earthly knowledge of God is imperfect. We joyfully anticipate an eternity where we will know God fully. And, on top of that, the beauty that we “glimpse” in music here on earth will be made perfect in the presence of our Lord.

St. John’s choir is trying something new this year. We are extending a special invitation to join a Festival Choir that will sing on Reformation Sunday, October 30. This Festival Choir will have three practices on the Wednesdays leading up to October 30 (October 12, 19, and 26) from 7:00-8:00pm. The short-term commitment is intended for those of you who may have thought about joining choir but have felt unable to commit to “every Wednesday evening.”

For those of you who like to sing but have never thought about joining choir – I know that you’re out there, I hear beautiful voices from the pews every week! – I would ask that you prayerfully reconsider. Church musicians have a unique and special role to play in proclaiming our Christian hope of eternal life. I also know that you know music doesn’t happen magically. It takes practice *and* it takes participants.

You may also know that there are many health and social benefits to be reaped from regularly gathering to make music with others! Not only have I been edified and spiritually strengthened by the music the choir has sung this past year, I have also been blessed by the friendship and encouragement of many of the choir members. I know that it will be the same for you!

If you do decide to join us, you will hear that we are not perfect. That’s why we trust that the God who already forgives us will also strengthen us to proclaim His Word through song. The beauty of His grace and steadfast love, about which we sing, will always shine through.

Please contact me or seek out one of our current choir members if you have any questions about this new format. We look forward to seeing you on October 12 at 7:00pm in the music room!

In Christ,

Dr. Katie Moss

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council of Deacons Meeting Minutes-August 18, 2022

Deacon meeting was called to order by Jerry at 7:00 P.M.

In attendance: Pr. Moss, Pr. Johnson Phil Koehler, Rob Borcharding, Phil Schutte, Ted Schmidt, Jerry Rogge, Andrew Heinen, Sam Kuphal, Gretchen Dolan, Dennis Schwecke, Dave Kiesow, Jesse Mathwig, Todd Haag

Pr. Moss opened the meeting with a prayer.

Theological Study: Handling the Word of Truth. We discussed chapter 13. Read the Epilogue for the next meeting.

Deacon Minutes: Dave motioned, Ted seconded to approve the July minutes. Motion passed.

Pastors Report: Written report submitted.

New Members: None.

Transfer: Michael Orbin to Glory of Christ, Plymouth, MN

Steve & Kathleen Orbin to St. John's, Buffalo, MN

Josh, Amy & Joel Peterson to St. John's, Chaska, MN

Jeremy & Rachel Costello & family to Good Shepard, North Mankato, MN

Megan (Hebert) Schroeder to Our Redeemer, Okabena, MN

Rob made the motion to transfer the members as presented. Dave made a second. Discussion occurred. Motion passed to transfer members.

Death: Inez Koehler- Christian burial on July 12; Pr. Johnson presided

Marriage: None.

Baptisms: None.

Removals and Record-Keeping:

Name	Removal	Record Keeping
Robert Ewalt	X	No known location or contact information
Jacob Faue	X	No known location or contact information
Jade Nelson	X	No known location or contact information
Brian Helgeson	X	No known location or contact information

Board of Spiritual Life: Written report submitted

Business Manager's Report: Written report submitted.

- Financial Aid awarded to families this year is \$16,497.

- Facilities Manager Position: George did not work out. We will have KD building management cleaning from 10am to 2pm four days a week. And also cleaning 6 hours a night. Matt Koosman will clean on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Budget should come close to what was expected for the custodians for the year.
- The tuition budget number will have a short fall of approximately \$60,000. It was budgeted to be about \$899,000. And will be closer to \$839,000.

Board of Administration: Written report submitted.

- Placement and decorating of the memorial tree for Sue Schutte was discussed.
- Financial reporting in the newsletter was discussed.

Principal's Report: Written report submitted

- FACTS has had some issues but nothing that could not be worked through.

Board of Education: Written report submitted.

- The BOE has members that will be stepping down from the board in the near future. The Deacons appoint the new board members. Multiple people have come forward with interest with serving.
- Coming in September, the decision needs to be made on how the Gala funds should be split.

Congregational President Report: No written report. Congregational meeting & mortgage burning ceremony is set for Sept. 18th.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the board reports as presented. Motion passed.

Old business: None.

New business:

- Wish List update: As the school year approaches, the need for lockers for the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th grade classes has arisen. **Jesse made the motion to spend up to \$18,000 on hallway and classroom storage improvements. Todd seconded the motion. Discussion occurred. Motion passed.**
- Treasurer position: No one has come forward to be nominated yet for the position. One person has not yet responded back. Need to find a qualified member to fill this position.
- Gifting and Endowment Fund(s) language for the Bylaws: We talked about Section X-Endowment Fund under the Bylaws. The school endowment fund name does not match what is in this section. This will be a ongoing discussion topic.

Resolutions:

1. Be it resolved that the revised constitution and by-laws (8/3/2022) be accepted by the Council of Deacons and presented to the September 2022 Congregational Assembly for their approval.
Motion was made by Phil S. to approve the lists of nominees as presented. Motion was seconded by Dave. Discussion occurred. Motion approved.

Motion/Second/Passed to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 9:01 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church and School Monthly Reporting – August 2022

August Summary:

- 2022-2023 Budgeted deficit: -\$74K
- August surplus of \$102K; short of \$108K budgeted surplus (total Revenue – total Expenses)
 - Total revenue short \$9K of budget
 - Total expenses a favorable \$3K under budget
- Mortgage balance is at \$0; final payment made in August!

Financial Details:

Fund Balances As of August 31, 2022

	TOTAL		
	AS OF AUG 31, 2022	AS OF AUG 31, 2021 (PY)	CHANGE
▶ A) Operating Fund	339,602	605,438	-265,836
▶ B) Gifting Fund	367,458	497,089	-129,632
▶ C) School Endowment Fund	368,544	336,329	32,215
▼ 25000 Gifting Funds			
25020 Improvement Fund	341,938		
25035 Mercy/Kindness Fund	16,105		
25701 Mission-Synod	5,963		
25713 Mission-Jestram	3,320		

Fund restructuring accounts for \$133K of this drop

Breakdown of Gifting Fund

Budget vs Actuals-Last Month August 2022

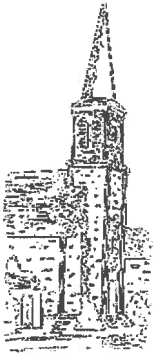
	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
▼ Revenue				
4010 General Fund Offerings	63,785	73,766	-9,981	86.00 %
4020 Tuition	168,153	173,829	-5,676	97.00 %
4030 Other School Income	19,669	13,000	6,669	151.00 %
4400 Other Income	2	160	-158	1.00 %
Total Revenue	\$251,610	\$260,755	\$-9,145	96.00 %
▼ Expenditures				
6200 Salaries & Wages	81,642	92,754	-11,112	88.00 %
6400 Benefits	17,689	23,938	-6,250	74.00 %
6500 Other Staff Expenses	1,645	1,629	16	101.00 %
6510 Church Programs	1,612	1,342	270	120.00 %
6560 Operating/Misc Expenses	18,790	12,774	5,926	146.00 %
6570 Utilities and Maintenance	17,844	11,839	6,005	151.00 %
7100 School Academic Expenses	6,669	6,258	411	107.00 %
7300 School Bus Service	1,617	1,750	-133	92.00 %
7900 Other School Expenses	2,483	700	1,783	355.00 %
Total Expenditures	\$149,900	\$152,984	\$-3,083	98.00 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$101,710	\$107,771	\$-6,062	94.00 %

Operating Callouts:

- General Fund offerings were short of budget by ~\$10K (short \$10K in July also)
- Strong ESP (summer program) attendance led to increased revenue year over year; Total July-Aug revenue this year \$35K vs \$18K last year
- Overall August came in slightly short of budget; (\$102K actual surplus vs \$108K surplus budgeted for August)

*Fund balances do not include the Cemetery, Church Worker Scholarship Funds, Hot Lunch or PTL. These funds currently maintain their own financial reporting.

- Year-To-Date and more detailed ins/outs for Gifting/Endowment funds will be reported quarterly
- Full Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss reporting available via request to sam.kuphal@stjlutheran.org



St. John's History Committee

Did you Know:

(continued from last month in terms of our school facilities)

- In 1968, a building program was undertaken to connect the school and the church. The cost was \$60,000 and the photo below shows the completed project.
- In 1983, ground was broken for a school expansion which included four classrooms, a large fellowship hall, offices, and storage areas. Construction was completed in time for the 1984-85 school year.

In 2007, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the latest addition which included three classrooms, a youth room, a music room, and a gymnasium.



October Happenings

2022 MISSION PROGRAMS: We currently continue to support the Synod mission program and that of Rev. Dr. Jastram. *Please note:* Any contributions to missions other than these two options at this time will be divided between these two currently supported programs. BSL will update you via the Announcements when we learn how and whom we may support via mission offerings going forward. May God bless you for your generosity!

DEACON COUNCIL: We thank God for providing us with four new deacons: Scott Kulberg, Ross Meyer, Cory Olson, and Russ Reznecheck. Let us also thank God and extend our thanks to those completing their terms: Scott Gehl, Philip Koehler, Jerry Rogge, and Phil Schutte.

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS: The Congregational Assembly has elected Steve Kruse to serve as President, Jamie Radintz to serve as Secretary, and Tom Brady to serve as Treasurer. Let us thank God for these servants of Christ and their willingness to serve. May we also extend our thanks to those who have completed terms of service: Erik Preus as President and Mike Gaffer as Treasurer.

YOUTH GROUP VOLUNTEERING: The Board of Spiritual Life and Pastors, on behalf of the whole Deacon Council and congregation, would like to thank Jayme Kruse for her years of tireless service to our Lord and the youth of this congregation. She has been a great blessing and leaves big shoes to fill! We would like to take this opportunity to explore all the options, including potentially calling a church worker from the roster of Synod. We will need to have conversations about the commitment of St. John's to youth ministry, and the commitment of our individual families to prioritizing and participating in youth ministry. To do that with the diligence it deserves will take time, however. While we take the time to explore those options and decide together on a best course, we still need to provide and facilitate this program year with fun events and service opportunities. *Those interested in helping should contact Pastor Moss.*

YOUTH MINISTRY OPEN FORUM: The Pastors and BSL Deacons will host an Open Forum on Tues. Oct. 4th at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall for the parents of current and upcoming youth. We will start with a brief study of Scripture on what God says about ministering to this age group. Then we will seek your feedback on a long-term course of youth ministry at St. John's. "What do we want Youth Ministry to look like over the next decade at St. John's?" You can share those comments on the spot, or take some time to reflect and get them to us in writing.

THE BACH SOCIETY OF MN will be returning to St. John's for a concert on Saturday, March 4, 2023 (time, TBD). They are asking our congregation to make a contribution of \$2,000 towards their operating costs. They will come and perform regardless, but this would be a good gesture on our part as we seek to reach out to our community and especially to those who already have a love for excellent and historic Lutheran music. Since this cost was not included in BSL's line of the 2022-2023 budget we are seeking interested donors from the congregation to get in touch with BSL Chairman Phil Schutte to communicate your support for this event.

ADULT CATECHISM CLASSES: We meet every Monday (except Oct. 3) from 6:30 - 8:00pm in the Auxiliary Room. It's not too late to join, just get in touch with Pastor Moss.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: St John's is looking for some Part-Time Maintenance help! Are you mechanically inclined or generally handy? We are looking to fill a part-time role (15-25 hours) for the church and school which would include mainly basic maintenance duties (anything from changing light bulbs to switching out furnace filters to replacing light switches). Exact position responsibilities and pay rate will vary depending on the skill level, reach out to our Business Manager (sam.kuphal@stjlutheran.org) or the church office for more information.

2ND ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT: A free event sponsored by St. John's PTL Team, 2-4pm Saturday October 29th, St. John's parking lot, refreshments, decorated trunk & costume contest.



Fellowship Committee:

OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION: Join us on Sunday October 9th 4:30-7:30pm at the Lookout Bar & Grill in Maple Grove (8672 Pineview Ln N); hosted by the Fellowship Committee. Dinner from 5-6pm. RSVP by October 1st online using the QR code, using the sign-up pages in the narthex, or by contacting Sarah Bahr.



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!



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



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

Web Portal:
www.stjlutheran.org

E-mail:
secretary@stjlutheran.org
secretary2@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.

GET CHURCH EMAIL COMMUNICATION: If you are not already on our church email distribution list for notices such as upcoming church events, funerals, weather closures, etc. and wish to be included, please provide your email address to: secretary@stjlutheran.org

~ LIFE NOTES ~

"It is easy to look at others in the world and label them as enemies, especially when they have different political, religious, or ethical beliefs than we do. But, when God looks at those individuals, He wants them to belong to His family, too. A fruit of faith can be to show other individuals, made in God's image, that they, too, are chosen!" Marie K. MacPherson, author - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life www.lutheransforlife.org



*Give Thanks to the Lord,
 for He is good.*
 Psalms 107:1



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Katie Borcharding Kelsey Lattrell	3 Heaven Knutson	4 Tessa Birznies Joshua Glock Nichole Schilling	5 Louis Gaffaney	6 Riley Gehl Richard Haver Stephen Kruse	7 Sandra Scott	1 Jason Christopher 8 Sadie Say
9 Kristi Bode	10 Aaron Cook Joseph Ims	11 Jeremy Johnson Evelyn Klatt Bradley Kruse	12 Kathleen Cooper Darius Uditsky	13 Rolf Preus	14 Logan Peterson	15 Lois Foggla
16 Tom Brady Craig Schutte	17 Troy Eder Linda Kalk Loren Peterson	18 Hayden Anderson/Zarradna Tom Gardner David Kiesow Lynn Schutte	19 Kathleen Rosso	20 Regina Thornford	21 Kim Pomeranke	22 Tracey Blanck Oliver Borcharding Karen Orth Jim Peterson Mara Schmidt
23 Cory O'Hern	24	25 K. C. Kolstad Cheryl Lucas Karl Preus	26 Noah MacMillan Grace Windsperger	27 Weston Holovmia Aaron Rossow Johanna Uditsky	28	29 Isabella Alvarez Kelly Canavatti Elsie Priebe
30 Duane Esterly Gall Lieske	31 Conrad Koehler Lisa McFerrin Karen Nelson					





October 2022

*Monthly events are subject to change

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 8:00 am Divine Svc [indv glis] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [cm cup]	3 Pastors at District Conference 6:30 pm No Adult Catechism	4 Pastors at District Conference 9:00 am No Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Open Forum Youth Group Planning	5 1/2 Day of School 8:10 am Chapel 6:00 pm Wed Catechism (Public School Students)	6 No School/ No ESP- LEA Education Conference Deacon Rpts Due-noon	7 No School/ No ESP- LEA Education Conference	8 No School/ No ESP- LEA Education Conference
9 8:00 am Divine Svc [cm cup] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [indv glis] 4:30 pm Oktoberfest Celebration (Lookout Br&Gr)	10 Pastors at District Conference 6:00 pm West High School Information & Pizza Night 6:30 pm Adult Catechism	11 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm PTL Meeting	12 9:00 am Photo Retakes 6:00 pm Wed Catechism (Public School Students) 7:00 pm Fstvl Reformation Choir Practice	13 9:00 am Winkel 7:00 pm Deacons Council Meeting	14 8:10 am Chapel (5-8 th Grade Choir Sings)	15 8:00 am Corcoran Invitational "B" Soccer Tournament
16 8:00 am Divine Svc [indv glis] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [cm cup] (5-8 th Grade Choir Sings)	17 6:30 pm Adult Catechism	18 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Board Meetings	19 8:10 am Chapel(7-8 Hndbls) 10-11 am DND: Pr. Moss recording KFJO interview 6:00 pm Wed Catechism (Public School Students) 7:00 pm Fstvl Reformation Choir Practice	20 Office Closed No School / No ESP – MEA NOV NWSL TR DEADLINE	21 Office Closed No School / No ESP – MEA 3:00 pm Walton Wedding	22 Office Closed No School / No ESP – MEA
23 8:00 am Divine Svc [cm cup] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [indv glis]	24 6:30 pm Adult Catechism	25 9:00 am Adult Bible Study	26 6:00 pm Wed Catechism (Public School Students) 7:00 pm Fstvl Reformation Choir Practice	27	28 8:10 am Chapel (All School)	29 2-4pm Trunk or Treat
30 8:00 am Divine Svc [indv glis] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [cm cup]	31 6:30 pm Adult Catechism					

October 2022



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

Divine Services Live-Streamed on Sundays at 8:00 am
Sunday Divine Service 10:30 am



THE SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION
is available this month by appointment only. 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!