

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



August 2023

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Each Sunday

- 8:00am Divine Service (live streamed)
- 9:30am Adult Bible Study
- 10:30am Divine Service

Each Monday

- 7:00pm Divine Service

## IN THIS ISSUE

- August Birthdays
- Announcements
- Council of Deacons June Meeting Minutes
- June Financial Update
- August Church Calendar

## REMINDERS

Please notify the secretary of any **changes in personal information**, including address, phone number, email, etc.

If you are **unable to serve** on your scheduled day, it is your responsibility to find someone to serve in your place.

## A LETTER FROM PASTOR MOSS

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This summer in Sunday Bible Study we have been learning about the different elements (rites and ceremonies) that make up our weekly Divine Service. It has been a fruitful study for your pastors and kantor to prepare, and we hope all attendees have gained an appreciation for just what it is God is doing on Sunday- serving us with Christ Himself in Word & Sacrament.

The pure preaching of the Gospel (Service of the Word) and the administration of the Sacrament of the Altar as Christ instituted it (Service of the Sacrament) are the *regular* or “ordinary” worship of the church. This is the regular, ordinary ministry of your Ministers of the Word. There are other services within the life of a congregation that we call “extraordinary”. They don’t happen regularly, and even if they did each one would be unique given the individualized nature of the action taking place.

This year we are going to study the ***Extraordinary Church Services*** and the theology or rationality behind them. Take a look:

***The Funeral, Death, and Dying*** – From September 10 through November 5 (All Saints’ Day) we will learn about the wages of sin that is Death. We’ll cover ethical discussions about end-of-life decisions. We’ll learn about pastoral care leading up to death and comforting the bereaved afterwards. We will learn a lot about the funeral service itself, burial practices, strange (even pagan) rites that are coming back. And by the end you will be well-prepared quite literally to plan your funeral alongside your pastors in a way that will proclaim to your relatives and friends the joy and hope we have in Christ Jesus who is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***The Wedding and Christian Marriage*** – From November 12 through January 14 we will use the Rite of Holy Matrimony to teach us about God’s institution of marriage. Everyone, whether unmarried, newlywed, long-married, or widowed can learn and

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

and grow in their vocations, and celebrate God's gift of marriage in an time in our society when it is disparaged and attacked.

***Baptism and Catechesis*** – From January 21 through March 24 we will begin with the Rite of Holy Baptism to study our own baptismal life and how to help those we sponsor. We will learn about teaching the faith through Catechesis and study the history of Lutheran education. We will learn and grow in our own confidence to succeed at home devotions.

***The Confirmation Rite*** – For four weeks, April 7 – 28, we will study the Rite of Confirmation. We'll learn what it is (and what it is not). We'll learn to appreciate many good practices. We will learn about bad practices to avoid. And in cinematic fashion if we talk about the Good, the Bad, then we also have to talk about “the ugly”. After this we will all be well-prepared on May 5<sup>th</sup> for the Examination and Confirmation of the 2024 class.

There are lots of other “Extraordinary” services in the life of a church as the pastor ministers to God's people. These four are the most frequent, and that's why they are all in your hymnal. For the last two weeks of the program year (May 12 & 19) we will give you the Full Menu of ceremonies, rites, and blessings, that are in the Altar Book and our Pastoral Care Companion.

I look forward to seeing you in Church for the regular ministry of Word & Sacrament, and I hope you will join us as well for this special course of study in the rites and ceremonies beyond the norm. Let's make the *most memorable* events even *more memorable* by recognizing and appreciating just what God is doing at those times!

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Moss

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## AUGUST ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Best of Maple Grove 2023** St. John's Lutheran School & Preschool is excited to share that we were voted Best Preschool and Best Private School by Maple Grove Magazine in their annual "Best of Maple Grove" contest!

**Join us for the Summer Bible Study series** each Sunday between services in the Fellowship Hall. This summer we are studying the Divine Liturgy. Learn what we are doing in church, why we are doing it, and what God is doing here among us.

**Monday Night Divine Services** continue each Monday in August at 7pm. Please make use of this opportunity to gather around Word & Sacrament throughout the summer months.

**Tuesday Bible Study** meets weekly at 9am in the auxiliary room. Pastor Moss is currently leading a study of *The Book of Psalms*.

**Sunday School** will resume next month. Thank you to all the volunteers this past year!

**St. John's is hiring a part-time receptionist.** This position is approximately 15-20 hours per week during the school year and primary duties include answering the phone, greeting visitors, and other clerical tasks as needed. Please contact the church office at [secretary@stjlutheran.org](mailto:secretary@stjlutheran.org) if you are interested!

**Life Notes from Lutherans for Life:** Temptations to idolatry exist today as they did in biblical times. The great idol "Death" draws many to its altar. They look to death for rescue from a crisis pregnancy or chronic disease or pain. Death's allure is so great it even tempts Christians to bow before it. But we have a way out of such temptations to faithlessness: "God is faithful" (1 Corinthians 10:1-13). Christ our "Rock" never leaves us (10:4). We can trust Him. *Rock of our salvation, may Your faithful service to us through Your cross and resurrection move us to be faithful to You. Amen.*

To read more or to learn more about Lutherans for Life, visit [www.LutheransforLife.org](http://www.LutheransforLife.org).

**St. John's Lutheran School Mission Statement:** The mission of St. John's Lutheran School is to nurture young people through God's Word, sound Lutheran doctrine and worship, and a strong academic foundation. Our goal is to equip students to lead their lives as God's baptized children in this world and to carry out Christ's command to "make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:19)

# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### August 1

- Noah Heidorn
- Joshua Pomerence

### August 2

### August 3

- Julie Christophersen
- Joy Koosman

### August 4

- Lois Anderson
- Gayle Schlueter

### August 6

- Janine DeSplinter

### August 7

### August 8

- Sarah Bahr
- Rebecca Gaffer
- Tori Kuehne
- Andrew Toelle

### August 9

- Chelsi Briel
- Gary Volberding

### August 10

- Nick Baltes
- Laura Toelle

### August 11

### August 12

### August 13

### August 14

- Janelle Kliche

### August 15

- Ryan Bahr
- Kristi Holthus
- Naomi Schilling

### August 16

- Abbie MacMillan  
Gaffaney
- Tim Radintz

### August 17

- James Lynch

### August 18

### August 19

- Joey Heisler
- Dean Noren

### August 20

- Gretchen Kliche
- Jared Sandliuzza
- Ramona Von Ende
- Tifanne Wolter

### August 21

### August 22

- Carol Jobes
- Justin Maurer

### August 23

- Amos Kuehne

### August 24

- Mara Robinson

### August 25

- David Diers

### August 26

- Debra Weinand

### August 27

- Shirley Bjorgan
- Linda Eckard
- Jamie Peterson
- Bonnie Radintz

### August 28

- Duane Abraham
- Jerry Rogge
- James Wicht

### August 29

- Garrett Kothrade
- Jayme Kruse
- Robert Kruse
- Bette Lynch
- Marcia Schalo

### August 30

### August 31

- Scott Gehl



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School  
Council of Deacon Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2023

Present	First Name	Last Name	Present	First Name	Last Name
	Rob	Borcherding	X	Russ	Reznecheck
X	Leif	Briel	X	Dennis	Schwecke
X	Todd	Haag	X	Ted	Schmidt
X	Andrew	Heinen			
X	David	Kiesow	X	Gretchen	Dolan
X	Scott	Kulberg	X	Pastor	Johnson
X	Jesse	Mathwig	X	Pastor	Moss
X	Ross	Meyer		Steve	Kruse
X	Cory	Olson	X	Sam	Kuphal

**Call to Order:**

By Chairman Ross Meyer at 7:00 pm

**Opening Prayer:**

By Pastor Moss

**Theological Study:**

Why I Am a Lutheran, Chapter 7 “We Will Live Forever”- Daniel Preus

By Pastor Moss

**Deacon Minutes:**

05/11/23 Deacon Meeting Minutes - M/S Approved with changes.

05/24/23 Special Deacon M/S Approved

**Deacon Board Reports:**

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**Pastors Report:**

Written report submitted.

**Members Removed:**

Jacob, Ashly & Shannon Thomas Addison Amanda Adkins Jacob, Ashly & Shannon Adams  
Justin & Charlie Bermel Steve, Jeanette & Kimberly Bredesen Alicia Burnes  
Richard (Chip), Heidi & Heather Campbell Julie Leland Melissa, Faith & Olivia Grant Kayla  
Gravning Emily Herbert Johnson/Franklin(5) William, Vicki, Sara & Sadie Halfrich Christopher &  
Cheryl Korpi Michael Krueger Deshay Kruger Taylor Little Polly & Ethan Matteson Constance  
McDonald Bruce & Jane Smith Katie & Madalyn Montgomery Betty, Lauren & Victoria Millen  
Gerald, Lisa & Justin Miller Palmier (5) Bongaarts/Schidt (3) Jamie & Brenda Smith Smith/Psait(3)  
Dominic & Dylan Talbot Unke (Rivall), Sarah

**Board of Spritual Life:**

Written report submitted.

- Writing procedures for Mercy Fund Coordinators to be approved at Deacon Council.
- A Narthex Refresher Committee has been established members consisted of Beth Giefer, Lois Foggia, Julie Mazurowski and Cory Olson.

### **Business Manager's Report:**

Written report submitted.

- Projected Fiscal Year Deficit: (-\$ 25K) compared to (-\$74K) Budget  
Total revenue projected at \$1,829K compared to \$1,914K Budget (-\$85K)  
General Fund Offerings projected at \$792k compared to \$845k Budget (-\$46k)  
School Tuition projected at \$853k compared to \$899k Budget (-\$46k)
- Financial aid awarded to 1 family for 2023-2024 year in the amount of \$2,399. Expecting more families to apply.

### **Board of Administration:**

Written report submitted.

- Roof needs to be replaced estimate cost from \$60,000 to \$90,000.

### **Principal's Report:**

Written report submitted.

- Early estimated enrollment 2023/2024 =178. (42) Prospective Students.

### **Board of Education:**

Written report submitted.

- Banner was placed at the Hamel ball fields.
  - Science material curriculum approved, \$17,840 from the gifting fund.
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### **New Business:**

- Call committee update, Kristen Skura verbally accepted call as Principal at St Johns on May 30, 2023. Call Committee has completed call process.
- Youth Director position possibly to be filled with current contract school employee w/ paid hours. Discuss with individual to see if interested.
- Protect His House, a FREE 3-hour active shooter awareness course, was approved, and date of training to be determined.
- Deacon members Andrew Heinen & Ross Meyer will meet with Cemetery Sextons to review positions in organization chart, rules, records, location/format. -Also review past gifted money if it was or should have been applied to Cemetery Fund.

### **Old Business:**

- Solar roof opportunity. Property and Grounds Committee recommends striking from further research due to solar panels' life expectancy, and cost to remove or replace.
- Board handbooks need to be updated along with years of board member's service. Ross Meyer, Scott Kulberg along with Sam Kuphal will start the process with BOA, BOE and BSL.

### **Resolutions:**

- Motion to change Julie Anderson's job title to Office Administrator.  
M/S Motion approved

**Motion made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 8:45 pm.**

**Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.**

# St. John's Lutheran Church & School Monthly Reporting – June 2023

## Cash and Investment Balance Details:

**Operating Fund** – Funded primarily by offerings and school tuition/fees. Pays for operating expenses and critical for short-term viability.

**Gifting Fund** – Primarily funded by member gifts and fundraisers. Pays for capital improvements/repairs and flow-thru giving to mercy/kindness.

**School endowment fund** – Funded primarily by member gifts and fundraisers with goal to ensure the long-term viability of affordable Lutheran education.

Cash and Investment Balances As of June 30, 2023				Start of fiscal year balances
	TOTAL			AS OF JUN 30, 2022 (PY)
	AS OF JUN 30, 2023	AS OF JUN 30, 2022 (PP)	AS OF JUN 30, 2022 (PY)	
▶ A) Operating Fund	277,889	289,498		289,498
▶ B) Gifting and Improvement Fund	345,773	339,147		339,147
▶ C) School Endowment Fund	445,664	364,669		364,669

## June Operating Summary:

June deficit of \$51K favorable to \$62K budgeted deficit (total Revenue – total Expenses)

- Total revenue favorable \$12K to budget
  - Offerings favorable \$6K to budget; school tuition/fees favorable \$7K to budget
- Total expenses \$2K over budget
  - Salaries/wages/benefits flat to budget
  - All other operating expenses \$2K over budget

## Operating Details:

Budget vs Actuals-Last Month June 2023				
	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
▼ Revenue				
4010 General Fund Offerings	71,182	65,000	6,182	110.00 %
4020 Tuition	1,087	3,901	-2,815	28.00 %
4030 Other School Income	13,514	4,067	9,447	332.00 %
4400 Other Income	15,503	16,480	-977	94.00 %
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$101,285</b>	<b>\$89,448</b>	<b>\$11,837</b>	<b>113.00 %</b>
▼ Expenditures				
6200 Salaries & Wages	99,117	92,761	6,357	107.00 %
6400 Benefits	29,802	36,784	-6,982	81.00 %
6500 Other Staff Expenses	2,743	1,629	1,114	168.00 %
6510 Church Programs	1,942	1,342	600	145.00 %
6560 Operating/Misc Expenses	5,448	4,648	801	117.00 %
6570 Utilities and Maintenance	10,775	9,868	907	109.00 %
7100 School Academic Expen...	4,422	2,146	2,276	206.00 %
7300 School Bus Service	198	1,250	-1,052	16.00 %
7900 Other School Expenses	-1,702	650	-2,352	-262.00 %
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$152,747</b>	<b>\$151,077</b>	<b>\$1,670</b>	<b>101.00 %</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ -51,462</b>	<b>\$ -61,629</b>	<b>\$10,167</b>	<b>84.00 %</b>

## Reporting Callouts

- 1) Fund balances do not include the Cemetery, Church Worker Scholarship Funds, Hot Lunch or PTL.
- 2) Full Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss reporting available via request to church office

# St. John's Lutheran Church and School Full Year Reporting – June 2023

## Full Year Operating Summary (July 2022-June 2023):

Total revenue short \$45K of budget

- Offerings short of budget by \$52K
- Tuition short of budget by \$35K; Other school income favorable \$33K to budget (mainly ESP income)
- Other Income favorable \$9K to budget

Total expenses a favorable \$125K under budget

- Salary and benefits under budget by \$149K primarily due to not filling 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher role and fewer than expected employees needing health coverage helping to offset other areas with higher-than-expected operating costs.
- All other operating expenses \$24K over budget

## YTD Operating Details:

### YTD Budgets vs Actuals

July 2022 - June 2023

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
▼ Revenue				
▶ 4010 General Fund Offerings	793,385	845,002	-51,617	94.00 %
4020 Tuition	854,672	889,341	-34,669	96.00 %
▶ 4030 Other School Income	156,693	124,100	32,593	126.00 %
▶ 4400 Other Income	54,938	46,037	8,901	119.00 %
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$1,859,688</b>	<b>\$1,904,480</b>	<b>\$ -44,792</b>	<b>98.00 %</b>
▼ Expenditures				
▶ 6200 Salaries & Wages	1,245,684	1,321,370	-75,686	94.00 %
▶ 6400 Benefits	264,969	338,113	-73,144	78.00 %
▶ 6500 Other Staff Expenses	28,149	20,411	7,738	138.00 %
▶ 6510 Church Programs	15,092	16,100	-1,008	94.00 %
▶ 6560 Operating/Misc Expenses	90,799	80,474	10,325	113.00 %
▶ 6570 Utilities and Maintenance	145,647	142,080	3,567	103.00 %
▶ 7100 School Academic Expenses	48,675	45,502	3,173	107.00 %
▶ 7300 School Bus Service	15,999	12,800	3,199	125.00 %
▶ 7900 Other School Expenses	8,822	12,100	-3,278	73.00 %
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,863,836</b>	<b>\$1,988,950</b>	<b>\$ -125,114</b>	<b>94.00 %</b>
<b>NET OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ -4,148</b>	<b>\$ -84,470</b>	<b>\$80,322</b>	<b>5.00 %</b>

## Full Year Gifting & Improvement, School Endowment and Missions Funds Activity (July 2022-June 2023):

### Gifts and Improvement Fund

Mercy Fund ending balance of \$17K

- Total contributions of \$1763 (no disbursements)

Improvement Fund ending balance of \$328K: full year increase of \$11K

- Total spending of \$73K
  - \$16K handbells
  - \$15K school lockers/storage
  - \$13K new walkie talkies
  - \$8K lot resealing
  - \$8K steeple repair
  - \$8K school marketing
  - \$5K new stove
- Total contributions of \$84K
  - \$40K PTL FUNDay proceeds for parking lot
  - \$20K Gala proceeds for safety enhancements
  - \$24K member contributions/interest

### School Endowment Fund

Ending balance of \$446K; full year increase of \$81K

- Total YTD disbursements of \$22K
  - -\$22K tuition assistance withdrawals
- Total YTD gains/contributions of \$103K
  - +\$56K 2022 Gala proceeds
  - +\$35K market gains
  - +\$6K member contributions
  - +\$6K 2022 Golf tournament proceeds

### Missions Contributions:

Synod - \$15,730  
 Jastram - \$10,946  
 Wokoma - \$5,142  
 Soldiers of the Cross - \$2,622



*"This is the day the Lord has made.*

# AUGUST 2023

*Let us rejoice and be glad in it. "Psalm 118:24*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 Deacon Reports Due	4	5
6 8am Divine Service 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	7 7pm Divine Service	8 9am Adult Bible Study	8	10 7pm Deacon Meeting	11	12
13 8am Divine Service 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	14 7pm Divine Service	15 9am Adult Bible Study 7pm Board Mtgs.	16 4pm Back to School Night	17	18	19
20 8am Divine Service 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	21 7pm Divine Service	22 9am Adult Bible Study	23	24	25	26
27 8am Divine Service 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Divine Service	28 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of School for K-8 7pm Divine Service	29 9am Adult Bible Study	30 6pm Handbell Choir Kickoff Party (location TBD)	31	1 No School/ESP	2



August 2023

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
9141 County Road 101  
Corcoran, MN 55340

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**The Divine Service is live-streamed each Sunday at 8:00am.**



The Service of Individual Confession & 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's 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*