



Website:
www.stjohns-ec.org

Office Hours:
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Mon-Thurs.
9:00 am—1:00 pm
Fri.

Sunday Worship:
9:00 am

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The St. John's 150th Celebration will be on Sunday, October 6, 2024



This year marks Pastor Christine's 14th year at St. John's! Wow!!
To encourage the congregational health that comes with longer tenured leaders, and for the health and welfare of our called pastors, St. John's grants a sabbatical leave for their called pastoral leaders during every seven years of service, with a minimum length of three months in the seventh year.

Pastor Christine has offered to do a split sabbatical: six weeks starting on May 13 and returning on June 24. The second half of her sabbatical will be the end of December into January 2025. She has offered to split up the sabbatical because this is now a solo pastorate, although she is not required to split up that time. Thank you Pastor Christine!

She has chosen to do this to help lessen the complications of being without a called pastor for three months straight.

Pastor Christine has already provided for coverage during the time that she is away. While she is gone, please note: she will not be attending to funerals, pastoral care, emails, texts, or any online connection for St. John's during her sabbatical time.

In the event of pastoral emergencies, we would ask that you call the church office for assistance during that time. Again, the dates for her first segment of the sabbatical are May 13th through June 23rd. She will return to the office on the 24th of June.

Thank you for praying for our pastor and please pray that this pause in ministry will be restful for her.

Thank you,
Jean Jirovec, Church Council President



St. Johns 2024 Confirmands

It's a season of celebration at St. John's! Here is our confirmands and their mentors that will celebrate confirmation on May 5th:

- Macy Schleusner (Mentor: Jamie Strasburg)
- Delaney Helland (Mentor: Brenda Schleusner)
- Rihanna Hanvelt (Mentor: Lisa Brandt)
- Samuel Peuse (Mentor: Tim Henning)
- Gracelyn Boeckmann (Mentor: Brittany David)





Yes! We're the Church Together!

As we begin our journey towards the summer months and VBS is close at hand, I am reminded of a song I learned as a child called "We are the church together." Perhaps you know it, too? It begins with these lyrics: "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together. All the little children, all around the world, yes, we're the church together." Today we may not sing that song as much anymore, but the theology of the song is great. We all make up the church. I can't be the church by myself; nor can you be the church by yourself. Rather, it takes the whole body of Christ to be the church. As a reminder, too, the church is technically NOT a building. Of course, we say, 'we are going to church' while thinking of coming to this building, but the church itself isn't the building. The church is a called people, specifically that body we call the body of Christ. That's why the word church actually means "The Called Out Ones".

I think this is a great reminder as I look to beginning the first part of my sabbatical, which begins May 13th and goes through June 23rd. The church is not me. It's also not just you. It takes everyone to make this body work for good for the sake of the Gospel. You are so vital to what makes this fellowship function. Thank you so much for your part! However, the absence of a pastor is not a small thing either. St. John's is beginning a new journey in ministry with one called pastor. Having been used to two in the past, it makes the whole sabbatical concept one of mystery and newness.

So, here are just some basics about pastoral care coverage while I am away. I have lined up preaching pastors for the six Sundays while I am gone. For funerals and committals, I have a great list of amazing local pastors who have been so kind to say yes to being backups while I am away. If a death should occur, Genny in the office can assist you and the funeral director of your choice. I also will commission three people to do hospital and hospice visitation when requested. These three already do visitation since they are all on the Senior and Homebound Visitation Ministry: Dauneen Amundson, Lynn Yolitz, and Ruth Lundblad. I thank them so much for being a part of this ministry we all share together. Furthermore, we have our Executive Committee as well, who provide any support on the work of the business side or operating side of the church. Rely upon them when needed. They are wonderful assets to our ministry. Thank you, Jean Jirovec, Penny Erickson, Mike Kitzmann, and Dramus Peuse.

Lastly, thank you to all of you, the people of St. John's! A sabbatical means I have been here almost 14 years, and it is a blessing for me! Pastors don't stay in places where they are not supported. It says a lot about the welcome of this place of faith and the community, that you value your pastor and pray for her.

But I will think of you. I will pray for you. I wish you well. And I will be encouraged by your witness of Jesus while I am away. May the Risen Lord meet you and bring peace to your lives today and always.

Pastor Christine

Mission Trip Blessing

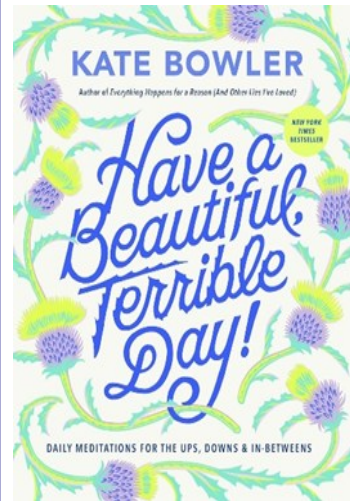
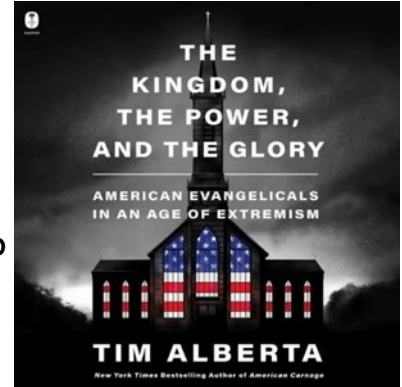
Sunday, July 14th



Our high school trip group will soon be on their way to New Orleans, Louisiana, for a week of service, worship, and community-building! Join us at worship on July 14th for a greeting, blessing, and send off for our wonderful group on their life-changing experience!

Summer book study is coming soon! This summer let's read and discuss! Pastor Christine has two books on our summer reading list for discussion this summer. **Sign up by May 5th** if you would like the book ordered for you, but **Pastor Christine would like to know if you plan to join the reading group before May 12th**.

Evangelical Christians are perhaps the most polarizing—and least understood—people living in America today. In his seminal new book, *The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory*, journalist Tim Alberta, himself a practicing Christian and the son of an evangelical pastor, paints an expansive and profoundly troubling portrait of the American evangelical movement. **This book will be discussed in late July. Date to be determined.**



Kate Bowler believes that the cultural pressure to be cheerful and optimistic at all times has taken a toll on our faith. But what if we could find better language than forced positivity to express our hopes and our anxieties? *Have a Beautiful, Terrible Day!* is packed with bite-size reflections and action-oriented steps to help you get through the day, be it good, bad, or totally mediocre. This is a devotional for the rest of us—which is to say, the people who don't have magical lives that always work out for the best. As she composed these meditations during a season of chronic pain, Bowler understands how every day can be an obstacle course. She encourages us to develop our capacity to feel the breadth of our experiences. The better we are at identifying our highs and lows, the more resilient we become. **This book is a devotional to be read throughout the summer. We will discuss his book late August. Date to be determined.**

Church of the Wild

THE REVEALING OF CHRIST IN NATURE

April 23rd, 6:30pm

May 7th, 6:30pm

Clearwater Church of the Wild

Join us for our summer
wild worship services:

July 30th
August 27th
6:30pm



This summer, join Clearwater Church of the Wild for worship. Facilitated by Pastor Christine, these worship services offer a way for us to connect to God's interwoven creation as kin alongside us. Church of the Wild gatherings include holy wandering and wondering with nature, grief and praise, advocacy, and ecological restoration on behalf of all that God created. Join us for our late summer Wild services, which are held offsite in various locations. These worship services are outside. Please dress accordingly. Please call the church office for location details 715-834-9571.

We Mourned the Death of...

Ann Romundstad, 87
 Roger Schulte, 82
 Joel Desprez, 67
 Dorothy Olson, 94

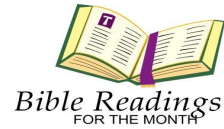


We Celebrated the Baptism of ...



Nash David
 Keaton Buchholtz

Church Information



Date	First Reading	Gospel
May 5	Acts 10:44-48	John 15:9-17
May 12	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26	John 17:6-19
May 19	Acts 2:1-21	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
May 26	Isaiah 6:1-8	John 3:1-17
June 2	Deuteronomy 5:12-15	Mark 2:23-3:6
June 9	Genesis 12:1-9	Mark 3:20-35
June 16	Ezekiel 17:22-24	Mark 4:26-34
June 23	Job 38:1-11	Mark 4:35-41
June 30	Lamentations 3:22-33	Mark 5:21-43
July 7	Ezekiel 2:1-5	Mark 6:1-13
July 14	Amos 7:7-15	Mark 6:14-29
July 21	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
July 28	2 Kings 4:42-44	John 6:1-21

CHURCH Broadcasts


St. John's Lutheran Church
"Together In God" Media Ministry
Broadcast Schedule

Sundays:
TV - WQOW (ABC Network) @ 10:30 a.m.
 Channel 18
 Cable 9

MONTH	WQOW
May	5, 19
June	2, 16
July	7, 21

HD 618

Lost & Found




There are a lot of miscellaneous items in the Lost & Found bin located on the main floor on top of the coat rack by the elevator.

Anything left after June 30th will be taken to Good Will.

2024 Offering Envelopes

If you have not picked up your 2024 Offering Envelopes yet, please call Genny in the church office by May 31st to make arrangements to get them.



Thank you for your gifts of service & offerings!

v Memorial Gift Acknowledgements v

General Operations in memory of Charles R. Marquardt by Sue Brantner.

General Operations in memory of husband Roger & son Alan. In honor of great grandsons Wyatt, Lucas & Hunter by Janet Dahl.

TV Ministry in memory of my wife, Beverly Odegaard by Henry Odegaard.

TV Ministry in memory of Rock Schulte by Barb Graham.

TV Ministry in memory of Joel Desprez by Anita Reid.

TV Ministry in memory of Joel Desprez by Marlo & Bev Orth.

General Operations in memory of Rock Schulte by Marlo & Bev Orth.

Do you like meeting people or just plain volunteering??



The office is in need of a volunteer for Fridays 9-1 p.m. Some of the volunteer duties include but are not limited to: answering the phone, greeting visitors, preparing copies, addressing and stuffing envelopes, and various office duties that arise. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Genny at 715-834-9571 or gen-ny@stjohns-ec.org.



Thrivent Choice Dollars allows eligible



Thrivent Financial members to direct Thrivent Financial's charitable dollars to St. John's Lutheran Church. To be a benefit member with Thrivent Financial, you must own one of the following Thrivent products: life insurance, health insurance, disability insurance or annuities, and based on your premium and cash value, your *Thrivent Choice* dollars will be calculated. Letters or emails are sent **annually** to these members indicating the amount of charitable dollars available to them. If you believe that you qualify and have not received a letter, please contact your Thrivent Financial representative.

For the period September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024, St. John's is designating the *Thrivent Choice* contributions to our general operations fund to help support our ministries, programs and maintain our day to day operations.

When you are contacted by Thrivent Financial, please prayerfully consider directing these charitable dollars to St. John's.

The Thrivent Financial members who have directed their "Choice Dollars" to St. John's Lutheran Church for April was Don & Diane Brott, Dan Tolan, Mike & Rachel Torud.

St. John's thanks you for doing this.

Nursery Attendant

We have an opening for a Nursery Attendant. This is a 9-month position, September-May, starting September 2024. 2 hours per week on Sundays 8:30-10:30 a.m. Pay is \$20 per hour. Up to 4 Sundays off during the September-May schedule. This position could be a shared position by 2 or 3 attendants. Please contact Genny in the church office for an application.



Need a ride to worship at St. John's? Please contact the church office at 715-834-9571 two business days prior to the worship service you would like to attend.



Altar Flowers: There are spots in May, June and July to sign up for altar flowers in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Please call the church office 715-834-9571 to sign up to order Altar Flowers. The cost is \$30.00.

MAY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Cemetery Care

Monetary gifts support the care of St. John's Lutheran Church cemetery on Omaha St.

Capital Improvement Projects

Helps to repair and upgrade our facility (such as remodeling, replacing windows, roof repair). Projects that are expensive.

Weekend Kids Meals

Feed My People/ Weekend Kids Meals for Locust Lane School contributions helps to support the ongoing program in which students at Locust Lane receive supplemental food items throughout the week.

JUNE SPECIAL OFFERINGS

ELCA World Hunger

Working with and through congregations like St. John's in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas, and other partners, **ELCA World Hunger** is uniquely positioned to reach communities in need. From health clinics to micro-loans, water wells to animal husbandry, community meals to advocacy, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make it possible for the ELCA to respond, supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

Neighbor to Neighbor

Neighbor to Neighbor Latinx Ministry- helps the community with programs; such as, holding anti-racism sessions in churches, supporting scholarships for students who identify as Latinx at UWEC, and provides positive parenting program (Triple P) services entirely in Spanish to the Latinx community.

JULY SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Lutheran World Relief

Your offering will support the work of LWR that envisions a future where all people, in every corner of the world can lead full, dignified lives. LWR works with countries to help their people to grow food, improve health, and recover from disaster. Health kits, school kits, and quilts made at St. John's are distributed by LWR.

Capital Improvements Projects

Your regular gifts to Capital Improvements allow the Property Committee to move ahead with general upkeep of the facility and grounds. Thank you for your gifts that support this beautiful space.

Text Giving

To give via text, send **Stiohnsec** to the phone number 73256. You'll receive a text message in response with your next steps. After you give one time, your payment method is saved, so you can quickly give again from your phone.



2024 WELCA Retreat

Wed. June 5 & Thur. June 6

Presenter: Pastor Lori Peper

Music: Northern Lakes Worship Team

Hosted by: Chippewa Valley Conf.
Jacki Johnson — coordinator 715-864-1489

Held at: Luther Park Bible Camp
944 24 ¼ Street Chetek, WI

*Please see the bulletin board in the Gathering Area for more information & registration details.

Events



Neighbor to Neighbor Rummage Sale

DONATION DROP-OFF DAYS

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING GENTLY USED HOUSEHOLD ITEMS.
NOT CLOTHES, MATTRESS, BOX SPRINGS, UPHOLSTERED FURNITURE, CAR SEATS, TUBE TV'S, TUBE MONITORS, PRINTERS OR COPIERS



Drop-off location:
Spirit Lutheran Church
1310 Main St, Eau Claire, WI 54701

We accept donations on
May 10th 10AM-2PM
& May 11th 9AM-NOON



Heart For Luther Park 2024

Art, Craft, and Quilt Auction

Sunday, August 4th



Luther Park Bible Camp 944 24 1/4 St. Chetek, WI lutherpark.org

EMPTY BOWLS

FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

SAVE THE DATE: May 16, 2024 11 am-7 pm
at Feed My People (2610 Alpine Rd, Eau Claire)

Education, Youth and Faith Family Ministries

Thank-You's and Wrapping Up

Thank you to every child, youth, and family that participated in any St. John's youth and education programs this year! Here will be our ending dates for events this year:

Wednesday Night Worship: April 24th

Sunday School: May 12th

CIA: May 29th



Vacation Bible School Sign-Ups

We're still happily taking sign-ups for this year's VBS program, *Created to Be*, here at St. John's June 10th-13th! You can register/pay in our office, or online at stjohns-ec.org/vbs/. We are admitting children from kindergarten to those entering 5th grade. Registration deadline is May 26th.



Summer Stretch

Come join us for Summer Stretch this season! We'll be taking youth from 5th-9th grade out and around the greater Eau Claire area for service, adventure, and entertainment through June and July. Registration cost is \$140.00, and you can register either in our office, or online at stjohns-ec.org/grow/youth/.



Graduation Milestone Celebration

On Sunday, May 19th, join the Faith+Family ministry team and the 2024 graduating class for a blessing and celebration of this incredible milestone during and after worship!

Congratulations to the St. John's Graduating Class of 2024!

Alexander Bohlinger

Cody Brantner

Nico Bryan

Dvontae Faanes

Kalli Klomstad

Clare LaFave

Faith Olson

Allison O'Mara

Jordyn Peterson

Joshua Sessions

Brandon Spies

Cloe Thorson



Lord's Prayer Faith Milestone

(Prayed by the Kindergarten Class)

Bo David

Finn Paulson

Aubree Nichols





Brown Bag Kids For Kids

Thank you to everybody who has supported the Sunday School’s Brown Bag Fund-raiser for Locust Lane Elementary’s “Weekend Kid’s Meals” program, whether it has been an in-person or online donation. We raised \$1,074 alone from our April 21st worship. None of this would be possible without the incredible community we have here at St. John’s



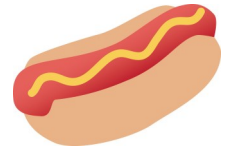
Mission Trip Fundraisers

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

The youth and leaders attending the Gathering in New Orleans in July and the Youth Ministry members would like to uplift this entire community for your continued support! We have had many fundraisers over the past few months (Discount Cards, Wall of Giving, Palm Sunday Brunch, Flamingo Flocking and our upcoming T-shirt Sale & Brat Stand)! Your generosity has not gone unnoticed, so thank you again for your continual support spiritually

Brat Stand @ East Side Hill Thrift Sale

On Saturday, May 18th, our senior high trip group will be running a brat stand in collaboration with the East Side Hill neighborhood’s thrift sale. The stand will run from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM here on the church lawn. There will be brats, hot dogs, chips, cookies, beverages, as well as coffee and donuts while they last. We would love to see you come out and support this incredible group as their New Orleans trip draws closer.



T-Shirt Fundraiser

Our group will be selling special trip t-shirts for the congregation to support our trip. These shirts will be like the shirts that our youth will be receiving. The group will have tables in the gathering area on May 12th & 19th and will be taking orders for the shirts. The cost will be \$20.



Thank you to Paige!

After serving with us for years, our Nursery Attendant Paige Burrows will be leaving her position at St. John’s in May. Though her job was not always in front of the congregation, she played a vital part in making church more accessible for the many families we have here at St. John’s, and for that, we cannot thank Paige enough.

st. john's christian PRESCHOOL

Now Enrolling for 2024-25

Classes are filling for the 2024-25 school year! We are excited for a new year as we welcome new and returning families to SJCP. If you have any questions about our program, curriculum, or openings for the fall please contact Phyllis or Nancy soon!

Contact: Nancy@stjohns-ec.org
Phyllis@stjohns-ec.org
 715.834.9571

Preschool 2024 Program **Wednesday, May 22nd 6:00PM** **St. John's Sanctuary**

It has been a school year to celebrate!

You are invited to SJCP's annual spring party/program. Please join us as we share some songs, smiles, and memories of our year together.



You could be a Preschool Board member!

Our board of directors plays an integral role in our preschool ministry. We are currently in need of members to serve on our board. We meet along with the directors and a pastor on the 2nd Tuesday of most months, assist in planning of fundraisers and community events, review preschool financials and have a little fun too. Please let Nancy or Phyllis know if you are interested. Thank you!

Where faith, food, and the climate crisis meet...

On Sunday, April 21 (Earth Day eve!) St. John's Caretakers of Creation team held a showing of the just-in-theaters, multiple-award-winning documentary, [Common Ground](#). It was a big hit, packing the Promise Room and leading to a great discussion about *regenerative agriculture*.

What is it? Regenerative agriculture is a collection of techniques to preserve the soil that makes Earth habitable including: 1) planting cover crops, 2) growing diverse crops, 3) integrating livestock with crops, 4) protecting their root systems and 5) minimizing soil disruption. In exchange, society gains: a) improved nutrition, b) greater resistance to droughts and floods, c) increased yields, d) reduced carbon emissions, and e) benefits to farmers and ranchers resulting in revitalized communities.

How does this relate to our faith? A wide variety of agricultural references and practices are abundant in Christian scripture. The movie was shown on Good Shepherd Sunday, when we heard the good news of how Christ cares so much for his "livestock" that he gives up his life for his sheep. We remember the parable of the Sower – that seed falling on good soil yielded much grain – and we recall that we are all instructed to bear good fruit.

Within the ELCA, the 1993 Social Statement, [Caring for Creation](#), "...summons our church, in its global work with poor people, to pursue sustainable development strategies... [and] to work with U.S. farmers who are turning to sustainable methods." More recently, the 2023 Social Message, [Earth's Climate Crisis](#), calls for

"Increased incentives for long-lasting soil carbon sequestration and other regenerative practices on farms and ranches."

Sounds great, right? But you may wonder what you can do as a non-farmer... So here are several ideas recommended by [Regenerative Farmers of America](#): 1. Buy local regenerative food 2. Buy regenerative national brands 3. Buy regenerative clothing 4. Start your own regenerative garden 5. Educate yourself 6. Spread Awareness 7. Educate the next generation 8. Support government policies to support regenerative agriculture.

Got an idea of how to support or even integrate these practices at St. John's? Or an idea of what the church can do to be more sustainable – to better care for God's creation? Just find a member of the committee (listed in the annual report) and let us know – we'd love your input!



St. John's 150 Years of Heritage & History 69 Years Ago, May 1, 1955

From the Leader-Telegram
Thursday, Apr 28, 1955
(Including errors & omissions)

Published the Thursday
before the May 1, 1955
dedication day.

"CHURCH TO BE DEDICATED—

The new \$350,000 St. John's
Lutheran Church, Highland Ave.
and Chapin St., which will be
dedicated Sunday.

Dedication services for the new \$350,000 church building of St. John's Lutheran Congregation will be held this Sunday, bringing a climax to 11 years of planning.

Since the congregation last went to dedication services "led by a brass band" 71 years ago, the membership has grown so that even plans for a motorcade to Sunday's dedication, after a farewell service in the old church were dropped because a traffic tie-up was foreseen.

The old church, located on the corner of S. Dewey and Gibson Sts., is approximately two miles from the new building on the East Side Hill, corner of Highland Ave. and Chapin St. building incorporates old Gothic



architecture throughout with the latest of modern conveniences. A

parking lot adjacent to the church can accommodate 90 cars.

A two-story Sunday School annex containing 23 classrooms, many of which can be made larger or smaller, according to needs, by means of sliding partitions, will accommodate 325 children.

Seating capacity in the church is 650. At present there are 1,100 communicant members in the congregation, and total membership is approximately 1,650. The Rev. Roy B. Schmeichel, serving since 1946, is the pastor.

THE NEW CHURCH is virtually fireproof, being constructed of concrete, brick, and steel, and has a white limed oak trimming throughout. Exposed wooden beams and trusses in the nave of the church are the only exceptions in the fireproof construction. Asphalt tile covers the floors except for aisles, waiting room and pastor's study, which are rubber tiled. Stairways and landings at the entrances are of terrazzo tile.

On the first floor of the church is a chapel which can be connected with the nave to take care of overflow crowds by pushing back a sliding partition between the chapel and the narthex. Stained glass windows separating the narthex and the nave can be raised. The chapel has seating capacity of 93. The church balcony, which extends 30 feet from the back wall, will seat 114.

Also on the first floor is a mother's room with a loud speaker installed to connect it with the pulpit. A total of 28 loud speakers are located throughout the church, 10 of them upstairs and the rest installed in the basement ceiling. A nursery and kindergarten are also located on the first floor. An altar guild room, the pastor's study, and secretary's office are located in the front of the nave on either side of the altar.

A large stage with modern stage lighting is located in the basement at one end of a 50 by 75 foot assembly hall. A large, modern kitchen at the other end is fitted so that serving in the dining room located off the left of the assembly hall, is just as convenient as serving

to the larger room. It is estimated that 500 diners can be served at one sitting by using both rooms. An automatic dishwasher is among the featured conveniences in the kitchen.

FOR SMALL luncheons, a women's lounge equipped with a kitchenette unit and located on the first floor of the annex, is available.

Other features in the basement include a room set aside for the church Boy Scout troop, a combination choir and storage room, two classrooms, rest rooms, and the boiler room containing an oil hot water heating unit with a capacity of 8,000 gallons.

The church is designed so that coat racks on rollers, rather than permanent coat rooms, can be used.

Individual members of the congregation have donated practically all of the furnishings for the new church, including stained windows, pews, pulpit, lectern, altar, chancel chairs, baptismal font, credence tables, offering plates, altar light, candle lighters, vases, chairs, and books.

ONLY FOUR MAJOR parts of the old church have been transferred to the new building. These include the altar, which will be used in connection with the Sunday School, the organ, an illuminated cross, and the church bell. The latter, which was cast in St. Louis in 1892, bears the inscription "Der Herr Ist Hier Und Ruft". (The Master Is Here and Calleth Thee).

Members of the building committee are Donald J. Brimmer and Egon Weiss, co-chairman; Fred

Zachau, financial secretary; Mrs. L. C. Dunham, recording secretary; Miss Anna B. Bergman, Peter Bischoff, Mrs. E. A. Carlson, C. T. Hagen, Russell Holten, Ervin Iverson, and Mrs. John E. Kidd.

Members of the church council are Rev. Schmeichel, Russell Holten, president; Walter Black, vice president; Carl Ringer, recording secretary; Raymond Loehnis, youth director; Kenneth E. Krause, financial secretary; E. A. Otto, treasurer; Ervin Iverson, property superintendent; Alfred Anderson, Kermit Anderson, William Wrage, Donald Bunde, J. B. Turney, Gordon Ottum, Harold Smith, Val Manthel, Sr.

A week - long program, beginning with the dedication services, is planned. Three services will be held Sunday.

Guest speaker for the 9 a.m. dedication service, and also for the 10:45 a.m. service, will be the president of the Wisconsin District of the American Lutheran Church, Rev. Theodore Ohlrogge of Appleton.

At the 7:30 p.m. service, the Rev. George H. Vollmer, the only former pastor of St. John's still living will take over the pulpit. The Rev. Vollmer served the congregation here from 1933 to 1946, when he answered a call to become chaplain of the Milwaukee Hospital. He left there this Spring and now heads two parishes at Coloma, Wis.

Also on the dedication day schedule will be an open house from 2 to 5 Sunday afternoon.

At 7:30 p.m. Monday a program by the Sunday School is planned,

followed by an open house for the school; Tuesday at 7:45 p.m. the combined choirs under directors Mrs. Kermit Anderson, Junior Choir, and LaVerne Randen, Senior Choir, will present a concert; Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. the "Women of the Church" will serve a congregational banquet; Thursday the Junior Mission Bank will perform and youth organizations of the church will present a program under leadership of Ray Lorberter at 7:45 p.m.; and Friday, beginning at 7:45 p.m., will be fellowship night.

Just six pastors have served the congregation during its 81 year history from the time of the installation of the first regular pastor, the Rev. C. G. Mehrtens, in 1874. He was forced to resign a year later because of ill health.

The Rev. G. Meier than was installed and served until 1877, when he was succeeded by the Rev. George Recknagel. A history of the church written for the 75th anniversary reported that "the congregation had a membership of 46 in good standing" in September of 1890 when the Rev. A. F. Augustine took up the pastorate.

The Rev. Augustine served the congregation for 43 years, retiring Sept. 1, 1933 because of failing eyesight. At that time the Rev. Vollmer accepted the call here, and served until 1946. On Oct. 6 of that year the present pastor, the Rev. Schmeichel, was installed."





St. John's 150 Years of Heritage & History

Dedication of Dewey St. Church

140 Years Ago

June 27, 1884

Sunday's Sanctity.

The dedication of the new St. John's church (German Lutheran) situated at the south east corner of Gibson and Dewey streets, which last is now a street in fact, as well as name having been opened as far as Kelsey, was a most impressive sight. At half past nine, a procession was formed at the old church building on Galloway street, whence it moved to the new. The Eau Claire cornet band marched at the head. Rev. G. Racknagel, the pastor, Rev. Baumbach of Fall Creek, Rev. Hoering, of Watertown, and Rev. Weyrauch of Menomonie, carrying the sacred paraphernalia followed, then came the Sunday school children in white robes and then the rest of the congregation. The dedication ceremonies were held in the vestibule, after which the band filed into the gallery, and discourses were delivered in German by the pastor and visiting clergymen. The inside of the church is very handsome, and it was beautifully decorated with garlands. In the afternoon Rev. G. Hoyme, of the Scandinavian Evangelical church of the conference preached in English. A handsome parsonage will shortly be erected near the church.

After worshipping for ten years in a much smaller building on Galloway St; four lots were purchased for a new house of worship. On June 27, 1884, after nearly three years of raising funds, the dedication of the new St. John's German Lutheran Church on Dewey St. was held.

Starting clock-wise below:

† Stained Glass window from the Galloway Church that was installed at the Dewey location and is currently displayed in the small assembly of our Highland St. church. Translation:

"Ev(angelical) Luth(eran) St. John's Church".

† Exterior of the Dewey St. Church, picture taken at the corner of Dewey and Gibson.

† Interior of the Dewey St. Church in 1949.

† Leader-Telegram article from July 1, 1884 about the dedication.



May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 am Quilting 12:30 pm EC VBS Meeting 1:30 pm ECCYF Meeting 3:00 pm Master Builders 6:30 pm CIA 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	2 9:00 am Rostered Leader Conf. 1:30 pm SJ Apt. Service 6:30 pm Youth Ministry	3	4
5 Confirmation Sunday Summer Book Study Boo Order Due 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 WQOW TV –Ministry	6 9:30 am Preschool Fieldtrip to the Public Library 6:30 pm JuBellation	7 9:30 am Preschool Fieldtrip to the Public Library 9:30 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Caring Ministry 6:30 pm Church of the Wild—Offsite	8 9:30 am Naomi/Ruth Circle 3:00 pm Master Builders 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm CIA 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Mission Trip Meeting	9 9:30—12:00 pm Rostered Leaders Conf. @ St. John's Bloomer 7:00 pm Property	10 10:00 am –2:00 pm Rummage Sale Drop off @ Spirit Lutheran	11 9:00 am –12:00 pm Rummage Sale Drop off @ Spirit Lutheran
12 T-Shirt Fundraiser Last day of Sunday School 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 11:30 am Caretakers of Creation	13 Pastor Christine Sabbatical Starts—May 13-June 24 5:15 pm Education 6:30 pm JuBellation	14 9:30 am Staff Meeting 1:00pm Worship & Music Ministry 2:00 pm Sr. & Home Visitation 7:00 pm Preschool Board	15 9:30 am Lois Circle 3:00 pm Master Builders 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm CIA 6:45 pm Choir Rehearsal	16 9:00 am Volunteer @ The Community Table 6:00 pm Church Council	17 8:00 am –4:00 pm Rummage Sale @ Spirit Lutheran	18 8:00 am—4:00 pm Rummage Sale @ Spirit Lutheran 8:30 am—4:30 pm Eternal Angels 9:00 am—2:00 pm Mission Trip Brat Sale
19 Graduation Milestone T-Shirt Sale—Mission Trip 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am WQOW TV-Ministry	20 21 Last Day of Preschool 11:30 am pm Diner's Club @ Hangar 54 5:00 pm Benevolence	21 Last Day of Preschool 11:30 am pm Diner's Club @ Hangar 54 5:00 pm Benevolence	22 Last Day of Preschool 3:00 pm Master Builders 5:30-8:00 pm End of Year S/ICP Celebration 6:30 pm CIA	23 10:00 am Oakwood Health Service	24	25
26 VBS Registration Deadline 9:00 am Worship	27 Church Office Closed Memorial Day	28 10:30 am Staff Meeting	29 9:00 am Quilting 3:00 pm Master Builders 6:30 pm CIA	30	31	

June 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Dave Vacation June 1st – June 10th
2 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am WQOW TV- Ministry	3 5:15 pm Education Ministry	4 9:30 am Staff Meeting	5 WELCA Women's Retreat @ Luther Park 9:00 am Quilting 3:00 pm Master Builders	6 WELCA Women's Retreat @ Luther Park 1:30 pm St. John's Apt Service 6:30 pm Youth Ministry	7	8
9 9:00 am Worship 11:30 am Caretakers of Creation 5:00-6:30 pm VBS Orienta- tion Dinner	10 Vacation Bible School 6:30 pm Faith Family	11 Vacation Bible School 9:30 pm Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Worship & Music Ministry	12 Vacation Bible School 9:30 am Naomi/Ruth Circle 3:00 pm Master Builders 7:30 pm Mission Trip Meet- ing	13 Vacation Bible School 7:00 pm Property	14	15
16 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am WQOW TV- Ministry	17 4:00 pm Finance	18 9:30 am Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Diner's Club @ 4 Mile	19 8:00 am—4:00 pm Summer Stretch 3:00 pm Master Builders	20 9:00 am Volunteer @ The Community Table	21 Church Office Closed	22
23 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Community & World Ministry	24 Pastor Christine Returns from Sabbatical	25 9:30 am Staff Meeting	26 8:00 am—4:00 pm Summer Stretch 9:00 am Quilting 3:00 pm Master Builders	27 10:00 am Oakwood Health Service	28	29
30 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Holden Village Meeting						

July 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 9:30 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Caring Ministry	3 9:00 am Quilting 1:30 pm SJ Apt Service 3:00 pm Master Builders	4 Church Office Closed Independence Day	5	6
7 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am WQOW TV- Ministry	8 6:30 pm Faith Family	9 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Preschool Board— Offsite	10 8:00 am—4:00 pm Summer Stretch 3:00 pm Master Builders 7:30 pm Mission Trip Meet- ing	11 6:30 pm Youth Ministry 7:00 pm Property	12	13 Depart for Holden Vil- lage
14 Holden Village Mission Trip Blessing 9:00 am Worship 1:00-3:00 pm Elaine Krause's 100th Birthday @ St. John's	15 Holden Village Mission Trip	16 Holden Village Mission Trip 9:30 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm 150th Committee Meeting	17 Holden Village Mission Trip 8:00 am—4:00 pm Summer Stretch 3:00 pm Master Builders	18 Holden Village Mission Trip	19 Holden Village Mission Trip	20 Holden Village Mission Trip Returns
21 Return from Holden Village 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am WQOW TV- Ministry	22	23 9:30 am Staff Meeting	24 8:00 am—4:00 pm Summer Stretch 3:00 pm Master Builders	25 10:00 am Oakwood Health Service	26	27
28 Matt vacation July 27— Aug 3 9:00 am Worship	29	30 9:30 am Staff Meeting 6:30 pm Church of the Wild—Offsite	31 Valley Fair—Summer Stretch 9:00 am Quilting 3:00 pm Master Builders			

Church Council:

Jean Jirovec	President
Dramus Peuse	Vice President
Penny Erickson	Secretary
Mike Kitzman	Treasurer
Mary Spryer	Caring
Louise Alt	Community & World
Stacy Kelly	Education
Open	Faith Family
Ruth Lundblad	Seniors & Home Visitation
Richard Spryer	Worship & Music
Open	Youth
Teresa Burrows	At-Large
Greg Johnson	At-Large

Your Church Staff

Ministers: All the congregation

Pastor: Pr. Christine Emerson

Music Director: Mark Lundin

CYF Director: Matt Svestka

Nursery Attendant:

Communication & Ministry Coordinator:

Adriane DeMoe

Organist: Linda Ranney

Administrative Assistant: Genevieve Gorton

Bookkeeper: Jo Rauckman & Marlee Agner

Facility & Grounds Manager: David LaRose

Custodian: Tyeanna Segura

St. John's Christian Preschool: Nancy

Hanson, Phyllis Meier, Jenna Mayer, Sarah Wergeland, Jess Mattson

Preschool Website: www.stjohns-ec.org/grow/preschool

St. John's Website: www.stjohns-ec.org

St. John's general email:
stjohns@stjohns-ec.org



-Reminder-
Double Check Your Calendar
The St. John's 150th Celebration
will be on
Sunday, October 6, 2024

- Special church service at 9:00 a.m.
- Games before the catered luncheon at 11:30 a.m.
- Short program to follow the Luncheon*
- Memorabilia will be on display
- Slideshows of our various church buildings, our pastors,
and our many ministries

*Our catered luncheon requires an RSVP, and we are limited to the first 250 replies. When your official invitation comes in the mail early this summer, please respond quickly!

It's not too late to be a part of the
St. John's 150th Anniversary History Project.
Scan the QR code below or pick up a hard copy of the form
in the Gathering Area.

Return to the church office by July 1, 2024
to be included in the History Project



Also

Thanks to those who have left things for the
150th Committee to be put in the memorabilia
area and to be used in the slide shows. Both new and cor-
rected information have been found.

*If you have come across any memorabilia or pictures that
you wish to be displayed on*

October 6th,

*please contact Mary Spryer at maryspryer@gmail.com
OR 925-876-3520-cell*

*as soon as possible to ensure we reserve space for your
treasured items.*

Finally...

Thanks to all who took the time to have your
picture put in the 2024 pictorial directory.
You have helped make it a great success.