

# ST. JOHN'S MESSENGER

July 2021

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
821 Denver Street Schuyler, Nebraska 68661  
402-352-3550

*Email: [office.stjohns821@gmail.com](mailto:office.stjohns821@gmail.com)*

*Web page: [stjohnslutheranschuyler.org](http://stjohnslutheranschuyler.org)*

**Our Mission: to witness and serve in the name of Jesus Christ**

**Pastor: Day Hefner**

**Ministers: the People**

**Church is Open!!!**

**All services are at 9:30a.m.**

**Church Secretary: Crystal Callahan**

**Office Hours:**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

**9:00a.m.-12:00p.m.**

## Important news:

### ATTENTION ALTAR COMMITTEE

As we start to attend church and have communion each Sunday, our committee must again become active. The committee groups and responsibilities are listed on page 5 on ST. JOHN'S 2021 DIRECTORY AND YEARBOOK.

Our schedule is as follows:

**June/July**—Sharon Schurman & Marlene Zima

**August/September**—Lori Benesch & Barb Thompson

**October/November**—Diane Fendrick & Shirley Svoboda

**December/January '22**—Tracey Kracl & Betty Herde

Procedures that we normally follow have changed at this point. I will contact your group at the time that you serve with the way we are preceding at that time. It will evolve until we are back to normal procedures.

If you have questions, contact Sharon Schurman at 402-615-3658.





Hello  
July!



## MOBILE FOOD BANK

will be at 4:30p.m. on Thursday  
JULY 8th; and will be held  
outside the Oak Ballroom.  
Setup will start around 2:30/3  
& volunteers are welcome!  
Please let Pastor know if you  
can help.

All Services at 9:30a.m. unless otherwise  
indicated.

### Sunday July 4<sup>th</sup> Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Ezekiel 2:1-5, Psalm 123, 2 Corinthians 12:2-10, Mark  
6:1-13

### Sunday July 11<sup>th</sup> Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-15, Psalm 85:8-13, Ephesians 1:3-14, Mark  
6:14-29

### Sunday July 18<sup>th</sup> Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:1-6, Psalm 23, Ephesians 2:11-22, Mark  
6:30-34, 53-56

### Sunday July 25<sup>th</sup> Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

2Kings 4:42-44, Psalm 145:10-18, Ephesians 3:14-21,  
John 6:1-21



**Feeding the  
Community**



## Landscape Fund

The landscape at the parsonage needs to be rejuvenated and needs your help! If you have perennials, like hostas, daylilies, etc., that you are going to divide or would share, please let us know.

Donations of cash to purchase edging and mulch are also needed. You will find envelopes in the Narthex for this special project.

Contact Tracey Kracl or Jalaine Vavricek if you are able to help or have questions. We want to continue to keep our properties looking their best. Thank you for serving.

*Your Property Team.*



# ST. JOHN'S CAMPER'S YARD SALE IS BACK!!!

Friday, July 30 from 9:00 to 6:00

Saturday, July 31 from 9:00 to 11:00 (Fill a Bag for \$4.00)



## DONATE ITEMS



**When:** Donations can be brought to the church anytime between now and the sale. The church is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

\*We have limited space at the church, so I would prefer that large items not be brought until the week of the sale if possible.



**What:** Men's, women's, children's clothing; housewares- pots, pans, dishes, utensils, small appliances, etc.; home décor- holiday decorations, rugs, curtains, etc.; bed and bath- towels, blankets, sheets, etc.; furniture – outdoor and



indoor. Electronics- \* Please be sure items are in good condition and electronics are in working condition.

**NOTE: We will NOT accept the old tube TV's, VCR players, etc. Other electronics such as computers and printers must be in working condition with instruction manuals included.**

**\*\*Pricing is NOT necessary**

**\*\*\*If you do not have a church key, or need help unloading items, or have questions, call:**

Lori Benesch – 402-615-0414



# Women of the ELCA

## St. John's Women of the ELCA

*"Mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ."*

All women of St. John's are invited to participate in the activities of the Women of the E.L.C.A. WELCA embraces all kinds of ministries that support our mission of mobilizing women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

July 20<sup>th</sup> ~ 1:30p.m. General Meeting with Bible Study  
July 31<sup>st</sup> ~ Quilt Auction @ Carol Joy Holling Camp

### LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF QUILTING

*"THOSE WHO SLEEP UNDER A QUILT, SLEEP UNDER LOVE."*

July 27, 2021@ 1:30

Lutheran World Relief mission quilts are a valuable tool to show God's love and compassion around the world.

## **Carol Joy Holling Camp 33rd Annual Quilt Auction**

**Saturday July 31, 2021  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**



Join in this exciting day at Carol Joy Holling Camp on July 31 for our 33rd Annual Quilt Auction! The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of Carol Joy Holling Camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!

Quilts handcrafted by individuals, congregations, and groups from Nebraska and beyond will be auctioned to fund summer camp scholarships. **St. Johns WELCA has a quilt in the auction this year.**

**View quilts, schedule, and absentee bidding instructions:  
[CJHCenter.org/quilt-auction](http://CJHCenter.org/quilt-auction)**

If you have questions, contact Heather at [HAbbott@NLOM.org](mailto:HAbbott@NLOM.org) or 402-944-2544.

**Silent Auction News:** We are excited to announce that the Silent Auction bidding will be online this year. People near and far will have the opportunity to join the Silent Auction bidding fun through an online auction platform called Qtego. For those who have joined us at the Heart of Camp Gala, this is the same platform that we use at that event. If you are unfamiliar with Qtego, don't worry; we will have many volunteers with iPads at the event to help you bid on your favorite items. We will also be sending out information and instructions on how to bid with Qtego in the spring, for those not in attendance. The live auction will not be changing and bidding will be through live or proxy bidding only.

***The Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you. I will come down and talk with you there; and I will take some of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them; and they shall bear the burden of the people along with you so that you will not bear it all by yourself.***

### **Numbers 11:16-17**

A small group of my clergy colleagues and I have recently embarked on an ambitious project: we are reading the bible together in 90 days, from cover to cover. The pace of the reading is a little intense. But I’ve got to say that I really appreciate the way that this kind of large scale bible reading helps connect all the little familiar stories that we’re so used to reading on their own – it gives a much bigger picture view of how God has been working through and among God’s people throughout the generations.

We just recently read through the stories of the exodus from Egypt and the people’s journey through the wilderness of Sinai, and I was powerfully struck by a sense of déjà vu. There was so much about their wandering in the wilderness and their longing to return that felt deeply familiar. And I found myself identifying with Moses and Aaron, as they faced the challenge of trying to safely shepherd their people through a trying time, giving their best efforts to feed and care for them and keep them safe.

I read these couple of verses from the book of Numbers as an example of God’s faithful care and provision in times of trouble. God sees the burden that Moses and Aaron are carrying and decides to call a group of elders and leaders from among the people to help share the heavy task of leadership.

It makes me mindful of how deeply grateful I have been for the elders and leaders of this congregation: our church council. At the outset of this pandemic, these leaders swiftly mobilized and made plans to shift our entire worship life to a digital platform, while also making sure to have means in place of staying connected with our non-digital folks. And in the many, many months since then, they have remained faithfully committed to their role as leaders: making decisions founded in genuine care and concern for the congregation and community, relying on synod guidance and the best public health information that was available, doing their very best to balance caution with the desire to return to a sense of normalcy. This has been an unprecedentedly

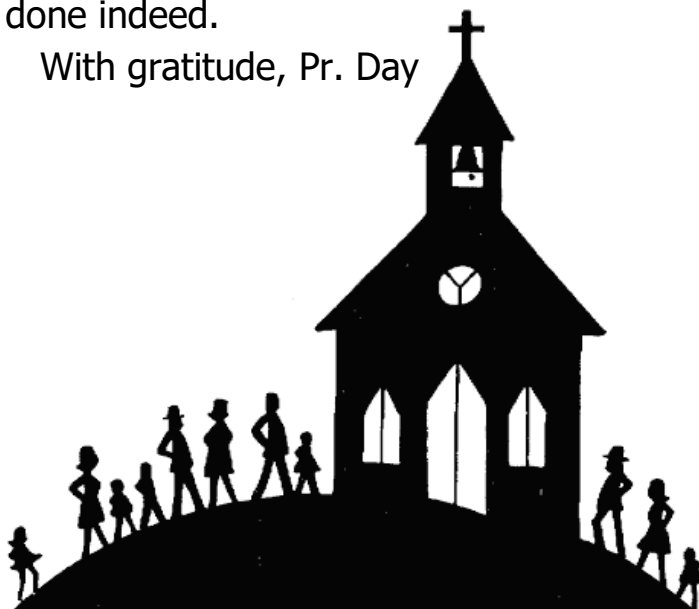
difficult time to be in leadership, and our council leaders have been called on to help make the kinds of decisions that none of them imagined we'd have to make when they signed on for this. And time and again, they have proven themselves to be good leaders; by choosing to do what they believed was right, even when it wasn't popular.

This month of July, we will return, singing, to our sanctuary, with masks still recommended, but no longer required. It feels almost as though we have made it as far as the Jordan and are looking across into the promised land. We are still mindful of any folks among us who – for age or health reasons – have not been able to be vaccinated, but we continue to draw closer to some sense of our "new normal." And as we come to the end of this modern day saga of exile and wandering in the wilderness, I strongly encourage each and every one of you: thank your council members. You may not agree with the decisions council has made over the last 16 months – and that's perfectly fine – but they deserve your gratitude for carrying a heavy burden that none of them signed up for.

Jalaine, Jon, Rick, Karen, Chellee, John, Tracey, Randy, thank you so much for your diligent service to this congregation, for serving with integrity and compassion. To you I say, from the bottom of my heart:

Well done, good and faithful servants. Well done indeed.

With gratitude, Pr. Day



**We know that all things work together  
for good for those who love God,  
to those who are called  
according to his purpose.**

**Romans 8:28**

# St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting

May 12, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Council President Jalaine Vavricek. Members present were Pastor Day, Tracey Kracl, Karen Henry, Jon Knutson and Rick Fendrick. Absent was Randy Plummer.

**Devotion/Prayer:** Led by Knutson.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Knutson, seconded by Plummer to approve minutes with correction. Motion carried.

**Open Forum/Correspondence:**

- Letter from Mike Benesch.
- Thank you from Crystal for gift card.

**Pastor's Report:** Written report by Pastor Day.

- Center of Survivors would like to use more space. The space will be used for childcare during their support meetings. It was agreed that they could use the large classroom.
- Pastor will be gone for most of May for continuing education.
- People are needed to help with the food pantry's this month.
- Synod Assembly on June 5<sup>th</sup> will be online also.

**President's Report:** Written report by Vavricek.

**Christian Ed.:** Oral report by Kracl

- Did not meet
- Honored High School Seniors.
- Confirmation

**Evangelism & Social Ministry:** Written report by Vavricek.

**Finance & Stewardship:** Written report by Knutson and Larry Konz.

**Property:**

- Met with Safe Church on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - Written report by Kracl.

**Worship & Music:** Did not meet.

**Safe Church:**

- Try to get more members.
- Set goals for the team.

Motion to approve all written and oral reports by Pastor Day, seconded by Henry. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

- Council Retreat: Monday July 26, 2021 9am – 3pm.
  - Bring Ideas.
- Yard Sale: July 30 – 31

**New Business:**

- Motion to remove Mike Benesch from membership by Knutson, seconded by Kracl/Henry. Motion carried.



- Transfer St. John's credit card from Mike Benesch to Rick Fendrick.
- Motion to start on in person church on June 6, 2021 by Fendrick, seconded by Vavricek. Motion carried.
  - Masked required. Communion in tables.

**Executive Session:** None.

Next meeting: June 9, 2021 @ 5:30pm

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by Henry, seconded by Pastor Day. Motion carried.

Secretary, Rick A. Fendrick

## BLT Pasta Salad

Total: 42 min

Prep: 20 min

Cook: 22 min

Yield: 4 servings

### Ingredients

12 ounces corkscrew-shaped pasta  
 1/2 cup milk  
 12 ounces lean bacon  
 3 medium ripe tomatoes, cut into chunks  
 1 tablespoon chopped fresh thyme  
 1 clove garlic, minced  
 Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper  
 1/2 cup mayonnaise  
 1/4 cup sour cream  
 4 tablespoons chopped chives or scallion greens  
 5 heads Bibb lettuce, quartered, or 5 cups chopped romaine hearts



### Directions

Cook the pasta in a large pot of salted boiling water as the label directs. Drain and toss with the milk in a large bowl; set aside.

Meanwhile, cook the bacon in a large skillet over medium-high heat until crisp. Drain on paper towels. Discard all but 3 tablespoons drippings from the pan. Add the tomatoes, thyme and garlic to the pan and toss until warmed through; season with salt and pepper. Crumble the bacon into bite-size pieces; set aside 1/4 cup for garnish. Toss the remaining bacon and the tomato mixture with the pasta.

Mix the mayonnaise, sour cream and 3 tablespoons chives with the pasta until evenly combined. Season with salt and pepper. Add the lettuce; toss again to coat. Garnish with the reserved bacon and the remaining 1 tablespoon chives. Serve at room temperature.





## Reminder:

- ❖ **Church is now open on Sunday mornings!!!** Everyone is encouraged to join us in person or via Facebook Live every Sunday at 9:30am.
- ❖ Even if you're not on Facebook, you can visit the **Virtual Church** page on our website ([stjohnslutheranschuyler.org](http://stjohnslutheranschuyler.org)) to find the public link to watch the live video. On our **Virtual Church** page, you will also find links to the Digital Bulletin where you can follow along with worship, as well as announcements and the prayer list, links to previous videos, and other resources.

- We would love to support and pray for you as needed. Contact the church office at 402-352-3550 if you are going to the hospital. Contact Jalaine Vavricek at 402-352-5883 or 402-615-1485 for prayer requests for the Prayer Chain.
- Please let us know if you would like someone added to **In Our Prayers** or removed when prayers have been answered.
- If you wish a card be sent from our congregation to anyone **In Our Prayers**, give Gail Fickle their name and address.
- **If we have overlooked your birthday or anniversary, please let the church office know so we can celebrate you.**
- **St. John's Reservation Book**- If you have received approval to utilize the Church/Social Hall/Classrooms from the St. John's Church Council, please utilize the Blue Day Planner in the Church Office to block out your date and times.



Happy Birthday

## Birthdays

- 2 Ben Vrba
- 4 Marlene Zima
- 6 Nellie Muehlich
- 10 Randy Plummer
- 12 Rick Fendrick  
Easton Hall
- 14 Scott Borman  
Brittani Swanson
- 27 David Reinecke



## Anniversaries

- 14 Dean & Jalaine Vavricek
- 23 Brian & Chrissi Bywater

# July



# 2021

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Join us on-line or in Person

**Our Doors are OPEN!**

Have a safe & happy  
**4th of July!**



				1	2	3
4 Worship at 9:30a.m.  <b>See You There</b>	5	6  Christian Ed 4:30p.m.	7	8 Schuyler Ministerial Assoc.9:00a.m.  <b>Mobile Food Bank</b>  4:30p.m. Setup @2:30/3pm Oak Ballroom	9	10
11 Worship at 9:30a.m.  <b>See You There</b>	12	13	14  Church Council Meeting 5:30p.m.	15	16	17
18 Worship at 9:30a.m.  <b>See You There</b>	19	20  WELCA meet & Bible Study 1:30p.m.	21	22	23	24
25 Worship at 9:30a.m.  <b>See You There</b>	26 Council Retreat 9a.m.-3p.m.	27  WELCA- Quilting 1:30p.m.	28	29	30	31  Quilt Auction @ Carol Joy Camp