

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

2024



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

"God's Love in Action"

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
200 South Main Street
Charles City, IA 50616-2751
Phone: 641-228-3397

Pastor Russ Leeper:
rleeper@stjohncharlescity.com

Beth Hurt, Intern
beth@stjohncharlescity.com

Office Secretary: Toni Hicks
office@stjohncharlescity.com
Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
& 1:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.

Business Manager: Rhonda Schmidtke
businessmanager@stjohncharlescity.com

Music Director:
Melanie Johanningmeier
mjohanningmeier@stjohncharlescity.com

Custodian: Jamie Carolan
jcarolan@stjohncharlescity.com

**Website: We have a new website in the works!!
Please watch for more information to come!!**



Find & like us on Facebook!

Subscribe to the E-Skinny by emailing Toni at
office@stjohncharlescity.com

Worship service broadcasted on
KCHA FM 95.9 at
9:00 a.m. on Sunday

St. John Christian Preschool
641-228-7274

Preschool Director: Whitney Franke
wfranke@stjohncharlescity.com



Beth Hurt, Intern

“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:4-7 (NRSVUE)

September always feels like a new beginning. As I prepare to return to classes at Wartburg Seminary and my youngest enters his junior year of high school, it is time for new shoes and new notebooks. We start getting back into our regular routines, marking dates on the calendar, and looking forward in hopeful anticipation of what the school year will bring. The same is true for the church. Sunday School, After School Program, and Confirmation will soon begin, and I am so excited for what the year is going to bring for all our young people! It is our joy to get to witness how they learn and grow and form in their relationship with God and their understanding of faith.

It can be easy, especially this time of year, to be overwhelmed by the to dos and checklists that populate our day-to-day lives. Remember when you are looking at your calendar that God is with you in every moment of every single day. Do not forget that you are a beloved child of God who is being formed and re-formed by the Holy Spirit through the grace of Christ. Take a moment – and breathe - whisper a prayer – lean into God’s presence – let go of the tension - notice something wonderful that God has made and know that God is at work in you and in the world. Rejoice in the living and active presence of the Lord! You are invited this September, in this time of new beginnings and renewed routines to think about your spiritual practices and explore how you might continue to learn and grow in relationship with God.

Peace be with you all,

Beth Hurt - Intern



Of Note...

Church Policy Change:

St. John Finance Board has put into place a new spending policy. There is a new form in the mailbox outside of the Parish Hall that will need to be filled out and preapproved before any purchase over \$100 is made or reimbursed on behalf of the church. Please see Business Manager if you have any questions about the form.

We're Hiring!

St. John Lutheran Church in Charles City, Iowa is seeking a **Youth & Family Ministries Coordinator**.

This person is responsible for facilitating K-12 faith formation in collaboration with the Board of Parish Education, the Youth & Family Ministry Board, and other volunteers. This position is full time with a competitive benefits package. To view the full job description and qualifications, visit our website at stjohncharlescity.org. **To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to Pastor Russ Leeper at rleeper@stjohncharlescity.com.**

SUNDAY BULLETIN

&

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Requests for adding information to the Sunday Bulletin need to be in the Secretary's Office no later than Wednesday at 9am each week.

Announcements and information for The Good Newsletter need to be submitted to the Secretary's Office by 11:30am on the following dates.

NL for:	Submit by:
October	September 18 th
November	October 16 th
December	November 18 th
January	December 16 th

Board Meetings:		
Youth & Family (Sept)	8/25	10:15 AM
Deacons	9/8	10:15 AM
Finance	9/10	5:00 PM
Parish Ed	9/10	5:15 PM
Council	9/10	6:00 PM
Stewardship	9/17	5:00 PM
B & G	9/17	6:00 PM
Caring Ministry	9/19	4:30 PM

Our Generosity for 2nd Quarter 2024

Your offerings to St. John were shared beyond our walls in the 2nd Quarter in the Following ways:

8% of our regular offering \$6,171.80 went to support the mission of the larger church.

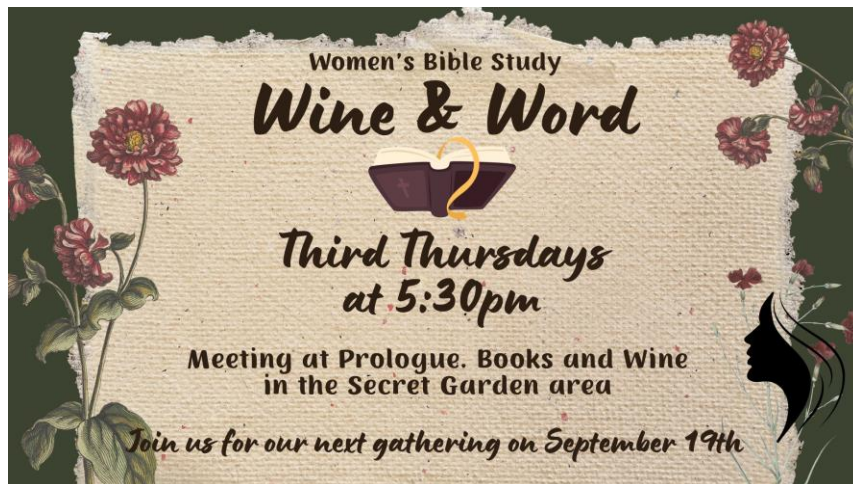
2% of our total offering goes to support our community needs. The April recipient was our Youth Mission Trip. Our youth were given a total of \$710.49 to use on the trip as a Pay It Forward gesture at their discretion, the May recipient was Magdalene's Light in the amount of \$611.44 and the June recipient was Coat's for Kids in the amount of \$695.21. Those checks were dispersed to be used for this mission within our church community.

The 8% Thank Offering was shared within the community in the amount of \$1,896.78 to purchase clothing to disperse among the elementary schools in town for children's needs.

MUSIC AT ST. JOHN

Trinity Choir will start rehearsals on Wednesday, September 25 at 7:00 pm. Trinity Choir will plan to sing about twice a month. Any new members, as well as past members are welcome to join us. Anyone from 7th Grade up is welcome. Students may use this for confirmation service hours and/or silver cord hours. This group is very non-threatening and enjoys having a good time while praising God. Please come join us. We would really like to see our numbers grow. Come and bring a friend. Any questions may be directed to Melanie Johanningmeier 641-330-0963.

Kids Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, October 2 at 4:15pm-4:45pm in the music room in the basement. Kids Choir is open to kids in Kindergarten-6th grade. All After School Program kids will be participating in Kids Choir as a part of the After School Program. Any kids who do not go to After School Program are also welcome to be a part of Kids Choir. Kids choir will include music activities, movement and singing. Kids Choir typically sing at about one service per month. Any questions may be directed to Melanie Johanningmeier 641-330-0963.



Please help support...

St. John Christian Preschool

Purchase Kwik Star gift cards and the preschool receives 5% of the face value!!

Please contact Whitney or Toni if you are interested.

Wanted!!
Christian Caregivers

Sign up for training that starts in September. You will be richly rewarded.

Contact Linda Johnson or Kay Tjaden

Our kitchen is where I see "God's love in action" all the time. Please consider joining us. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. My telephone number is 641 228-6927 and my email address is ctrygma@gmail.com.

Kathy Crooks

As precautionary steps for safety and security, we would like to ask all attendees and visitors of St John, to make sure you are locking your vehicles anytime you are inside the church or away from your vehicle.

After Worship Social Time

has been an enjoyable way to reconnect with each other!

Coffee & a treat are now served outside unless the weather does not permit...we will then move into the Parish Hall, each Sunday!

Good News, St. John Family!

Beth Hurt is officially our intern at St. John. As you know, Beth began with us planning to become a Deacon of the church. Then the Lord moved her heart to become an ordained pastor instead. Her internship is 18 months long so she will be with us until the end of 2025.

Beth is contracted for 20-25 hours per week here at St. John. She is also a full-time student, AND she is a wife and mother, AND lives 70 miles away. As an intern, she will be experiencing various aspects of the church, some she will be successful with and others will become a good learning experience. We need to all be positive and patient and prayerful.

St. John is required to form an internship committee to help Beth on this walk. It is the committee's job to provide positive feedback and suggestions to support her growth. This committee consists of Cherie Schafer (as Council representative), Jodi Reetz, Lydia Johnson, Josh Marth, Jim Moon, and Scott Hansen. Please feel free to seek us out and share your thoughts with us as we work with Beth.

Let's Grow Faith Together!



Registration for Sunday School is open! The form is available online and can be accessed by scanning the QR code or at <https://forms.gle/2Q6myhiJdGmNjUv36>. Paper copies of the form are still available in the Narthex or in the church office. We are also looking for Sunday School teachers! Check out our display in the Narthex and sign up to teach a month (or two) of Sunday School! If you have any questions, please contact a Parish Ed board member.



Coats for Kids will be coming October 12th

As you ready your children for the coming cold winter, please consider donating new or gently used coats, snow pants, boots, mittens, or hats. There are many children in Charles City who will love getting a "new" coat for winter!



God's Work. Our Hands

Coming up on
Sunday, September 8!

Sign up in the narthex for a
project that suits your skill level
and schedule!

And remember to wear your God's
Work Our Hands t-shirt on Sept. 8



OLD LUTHERAN



God's work. Our hands.

If you'd like a t-shirt (or cap! or sweatshirt!) for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday, they can be ordered through oldlutheran.com.



September 8, 2024

Some ideas in the works so far:

- Helping hands projects (small tasks for people in our community who could use a hand)
- Installing pavers at the memorial garden near the Brantingham Bridge
- Cookies! Baking, decorating, packing, and delivering!
- Outside yard work, painting/staining and loving on the animals at PAWS
- Mobile food bank opportunities
- Coats for Kids
- Helping with some maintenance on some of our community gardens
- Possible work helping city maintenance crews with some post-flooding cleanup tasks
- Other ideas...what do YOU think we should do to serve our community and world?

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100th Anniversary Celebration!!

(100 years of our church building)

It is already September and the 100th Anniversary celebration of our church building is coming fast. (October 27th) Now is the time to finish up those crafts or decide on what you might want to offer for the silent auction. The auction can be something special you have crafted, something that has taken you a bit of time to create, or something you want to share with a person or two like a dinner in

your home or that can be delivered. Pie is always a good auction item as is something like lawn raking, offering a baked good per month for 2-3 months or something on that order. Put on your creative thinking cap, I always think this is the most fun part of a fall-type celebration. Only new items will be accepted for these areas.

If you have been growing pumpkins or produce that you would like to share or want to make a special bread, jam, or salsa to put in our Country Store, it is definitely time to be thinking ahead for that.

We are opening a room for items to be brought in anytime starting the beginning of October. That will be announced soon. We do ask that you fill out the form below when you bring something in so we know if it is designated for silent auction, craft fair or country store. Leave it with the item. We want to follow your wishes since you have put in the work.

Name: _____

For: Silent Auction _____ Craft fair _____ Country Store _____

Item: _____

Description if you want to explain or promote it: _____

People's Page...

Memorials were given in memory of...

Eunice Tommingo: Daniel & Denise Willems, Kent & Lori Hoeft,
Robert Tommingo, Diane Melrose, Lois Turner

Wallace Schilling: Betty Manning

Joanne Belten: Kay Tjaden

Beverly Sears: Tilleen Litterer, Karen Streich

Dave Youngerman: Kurt & Lorie Hoeft

*With sympathy, we recognize the
passing of:*

Ryan Heitz

& Lynne Schwartzkopt

September birthdays

80 & older!

Acolytes for September 2024

Sunday...

- 1 Hailey Rule
Max Hammermeister
- 8 Devony O'Brien
- 15 Riley Quade
Max Hammermeister
- 22 Benny Tracey
Isaac Gassman
- 29 Benny Tracey
Isaac Gassman

Sondra Coen	9/1/1942
Robert Tommingo	9/6/1927
Norma McLean	9/8/1934
David Ripley	9/11/1939
Peg Poppen	9/11/1936
Vera Hinz	9/12/1936
James Reysack	9/13/1940
Leland Lumley	9/17/1944
Larry Brewer	9/17/1934
Larry Coen	9/18/1940
Lyneen Brunsting	9/21/1940
Harold Begemann	9/22/1932

September anniversaries of our members who have been married 50 or more years!

Bill & Sharon Bledsoe	9/4/1965
James & Jacqueline Moon	9/6/1970
Glenn & Diann Jacobson	9/8/1956
Gary & Sandra Marth	9/8/1968

Baptism

*We celebrate the baptisms of:
Violet Rose Callison
Veda Jeanne Callison
Parker Jason McDonald*

St. John Christian Preschool...



It's back to school time at St. John Christian Preschool and we began our first day on Monday, August 26th. We are excited to have many new and returning little ones with us this year. The year started with a little apprehension and even some tears, but as time went on, we quickly moved on to many more smiles and giggles! ☺ We will be starting off the school year with a Dr. Seuss theme!

Although August 26th was the first day of school for our little ones, we already held two successful parent meetings back on August 12th. We offered these meetings for each class to give parents an opportunity to network with one another, to get to know the preschool staff and to learn about the preschool's policies.

We also welcomed all of our families to St. John Christian Preschool at our Get Acquainted Open Houses on August 20th. It was exciting to have all of our little ones stop by the preschool with their families and friends to drop off school supplies and to get his/her school picture taken.

Once again, the preschool needs to provide all snacks/drink for our 4/5 year old afternoon friends, as part of the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program guidelines. If you are felt led to help donate snacks for our preschoolers or even donate gift cards to Fareway or HyVee, please contact us for a list of State/DHS approved foods/drinks. 😊

Preschool is a big step for our 3, 4, and 5 year olds, but it is also a big step for parents. As a preschool staff, we consider our job one of utmost importance. Not only are we helping our little ones expand their academic, social, and developmental skills that will guide their paths in life, but also for some of them, we are teaching them about God's love for the very first time. We ask you for your prayers to help us along the way and we thank you for your continuing support of our ministry!!

In closing, we currently have a very limited number of spots available in both of our classes. If you know of someone still in need of a preschool for his or her little one, please give us a call at 228-7274 and we will try to help out!

OUR GOD IS AN AWESOME GOD!

Whittney Franke

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sep 1 9:00am Worship/Comm 10:00am AWST	2 Labor Day (Office Closed)	3	4 9:00am Do Day Quilters	5	6	7
8 God's Work. Our Hands. 9:00am Worship 10:00am AWST 10:15am Deacons	9 5:00pm Finance 5:15pm Parish Ed 6:00pm Council	10 5:00pm Stewardship 6:00pm Building & Grounds 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Classes; Chapel	11 9:00am Do Day Quilters 9:00am Newsletter Deadline	12 4:30pm Caring Ministries 5:30pm Wine & Word (Women's Bible Study); Prologue Books & Wine in the Secret Garden	13	14
15 9:00am Baptism 9:00am Worship/Comm 10:00am AWST	16 5:00pm Stewardship 6:00pm Building & Grounds 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Classes; Chapel	17 5:00pm Stewardship 6:00pm Building & Grounds 6:00pm Stephen Ministry Classes; Chapel	18 9:00am Do Day Quilters 9:00am Newsletter Deadline	19 4:30pm Caring Ministries 5:30pm Wine & Word (Women's Bible Study); Prologue Books & Wine in the Secret Garden	20	21
22 9:00am Baptism 9:00am Worship 10:00am AWST 10:00am Rally Sunday	23 9:00am Baptism 9:00am Worship 10:00am AWST 10:00am Rally Sunday	24 6:00pm Confirmation Orientation; PH 6:30pm Confirmation Sunday Meeting	25 6:00pm Confirmation Orientation; PH 6:30pm Confirmation Sunday Meeting	26	27	28
29 9:00am Worship 10:00am AWST 10:05am First Day of Sunday School	30 9:00am Worship 10:00am AWST 10:05am First Day of Sunday School	Oct 1 9:00am Do Day Quilters 3:30pm Wednesday Night Activities; ASP, Confirmation Classes, Wed Night Supper	2 9:00am Do Day Quilters 3:30pm Wednesday Night Activities; ASP, Confirmation Classes, Wed Night Supper	3	4	5

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Sondra Coen's birthday	2 Samantha Heyer's birthday Labor Day	3 Hallie Kubik's birthday Gary and Wendy Vance's 42nd anniversary	4 Yolanda Van Ausdall's birthday Bill and Sharon Bledsoe's 59th anniversary Monte and Kathleen Waldorf's 53rd anniversary	5 Roy Strach's birthday Sandra Dugan's birthday Ethan and Keegan Voelker's 3rd anniversary	6 Emerson Unga's birthday Robert Tommingo's birthday Seth Nordmeyer's birthday James and Jacqueline Moon's 54th anniversary	7 Kylie Parsons' birthday Gloria Carr's birthday Lauren Connell's birthday
8 Norma McLean's birthday Linda Reit's birthday Glenn and Diann Jacobson's 68th anniversary Gary and Sandra Marth's 56th anniversary	9 Dax Johnson's birthday Stanley Mehmen's birthday	10 Gracie Ferch's birthday Carolyn Marth's birthday	11 Marcia Grimm's birthday Peg Poppen's birthday David Ripley's birthday	12 Vera Hinz's birthday Kendra Buenger's birthday Thomas and Pam Litterer's 32nd anniversary	13 James Reysack's birthday	14 Ethan Voelker's birthday
15 Roger and Patricia Townsend's 34th anniversary Michael and Tammy Quade's 23rd anniversary	16 Brenda Stone's birthday Matt Wolf's birthday	17 Leland Lumley's birthday Larry Brewer's birthday Dennis Brahm's birthday Jenisha Garden's birthday Tony and Jennifer Lessitt's 13th anniversary	18 John Henvert's birthday Becky Meyer's birthday Larry Coen's birthday	19 Alexandria Litterer's birthday Frank Anderson's birthday Jadyn Van Horn's birthday	20	21 Thomas Heiddens' birthday Lyneen Brunsting's birthday Seth and Alex Nordmeyer's 5th anniversary
22 Lynne Wilkens' birthday Harold Begemann's birthday	23 Cynthia Davidson's birthday	24 Justin Heyer's birthday Kurtis Hoeft's birthday Kent Hoeft's birthday Landon and Jessie Schultz's 2nd anniversary	25	26 Geneva Rima's birthday Jack Murray's birthday Sophie Wilkens' birthday	27 Sarah George's birthday Ezekiel Kendall's birthday	28 Kristin Brockney's birthday Carleen Laue's birthday
29 Isaac Gassman's birthday	30 Rachel Page's birthday Drake O'Brien's birthday Peggy Andrews' birthday Edward and Shirley Platte's 37th anniversary	1 Kerrigan Venz's birthday	2 Bernice Voelker's birthday James and LaVonne Reysack's 64th anniversary Dan and Christie DeBower's 31st anniversary	3	4 Lynn Thronson's birthday Addyson Vance's birthday Kathy Crooks' birthday Carter Van Horn's birthday	5 Carol Quade's birthday Doris Tebbe's birthday Rhonda Schmittke's birthday
6 Matt and Abigail Wolf's 6th anniversary	7 Janice Brinkman's birthday Marcia Jacobs' birthday	8 Alison Pettit and Corey's 8th anniversary David Ripley and Shirley DeMerrit Kriemeyer's 42nd anniversary	9 Alyssa Tommingo's birthday Shelly Parson's birthday Mike and Katie Hammond's 20th anniversary	10	11 Asher McDonald's birthday Dennis Sande's birthday	12 Christie DeBower's birthday