October 25, 2026

St. John Lutheran Church

Joyfully taking God's Love INTO THE WORLD



The service of Affirmation of Baptism is an important part of faith formation in youth or adulthood (Confirmation). During the Affirmation of Baptism service, confirmands repeat the promises made for them at baptism. Confirmands now take on the responsibility of nurturing their own faith within this community and partnering with all members in living out the mission of the church. Our confirmation ministry program is a time of education for our students; care, support and encouragement through small groups; and challenging students to see their faith as something that is life-changing. Affirmation of Baptism is not a graduation from learning, but one step in the journey of becoming fully devoted disciples of Jesus. We celebrate with these students today as they affirm their baptism:

Finley Bartlett

Madison Mae Burkhardt

Jetta Ann Dally

Andrew William Federspiel

Susanna Jane Fisher

Evan Jones

Wyatt Mills

Welcome to ALL!

Please let us know any questions you may have or anything we can do for you. Our volunteers are ready to help!

Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary would love to meet up, in person or otherwise, and share more about St. John, chat about the Gospel or whatever else might be on your mind. He can be reached at 319-888-3814 or PastorBrian@stjohncf.org .

RESTROOMS are located on the main level near the Sanctuary.

HEARING ASSIST DEVICES are available for **both** worship spaces. Go to an usher or the soundboard for assistance.

MEMBERSHIP: Contact the church office or complete the form on the website found on the Membership page. A "Welcome to St. John" series is held each fall.

CHILDREN are welcome in worship. Our nursery is located near the F&LC and available for you to use with infants/toddlers under 3.

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED ON FACEBOOK @STJOHNCF

YOUTUBE: SJLCIOWA

WIFI Password: **connectcaresharegrow**

For Information

- Online: www.stjohncf.org
- Call the office: 319-268-0165
- Follow us on Facebook: stjohncf

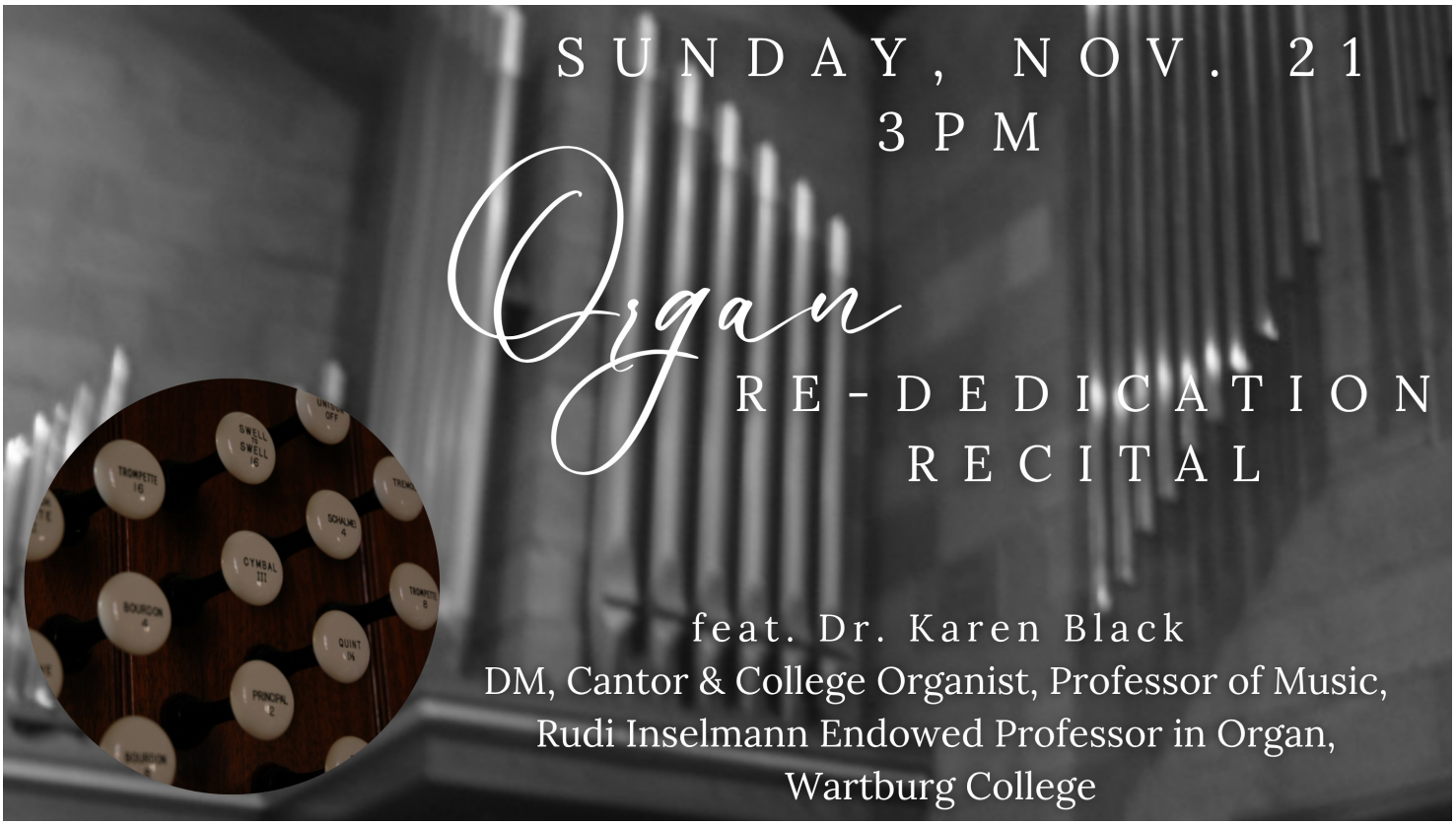
WIFI: connectcaresharegrow

RECONCILING *in* CHRIST

Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here in the name of Jesus Christ. We celebrate that each person is loved by God. We affirm the gifts of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, and are committed to working for racial equity. Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church!



Sunday, November 1, during both our 8am & 10am worship services, we will be celebrating **All Saints Day**. During worship, we will be remembering our loved ones who have died. If you would like to light a candle in memory of someone special to you, you are welcome to bring a candle to light or to light one of the candles provided. The names of St. John members who have died in the past year will be read aloud during the service.





Combined Christmas Choir!



Hey everyone — we're approaching that time of year when it's *socially acceptable* to start singing Christmas songs in public!

Our combined choir will present pieces in the big Christmas service in the Sanctuary on **December 20 at 8am & 10am**, and we'll also help lead the **3pm & 5pm Christmas Eve services**.

We'll rehearse three (3) Sunday afternoons — where we'll cover all the songs for both Dec 20th in the Sanctuary and the 3pm/5pm Christmas Eve services. You'll need to attend at least two of the three rehearsals.

- Sun, Nov 22, 2-4pm in the FLC - combined rehearsal
- Sun, Dec 6, 2-4pm in the FLC - combined rehearsal
- Sun, Dec 13, 2-4pm in the FLC - combined rehearsal

Sign up at the Welcome Center table & pick up a copy of the music packet.

Steve Peters (he/him/his) & Mike Best (he/him/his)
Traditional Music Minister, Contemporary Music Minister
Steve Cell: 763-290-2665; music@stjohncf.org
Mike Cell: 360-930-4354; music10@stjohncf.org



Grief Support Group + There is interest in our congregation for having a grief support group. We're looking for willing persons to serve as facilitator or co-facilitator, in helping those affected by all kinds of grief gather in a supportive setting and care for one another. Contact Pastor Brian to learn more.

Siblings in Christ,

For the last four years I've benefited from a couple groups of 5 people that meet quarterly to serve as a Sermon Feedback Team. They give me suggestions and talk honestly about how things are going -- good, bad and ugly. I asked them to serve for two years, filling out sermon feedback forms on Sundays when they can, and meeting quarterly in person to give feedback. Their time has come to an end and I'm interested in gathering a new collection of 4-5 willing persons.

The Team does at least two things:

1. Paying attention during the sermon and sending me written feedback afterward. I have a link to the document that will be used for this purpose and you can either print it off and hand write on it or type it out, during or after worship.

2. Meeting with me and the Team quarterly to have group conversation about how it's going, what can be improved, etc.

We have typically met for our quarterly meeting at 11:15 on a Sunday (right after the 10am service or right after you've had brunch if you're an 8am participant).

Please let me know if this is something you'd be willing to try. If your plate is full or it's not your cup of tea, not a problem.

Thanks so much! Pastor Brian

Pastor Brian is planning a sabbatical for the summer of 2027

As part of Brian's pastoral letter of call, St. John has committed to supporting our pastors to take a sabbatical following at least 5 years of service.

This June, July and August of 2027, Pastor Brian will be absent from the congregation for a 12 week period of rest, renewal and exploration that will help him continue to healthfully serve alongside us. He will continue to be on the St. John payroll during this time and the congregation will financially support, in part, his travels. While he is away, the congregation will have time and space to find ways to step up in leadership and service. We will either have an Associate Pastor installed by that time or will have a plan in place for pulpit supply, pastoral care support and other leadership needs that will be led by a Sabbatical Task Force *(assembled by the Council this coming January)*.

More info will be shared as it becomes available but in the meantime feel free to direct any questions to members of the Church Council or Pastor Brian himself.



What to do with Your Pumpkin "After"

Compost your pumpkin when you are done with it. Birds & squirrels enjoy pumpkins for a time! *What a treat for them*!

Hartman Reserve Nature Center will not be collecting tree nuts this year.

Christmas Lights



Soon we'll be pulling our holiday decorations out (perhaps you are even thinking about putting up your exterior lights and decorations while it's still warm ☺). Don't throw away your non-working Holiday Lights (when you find them). SOON, we'll have a collection box in the office entry so they can be recycled at CFU. (*Please hold onto them a little bit longer! That collection box will be put out after we complete our Socktober collection.)*

What's Happening This Week

See the website for a complete listing of building use dates/times.

Monday, October 26
5:15pm PRT Mtg.

Tuesday, October 27
10am Ladies Book Study (Library)
6pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

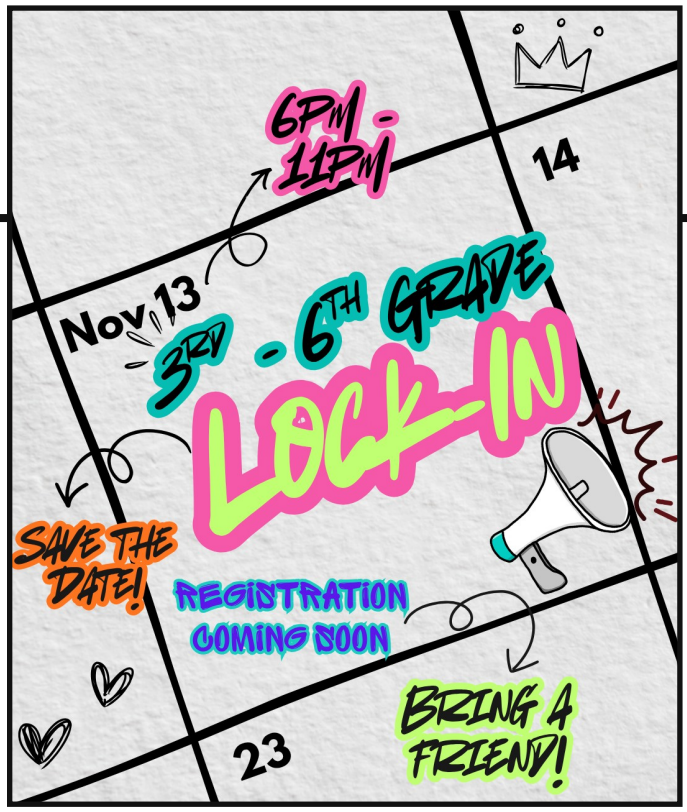
Wednesday, October 28
7am Walking Wednesday @ Big Woods
2pm Hospitality & Cong Care Mtg. (Library)
5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal

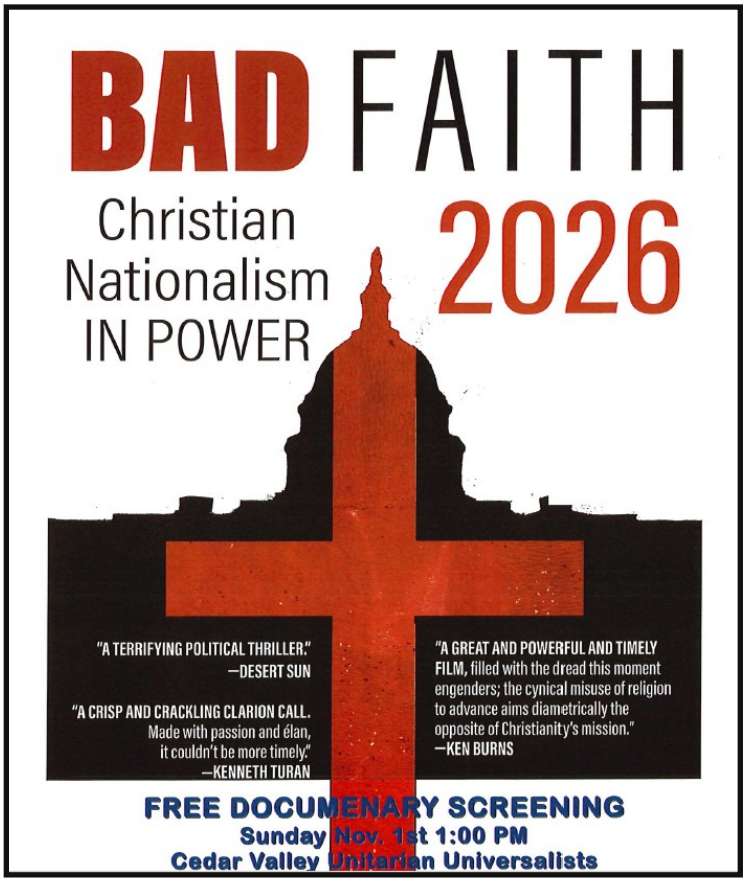
Thursday, October 29
7:30am Thirsty Thursday Men Bible Study (Library)
3:30pm Bible Study (Library)
5:30pm "The Chosen" TV Show Discussion Grp (Lib)
6:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal (F&LC)

Sunday, November 1 All Saints Sunday
8am Worship (Sanctuary)
9am Sunday School
9am The Perennials (Library)
9am "The Chosen" Discussion Grp (Chapel)
9am Taking Faith Home Discussion (Atrium)
9am "Separation of Church & Hate (Rm. 305)
10am Worship (Faith & Life Center)



The Chosen TV Series Discussion Groups
9-9:55am Sundays. 5:30pm, Thursdays.
Episode 5: "The Wedding Gift"







HEALING & CONCERN. . . Tina Meyer; James Van Patten; Linda Southworth; Ethel Ann Koch; Jennifer Kurtenbach; Ron Lance; Imogene Burgardt & Loy Walker (Barb & Brett Walker's moms); Glenda Johnson; Darin Hansen; Don Timmerman; Christine & Denise (Lori Schneider's friends); Kathy Taylor; Grant Gubbrud; Lanette, Harley; Sue Larson; Paulo (Barb Feuerhak's son-in-law).

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

The altar flowers are given by CarolMae Osborn in celebration of grace upon grace upon grace(8:00); and by Blake & Missy Borwick to celebrate their anniversary & all their blessings (10:00).
Donut Sponsor: Maxine Buhr & Cindi Kaiser

	Sep-26			Fiscal YTD (04/01/26-03/31/27)		
	Revenue	Expense*	Net	Revenue	Expense *	Net
Church	58,779.93	192,538.98	(133,759.05)	436,892.43	671,139.24	(234,246.81)
Preschool/Childcare	62,535.74	68,656.53	(6,120.79)	384,288.67	414,678.83	(30,390.16)
Total	121,315.67	261,195.51	(139,879.84)	821,181.10	1,085,818.07	(264,636.97)

* includes YTD Capital Projects - $320,041.12

UPDATE ON OUR FINANCES

For the past several years, we have worked hard on several large fundraising projects and those extra funds have made our financials look very bountiful (what a blessing!). As those projects are being completed, we are now receiving the bills. Since we raised the money in prior fiscal years but the expenses are occurring during the current fiscal year, our numbers look very lopsided. This was always going to be the case and we are still well within budget of what was planned. These contingencies have all been years in the making and we are able to move forward with these projects due to the generosity of the congregation. Thank you!

Submit A Prayer Request:

Visitor Connection Card:

Support Financially:

Card ACH venmo

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary
cell: 319-888-3814; email: PastorBrian@stjohncf.org

St. John Staff

Located on the St. John website

Church Council (Council@stjohncf.org)

John Kohagen. ……..……..**Shawn Smeins, Treasurer**
Josh Green, Secretary ……Jen Hartman
Blake Borwick, President……Kathy Diehl
Andrew Bruns, Vice President…….. Laura Homewood
Joyce Riley……..

Ministry & Resource Team Leaders

Hospitality & Congregational Care ……..
Serving & Discipleship……...Janelle Smeins
Worship & Celebration ……...Brenda Truelsen
Faith Formation & Lifelong Learning ……Mandi Loudermilk
Human Resources……..Jim Denholm
Financial Resources……Jim Langel
Property Resource Team……..Larry Prohaska
Technology & Communication……Nick Frerichs

Worship Attendance:

Oct 18—280 in person & 23 households online