



St. John Lutheran Church

September 13, 2026

Joyfully taking God's Love INTO THE WORLD



**SUNDAY
SEPT 13**

Sanctuary
WORSHIP
Faith & Life Center

8AM

10AM

9AM  **SUNDAY
SCHOOL**

PreK & K: Childcare Rm.
(lower level – turn right at
bottom of stairs & go down
hallway to room at end)

1st & 2nd: MakerSpace
(lower level – turn right at
bottom of stairs & go down
hallway to room at end)

3rd & 4th: Room 310B
(upper level)

5th & 6th: Room 319
(upper level)

**8:45
AM**



CONFIRMATION

7th / 8th / 9th / 10th gr
Youth Rm.

**PERENNIALS
BIBLE STUDY**
Library

9AM



9AM



**TAKING FAITH HOME
DISCUSSION GROUP**

Atrium Round Table

**"THE CHOSEN"
TV SHOW
DISCUSSION GRP**

Fireside Chapel

9AM



6PM

BEL CANTOS
F&LC

RESTROOMS: located on
the main level
near the
Sanctuary

NURSERY: located on the
main level near
the F&LC

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](https://www.facebook.com/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!*

The Chosen TV Series Discussion Groups

9-9:55am Sundays. Location: Fireside Chapel

Contact: Tina Meyer & Joy Slaughter

5:30pm, Thursdays. Location: Library.

Contact: Alicia Hurmence & Steve Ferguson

The Chosen is a multi-season series about the life and ministry of Jesus, depicting his life through the eyes of the people who interacted with him. Join others at either of these 2 weekly opportunities as your schedule allows! Twelve weeks have been set aside to focus on the first season of the series—format will be approximately 30-40 mins of video followed by 20-30 mins of discussion using a study guide.

Episode 1: "I Have Called You By Name"

Episode 2: "Shabbat"

Episode 3: "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Episode 4: "The Rock on Which It is Built"

Episode 5: "The Wedding Gift"

Episode 6: "Indescribable Compassion"

Episode 7: "Invitations"

Episode 8: "I Am He"

Perennials: Adult Bible Study

9:10-9:50am Sundays, start anytime. Church Library

This weekly bible study focuses on characters or themes from the Bible and how it relates to our everyday life. No signup needed.

Strangers No More: A Biblical Study of Migration

Sept 13-Nov 22 (on the 2nd & 4th Sundays), 3-4:30pm.

This six-session Bible Study on migration combines biblical reflection, current news and guest speakers with discussions on immigration. Each session concludes with self-pay dinner at immigrant-owned restaurants at 5pm.

9/13—First Baptist Church, 3-4:30pm.

Restaurant: La Cava (126 E. Ridgeway Ave., Wlloo)

9/27—Cedar Heights Community Church. Guest Speaker: Rajane Grant.

Restaurant: O My Grill/Halal Mediterranean (2020 College St., CF)

Tuesday Ladies + Tuesdays, 10am. Church Library

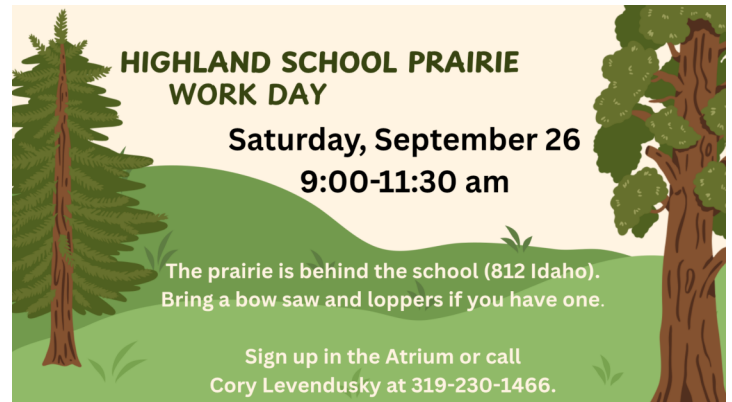
Thursday Bible Study + Thursdays, 3:30pm—

resumes Sept. 17. Location: Church Library

Both groups are using a book from critically acclaimed author Brian McLaren. *"We Make the Road By Walking"* offers fifty-two (plus a few) weekly readings that can be read aloud in 10 to 12 minutes and offer a simple curriculum of insightful reflections and transformative practices.

WELCA Women "Gather" Bible Study: Sept 16 +

1:30pm, third Wednesday of month. Contact Gloria Tollefson (gltollefson@gmail.com). "Gather" with other SJLC women to use the Bible study in the Women of the ELCA Gather magazine. Fall 2026: *"Bold faith on an unexpected journey."* This three-session study takes us on a journey with Hagar, Ruth and Mary Magdalene, women whose bold faith transformed their unexpected stories. Their encounters with God remind us that we, too, are seen, sustained and sent to carry good news into the world.



MEN: Burnt Offerings + Sunday, September 27, 1:00 pm at John McClellan's backyard taste factory. Join other guys from SJLC for this end of summer BBQ with John's chosen smoked meats n' treats event! FREE Raffle prizes as well. Bring an appetite, chair and beverage of choice. Sign up at the Welcome Center table.

Taking Faith Home: Scripture/Sermon Discussion.

+ Sundays, 9am. Contact: Rose Lorenz (319-404-2125). Location: Atrium. This group uses the Taking Faith Home resource to guide discussion on the Sunday scripture & sermon. The half-sheet resource guide is available in the ENEWS or pick up a copy from the entryway brochure rack. No signup needed.

Wednesday Walks + 7am, Wednesdays

Contact: Pastor Brian. Each Wednesday, meet at the Big Woods south parking lot at 7am for a 45 minute walk with whomever shows up. No signup needed.

Book Discussion: "Separation of Church and Hate" + Oct. 4-Nov 8, 9am. Contact Jay Schmitz

(319-404-3216 or jschmitz50@gmail.com). Join others in reading and discussing the book *Separation of Church and Hate*, a book that is about reclaiming your witness. Packed with practical wisdom and biblical insight, this book will help you navigate tense political conversations with grace while reflecting the love of Christ in a deeply divided world. Get your own copy of the book. Sign up at the Welcome Center table.

WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

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

****The office will be staffed 9am-1pm this week****

Monday, Sept 14

8am Do-Day Quilters (Fellowship Hall)

5:15pm FRT Mtg. (Library)

Tuesday, Sept. 15

10am Ladies Book Study (Library)

6pm Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, Sept 16

7am Walking Wednesday @ Big Woods

1:30pm Gather Women's Bible Study (Library)

5:30pm Handbell Rehearsal (Rm. 310)

6:30pm Youth Group: Minute to Win It / Board Games

Thursday, Sept. 17

7:30am Thirsty Thursday Men Bible Study (Library)

9:30 & 1:30 PCC Children's Church (Sanctuary)

2pm Western Home/SJLC Gathering

3:30pm Bible Study (Library)

5pm Church Council (Fireside Chapel)

5:30pm "The Chosen" TV Show Discussion Grp (Lib)

6:30pm Worship Band Rehearsal (F&LC)

Friday, Sept 18

9:30 & 1:30 PCC Children's Church (Sanctuary)

AM carpool leaves for Young at Heart Amish Meal

Sunday, Sept. 20

8am Worship (Sanctuary)

8:45am Confirmation

9am Sunday School

9am "Embracing a New Normal" presentation (Sanctuary)

9am "The Chosen" Discussion Grp (Chapel)

9am Taking Faith Home Discussion (Atrium)

10am Worship (Faith & Life Center)

Embracing a New Normal

Join St. John member Katie Burkhardt in an educational hour learning how to find a new path forward in the midst of grief. Katie's personal story will discuss the steps to help you rebuild a "new normal" after a significant life change. Members and guests welcome.

Sunday Sept. 20th

9am St John Sanctuary

Monday Sept. 21st

6pm St John Library



1946

What if the word "homosexual" was never meant to be in the Bible?

"1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture" Movie Viewing & Discussion

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 6-9pm. Discussion led by Pastor Brian

"1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture" is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-

gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946. It chronicles the discovery of never-before-seen archives at Yale University which unveil astonishing new revelations, and casts significant doubt on any biblical basis for LGBTQIA+ prejudice. Featuring commentary from prominent scholars as well as opposing pastors, including the personal stories of the film's creators, 1946 is at once challenging, enlightening, and inspiring. Sign up at the Welcome Center table.

Community Meal: October 6 + Contact Janelle

Smeins (319-230-9034). A free meal is served every Tuesday from 4:30-6pm at First United Methodist Church. We will need individuals to set up tables, serve, clean up & donate cookies/bars.



LeChristopher's Southern Cuisine: September 13 +

2nd Sunday of each month starting at 12pm. Jubilee UMC Freedom Center (E 4th & Newell, W'loo). \$20 per plate. *Contagious hospitality, restaurant-style ambiance, jazz background music.* Carpool available to/from SJLC, leaving at 11:45am—contact Pastor Brian or Steve Ferguson to catch a ride or meet them there!

Sunday Donuts + Contact Kim Miller (319-269-4773). If you would be interested in purchasing donuts for a Sunday (approx. \$25-30) & take care of getting them set out using supplies here at church, sign up at the Welcome Center table. Remember to take an Info Sheet from the clipboard explaining the process.

Do-Day Quilters: September 14 + Contact Arleen

Burkhardt (319-231-0536). This group meets on the second Monday morning of each month in Fellowship Hall to create tie-quilts with quilts donated to local organizations. **SEWERS**—we have fabric you are welcome to take home and use in your own design to complete a top for our tie-quilts.

2026 CROP Hunger Walk + Join others in the Cedar Valley to raise money & awareness for hunger relief on Sunday, October 4. Registration & Lunch at 1pm, Walk begins at 2pm. All ages welcome as we walk through the Historic Church Row Neighborhood in Waterloo and learn more about our immigrant neighbors. This **event needs a SJLC leader**—contact P Brian if you are willing to lead our team or have questions about participating.

HEALING & CONCERN. . . Imogene Burgardt & Loy Walker (Barb & Brett Walker's moms); Glenda Johnson; James Van Patten; Darin Hansen; Don Timmerman; Christine & Denise (Lori Schneider's friends); Bev Morris ([PCC Director] Kathy Thompson's mom); Kathy Taylor; Grant Gubbrud; Lanette, Goose (Brian & Lori Fegley friends); Harley; Sue Larson; Paulo (Barb Feuerhak's son-in-law).

WE CELEBRATE. . . The wedding of Brooke Kattelman & Josh Borwick;
The baptism of Connor David Nilles, son of Kailyn & Matthew Nilles.

WE GRIEVE. . . The death of Marlene Sheetz.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

The altar flowers are given by Ron Lance & family in memory of Sharon Lance's birthday (8:00); and by Jeff & Heidi Guse in thanks for family & friends (10:00). Donut Sponsor: None.

	Aug-26			Fiscal YTD (04/01/26-03/31/27)		
Church	76,703.65	129,834.91	(53,131.26)	373,664.54	478,600.24	(104,935.70)
Preschool/Childcare	55,929.87	69,594.89	(13,665.02)	321,752.93	346,022.30	(24,269.37)
Total	132,633.52	199,429.80	(66,796.28)	695,417.47	824,622.54	(129,205.07)

* includes YTD Capital Projects - \$178,499.51

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!). We are now implementing those projects but with that comes all of 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:



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 CareRobin Abraham
Serving & Discipleship.....Janelle Smeins
Worship & CelebrationBrenda Truelsen
Faith Formation & Lifelong LearningMandi Loudermilk
Human Resources.....Jim Denholm
Financial Resources.....Jim Langel
Property Resource Team.....Larry Prohaska
Technology & Communication.....Nick Frerichs

Worship Attendance:

August 30—289; September 6—136