Weekly HAPPENINGS

Sept 1, 2024

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH ***Purpose:*** **Joyfully taking God's love into the world!**

Thank You! Thank you to everyone who generously gave in support of Albie Nicol's intern experience. We collected **$4,915** which we will be forwarding on to be used as an Intern Scholarship for Albie. In gratitude for SJLC, and to keep us up-to-date with "life", Albie provided this update:

Hello siblings and coworkers in Christ,

I send you greetings in the name of the Christ who liberates and loves us fully! I am writing to you from my new office in Peace Lutheran Church in Cleveland Heights, OH. I arrived here safely (with cats in tow) on Monday the 22nd of July. I have mostly been living on an air mattress in my living room (The coolest part of the apartment, near a window AC unit) and using a congregant's camp mess kit while we fully unpack my pod, which just arrived this morning.

I started official Vicar duties last week, but then my supervisor, Pr. Shields, came down with COVID! So I stayed home the latter half of last week and the beginning of this week, testing negative the whole time. Thankfully, Pr. Shields is on the mend, I continue to be negative for COVID, and so I am back to work! Unfortunately, [cat] Simon The Zealot is sick! The vet seems to think it could be stress, but if he doesn't start eating regularly soon, back to the vet we go. Otherwise, the cats have been troopers and are getting settled pretty quickly.

While I have not met up with anyone yet, I've been introduced to several friends of friends in Cleveland via Facebook Messenger. So at least a good handful of hopeful new friends to reach out to now that I'm in the clear with no COVID! Hopefully this will end my small lonely streak here, as it's hard to be an extrovert with no one to know and hang out with! One of them is a chaplain at the Cleveland Clinic, and I'm hoping to get to pick his brain about what his job is like.



I thank you for being such supportive and prayerful people on this whole journey.

Albie

(Want to send a card? Albie's address is available through the church office.)

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.

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 (October 20 & 27, Nov. 3 & 10).

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

WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED ON FACEBOOK @STJOHNCF OR watch CFU Channel 18 on Sundays, 7:30am or Wednesdays, 6pm (*replay 10am service previous week)*

For Information

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

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!

WORSHIP & CELEBRATION

Singers, Musicians & Multi-Media
Contact: 8am—Steve Peters(music@stjohncf.org) or 10am—Chandar Boyle (rocknbachstudios@gmail.com)

St John is blessed with a great number of talented singers and musicians that share their talents with us every week at both worship services.

- If you are interested in possibly adding your voice or praising God with guitars, drums, bass, keys, strings and the occasional brass instrument at either service, please let us know.
- Our Sunday Tech Teams for both worship spaces can use additional people willing to learn how to control the audio for the Musician/Band, Worship Leader and Pastor at the 10am service. The 8am Tech person also livestreams the service. Directions and training provided!

Jubilation Ringers / Handbells
Contact: Steve Peters (music@stjohncf.org)
Our Adult Bell Choir is always looking for new members, regular or fill-in. If you can read music, that is great, but not required. Rehearsals Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in Room 312.

Intergenerational Choir
Contact: Steve Peters (music@stjohncf.org)
Our newest musical offering is intended for people high school age and up. Rehearsals begin on Tuesday, September 3rd at 6pm in the Sanctuary.

FAITH FORMATION & LIFELONG LEARNING

CHILDREN (3yr-6th gr)

QR CODE TO REGISTER

Sunday School + Sundays, 9:00-10:00am
Contact: Marty Postel (Marty@stjohncf.org)
This timing of Sunday School allows families to participate in either the Sanctuary service or the F&LC service.

- **PreK & K:** Explorer Room A (*lower level – turn right at bottom of stairs & go down hallway to room at end*)
- **1st & 2nd**: Explorer Room B (*lower level – turn right at bottom of stairs & go down hallway to room at end*)
- **3rd & 4th**: Room 310A (*upper level*)
- **5th & 6th**: Room 319 (*upper level*)

YOUTH (7th-12th gr)

QR CODE TO REGISTER

Confirmation + Sundays, 8:45-10am
Contact: Steve Ferguson (Steve@stjohncf.org)
7th, 8th & 9th grade students gather for Confirmation large group before breaking out into smaller groups for in-depth discussion of the *Colaborate* focus of the day.

- **7th/8th:** Youth Room *(upper level)*
- **9th:** Cross Room/Rm. 305 *(upper level)*

Youth Group Night
Contact: Austin Gabel (Austin@stjohncf.org or 641-426-6911)
Gathering the 1st & 3rd Wednesday night of each month. Past events have been Dome Ball, Nine Square, Movies, etc. Contact Austin to be added to the distribution list for future events.

YOUNG ADULTS/ THREEHOUSE





THREEHOUSE Weekly Schedule

Sunday, 5:30PM: Sunday Supper and Faith Gathering

Tuesday, 4:00-8:00PM: CoffeeHouse

Wednesday, 7:30PM: Spiritual Vitamin

Thursday, 7:00-10:00PM: CoffeeHouse

CoffeeHouse hours are subject to change with barista's availability

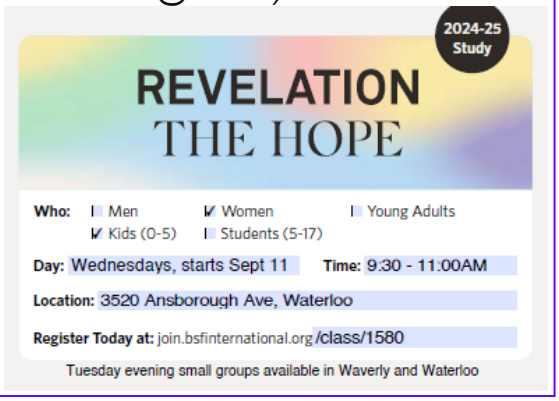
THE LISTENING POST PROJECT

ThreeHouse is looking for more listeners! Do you know someone who has a welcoming presence and is a great listener? We offer our Listening Post on campus to connect with students who just need a check in, or want to be heard. We're not offering advice or fixing problems, but we ARE listening and letting students know they're loved. We are on campus Thursdays from 11:30am-1:30pm, and hope to add another day!

FAITH FORMATION & LIFELONG LEARNING: ADULTS

Faith Focused Families
6:30-7:30pm, first Monday of the month
Location: Church Library
Contact: Jessica Folkerts (folkertsfam17@gmail.com) or Kayla Rasmussen (kayla.16.wilson@gmail.com) . This group will be exploring the book "Living the Promises of Baptism: 101 Ideas for Parents." *(copies provided)* Whether you're a seasoned parent or just starting your journey, we welcome all ages and stages of parenthood. We firmly believe that we can learn and grow from one another, drawing from the diverse experiences and perspectives present in our group.

Bible Study Fellowship+ BSF is open for new participants any time. The focus this year is the book of Revelation. The cost is free, but donations are encouraged. Go to BSFInternational.org and look for Cedar Falls Women's Day group to get registered. Have questions? Contact Rose Lorenz *(319-404-2125 or rlorenz@cfu.net)*



FAITH FORMATION & LIFELONG LEARNING: ADULTS

Perennials: Adult Bible Study
9:10-9:50am Sundays, start anytime.
Location: Church Library
Contact: David Duncan (davidandhelen@cfu.net or 319-575-4227) or Lynn Lovell (319-277-8687 or lynnlovell@cfu.net). The current study is on the fascinating characters and events in the Old Testament book of Ruth. Faced with huge societal and personal difficulties, they trusted in God and lived out lives of love, steadfast loyalty, persistence and ingenuity--all of which are good traits for us to learn from and to emulate. No signup, just come.

Jesus & John Wayne (Book Discussion Group)
9-10am, Sundays, starts Sept 8.
Location: Fireside Chapel
Contact: John Kohagen (johnkohagen@gmail.com)
Jesus and John Wayne by acclaimed scholar (& Kristin Du Mez is a an exploration of the last seventy-five years of American white evangelicalism, revealing how some have worked to replace the Jesus of the Gospels with an idol of rugged masculinity and Christian nationalism—or in the words of one modern chaplain, with "a spiritual badass." This group will discuss 1 chapter a week. Purchase a copy of the book from the vendor of your choice & read the first chapter. Sign up at the Welcome Center table.

Taking Faith Home: Scripture/Sermon Discussion. + Sundays, 9am. *Contact: Rose Lorenz (319-404-2125 or rlorenz@cfu.net)). 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 atrium brochure rack. No signup needed.

Wednesday Walks + 7am, Wednesdays
Contact: Pastor Brian (pastorbrian@stjohncf.org)
Fall is here(ish) and if you love being outdoors when the weather isn't too hot or too cold — let's walk together! Each Wednesday in September & October, meet at the Big Woods south parking lot at 7am for a 45 minute walk with whomever shows up. No signup needed—just show up.

Young at Heart (55+ group)
Contact: Joan Baumgartner (mjoanb@cfu.net or 319-277-2634), Sue Holm (319-239-4579 or sholm12@gmail.com) or Barb Feuerhak (319-404-0791 or bfeuerhak@gmail.com). Tuesday, September 10th, all those age 55+ are invited to eat dinner at 12noon with Mrs. Clara Miller in her home at 1627 Fairbank-Amish Blvd. (next to the Sunrise Bakery, near Independence). Meet at the church at 9:15am to carpool over, leaving at 9:30am. It takes approximately 45 minutes to get there. This allows time to shop. We will collect money on the day of meal before we leave the church. Total cost is $17.00 which includes tip ($15.00 meal and $2.00 tip) - cash or check made out to Clara Miller. Signup at the Welcome Center table.

Thirsty Thursday Men + Thursdays, 7:30am. Location: Church Library . *Contact Steve Ferguson (steve@stjohncf.org)* This group often uses the Sunday scripture and sermon to guide their conversation and is perfect for drop-ins as your schedule allows.

Bible Study: Psalms + Thursdays, 3:30pm. Location: Church Library *Contact: Don & Sandy Kohagen (319-277-9460 or Kohagen@cfu.net).* This group is studying and analyzing the book of Psalms, one verse at a time. Contact Don & Sandy to be notified when this group restarts this fall.

Tuesday Ladies: The Book of Genesis + Tuesdays, 10am. Location: Church Library
Contact Arleen Burkhardt (jburkhardt@cfu.net or 319-266-9672). This book study group is currently using a resource from Augsburg Fortress to guide discussions.

"Leaf-ing into the Divine" Contemplative Retreat + Saturday, October 5, 9 am – 4 pm. Location: Westminster Presbyterian, Waterloo. *Would you like to grow – In love, joy and peace? In patience, kindness and generosity? In gentleness, faithfulness and even self-control? In your capacity for compassion with justice for others?* Includes opportunities for Quiet Prayer in the Presence; Walking in the natural world or in the sanctuary; Yoga with Journaling, and/or Tai Chi; Quiet Reading of Scripture; and other options. Register by **email** to coneiowa@gmail.com, with name and phone, on or before Monday, October 1. Sponsored by Contemplative Outreach, Northeast Iowa Chapter.

SERVING & DISCIPLESHIP



LSI Event + You're invited to LSI's inaugural **Empower Cedar Valley** event on Thursday, Sept 19 at Hilton Garden Inn (CF) for an evening of food, fun, and celebration of the immigrant and refugee community. Come hear a keynote address from Dr. Rebecca Ehretsman, President of Wartburg College. The team would love to have a St. John table or two at this event! By purchasing a table, the cost per ticket is slightly less (individual ticket: $45; table of 8: $320). Sign up at the Welcome Center table. *Contact: Kathy L. Thompson (702-808-3102 or JKRJ16@cfu.net)*

LSI Volunteer Opp + Volunteers are needed in the W'loo office to sort items for "welcome kits"; to prepare living arrangements for refugees to move in; and to drive "new to the Cedar Valley (refugee/immigrant) neighbors" to doctor appointments, school enrollment & the grocery store to help the refugee families become more familiar with the area. Contact LSI to learn more or volunteer (319-233-3579).

Do-Day Quilters + *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.

Give Back Glasses + Donate your old/unused eyeglasses & readers into the Lions Club collection bin in the entry. Donations are shared across the globe!

Northeast Iowa Food Bank + Donations of food are collected by the main level elevator year-round. Help restock shelves at the food bank individually or with family/friends. northeastiowafoodbank.org/

Prayer Shawls: Handstitched with prayers, these shawls are available to anyone that needs to be surrounded with the care of Christ's love.

Cancer Support Group: *Date/time/location varies. Contact: Carol Menefee (Menefee.family@cfu.net or 319-610-3250).* You are not alone - Join with others in this group which connects people from throughout the Cedar Valley with educational materials, special guest speakers and opportunities to share stories, hopes and fears about our cancer experiences.

HOSPITALITY & CONGREGATION CARE

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.

Coffee Crew + *Contact Meghan Bruns (meghanrunyan@gmail.com).* Our coffee crew is looking for a "latte" of new hands to do coffee set up on Friday or Saturday and clean up following the 10am service. Sign up at the Welcome Center table. Have a BREW-tiful day!

Visitation Ministry + *Contact Steve Ferguson (steve@stjohncf.org or 268-0165).* SJLC is always growing our list of volunteers willing to visit someone on behalf of their church family. Training is provided!

Card Ministry + *Contact Sue Holm (319-239-4579 or sholm12@gmail.com)* Who doesn't love mail? If you would be interested in sending cards to folks 80 years & older four times a year — join the card ministry team!

NewAldaya Monthly Gathering and Western Home Monthly Gathering
Contact Steve Ferguson (steve@stjohncf.org)
St. John hosts a monthly gathering at both NewAldaya and the Western Home for our St. John friends to gather together and share in prayer, communion & a time of fellowship. Everyone is welcome!

- Western Home: 3rd Thursday of every month in the WINDRIDGE West Lounge, beginning at 2pm.

St. John Ride Share Ministry + *Contact Luan McGrane (319-464-7092, lmcgrane@cfu.net).* Would you be willing to provide a ride for someone who wants to attend church at SJLC and needs a ride? This ministry connects drivers with those needing a ride in order to be able to attend worship.

RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM

The St. John Racial Justice Team continues to explore ways of encouraging St. John members to be aware and involved with our African American siblings. Here are a few of the upcoming activities:

LeChristopher's Southern Cuisine + 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.*

2024 MLK Freedom Bus Tour
November 11-15 (Monday – Friday)

Costs: ***$450/person (covers costs of travel, hotel stay, and museum admissions). Food not included.***

Participants engage in a week-long journey exploring iconic human and civil rights spaces in Memphis, Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma. In addition to museums in most of the cities, we also visit the Lorraine Motel in Memphis; the 16th Street Baptist Church and Kelly Ingram Park in Birmingham; the Equal Justice Initiative's new Lynching Memorial in Montgomery; and the iconic Edmund Pettus Bridge and Brown Chapel AME Church in Selma, among other interesting sites. This extraordinary pilgrimage satiates the participants' quest for greater meaning as we contemplate the cornerstones of democracy.

Contact Bill Bass (319-290-6584 or bill@auuvo.com) with questions. Bill participated last year in this trip along with Pastor Brian and Steve & Sandy Ferguson.

GREEN TEAM



2024 Household Hazardous and Electronics Waste Collection Event

When: Saturday, September 7th 9AM to 12:30 PM
Where: The Cedar Falls Public Works Complex (2200 Technology Parkway, CF)

For a complete list of materials accepted and not accepted or to sign up for a timeslot to drop off materials, please visit https://wastetrac.org/

Collection Event Volunteers: The Waste Trac Education Team is looking for approximately 35 volunteers to assist residents at this drop-off event. From directing traffic and surveying participants to unloading chemicals and electronic items from participants' vehicles, volunteers make this event possible! Sign up at https://wastetrac.org/



Green Team Mtg: *As Lutherans, God calls us to care for others and for all of God's creation. The SJLC Green Team works hand-in-hand with the congregation. "Our vision is to inspire and inform the minds, hearts, and hands of St. John Lutheran Church with opportunities to exercise our environmental stewardship."* Join others in supporting this work and come to the next Green Team meeting: September 17, 5pm

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

St. John is currently accepting applications for the following position:

- **KITCHEN ASSISTANT:** Individual to make **Childcare Lunch on Tuesdays & Fridays and set out snack items** (approx. 9am-3:30pm, Tuesday & Friday). *Meals meet HHS guidelines and are child-friendly! They include a vegetable and a fruit along with the main entrée (examples include chicken nuggets, French toast sticks, meatballs, chicken patties/nuggets, and cold meat sandwiches).*

Please complete the Job Application Form on the Employment Page of our website if interested.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Sundays (schedule starts Sept. 8)

Worship, Sanctuary, 8am

Confirmation (7th/8th/9th gr.), Youth Rm & Cross Rm., 8:45-10am

Sunday School (3yr—6th gr.), 9am-10am
PreK & K: Explorer Room A
1st & 2nd: Explorer Room B
3rd & 4th: Room 310A
5th & 6th: Room 319

Jesus & John Wayne Book Discussion, Fireside Chapel, 9am-10am

Perennials: Book of Ruth Bible Study, Library, 9:10-9:50am

Taking Faith Home Scripture/Sermon Discussion, Atrium, 9am

Worship, F&LC, 10am

Sept 8—ThreeHouse Block Party, 5-7pm.

Sept 8—LeChrisopher's Southern Cuisine [Racial Justice Team activity], Jubilee UMC Freedom Center (E 4th & Newell, W'loo), starts at 12pm.

Sept. 29—Burnt Ends (Men's event), John McClellan's home, 12:30pm.

Welcome to St. John Series of Classes

(for new members & those who have been around a while but want to know more)

October 20 & 27, Nov. 3 & 10
from 9am-10am in Fellowship Hall

Mondays

Sept. 2—LABOR DAY. Church office closed.

Sept. 9—Do Day Quilters, Fellowship Hall, 8am-12pm.

Sept. 9—Faith Focused Families, Library, 6:30-7:30pm

Tuesdays (starts Sept. 3)

Ladies book study: Genesis, Library, 9am

Intergenerational Choir, 6pm

Sept. 10—Young at Heart Amish Dinner. Carpool leaves church at 9:30am.

Sept. 17—Green Team Mtg., 5pm.

Wednesdays (starts Sept. 4)

Walking Wednesdays @ Big Woods Lake South Parking Lot, 7am

Handbell/Jubilation Ringers Rehearsal, Rm. 312, 5:30pm

Worship Band Rehearsal, F&LC, 6:30pm

Sept. 4 & Sept. 18, Youth Group. 6:30-8pm.

Thursdays (starts Sept. 5)

Thirsty Thursday Men's Bible Study, Library, 7:30am

Bible Study: Psalms, Library, 3:30pm.
restarts later this fall

Sept. 19—Western Home / SJLC Gathering, Windridge West Lounge, 2pm.

Sept. 26—NewAldaya / SJLC Gathering, 2nd floor New Arbor Lounge, 2pm.

Fridays

Saturdays

9/7— Shower, Fellowship Hall

9/7—Household Hazardous & Electronics Collection Event, CF Public Works Complex [Green Team event]

***Please consult the website calendar for a complete listing of building use dates/times.*

Healing & Concern. . .

Dennis (Donna Wede friend); Elaine (Sue Holm's cousin); Larry Prohaska's mom; Anna Mary Cobie-Aliss; Dorothy Bright; Christine (Lori Schneider's friend); Lloyd Korte; Ben Bright (Dave & Julie Bright's son); Lloyd Korte; Diana (Jean Morehouse friend); Tim Wagner (Ruth Ann Lugg's nephew); Jennifer Snitker; Bev Meyer (Don Kohagen's sister); Kelly (sister of Kathy Taylor); Bryan Vaughn; Jennifer Huette (Guse friend); Barb Smith (Diana Smith's mother-in-law); Abby Palsic (April Hannam's sister); Jim Kattelman; Mary Kahl; Nonie Duff; Dorothy Perry.

Comfort & Consolation. . .

To Jeff & Jennifer Hartman on the death of Jeff's dad
To Gaylon & Chris Isley on the death of Gaylon's mom, Lorraine Isley.
To the family of Sandra Runyan
To Susan Swift on the death in her family.

Thank You to our Sponsors!

August 25: The 10:00 flowers were given by Tim & Lori Schneider — "happy heavenly birthday, mom!"

September 1: The altar flowers are given by Peg Smith in memory of loved ones.

Donuts resume next Sunday, September 8th! Sign up at the Welcome Center for a Sunday ☺

Financial Update:

	Jul-24			Fiscal YTD		
	Revenue	Expense	Net	Revenue	Expense	Net
Church	59,982.90	55,936.53	4,046.37	238,334.34	192,831.13	45,503.21
Preschool/Childcare	71,569.34	60,841.68	10,727.66	249,517.15	239,648.15	9,869.00
Total	131,552.24	116,778.21	'4.03	487,851.49	432,479.28	55,372.21

Submit A Prayer Request:

Visitor Connection Card:

Support Financially:

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)

PJ Mills…..…. ……..…….. Kelly Turner
Todd Parsons, Treasurer……Jen Hartman
Blake Borwick……..Nick Frerichs
Ali Puls, Secretary ……..……**Scott Leisinger, President**
Jen Hartman, VP……...Andrew Bruns

Ministry & Resource Team Leaders

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

Worship Attendance:

August 25: 318 in person & - livestream