



**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH** ELCA

**MONTGOMERY, MINNESOTA**

***Proudly Serving One Master Since 1861***

**JUNE 2015**

**A Word or Two...by Pastor Mark**

Now that summer is upon us, I thought I'd take a moment to give you an update on the transition process between regular pastors. As I've said before, my first call is to be your pastor during my stay. But the nature of my calling is also to help lead to the next stage.

The transition committee has been formed, and has made available to you a brief questionnaire for you to give information as to what pastor you think would match what God is doing at St. John these days and into the future. That part about God's will is important. It is not really what we want that is key. Rather, it's what we think God wants. Please, please fill out one of those forms before the deadline June 21<sup>st</sup>. You can do it online through our website, or pick one up in the back at church and put in the boxes which have been placed at the entrances. Or, you can give them to me or Kay in the office.

After June 21, the transition committee will compile the information and enter it into the congregational profile form that will eventually go to the ELCA. Your church council will receive this working copy by early July, and about mid-July will have a special quick meeting to approve a final version (council normally doesn't have a regular meeting in July). All the data will be entered online at the ELCA website, and the SEND button will be ceremoniously hit. It then goes to our Southeastern Minnesota Synod.

At that point, the Transition Committee will come to an end, we will thank them for their work, and the Call Committee will convene. I will meet with them at their first meeting, but then I back away and will not be involved in their process to any great degree. They will contact the Bishop's office, who will send a representative to discuss with them possible names to interview. That will be in late July or early August. We will then wait for the call committee to receive pastors to interview who match the criteria we have laid out. That's when it gets exciting!

How long will it take? No one knows. There is a clergy shortage going on, but we also might be lucky and get names right away. For my part, I will work the grapevine as best I can. I think St. John is a great place to serve, and I envy whoever will be your permanent pastor. I will gladly let that word out any way I can.

So, pray for your transition committee as they wrap up their work. And get your feedback form in!

## June Worship Helpers

### Readers

June 7 Gail Skluzacek  
 June 14 Jesse Skluzacek  
 June 21 Garie Teig  
 June 28 Patty Tiede

### Head Usher

June 7 Liz Vlasak  
 June 14 Dan Hardel  
 June 21 Maridan Nesmoe  
 June 28 Eric Schroeder

### Ushers / Greeters

June 7 Roman Jindra  
 Kathy Derhaag  
 Myron & Peggy Hentges  
 June 14 Ralph Hendrickson  
 Jim Heyda  
 David & Rhoda Solberg  
 June 21 Dallas Horejsi  
 Irene Jindra  
 Kay Busch  
 Carol Kiekow  
 June 28 John Krautkremer  
 LaVette Kuelper  
 Ruth Kukacka  
 Richard Milinkovich

### Communion Assistants

June 14 Haley Dietz  
 John Grimm  
 Allie Hardel  
 June 28 Gary Hartwig  
 Jacque Hartwig  
 Peggy Hentges

### Acolytes

June 7 Kayla Horejsi  
 Jackson Nesmoe  
 June 14 Maggie Trnka  
 Gunner Domine  
 June 21 Jackson Nesmoe  
 Gunner Domine  
 June 28 Jackson Nesmoe  
 Jorgia Pumper

### Altar Guild

Kathy Derhaag  
 Carol Kiekow

*If you are unable to help on the day assigned,  
 please EXCHANGE with someone else  
 and call the church office at 507-364-5002.*

***Thank you for your help!***

## Remember in your Prayers...



Paul Busch, Kris Huhner (Kathy Peterson's sister), Oswald Schultz (Brenda Peterson's father), Ken Meyer, Reinhold West (Carol Kiekow's father), Roy Berg, Bev Horejsi, Braden Flicek, Tom Mariska, Betty Ann Heuer, Harold Walters (Betty Jindra and Virginia Horejsi's father), Alexander Sticha, Patricia Morrill (Peggy Hentges' mother), Greg Vlasak, and Terri Pekarna (Robert & Glenda Larsen's daughter).

## Remember those serving our country...

Shane Morris, Damon Athey, Nathan Kubinski, Matthew Astorino, Adam Vlasak, and Matt Nelson.



## *Our Sympathy*

*We extend our sympathy to the family of Alice McClune who passed away Friday, May 29.*

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Damon and Sara Athey on the birth of their son, Cooper B. Athey on May 19, 2015.

## Groups & Organizations that meet at St. John!

*To ensure our calendar is correct and that we have the church open for your event, please inform Pastor Mark or Kay of your planned meeting dates.  
 Thank you for your cooperation.*

## Have an announcement for the bulletin or newsletter?

Drop off or e-mail (stjohnelca@frontier.com) information to the church office by:

- ◆ Thursday for the bulletin.
- ◆ The 24th of June for the July/August newsletter.

## Financial Corner General Fund - April

	April	Year to Date
Receipt	\$ 15,645.31	\$ 61,381.91
Expenses	\$ 17,514.62	\$ 56,119.00
Cash Flow	\$ (1,869.31)	\$ 5,262.91

# Church Council Meeting

May 19, 2015 - 6:30pm

**Present:** Maridan Nesmoie (1/16), John Helling (1/16), Wendy Vargo (1/17), Kathy Peterson (1/17), Dan Hardel (1/17), Eric Schroeder (1/18), Liz Vlasak (1/18), Renee Sorenson (1/16), Pastor Mark Wilmes

**Absent:** John Krautkremer (1/16)

The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Peterson. A devotion was lead by Pastor Mark.

Eric Schroeder moved and Maridan Nesmoie seconded a motion to approve the April 17, 2015 council meeting minutes. Motion carried.

## **President's Report:**

1. Kathy welcomed new member Renee Sorenson.
2. A letter was received from the Montgomery Police Dept. requesting a donation to a safety program they were conducting. After much discussion, it was agreed upon to not make a donation at this time, but rather use it for programs St. John was already supporting.

**Vice President's Report:** No report.

**Secretary Report:** No report.

**Treasurer Report:** Reviewed treasurer's report ending April 2015. Dan Hardel made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Seconded by Eric Schroeder. Motion carried.

## **Pastor's Report:**

1. A noisy offering was requested for Lutheran World Relief Kits, so will take place one Sunday in June.
2. Pastor has finished phase 3 of his interim training.
3. He is currently catching up on confirmation for grades 4,5,6, and 7.
4. Will meet with Transition Committee and explained the next step in transition.
5. Set graduation Sunday for May 31<sup>st</sup>.
6. Will be taking one week in June for vacation as per contract.

## **Ongoing**

### **A. Head Ushers:**

June and July: Council Members will split Sundays.

### **B. Feed My Sheep**

Motion was made by Renee Sorenson to help a family in need. Seconded by Wendy Vargo to give the family \$250. Renee will get the name of the family to Kay.

### **C. Can Recycling:** Eric will take the load of cans to Mankato. The can money will be used to defray VBS costs.

## **Old Business**

### **A. ELCA Campaign - No update**

**B. Council will give members on the transition team the opportunity to be on the call committee. Kathy will connect with them to see who is interested in continuing with this part of the process.**

**C. The compensation package for the new pastor will be according to synod guidelines. At this time it looks like we would be within the 10-12 years of experience.**

**D. The council has budgeted \$15,000 for the call committee. This is a fluid cost, so they were asked to do the best they can to keep costs minimal, but do the job right. Dan Hardel will begin ways of reminding the congregation that we need extra donations to support his effort.**

**E. Youth Committee - The committee will begin adverting for a new youth director. Eric will work with Kay to get information out and find out what we did last time. The job will be open until filled. We hope to have filled in mid-summer.**

**F. Sign Update - Council member will remove the falling and old letters. John Krautkremer was not at the meeting for an update.**

## **New Business**

**A. Graduation - Kathy and Pastor put an invitation together for May 31<sup>st</sup> and will call the seniors. Pastor will bless and honor all of them during the service. Scholarships will be given out at coffee hour. They were chosen by the Youth Committee. The Fellowship Committee will serve cake during the reception.**

## **Committee Reports:**

**A. Audit Committee - Audit should be finished after one more meeting.**

**B. Stewardship Committee - Renee will be heading up this committee.**

**C. Evangelism Committee - Wendy Vargo**

1. More Welcome cards were ordered and placed in the pews.

**D. Endowment Committee - No Report**

(Church Council Cont.)

(Church Council Cont.)

**E. WOTC**

1. There was a meeting on Sunday. Kathy Derhaag will be the new President, Cindy Westerhouse will be a co-leader/VP, Garie Teig will be Treasurer and Carol Kiekow Secretary.
2. They will meet on June 9<sup>th</sup> for their first meeting to continue reorganization.
3. We will recommend they use the Synod resources to help with their growth.
4. They may check into having a food booth for Kolacky Days.

**F. Education Committee - Liz Vlasak**

1. Bible Boot Camp will be coming soon.

**G. Youth Committee - Eric Schroeder**

1. See Youth Committee in old business.

**H. Facility Committee - John Krautkremer - No report.**

1. Discussed parking. Will check with city again to get handicapped parking signs. Want them easy to move and to look nice.
2. Another leak in the bell tower. Will check into warranties and if it was just the angle of the rain/wind.

**I. Church and Society: Kathy Peterson - No report.**

**J. Communications: Dan Hardel - No report.**

**K. Fellowship Committee - John Helling**

1. Checking with congregation for interest in Twins game.

**L. Worship & Music Committee**

1. They will do coffee hour on June 14 and July 12.
2. New member Sunday will occur in June or July.
3. Beginning June 13/14 we will change to Setting 2 and will change Offertory hymn to #186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God".
4. Holy Trinity is May 30/31.
5. Organist will be on vacation May 30/31 and June 6/7.
6. Next meeting will be Saturday, August 1 at 3:00 pm at church.

**Other Business:** None

Next meeting: June 16 at 6:30 pm.

Meeting was adjourned and closed with "The Lord's Prayer"

Submitted by Wendy Vargo, Church Council Secretary

### **WOTC Meeting**

Women of the Church meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 17 at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Remember, all women who are members of St. John, this includes confirmed girls, are members in the women of the church organization.

### **Newsletters!!**

Would you like to receive your newsletter via e-mail. You can receive your newsletter in an easy to open PDF format. E-mailing saves money for the church by reducing the amount of paper we use, reduces the wear and tear on the copy machine and reduces the cost of postage. If interested, just notify the church office at: [stjohnelca@frontier.com](mailto:stjohnelca@frontier.com)

## **Faith and Life Bible Study for June**

Come to Faith and Life Bible study during the week, for an interesting look into the background of Bible stories, and a chance to share about how they impact your life. In June, we move to the later parts of Genesis, especially the story of Joseph (the one with the amazing technicolor coat). Betrayal, redemption, reconciliation – it's all there.

Faith and Life meets Monday evenings 6:30-8:00, and Wednesday mornings 9:30-11:00 (same content at both). See you there!

### ***Congratulation Class of 2015***

***Nicholas Burns  
Cassandra Dietz  
Adria Domine  
Nathanual Gregor  
Christopher Guajardo  
Bernadette McClune  
Ashley Horejsi  
Kelly Nordling  
Quinton Sawatzky  
Alex Schaak***



### **Youth Ministry Director**

St. John Lutheran Church is seeking to enhance its youth ministry through increased participation in a variety of faith based youth league activities. As part of our Youth League Program we are seeking a Director that has a passion for youth ministry and an appreciation for Lutheran Theology. Specific qualifications include:

- Demonstrated leadership and organizational skills.
- Ability to identify and foster leadership in youth and adults.
- Strong personal aptitude for spiritual and social wellness.
- Energetic with the ability to remain flexible.

This is a part time, paid position, averaging approximately 10 hours per week. Interested applicants may inquire at the Church Office or by contacting Eric Schroeder, [eschroeder@tcu2905.us](mailto:eschroeder@tcu2905.us). This position will remain posted and open until filled.

## June Music Notes

We are changing the setting that we use for our services to **Setting Two** on June 13/14. This setting starts on page 116 in our hymnal. The Confession and Forgiveness is the same as before but the Kyrie and Hymn of Praise will be new.....yet easy to sing. When we celebrate communion, the Great Thanksgiving response will be the same but the "Holy, Holy, Holy Lord" will be new.....yet easy to sing. Starting June 13/14 we will also change our Offertory Hymn to #186 "Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God".

This summer I plan to rehearse with children (grades 3-6) who want to do special music during the summer months. Let me know if your child is interested. We will practice after church for ½ hour on June 14, 21 and 28. Then we will find a Sunday later in the summer when we can sing our selected music during the service.

*Kathy Heyda*  
Music Director



## ST. JOHN YOUTH

### Scholarships Awarded

Sunday, May 31 the High School Class of 2015 was honored and blessed during the morning worship service. A reception for the graduates followed in Fellowship Hall at which time 2 scholarships were awarded. Congratulations to Cassandra Dietz and Kelly Nording, each receiving a \$400 scholarship.

### Coffee Sales

**We have COFFEE!** European Roasterie Coffees - Seasonal/Winter blends. We have Santa's Treats and Sugared Snowflake left for just \$7 per bag, discounted rate! We also have Breakfast Blend and Jamaica Me Crazy for \$9. You can purchase during coffee hour or at the church office during the week. All proceeds go to the youth league.

### Cell Phone Fundraiser

Please donate your old phone to the Luther Leagues. We send in the old phones to a recycling program and receive money in return. These funds help keep the events held at St. John Lutheran inexpensive and available to everyone. A basket for donations can be found on top of the coat racks near the church office.

### Pop Tab Collection

We will be collecting pop tabs to donate to the Ronald McDonald House charities. Containers will be available to deposit your pop tabs in the Youth Room, Sunday School office, and church office.

The St. John Call Committee has begun the process to fill our pastoral vacancy. This survey is the first step: to determine ministry areas which the congregation believes to be most important for the future growth & work of St. John. Your completion of this survey will also provide our pastoral candidates with an outline of our expectations for St. John's future in the next five years. The survey results will be compiled into a congregational profile to be used as the Call process continues.

Please feel free to share thoughts & concerns you have with the members of the Transition Committee: Mary Brahs, Dawn Anderson, Erin Krautkremer, Josh Kuchinka, Allie Hardel, Wade Young & Dave Scheffert. You can also email your questions, thoughts & concerns to [callcommittee15@gmail.com](mailto:callcommittee15@gmail.com)

Please complete this survey by **June 21, 2015**. The Survey can be returned to the church office at St. John Lutheran Church, 105 Spruce Ave. NW, Montgomery, MN 56069; deposited into the box located at one of the church entrances; or emailed to the Call Committee email address: [callcommittee15@gmail.com](mailto:callcommittee15@gmail.com)

<b>MINISTRY AREA</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b> These Areas relate to a pastor's work within St. John	<b>RATING</b> (scale of 1-5, with 1 = low priority and 5 = high priority)
<b>Evangelism</b>	Outreach within the church and the community	
<b>Worship, Leadership and Preaching</b>	Place high value on carefully planned and well-conducted worship service. Able to prepare & deliver applicable message.	
<b>Teaching Youth &amp; Adults</b>	Teach, work and relate well with children, youth & adults. Creatively relate to youth to teach the faith & inspire commitment	
<b>Counseling and Ministering in Crisis</b>	Assist persons facing problems or decisions. Support persons in midst of crisis.	
<b>Social Ministry</b>	Enable persons to become aware of community needs and participate in action and advocacy.	
<b>Stewardship</b>	Motivate persons in developing and using resources in the service of the church.	
<b>Recruit, Equip, and Share Leadership</b>	Enlist, equip, and motivate leaders to carry out the work of the church. Work mutually with volunteers and staff.	
<b>Visitation</b>	Support & nurture persons by visiting with them in setting other than church functions.	
<b>Spiritual Discipline / Interpreter of Theology</b>	Pastor maintain a disciplined life of prayer & personal devotion. Communicate a comprehensive understanding of the Bible and Christian theology from a Lutheran perspective.	
<b>Financial Guidance</b>	Support church council in management of church finances.	
<b>Musical and Artistic</b>	Enjoy and use music and the arts to invite and enhance worship.	

The following is a supplement to the main questionnaire and will allow you an opportunity to further express your thoughts and concerns regarding the pastoral candidates. As you complete this portion of the questionnaire, please keep in mind the Mission Statement for St. John: **As children of God, we are a family living out the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, and service.**

Supplemental Questions:

1. What level of experience do you feel is best suited for our congregation?

New to ministry?

Some Previous Experience?

Very Experienced?

Comments:

2. What would you expect a new pastor to accomplish in the first year of ministry? What about in the first 5 years?

3. In what ways would you like to see a new pastor demonstrate healthy leadership?

4. Describe your "perfect pastor" - what characteristics and traits would he/she possess?

5. Comments / items you would like the council and Call Committee to consider in choosing a pastor: