

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH ELCA

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Office Hours: Mon.- Fri., 8:00am-3:00pm

Sunday Worship
8:15/8:30a.m. Traditional
10:00/10:30a.m. Contemporary



St. John's Staff

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Sunday School Directors
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Ministry Chairpersons:

Children, Youth & Family

Outreach:
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Worship and Music:

Support and Stewardship:
Tina Honsey

ELCA Missionary:
Terry Jensen

GNM

Good News Monthly



From Pastor Dave...

Congregation Voted "YES"

On Sunday, August 27, the St. John's congregation voted 145 to 1 to extend a Letter of Call to Alex Becker to be our Associate Pastor. Alex, his wife Gabby, and their two small children are excited to join our St. John's community. His official starting date will be Tuesday, September 12.

As was shared at the meeting, this is Alex's first call, but he has many years of experience as a Youth Director, serving at Celebration Lutheran in Sartell, MN, and then at St. John's Lutheran in Salisbury, North Carolina. He did his internship at Trinity Lutheran in Owatonna, MN. His wife Gabby is an early childhood special education teacher in the St. Cloud Schools. They are planning to make their home here in Annandale.

Alex and Gabby are both musicians. Alex plays guitar and Gabby plays violin. They both have been actively involved in Worship Teams in previous congregations, and hope to share those musical gifts here at St. John's.

As I shared at the Special Congregational meeting, Alex is NOT being called to be our Youth Director, but rather Alex is being called to be one of the pastors here at St. John's - but as one of the Pastoral staff, Alex will have, among other things, the responsibility to bring vision, excitement and direction to our Children, Youth, and Family ministries. A part of Alex's ministry description will be to call forth the gifts of the ENTIRE congregation to serve alongside of, to equip and nurture, and celebrate the gifts of our youth! We are not calling Alex to DO youth ministry FOR US, but to EQUIP US ALL TO BE EFFECTIVE YOUTH MINISTERS!

Thank you for Pastor Tom (and Jo)

Four years ago, when we were in need of some interim help, it so happened that a pastor by the name of Tom Heyd had recently resettled in Buffalo. If you remember, it was right after I had been diagnosed with an ascending aortic aneurysm and we didn't know whether I would be needing surgery or not, and so we needed someone who could "assume the reigns" if necessary. Pastor Tom agreed to serve with and among us as our Interim pastor until we would call a new Associate, or until I recovered from possible surgery. Well, it wasn't long until

we discovered that both Pastor Tom and Jo were a great "fit" to our St. John's community. Pastor Tom's puppets endeared him to children and Pastor Tom's personality, preaching, and pastoral care endeared him to the adults (maybe the puppets as well).

The decision was made that we would ask Pastor Tom to stay on part-time, and that we would add a full-time CYF position to work with our Youth and Family Ministries; and that staff configuration worked well for two years. But then two things happened, our CYF Director accepted a new call, and Pastor Tom convinced Jo to go south for two months in early 2018. With that decision made, Pastor Tom informed me that he thought it was time that we put into place an "exit strategy." His plan was that he would serve until we were able to call a new Pastor, or through the end of the year, whichever came first.

Now that we are extending a call to Alex, it's time to say a sincere word of thanks to Pastor Tom (and Jo) for their partnership in ministry these past four years. I can't tell you enough what a joy it has been for me to serve with Pastor Tom, to be able to pick his brain and benefit from his years of experience, and to be fed by his great preaching (and yes, I liked the puppets, too!) Pastor Tom has been the consummate colleague, a true partner in ministry; willing to assist in whatever ways that were needed. And I know that he (along with Jo) has been a blessing to so many of you, especially as Pastor Tom has taken the lead in Pastoral Care visits these past years. I have truly enjoyed Pastor Tom's great sense of humor! As a staff, we have enjoyed some of the "best" staff meetings and many spontaneous bouts of humor and much of that is due to the humor "birthed" by Pastor Tom! One of the great highlights of our time together was the opportunity we had to celebrate with Pastor Tom the 50th anniversary of his Ordination. Pastor Tom's last Sunday, as one of our Pastoral Staff, will be September 10. We will be abbreviating the worship service to allow for a brief "thank you" at the end of each service, and we will host a reception following each service in honor of Pastor Tom and Jo! Following September 10, Pastor Tom will no longer be available for Pastoral services, but I am happy to share that Pastor Tom and Jo will continue to worship and participate here

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at St. John’s as congregational members. I hope that you will make every effort to be with us in worship on September 10 to say thank you to a wonderfully gifted pastor who has served us faithfully! I hope that you will remember him with a card, with a personal note of thanks, and if you are so moved, with a gift that reflects your gratitude. Again, I am grateful for the time I have been able to serve with Pastor Tom, I am grateful to have him as a pastoral colleague, but most of all to have him and Jo as friends!

Welcoming Alex
The Church Council and the Call Committee will be organizing some “gatherings” that will allow Alex and Gabby to get to know the congregation, and you, them. Please watch for information concerning these gatherings, and PLEASE, make every effort to participate.

Alex’s Ordination Service
Alex will be ordained at Celebration Lutheran Church in Sartell, MN on Sunday, September 17 at 3pm.

Alex’s Installation
While Alex will begin his ministry with us on September 12, he will not be “formally” installed as our Associate Pastor until AFTER his Ordination. That date is still being arranged, but probably will be sometime in early October.

Adjusting of D-Way Schedule
Due to the calling of Alex, we will be pushing forward the start of D-Way so that Alex can be present from the start. **So please make these CHANGES to our schedule on your schedules (if you have children in 5-9th grades.) The guide training and parent’s meeting will be held on September 13th, and the first night of D-Way classes will then be on September 20th.**

God’s Work, Our Hands
Due to the fact that we will be saying “Thank You” to Pastor Tom on September 10, that is the date of the annual ELCA “God’s Work, Our Hands” emphasis, we will not be participating this year, as we have in the past. We will see, maybe we will schedule something later in the year. But in the meantime, remember that the Spirit gathers us in Christ, so that we might be scattered in the world to join God in God’s Work to bringhealing to the world! Every day is a “mission trip” for each and every one of us as we move out into the world, to school, to our jobs, to the places we volunteer our time, in our homes, etc. Please remember that every day provides us opportunities to do “God’s Work” with “Our Hands.” Sometimes it’s as simple as lending a listening ear to someone who is struggling, or offering to lend a hand when we see a need, or giving a gift of money to support the relief work being done in Texas through our ELCA Disaster Relief or another relief agency. Sometimes it’s watching our speech so that we use words that build up rather than tear down. Sometimes it’s speaking up on behalf of someone who is being put down. The opportunities are endless! Each and every day we are called to join God in God’s work of bringing healing and wholeness to God’s good creation! Every day is a mission trip!!!

In Christ,
Pastor Dave

September 2017

Time has a way of moving on. Sometimes so fast, other times grindingly slow. But, each new day is a day of new beginnings and new opportunities. Yesterday is just a memory. These are exciting times for St. John’s Lutheran Church. I believe God is calling us to new fields of opportunities. A new Pastor will soon join our work and celebration as we strive to be faithful to our calling. I would like to say “Put on your seatbelt and hang on,” but I don’t think you want to sit out the future. You will want to get up and go, join hands with your brothers and sisters and go where God is leading. I’ll be in the cheering section!

I have just made final arrangements for a tour that I will lead to Germany in 2018. I invite you to join us on Jun 24 to July 5. In 12 days we will be touring the sites of Luther and the Reformation, including a Rhine River cruise and a Concentration Camp. Join us for an informational meeting on September 11 at 7:00pm in the church library. I would be glad to give you a brochure with all the details.

Yours in Christ,
Pr. Tom
INDNJC

CYF NEWS

Don’t Forget To Register For D-Way and Sunday School!

Registration forms can be filled out online at <https://goo.gl/forms/kDZDJjQQp9Gvr7g72>. You can also pick up a paper copy in the church office. **We are looking for D-Way and Sunday School Volunteers!!!**

Rally Sunday
Our Fall Schedule will kick into gear on Sunday, September 17. **We will return to our “regular” worship Schedule of 8:15am and 10:30am.** We will be providing Spark Story Bibles to our 1st graders; and a Lutheran Study Bible and Small Catechism to our 5th, 6th, and 7th graders. We will pray blessings upon all who teach, whether in our public school, or in the educational ministries of St. John’s. There will be Sunday school “Open House” for families of children 3yrs through 4th grade beginning at 9:45am. And, MOST OF ALL - it will be Alex Becker’s FIRST Sunday with us!

- D-Way Schedule - PLEASE NOTE CHANGES**
- September 6 ~ **No D-Way Scheduled - Guide and Parents Meetings moved to the September 13!**
 - September 13 ~ Guide Training (6:30pm) and Parent’s Meeting (7:30pm) ***ELCA 2018 Youth Gathering Registrations and Deposits are Due!!!
 - September 20 ~ D-Way Classes Begin.
 - September 27 ~ D-Way Classes ***Acolyte Training for all 6th graders (and any 7th graders who have not been trained) at 4:00pm.
 - October 4 ~ D-Way Classes
 - October 11 ~ D-Way Classes
 - October 18 ~ **No D-Way**
 - October 25 ~ D-Way Food Collection (5th - 8th graders) 9th graders serve Confirmation Banquet for our 10th grade Confirmands.
- If you would like to help with D-Way meals you can click this link for the sign up <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094cabaa29abf94-dway>.

First Communion Instruction

- September 17 ~ Brief meeting following each service to distribute materials and instructions to parents.
- October 7 ~ First Communion class for youth and parent(s) from 9:00am to 11:00am
***Here at St. John’s we welcome the baptized to God’s Table. We let parents decide at what age they would like their children to begin communing, but we hope that all children will have First Communion instruction no later than 3rd grade; hopefully much sooner.

Tenth Grader Confirmation Schedule

- September 27 ~ 10th graders will gather at 7:30pm
- October 1 ~ DUE DATE
- October 4 ~ 10th graders will gather at 7:30pm
- October 11 ~ 10th graders will gather at 7:30pm
- October 18 ~ No Class (Personal visits with the Pastors)
- October 25 ~ Pictures at 5:30pm (Youth are to be present by 5:15pm)
Rehearsal at 6:00pm (We ask that at least one parent be present)
Banquet at 6:30pm for 10th graders and their parents
Sharing of Faith Statements to follow dinner
- October 29 ~ Rite of Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism at 1:30pm

J.O.L.T. (Joy of Learning Together)
Our Adult Education classes meet in the Library from 9:30am to 10:15am beginning Sunday, September 24. All are welcome!
September 17 ~ No Class - Opportunity to Meet and Greet Alex and Gabby Becker!
September 24 ~ “Q & A regarding Pastoral Ministry”
As we welcome a new pastor into our midst, it’s a good time to converse about why we have pastors, what it takes to become a pastor in the ELCA, what does it mean to be a “Lead” or “Associate” pastor, what does the future look like for pastoral ministry within our denominations, how can a congregation be a ‘producer’ or Pastors rather than a ‘consumer’ of pastors, how are ‘women’ pastors fairing in our church, and how can we at St. John’s, bes support our pastors? If you’ve ever wondered about any of the above questions (or any others when it comes to pastoral ministry) please come and join the conversation.

St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Date: 8/21/17 Start: 7:00p.m. End: 9:50p.m.

Present: Pastor Dave Nelson, Kris Nelson, Bill Berry, Shelly Mikel, Mary Iverson, Lonnie Baack, Michelle Wang, Abby Mikel, Steve Miller, Diane Barkley **Absent:** Dave Hadler, David Burd, Matt Honsey, Peggy Bodell

Topic	Discussion	Action
Faith Talk:	Peggy Bodell postponed to September.	N/A
Scripture & Prayer	Pastor Dave	N/A
Approval of Agenda	Motion: Approve August Council Agenda.	M/S/P Lonnie/Diane
Secretary's Report	Motion: Approval of July Council Minutes.	M/S/P Bill/Michelle
Treasurer's Report	Motion: Approval of Treasurer's Report: July Motion to Approve - Motion passed.	M/S/P Shelly/Diane
Executive Committee Actions	Call Committee details were discussed and plans pending based upon interviews & recommendation were received from the committee.	N/A
Pastor Dave's Report	*Security system arrived - to be installed. *CYF Lights - installation will be completed in September. *Mt. Hermon - Pastor Dave will be visiting with Pastor Marianne - next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9-14-17 at Mt. Hermon Church. *Last Sing-A-Long Campfire was 8-22-17.	N/A
Old Business	*Sanctuary Update - still looking for causes for the lines in the ceiling. Pastor Dave checked with other churches and there are no reports of similar issues due to candles.	N/A
New Business	*If vote is favorable on the 27th, a thank you for Pastor Tom & Jo - set for 9-10-17. Opportunity for members to talk/share at both services & celebration between. *Call Committee Report - Jen Kulm & Joyce Wadman reported the committee unanimously recommends extending a call to Alex Becker. Tentative start date is 9-12-07 based upon candidate's acceptance. *Salary - Pay candidate a salary in line with the Synod's guidelines at the 4-year level, giving him credit for his experience and increase the amount recommended for housing as we live in a community with higher housing costs. *Ordination - Date to be scheduled based upon Bishop's schedule and the candidate's choice of site. *Formal Installation will happen after he is ordained - at both services: date to be determined. *"Meet & Greet Gatherings" - need to be organized - Council Members & Call Committee members will help and be in attendance. *Moving Allowance - Candidate will get two estimates. *Installation - at both services: Date to be determined. * Motion: We endorse the recommendation of the Call Committee. * Motion: We approve the Synod's recommendation to pay the candidate for his four years of service & housing allowance.	M/S/P Michelle/ Mary M/S/P Abby/Diane
Ministry Updates	Any updates	N/A
Council Reminders	Faith Talk in August - Peggy Bodell Offering Duties - SIGN UP PLEASE	N/A
Mark Your Calendar	9-14-17 - Mt. Hermon meeting at 7:00p.m. at St. John's	N/A
Upcoming Agenda Items		N/A
Adjournment	Motion to Adjourn at 9:50p.m.	M/S/P Shelly/Mary
Announcements & Prayer	Pastor Dave	N/A



Communion Service at Annandale Care Center

Our monthly service of Holy Communion will be September 1 at 1:30pm. While this worship service is intended for all St. John's members who are residents at the Care Center and Centennial Villa apartments, it is open to ALL (residents, family, and friends).

Pastor Dave will be leading worship at the Care Center on September 10 at 1:30pm.



In Need of Prayer?

People at St. John's are ready to pray for and with you, in times of joy and in times of need. To activate this prayer ministry please contact the church office. Only the information you choose to share will be passed on to the Prayer Ministry participants. Please understand that if you are calling on behalf of another person, in order to respect the right of privacy, and for the sake of confidentiality, you must have that individual's permission before we can activate the prayer ministry and pray for them by name. Also, please know that our prayer ministry is ALWAYS open to additional participants. If you would like to be included in either the Prayer Chain (where you would receive a telephone contact) or email prayer group, please contact the church office.

Pastoral Visits

Please call the church office, and let us know if you desire a pastoral visit, especially if you are going to be hospitalized. If it is an emergency, feel free to call Pastor Dave at home.

Sunday Scripture Readings

September 3 ~ Psalm 27

September 10 ~ John 5:22-24 & John 11:17-26

We will be returning to the Narrative Lectionary beginning September 17th.

The Narrative Lectionary will, once again, take us through the Biblical story in chronological order. You may be thinking "didn't we do that last year?"

Yes, we did, but we will be focusing on different stories. We invite you to

Gather each Sunday and be immersed in THE STOR of our faith.

September 17 ~ Genesis 1:1 - 2:4a Creation by the Word

September 24 ~ Genesis 27: 1-4; 15-23; 28:10-17 Jacob's Dream

October 1 ~ Exodus 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17 God's Name is Revealed

Summer Worship Schedule

Our SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: 8:30am & 10:00am will continue THROUGH September 10!

We will return to the Fall Schedule 8:15 & 10:30 on Sunday, September 17! Please share the word!

Endowment Committee News

Have you included the St. John's Endowment in your estate plan? There are a variety of options available to you to learn about the many ways to make a planned gift. Please contact the *InFaith Community Foundation* at (800) 365-4175 (where our St. John's Endowment is held) and they would be happy to explain them to you. Gifts and memorials given to our Endowment Fund help us to enhance our mission and outreach as congregation. Please know that we are grateful for each and every gift given to the St. John's Endowment, no matter the size whether it's through your estate or as a gift in memory or in honor of someone. Such gifts allow us to support worthwhile ministries within and beyond our congregation!

**Common Prayer:
From Conflict to Communion**

St. Ignatius and St. John's will participate in a joint service (approved by both ELCA and the Roman Catholic Church) at St. Ignatius on Sunday, October 1 at 4:00p.m. as we observe the 500th Anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. As the title of the service states, this is a service where we will mutually confess the conflict and hurt that has been present between our two church bodies, while also celebrating the movement towards greater cooperation and communion. I can't think of a better way to observe the 500 year anniversary. Please mark your calendars!

Precious Gifts Preschool

Preschool starts Wednesday, September 6 and is from 8:30am - 12:00pm. We currently have 12 students enrolled.
Save The Date! **Spaghetti Dinner**
Sunday, November 4 from 11:30am - 1:30pm. Friends, family, and neighbors welcome! We will be serving - Spaghetti, toasted bread, salad, dessert, and a beverage!
Donations are welcomed, a sign up listing will be available in late September.
Train a child in the way he should go and even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6



Vacation Bible School was a success! (VBS)

Wow God! To everyone who took any part in this year’s Vacation Bible School, **I thank you with all my heart.** Your donations, generosity, prayers, kindness and willingness to part-take, has been a true inspiration. It was fantastic to watch 98 children have fun while learning about God’s love. A special thank you to the over 60 volunteers who helped with organizing, cooking, snacks, AV, registration, teaching and crew leading. ~ Maggie Nilson



St. Johns —
Thank you so much for letting us
visit at the end of VBS for
National Night Out.
We loved seeing all of the kids
enjoying a visit from police and
fire.
Tara Jeff
DEREK
Annandale
Police Department

Bible Study - Genesis I

Discover the love of our Creator God, who has loved us from the beginning in 12 lessons!
September 20 - December 6 , at 1:00pm at St. Johns.
Register by September 10, 2017.
There is a sign up form on the Welcome Desk. ~Questions? Call Bev Sorensen at 274-8271



55+ Pot Luck

GAME TIME! September 19 at 12:00pm - “Note Date Change”

Bring your cards, cribbage board or whatever you like to play (along with a dish to share). We will have some contests and crown the best cribbage player, the best 500 players AND we will introduce you to the game that is taking southern retirement community by storm: “Marbles and Jokers.” You’ll love it!



MARTIN LUTHER ON A STICK???

In honor of the 500 year Anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation - we have had some good FUN with Marty this summer. Thanks to all who shared pictures!



Celebrating Community

Sunday, September 24 “Celebrating Community”, a Day of Song, Story, Fibre, Family and Kids.
Open House from 1:00pm to 4:00pm
8857 Ingram Avenue NW
Music by Sara Thompson as well as Mark and Ardis Nelson singing “Healing of the Nations”
And authors Hudda Ibrahim & Karen Luhn
Contributions welcomed, but not required.

Crow River Conference Meeting at St. John’s

The Rostered Leaders of our Conference will be meeting here at St. John’s on Tuesday, September 12.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Marge Lundeen for having an article on the eclipse published in the Minneapolis Star and Tribune!!!

Sept.	Greeters/ Welcome	Readers	Acolytes	Coffee/Treats Servers	Audio/ Video Techs
Sept. 3 8:30am	Dan & Ruth Mohwinkel	Jo Heyd	Ethan Nilson Carson Wiles	Mark & Holly Bertelsen	A: Jim Hallstrom V: Jim Peterson
Sept. 3 10:00am	Dan & Nikki Seaberg	Patty Behrends	Anna McClel- land Trevor Potter	Keith & Julie Aeikens	A: Shelly Mikel V: Luke Mikel
Sept. 10 8:30am	Myron & Laurie Morris	Beverly Sorensen	Brock Campbel Josie Jerpseth	Doug & Cathy Beckman	A: Mike Miller V: Denise Schultz
Sept. 10 10:00am	Kris & Trish Townsend	Peggy Bodell	Halle Jensen Hale Davidson	Terry Berggren Beth Alison	A: Gavin Wang V: Michelle Wang
Sept. 17 8:15am	Steve & Sandy Niklaus	Diane Barkley	Halle Jensen Josie Jerpeth	Dave & Toni Boie	A: Joe Bayer V: Steve Niklaus
Sept. 17 10:30am	Trish Taylor	Mary Iverson	Ethan Olson Allison Benjamin	Cal & Denise Froelich	A: Ethan Nielson V: Arthur Kjaer
Sept. 24 8:15am	Gladys Johnson	Diane Barkley	Jack Nelson Brock Campbell	Duane & Linda Dietz	A: Jim Framstad V: Phyllis Fram- stad
Sept. 24 10:30am	Marsh & Nikki Neumiller	Mary Iverson	Halle Jensen Isaak Rust	Denny Gartner Family	A: Shelly Mikel V: Luke Mikel

Ushers

8:15/8:30 Service
Stan & Shirley Hillestad
Shirley Dick
Vernette Heidenreich

10:00/10:30 Service
Harvey & Joyce Dahl
Dave & Sue Hadler

Altar Guild

Tami Ramstad
Joyce Dahl

WELCA Circles:

Sarah Circle:

Hostess:
Bible Study Leader:

Rachel Circle:

Wednesday, August 9th, 9:30am
Hostess: Ruth Gruys. – *At her home*
Bible Study Leader:

Mary Circle:

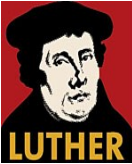
Thursday, September 7, 1:30pm
Hostess: Lajla Hood – *At her home*
Bible Study Leader/Hostess: Vernetta H
at Vernetta Apt (Centennial Villa)

Ruth Circle:

Monday, September 11, 2:00
Hostess: Diane Swanson
Bible Study Leader:

September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 1:30pm Care Center Communion Service	2
3 8:30am Traditional Worship w/Communion 10:00am Contemporary Worship w/Communion	4 Labor Day Church Office Closed 6:00pm Boy Scouts	5 8:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Staff Meeting	6 1:30pm Mary Circle 7:00pm Memorial Committee Mtg. 7:30pm AA Meeting Ed. Bldg.	7 9:15am Annandale Improvement Club 5:30pm Girl Scouts	8	9
10 Thank you Tom 8:30am Traditional Worship w/Communion 10:00am Contemporary Worship w/Communion 1:30pm Care Center Worship	11 9:30am Hands for Hope 2:00pm Ruth Circle 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Pr. Tom's Germany Tour Info Mtg.	12 Welcome Alex 8:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Women's Bible Study 12:00pm Crow River Conference 6:30pm Min of Worship & Music 6:30pm Min of Support & Stewardship 7:30pm	13 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering Deadline 9:30am Rachel Circle 1:30pm Staff Meeting 6:30pm DWAY Guide Training 7:30pm Parent Meeting 7:30pm AA Meeting Ed. Bldg.	14 9:30am Annandale Christian Women's Club	15	16 2:00pm Bridal Shower
17 Rally Sunday 8:15am Traditional Worship 9:20am 1st Communion Meeting 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship 11:35am 1st Communion Meeting 3:00pm Alex Ordination at Celebration Lutheran, Sartell	18 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Min. of Outreach 7:00pm Church Council	19 8:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Staff Meeting Meeting 12:00pm 55+ Potluck 5:00pm Property Team Meeting	20 7:30pm AA Meeting Ed. Bldg. 5:20pm 5th & 6th D-Way 6:00pm 7th, 8th, & 9th D-Way 7:15pm Chancel Choir	21 9:00am Annandale Ministerial at Middle School 9:30am Annandale Christian Women Exec Board Meeting 10:00am Newsletter Deadline 5:30pm Girl Scouts	22	23 8:00am Baby Shower
24 8:15am Traditional Worship w/Communion Alex Installation 9:30am JOLT! 9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Contemporary Worship w/Communion Alex Installation	25 9:30am Hands for Hope	26 8:00am Men's Bible Study 10:00am Women's Bible Study 1:30pm Staff Meeting	27 4:00pm Acolyte Training 5:20pm 5th & 6th D-Way 6:00pm 7th, 8th, & 9th D-Way 7:15pm Chancel Choir 7:30pm AA Meeting Ed. Bldg. 7:30pm 10th Grade Confirmation Class	28 1:00pm Writing Group	29	30 8:00am Crow River Conference Fall Gathering Cosmos, MN



Germany Tour - Summer 2018

Pastor Tom has made arrangements for a tour that he will lead to Germany in 2018. The trip will be June 24, 2018 to July 5, 2018. There will be touring of Luther sites and the Reformation, including a Rhine River cruise, and a concentration camp. Please join us for an informational meeting on September 11, 2017, at 7:00pm in the church library.

2018 ELCA Youth Gathering

So far, ten youth have pre-registered for next summer's ELCA Youth Gathering to be held in Houston, Texas. Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. The theme of the 2018 gathering is "This Changes Everything" based on Ephesians 2:8, "By grace you have been saved..." All youth who will be a part of the graduating classes of 2018-2022 are eligible to attend, and there is still time to register and join in what will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience. **Those who pre-registered, we will need you to complete a registration form along with the second half of your registration fee \$75.00 by September 13. If you didn't pre-register, but want to participate, you too will need to complete a registration form and pay the entire registration fee of \$150.00 by September 13. The registration fee is un-refundable.** If you have any questions, or if for some reason you need financial assistance to cover the registration fee, please contact Pastor Dave.



Reminder: Please be sure that if you are borrowing items that belong to St. John's to check them out with the Church office staff. If you have any borrowed items currently please return to the Church as soon as possible.

Lost & Found

All lost & found items will be taken to the Free Store Wednesday, September 20, if they are not picked up before then.



- ~ Installation of Pastor Alex - September 24
- ~ Common Prayer: From Conflict to Communion Lutheran-Catholic Common Commemoration of the Reformation Service at St. Ignatius - October 1 at 4:00pm
- ~ Care Center Communion Service - October 6 at 1:30pm
- ~ First Communion Gathering - October 7 at 9:00am
- ~ Packer/Viking Game - October 15 (Yes, its that time of year again!)
- ~ D-Way Food Collection - October 25
- ~ 10th Grade Confirmation Pictures, Rehearsal and Banquet - October 25
- ~ 500th Anniversary of Luther Posting of the 95 Theses that began the Protestant Reformation - October 29
- ~ Rite of Confirmation/Affirmation of Baptism Service - October 29 at 1:30pm
- ~ Chamber "Trick or Treat" - October 31 from 3pm to 5pm (Look for St. John's)
- ~ Fall back one hour the evening of November 4
- ~ All Saints' Sunday - November 5

Matamba Update

I recently received an update from Father Mbiche which included some good news and some sad news. The good news is that many exciting things are happening at St. Monica's School. The sad is that Father Mbiche has recently been diagnosed with cancer. Here are the highlights of his update: "I am very sorry for my long silence without updating you on what is going on at Matamba and particularly at St. Monica's School. I have been sick the whole month of June. It was discovered that I have prostate cancer and will need to have surgery in September. However, before my health problems, I was able to provide food for 200 orphan children from ten different villages around the Matamba area. I bought school uniforms for 100 orphan children from five villages. I succeeded to build the wall around the school area for the security of the children. Lastly I bought a school bus which is to help us collect the children from different villages to attend school at St. Monica. God bless you and please pray for me and for the children." ~ Fr. Augustine Mbiche
Please join me in keeping Father Mbiche in your prayers for his health and healing. He is doing amazing things for the children of the Matamba community. Asante Sana. ~ Mona Volden

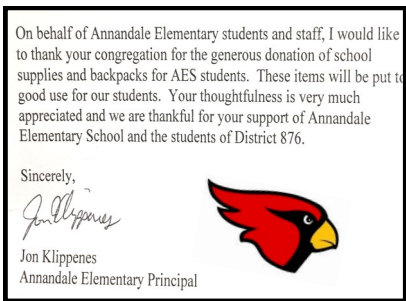
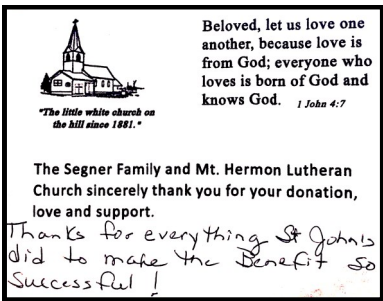
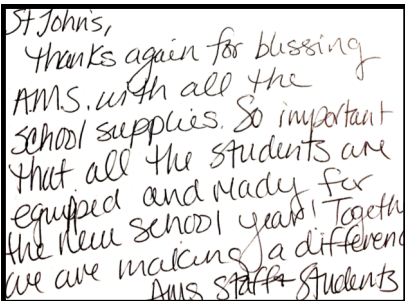
The Church office will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2017 in observance of Labor Day.



Safely ENJOY your Holiday!



- ~ To all who were teachers and helpers at this year's Vacation Bible school, and for each and every one of who made a donatin towards another successful week. A special thank you to Maggie Nilson for organizing and leading this year's V.B.S.!
- ~ To those who have represented St. John's in our dialogues with folks from Mt. Hermon
- ~ To Stan Hillestad, Gary Geisinger, Ron Johnson, and Dan Fasching for cutting down the damaged Tree near the White House garage.
- ~ To all who came, participated, and helped lead the singing at our August campfire/sing-a-long! We had a great turn out, and a lovely evening! A special thank you to Arlene Sands and Dan Fasching.
- ~ To Karen Navratil, (Correction from last month-sorry Karen), Patty Behrends, and all who have been tending our flower beds in front of the church, they look great!
- ~ To all of our lawn mowing teams for keeping our lawns looking great!
- ~ To Denny Harmoning for painting the library and the accent wall in the church office.
- ~ To all who helped serve the refreshments and lunch for the Donna Nelson Funeral.
- ~ To Steve Niklaus, Joyce Wadman, Jen Kulm, Laura Eastling, Stephanie Nilson, and Ethan Nilson for serving as our Call Committee.
- ~ To all who attended our Special Congregational Meeting. To Kris Nelson for chairing the Meeting and to Jen Kulm for presenting the Call Committee's recommendation.
- ~ To all who donated school supplies, the kids of Annandale thank you!



Treasurer's Report		Monthly Income	Monthly Expense	General Fund Balance
General Fund (1)	July 2017	\$37,325.38	\$29,744.71	\$45,860.37
	Monthly Average 2016	\$35,808.85	\$34,651.80	
Building Fund (2)			Monthly Mortgage	Building Balance
		\$10,018.43	\$9,587.00	\$15,633.29
Precious Gifts Preschool (3)		\$85.00	PG Expense	PG Balance
			\$2,100.69	\$4,730.76
Notes:	<div><div>1. The General Fund Balance has grown since December 31, 2016. July had a gain of (\$7,580.67), although it was a five-Sunday month. Let's see if we can continue this positive trend for the rest of the 2017 year. Year-to-date we are up by \$10,776.07 - GREAT!!!</div><div>2. We still maintain a positive balance; our next mortgage payment will be \$9,587.00.</div><div>3. Precious Gifts Preschool balance is still positive.</div></div>			
	Remember our mission at St. John's is supported by your talents and generous gifts. THANK YOU!			

Volunteer Opportunity's

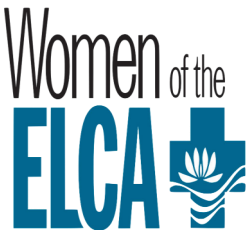
Outreach/Hospitality Ministry

Hospitality includes promoting a welcoming environment where all people are made to feel included and welcomed. In doing this, we organize Greeters/Welcome Center staff, Coffee Servers, and Treat Providers. *Outreach* to our community includes organizing service projects, and sharing knowledge of community needs. Outreach provides and encourages participation so that we may be God's hands in the world. Questions? Call Marilyn Hallstrom 274-5641

Nursery

We are looking for nursery attendants including back up attendants for Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Please contact the church office for more information.

Women's Fall Gathering
ELCA Crow River Conference



God, Girlfriends, & Chocolate!

Saturday, September 30 from 8:30a.m. - Noon (Register by September 18)
Come enjoy delightful speaker Gaye Lindfors, who will also be selling her books! The conference will be held at Peace Lutheran Church in Cosmos, MN. We are hoping to have a couple car pools for the conference. There is a sign up on the Welcome Center. We will also be bringing the personal care kits that we will be collecting during September at St. John's. Grab a friend or two and make up a personal care kit together or on your own! There is a basket in the Gathering area for these items.

Personal Care Kits

- ~ One light or medium weight bath size towel (approximately 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
 - ~ Two bath size bars (4oz -5oz) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
 - ~ One Adult toothbrush in its original packaging *
 - ~ One sturdy comb, remove packaging
 - ~ One metal nail clippers, remove packaging
- *Toothbrush multi-packs may be separated by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business size envelope; no plastic bags.

