

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

CALLED TO WORSHIP / COMMITTED TO SERVE / CONNECTED IN FAITH

July 2022

A monthly Publication of
St. John Lutheran Church

Worship Schedule

Wednesday night
worship at 6:00 p.m.
In Gathering Area

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
In Person Worship or Watch
Live on Facebook

Pastor

Pastor Mark Johnson

Office Staff

Rae Fimon

Audrey Zellman

Treasurer

Robin Fink

Custodians

Curt & Cheryl Johnson

Organist

Eileen Hanlon

Accompanist

Sheila Schmidt

148 S. Chestnut St.
Belle Plaine, MN 56011

952-873-6492
office@stjohnbelleplaine.org
Web: stjohnbelleplaine.org



VBS ON THE FARM Information and Registration:

We are excited to announce a wonderful summer camp opportunity: VBS on the Farm!

VBS on the Farm is a partnership between Prairie Oaks Institute (POI) and Cristo Obrero. POI seeks to be a catalyst of rejuvenation for people and the planet, creating space for renewal and fostering education opportunities around environmental sustainability. Cristo Obrero is a mission of the ELCA, accompanying Latino families with support, and building relationships with neighbors across cultures.

Our goal is to create a nature based, bilingual Vacation Bible School opportunity, giving children space to play in the beauty of nature, build relationships across cultures, and learn that God's love is for everyone.

Online registration is now open!

Registration of Participants:

<https://form.jotform.com/220616326455150>

Volunteer Registration:

<https://form.jotform.com/220615862577159>

Visit their website at: <https://www.vbsonthefarm.org/> for more information.



At the May Council meeting it was decided to start sending the Newsletter to all active households. If you would rather have an electronic copy, please email the church office at office@stjohnbelleplaine.org to get on the newsletter email list.

The Newsletter will also be available on our website as usually.

From Pastor Mark

I love the Summertime. You might see me out bicycling around town or out in the country. I really like to get out on my bike when the weather allows for it. And I really enjoy the opportunity to experience the wonder and the beauty of the world around me as it flows by on my ride.

And that gets me in a mind of thinking about a dear old hymn that I've always loved, "This is my Father's World." The following is an excerpt from a book, "Amazing Grace," that shares the story behind the writing of this old and dearly loved hymn:

"Even though we are constantly reminded of the violence, tragedy, and ugliness in today's world, we can still rejoice that the beauty of nature all around us is ours to enjoy. Who can deny the pleasure that comes from the sight of a glowing sunset or a majestic mountain, the sound of chirping birds or the roar of the surf, and the smell of new mown hay or roses or lilies.

Maltbie D. Babcock (1858 – 1901) revealed his great admiration for nature in this hymn text. Although he was recognized as one of the outstanding Presbyterian ministers of his generation, Dr. Babcock was also a skilled athlete who enjoyed all outdoor activity, especially his early morning walks. He would always comment, "I'm going out to see my Father's world." Since Dr. Babcock was an accomplished performer on the organ, the piano and the violin, we can see why nature seemed to him to be "the music of the spheres." In addition to being a tribute to nature, however, the hymn is a triumphant assertion of the unfailing power of God and the assurance of Christ's eventual reign – "and earth and heav'n be one."

As we follow Dr. Babcock's example and give praise to God for all the beauty of His world, we cannot help being concerned that much of the loveliness is being endangered by human carelessness and greed. The real answer to our ecological concerns must be a renewed appreciation of earth as "our Father's world" and a greater responsibility for taking proper care of it. Christians should be models of this concern.

*"This is my Father's world, and to my list'ning ears,
all nature sings and rounds me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world! I rest me in the thought,
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas – His hand the wonders wrought.
This is my Father's world – the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white, declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world! He shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass – He speaks to me everywhere.
This is my Father's world – O let me ne'er forget,
that though the wrong seems oft so strong God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world! The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heav'n be one."*



The office hours will be as follows for the Summer

Monday– 8-12, afternoon closed

Tuesday– Thursday- 8-12, and 1-5

Friday– morning closed, 1-5 in the afternoon

**Help us to update our Contact information -
Please fill out and place in the Offering Basket or Send to the Church
Office
Thank You!**

Name(s) _____

Preferred E-Mail _____
(Please Print e-mail)

Preferred Phone # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____



**Please help us Reboot the following groups this Fall -
Check the group(s) you would like to Volunteer
Place in the Offering Basket or Send to the Church Office
Thanks for your Help!**

- ___ Altar Guild
- ___ Communion Assistant
- ___ Greeters
- ___ Readers
- ___ Ushers
- ___ Coffee Hour
- ___ Livestream / Record Service
- ___ Do Powerpoint at Service

July 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Vayda Borresen Josiah Brueske Rhonda Doeden	Samsaal VanZammeren
3	Curtis Latzke	Abby Wolpern Marilyn Koepp Luke Siemon	Jim Bergs Martha Dressel Corey Johnson Paul Nasby Lori Thaves	Erin Carlson Renae Eyrich Hannah Heckers Emma Luskey	Bev Delgehausen Suzanne Hillstrom Jayden Koonst Geraldine Tesch	Allison Bristlin Sloane Schaffler Niklas Tharaldson
10	Susana Rosario	Patrick Lawler Linea Olson Senjah Peterson	Emily Fogarty Braylon Graff Jackson Graff Brylee Koch Brianna Swenson	Emma Davis	Meredith Carstens Carter Doebeeling Jacob Meger Julie Oldenburg	Cullen Davidson Anne Herrmann Barbara Koepp Sydney Weiland
17	Judy Wolf Mary Koepp Caleb Smith Torya Smith	Stephanie Paulson Jackson Schroeder Olivia Smith Jaxon Wassing	Olivia Paulson	Melissa Armstrong Jacob Fogarty Grayson Gynild Madeline Gynild Remi Meyer Sydney Meyer Tim Stier	Melanie Eggers	Kevin Boblitt Roger Delgehausen Janessa Meuleners Ashley Pankonin
24	Matt Fogarty Nicolas Johnson Ashton Pankonin Terry Stier	Thomas Carstens Addison Chard Nicole Koepp Daniel Rosario Steve Schmidt Merlin Stier	Holly Potter	Bennet Aust Scott Hornaman Jacob Koenig Benjamin Koepp Betsy Kosse	Gerald Bratsch Jessy Dols Noah Hanson Lisa Holbrook	Greg Meyer Hunter Meyer
31	Mariene Anderley Cade Eggers Isaac Hanson Gene Stier					

July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 Worship Service	4 Office Closed	5 6:00 pm Worship Service	6 6:00 pm Worship Service	7	8	9
10 9:00 Worship Service	11 6:30 pm Boy Scout meeting	12 11:00 Lutheran Home Service 1:30 pm Kingsway Service	13 6:00 pm Worship Service	14	15	16
17 9:00 Worship Service 9:50 Council Executive meeting 2:00 pm Private Party in Gathering Area	18 6:30 pm Boy Scout meeting	19	20 6:00 pm Worship Service	21 6:30 pm Church Council	22	23
24 9:00 Worship Service	25 6:30 pm Boy Scout meeting	26	27 6:00 pm Worship Service	28	29	30
31 9:00 Worship Service						

Financial Corner

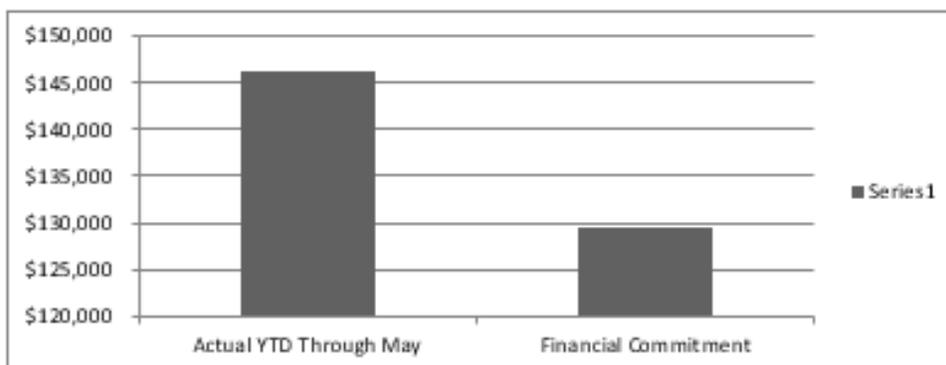
St. John Financial Results Five Months Ending May 31, 2022 and May 31, 2021

<u>General Operating Fund</u>			<u>Year Over Year</u>
	<u>May 31, 2022</u>	<u>May 31, 2021</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>
Income*	\$ 146,325	\$ 128,082	14%
Expenses:			
Personnel	(92,569)	(86,320)	
Office	(8,107)	(7,209)	
Property & Maintenance	(21,832)	(16,645)	
Ministry	(11,336)	(6,943)	
Other	(3,448)	(1,890)	
Benevolence:			
Minneapolis Area Synod	(6,500)	(5,000)	
Belle Plaine Fire Dept	-	(300)	
Camp Onomia	(1,500)	(1,250)	
Lutheran Social Services	(500)	(500)	
Net Receipts / (Expenditures)	<u>\$ 533</u>	<u>\$ 2,025</u>	
Cash Balance at January 1 (excl. all loans)	\$ 7,829	\$ (82,735)	
Net Income / (Expenditures)	533	2,025	
Misc. cash not affecting income	201	377	
Loan from Building Fund (from 2018 - 2019)	-	44,500	
Loan from St. John Foundation (from 2014-2016)	39,782	54,474	
Cash Balance at May 31	<u>\$ 48,345</u>	<u>\$ 18,641</u>	

* 41% of Contributions were received electronically in 2022 - thank you!

Actual Income Compared to 2022 Financial Commitment:

Actual YTD Through May	\$ 146,325
Financial Commitment	\$ 129,504





July 3 & 10, 2022 Ushers	
9:00 Service	
Chris Schultz	Brent Koopp
Luke Schultz	Mitchell Koopp
Logan Schultz	Jackson Stauffacher
Rob Schultz	Justin Stauffacher
Mark Schultz	Todd Kruggel
Wayne Koopp	
Aaron Leonard	

July 17 & 24, 2022 Ushers	
9:00 Service	
Curt & Cheryl Johnson	Chris & Annette Moylan
Bryn Davis	Mike & Zach Olson
Corey Johnson	Jason & Trevor Gruhn
Craig Johnson	Steve Schroeder

CALLED TO SERVE THROUGH OUR GIVING			
Offering Received the week of			
May 26– June 1		June 2-8	
General Fund—\$8,353		General Fund—\$8,527	
Building Fund—\$1,310		Building Fund—\$380	
June 9-15		June 16-22	
General Fund—\$1,741		General Fund— \$8,894	
Building Fund—\$640		Building Fund- \$1,915	



July Children's Ministry Update

The month of June passed quickly and so did our week of Vacation Bible School. We had about 20 children ranging from Kindergarten to sixth grade join us for a week of fun and learning. The kids were joined by three AMAZING Camp Onomia counselors and their focus was God's Boundless Love! It was a fun week! We would like to thank EVERYONE who helped make VBS a success this year. People volunteered by making lunch or supper meals for counselors, organizing snacks/lunches for the kids, and checking the kids in each day. A HUGE THANK YOU to the Steinhagen family for hosting all of the counselors at night for the week. Thank you for supporting VBS at St. John!

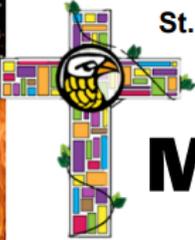
It does feel like summer just started, but September will be here before we know it. We will be needing more volunteers for Sunday School in the fall to ensure another successful year. If you are interested in volunteering, please email youthsjlc@gmail.com

Please email youthsjlc@gmail.com If you're interested in joining the team. We welcome anyone to the meetings!

St. John Lutheran Church
148 S. Chestnut St.
Belle Plaine 56011

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 16
Belle Plaine, MN 56011

Change Service Requested



St. John Lutheran Church

MORTGAGE BURNING CELEBRATION!

**Come Celebrate on
Sunday, September 11th
after 9:30 church service**

**Polka Service by Bob Pexa
Bonfire (burning the Mortgage!)
Hayrides
Pork Sandwich lunch
Dessert Food trucks**

Your Help Wanted

Did you take pictures during the addition building process?

We would like to display them at the Mortgage Burning Celebration. Bring them to the church office by the end of July.