

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

CALLED TO WORSHIP / COMMITTED TO SERVE / CONNECTED IN FAITH

November 2019

A monthly Publication of  
St. John Lutheran Church

Worship Schedule

Saturday Worship

6:00 PM

Sunday Worship

8:00 & 10:30 AM

Sunday School 9:15 AM

Pastors

Pastor Mark Johnson

Pastor Sarah Timian

Office Staff

Jillmarie Stich

Audrey Zellman

Custodians

Curt & Cheryl Johnson

Organists

Eileen Hanlon

Diane West

Choir Director

Bri Bergstrom

Accompanist

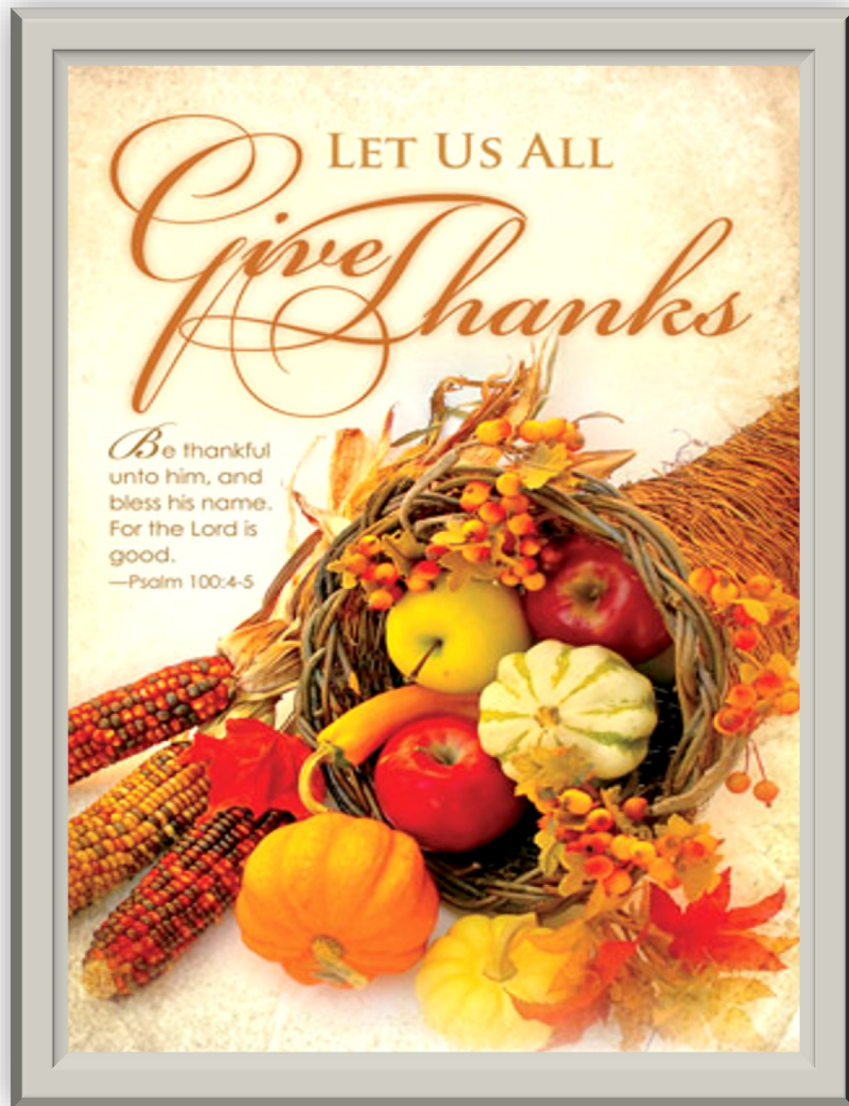
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## In This Issue

- Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Service
- Food Shelf Fundraiser
- Families Moving Forward
- Christmas Decorating
- Congregation Christmas Dinner
- ELCA World Hunger
- Plus more!

## *From Pastor Mark*

Last week our Gospel lesson was on Jesus healing ten men with leprosy. In their excitement, nine of them left. One of them, however, came back to Jesus with a thankful and grateful heart. To this one, Jesus said, "Go your way, your faith has made you whole." All ten were made well, but this man was pronounced "whole." Gratitude completes the circle that makes life whole. We receive a blessing and we offer back a thankful and grateful heart.

Like the nine men, it can be easy for us to receive God's blessings, the simple gifts of life, and go on our way taking them for granted. We can spend a lot of our time and energy reliving the past or anticipating the future and miss the present moments that are right before us. Life, however, is a gift and we receive it one day at a time. Like one person put it, "Yesterday is history and tomorrow is a mystery. Today is a gift. That's why we call it the present." It takes some intention to cultivate a practice of gratitude for the present moment, to be aware of and open to the goodness and giftedness of life. And this is important because sometimes we can be so overwhelmed by what we perceive as wrong with our life and so consumed with our anxieties and worries that we forget what we have to be thankful for. So cultivating and practicing an attitude of gratitude can help us. A grateful heart is a strong heart. Gratitude is at the heart of a whole and healthy life.

This isn't just idle speculation either. Neuroscientists today speak of how our brains are wired with a negativity bias. We are wired to notice and pay attention to what's wrong in our environment. For our ancient ancestors, this was necessary for survival. If they didn't notice what was negative or wrong or dangerous in their environment, they were more likely to be eaten. And this is the kind of brain that has been passed down to us. In our world today, we aren't likely to be eaten, but our brains are on alert to pick up and pay attention to what is negative.

Here's an example. Let's say nine people say something nice about you and one person says something critical. What do you think you'll be thinking about when you go to bed that night? That's right. The one critical thing. You're wired to pick up and pay attention to that.

To counter this, Rick Hanson, a Neuroscientist, says that when we receive a compliment, instead of just brushing it off..."Oh, it was nothing"...we take the time to pay attention to it and savor it and let it sink in for at least thirty seconds. And when we do, he says, we actually begin to rewire our brain in a more positive and healthy way. Furthermore, when we notice the good in our lives and receive it and let it sink in with gratitude and thankfulness, it actually releases hormones like dopamine, serotonin and oxytocin that increase our sense of contentment and well being.

November is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving. It's nice to have a dedicated day once a year that reminds us to give thanks. However, Thanksgiving day can easily become synonymous with "Turkey Day" and football. So, instead of Thanksgiving being one day a year, how about it being every day of the year? Instead of an occasional observance, how about giving thanks as a dedicated way of life?

Every day is a gift and so every day is an opportunity for a day of thanksgiving, if we are open and attentive to it. I like an old hymn called, "Count your Blessings." The second line of that old hymn says, "Count them one by one." In other words, it's not just "Thank you, Lord, for all my blessings," but actually taking the time to think about them, to count them, to savor them, to let them sink down into your heart, to receive the goodness of God's gifts with a grateful and thankful heart. And, as we do this, to actually begin to rewire our brain in a more positive and life giving way. What's not to like about that?

So, as we come to the end of this little article, let me invite you to close your eyes and to call to mind what you have to be grateful for. A lot of it will be the simple, ordinary and yet oh so beautiful little things of life. Take your time. Don't be in a hurry. Slow down and open your mind and heart and allow these blessings to sink down deeply into the soil of a grateful and thankful heart. God is good. Life is a gift. We have much to be thankful for.

## From Pastor Sarah

### ALL THE SMALL THINGS

Have you ever taken a walk through the Sunday School rooms at church, or noticed that the banners and paraments on the altar always seem to match the season? Have you ever wondered how Communion is always just set up and ready before each service?

There are a lot of details that go into making St. John what it is. From the bulletin boards in the Gathering Area to the decorations in each child's classroom to "Reserved" signs on pews for major events, there are a lot of little things that happen around the church to make sure things go smoothly and stay up to date.

These things seem to happen effortlessly, almost magically, don't they? Communion is always just set up and ready to go. Classroom decorations are fun and welcoming. Pictures and notices on the bulletin board are current. They just appear.

They really don't.

St. John is blessed with teams of volunteers who put a lot of thought into what's needed at church, and then they put a lot of time and energy into making it happen. Otherwise, these things wouldn't be done nearly as well, and some of them might not happen at all.

Just getting this newsletter to you took days to accomplish. Each article and report needed several hours to be written and edited, and then all of these were compiled and printed. After that, a whole group of volunteers coordinated their schedules to assemble, tape, and label each one so it could be mailed.

That's just for the newsletter. Setting up an entire classroom, designing a bulletin board, making sure that all the supplies are ready for a lesson in a particular curriculum, making sure there are servers and snacks to go with coffee hour, having an usher team at every service, and everything else takes a lot of time, energy, and commitment.

*"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."*

*Matthew 6:21*

Our values are reflected in where we spend our time and energy. What are some of the things we learn about ourselves from this? What do we value when it comes to the church? Students should have a welcoming and safe place to learn about God. Major life events like Confirmation should be recognized, and families who are there to support these students should have a place to be present for these milestones. Hospitality and fellowship matter. People should feel comfortable participating in church and should have help with questions that arise. Anyone who enters the church should be greeted and welcomed.

The next time you're at St. John, take a look around and see what small things you notice. Be mindful of those who spent some of their time to make sure that detail was there. Ask yourself which of these items or programs you value and how you might help them continue.

Thank you to the many volunteers and participants who have made sure all the small things are done so all the many things run smoothly. Your time and effort has made all the difference.

## November Children's Ministry Update

In October, we finished up our Creation lessons and learned about David and Goliath. The story of David and Goliath is one of the most popular in the old testament. It teaches children about friendship, courage and how with faith in God, they can do anything! This month, we will finish up the story of David and Goliath and begin planning our Christmas Program.

Sunday School Students, Pre-K through 4th grade, will perform the Christmas program on Sunday, December 22nd at 9:30am. If you would like to volunteer with our youth at St. John, but can't commit to teaching every Sunday, then the Christmas Season is an ideal time to sign up as a short term volunteer! By volunteering, you can help make this Christmas program one to remember for yourself, our children and our congregation. If you are able to help with our Children's Christmas Program, please contact [youthsjlc@gmail.com](mailto:youthsjlc@gmail.com). We are in need of help with the following areas:

1. Costumes (inventory current costumes and order or make those that are needed)
2. Set / Props (build, set up and take down)
3. Music Assistant - play piano so Rachel can direct music
4. Classroom helpers - Assist teachers in any way to help direct the children (5 weeks commitment!)

Serve Jesus' birthday cake at coffee hour

### Important Dates:

**Nov. 3rd: Sing at 8am Service, Noisy offering - both services**

**Nov. 10th: Christmas Program Casting** (roles will be sent home during Sunday School)

**Nov. 24th - NO CLASS - Thanksgiving break**

### Connect Update

**Nov. 6th:** The Connect and Confirmation classes will travel to Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen for a service project. Feed My Starving Children is a non-profit Christian organization committed to feeding God's children hungry in body and spirit.

**Nov. 13th & Nov. 20th** we will be continuing our study of the Old Testament by looking at the books of Judges and Ruth.

**Nov. 27th: NO CLASS - Thanksgiving Break**



**Belle Plaine Food Shelf  
9th Annual Fundraiser  
Saturday, November 9, 2019  
VFW Club**

Come help support our local Food Shelf at the 9th Annual Fundraiser. \$25 covers raffle ticket and dinner ticket; \$15 for raffle ticket only (need not be present to win). 5:30 Social Hour; 6:30 Buffet Dinner followed by Auction and Raffle Prize Drawings. Tickets available at the Food Shelf or call: Pat (612-751-9923); Betsy (952-649-2499); Vicki (952-220-5632). 1st prize is \$500 cash donated by Saxe Chevrolet. 2nd prize is 1/2 hog and processing donated by Doug Hillstrom and Rucks Meats. 3rd prize is \$150 cash donated by Kolden's Funeral Home. 4th prize is \$100 Coburn's gift card - plus many more prizes. All proceeds go to support our local Food Shelf.

### *There's still time to get your picture taken*

**We want to make sure every member is in the new picture directory.**

**It's not too late to sign up for our next photography event!**

IF you missed this photo session, we have another session November 5 through 9. Stop by the table in the Gathering area and sign up or head to our website and follow the Sign Up now link. You can also call the church office from 1:00 – 5:00 Monday through Friday and have someone help you sign up.

Did you know? Every participating family receives a free 8x10 portrait and a printed copy of our directory. **Be a part of it. Sign up today.**

**We are also looking for host/hostess to sit at the check-in table for the November sessions. If you can help, sign up on the sheets on the picture signup table or contact Audrey in the office from 1:00-5:00.**

## Stewardship Spotlight



### Volunteer Focus On: Shannon Swenson

Shannon Swenson is relatively new to the St. John family. A member now for a little over a year, Shannon wasted no time getting involved: serving pizza Wednesday nights, becoming a confirmation small group leader for her son, and teaching a Sunday school class for her youngest daughter. Drawn to opportunities that keep her involved with her kids, Shannon appreciates and enjoys St. John's strong youth ministry; it was one of the key factors in her and her husband Mark's decision to join St. John.

Shannon and Mark both grew up near Mankato, she in New Ulm, and he in Rapidan. They met through mutual friends, and after marrying settled down in Mankato. Shannon is a nurse, and works as a case manager for McLeod County Public Health, where her focus is with seniors in the community. Mark works for the DNR in St. Paul as a MNIT supervisor dealing with technology and budgets. 9 years ago, the commute from Mankato to St. Paul led them to relocate. They chose Belle Plaine due to location, and the size of the community and school system. After the move they started visiting different churches in the area, including congregations in Shakopee and Waconia; however Shannon states it was difficult for their 3 children: Brianna -15, Nolan- 12, and Katelyn-8 to attend church where they didn't spend time with the other kids outside of church. They decided to look locally, which led them to St. John, where Shannon says there were immediately many familiar friendly faces.

The diversity of ages in the congregation, and the straightforward preaching styles of both pastors are things she really appreciates. Shannon enjoys listening to the teachings at confirmation and Sunday school, as she tries to continue the conversations at home, and sites this as one of the rewards of volunteering. She hopes her "Lead by Example" attitude will show her children the importance of involvement in the development and practice of their faith. Stating that it really does "Take A Village" she is appreciative of the time and effort that goes into preparation of the different youth programs; and she loves the support given to the kids by other adults and parents in the church. "There is always someone available to help with rides, or chip in where assistance is needed. Lots of parent involvement is great!"

In her free time Shannon likes to spend time with family, watch her kids in their different sporting events, and watch the Vikings, Twins, and Gophers on tv. The family enjoys watching movies together, and the girls in the family love shopping! Shannon has a real focus on helping others, with the seniors in the community being close to her heart. A long-term goal for her is to find more opportunities for volunteerism as a family within St. John and the Belle Plaine community.

Thank you to Shannon, and to all our members who share their time and talents with St. John!

### Your Gifts Make a Difference Thank You



### *The Noisy Offering*

### "Noisy Offering" - First Sunday of Each Month

Our Sunday School is sponsoring a "Noisy Offering" the first Sunday of each month. During our regular offering time, our kids are invited to bring an offering up to the front of the church and put it in a jar. It's noisy and fun and generous. And it's fun to watch our children run and walk and smile and look serious and be joyful and giving and full of life.

Please mark your calendar and bring some extra money for your child to share on these first Sundays. And, if you don't have a child, give some money to one you see and ask them to run it up for you. That way, we can all contribute together. Thanks!



### *Bachman's Poinsettia & Winter Green Mission Trip Fundraiser*

The Mission Trip Youth will again be selling winter greens and beautiful single and double poinsettias in three color choices (red, pink, white) to fundraise for the Mission Trip to Vermont this summer. Poinsettias are estimated to be delivered to St. John on Monday, Dec. 23. If preferred, poinsettias may be displayed in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve and picked up after the 5pm service.

Purchasers also have the option to designate their flower in memory of or in honor of a loved one, which will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Order

### **Help Decorate the Church for Christmas**

Sunday, November 24, between services, we will be decorating the church for the Advent and Christmas Seasons. Many hands make light work. Put the date on your calendar and plan to join us in decorating the church and making it beautiful and festive!

### *CARING FOR THE HOMELESS*

## *Families Moving Forward*

During this season dedicated to reflecting on what we are thankful for, we should keep in mind that there are over 6,000 homeless people in our Metro area every night! If you are blessed to have a home, one way to express your gratitude would be to participate in the Families Moving Forward program when **West Union Lutheran** hosts 4 homeless families during the week of **November 10<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>**. You can volunteer by either making contact with the church office or by signing up on line by using this browser:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0444A5AD2FA4FC1-west>

### **November is ELCA World Hunger Month**

#### **Hunger Facts:**

- \* 795 million people around the world— that's 1 in 10— can't access the food they need to live healthy lives.
- \* According to the most recent estimates, 766 million people live in extreme poverty on less
- \* In 2015 (the most recent year available), more than 42.2 million people in the United States were unsure where their next meal would come from.
- \* 42.1 million Americans were living in poverty in 2015. For a family of four, this means their annual household income was below \$24,250.

#### **ELCA World Hunger:**

Working with and through congregations in the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Island and through Lutheran churches and partners in over 60 countries around the world, ELCA World Hunger makes it possible for members of the ELCA to respond by supporting sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty. Learn more by checking out the ELCA Website under World Hunger.

#### **You Can Help:**

Contribute now through the World Hunger envelope enclosed in this newsletter. And watch for further information about ELCA World Hunger in our bulletins throughout the month of November.



## St. John Giving Challenge

All our members received a letter recently asking to either begin or to increase their financial support for next year's general operating fund by a specific amount: \$5 a week / 10 / 15 / 20+. Each giving amount was matched with a colored sticker.

We have a big chart in front of the church. As our members respond, we add a colored sticker to our chart matching their commitment (no names are on the chart). The truth is, we're a bit behind in our current year, so we need to step up our commitments for next year. If you've already made your commitment, Thank You! If not, please do so soon and add your sticker to our chart. And together, let's watch our commitments grow! Thank you!



*The Women's group is pleased to announce the annual Christmas Dinner* will be held on Tuesday, December 3 with social hour starting at 6pm and dinner starting at 6:30pm with entertainment to follow. Dinner will be catered by Chef Craig. The entertainment this year is Grace Notes Trio. Diane, Pat and Connie sing old favorites from the 30's, 40's, 50's and 60's in their Andrew Sisters Big Band style program. Ticket cost is \$15.00 per person and can be purchased in-between church services on November 10, 17 and 24th or by stopping by the church office.



### Ecumenical Community Thanksgiving Service East Union Lutheran Church Tuesday - November 26, 2018 7:00 p.m.

The service is sponsored by the congregations of St. John Lutheran Church, Our Lady of the Prairie Catholic Church, First Presbyterian Church, Redeemer Lutheran Church, West Union Lutheran Church, St. John Assumption Catholic Church, East Union Lutheran Church and River Rock Christian Missionary Alliance. Following the service, refreshments will be served. The community is welcomed and invited to attend.

The Thanksgiving Worship is also intended to remember the needs of others. The monetary offering taken during the service will go to support the local "Good Samaritan Fund" that provides help for transient people in our area. This fund is supported by our participating churches and our Thanksgiving offering is the main source of annual income for this fund.

In addition, worshippers are also encouraged to support the Belle Plaine Food Shelf by bringing donations of nonperishable food items and/or providing a monetary donation (make checks out to the Belle Plaine Food Shelf).

The sponsoring churches of our annual Ecumenical Service thank you for your participation and support and wish for all of you a happy Thanksgiving!

### *Missionary Support Offering - Saturday, Nov. 16 / Sunday, Nov. 17*

St. John is dedicated to supporting an ELCA Missionary named Elisabeth Johnson. Elisabeth teaches at the seminary in Cameroon, Africa. We support her, along with our brothers and sisters in Cameroon, regularly with our prayers during worship. Once a year, we also take a free-will offering to support her work financially.

We will be taking that special free-will offering at the beginning of our worship services at our Saturday evening 6:00 p.m. service on November 16 - and also at our Sunday morning services at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. on November 17.

Please come ready and prepared with your support for these services. We have an honor and privilege to support the work of the larger Body of Christ in the world, of which we are a part. Thanks for your support!

Unapproved St. John Lutheran Church Council Minutes  
October 17, 2019

President Chris Stier called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**Present:** Pastor Mark Johnson, Pastor Sarah Timian, Council Members; Chris Stier, Brian Schmidt, Chris Zellman, Jim Eggers, Annette Moylan, Angie Kahle, Amy Franck. Staff: Curt Johnson by phone and Treasurer, Rae Fimon

**Opening Devotions:** Pastor Mark read and reflected on Psalm #121, followed by a prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:** Members of Council reviewed the minutes from the September 19, 2019 Council Meeting. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the meeting minutes.

**Pastor Mark's Report:**

**Confirmation** - Meeting with 9th Graders and Parents for Sash Making and Confirmation Prep; following up individually with 9th Graders regarding their Faith Statements and Bible Verses. Working with Pr. Sarah and staff to plan and coordinate for 9th Grade Confirmation weekend details.

**New Members** - Met with eight families / individuals for an Orientation on October 6 and had a New Member Welcome Sunday the following week for all who participated. Received Time and Talent sheets and forwarded these to coordinators to put into our database of volunteers.

Processing background checks for all new volunteers helping with our children's ministries this year.

Wrapping up **Fall Stewardship Appeal** including a Giving Challenge for all of our members to either begin or to increase their financial support for next year's general operating fund. Tracking incoming commitments on a chart as they arrive.

**Ongoing** – fall appeal, regular preparations for Sunday and Saturday worship, wedding prep, Lutheran Home, Cardinal Ridge and Kingsway Communion services, WELCA Bible study, meetings, counseling, correspondences, visitation, staff meetings and volunteer coordination, newsletters, etc.

**Pastor Sarah's Report**

**Youth Ministry**- Mission Trip Students hosted their Annual Breakfast on September 29. Students who participated in a Mission Trip last summer also shared about their experience during the worship services. Mission Trip 2020 will be in Rutland/Green Mountain, Vermont, on June 21-26 (leaving June 20).

**Connect and Confirmation**—23 students received their First Communion on September 22. All students met in the church basement on October 6 due to the Photo Directory session. Thank you to all the teachers, leaders, and parents for making that run smoothly. 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Students have been meeting with the pastors to discuss their **Statements of Faith** and life as a Confirmed Member of the church as they prepare for their Affirmation of Baptism on October 27.

**Beacon**—Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative held a Congregational Convening at Colonial Church in Edina on September 26. Minnesota Housing Commissioner Jennifer Ho was invited and spoke to questions and concerns of the Beacon Collaborative regarding housing and homelessness.

**Bishop's Theological Conference**—the annual conference was held on September 22-24 near Brainerd. Speakers addressed the relevance of the Bible in our society today through the theme "Does Scripture Matter?"

Pastor Sarah shared with the council a request for donation from the **Cristo Obero Mission Partnership**, which is the Southwest Latino Ministry in Chaska.

**Ongoing Items** - Worship Leadership for Saturday and Sunday Services; Meetings with Connect and Confirmation Leaders and Students; Pastoral Conversations and Visits; Ministry Team Meetings as



needed and available; Planning and Preparation for events, meetings, newsletter articles, classes, communication pieces, mailings, worship services, etc

**Staff Report:**

**Custodial:** Curt reported by phone that Carol Schultz has contacted him about donating new defibrillator. Mdewankanton Sioux have donated defibrillators in the past to churches and schools, and we will reach out to them and if they no longer donate, Carol wishes to purchase a new defibrillator.

New towel dispensers are being installed throughout the church.

New video cameras will be installed October 23, 24, 25. New wiring will need to be installed into the gathering room.

Matt Kess stopped by and gave the council an update on the new roof and to let us know that he is in contact with Stasney Electric to use a lift to install the fan in the roof. A/C units will also be combed out.

Kenny Theis has been contacted for black dirt to fill low spots in the garden lots and around the church where needed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Rae Fimon presented the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and year to date reports and reviewed and answered questions for all funds. For September, General Fund revenue met our financial commitment, but is still about \$18,000.00 short year to date. General Fund expenses for September were under by about \$2800.00. Building Fund mortgage is approximately \$343,000.00.

**Transfers In**

Cassie Gerres is transferring from Trinity Lutheran.

Chelsea and Trevor Hutchison, along with their children Kendall and Kace are transferring from Trinity Lutheran.

Jill and Richard Martin and their children Ellie, Ethan and Emma are transferring from St. Paul's in Jordan.

Chris and Katy Potter and their children, Reese, Piper and Holly

Ron and Dianne Rasmussen are transferring from St. Andrew Lutheran church in Wausau, Wisconsin.

Juls Robbins

Shane and Allison Theas and their children Brooklyn and Graham are transferring from Resurrection Lutheran Church in Gretna, Nebraska.

Katie Wermerskirchen and her daughter, Emily

Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve all incoming transfers.

There were no Transfers Out.

**Ongoing/New Business**

a. Annual reviews were discussed from the previous meeting and discussion will return to the Personnel Committee.

**New Business.**

a. Lifetouch Photography was discussed and suggested that they be asked to apply less pressure on members to make a purchase.

b. Rae Fimon, Treasurer, presented the Portico Insurance quote for calendar year 2020 for Pastor Mark and Pastor Sarah. Council requested Pastor Sarah and Pastor Mark be excused during discussion. After discussion by the Council, motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the Portico bid for insurance.

**Ministry Team Updates**

A few of the Ministry Teams did not meet in October, and many of them have a meeting scheduled in the next week.

Motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Franck, Church Council Secretary

## Worship Assistants Schedule

<b>November 3 Worship Assistants</b> <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Chris Schultz Family <b>Altar Guild:</b> Pam Koepp, Laurie Hiles & Deb Brazil <b>Pizza Helpers:</b> No Pizza Feed My Starving Children <b>Pizza Patrol:</b> <b>Craft Room Helper:</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8:00</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> Teddy Traxler & Nick Tharaldson <b>Greeters:</b> William & Cheryl Dreyer <b>Lay Readers:</b> Sandi Wolpern <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Marc & Mindy Chevalier <b>Ushers:</b> Myron Bratsch, Kirk Franck, Matt Kes, Jeff Eppen, Brian Siekmann, Noah Hanson	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:30</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> Mikayla Anderson & Katie Theis <b>Greeters:</b> Chris & Annette Moylan <b>Lay Readers:</b> Brent Koepp <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Andrew Bauleke & Peg Longhenry <b>Ushers:</b> Arvin & Midge Bessel, Lee Sauter, Bob Fairbanks, Greg Rosario, Daron Anderson, Nolan Swenson, Jacob Fogarty
<b>November 10 Worship Assistants</b> <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Mary Koepp Family <b>Altar Guild:</b> Pam Koepp, Laurie Hiles & Deb Brazil <b>Pizza Helpers:</b> Shara Hiles & Linda Jeurissen <b>Pizza Patrol:</b> Nicole Koepp & Angie Hoff <b>Craft Room Helper:</b> Kim Feldhake	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8:00</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> Zach Fahey & Pierce Nagorski <b>Greeters:</b> Connie Bergs <b>Lay Readers:</b> Maddy Siekmann <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Warren Wolf & Jan Effinger <b>Ushers:</b> Terry Siemon, James & John Karl, Dan & Wyatt herrmann, Tim Bristlin, David Otto, Tyler Gruhn, Alex Johnson	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:30</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> Lila Bungarden & Kiya Williamson <b>Greeters:</b> Marv & Rhonda Doeden <b>Lay Readers:</b> Sara Bungarden <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Chris & Annette Moylan <b>Ushers:</b> Earl Gransee, Louis Longhenry, Allen LaTour, David & Sara Bungarden
<b>November 17 Worship Assistants</b> <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Coffee with the Council <b>Altar Guild:</b> Pam Koepp, Laurie Hiles & Deb Brazil <b>Pizza Helpers:</b> Hope Lawler & Tracee Perry <b>Pizza Patrol:</b> Debra Wolter & Amanda Stier-Olson <b>Craft Room Helper:</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8:00</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> Noah Hanson & Ellie Martin <b>Greeters:</b> Dale & Susan Stier <b>Lay Readers:</b> Bryn Davis <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Jerold & Kathy Stauffacher <b>Ushers:</b> Terry Siemon, James & John Karl, Dan & Wyatt herrmann, Tim Bristlin, David Otto, Violet Holtberg, Ellie Martin	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:30</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> Havyn Moonen & Mikayla Anderson <b>Greeters:</b> Lee & Vicki Sauter <b>Lay Readers:</b> Luke Meriwether <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Brent Koepp & Lee Sauter <b>Ushers:</b> Earl Gransee, Louis Longhenry, Allen LaTour, David & Sara Bungarden, Caleb Tracy, Tyler Gruhn
<b>November 24 Worship Assistants</b> <b>Coffee Hour:</b> Diane, Renee, & Amy <b>Altar Guild:</b> Pam Koepp, Laurie Hiles & Deb Brazil <b>Pizza Helpers:</b> No Pizza– Thanksgiving Break <b>Pizza Patrol:</b> <b>Craft Room Helper:</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8:00</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> Noah Hanson & Wyatt Vossen <b>Greeters:</b> Brian & Jonathan Schmidt <b>Lay Readers:</b> Warren Wolf <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Elizabeth & Annalee Koonst <b>Ushers:</b> Brian Schmidt, Jonathan Schmidt, Jason Schmidt, Katelyn Bauer, Doug Hillstrom, Jerold Stauffacher, Dave Latzke, Matt Mellgrem, Teddy Traxler, Nolan Swenson	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10:30</b></p> <b>Acolytes:</b> <b>Greeters:</b> Lavonne Behnke <b>Lay Readers:</b> Annette Moylan <b>Communion Assistants:</b> Phoebe Einertson & Cindy Schoenauer <b>Ushers:</b> Tim Moonen, Dale Schmidt, John Winterfeldt, Samuel Schmidt, Andrew Bauleke, Dick Bristow

# Financial Corner

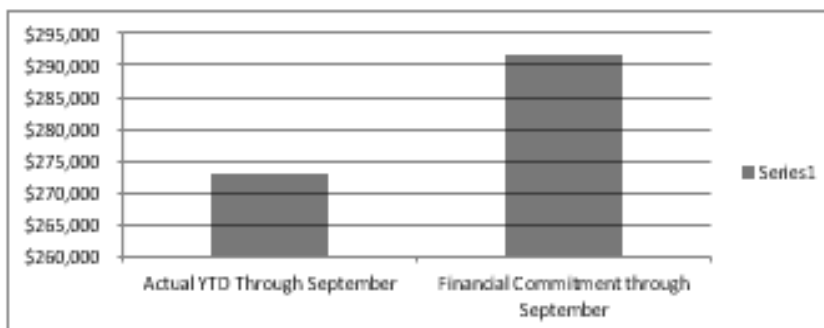
## St. John Financial Results Nine Months Ended September 30, 2019 and September 30, 2018

General Operating Fund				Year Over Year
	September 30, 2019	September 30, 2018		Increase (Decrease)
Income	\$ 272,957	\$ 260,556		5%
Expenses:				
Personnel	(228,903)	(220,864)		
Office	(13,236)	(15,337)		
Property & Maintenance	(29,235)	(30,323)		
Ministry Teams	(17,503)	(23,222)		
Other	(3,338)	(2,855)		
Benevolence:				
Minneapolis Area Synod	(9,000)	(9,000)		
Camp Onomia	(2,250)	(2,250)		
Belle Plaine Fire Dept	-	(225)		
Lutheran Social Services	(1,000)	(1,500)		
Missionary	-	(300)		
Net Receipts / (Expenditures)	\$ (31,508)	\$ (45,320)		
Cash Balance at January 1 (excl. all loans)	\$ (64,346)	\$ (35,163)		
Net Income / (Expenditures)	(31,508)	(45,320)		
Misc. cash not affecting income	92	-		
Loan from Building Fund	54,500	35,000		
Loan from St. John Foundation	53,575	53,042		
Cash Balance at September 30	\$ 12,313	\$ 7,559		

Building Fund				
Receipts	\$ 103,535	\$ 111,613		-7%
Capital Appeal Expenses	\$ -	(2,205)		
Miscellaneous Expenses	(124)	(18)		
Principal	(82,295)	(78,570)		
Interest	(12,745)	(16,470)		
Loaned to General Fund	(19,500)			
Net Receipts / (Disbursements)	\$ (11,129)	\$ 14,350		
Loan Balance at January 1	\$ 435,544	\$ 551,424		
Principal Payments	(82,295)	(78,570)		
Loan Balance at September 30	\$ 353,249	\$ 472,854		

### Actual Income Compared to 2019 Financial Commitment:

Actual YTD Through September	\$ 272,957
Financial Commitment through September	\$ 291,647



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

**Monthly Events**

First Tuesday-  
10:00am Cardinal Ridge Service  
11:00am Lutheran Home Service  
1:00pm Kingsway Service

Second Tuesday- Women's Bible Study 9:30 am  
Kitchen Area

**Weekly Events**

**Monday's**

8:00 am Men's Bible Study at Kingsway  
1:00pm Quilting

**Wednesday's**

4:30pm Youth Choir  
6:30pm Connect/Confirmation Classes  
7:30pm Adult Choir

**Saturday's**

6:00 pm Worship Service in Gathering Area

**Sunday's**

8:00 & 10:30am Worship Services  
9:15am Sunday School