

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH MESSENGER

CALLED TO WORSHIP / COMMITTED TO SERVE / CONNECTED IN FAITH

September 2022

A monthly Publication of
St. John Lutheran Church

Worship Schedule

See Fall Worship hours on
cover

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

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Sunday School will be starting September 18. with
Rally Sunday
More information inside



September 14- Connect and Confirmation
Orientation at 6:00 pm

September 21- Connect Class starts

September 28 Confirmation Class starts



Fall Worship hours

September Worship schedule are as follows

Sunday, Sept. 4 Worship at 9:00

Sunday, Sept. 11 Worship at 9:30

Sunday, Sept 18 Worship at 8:00 and 9:15

Sunday, Sept. 25 Worship at 8:00 and 9:15

Sunday School 9:15

Saturday Worship will start

September 17th at 6:00 pm.



The time to celebrate is NOW!

What started as a need, and then an idea, months of discussion, followed by a feasibility study and then a congregational vote, and years of prayer, faith, financial commitment and God's abundant blessings to our church community has led us to this time of humble thankfulness. Twenty years ago, we took a leap of faith and began the process of demolition, ground breaking and construction of a new, beautiful addition to our existing church building.

Dedication of this new addition was held on November 2, 2003.

Now.... we invite you to please join in a celebration of God's faithfulness and our commitment to St John Lutheran Church as we

"Burn the Mortgage" (retire the debt) on our new addition;

Sunday, September 11

9:30 a.m. Polka Service (featuring Bob Pexa)

* Bonfire, * Hayrides, * Pork sandwich luncheon (free), *

Dessert food trucks (on your own), * Activities for the kids

From Pastor Mark Some Personal Thoughts & Reflections

Back when I lived in Rothsay, in the Fall of 1998 I was at the Northwest Minnesota Synod office in Moorhead and happened to mention to an Assistant to the Bishop that I had just received a Call to come to St. John in Belle Plaine. He congratulated me and asked how big the congregation was. I said about a thousand baptized members. He asked who the other pastor was that I would be working with and I said there wasn't one. He said I was either crazy or courageous. I asked why and he said that a congregation of that size regularly has two pastors.

It was in the beginning of December of 2020, during the dark days of Covid, that Pastor Sarah took a Call to a church in Massachusetts. Since then, as we seek to recover and restore things from the time we've been living through, I have been a solo pastor here. A solo pastor, in a congregation of this size can, at best, try to maintain things. There are a lot of different balls in the air to try to keep track of, some of which, no doubt, get dropped. A congregation of our size and potential that wants to grow beyond maintenance needs to invest in the staff and programming that make that possible. That, I think, is the simple reality of it.

Given this, I have always appreciated the flexibility of my position. I don't punch a clock. I try to keep office hours Tuesday through Friday. I try to take Mondays off. However, there is some variability in that. There are Mondays, for example when someone dies and I need to meet with the family, or when I have a funeral that, of course, I am going to be there. Or, if someone is seriously sick and needs pastoral care. Or, if there is an important meeting and that is the only time that works for a group. Of course I am going to come in. No question about it. There are other weeks when I may have four evening meetings, perhaps a rehearsal and wedding or a funeral on the weekend, or something like that. I don't punch out and leave my work at the door. It often comes home with me. I'm thinking about it. And, for special needs, I'm always on-call.

Work and life balance is important. To take care of others I also need to be mindful of taking care of myself. Given the considerations I've mentioned above, there may be certain weeks where I will be out of my office and taking some personal time back. Or I may just be out on a visit, or something like that. In this sense, I have always appreciated the flexibility of this position. So if I am not in when you call, please leave me a message and I will get back to you.

After 24 years here, I plan to retire in a year. St. John has grown over these years. A number of families have joined our family of faith. I believe we have a promising future. We have stepped out in faith over these years. A bold step was adding a much needed addition onto our building that has served and helped our congregation in so many ways. We engaged in a Feasibility study and a number of Capital Appeals and now, over the years, have faithfully paid off our mortgage. We have invested in other staff, an intern, a youth and family position, another pastor. We have met challenges, most recently feeling our way through these traumatic times of Covid that completely upended everything.

I have always considered it be a privilege to be your pastor. I am grateful for the opportunities and challenges we have faced together. I appreciate our partnership. At the same time, sometimes it can be lonely. People tend to put pastors on a pedestal but, let me assure you, we are just as human and have the same needs and concerns as everyone else does. This is reflected in part of the sermon that our Bishop, Anne Svennungsen, recently shared at a Spring Ministerium of the Minneapolis Area Synod. She said, "Looking through our rostered leaders' annual reports - I read a lot more laments than usual. And the laments are vivid, like: 'I've lost my confidence as a preacher, everything takes more time than it used to, folks aren't coming back to worship like we hoped.'" In a poll of pastors last October, Barna found that 38 percent of lead pastors seriously considered quitting during the past year. That's almost 2 out of 5 pastors. And the numbers grow with certain groups. 46% of those under age 45 have considered quitting; more than 50% of women have considered this; while only a third of men. As a bishop, I feel it's my job to stop this sermon right now and give you all a pep talk to stay in ministry. We need you. It will get better. I promise."

That's true. We've been through some trying times and it will get better. In any case, let's keep walking from these dark times into the light, looking up to God in faith and looking out to each other with love and compassionate care.

I believe we need to keep stepping out in faith. We are at a Kairos moment. This is a good time for our congregation to invest in the future, to invest in strategic planning, to fully engage the congregation in visioning and planning for our future. What areas of ministry are we doing well and where do we need to grow? And how can we support that?

Good strategic planning involves fully engaging all the members of the congregation in a variety of ways through large group and small group meetings, surveys (for those who have an opinion but don't like to speak up in a group) etc. We gather information, pray together, discern direction, distill into a vision and plan. Done well, this kind of strategic planning engages and energizes the congregation. Members feel listened to and like they have an important contribution to make in the future direction of the congregation. And that's exciting! Done well, what might we learn from one another through such a process? What ideas and visions will come forth? And how will we seek to support

these dreams and grow our ministry through providing the staff needed to implement our vision? We are coming out of these Covid times with this exciting challenge before us. How will we respond?

Thank you for this opportunity to reflect and share with you here. It is a privilege and honor and challenge to be your pastor and I am grateful for your understanding and partnership and trust. We have a special place here!

In the final analysis, of course, this is not my church as a pastor or your church as a member. This is God's church. God calls us through the Holy Spirit, nourishes us in the Word and Sacraments, calls us forth in service, unites us together in fellowship. The mission statement that came out of our last strategic plan nine years ago now is on the banner that hangs over our front door. We are "Called to Worship - Committed to Serve - Connected in Faith." So let's worship together, reach out in service together, and grow together in our faith. Let's move into the future that God would have for us here. Let's keep looking up. Let's keep reaching out. Together!

-Pastor Mark

From Pastor Mark Highlights of Upcoming Events And Other Pastoral Duties

We are in the waning days of Summer now, a quieter season in parish life, absent Sunday School, Connect and Confirmation, a season when young families are busy with baseball and softball schedules and many other families are taking time to be away, get to the lake, or what have you.

We are also finally emerging from a long two years of Covid that has certainly been challenging. We are coming out in a different place than when we went into this time. People still have different feelings, some are more bold and others, for some good reasons, are more cautious. Masking is welcomed but not required. We need to be sensitive to each other as we continue to navigate through these times. Thinking back, it was two Summers ago now that we were offering a drive-in service at the Stier bus parking lot and very gradually beginning to meter back into the Sanctuary under some exceptionally cautious protocols.

Sunday, September 4 (Memorial day weekend), will be our last Summer worship schedule at 9:00 a.m. September 11 we are having our special Mortgage Burning celebration with a service at 9:30 a.m. (followed by other fun stuff - check out the article). Sunday, September 18, we will resume our two service schedule of 8:00 and 9:15 a.m. (continuing the schedule we had last Spring). The 9:15 service will run concurrently with Sunday School. Parents are invited to bring their kids to Sunday School and join us upstairs for worship. Also, our Summer Wednesday evening services at 6:00 will return to Saturday evenings beginning on September 17.

Speaking of worship, I'm also concerned and hopeful that, after the times we have been living through, more of us can come back to church for our worship times together. As Covid hit, we began putting our services online and it was needed and necessary at that time. For a smaller number of people, it will continue to be needed and necessary. And I've also heard people share of special times, like being away on vacation and still being able to tune in, with their family, to watch the service from their own congregation. That's a pretty neat thing. What concerns me, however, are folks who could make it to worship but who may be watching online simply for the ease and convenience of it. You may be able to see us online but we can't see you. I miss you. We all miss you. As the Body of Christ, we need to be together. Worship, in it's best sense, is not meant to be a commodity consumed online but an experience to be had in community with others. Lately, we've had more people watching online than attending in person. Let's see if we can turn those numbers around.

As the Summer winds down I am working with others in the planning, communicating and preparation stages for a busy season ahead. Among the preparations taking place is a rebooting of our worship service teams: Communion helpers, readers, greeters, altar guild, ushers, coffee fellowship. After two years of downtime from Covid there is some work to get restarted again. I'm thankful to be working with members of our small group ministry team who are helping to update our various volunteer group lists, contacting pre-covid volunteers, incorporating new volunteers who have signed up through our recent bulletin inserts, etc. We will be planning a meeting for all our volunteers, looking at job descriptions, answering questions, and seeking to repopulate a schedule, probably at the the beginning of October. We will also be incorporating Confirmation students who will be signing up at their parent / student orientation on September 14. Most likely, there will be some weak spots and gaps that need filling, so please be open to volunteering to help out. Please note that we are still looking for volunteers to be involved in live streaming our Sunday morning services.

Our WELCA team met recently and, among the things they discussed, are thinking about getting together with me, as we did pre-covid, for a monthly Bible study. They are also looking at some others options, possibly an evening study, as well.

I sat in with the Children's Team for a meeting earlier this month. They are a well organized group and will be recruiting teachers and helpers and sending out a schedule for the coming year. Sunday School will begin on Rally Sunday, September 18. At the 9:15 service we are planning to recognize all of our Sunday School, Connect and Confirmation leaders and helpers, have a blessing of the backpacks for all children of student age as they enter a new

year, and also distribute Bible story books to our first graders and Lutheran study Bibles to our fifth graders. It's going to be a busy Sunday!

I am meeting our Connect (5-6 grades) and Confirmation (7-8 grades) leaders on August 24 to get ready for the upcoming year. We will be going over our routine and schedule, forming small groups, answering questions etc. I'm thankful for the group of volunteers who help with these programs. There are a lot of people involved and a lot of lives being touched and nurtured in faith.

A parent and student orientation for Connect and Confirmation is planned for Wednesday, September 14, at 6:00 p.m. Agenda items include reviewing our schedules and policies, signing behavior and participation covenants, signing up to help with acolyting, reading and ushering, etc. We will fill the Gathering Area on this busy evening.

I will be leading the Confirmation classes again this year. Our topics will include Martin Luther and the Reformation, catechism topics like The Lord's Prayer, the Creed, the 10 Commandments, Scripture, the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion, as well as what it means to be a Christian.

I am meeting with our ninth grade confirmands who will be confirmed this Fall on September 25. That evening, we will be making a sash, get measured for a gown, have pictures taken and receive faith statement and Bible verse sheets. I will be meeting after the second service the following three Sundays with our confirmands individually to go over their faith statements. Confirmation weekend begins with class pictures and rehearsal time on Saturday, October 29, followed by a catered brunch for our Confirmands and families featuring a special speaker, recognition of our leaders and gifts for our students. We will be having a special Confirmation service for confirmands and their families the next day, Sunday, October 30, at 10:30 a.m.

I am meeting with our fifth graders and their parents for a First Communion class on Sunday, October 2, at 5:00 p.m. First Communion Sunday for all participants will be held the following week at both services on Sunday, October 9.

I will be hosting a New Member Orientation for those who want to become members of St. John on Sunday, September 18, following the 9:15 a.m. service. New Member Welcome Sunday will be the following week at both services for those who attended. I will be providing the areas of ministry they indicate they would like to volunteer for to our various teams so they can be integrated into the life of our congregation.

I have reached out to meet and get to know Allison Vandermark this past year, her first year here as the director of the Belle Plaine High School Choir, inquiring if she may be interested in being our Worship Choir Director. This led to meetings with Sheila Schmidt, our choir accompanist, and then with our Personnel team for an interview who, in turn, recommended her to the church council who voted to hire her at their July meeting. Allison is excited to begin here this September. Please make a special note to greet and welcome her to our congregation!

In addition to these kinds of programmatic activities, there are also the regular and ongoing types of parish activity that involve me on a daily and weekly and monthly basis. Gathering for worship forms the heart and center of congregational life and a regular part of my week involves selecting text(s), drafting and practicing sermons, selecting appropriate hymnody and communicating this to our office and music staff, writing prayers, preparing announcements, etc. I also provide regular, monthly communion services at the Lutheran home and Kingsway, as well as, of course, planning and facilitating for special seasonal worship times during Lent, Christmas, Easter, etc. A significant behind the scenes aspect of this involves time for theological and devotional study, reflection and prayer. One of my pastor friends pointed out that the sign on his office door read "Pastor's Study." "There's a reason for that," he said. I knew what he was talking about. The same types of behind the scenes reflection, study and planning go into teaching our Confirmation classes and WELCA studies. I like to try to be well prepared and make the time we spend together worthwhile.

There are administrative needs, as well. We have a weekly office staff meeting to review our upcoming calendar and talk through the planning, coordinating and communicating needs of upcoming events. Once a month, we have an all staff meeting where Curt and Cheryl join us to review an upcoming month, noting events and any building needs that might be needed. I always like to close each meeting with an invitation to be in touch, as things arise. Good communication is always a goal toward which we strive, not always perfectly, but as best we can.

Along with staff, I also take part in meeting with some of our various ministry teams. After some staff turnover a few years ago we created a Personnel team, developed policies, etc. I was involved in that process and we continue to meet and to refine things. Our Small Group team was sidelined by Covid but is getting back together to help with rebooting our worship service teams. Pre-Covid they sponsored golf outings, scrapbooking and special events like this. It's my hope that, together, we can look to resume some of these activities. Our Stewardship team had two members and was also sidelined by Covid and has yet to resume. We are always looking for volunteers who are willing to help. During the dark days of Covid our Worship and Music team sponsored our drive-in service and our special, outdoor Christmas eve service at Dan and Kristin Schmidt's farm. They also sponsor our Wednesday / Saturday evening services. Worship and Music, along with Communications and Technology, are low on people and could use some volunteers. The Children's Team and Facilities and Grounds are well stocked with people and doing well.

Along with these teams we also have special and occasional task force groups like the Nominating Committee and the Mortgage Burning Committee. I have gotten the Nominating Committee together each year, provide a slate of

needed candidates and help them with their recruitment duties. I also have been interacting with the Mortgage Burning Committee to promote and get ready for our upcoming celebration on September 11.

Communication is also a vital part of my weekly, monthly and yearly duties and includes a variety of correspondences. Program letters are sent to Connect and Confirmation students and parents for a variety of reasons during the year, ninth grade Confirmands and families being confirmed, fifth graders for First Communion, first graders for Bible Sunday, seventh graders for Confirmation camp, etc. There are regular weekly announcements to prepare, monthly council reports and newsletters to write, special congregational letters to send out, of course e-mail correspondence in a variety of ways, etc. Communicating with a lot of different people in a lot of different ways is important and requires time.

The Letter of Call that a congregation extends to a prospective pastor focuses in on some of the main duties of a pastor: To preach the gospel, administer the Sacraments and tend to the pastoral needs of the congregation. Pastoral acts form an important heart and center of a pastor's vocation. There are two words in New Testament Greek for "Time." One is "Chronos," which refers to the passing of chronological time, the quantitative ticking of the clock, the passing of seconds and minutes and hours and days and years. The other Greek word for time is "Kairos." Kairos refers to qualitative time, to important, significant, meaningful moments in time. Much of chronological time passes routinely without us noticing or paying too much attention. Kairos time, however, is different. Kairos time are those important milestone moments in life that have a special meaning and impact, times that we remember and record and take with us for the rest of our lives.

Pastoral acts such as the baptism of a child, the wedding of a couple, the funeral of a loved one are examples of such important and memorable Kairos times in life. Of course, behind the scenes of all of these milestone events, and in different ways according to the occasion, there is time spent with people, calls made, planning and coordination done, practice and preparation. These are seminal occasions in people's lives that deserve to be treated accordingly.

Visitation of people in the hospital is also an important pastoral responsibility. It is an important and sensitive time. Pastors see people in a vulnerable position in bed. We come into their rooms representing their church community to listen, talk, share faith, have prayer and, if possible, have Holy Communion together. It was difficult, during Covid restrictions, to not be able to be there. Visitation of homebound people for prayer and communion is also an important part of a pastor's life. In conversation with my colleagues, if there is anything most pastors think they could always do more of, it is getting out and seeing people in this way. I feel that way, too. And I don't often know every situation or who could use a visit or a call. So I would ask you to call me and talk with me and let me know.

Counseling is another important dimension. There are scheduled times for this, such as pre-wedding counseling with a couple who have taken a relationship inventory, listening to a fifth step, etc. Most of the time, however, such counseling opportunities are not scheduled. I recognize that it's not easy to walk through my door. By the time people do, they are often in significant stress. So I try to welcome them and congratulate them on the courage it took to come and talk with me. That in itself is a significant first step. And along with listening and sharing with them, I also try to provide some resources for them to follow up on a deeper level, counseling referrals, A.A. groups, shelters, etc.

There are ebbs and flows in parish life, quieter seasons and times when things really pick up, weeks that are more normal and weeks where everything seems to be happening at once. Thanks for the opportunity to share with you a bit here about some upcoming activities and events, along with a perspective on some other things, as well!

-Pastor Mark

Dates to Remember

Sunday, Sept 18- Bible Sunday and Backpack Blessing at 9:15 service

New Member Class at 10:30 am.

Sunday, Sept. 25- New Member Sunday

Saah Night for 9th Grade Confirmation— 5:00 pm

Sunday, October 2- 1st Communion Class— 5:00 pm

Sunday, October 9— 1st Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 30— Confirmation Sunday— 10:30



Dates to Remember

Unapproved St. John Lutheran Church Council Minutes August 18, 2022

President Ben Aust called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Present:

	Pastor Mark	X	Ben Aust	X	Chris Schultz	X	Albert Koepp
X	Matt Stier	X	Wendy Theis		Jen Nagorski	X	Steve Kelm
X	Robin Fink	X	Jan Effinger	X	Teresa Latzke	X	Tim Moonen
X	Curt Johnson	X	Anne Herrmann				

Opening Devotions:

The meeting was opened with a prayer from Jan Effinger.

Approval of Minutes:

Members of Council reviewed the minutes from July 21, 2022 Council Meeting. Motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the meeting minutes from July. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the agenda for August 18, 2022 with amendment for the new business item.

Pastor Mark's Report:

Please refer to the August newsletter for Pastor Mark's reports.

Staff Reports:

Custodial:

Curt reported three front door locks are on a timer. He also noted that a broken air conditioner will need repair.

Treasurer:

Robin walked through the monthly reports noting the loan from the Foundation has been repaid in full.

Transfers:

Transfer In - none

Out - none

Ongoing Business:

A discussion was had on Strategic Planning including the creation of a Call Committee. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to start the process. President Aust will connect with Pastor Mark, the Joshua Group, and the Synod.

Council member Albert Koepp reported on Fall Restart activities. Pastor Mark and the Small Group/Faith Formation Committee met to begin organizing volunteers.

September 18th will be Rally Sunday and the plan is to return to full operations with the help of the altar guild, greeters, readers, communion assistants, and ushers.

Contact Information sheets are available in the bulletin and monthly newsletter.

The Building and Grounds Committee are continuing their efforts on the list of repairs needed.

The Mortgage Burning Committee reported on their work with the city to obtain the permit. The committee also located several photos that will be used in an electronic display.

New Business:

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to offer the Confirmation students an opportunity to help not only with acolytes but also with greeting, ushering, readings, manning the Powerpoint presentation, and live streaming of the services.

Ministry Team Updates:

Stewardship Committee - nothing new to report.

Buildings and Grounds Committee - continuing efforts on the list of repairs.

Personnel Committee - Dynelle Kruggel has opted to step down from the committee. Thank you, Dynelle, for your service on the Personnel Committee.

Children's Ministry Team - nothing new to report.

Small Group/Faith Formation Committee - reaching out to volunteers to fill the positions needed to return to full operations.

Worship and Music Committee - new Choir Director and Choir working on music selection for Mortgage Burning service.

Technology and Communications Committee - nothing new to report.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:06 p.m. Meeting was adjourned followed by the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anne Herrmann, Secretary



September Children's Ministry Update

We are excited to start another programming year at St. John! Please pray for our pastor, teachers, and leaders as a new program year begins.

Also, please consider volunteering with the youth ministry of the church, we welcome and encourage ALL adults to share their time and talents with our youngest members. **If you have a child in fifth grade or older that can help in classrooms on Sundays**, please contact youthsjlc@gmail.com if you are able to help.

Please complete the registration form by September 6th for planning purposes.

Follow the link to register for Sunday School:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepN1D4L6xeqRjO8DI0bojOvjuOvbl1p4eP6oQbr3zox02ceQ/viewform>

Important September Dates

Sunday, September 11th Mortgage Burning Party

Sunday, September 18th will kick off our programming year. There is a lot going on!

Backpack Blessing: All school aged children from Pre-K to High School are encouraged to bring their backpacks to the 9:15 church service to receive a blessing for the school year.

Bible Sunday: Children (1st grade, and 5th grade) will receive Bibles during the 9:15 service.

Rally Sunday will be an orientation for PreK-4th grade students and parents in the church basement.

Sunday, September 25th First Sunday School class from 9:15-10:15am

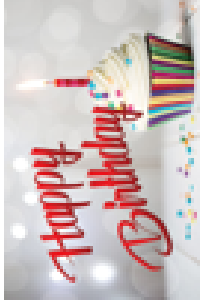
Wednesday, September 14th Confirmation/Connect orientation @6:00pm: Confirmation is for 7th/8th grade students and Connect is for 5th/6th grade students

Wednesday, September 21st Confirmation Small Group Service Fellowship/First Connect class @6:00pm

Sunday, October 2nd First Communion Instruction: This evening class is at 5:00 is for 5th grade students and older who have not yet received the sacrament of communion.

Sunday, October 9th (8:00) 1st Communion: All those that attended the 1st Communion class shall receive their first communion at the 8:00 church service.

September 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				Caren Grotberg	Madden Carlson Jamey Jeurissen Kim Meierbachtol Derek Scheer Joseph Stoutland Todd Theis	Joshua Hanson Breanda Hollberg Avery Molin Terry Siemon
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Allison Harek Chloe Oldenburg Cole Schwartz Rachel Soller	Tricia Bauer Charlotte Koepp Wayne Nagel Karim Tolbert	Wyatt Borresen Mark Meierbachtol Ethan Perkins	Sandra Wolpern	Austin Overline Kris Schmidt	Laundry Kelm Cayla Menke Charli Jo Stier	John Busse
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Bruce Koepp Henry Posthumus Joshua Sparby Lydia Sparby	John Koenig Jaydon Thasemert	Jason Schmidt Esther Stoppelmann Brooklyn Theas	Amy Franck	Cadence Bauer Cheryl Johnson Margaret Meierbachtol Jackson Stauffacher Linda Stier	Josh Henning Jill Martin	Harlie Bristolin Miranda Widmer
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Elliana Kopesky Margaret Schwichtenberg Holly Stier James Stradcuter	Elliana Fahy Levi Schmidt Kristin Stier Carson Tester Jeffrey Wolff	Mora Andert Susie Koepp	Amanda Berg Jason Stier Emmett Wolf	Chase Hager Ashley Seaver Tiffany Stier	Maynard Schmidt Justin Stauffacher	Mallory Kelm Sheila Weldon
25	26	27	28	29	30	
John Franck Steven Kelm Michael Schmiöt	Jordan Johnson Jean Peterson	Esther Schultz Matthew Traxler	Caelin Brueske Janet Effinger Kase Heinz Laura Koepp Wendy Theis Colin Weldon	Kristi Connelly Dan Herrmann Elizabeth Herrmann Katie Klaverkamp Cory Koepp Autumn Laue	Claire Otto	

September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00 Worship Service	5 Office Closed Labor Day	6 11:00 Lutheran Home Service 1:30 pm Kingsway Service	7	8	9	10
11 Mortgage Burning Celebration 8:50 Council Executive meeting 9:15 Worship Service	12 6:30pm Boy Scout meeting	13	14 6:00pm Connect/Confirmation Orientation	15 6:30 pm Church Council	16	17 6:00 pm Worship Service
18 Rally and Bible Sunday 8:00 & 9:15 Worship Services 10:30 New Member Class	19 6:30pm Boy Scout meeting	20 5:30 pm Pizza 6:00 pm Connect class 6:00 pm Confirmation Small Group	21	22	23	24 6:00 pm Worship Service
25 New Member Sunday 8:00 & 9:15 Worship Services 9:15 Sunday School 5:00 pm Confirmation Sash Night	26 6:30pm Boy Scout meeting	27 5:30 pm Pizza 6:00 pm Connect/Confirmation class	28	29	30	

Financial Corner

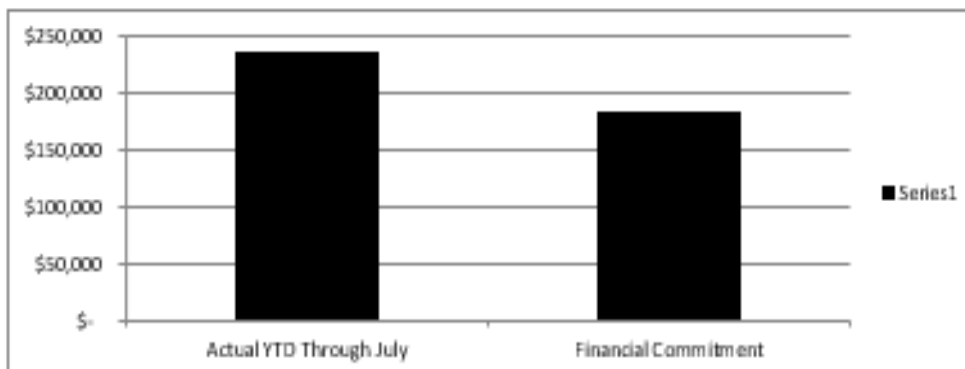
St. John Financial Results Seven Months Ending July 31, 2022 and July 31, 2021

	General Operating Fund		Year Over Year
	July 31, 2022	July 31, 2021	Increase (Decrease)
Income *	\$ 235,971	\$ 181,750	30%
Expenses:			
Personnel	(127,587)	(120,084)	
Office	(10,365)	(9,411)	
Property & Maintenance	(26,352)	(22,973)	
Ministry	(12,154)	(7,373)	
Other	(4,695)	(2,617)	
Benevolence:			
Minneapolis Area Synod	(8,700)	(7,000)	
Camp Onomia	(2,000)	(1,750)	
Belle Plaine Fire Dept	-	(300)	
Lutheran Social Services	(1,000)	(1,000)	
Net Receipts / (Expenditures)	\$ 43,118	\$ 9,242	
Cash Balance at January 1 (excl. all loans)	\$ 7,829	\$ (82,735)	
Net Income / (Expenditures)	43,118	9,242	
Misc. cash not affecting income	202	377	
Loan from Building Fund (from 2018 - 2019)	-	44,500	
Loan from St. John Foundation (from 2014-2016)	-	54,564	
Cash Balance at July 31	\$ 51,149	\$ 25,948	

* 2022 Includes \$40K Employee Retention Credit & \$16K Memorial Income

Actual Income Compared to 2021 Financial Commitment:

Actual YTD Through July	\$ 235,971
Financial Commitment	\$ 182,578





September 4, 2022 Ushers	
9:00 Service	
Brian Schmidt Jonathan Schmidt Jason Schmidt Doug Hillstrom Dave Latzke Jerold Stauffacher	Tim Moonen Dale Schmidt Samuel Schmidt Dick Bristow

September 11, 2022 Ushers	
9:30 Service	
Marc & Mindy Chevalier Andy Steinhagen Bruce Koepf Tammy Koepf Michael Gustafson	Scott Ruud Alex Ruud Griffin Ruud Dale Mercado Jake Mercado Jerry Meger Alex Meger

September 18, 2022 Ushers	
8:00 Service	9:15 Service
Marc & Mindy Chevalier Andy Steinhagen Bruce Koepf Tammy Koepf Michael Gustafson	Scott Ruud Alex Ruud Griffin Ruud Dale Mercado Jake Mercado Jerry Meger Alex Meger

September 25 and Oct. 2, 2022 Ushers	
8:00 Service	9:15 Service
Albert Koepf Dorothy Koepf Kevin Koepf Matt Stier Bruce Volek Tim Carlson Josh Koepf	Brent Koepf Mitchel Koepf Jackson Stauffacher Justin Stauffacher Todd Kruggel

CALLED TO SERVE THROUGH OUR GIVING	
Offering Received the week of	
July 28– August 3 General Fund—\$8,376 Building Fund—\$1,991	August 4– August 10 General Fund—\$4,086 Building Fund—\$1,070
August 11– August 17 General Fund—\$5,888 Building Fund—\$1,300	August 18– August 24 General Fund— \$1,890 Building Fund- \$510

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

Camp Onomia's 24th Annual

Quilt Auction

Saturday, September 17, 2022

It will be another awesome day at Camp Onomia for our annual live quilt auction, bake sale, and silent auction! Be sure to invite your friends & family for this fun event. All proceeds support the year-round ministries of Camp Onomia.



◆ Live Quilt Auction
◆ Silent Auction
◆ Bake Sale
◆ Raffle Quilt

SCHEDULE:
11:00 AM: Welcome and worship in Chapel
11:00 AM: Quilt preview, silent auction, and bake sale begin in Friendship Hall
Noon: Lunch with free-will offering
1:00 PM: Live Quilt Auction begins
2:30 PM: Silent Auction ends

Raffle drawing will be held near the end of the quilt auction.

Raffle Quilt: 104" x 104" Raffle tickets for this beautiful quilt in a hexagon pattern are available online, at the Camp Office, and during the auction. You do not need to be present to win. Back is multicolored batik.

New this year: We welcome guests overnight on both Friday and Saturday, September 16 and 17. Come early, stay late, make some new friends, and experience this amazing setting in God's creation! \$40 Friday night includes breakfast and lunch Saturday; \$40 Saturday night includes Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast.

Camp Onomia
14202 Shakopee Lake Road, Onamia, MN 56359

Phone: 320-532-3767
Email: camponomia@gmail.com



View an online preview of the quilts!
www.camponomia.org/quilt.htm