



October FORERUNNER

Volume 717 Issue 342
October 2024

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Fall Worship Hours
Saturday Worship 5pm
Sunday Worship 9:45am
Confirmation Class:
Sundays 8:30am
Sunday School:
October May 8:30am
(First Sunday of the month)

Ask the Pastor

Matthew 11:12 was part of my devotion reading... *"From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and violent people take it by force."* **Is the kingdom of heaven the church?**

No, not necessarily. But it should be.

In Matthew's Gospel, the "kingdom of heaven" is not really a place, but the idea of God's sovereign rule over all creation, in the past, present, and future. Some Bibles will translate the phrase as the "reign of God" to emphasize the idea that it's not so much a kingdom in the clouds sort of thing, but rather God's rule over the earth. The "kingdom of heaven" is about how God wants things to be in the present world. We see this idea in the Lord's Prayer when we pray, "your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven." We are asking God to help, lead, enable us to do things God's way; do things on earth as God would want them done.

In the context of passage above, I read it as Jesus' critique of how John (and the Old Testament prophets) were received. God's reign, the message of the way God wants things to be, presented by John and the prophets, was not well received. We can safely say John "suffered violence". Jesus just got done saying in verse 5, "the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with a skin disease are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them." That's what the reign of God looks like, but the world responds with violence and force.

So how does this idea relate to the church? One commentator wrote, "Think of the "kingdom of heaven" as the broader spiritual reality encompassing all of God's redemptive work in the world, not limited to any one institution."

That sentence is doing a lot of work... I take it to mean God's reign, the "kingdom of heaven" is bigger than just the church (small "c" church as in local congregation, and big "C" as in Church universal).

So God's reign is bigger than the institution, but... the church, as the body of Christ, can be seen as *part* of the kingdom of heaven, *part* of God's reign, especially in its role of spreading the gospel and embodying Christ's teachings. The church participates in God's redemptive work when we are doing the work of Christ... helping the blind to see, healing the sick, bringing good news to the poor, rejecting the ways of violence and force, the restoration of peace and harmony, etc.

So to my original answer... the church is a significant aspect of the kingdom but is not its entirety.

If you would like to submit a question for "Ask the Pastor", Biblical, theological, church related, anything you have been dying to ask a pastor, you can hand me a note, send an e-mail, or anonymously slide a sealed envelope under my office door. If I answer your question in print, I will not include your name unless you explicitly ask me to.



In Memory of Edna Rideout

Gary and Jill Kookken
Jane Ruch
Roger and Cheryl Hayward
Roland and Janice Sandrock
Mary Ellen Miller
Sharon Traver

In Memory of Jeanette Lentz

Alice Siglar
Roland and Janice Sandrock
Darlene Carstensen
Al & Traci Brown
Margaret Berger
Michael and Jane Lentz
Alice Witt
Carol Vargo
Doris Titgemeyer
Dennis and RoseMarie Dickinson
Elaine Gruetter
Ron & Diane Gerkenmeyer

In Memory of Wayne Bauman

Al and Traci Brown
Doris Titgemeyer

Linda Schlievert
Donna Mathews
Alice Witt
Elaine Gruetter
Paul and Marilyn Skotynsky
Elaine Gladieux
Gary and Jody Durivage
Lana Mergenthaler
John and Helen Meyer
John and Carol Schwegler
Jerry and MaryLou Ramasocky
Bob and Diane Kapp
Carolyn Lasseter/ Marilyn Sandrock
Ben Driver
Lowell and Diane Hartman
Terry and Mary Ann Foos
Jim and Judy Pilewski
Dennis and RoseMarie Dickinson
Rich Brossia Family
Leroy and Bonnie Williams
Jim and Mona Vogelbacher
John, Tammy and Anna Mazur
Carole Beamer
Ron & Diane Gerkenmeyer



This is to thank you for the beautiful quilt I received for being named Patriarch of the Congregation. It will be used all the time, especially since cold weather is coming. Thank you so much for this honor. It is very humbling.
Richard Crosskill



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is published monthly
by St. John Lutheran Church
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419-378-1112
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@stjohnwilliston.org

Fall Worship
Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday Worship 9:45 AM

Deadline for the
November 2024 Forerunner is
Monday, October 21st
Please send articles and/or
information to
office@stjohnwilliston.org.



"Creating and nurturing life
changing relationships based on the
love of God in Jesus Christ, so that
we may grow in faith, serve God and
serve our neighbor."

LisaAnne Gregg
Office Administrator
(419) 836-5514
office@stjohnwilliston.org



Mon.—Weds. 9AM -3 PM
Thurs. hours may vary
Office closed Friday



Circle Meetings

ESTHER CIRCLE: Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2:00 p.m.

Meeting in the Social Hall

Bible Study: Diane Gerkenmeyer

REBEKAH CIRCLE: Tuesday, Oct. 8, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting in the Lounge



Our Purpose..... "As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world."

*St. John Prayer Chain is
there for you....*

***"Whatever you ask for in prayer with faith,
you will receive." Matthew 21:22***

When there is illness, a special need, or a time of thanksgiving in your family, or among friends or neighbors, you may wish to ask for the prayers of your sisters and brothers at St. John. If such a need arises, call Pastor O'Brien (cell 419-378-1112) Margaret Berger (419-340-2150) or the church office (419-836-5514)

who will begin the prayer chain.

Please keep your message to the minimum to avoid any errors in passing it on. Thank you!

Blanket Ministry Weekends!



The Blanket Ladies will again be displaying their many many blankets on the weekends of **Sept. 29/29, Oct. 5/6 and Oct. 12/13**

They will again be selling raffle tickets for \$1.00 each.

And, there will be a silent auction on some.

Blankets will be sold for a **donation of \$30.00.**

Baby and small children size are **\$25.00.**

These will be placed in the front rows of the church.

Remember you must mark any monies turned into the offering plate or office "blankets".

You can also give the money to the ladies selling raffle tickets, before and after services.

The raffle, silent auction and sale of blankets are the only funds we receive to purchase filler and backs for the blankets.

So, thank you for your donations!!

The final Sunday for display will be October 13th and we draw the winning raffle tickets at that time.

We will notify the winners on October 15th.

This is our only "sale" but we have blankets available all year long!!

We tie each Tuesday morning from 9:00am-11:30am.

We invite you to join us or just stop to visit and see how it is done. Thanks to all for the donations of sheets (any size), fabric, thread and yarn we find in our blanket room.

Matriarch & Patriarch



Pictured are our newest **Matriarch, RoseMary Fredericksen** and our newest **Patriarch Richard Crosskill**. They were presented with the church bibles, just two weeks apart during Saturday worship services. Back in 2005, when the WECLA started this tradition, our first Matriarch and Patriarch were presented the bibles just days apart. This is the first time in 19 years that it has happened again in a short period of time.

In the nineteen years of this tradition, the ceremony has been conducted during church services, at assisted living facilities in their room or in the chapel. We had one recognition during COVID which was held at the church with only a few people present. Sadly, one Matriarch who passed away the day before she was to receive the bible, so she was honored posthumously.

Our picture frames, located in the educational hallway have pictures of all our Matriarchs and Patriarchs displayed.

Be sure to take a look as you pass by.

Matriarchs

Ella Kopfman 2005
Fern Martin 2006
Helen Johnson 2008
Mildren Panning 2009
Hazel Marsh 2012
Dorothy Johnson 2014
Gertrude Henningsen 2016
Edna Sandrock 2021
Carol Tank 2021
Edna Rideout 2022
RoseMary Fredericksen 2024



Patriarchs

Earl Johnson 2005
Charles Johnson 2013
Donald Ruthsatz 2015
Frederick Lau 2019
Leroy Fowler 2020
Ray Frederickson 2021
Henry Krukemyer 2022
Richard Crosskill 2024



Faith Practice #3 Readings Job

Our Seven Faith Practices

I will strive to...

1. **PRAY** daily
2. **WORSHIP** weekly
3. **READ** and study the Bible
4. **SERVE** at and beyond St. John
5. **INVITE** others into a loving relationship with Jesus
6. **GIVE** of my time, talents, and resources
7. **ENCOURAGE** spiritual growth in others

Our reading schedule continues.....

September 2 – Job 8
 September 9 – Job 9
 September 16 – Job 10
 September 23 – Job 11
 September 30 – Job 12
 October 7 – Job 13
 October 14 – Job 14
 October 21 – Job 15
 October 28 – Job 16
 November 4 – Job 17

November 11 – Job 18
 November 18 – Job 19
 November 25 – Job 20
ADVENT BREAK
 December 30 – Job 21
 January 6 – Job 22
 January 13 – Job 23
 January 20 – Job 24
 January 27 – Job 25
 February 3 – Job 26
 February 10 – Job 27
 February 17 – Job 28
 February 24 – Job 29

March 3 – Job 30
 March 10 – Job 31
 March 17 – Job 32
 March 24 – Job 33
 March 31 – Job 34
 April 7 – Job 35
 April 14 – Job 36
 April 21 – Job 37
 April 28 – Job 38
 May 5 – Job 39
 May 12 – Job 40
 May 19 – Job 41
 May 26 – Job 42

Item number three on our list of Seven Faith Practices is “read and study the Bible.” Each week we, as a congregation, will be reading one chapter from a book of the Bible. Currently, we are reading from the book of Job. We will continue with our “one chapter per week” schedule. I hope you will consider joining us as we practice our faith!

The Book of Job, grouped with the “poetry and wisdom” books in the Old Testament, explores themes of suffering, faith, and the nature of God’s justice. The story is set in the land of Uz and centers around Job, a blameless and upright man who fears God and shuns evil.

The narrative begins with a description of Job’s prosperity and piety, yet the Adversary appears before God and argues that Job is faithful only because of his prosperity. God allows the Adversary to test Job by taking away his possessions, children, and health, but forbids him from taking Job’s life. Despite his immense suffering, Job does not curse God but instead laments his misfortune.

His lament sets the stage for a series of dialogues between Job and his friends. They engage in a series of speeches, arguing that Job’s suffering must be a punishment for some hidden sin. Job maintains his innocence and argues that his suffering is unjust.

At the end of the book God finally answers Job out of a whirlwind. Rather than providing a direct explanation for Job’s suffering, God highlights the vastness and complexity of creation, emphasizing his own omnipotence and the limitations of human understanding. Through a series of rhetorical questions, God makes it clear that his ways and purposes are beyond human comprehension.

The Book of Job is a powerful exploration of the human condition, the mystery of suffering, and the nature of faith in the face of inexplicable adversity. It challenges simplistic notions of divine justice and encourages a humble acknowledgment of the limits of human understanding.



If you are interested in joining the bell choir and/or singing with the choir this fall, please contact **Beckie Goldstein** or see her after church services. Practices are after Sunday's service.

CHURCH KEYS

NEEDED



If anyone has a church key that they don't need— please turn it into office.
Thank You!!



The Blessing Box serves our neighbors every day! And we can use your help!

Needed:

- *Canned Meat (tuna/chicken)
- *Boxed Pasta Sides
- Applesauce
- Peanut butter and Jelly
- Fruit (canned)
- Snacks (small)
- Cereal (small boxes)
- Spaghetti sauce & spaghetti

Thank you for your help and support to continue to keep our Blessing Box full!



SACK FOR A SACK

St. John will be supporting **SACK FOR A SACK** again this year. Every time the Genoa defense sacks the opposing team's quarterback, St. John will donate a \$50 sack of groceries to the Genoa Food pantry. If you would like to contribute to "Sack for a Sack" and the Genoa Food Pantry, mark your donation "Sack for a Sack" and place it in the offering plate. You can also drop off a donation at the church office.



JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST!

Breakfast Gatherings have moved to the McDonald's in **Genoa!**
So, join us Weds. morning at 7 AM for food and fellowship!

PACK 342 INVITES YOU TO PANCAKE BREAKFAST

WHEN: NOV 16, 2024

TIME: 8AM - 11AM

WHERE: ST JOHN WILLISTON CHURCH

\$5 ADVANCED TICKETS

AVAILABLE THROUGH NOV 3, 2024



AT THE DOOR:

KIDS 4 & UNDER : FREE

KIDS 5-12: \$5

ADULTS: \$8

SENIORS 60+: \$6



TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH ANY PACK 342 MEMBER OR THROUGH STEPHANIE BOSS AT 419.250.8161 (TEXT OR CALL)





Please join us in our new Sunday School format!

Bring the whole family for a bible story,
craft, snack, video, and music!

(Yes, we want parents too!)

**We will meet every first Sunday of the month,
October through May, in the basement.
See you October 6th at 8:30!**



Confirmation Class
Every Sunday
at 8:30a.m.

Prayer/Contact Cards...

You will see blue Prayer/
Contact cards in the pews.
Please fill them out if you
have a prayer request, a
change in your contact
information, would like to
join the St. John family or to
speak with the Pastor. Just
place them in the offering
plate.





THE CHOSEN SERIES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6
11:00 A.M.

WE WILL GATHER FOLLOWING SUNDAY'S WORSHIP (11:00ISH) AND HAVE PIZZA WHILE WE WATCH THE SHOW. WE WELCOME ANYONE TO JOIN US. IF YOU MISS AN EPISODE OR NEED TO CATCH UP,

YOU CAN FIND THE SHOW AT

[HTTPS://WWW.ANGEL.COM/WATCH/THE-CHOZEN](https://www.angel.com/watch/the-chozen)

SCHEDULE

NOV. 3
NOV. 17
DEC. 1
DEC. 15
JAN. 12
JAN. 26
FEB. 9



PAJAMAS!

We are collecting **PAJAMAS** for distribution with the Holiday Bureau. Starting in September through November, there will be **MOONS**

set out with the gender and size needed for you to pick up ! You may wrap your gift if you like, but make sure you attach the moon or label it. Please help to provide the wonderful gift of snuggly pajamas ! Any questions call Cheryl Berger @419-345-3941.

BAUMANN AUTO GROUP 22ND ANNUAL BIG CHARITY

— RAFFLE —

100% OF VEHICLE DONATED BY THE BAUMANN AUTO GROUP
WINNER WINS THE CHOICE OF:



NEW CHEVROLET
TRAILBLAZER*



NEW FORD
MAVERICK*



NEW JEEP
COMPASS*

OR CASH OPTION OF \$20,000

* MSRP UP TO \$27,000

Tickets for the 22nd Annual Baumann Auto Group Charity Raffle are available in the church office.

Tickets are \$5.00. When you buy your ticket at St. John, 100% of the proceeds go to the Genoa Food Pantry.

Ladies,

You are cordially invited to attend
Our 27th Annual Advent Brunch

Is There a Star in Your Eyes?



November 30, 2024

9:30 a.m.

St. John Lutheran Church, Rocky Ridge, Ohio

Tickets

\$10.00 with reservation, limited seating

RSVP with payment
to LisaAnne in the church office
(St John-Williston)
no later than November 10th.





A morning chill turned into a bright and sunny day of golf and fellowship as our 12th Annual St. John Golf Outing to benefit the Good Samaritan Fund which was held Saturday, September 21st at Chippewa Golf Course.

Following golf, 11 teams gathered back in the clubhouse to enjoy a BBQ chicken dinner from Blackberry Corners and to receive LOTS of PRIZES!

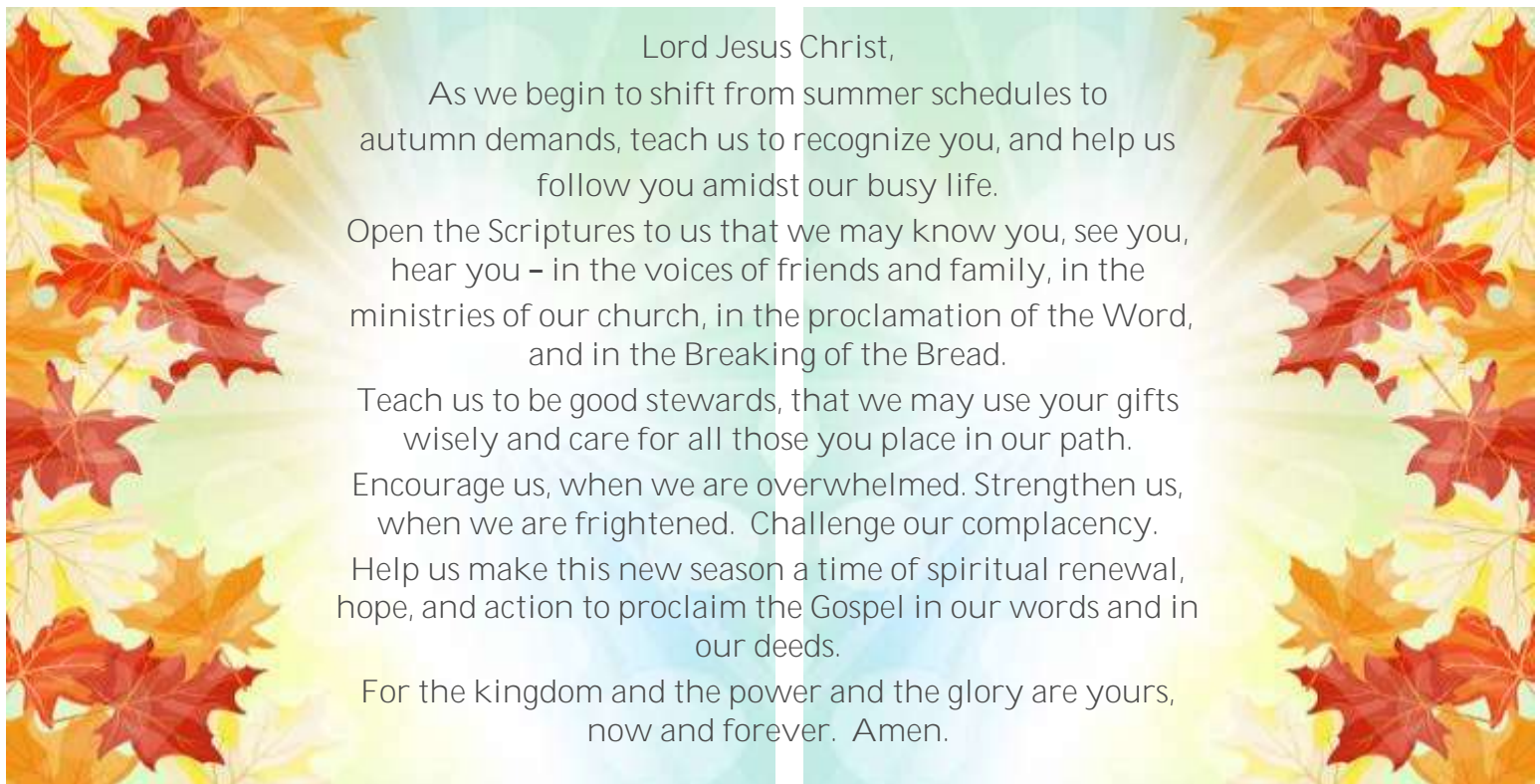
The real winner is the Good Samaritan Fund!!

This money is used to support the Genoa Food Pantry, other area Food Pantries, our Blessing Box, community outreach and to provide emergency financial aid to families in immediate need.

This year we also supported Nightengale's Harvest– a charity dedicated to cancer patients, Lutheran Disaster Response to US Wildfires and Christian artisans in Bethlehem who have been greatly impacted by war.

The continued success of this event would not be possible without YOU! Your generosity over the years has enabled us to raise over \$28000. Thank You!

See you next year!!



Let your light shine so
people everywhere may
see your good actions
and praise God in
heaven because of it.
Matthew 5:16

God is pure light,
undimmed by darkness
of any kind.
1 John 1:5

SUNDAY SCHOOL Kickoff



Join us for Sunday School!
Sunday, October 6th– 8:30 AM
Invite a friend to Sunday School!



Trunk or Treat at St. John!

October 20 from 2:00-4:00.

Decorate a pumpkin, go on a hay ride, have lunch, and go trunk or treating!

Please bring in donations of wrapped candy for trunk or treat.

(You may leave them in the box near the church office.)

You can help! Decorate trunks and hand out **candy and help with pumpkins.... Confirmation** students, you get service hours for this!

Invite your friends and family to join us!!

**Christmas on
the Beach!**



Mark your calendars!

The Children's Christmas program will be on Sunday, December 8, 2024 during the 9:45 church service.

The program this year is "Christmas on the Beach".

If anyone has any beach items they would like lend the church for the program, please contact Tammy Mazur at 419-266-6491.



Northwestern Ohio Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.
There is no law against such things. (Galatians 5:22-23

Dear Friends in Christ,

St. Ignatius of Loyola was a proponent of spiritual reflection and review. In his Spiritual Exercises (published in 1548), Ignatius teaches the Prayer of the Examen. He encourages the supplicant to reflect back on a day, a week, or a season, and prayerfully consider areas of consolation and desolation.

Consolation includes times when you were drawn toward God's active presence in the world. Times when the Fruit of the Spirit was evident (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness...). Times when you were growing in love, mercy, and hope.

Ignatius also encourages us, not to avoid, but to also consider areas of desolation. Times when you were drawn away from God's active presence in the world. Times of resentment, ingratitude, jealousy, enmity, and strife. Times of turning in on self. Times of leaning away from community.

In my Evening Prayer, there is a short form of Ignatius' Prayer of the Examen that is called an Examination of Conscience. It is very simple exercise, but I commend it to you for your evening devotion. Give it a try for the next 2 weeks and let me know how it goes.

Briefly consider your day.

What did I do well?

What could I have done better?

Whom did I offend?

Whom did I help or encourage?

Offer a simple Prayer of Confession

Pray the Lord's Prayer

Then, Rest Well

Daniel Beaudoin

Bless you,
Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin

WORLD FOOD DAY

Celebrating 50 Years of ELCA World Hunger

TUESDAY, OCT. 15

7 PM CENTRAL TIME
online event

Scan to learn more

Join ELCA World Hunger for a celebration of World Food Day and the 50th anniversary of ELCA World Hunger!

Hosts: Imran Siddiqui, Vice president of the ELCA
Rev. Amy Current, Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod

50th ELCA World Hunger

[ELCA.org/WH50](https://elca.org/WH50)

October 2024

Year of Rest Calendar

| Mental | Sensory | Emotional | Social | Creative | Physical | Spiritual |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. - 1 John 4:11 | | 1 Journal or list how you experience God's love. | 2 Connect with a group of people you value. | 3 Make something for someone else. | 4 Take a walk. Silently pray for the places and people you meet. | 5 Offer a note of gratitude to someone. |
| But Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God all things are possible." - Matthew 19:26 | 6 Begin your day with five minutes of silence. | 7 Eat something you associate with Fall. Give thanks for this gift. | 8 Ask someone for help today. Do not apologize for needing it. | 9 Offer a prayer of petition asking God for what you need. | 10 Take time to marvel at something created by another. | 11 Take a bike ride or a stroll outside. Enjoy your surroundings. |
| Blessed shall you be when you come in, and blessed shall you be when you go out. - Deuteronomy 28:6 | 13 Notice your pace while walking and driving today. Slow down. | 14 Use your senses to experience signs of the changing season. | 15 Spend time remembering the Saints of old. | 16 Intentionally greet others as they come and go. | 17 Prepare your home for the change of seasons. | 18 Stretch for 5 minutes. |
| ...and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age. - Matt 28:20 | 20 Meditate or sit in silence for 5 minutes. | 21 Smell something delightful. | 22 Call or write someone who lives far away. | 23 Listen to a song from a different culture. | 24 Carve or decorate a pumpkin. | 25 Travel to a place that is new to you. |
| O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. - Psalm 136:1 | 27 Recount what you are thankful for this month. | 28 Get your hands dirty doing something good. | 29 Breathe deeply for 3 minutes. | 30 Close your eyes. Be mindful of what you notice. | 31 Sing a song you love loudly and joyfully. | 31 Do something playful. |
| | | | | | | 26 Enjoy a sunrise or sunset. |

YEAR OF REST Weekly Practices

Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!
-Ps 27:14

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|---|
| MONDAY | Sensory Rest | Smell something delightful. |
| TUESDAY | Emotional Rest | Call or write someone you connect with. |
| WEDNESDAY | Social Rest | Ask someone for help today. |
| THURSDAY | Creative Rest | Sing or listen to a hymn that encourages you. |
| FRIDAY | Spiritual Rest | Advocate for someone's needs. |
| SATURDAY | Physical Rest | Take a stroll. Greet those you meet along the way. |
| SUNDAY | Mental Rest | Recount what you are thankful for this month. |

HOW DO YOU REST?

"Rest" is defined by Merriam Webster as "to cease work in order to relax." This does not align with my DNA, as I descended from a line of lifelong Lutherans who valued and instilled the virtue of work. My profession as a Corporate Attorney, coupled with the calling to serve God with all my abilities, meant I was always working. As my parents often reminded me, God-given talents were not to be squandered. This entailed dedicating over 60 hours weekly to legal affairs, alongside a comparable commitment to my church, nonprofits, and charitable endeavors. Carving out time for rest, even briefly, was always a challenge.

My rest lay in seizing solitary moments, cherishing quiet spaces, and delighting in the wonders of creation. Engaging in baking, artistic pursuits, and gardening brought me joy—solitary activities that yield delicious treats, handcrafted presents, and beautiful flowers to share with others. Even after my stroke when these activities became challenging, these joys still bring rest to my soul. I find myself drawn to times alone, when I hear God's call to rest my mind and soul, and experience His peace.

While it may sound incongruous for some people, preparing for the upcoming women's Bible Study retreat I lead is rest for my soul. Seeking the right Bible verses to encourage others, teaching others to find joy in their Bible reading and strengthening their faith is calming and restful to me. Rest comes in many forms, and creativity is mine."

Laurie Pangle
NWOS Lay Leader



A big **THANK YOU**
to those who participated in
God's Work. Our Hands.
Sunday-the ELCA's Day of
Service by serving at the
Luther Home of Mercy.

What a fun day!

St. John joined with members
from St. Peter-Blackberry for a
day filled with fun, snacks, crafts
and baseball!





St. John Lutheran Church Council Highlights September 2024

Members Present: Pastor O'Brien, Dan Kessler, Tim Titgemeyer, Diana (Pfaff) Lambert, Dave Neuman, Margaret Berger, Cheryl Berger, John Mazur, Deanna Neuman, Jennifer Nelson, Kristina Wildman, Pam LaRue and Amy Schloegl. Guest: Andy Kessler.

Devotions led by Pastor: Psalm 54 Devotions

Pastor's Report: Worship Attendance: In Person average for August 2024-181.3

compared to August 2023-203.3 Online average for August 2024- 105.8 compared to August 2023-194.3.

Numbers: 16 hospital/home-bound visits/individual or family meeting, 2 committee/group meetings

7 community/youth/fellowship events, 6 professional/clergy activities, 2 book studies

1 funeral, 1 wedding

Funeral: I presided at the funeral of Edna Rideout on August 16. Wedding: I presided at the wedding of Nick LaRue and Jo Leienberger on August 24

Time Off: I will not be in worship the weekend of September 28/29. Jon Keeley will be leading worship on Saturday. Diana Lambert will be leading worship on Sunday.

God's Work, Our Hands

Thank you to everyone who helped with God's Work, Our Hands on Sunday. The folks at Luther Home of Mercy appreciated our service.

Financial Secretary, Treasurer & Finance Committee Report: Income: We are 108% of our monthly budget and 97% of our year-to-date budget.. Expenses: We are 92% of the monthly budget and 96% of the year-to-date

budget. Committee will be sending out a letter to inform the congregation of the additional income needed to catch up to the budget amount will be coming out the first week in October. Committees can turn in their budget needs for next year to the Finance Committee in October so that they can start their budget updates in November. Finance has another insurance company coming in to see if we can get a better rate for the church policy

Christian Community Life: The display is set up with "Moons" for the sizes and gender needed for the PJ's We will be collecting Sept, Oct and Nov. The committee is asking for pajamas for the Holiday Bureau to distribute. CCL will serving the lunch for Trunk or Treat

Evangelism: The committee made a basket for the Golf Outing. Will be making a basket for Trunk Or Treat with drawing time at 3:45. Discussed the Christmas Tree Lighting.

Representatives from Nightingales Harvest have been invited. We will collecting personal and paper products for them. They are in need of liquid hand soap, liquid dish soap and toilet paper.

Parish Education: First "inter-generational" Sunday School of the school year will be October 6 at 8:30 am. with Deanna Neuman and Carol Jensen leading the class. Trunk or Treat will be held on October 20 from 2-4 pm. Plans were finalized. CCL will provide the food for the lunch. Evangelism will provide a gift basket for the raffle. Looking for volunteers to decorate trunks, hand out candy, help with pumpkin decorating and donate candy. Rol Sandrock will provide the things needed for the hayride and Pastor will drive.

Stewardship: Plans for the Golf Outing have been finalized with 10 teams this year. Blackberry Corners will provide the meal and Chippewa has everything ready on their end.

**St. John Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights-
September 2024-continued**

Worship Life: Two of our worship life committee members and Diana Lambert have been trained by Diane Gerkenmeyer on how to change the altar linens. Each member has been assigned dates to change the linens throughout the church year. We will work together to cover all the dates if someone is unavailable to do the job on the date they are assigned. Diana may also be able to fill in if needed. An instruction sheet has been typed and will be in the communion room to refer to. On the weekend of September 28th and 29th, Pastor Shawn will be out of town. John Keeley will lead service on Saturday and Diana (Pfaff) Lambert on Sunday. Thank you, John and Diana. Sunday, November 24th will be our Thanksgiving service. 5:00 service, 6:00 meal. We had some discussion on recycling and/or donating old bibles and old hymnals. It was suggested to save some of the old hymnals and keep them in the music room. If anyone knows of a place that could use them, please let us know. Christmas Eve services times continue to be discussed and are yet to be determined, with the exception of 4:00, which will be the contemporary service. Christmas Eve will be on a Tuesday this year.

Property: Boiler leak at the parsonage has been repaired. Furnace will be checked by Dimech. Parking lot has been stripped. The fluorescent light bulbs will recycled on 10/12/2024.

Nominating Committee: Are working on recruiting people to fill the upcoming vacancies for the various committee and council positions.

Old Business: Cub Scouts are having a pancake breakfast fundraiser from 8-11 a.m, on Saturday, November 16, 2024.

New Business: Andy Kessler attended to the meeting to discuss the upgrade to the security camera system by Ubiquiti.. Also, looking into a door-access system to authorized users. Jennifer Nelson made a motion to approve up to \$3000.00 to Andy Kessler to install a door-access system to the main door and re-keying all external doors and adding new cameras to all external doors. Andy Kessler will be utilizing his Cap Stone Project (College Senior Project) and receiving \$200 towards this

project along with 3 extra personas to assist him in installing this new equipment. Cheryl Berger – 2nd .

Motion passed.

Hummingbirds and flowers to be placed on the courtyard windows to prevent the sparrows from hitting the windows and dying.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Dave Neuman.. Seconded by Deanna Neuman.
Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Diana (Pfaff) Lambert,
Council Secretary





Worship Assistants



| Saturdays 5:00pm | Sundays 9:45 am | Saturdays 5:00pm | Sundays 9:45 am |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Ushers | Ushers | Ushers | Ushers |
| 5- Buhrow Family | 6- Jill Kao | 2- Buhrow family | 3- Jill Kao |
| 12- Jack Mathews | 13- Diana Lambert | 9- Jack Mathews | 10- Diana Lambert |
| 19- Ron Gerkenmeyer | 20- Jim Vogelbacher | 16- Ron Gerkenmeyer | 17- Jim Volgelbacher |
| 26 - Donnelly Family | 27- Titgemeyer's | 23- Donnelly Family | 24- Titgemeyers |
| | | 30- Buhrow Family | |
| Lectors | Lectors | Lectors | Lectors |
| 5- Christine Danhoff | 6- Deanna Neuman | 2- Amy Schloegl | 3- Jerry Goldstein |
| 12- Amy Schloegl | 13- Diana Lambert | 9- Jonah D. | 10- Kellie Ulrich |
| 19- Nancy Strohscher | 20- Melissa Lammers | 16- Nancy Strohscher | 17- Melissa Lammers |
| 26- Beverly Harder | 27- Cebie Titgemeyer | 23- Beverly Harder | 24- Tim Titgemeyer |
| | | 30- Sandy Toth | |
| Acolytes | Acolytes | Acolytes | Acolytes |
| 5- Jacob Hi. | 6- Mila McQueary | 2- Liam D. | 3- Makenna G. |
| 12- Nolan D. | 13- Lauren Hoeft | 9- Nolan D. | 10- Riley C. |
| 19- Jacob H. | 20- Mila McQueary | 16- Jonah D. | 17- Rylan S. |
| 26- Liam D. | 27- Lauren Hoeft | 23- Trenton K. | 24- Lauren H. |
| | | 30- Jacob H. | |
| Communion | Communion | Communion | Communion |
| 5- Nancy Strohscher | 6- Margaret Berger | 2- Carol Vargo | 3- Margaret Berger |
| 12- Alice Witt | 13- Pan LaRue | 9- Alice Witt | 10- Dave Neuman |
| 19- Ron Gerkenmeyer | 20- Kellie Ulrich | 16- Ron Gerkenmeyer | 16- Roland Sandrock |
| 26- Al & Traci Brown | 27- Tim Titgemeyer | 23- JoElaine Schimming | 24- RoseMarie Dickinson |
| | | 30- Al & Traci Brown | |



















Thank you for serving the Lord! If you cannot make your assignment, please make arrangements for a replacement then let the office know.

More Worship Helpers Needed! Sign up in the office today!

OCTOBER

at St. John-Williston

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 29 Blanket Ministry Weekend 8:30am -9:30am Confirmation Class 9:45am -10:45am Traditional Worship 11:00am -12:00pm Choir practice 5:00pm -6:30pm Scouts (B) | 30 Faith Practice Reading- Job 12 | 1 9:00am Blankets | 2  7:00am Breakfast Gathering at GENOA McDonalds 8:00pm -7:00pm Cub Scouts Committee Meeting (B) | 3 | 4 Office closed | 5  Blanket Ministry Weekend 5:00pm Contemporary Worship |
| 6  Blanket Ministry Weekend 8:30am -9:30am Confirmation Class 8:30am -9:30am Sunday School for all ages 9:45am -10:45am Traditional Worship 11:00am -12:00pm Choir practice 11:00am -1:00pm The Chosen Movie | 7 Faith Practice Reading- Job 13 | 8  Esther Circle 2 PM Rachel Circle 7 PM 9:00am Blankets | 9  7:00am Breakfast Gathering at GENOA McDonalds | 10  Committee Night 7 PM | 11 Office closed | 12  Blanket Ministry Weekend 5:00pm Contemporary Worship |
| 13  Blanket Ministry Weekend 8:30am -9:30am Confirmation Class 9:45am -10:45am Traditional Worship 11:00am -12:00pm Choir practice 5:00pm -8:00pm BS Troop Meeting (B) | 14 Faith Practice Reading- Job 14 | 15 9:00am Blankets | 16  7:00am Breakfast Gathering at GENOA McDonalds | 17  Council Meeting 7 PM | 18 Office closed | 19 5:00pm Contemporary Worship |
| 20  Trunk or Treat 8:30am -9:30am Confirmation Class 9:45am -10:45am Traditional Worship 11:00am -12:00pm Choir practice | 21 Faith Practice Reading- Job 15  | 22 9:00am Blankets 7:00pm -8:00pm Boy Scout Committee Meeting (B) | 23  7:00am Breakfast Gathering at GENOA McDonalds | 24 | 25 Office closed | 26 5:00pm Contemporary Worship |
| 27 8:30am -9:30am Confirmation Class 9:45am -10:45am Traditional Worship 11:00am -12:00pm Choir practice 5:00pm -6:30pm Scouts | 28 Faith Practice Reading- Job 16 | 29 9:00am Blankets | 30  7:00am Breakfast Gathering at GENOA McDonalds | 31  |  Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER. Psalm 136:1, NM | |

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
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P. O. Box 235
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OCTOBER 2024



**Worship in person and/or
live on our Facebook page!**

Fall Worship Hours at St. John
Saturday- Contemporary Worship 5:00 PM
Confirmation Class- Sunday 8:30 AM
Sunday School- October-May 8:30 AM
First Sunday of each month- All Ages
Sunday- Traditional Worship 9:45 AM

Pastor Shawn O'Brien

419-378-1112 cell

E-mail address:

pastorobrien@stjohnwilliston.org

Church Office

LisaAnne Gregg

Office Administrator

M-T-W

9:00am-3:00pm

Church: 419-836-5514

Office closed on Fridays

E-mail address:

office@stjohnwilliston.org

*Visit us on Facebook!