

2016



September

YOUR SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT
FOR YOUR SOUL THROUGH THE WORD

St. John Eagle



*Sunday School begins at St. John
on Rally Sunday, September 11th.
More details inside!*

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ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, 402 Lake Ave, Storm Lake, IA.

Phone: 712-732-2400

Email: stjohstormlake@gmail.com

PASTOR:
Rev. Bruce Lesemann
Home: 712-732-0161



MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Suzanne Winterhof

STAFF

SECRETARY:
Celeste Cummins

CUSTODIAN:
Rena Norwood

MONTHLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday Services

6:00 p.m.

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Holy Communion

*1st and 3rd Weekend
of each month*

Sunday Services

9:00 a.m.

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Radio Broadcasts...

9:00 a.m. on 2nd Sunday
of each month
KAYL 101.7FM.

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Lutheran Hour Ministries

KAYL 8:00 a.m.

Every Sunday

SUNDAY MORNING— FAITHBUILDERS AND BIBLE CLASSES

Faithbuilders will be held at St. John during September and October. Faithbuilders will begin at St. John on Rally Sunday, September 11th at 10:15 am.



Be in the Word

Adult Bible Class meets at 10:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room (led by V. Winterhof). Pastor Lesemann's Bible Study is taking a break while he fills the Newell vacancy.

ST. JOHN EAGLE



FROM THE PASTOR

My Father

Therefore Jesus answered and was saying to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, unless it is something He sees the Father doing; for whatever the Father does, these things the Son also does in like manner. [John 5:19](#)

I had always wished that my mom and dad would have been able to meet all of you in this life. I am sure you would have liked them. They were easygoing and very patient with their children, loved to laugh and supported us in whatever way they could.

My dad grew up on the farm where he was born. When he and Mom got married they built a house just a couple acres away. They worshiped in the church Dad was baptized and confirmed in just 5 miles away, and sent their children to the same Lutheran School. Although they didn't always talk about it, in the early years their faith was always important to them. And caring for their children was the second most important thing.

Dad worked two jobs: one the farm, and the second at a steel mill as an electrician. At times he'd put in 70 hours a week combined. It was hard on him, but he wanted to support his family, so he worked both jobs until he retired from the mill after 32 years.

When we boys were 16, he pulled us aside and had a serious talk. He asked us, "What do you want to do with your lives? Do you want to farm?" Brian and I simply shrugged our shoulders and said we didn't know. He said, "That's what I needed to know." And from that point on, he cut back on the acres he rented and stopped his plans to buy more land. I don't really

think he was upset by this. He truly wanted what was best for us.

It was only many years later, after Brian and I had both earned degrees as teachers, had each taught for a few years, and had each gotten quite involved in our respective churches that we decided to attend the seminary. It wasn't something our parents, or the two of us for that matter, ever expected would happen at age 16. And when asked later in life what he did to have two sons go into the ministry, Dad would always respond, "Absolutely nothing!" He didn't feel he could take any credit for it! But of course Dad was a big support and influence in our lives in his dedicated service to God and family. It is something I try to emulate.

A couple of months ago, I reminded him about his not taking credit for having two pastors as sons, and he responded that it is all by God's grace. How true! All we have and all we are in fact is by God's grace—our faith, our lives, our family—things that are so important in this life! So let us treasure these gifts of His grace and work hard to take care of them, knowing that our Heavenly Father loves and cares for us so dearly.

My father is doing great all because of the grace our heavenly Father! He sent His Son Jesus to save us, and now through faith in Him we have it all; God's mercy, forgiveness and eternal life! And yes, I terribly miss Dad, but what a future to look forward to: life eternal in heaven with Jesus! Soon, very soon, we will all be together! Until then, let us live in our Father's grace.

In His grace,
Bruce H. Lesemann

Voters' Meeting Minutes

St. John Voters' Meeting

Sunday, August 21, 2016

Executive Director Henry Hardt called the meeting to order. Twenty-four communicant members were present.

Hardt opened with a prayer for the church.

Unfinished Business:

The Child Protection Policy was approved as printed (motion: Harold Redenbaugh; second: Dave Dose; voice majority vote). The policy is attached hereto.

Treasurer's Report: (printed and available upon request)

Karen Fletcher thanked members and organizations for their financial support of St. John. She went over her report.

After a brief discussion, Lois Lytle made a motion, seconded by Jan Redenbaugh and approved by a voice vote, to disburse funds received YTD from Thrivent Members (\$3,493) and undesignated memorials (\$,1900) to the general fund: \$1,000 will be appropriated to tune the organ.

Committee Reports:

Harlan Matasovsky - Lay Ministers

Harlan went over Pastor's report (printed and included in the packet handed to each attendee).

Jerry Johnson - Young People and Christian Education

(Printed and available upon request)

Dave Dose - Church Properties

Hahn Roofing, Spencer, began re-shingling the church roof last week and will finish Tuesday at a cost of \$42,249. Guaranteed Roofing, Cherokee, will replace the special gutter which directs water from the sanctuary roof (\$950).

Todd Felton has replaced two spots in the concrete; one must wait until the roofing is finished (\$2,150).

The Trustees report continues on the next page.

A Buena Vista University leadership conference will be held November 4 and 5, and several attendees and a chaperone will stay overnight in the high school youths' room upstairs.

Administrative Boards:

Harlan Matasovsky - Endowment Fund
(Printed and available upon request)

Wellness Director:

Jan Magnussen gave a brief report on her work, which is to help keep St. John employees healthier and, thus, keep our health insurance premiums down.

New Business:

Voters approved unanimously the recommendation of the trustees and lay ministers (printed, included, briefly explained, and available upon request) regarding the 2017 health benefits and HRA contribution amounts for St. John employees.

In September Dave Dose and Galva Pastor Egger will report on the July LCMS convention.

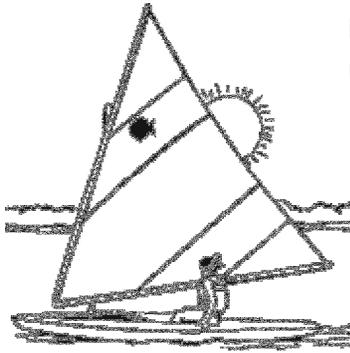
A short special voters' meeting will be held in December to approve the 2017 budget; boards should have theirs in to Karen Fletcher by December 1, 2016. The biannual voters' meeting will be in January 2017.

A special organ recital will occur at St. John in February or March.

Anyone interested in creating and maintaining a St. John Lutheran Church Facebook page should contact Henry Hardt.

The meeting was adjourned. We closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.





Sailing Party

The St. John and Grace Youth Group enjoyed an evening of sailing fun on Wednesday, August 17 from the docks near Sunset Park. The Hy-Noon Kiwanis Community Sailing Club was our host. They provided the sailors life jackets, boats and the enthusiasm. We could choose to go out in a small sailboat one-on-one with a sailor or in a small group in a bigger sailboat. The bigger sailboat ended up being the most popular. Some of our braver youth sailed on a small boat called a Sunfish. The event concluded with a picnic of hot dogs, delicious side dishes and tasty desserts and treats. It was more like a buffet with such great food. I'm still trying to push those Plumpertutters! We had a great bunch of chaperones too. Thanks to the parents, pastors, friends and youth board for their help with the party. Dave Dose was our master griller with the assistance of Derek and Barb Hogrefe. It was definitely an evening of fellowship and fun. We even taught Pastor Lesemann and Pastor Ketcham our National Youth Gathering handshake! Make sure you ask Georgea, Loggan, Andrew or Denisse to teach you it. In Christ Alone, Jerry



S. S. & Youth News

The St. John Youth Education Board held a very good and productive meeting regarding Sunday School sharing and youth group building with our brothers and sisters from Grace. Pastor Ketchum started the meeting with a nice & relevant prayer and we were then off to the races! There was a sense of encouragement to continue for another year with the partnership, but establish objectives that we can use to evaluate the year's outcomes. Here are some things we worked on and then there will be a list the objectives that we want to address and work on during the year.

We voted to divide the Sunday School into 2 month blocks that might make it easier for parents to follow and to allow the Sunday School to follow key events in the calendar; Rally Sunday at St. John (September 11) and Children's Christmas Service at Grace (December 18). Here is how we divided the Sunday School year...

- o September & October – St. John (Rally Sunday September 11)
- o November & December – Grace (Christmas Service December 18)
- o January & February – St. John
- o March & April – Grace
- o May & Summer Sunday School – St. John
- o VBS – Grace

Curriculum: It was agreed to use up the curriculum from the last 6 weeks of lessons at St. John (September and October) and we are going to use 100 Bible Stories Study Guides for the rest of the year. Grace already has the teacher guides and books already to be used. We will start 100 Bible Stories in November at Grace.

Youth Education Partnership Objectives

- o 1. We agreed to honor the Sunday School hour (10:15am-11:15am) and not schedule any event that will take away from Sunday School classes.
- o 2. Communication: Work to educate, encourage and excite the parents to take their children to Sunday School no matter which church it is for the month.
- o 3. Communication: Work to mentor, encourage and excite volunteers to teach, support, chaperone and lead Sunday School and youth group.
- o 4. To establish and identify a liaison at each church to be the designated Sunday School Directors that will work to gather as a team to organize and develop the monthly curriculum and activities.
- o 5. Develop, nurture and build 1 strong youth group with an identified youth leader(s) from each church working together as a team for 1 group. This means all activities, bible studies, mission projects and future fundraisers for the youth will be focused on the youth of both Grace and St. John.

Our major goal that was presented and supported is that we are going to work towards 1 Youth Ed Board with total focus on both Grace and St. John youth as 1 youth group. Once we can identify our key leaders, we will need to attempt to schedule our monthly meeting that works for both churches. We should then alternate meeting locations.

G.P.S.

By: Celeste Cummins

"Head southeast on W. Railroad St toward Lake Ave N." What?!? If you can understand that, congratulations! If you are like me, however, it may as well be written in Chinese. You see, I'm directionally challenged. I have no sense of the standard directions. Why confuse yourself with four directions when two simple ones (right and left) work perfectly fine?!

I found a blog post about being directionally challenged.* In that post, the author (Diane Windingland) expresses, "Maybe being directionally challenged isn't as bad as some other disabilities, but it is a disability for which the general public has no compassion." I would have to agree with her. If you can relate to any of the following problems that I found online, perhaps you are directionally challenged, too.

- People can't just tell you to "head north" or "head east." That doesn't help you in any way whatsoever.
- When you stop to look at the giant map inside a mall, you spend at least thirty seconds finding the "YOU ARE HERE" guiding star, and then another five minutes trying to understand exactly which way you need to go to get to the food court.
- You have absolutely no idea which way to turn when coming out of an elevator.
- You can't reverse directions to find your way home.

I have to admit, I suffer from all four of those problems above (only it takes me about five minutes to find the "You are Here" star. After another five minutes of searching for the food court, I give up and decide to ask an employee in a nearby store). People often tell me to use a map, get a G.P.S., or use a cell phone for directions. As embarrassing as it is to admit, I can't read a map and I've gotten lost using a G.P.S. and two cell phones (*at the same time!*) for directions (I finally stopped in at a gas station and followed a man to my destination...and I was "only" 45 minutes late by that point)!

I've discovered I can't rely on those electronic G.P.S. devices that are sold at Walmart. But, I have my own G.P.S. It's called God's Promised Salvation. I may not have any idea how to get to a town that's 10 miles from where I live, but God has told me in the Bible how to get to my final destination. Jesus tells us, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). And, when the jailer asked Paul and Silas what he needed to do to be saved, they told him, "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

I will wander around lost on this earth many times, but by God's grace - and God's Promised Salvation - I will be able to find my way to Heaven, where I will never be lost again!

*<https://smalltalkbigresults.wordpress.com/2010/05/16/im-not-lost-im-directionally-challenged>



TEACHERS NEEDED - We have been so very blessed to have had many faithful teachers who have taught, substituted and facilitated openings year after year. This is your opportunity to step up and help share the love of Jesus by teaching Sunday School. If you've been interested in helping with crafts, activities or if you've been a Sunday School teacher in the past and would like to get your foot back in the door, please let us know. Also, if you've never taught, but would like to shadow someone and become a new teacher, again, please contact Deb Matasovsky 732-5486 or Jerry Johnson 732-2775.

RALLY SUNDAY at St. John - September 11, 2016

9:00am Service

10:15am Sunday School and Bible Study

11:30am Rally Sunday Potluck

BBQ Pork and Hot Dogs – If you combine the 2 you get a RALLY Dog.

People are asked to bring a side dish or dessert treat

Lemonade, Coffee and Water provided

If you're not teaching, would anyone be interested in organizing the meal; dinnerware (we should have everything), drinks (we have bottled water and lemonade already) and setting up the potluck table. Would anybody like to volunteer to take care of the BBQ? Or do you know of somebody who might be interested? All we really need to do is get Pulled BBQ Pork from Tiefentahler in Holstein and put it in a roaster to heat up. And then we need to have Plumber Hot Dogs to make Rally Dogs. In Christ Alone, Jerry



Something special happened the day you were baptized. You were dedicated to God and His service---for LIFE. The Holy Spirit has continued to nurture that faith, and God has given you many blessings and talents that are to be used in His service and for the benefit of others. A SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO WITNESS YOUR FAITH AND BUILD THE FAITH OF OTHERS is found as one participates in our St. John Choir. If you enjoy singing, this is an invitation to join us as we begin another choir season. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. beginning August 31. Church choir offers youth with an interest in music an opportunity to develop their skills, and it keeps the older voices "oiled." We need YOU!

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP - Beginning on Monday, September 12, 2016 from 7:00-9:00 pm, Fratzke and Jensen, Sliefert, and Mahaney Funeral Homes together with UnityPoint Hospice will sponsor a seven week grief support group for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one through death. For more information or to register, contact Fratzke and Jensen (732-1911), Sliefert (732-5010), Mahaney (288-4461), or UnityPoint Hospice (749-2741). A flyer with more details is on the bulletin board.

THANKS - We received a thank you letter from Pastor Lohmeyer of Christ our Savior Lutheran Church in Alderson, WV. He expressed his appreciation for our gift of \$177.00 to assist flood victims in their area. The letter has been posted on the bulletin board.

MANY THANKS to our dear St. John Family - Thank you for all the kind words, prayers, cards, food and memorials you have offered on the passing of my father, Victor Lesemann. We miss Dad, but we know that he is with his Savior Jesus, well and whole and praising God with all the saints. Thank you for your kindness! You are a wonderful support and blessing to us. In His grace, Pastor & Amy Lesemann & family

LUTHERAN SCHOOL NOTES – IGLLS (Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School) in Spencer is in the middle of a capital funding campaign so that they can create funds to be able to expand their school in the future. They are currently running out of space, which is a great problem to have since that means children are learning about God, but it also presents a financial challenge. Funding campaign materials have been posted on the miscellaneous section of the bulletin board in the Assembly Room. If you would like to help them with their financial goals, please take a look at these and contact IGLLS in Spencer (712-262-8237).

LFS - You are invited to the Annual Meeting of Lutheran Family Service (LFS) on Thursday, September 29th at the LFS office (6200 Aurora Ave in Urbandale) beginning at 4:00 pm. Our first annual fundraising dinner will be held that afternoon beginning at 6:00 pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (8301 Aurora Ave in Urbandale). The topic for that dinner will be Embryo Adoption. The speaker will be Kimberly Tyson, Marketing and Snowflake Director for the Embryo Adoption Center in Loveland, Colorado. For more information, contact LFS (515) 573--3138.

HONG KONG CONNECTION is a project of the IDW to share the Gospel with children and teens through teaching VBS in English twice a year in Hong Kong. We are encouraging people to go and participate in this VBS experience. We are challenging each congregation to provide a \$500 scholarship for each person who participates in this mission (about 1/3 of the cost of the trip). If you and your congregation would like to take part in this challenge, there is a flyer on the bulletin board with more information.

SOCIAL MEDIA ADDICTION - What happens when social media replaces time spent in social activities with family and friends? The average American spends 24% of their day cyberloafing (being on the internet). Users between the ages of 15-19 spend 3 hours a day on their social media accounts while users 20-29 spend 2 hours each day. But, it's not just kids! Pew Research states that users age 65 and older are the fastest growing demographic of internet and mobile use and are online daily. Life and meaningful connections pass us by as we stare at our tiny phone screens. Youth are particularly vulnerable to peer pressure and social norms posted on social media accounts. Most of us could say that we have wasted time cyberloafing or have had negative experiences with it. Some of the negative effects of social media include feeling depressed, lonely, or anxious; engaging in competitive or unhealthy behaviors (such as comparing how many "likes" you get on a Facebook post vs how many your friends get); increased bullying due to the lack of face to face interaction. There are positive side effects, too. Those include increased connections to family and friends who you are not geographically close to; access to information, goods, and services you may not know about; source of interaction for the elderly, disabled, or homebound. All that being said, what can you do to decrease cyberloafing in your life? Set a timer and limit the amount of time you spend online each day; create phone free zones (such as meal times, in the car, and when you're with someone); recognize that people portray their best selves on these sites (ie: their best vacation, best day at school, best time with their husband, etc) and it is not always an accurate or honest reflection of their lives; and spend more time connecting with God and your family. If you feel you need help with your social media addiction, please contact an LFS counselor (515-573-3138).

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT CAMP OBOBOJI? Below you will find key dates and events that will be happening at Camp Okoboji in September and October. If you would like more details about any of these events, you may contact the Camp by calling (712) 337-3325 or emailing camp@campokoboji.org.



- ◆ September 3 BBQ Cook Off Event and *DISCOVER* Ground Breaking
- ◆ September 30 - October 2 Fall Clean-up Weekend and Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
- ◆ October 7 - 9 Fall Women's Retreat



St. John is a member of
the Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod (LCMS)

**WE WELCOME YOU TO
JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!**

Saturday Evening—6:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning—9:00 a.m.

402 Lake Ave
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588
Phone: 712-732-2400
Email: stjohnstormlake@gmail.com
Web: www.stjohnstormlake.org



Musicians are encouraged to share their talents during our worship services throughout the year. If you play an instrument or would like to join the choir, please contact our music director, Suzanne Winterhof. The choir rehearses each Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm. New members are always welcome.



Altar Flowers

- 4th - Willis & Lorna Lussman's 64th anniversary on September 8th.
- 11th - Mom, Gram, & G.G. - Naomi Benna from her family
- 18th - Ron & Jerene Neir 47th anniversary
- 25th - Ron & Barb Walters

September Worship Assistants

Altar Guild: Deb Matasovsky & Loni Stille

Greeters: **Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**
Loretta Rehnstrom
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Bell Ringers: **Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
Dave Dose

Acolytes: **Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

The KAYL Broadcast for this month has been sponsored by Jim & Linda Zabloudil.

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it." PROVERBS 22:6

