

Spirit Alive!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2020

From The Desk of

Pastor Roald Hatzwick

As I conclude my time of partnering with you in St. John's ministry, I share the following thoughts to be a community of faith with you.

Saint John's continues to be a community of faith and service in Jesus' name. This is made possible through the leadership and abilities shared by you fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Now, more than ever, you are needed to lend your talents and dollars as St. John's moves into a future which is filled with wonderful possibilities for ministry in Jesus' name.

It is time to leave behind those thoughts and incidents from the past that hinder the sharing and living out of the good news. I have been surprised when some have shared with me hurts and slights, real and/or perceived, going back 15-20 years. It is time to move ahead in forgiving and being forgiven for those times and yes, even for those of recent times.

With the coming of Pastor Sara Gorman. St. John's has a great opportunity to share the good news of Jesus Christ. You with your brothers and sisters in faith, can help St. John's continue to be a beacon of love and caring in the community. You are a member of the St. John's Family as you share God's love-forgiveness-and promises in your words and actions.

Our lives and ministry have been greatly impacted by the COVID-Pandemic. We all miss face-to-face worship and the celebration of Holy Communion. Be assured that the decisions and recommendations of your COVID task force have been made with the primary goal being the safety of all and especially that of those at greatest risk.

We are reminded again that our worship is to focus on our praise and thanksgiving to God. This can take place in any setting, using any style, with or without communion taking place.

Our offerings are given to God within our worship. Yes, the dollars we give support our shared ministry. However, we should never forget that they are given to God out of our thankfulness!

I am thankful to God for having "called" me to St. John's and to you, my brothers and sisters in Christ, for sharing ministry with me. God Bless. Peace be with you.

-Pastor Hatzwick

(Some have asked me "What now for you?" Well...I have already been asked to serve *Gloria Dei Lutheran*, New Holstein, as the Pastor on a part-time (50%) basis. I have accepted their invitation.)



Church
Council

President—Kelly Trebus

V. President — Tom Pamperin

Secretary — Liz Fischer

Sue Conradt

Nancy Helms

Mary Hoppe

Curly Krueger

Carol Polzin

Shirl Tischauser

Wanda Tucker

Please contact the council members for any concerns.

A Word From Council

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength. - **Philippians 4:12-13**

Many of us have heard the last sentence above but not always the two sentences before it. I am paraphrasing now but if I was to write a beatitude from the above, it may be "Blessed are the flexible for they will not be distressed."

We all like to think we are flexible – definitely more so than others. And our stress, that comes when someone else is inflexible, right? It can't be me that's inflexible. Today though, some would view flexibility as a weakness. Thinking of changing your mind? That means you are indecisive or worse yet, you flip-flop. You don't agree with me? That must mean you are against me.

Someone making an unreasonable offer or request doesn't need to create stress. Humility is us bending but not breaking and stretching but not to the point where our patience and compassion cannot return. Agreeing with someone's plans is not a sign of weakness. It's trusting that God has a greater plan. Demanding our way puts us in the way of the Holy Spirit filling us with the way of Jesus. The

world changing is not an excuse or reason to stress what is to come. Rather it's an invitation to bathe in God's reassuring word. When we are flexible, God makes our faith more beautiful and attractive to others.

So why all the talk about flexibility? We are in the middle of a pandemic. There will be things that will change in our church and in our world. We will encounter people that will feel strongly about something that may or may not be the same as us. We may be judged for what we believe and who we believe in. And sometimes our need to be right takes over our thoughts and we lose Him in our pride. Living our life as Jesus asks us to needs no explanation or justification. We may not get what we want but guidance from the Holy Spirit may send us to what He knows is the best for us. And all this comes from staying flexible – not in our beliefs but in our willingness to trust in Him and His plan. Maybe said more simply, being flexible means we are listening and trusting more than we are talking and directing.

So, let's stay flexible and place our faith in the One that loves us the most. Let's view our flexibility as our strength, not our weakness. Our example of flexibility will demonstrate the foundation of our faith through our love for others.

-Tom Pamperin



"Wireless communication is nothing new. I've been praying for 75 years!"

St. John's Lutheran Church Extends A Letter of Call

On August 2nd, 2020 the congregation Santa Isabel where she planned and led the voted to extend a letter of call to Sara VBS programs for children in the community. Gorman. The recommendation to extend a Sara was a Director (youth intern) of letter of call came from the Call Committee. children's and youth ministry at Lord of Life The Council Executive Committee met with Lutheran Church in Clovis, California from Sara and support the call committee's 2014-2015. Sara served as a children's recommendation. The Church Council approved minister at Bethel Lutheran Church in Fresno, the recommendation to extend a letter of call California in 2015-2016. In 2017-2018, Sara to Sara before bringing the final vote to the was a Former Admissions Hospitality and congregation. Events Coordinator at Luther Seminary in St.

Sara is originally from Fresno, California. Paul, Minnesota. In 2018-2019, Sara completed her Sara is married to a Wisconsinite. In her spare Pastoral Internship at Kenyon Area Internship time, Sara enjoys reading, knitting, quilting in Kenyon, Minnesota. Sara recently and cross-stitching, eating Mexican food, and graduated from seminary in May 2020. telling cow jokes. Sara's most memorable Sara is looking forward to this opportunity experiences were her two missions trips to with St. John's Lutheran Church.

Attention Confirmands!

There will be a meeting on September 16th for confirmation parents and students. More information will follow.

St. John's Lutheran Church

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Marion, WI 54950

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Janitor: Brenda Krueger

Maintenance: Tom Kraeger

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Website: www.stjohnsmarion.org

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Finance Email:

accounting@stjohnsmarion.org





SEPTMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
9a.m. Virtual Service 9:30a.m. Virtual Sunday School	9a.m. Gentle Flow Yoga Labor Day	Pastor Roald's Last Day at St. Johns	10a.m. Clothes Closet 12:30p.m. Quilting	3p.m. Food Pantry Distribution 5:30p.m. Vinyasa 2 Yoga Class	10a.m. Clothes Closet Patriots Day	9a.m. Clothes Closet
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9a.m. Virtual Service 9:30a.m. Virtual Sunday School	9a.m. Gentle Flow Yoga	Pastor Sara Starts at St. John's 10a.m. Clothes Closet 12:30p.m. Quilting	Pastor Sara Starts at St. John's 10a.m. Clothes Closet 12:30p.m. Quilting	5:30p.m. Vinyasa 2 Yoga Class	10a.m. Clothes Closet Patriots Day	9a.m. Clothes Closet
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9a.m. Virtual Service 9:30a.m. Virtual Sunday School	9a.m. Gentle Flow Yoga	5:30p.m. Council Meeting	10a.m. Clothes Closet 12:30p.m. Quilting Confirmants/ Parents Meeting	3p.m. Food Pantry Distribution 5:30p.m. Vinyasa 2 Yoga Class	10a.m. Clothes Closet	9a.m. Clothes Closet
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9a.m. Virtual Service 9:30a.m. Virtual Sunday School	9a.m. Gentle Flow Yoga	5p.m. COVID-19 Task Force Meeting 6:15p.m. Stewardship	10a.m. Clothes Closet 12:30p.m. Quilting	5:30p.m. Vinyasa 2 Yoga Class	10a.m. Clothes Closet	9a.m. Clothes Closet
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
9a.m. Virtual Service 9:30a.m. Virtual Sunday School	9a.m. Gentle Flow Yoga		10a.m. Clothes Closet 12:30p.m. Quilting			

Prayers

* *Brian*
* *Darla*
* *Deb*
* *Doris*
* *Gary*

* *Germaine*
* *Grace*
* *Jayme*
* *Jim*
* *Ken*

* *Mitch*
* *Steve*
* *Tami*

Prayers for Those in Nursing Homes & Assisted Living

- ♦ *Edna Arndt*
- ♦ *Ken Mielke*
- ♦ *Carol Hakala*
- ♦ *Evelyn Rieckmann*
- ♦ *Doris Aderman*

For Comfort In Time of Sorrow

- *Raymond Arndt*
- *Gordon "Bud" Papendorf*
- *Melvin Hangartner*
- *Edna Hoppe*
- *John Knitt*
- *Joyce Kopitzke*
- *Marlea Mikulski*
- *Erma Stevenson*
- *Jeanette Hauser*
- *Cy Gruenstern*

Memorials

A special thank you to all those who have given in memory of

- Raymond Arndt*
- Cy Gruenstern*
- Melvin Hangartner*
- Jeanette Hauser*
- Edna Hoppe*
- Joyce Kopitzke*
- Cynthia Noack*

Memorials were given to the Building, General and Sanctuary funds.



St. John's Finance Report

Month End: July 2020
Year to Date

General Fund:

Revenue	\$ 92,217
Expenses	\$ 108,261

Benevolence:

Revenue	\$ 5,934
Expenses	\$ 2,444

Financial Condition-

Balances as of July 31, 2020

General Fund	\$ 28,726
Building Fund	(29,012)
Church Improvements	50,211
Benevolence Fund	3,634
Special Funds	99,620
Check EFT	<u>219</u>
Total	\$ 153,397

Current Loan Balances Due:

Endowment	\$ 86,571
Student Fund	278
Sanctuary Remodel	131,241
Payroll Protection Program	<u>15,212</u>
Total Debt	\$ 233,302

Loan Payments:

Endowment	\$ 2,000
Student Fund	500
Sanctuary	<u>5,000</u>
Required Payments	\$ 7,500

Contributions

If you would like to make a contribution to St. John's Lutheran Church, please scan the QR Code to be directed to PayPal.



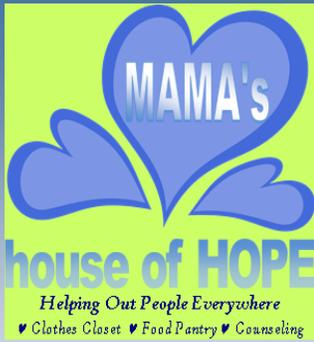
Offerings are Still Needed

During these days when regular worship times have been suspended, St. John's continues to function. This means we continue to have bills to pay and financial obligations to meet. Please continue to support St. John's by getting your offering to us on a regular basis.

We know that some may have been laid off, etc. and are out of work with limited, if any, income. We understand this and do not seek to put any pressure upon you.

During this time, **St. John's will continue to be in need of your offerings.** Please consider one of the following ways:

- 1) Sign up for online giving through filling out the application on our website under: Publication>Information&Forms>Stewardship and click on online giving or if you are able, click on the link below for the application:<https://www.stjohnsmarion.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Online-giving.pdf>. After you fill out the application email to stjohnsfinance@gmail.com.
- 2) Use the offering envelopes assigned, put a stamp on it, and send it in the mail.
- 3) Set up Bill Pay through your Financial Institution.
- 4) Donate on the website on the Home page scroll down past Church Events to Donate. Enter the amount to donate and under which Fund is desired.



Call Bev or Clara at (715) 754-6262 for inquiries.



September needs are cereal, tuna and soup. For more information call 715-754-2665.



LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

A very kind member sewed 15 drawstring bags for the Lutheran World Relief Kits. The following items are needed in order for the kits to be complete. All items should be dropped off by September 15th.

- **53**=70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 1/2"; no loose leaf paper
- **35**=Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- **14**=Pencil sharpeners
- **10**=30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- **8**=Pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- **5**=Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)



Save the UPC symbol from Best Choice and/or Clearly Brand products. Cut the UPC symbol from labels or cartons. For every 1000 labels saved, St. John's Lutheran Church will earn \$30.



St. John's is still collecting *Our Family*® barcodes for Sunday School. Each barcode collected 5¢ is earned.



Remember to keep your *Econo Foods* receipts. Drop them in the basket in the *Great Room* or by the *Car Port*. Please make sure when you turn your receipts in they are in-tact. Any money collected goes to our Building Fund. Ask your friends and family if they are willing to collect their receipts too. We receive 1% of the total. St. John's received \$501.62 from the receipts collected this first half of this year.

Thank you to all the members who donated school items for the Marion School District!



St. John's Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.
318 E Garfield Ave • Marion, WI 54950

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