



Spirit *Alive!*

SEPTEMBER 2023— ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

ASPIRING TO LIVE

In the hustle and bustle of this busy world, the quiet places in life are often overlooked. The man in the suit, the teen in the sweatshirt, the mom in the yoga pants each carry an electronic device that distracts with music, images, and notification pings. Distractions surround us at the dinner table, beeping at us to drop our task and respond to the latest message or hear the latest news.

It is easy to become lost in this world of noise. Before we know it, we are distanced from the people right next to us. We ask ourselves, where did the time go? Why didn't I get anything done? Satan plans it that way, pulling our focus away from things that matter: worshipping our Heavenly Father, loving our family and friends, quiet time in prayer and in reading God's Word.

When life makes us frazzled, we need to quiet down and focus more on the work and purpose of our true callings. Everyday chores can become a psalm for our lives of serving God in the simple acts of providing care for others. Our Father has appointed us each with vocations that allow us to use our time and talents for His purpose.

Prayer: Good Father, use our hands and hearts to focus your calling and properly use the gifts You have graciously given. In Jesus name. Amen.

Council Member,
Ron Krueger



President—Amy Bazile

V. President —Ron Krueger

Secretary —Mandy Malueg

Pat Breitenfeldt

Mary Hoppe

Melissa Pfeiler

Linda Mielke

Brian Sawall

Shirl Tischauser

Kelly Trebus

Wanda Tucker

**Please contact the council
members for any concerns.**

Pause Ponder Pray

September 2023

Recently a devotion I was reading talked about a woman who had learned she was cancer free. While she was thrilled, she also shared the sadness she felt because she could not share this news with her mom. Her mom had been unsuccessful in her battle against the disease and had died a few years earlier. It was her mom's diagnosis that had prompted the daughter to get checked out. The daughter said she celebrated the goodness of God even though her mom had died from the same disease.

And these are her words that hit home with me, "The goodness of God is not in the outcome;" the goodness of God is in the awareness of His presence and what that does in our lives."

How true those words have been for me in my life. All of us get "news" in our lives that is difficult to hear. It may be an illness diagnosis, a relationship severed, a sudden death, a job loss. No one is immune.

For me it was a diagnosis of myopic macular degeneration 10 years ago in both of my eyes. It altered my retirement plans from my job, my independence in traveling and simply driving in high traffic areas. In the last 10 years since, I've had shots every few months to "slow down" the progression of the disease. I can no longer distinguish faces more than 20 feet away. My doctors tell me progression will continue - our plan is to slow it down, for how long no one knows.

HOWEVER, I've learned how to cope. I can still knit, read (large print), watch my sports and see the beauty of this world when looking out the window. Though my traveling has been curtailed I am thankful for all the trips I took over the years - and I have my memories. I have a wonderful group of friends and my dear family who take me as needed wherever I need to go. And my dear Heavenly Father has been there for me the whole time. Gently reminding me of my blessings when I am on my "pity pot". Leading me to doctors that so expertly use their gifts to take care of me. Guiding me to alternative options of how to cope with the changes.

I need only remember "You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence." Psalm 16:11.

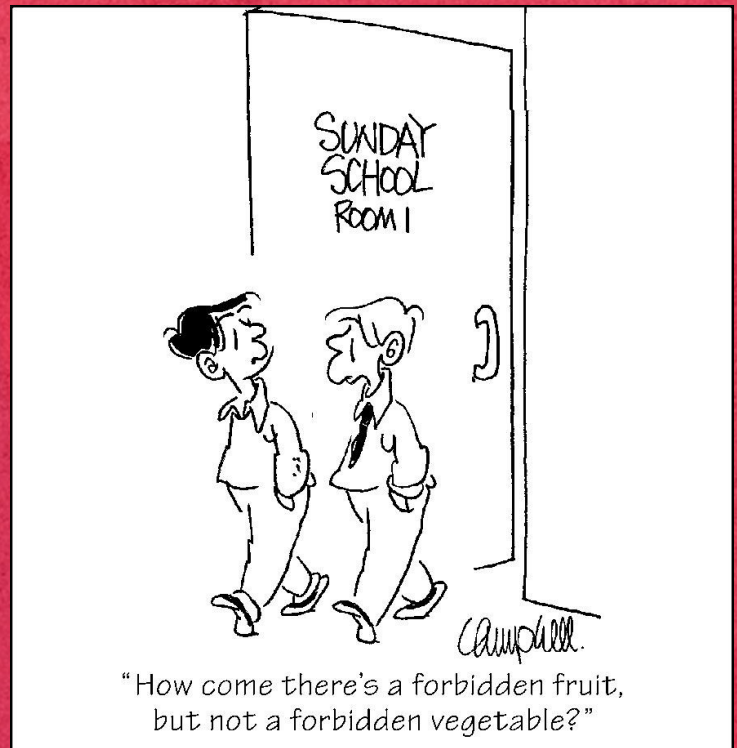
YEARS AGO...



If you recognize anyone in this picture. Please contact the church office so we can include the information in next month's newsletter. This picture was found in the 1985 ladies aid album next to Lenten Breakfast newspaper clippings but does not list the men in the picture.



This picture was in last month's newsletter. "Arleen Mielke Lieske of North Carolina responded to the picture in last month's newsletter. Arleen replied she lived there as a kid, from 1944 to 1962. It looks like the house on the Mielke Homestead on Mielke Road. The house was built in 1906 by my great grandfather Gottfried Mielke, it has 7 bedrooms, 2 downstairs and 5 upstairs. I know that the wrap around porches changed over the years. I have a large wall picture of the farm from the 1920's that shows wrap around porches at both levels. When I lived there, the wrap-around porches were gone. The picture shows the west side of the house." This picture was found in our first album from the ladies aid group. This album and albums like these can be found in our church library.



Toon93. *The Newsletter*. https://www.churchart.com/subscriber/viewimages?book_number=1&image_type=ca. Copyright © 2023 CRI™. All Rights Reserved.

Carmel Dumplings

2 T. butter 2¼ c. brown sugar
2¼ c. boiling water Speck salt

Place in saucepan and boil about 5 min.

Dough:
1¼ c. flour 1/8 tsp. salt
1½ tsp. baking powder 2 T. butter
1/3 c. sugar 1/3 c. milk
1/3 tsp. vanilla

Sift dry ingredients. Cut in the butter and vanilla. Mix, drop by spoonful (tea-spoon) into boiling sauce. Cover tightly and boil gently over slow flame for 20 minutes. Do not remove the cover during the cooking period.

-MRS. C. GRUENSTERN

Recipe is from *Favorite Recipes: St. John's Lutheran Church, Marion, Wisconsin 1947*

This cookbook can be found in the church library and loaned through the honor system.

Month End: **June 2023**
Year to Date

General Fund:

Revenue \$ 80,194
Expenses \$ 88,096

**Financial Condition-
Balances as of June 30th**

General Fund \$ 27,080
Building &
Church Improvements 96,159
Benevolence Fund 907
Special Funds 45,142
Check EFT 292
Total \$169,581

Month End: **July 2023**
Year to Date

General Fund:

Revenue \$ 92,317
Expenses \$ 96,736

**Financial Condition-
Balances as of July 31st**

General Fund \$ 24,568
Building &
Church Improvements 100,668
Benevolence Fund 1,703
Special Funds 45,249
Check EFT 292
Total \$172,480



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FINANCIAL®**

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

We are grateful for the ways Thrivent Members share generosity. To designate your Thrivent Choice dollars visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice, call 800-847-4836, or contact your local Thrivent financial professional. Designating dollars is an important step to take each year by March 31st.

Prayers

- ◆ Andy Shulz
- ◆ Becky Van Buren
- ◆ Clarence Fenner
(Peggy Hammond's dad)
- ◆ Corrine Kroening
- ◆ Darla Dieck
- ◆ Dave Krueger
- ◆ David Soik
- ◆ Houston Burmeister
- ◆ Jaden Stuhr
- ◆ John Bartelt
- ◆ Judy Allen
- ◆ Karla Kroening
- ◆ Karol Freeland
- ◆ Kay Moericke
- ◆ Laura Moericke
- ◆ Nathan Nick
- ◆ Patty (Fournier) Beck
- ◆ Parker Wolff
- ◆ Rachel Fischer
- ◆ Scott Brandenburg
- ◆ Will Wege



**Prayer for Those In
Assisted Living**

- ◆ Karen Aschenbrenner
- ◆ Anne Erdman
- ◆ Gloria Krieser
- ◆ Lois Miller

BAPTISM

Baptized on August 20th was Dehlila Ray Baylous, daughter of Devin Baylous and Kara Haas. The sponsors are David Haas and Vicky Haas. Please welcome Dehlila into our church family.

St. John's Lutheran Church
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Marion, WI 54950

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Financial Secretary: Mandy Malueg
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Email: churchoffice@stjohnsmarion.org
Finance Email: accounting@stjohnsmarion.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFIRMATION/SUNDAY SCHOOL

The restart date for Sunday School will be September 10th. Teachers are NEEDED. The goal is to form a team so each volunteer would only teach one Sunday a month. Please contact the church office to volunteer so we can continue to offer this service to the future of the church! The restart date for Confirmation will be September 13th. You may register at: <https://forms.ministryforms.net/viewForm.aspx?formId=7512f5eb-31a2-40d3-aaee-8f6736c5abcd>, there will be registration forms in the back of the sanctuary, and is included on page 6 in this newsletter. You may leave the form in the office Dropbox or can be emailed to: churchoffice@stjohnsmarion.org.

HANDING OUT OF BIBLES

Handing out of Bibles will occur on September 10th. If your child is turning 3 years old or is going to be in 3rd grade this year, please contact the church office so we can ensure we have enough bibles for everyone. Please indicate which service you will be attending on September 10th as well. You may also sign up online at: <https://forms.ministryforms.net/viewForm.aspx?formId=413262d7-a1d2-42a7-bcf8-41c677f0456b>

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

If you are a new member we will be recognizing you! Please keep the date of September 17th on your calendar. We will be asking for our new members to come forward during both the 8a.m. and 10:30a.m. services.

SIMPLY GIVING

We have had several inquiries about setting up automatic withdrawal donations to the church. If you are interested in this, please visit the website at: <https://www.stjohnsmarion.org/information-forms/> and fill out the form that is linked to Online Giving. You can also give online on the homepage by clicking on the donate button or scanning the QR Code in this bulletin. If you are interested in participating please either let the church office know.



WORSHIP IN THE PARK

The last Wednesday evening outdoor service will take place on August 30 at 6:00 p.m. at Veteran's Park. We will have worship with fellowship to follow. There will be pie and ice cream offered that evening.

Thank you to all those that have supported our outdoor worship. The message givers, the worship leaders, the readers and the musicians have all contributed to enhance our summer service.

Veteran's Park has proven to be a beautiful setting for sharing God's word and singing His praises.

Wednesday evening worship will move back indoors in the Sanctuary on September '6.



St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

318 E Garfield Ave • Marion, WI 54950

Consent Form

Good for all events and programs of

St. John's Lutheran Church, Marion, Wis.

For Sunday School & Youth

From September 2023-September 2024

Student Name: _____

First _____ Middle _____ Last _____

Age: _____ Birthdate _____ / _____ / _____ Male Female Other Grade in School _____

Address: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Phone: (____) _____

Best Way to Contact Me: Text Email Messenger Phone Call Other: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Best Way to Contact Me: Text Email Messenger Phone Call Other: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Best Way to Contact Me: Text Email Messenger Phone Call Other: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

1. Does your child have allergies to: food insect bites medications pollens
Please explain: _____

2. Does your child suffer from, or has ever experienced, or is being treated currently for:
 asthma diabetes epilepsy/seizure disorder heart trouble physical handicap

3. List medications currently being used: _____

(Student's Name PRINTED)

has my permission to attend Sunday School and/or youth activities sponsored by St. John's Lutheran Church, Marion, Wis. (the "Church") during the dates set forth above. This consent form gives permission to seek whatever medical attention is deemed necessary, and releases the Church and its staff of any liability related to any injury to said child. I have legal custody of the child named above, a minor, and have given my consent for him/her/they to attend events organized by the Church. I understand that there are inherent risks involved in any ministry, and I hereby release the Church, its pastors, employees, agents, and volunteer workers from any and all liability for any injury, loss, or damage to person or property that may occur during the course of my child's involvement. In the event that he/she/they is injured and requires the attention of a doctor, I consent to any reasonable medical treatment as deemed necessary by a licensed physician. I also agree to bring my child home at my own expense should he/she/they become ill or if deemed necessary by a Church staff member.

YES NO

I give permission to include my child in any videos and/or photographs taken during the course of my child's involvement.

Parent/Guardian PRINTED Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date Signed

St. John's Church Council Minutes – June 20, 2023

Council members present: Amy Bazile, Linda Mielke, Mary Hoppe, Melissa Pfeiler, Mandy Malueg, Ron Krueger, Shirl Tischauser, Brian Sawall, Wanda Tucker, Pat Breitenfeldt. **Also present:** Sheri Fuhrman **Absent:** Kelly Trebus

Meeting called to order by Amy Bazile at 6:45 p.m. Wanda opened with devotions and prayer.

The mission statement was read together.

Member Comments: A member voiced concern regarding worship not being held in the sanctuary. Members also expressed concern that the current Pastor vacancy was due to the lack of synod support. The council continues to be extremely thankful for all the volunteering that has done by the congregation during this time.

Secretary's Report: The meeting minutes for May 2023, were reviewed. A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Melissa, to approve the Council minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made by Wanda, seconded by Brian, to approve the May 2023 financial statements as presented. Motion carried. The Endowment debt has been paid in full. The church has not met the Parish Hall update goal at this time.

Vital Statistics: Joyce L Miller passed away on May 20th, no service was held. Kirsten Pamperin requested to be transferred to First English Lutheran in Appleton on May 31st; Terri L Mykisen passed away on June 4th, service was held on June 12th; Jerry J Siegel passed away on June 4th, service was held on June 10th.

Old Business: Items of Old Business considered were:

- Phone Quote – Four telephones will be eliminated. A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Shirl to approve the Unitel updated phone system. Motion carried.
- SOUL T-Shirts Committee Update – Pat, Gwen, and Amy created several different designs. A motion was made by Brian, seconded by Linda to approve St John's on the front and design on the back. Motion carried.
- Sound System in Parish Hall – A quote was received for updates to the current sound system. The quote came back substantially higher than anticipated. A list will be created to verify what is needed in the space to request future quotes.
- Other Old Business – None

New Business: Items of New Business considered were:

- Quarterly Benevolence—A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Shirl to make the following benevolence distributions: Bethany Home \$200, Shawano Conference \$600, ELCA Synod \$1200. Motion carried.
- Fall Dinner – The Fall Dinner is tentatively scheduled for November 12, 2023.
- Any Other New Business –
- Simply Giving – This is an additional option for giving. A reminder will be added to the bulletin of this option. The form will also be added to the website.

Action Team Reports: The following Action Team reports were provided:

- Worship and Music– The worship schedule is filled through end of August with Pastors and/or Lay Leaders.

- Property – The eternal candle has been rewired. The large stump at the cemetery is being taken care of. The eavestroughs are being caulked. The Parish Hall windows have been cleaned by Ron and Brenda.
- Parish Education - There are a few volunteers. Melissa will reach out to have a possible meeting regarding curriculum, etc.
- Community – Annual flower baskets were purchased to be displayed at the Garfield entrance. The new landscaping plants are continuing to grow.

Closed Session: none

The next meeting will be on August 16, 2023, at 6:45 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

This form is meant to be a tool if you are interested in pre-planning your final arrangements. You can fill out this form and submit it to the church office. Copies of this form will be available in the *Great Room*.

Funeral Form

Name: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____

Hymns: 1) _____ **2)** _____

3) _____ **4)** _____

Suggested Hymns: 556 Morning Has Broken; 592 Just As I Am;
619 I Know That My Redeemer Lives!; 623 Rock of Ages; 629 Abide With Me;
638 Blessed Assurance; 654 The Church's One Foundation;
697 Just A Closer Walk With Thee; 732 Morning Cry;
742 What A Friend We Have In Jesus; 779 Amazing Grace;
781 Children Of The Heavenly Father; 785 It Is Well With My Soul;
787 On Eagle's Wings; 838 Beautiful Savior; 856 How Great Thou Art;
884 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Lessons: _____

Suggested Lessons: Job 19:23-27a I know that my Redeemer lives;
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 For everything a season;
Isaiah 43: 1-3a, 5-7 I have called you by name;
Isaiah 66; 10-14 As a mother comforts her child;
Psalm 23 The Lord is my shepherd; Psalm 103:8-13 Lord, you are full of compassion;
Psalm 139:1-12 You have searched me out and known me;

Gospel: _____

Suggested Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30 Come to me and I will give you rest;
Luke 23:33, 39-43 Today you will be with me in paradise;
John 1:1-5, 9-14 The light shines in the darkness;
John 10: 11-16 I am the good shepherd; John 10:27-28 My sheep listen to my voice;
John 11: 21-27 I am the resurrection and the life;
John 14:1-3 I prepare a place for you; John 14: 25-27 Peace I leave with you

Bulletin Cover: What are you passionate about?

Luncheon after: YES NO _____

Notes: _____

SOUL OPPORTUNITIES

MAY WE APPROACH EACH DAY WITH SOUL-SERVING OTHERS UPLIFTING LIVES!

FALL DINNER UPDATE

It won't be long before the annual Fall Dinner is here at St. John's. This year's dinner will be on Sunday, November 12 from 11-1:30 in our freshly redone Parish Hall. What a great way to show our latest updates to our beautiful church. We will need volunteers to help with meal prep on Friday for a few hours, Saturday for a few more and then on Sunday we will need help in the kitchen, dining room and clean up after. We will also be needing donations for the meal itself. Please prayerfully consider when, where and how you can help out. Sign up sheets will be passed around in church within the next few weeks. This year's dinner will be broasted chicken and ham, with all the fixings for \$12, age 13-adults; \$5 age 6-12; and under 5 are free. Thank you in advance and may God continue to bless you all.- The Fall Dinner Committee

FOOD PANTRY

Food pantry needs for September are juice and oatmeal. Food pantry wants are dish and laundry soap.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF SCHOOL KITS

We are collecting for school supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits. **70-sheet notebooks of wide-or-college-ruled paper, approximately 8"x10 1/2", no loose leaf paper**; 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other; pencil sharpener; blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well); unsharpened #2 pencils with eraser; black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); box of 16 or 24 crayons; and 2 1/2" eraser. For a complete list of supplies that is needed, please refer to your June newsletter or check out the list online at Lutheran World Relief. Any supplies that do not meet the requirements for a LWR school kit will be donated to the local school districts or Sunday School. **Items in bold are needed most.** September is the last month we will be collecting supplies.

SCRIP CARDS

Mama's House of Hope has teamed up with St. Vincent De Paul to help ANYONE in need within the Marion/Tigerton/Wittenberg area. To help with this very worthy cause St. Vincent De Paul is doing an ongoing fundraiser. Ten percent of all SCRIP cards, to any SHELL station, that are being sold will be donated to St. Vincent De Paul. These cards are good for gas or anything in the store. Cards can be obtained from Jackie Suehring or the church office. If you would like several cards, please contact the church office, Jackie Suehring, or Pat Breitenfeldt (St. Vincent De Paul board member).

WILDFIRES ON MAUI

Wildfires on Maui have claimed dozens of lives and have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. LDR will work to provide for immediate needs and long-term recovery amid the widespread destruction. Give today: <https://community.elca.org/uswildfires>.

T-Shirt Order Form

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

715-754-5201

318 E. Garfield Avenue, Marion, WI 54950

churchoffice@stjohnsmarion.org



**SHOW YOUR SOUL
WE ARE SELLING T-SHIRTS TO
PROMOTE OUR NEW MOTTO
T-SHIRTS WILL BE \$20 FOR SM-XLG
LARGER SIZES ARE \$1 PER "X" MORE
UP TO SIZE XXXLARGE.**

Profits from the sale of the T-shirts will be used for a community event held at St. John's.

T-SHIRT ORDERS MUST BE PLACED BY: Thursday, SEPTEMBER 28th at 4:30p.m.

Money needs to be turned in with order form for T-Shirt Order to be placed.

Checks Can Be Made Out to St. John's Lutheran Church-

Please indicate in the Memo T-Shirt Order

NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL

PHONE

Adult	Qty
<input type="radio"/> S	
<input type="radio"/> M	
<input type="radio"/> L	
<input type="radio"/> 1X	
<input type="radio"/> 2X	
<input type="radio"/> 3X	

Future Church: God's Love Made Real

We want to know what it is to be the church God is calling us to be. But we need YOU. Join us as we seek to discern God's Spirit and work to become the church God is calling us to be. This is Future Church; This is God's Love Made Real. Throughout the next couple of months, the ELCA is asking for your help. We are looking for your thoughts and ideas on how we are called to be a church in today's world. Please visit our website on Future Church: God's Love Made Real – <https://lovemadereal.elca.org> – where you can take a survey and watch a video from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton that explains more about this action and complete a survey to share your views of the church and the world today. In the coming weeks we will offer listening sessions where you can participate in online opportunities to provide your thoughts on God's call for the church.

BEING NICER AS CHRISTIANS AT WORK

“As working Christians, we are deeply aware of the gap that exists between Sunday and Monday,” writes Roland Heersink, founder of the God & Work Initiative. “Although the two days are next to each other on the calendar, they seem miles apart. On Sunday we hear that we are children of God, saved by grace in Jesus Christ. On Monday, there are endless emails to be answered, spreadsheets to be completed, people to be hired and fired, meetings to attend, and important decisions to be made.” For a stronger relationship between our roles as faith-filled Christians and employees, Heersink uses the acronym NICER. How well do you live out these five essentials in your work life?

No Compromise (See Daniel 1:8-14.)

Integrity (See Daniel 6:1-5.)

Compassionate in Relationships (Follow Jesus' example.)

Excellence (“Do your best, and let Jesus do the rest.”)

Responsible to Others (Be a good Samaritan.)

STONE TABLETS



The tablets of stone symbolize God's giving of the Law to Israel through Moses on Mount Sinai (Horeb). They're often shown with Roman numerals I through III on the left tablet and IV through X on the right. This represents the Ten Commandments — with the first three focusing on God and the final seven focusing on other people. The image of the stone tablets also may represent the entire Old Testament.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Church Services

September 3rd-Worship in the Parish Hall

September 10th-8a.m. & 10:30a.m. Worship (New Member Sunday)

September 17th– 8a.m. & 10:30a.m. Worship with Communion (Pastor Bob Wilkinson)

September 24th-8a.m. & 10:30a.m. Worship

Quilting-Every Wednesday 12:30p.m.

Camelot Worship-Every first Wednesday of the month at 3p.m.

Office Closed

Thursday, August 31st

Monday, September 4th *Labor Day*

Tuesday, September 12th

Office Hours Change to 8:30-4:30p.m.

Sunday, September 5th

Confirmation Classes

Meet with Confirmation Mentors Throughout Summer Months

Confirmation Class will resume on September 13th at 6:45p.m.

Confirmation Sunday for the 9th Graders will be October 29th at 9:30a.m. with Pastor Gary Froseth

Council Meeting

September 19th at 6:45p.m.

Handing Out Bibles

September 10th at both 8a.m. & 10:30a.m.

Sunday School Resumes

Sunday, September 10th at 9:15a.m.

New Member Sunday

Sunday, September 17th at 8 & 10:30a.m.

Yoga

Mondays at 9a.m.– Sept. 11, 18, 25



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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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