



Summer Senior High Bible Study and Ice Cream Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
 Each Wednesday throughout the summer, Youth Intern Taylor Justison and Pastor Greg will be leading fun, engaging, and in-depth Bible Studies for our Senior High Youth (those having completed 9th-12 grades) at 7:30 in the Youth Room. Following the Bible Study, we will travel together as a group to various locations around Springfield to enjoy ice cream and other delicious treats! Bring your Bibles, bring your friends, bring your appetites! This week's delectable destination is . . . (drumroll please) . . . Cherry Berry! Hope to see you there!

ELCA Youth Gathering Pre-Trip Meeting Sunday, June 24, 9:00 a.m.
 The ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston is less than two weeks away! If you are part of the group from St. John's traveling to Houston, don't forget our **REQUIRED** pre-trip meeting on Sunday, June 24 at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Room. "Houston, we have a meeting!" See you there!

Leadership Lab 2018 July 23-28
 It's time to register for Leadership Lab 2018 at Augustana College. All 8th Graders through those in High School are eligible to go. LEADERSHIP LAB is an important piece of our youth ministry here at St. John's, especially as we look to grow leaders among our youth to help build this important ministry in our congregation over the coming years. Oftentimes, LEADERSHIP LAB is a life-changing event for youth and a crucial piece of both their faith and leadership development. Talk to Pastor Adam to get a registration form.



Water Olympics Thursday, June 28, 6:00 p.m.
 Incoming 1st-7th graders are invited to come compete at our first Water Olympics! Parents and families are invited to eat dinner with us and to stay during the event if possible. We will split up into two age groups, and then the games will begin! Bring a bathing suit and towel.

Family Kickball Nights Mondays at 5:30 p.m.
 Join us on Mondays for a fun game of kickball with siblings and friends! We will meet up on the following nights: June 25, July 2, 16, & 30, and August 6.

Vacation Bible School July 9-13, 9:00-11:30 a.m.
 VBS is coming! This year's VBS will take place July 9-13 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. with a family picnic on Friday evening, July 13 at 5:30 p.m. This year's theme is *Shipwrecked* as we will discover that we are *rescued by Jesus every time* we feel stranded. Our program is for children 4 years old through students completing 4th grade. Register online at www.stjohns-springfield.org/children.

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

All events can be found at www.stjohns-springfield.org
 There you will also be able to sign up for weekly event emails.

SUNDAY 6-17

Mission Trip
Leave for Mission Trip

Stephen Ministry Informational Luncheon

AMR 11:45 a.m.

MONDAY 6-18

Mission Trip

Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group

AMR 1:00 p.m.

Preschool Board

AMR 4:00 p.m.

Finance/Property/Leadership Board Meeting

AMR 5:30 p.m.

Leadership Board

AMR 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY 6-19

Mission Trip

Coffee and Conversation

PLC LOBBY 9:00 a.m.

Staff Meeting

PLC 9:00 a.m.

PB&J Picnic

SPRING CREEK 12:00 p.m.

TOWNHOMES 12:00 p.m.

Adult Ministries Team

AMR 1:00 p.m.

Dinner Night Out

MARIO'S IN CHATHAM 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 6-20

Mission Trip

Dinner on the Lawn

6:00 p.m.

Senior High Bible Study

YOUTH ROOM 7:30 p.m.

Worship Band Practice

PLC 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 6-21

Mission Trip

Military Ministry Team

AMR 6:00 p.m.

FRIDAY 6-22

Mission Trip

SATURDAY 6-23

Return from Mission Trip

Worship/Communion

SANCTUARY 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 6-24

Worship

SANCTUARY 8:00 a.m.

Fellowship

PLC LOBBY 9:00 a.m.

ELCA Youth Gathering

Pre-Meeting

YOUTH ROOM 10:00 a.m.

Worship/Communion

SANCTUARY 10:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

PLC 10:00 a.m.

Anita Hayes' Birthday Open House

PLC 2:00 p.m.

St. John's Night at the Muni

6:30 p.m.



Pentecost 4
June 16-17, 2018



This Weekend

5:00 p.m. Saturday

Worship/Communion (Sanctuary)

Pastor Pam Mltcham, Preaching Minister

8:00 a.m. Sunday

Worship/Communion (Sanctuary)

Pastor Greg Busboom, Preaching Minister

9:00 a.m. Sunday

Fellowship (PLC Lobby)

10:00 a.m. Sunday

Worship (Sanctuary)

Pastor Greg Busboom, Preaching Minister

10:00 a.m. Sunday

Contemporary Worship/Communion (PLC)

Pastor Pam Mltcham, Preaching Minister

THE MESSENGER

Welcome

to St. John's Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here! If you do not yet have a church home and would like to become part of Christ's community at St. John's, we invite you to visit with one of our pastors. We would expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share.

Pastor's Message

"Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in the shade'"
 (Mark 4:30-32).

There is a line in Robert Burns' poem *To a Mouse* that goes, "The best laid schemes of mice and men go often askew." For nearly two years now, our Property Ministry Team, Finance Committee, and Leadership Board have been working closely with our architect to plan the timeline for our upcoming building renovation and addition project. We have spent huge amounts of time and energy carefully attending to each and every detail of the project. Everything in our work and planning

Pastor's Message Continued

was pointing to a July 1 start date. We have moved everybody out of their offices. We had scheduled the groundbreaking celebration for next Sunday, June 24. We had made plans to move all of our worship services to the Parish Life Center (PLC) beginning the week-end of June 30/July 1. But then . . . (here's where the quote from Robert Burns' poem comes in) . . . "The best laid schemes of mice and men go often askew."

If you've ever been involved in a building project, especially a building project of this size and scope, you know that things never go exactly as planned. That said, we have run up against an unexpected and unforeseen delay in our timeline and, therefore, have decided to postpone our groundbreaking celebration until we have a better sense as to when construction will actually begin. In addition, with the delay in construction, we will continue to worship in our current times and locations - 5:00 Saturday (San-

tuary); 8:00 Sunday (Sanctuary); 10:00 Sunday (Sanctuary); and 10:00 Sunday (PLC) - until the actual date has been set.

This coming week I will be sending a letter to the congregation explaining in detail the unexpected delay and what it means for our timeline moving forward. In the meantime, thank you for both your continued faithfulness and flexibility as we work together to grow in God's mission for us **to be and make disciples of Christ, in response to God's grace!** God continues to turn mustard seeds into majestic trees through the ministry of this congregation and I continue to look expectantly toward the future God has in store for us!

In Christ's Welcome +

Pastor Greg

Remember in Prayer Dottie Beach, Marie Bomke, Marlene Carnduff, Bernadine Dickson, Darlene Edwards, Ursula Edwards, David Fischer, Natalia Foard, Alice Fritsch, Jim Greene, Steve Hardy, Chad Hicks, Charlene Kloppenburg, Melvin Kuhnly, Pam LaBelle, Betty Lunik, Judy Nika, Johneita Osterhuber, Gene Poehlman, Dean Rademaker, Priscilla Rademaker, Liz Saner, Roger Schumacher, Jean Sergent, Debbie Slater, Katie Smith, Pat Sriner, Sandra Stoye, Megan Swanson, Perry Taylor, Tom Thady, Carole Tracy, Helen Traeger, Stephanie van Ulft, Ruth Anne Wankel, Larry Wieties

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joan Williams on her and Roger's 65th Wedding Anniversary by Roger Williams and in celebration of Anita Hayes' 96 ½ birthday celebration in the Parish Life Center on June 24 and in loving memory of Robert Hayes by their family.

Rose on the Altar The rose on the altar is in celebration of the birth of Betsy Rose Reed, daughter of Joe and Hannah Reed, born on Tuesday, June 12. We rejoice with the Reed family on the arrival of Betsy Rose and pray that as she grows she might come to know and trust Jesus' amazing love for her!

Birthday Open House

On June 24 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. here at the church, come wish Anita Hayes a happy 96 ½ birthday! Please come and enjoy conversation, punch, cookies, and cake. (Please no gifts.) If there are any questions, call Therese at 217-971.1395.



NEW Summer Worship Schedule

Our NEW Summer Worship Schedule has begun! Our NEW worship schedule is as follows:

- 5:00 p.m. Saturday - Casual Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- 8:00 a.m. Sunday - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- *NEW*** 10:00 a.m. Sunday - Traditional Worship (Sanctuary)
- *NEW*** 10:00 a.m. Sunday - Contemporary Worship (Parish Life Center)

Make worship a regular part of your summer and get spiritually refreshed! See you in worship!

Stephen Ministry Information Luncheon

Sunday, June 17, 11:45 a.m.

WILL YOU CARE?

**THINKING ABOUT BECOME A STEPHEN MINISTER?
COME TO TODAY'S INFORMATION LUNCHEON IN THE AMR,
OR SEE PASTOR PAM OR CINDY KOONCE FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

Mission Trip to Marion, Virginia

June 17-23

This Sunday morning 16 disciples from St. John's are making the journey to Marion, Virginia as they become of the hands and feet of Christ by completing various service projects through Project Crossroads, as well as running a Vacation Bible School in partnership with a local church. We ask for prayers for the health, safety, and travel of our team that consists of Pastor Adam, Elizabeth Barkley, Janice Barnard, Jay Barnard, Abbey Beall, Josh Eiter, Meghan Eiter, Darviel Johnson, Taylor Justison, Barb Kuhnly, Ted LaBelle, Steve Lashbrook, Rose Moser, Dan Simmons, Harry Simmons, and Lucrece Yompan-Pancha.

Summer Cookouts on the Lawn

Wednesdays, June 6 - August 8, 6:00 p.m.

This summer, you are invited to join us once again for our weekly "Meals on the Lawn." We'll eat supper at 6:00 p.m. and following the meal, there will be a different, fun activity each week. Groups of St. John's disciples provide the main dish, and we ask that you bring a side dish to share. If your group would like to provide the main dish, please call Suzie Weissberg at 341.1678. Please plan on joining us as we continue growing in our relationships with one another and with our neighborhood community!

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group

Monday, June 18, 1:00 p.m.

Do you care for someone diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia? Are you looking for information and support? You are not alone. St. John's hosts an Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group. The group meets monthly on the third Monday in the Adult Meeting Room (AMR). The Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Groups provide emotional, educational, and social support for family and friends of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other related dementias. For more information, call the Alzheimer's Association Illinois Chapter at 800.272.3900 or go to alz.org/Illinois and click on 'Support Groups.'

Volunteers Needed!

Over \$1 million in FREE dental care to the uninsured and underinsured in our community will be offered this summer through Illinois Mission of Mercy, to be held July 20 and 21 at the BoS Center (formerly the PCCC) in Springfield. Dental care for approximately 1,000 people per day is being planned. Hundreds of community volunteers (in addition to 200 volunteer dentists) are needed for a host of roles, including patient ambassadors who serve as guides throughout the clinic, and RNs, LPNs and EMTs to check blood pressures and review medical histories prior to treatment. Some roles (like lab technicians and pharmacists) require specific experience. Many do not! For more info and to register as a volunteer go to <http://www.isdsfoundation.org/mission-of-mercy/>. Must be 18 to volunteer. Contact Sarah Jensen at 836-2802 or Bill Schlosser at 793-5118 with questions.

St. John's 150th Anniversary Germany Tour

Summer 2020

Registration is now open for our St. John's 150th Anniversary Germany Tour in the summer of 2020. In addition to touring the Luther sites, we will be sharing in the Passion Play in Oberammergau. A special anniversary meal and worship service will be enjoyed as well. The trip is limited to the first 35 registrants. Registration is limited to disciples at St. John's through July 1, after which registration will be opened to friends and family of St. John's disciples. Registration forms are available in the church office. For more information, please contact Rose Moser, David Richter, Pastor Busboom, or Pastor Connolly.

Can CIVS help you?

Caregiver Interfaith Volunteer Services (CIVS) offers a helping hand through volunteers from St. John's as well as other local churches. Volunteers are happy to help in several ways:

- transportation to all medical appointments
- taking people grocery shopping or shopping for them if they're not able
- sitting with your loved one (so you can take a much needed break)
- call or visit just to see if you need anything

St. John's CIVS volunteers are part of an interfaith caregiving group from area churches who truly care about YOU and your well-being. To request a volunteer, call HSHS St. John's Hospital (217.757.6621) to find the help that you need. It will make your life a little easier. Or, for more information, get in touch with Fran Myers, our congregational leader (217.789.1961.) There is no charge for services; although donations are appreciated. CIVS wants to help you maintain your independence.



ADULTS

Women's Bible Study

Tuesday June 19, 9:00 a.m.

The Tuesday morning women's Bible study group will meet in the PLC Lobby for fellowship and conversation so we may stay in touch during our summer break. Dates for July and August are July 17 and August 21. Even if you have not participated in our group, you are welcome to join us.

Novel Bunch Book Club

Friday, June 29, 7:00 p.m.

This month, St. John's very own book club will be discussing Jen Hatmaker's *For the Love*. Join this lovely small group for a book discussion at Melissa Roselle's home on June 29. July's book will be *Americanah* by Adichie, and this discussion will take place on Friday, July 27 at 7 p.m., location TBD. Please contact Traci Michaud with questions at traci.michaud02@gmail.com. All are welcome!