



CHILDREN

Family Kickball Nights

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.

Mondays at 5:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible School

VBS begins on Monday! This year's VBS takes place this coming week, 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 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.

July 9-13, 9:00-11:30 a.m.

VBS Family Celebration Picnic

On Friday after VBS, we want to celebrate with all our families! We ask each family to bring a side dish to share and we'll provide the main dish and sno-cones for everyone. Even if your children are not able to attend VBS, you are welcome to join us at the picnic! Dress for water games and bring a towel!

Friday, July 13, 5:30 p.m.

Nerf Wars

Practice your aim and stealth skills to get ready for a friendly Nerf challenge! This event is for children entering grades 5-7. Bring a few friends to join in the fun! Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. followed by Nerf wars inside.

Tuesday, July 24, 6:30 p.m.



YOUTH

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! Hope to see you there!



ADULTS

CONNECT!

Coming this Fall

Announcing **CONNECT!** -- a NEW Ministry Experience coming to St. John's this fall, designed and created by the three pastors of St. John's, together with our Small Group Leadership Team, to engage as many disciples from St. John's as possible in meaningful relationship building with Christ, with one another, and with the world. Watch for it!!!

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 7-8

LWR Coffee Sales
Worship Vision Team Meeting

PARLOR 11:15 a.m.

New Church Management Software Planning

YOUTH ROOM 11:30 a.m.

Lutherans at Play

PARLOR 1:00 p.m.

MONDAY 7-9

Vacation Bible School

9:00 a.m.

Stephen Minister Peer Support

OFFSITE 10:30 a.m.

Personnel Committee

PARLOR 6:00 p.m.

Leadership Board

AMR 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY 7-10

Vacation Bible School

9:00 a.m.

Coffee and Conversation

PARLOR 9:00 a.m.

Staff Meeting

PARLOR 12:00 p.m.

PB&J Picnic

SPRING CREEK

TOWNHOMES 12:00 p.m.

Group LOYAL

PLC LOBBY 6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 7-11

Vacation Bible School

9:00 a.m.

Meals on the Lawn

PLC LAWN 6:00 p.m.

Senior High Summer Bible Study and Ice Cream

YOUTH ROOM 7:30 p.m.

Worship Band Practice

PLC 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 7-12

Vacation Bible School

9:00 a.m.

Roots and Wings Small Group

OFFSITE 6:30 p.m.

FRIDAY 7-13

Vacation Bible School

9:00 a.m.

Stitch n' Share

PLC LOBBY 1:30 p.m.

VBS Family Picnic

PLC LOBBY 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 7-14

Worship/Communion

SANCTUARY 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 7-15

Worship/Communion

SANCTUARY 8:00 a.m.

Fellowship

PLC LOBBY 9:00 a.m.

Worship

SANCTUARY 10:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

PLC 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Night Small Group

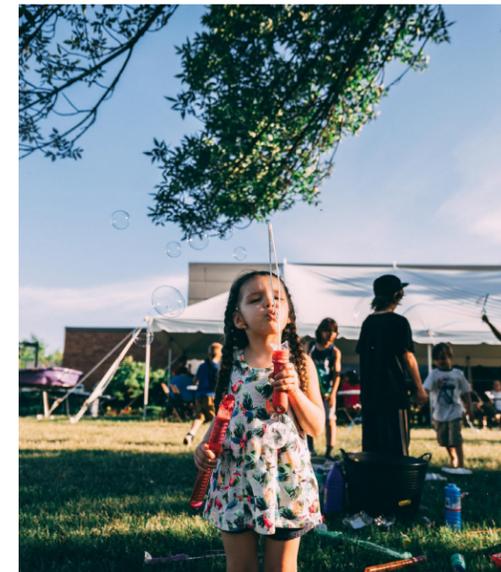
OFFSITE 6:30 p.m.



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pentecost 7

July 7-8, 2018



This Weekend

5:00 p.m. Saturday

Worship/Communion (Sanctuary)

Pastor Greg Busboom, Preaching Minister

8:00 a.m. Sunday

Worship (Sanctuary)

Pastor Adam Connolly, Preaching Minister

9:00 a.m. Sunday

Fellowship (PLC Lobby)

10:00 a.m. Sunday

Worship/Communion (Sanctuary)

Pastor Adam Connolly, Preaching Minister

10:00 a.m. Sunday

**Contemporary
Worship/Communion (PLC)**

Pastor Greg Busboom, 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. In 597 B.C., the priest Ezekiel was removed into exile in Babylon. While there he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's first reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. In baptism, we, too, have been commissioned to go into the world to proclaim the good news of Jesus.

Pastor's Message

"[Jesus] called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits" (Mark 2:7).

Who are we? Why are we here? These two questions are vital questions for congregations to ask themselves over and over again. Congregations that regularly ask themselves these questions remain grounded in the gospel, focused in Christ's mission, and moving forward in a healthy way. Congregations that fail to ask themselves these questions often get distracted, lose their focus, and find themselves stuck.

Thankfully, here at St. John's, we ask ourselves these two questions all the time! Several years ago, our congregation answered these questions by

Pastor's Message Continued

adopting a new vision statement. This statement answers these two questions in a powerful way.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is called to grow in meaningful relationships with Christ, with each other, and with the community as we are gathered for worship, equipped for discipleship, and sent to care.

At the heart of our congregation's vision is relationship! By definition, the Triune God is the God of relationship—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Triune God cannot exist apart from the relationships shared between these three persons. This divine relationship is not a closed relationship, but rather an open relationship—open to us, open to others, open to the entire world. The Triune God who is relationship exists for the very purpose of being in relationship with us! Pretty awesome!

As people called into relationship with the God who is relationship, we are also called into relationship with one another and with the world around us. Unless we are growing in our relationship with one another

and with the world around us, we cannot be growing in our relationship with Christ.

This fall, we are introducing a new ministry here at St. John's called **CONNECT**. Created by Pastor Pam, Pastor Adam, and myself, in coordination with our Small Group Leadership Team, **CONNECT** is designed to engage as many disciples in our congregation as possible in growing in relationship with Christ, with one another, and with our community. **CONNECT** is a direct result of our vision statement and grows out of those two most important questions, Who are we? Why are we here?

As you learn more about **CONNECT** over the coming weeks and months, I ask that you pray for an open heart—open to the new thing that God is doing in this place. What is **CONNECT**? Simply put, it's relationship. Stay tuned for more information coming soon!

Connected in Christ +

Pastor Greg

Remember in Prayer Eunice Avart, Dottie Beach, Marie Bomke, Marlene Carnduff, Bernadine Dickson, Darlene Edwards, Eugene Edwards, Ursula Edwards, David Fischer, Natalia Foard, Alice Fritsch, Jim Greene, Steve Hardy, Chad Hicks, Charlene Kloppenburg, Betty Lunik, Donna Moore, Judy Nika, Johneta Osterhuber, Gene Poehlman, Dean Rademaker, Priscilla Rademaker, Roberta Reif, Liz Saner, Jean Sergent, Debbie Slater, Katie Smith, Pat Sriner, Sandra Stoye, Perry Taylor, Carole Tracy, Helen Traeger, Stephanie van Ulft, Ruth Anne Wankel

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dorothy Handwerk by the Barnard Family.

Rose on the Altar is given in memory of Lynn Caulk on his 98th birthday by his daughter Penny and his friend Claire Papai.

Thank You To the staff and members of St. John's, Thank you all for helping to make my birthday celebration an event to always remember. Thanks to those who attended, those who sent cards, and those who sent their love. I am truly blessed to have such a supportive and loving church family.

- Anita Hayes and family

Nursery Available We love having children with us in worship here at St. John's! However, we also realize that participating in worship is often difficult for parents of especially young children. We offer a fully staffed, safe, and secure nursery for children ages birth through 4-years-old each and every weekend during all four of our worship services. The nursery is located across from the restrooms in the Parish Life Center (PLC) Lobby. All of our nursery staff are fully screened and trained to provide the best care possible for our little ones. In addition, pagers are provided for our parents if the nursery staff needs to contact you during worship. Feel free to use our wonderful St. John's nursery as needed. We are glad you are here and want you to have the most meaningful worship experience with us as possible.

Anniversary Open House An Open House . . . please don't miss . . . as Clarence and Marie Bomke celebrate 65 years of wedded bliss. You're invited to celebrate with them on Sunday, July 22 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at Gardner Township Hall, 1266 N. Bradfordton Road, Springfield. Any questions, please call Kathy at 217.741.9522 and please, no gifts.



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!

Summer Cookouts on the Lawn

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

Resuming July 11, 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!

Share-and-Tell Celebration Worship **Sunday, July 22, 10:00 a.m.**

Everyone is invited to a special Share-and-Tell Celebration Worship Service on Sunday, July 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Life Center (PLC) as the 16 disciples who recently traveled to Marion, Virginia and the 19 youth and adults who recently participated in the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston share their experiences with the congregation. Don't miss this powerfully moving worship experience as they share their stories, pictures, videos, music, and more! In order for as many people to share in the experience, there will be no 10:00 sanctuary worship that day. Come and celebrate what God is doing with us!

Stephen Ministers Care

When was the last time someone really listened to you? We're talking about that undistracted, full-attention kind of listening. That's one of the ways Stephen Ministers care for others. We need a few more Stephen Ministers to care for folks who are journeying by themselves along a difficult path. Would you consider serving in this way? A new training class will begin this September. Applications are available in the church office, and should be completed and submitted by July 15. For more information, see Pastor Pam or Cindy Koonce (cindyrae72@gmail.com, 217.553.4719.)

Drivers Needed!

St. John's Transportation Ministry Team is looking for men or women to drive the van Sunday mornings, transporting people to and from the late services in the sanctuary and PLC. Drivers usually serve approximately six times a year on a rotating schedule. Drivers would need to pass a background check and complete a short training session on operating the van and the wheelchair lift. We get requests for rides to worship almost every weekend and could really use more drivers. If you're interested, please contact Nancy Ryan, Transportation Ministry Team leader, at 217.899.3650.

Land of Lincoln Barbershop Chorus **Saturday, July 14, 7:00 p.m.**

The Land of Lincoln Barbershop Chorus will sing a FREE concert at the Springfield's Douglas Park bandshell. You will find the park at the corner of Mason Street and MacArthur Boulevard. The fabulous, nationally ranked Sound Celebration Chorus will be the special guest chorus for the concert. An ice cream social will also start at 6:30 pm. Proceeds from the ice cream social will benefit "Food for Kids" at the Food Pantry at Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy a night of harmony in the park. The concert is sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church and the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Springfield. In case of rain, the concert will move to First Presbyterian Church on the NW corner of 7th and Capitol.

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group **Monday, July 16, 1:00 p.m.**

In 1979, nine Chicagoland families with personal connections to dementia found there were few care and support resources available for those affected with Alzheimer's disease. After meeting with the National Institute on Aging they founded what later became known as the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Illinois Chapter - a volunteer-driven, self-help organization offering information and support to those affected.

Thirty-nine years later, there IS care and support here at St. John's. An Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group meets monthly on the third Monday in the Adult Meeting Room (AMR). The group provides 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.'

St. John's 150th Anniversary Germany Tour **Summer 2020**

Registration remains open for our St. John's 150th Anniversary Germany Tour in the summer of 2020. However, spots are filling up fast! 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 now open to all disciples at St. John's and any friends and family of St. John's disciples. Registration forms are available in the church office. Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! Sign-up today! For more information, please contact Rose Moser, David Richter, Pastor Busboom, or Pastor Connolly.

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.

School Supplies Collection

We will begin collecting for our backpack and school supply give away on July 9 and will continue through July 29. Backpack distribution to St. John's disciples and our neighbors will be on August 1. Supplies needed include: Box of 24 Crayons, Pencil Sharpener, 2.5 inch pink eraser, No.2 pencils with erasers, Ball ballpoint pens (no gel ink), 70-sheet wide or college-ruled notebooks, 12-inch ruler with inches and centimeters, blunt scissors. Every little bit helps!