



**St John's Lutheran Church**

# The Messenger

**Volume 60, Issue 12**

**DECEMBER 2022**

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**ST. JOHN'S—ADVENT & CHRISTMAS**

**Sunday morning worship in person & live via YouTube**

Link to YouTube & bulletin posted on Facebook pages and website

[www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls.org](http://www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls.org)

[www.stjohnspls.org](http://www.stjohnspls.org)

**Sunday, December 4 WORSHIP w/Holy Communion-10 AM**

*New Member Sunday*

**Grace Place** for children during worship  
*(Pageant Preparation)*

**Fellowship** following worship

**Sunday, December 11 WORSHIP w/Holy Communion-10 AM**

**Grace Place** for children (ages 3-11)  
*(Pageant Preparation)*

**Fellowship** following worship

**Packing of Food Backpacks**

**Adult Forum with Norma Malfatti**

**'Messiah' Performance 4 PM**

*Reception & Holiday Bazaar follows*

**Sunday, December 18 WORSHIP w/Holy Communion-10 AM**

**Fellowship** following worship -

**Christmas Pageant 11:15 AM**

**Saturday, December 24 CHRISTMAS EVE**

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF WORSHIP**

**4 and 10 PM at St. John's**

**Sunday, December 25 CHRISTMAS DAY**

No Service of Worship or church activities at St. John's

*Welcoming, Worshiping, Healing, Serving*

## Thoughts from Pastor Mark



As I sat in my office in late November, I found myself reflecting on the past year and feeling (as my kids might say) “all the feels” along the wide pendulum of emotions. I felt grateful, glad, even happy for so many things we have accomplished together in the past year. But then I also remembered a few things occurring within our congregation right now and felt sad, frustrated, and a little anxious (if not fear). What happens if the family I talked to on the phone truly won’t ever return to ANY church (let alone ours) ever again because as he said, “We haven’t had church for over two years, and now... I dunno... I guess we are discerning whether we really want that for our kids.” As hard as that hit me emotionally, I nevertheless truly appreciated his candor and openness. It frightens me to say this, but he’s not wrong and he’s certainly not alone.

But then I read a devotion from our Advent Devotional written by a member and my heart was refilled with gratitude for their expression of faith and I marveled at the depth of it! Then another family flooded my mind. They are so stressed out and sad... I worry about them. Do they know I love them? Do they feel the sense of hope and expectation the season of Advent brings?

Do I?

Do any of us? Ugh... too many feels... So, I took a break and went up into the sanctuary and prayed. Well, I tried... but my mind was too full of thoughts about those in the hospital, the families of young children who are sated with life stuff, and, and, and, it dawned on me that this list of people IS my prayer. So, I wandered through the dark sanctuary that morning and I prayed for that family, for our congregation, and for you, Dear Reader. After praying about everything that was in my mind, I was moved to hang the Advent wreaths on the pillars and found myself singing the Advent hymn *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believer*. The fourth stanza especially hit home:

*Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear  
Arise, O Sun so longed for, o’re this benighted sphere  
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead O Lord, to see  
The day of earth’s redemption that sets your people free!*

In that moment, standing on the pew with the long rod in my hand placing the wreath on that teeny tiny nail... I felt the Holy Spirit poke me in the soul -- reminding me she’s still with me, She’s still with those families, and She’s still with you, Dear Reader.

Although this world feels gloomy with violence and the threat of more violence around every corner, God is still good and empowering us for good and wondrous things. And God is still acting and loving and blessing and redeeming. That’s when my perspective changed and instead of noticing the darkness and shadows in the sanctuary, I noticed instead the sanctuary was GORGEOUSLY lit by the sunrays coming through the Te Deum window in the balcony. And in that moment of singing the words of that hymn, and hanging the wreaths, and seeing the colorful light on the backs of the pews, God gave me solace, and hope, and his love once more.

I pray that you intentionally set aside a moment (even a tiny one) for being still with God; and then listen, watch, and wait. For God is about to act and Christ is coming soon. We are in his Advent.

~Pastor Mark

## A Ministry Highlight

Each month we are taking the opportunity to focus on one area of our Congregational Ministry.

During the month of December we will focus on **the Child:**

**As we receive new members into St. John’s family, they reaffirm their faith as Children of God.**

**As we prepare food backpacks for delivery, we remember hungry, isolated, lonely, struggling children and their families.**

**As Children of All Ages, we join in retelling the Christmas story with pageantry, music, worship, here and at home.**

**And as the Christ Child comes... “let every heart prepare Him room’...the One born for us all.**

**WORSHIP notes**

**New Member Sunday**

On December 4, St. John’s will receive into membership Edith Bohardt, Rick Falcon, Alex and Jenessa Gronemeyer, Shawn Northrup, Graham Zima, and Annabelle LeTourneau who is reconnecting with our congregation. We welcome them among us as they join the ministry we share.

If you or someone you know is interesting in learning more about membership with St. John’s, please let Pastor Mark know.



**St. John’s Advent Devotional 2022!**

There is still opportunity for you or a family member of any age to contribute to our daily devotional collection for use during the season of Advent this year. We’re building this devotional for the 28 days of Advent week by week, distributing by email weekly and on Facebook daily, with print copies available on request.

You might use a piece of scripture, a hymn, an image, poem or reading (or combination thereof) for inspiration if you wish. Advent themes like hope and faith, peace, love and joy—may be helpful in one’s pondering, too.

Please send or give your contribution to Deborah Dunham (volunteer @stjohnsmpls.org) or Ann Paulson (communications@stjohnmpls.org)

Thank you for your contribution!

*The Worship Committee*



**Preaching Guest and Adult Forum**

**Sunday, December 11**

Rev. Norma Malfatti, Minneapolis Area Synod’s Director for Evangelical Mission will be with us all morning on Sunday, December 11. After worship Rev. Malfatti will lead an adult forum similar to a TED Talk entitled:



*Oh, There be Dragons... Meeting and Understanding our Neighbors*

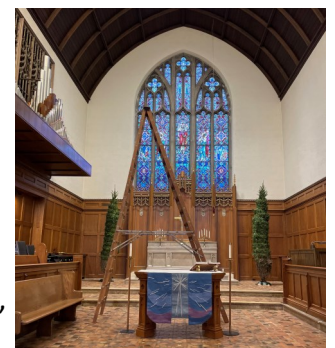
Pastor Norma will spend some time sharing best practices for understanding ourselves better, understanding cultures different from our own, and building authentic relationships with neighbors, at home, at church and other places you find yourself. Take dragons for example, Dragons are animals of chaos and destruction in much England and Europe, while in the far east they are emissaries of good luck, good fortune, and blessing. The culture you live in gives you a lens through which you have an instant understanding of what a dragon is. Understanding that makes all the difference in the world. What is the culture St. John’s lives in?



Saturday, December 24  
at St. John’s  
**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF WORSHIP**  
4 and 10 p.m.

**Moments of Generosity**

This month we’d like to recognize Scott Belz’s moment of generosity for his help in selecting the Christmas Trees and assisting Pastor Mark in getting them set up in the Sanctuary! Thank you, Scott, for making this happen!



**CROSS+GENERATIONAL MINISTRY**

**Messiah Reception**

Following the *Messiah* performances on Saturday, Dec. 10 and Sunday, Dec. 11, St. John’s will be hosting a reception for all in attendance.

The Cross+Generational Team invites anyone willing to bring a plate of cookies for these receptions to please let Edith or Jennifer Burdick know for which day you plan to offer them. Thank you!



**Christmas Pageant**

**GUESS WHO’S COMING TO BETHLEHEM?**

A cross+generational musical mystery is coming to St. John’s Fellowship Hall. Looking for “big kids” (aka adults) to help solve the mystery (take a role) and/or being a prepared member of the audience choir. We are also looking for people to sew costumes and help with props.



Performance will be Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> after worship; dress rehearsal Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 10—11:30. If you would like to help, please let Edith know. [edith@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:edith@stjohnsmpls.org)

**Friday Fun Night, December 16, 6-8-p.m.**

**Hot Chocolate, Cookies, and TV**

Come to Fellowship Hall in your jammies if you wish and enjoy hot chocolate, cookies, and a Charlie Brown Christmas. Bring a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies to share if able, and enjoy a time of fellowship. If streaming is bad, we’ll sing Christmas carols!



**Coming in January ... Chili Contest!**

**Sunday, January 15, 11:15-12:30**

**St. John’s Fellowship Hall**

**Sunday Morning Nursery**

*Diane Harayda will officially be joining St. John’s staff on Sunday, Dec. 11 as Nursery Attendant. The nursery will be open from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. that day.*



Diane lives in Richfield, has been a confirmed Lutheran for ages, teacher and retired nurse. Sometimes called a baby whisperer, she looks forward to meeting St. John's families and to provide a wonderful experience for their children in the nursery. She enjoys weekend jaunts to Cuyuna, biking with her grandchildren and walks with her Shih Tzu Stella. She rarely refuses chocolate.

*We are additionally seeking volunteers to assist on a rotating schedule. If you could help or know someone who might be interested, please let Edith, Pastor Mark, or Ann know. We will have a laptop in the Nursery so attendants will be able to hear the service.*

**Holy Conversations**

Holy Conversations continue to focus on the Sunday lectionary readings.

Join these lively discussions hosted by Pr Mark and held weekly on Thursdays at 10 a.m. in St. John’s Lounge.



Topic/study or other day/time suggestions are always welcome!



‘Lutheranism 101’ will be on break during December.

Classes will resume on January 22, and then meet every other Sunday at 11:15 a.m. in St. John’s Chapel.

St. John's Lutheran Church presents...



St. John's Music Series

# Handel's Messiah

with St. John's Oratorio Chorus and Orchestra  
Samuel Grace, conductor

Saturday, December 10, 2022 | 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 11, 2022 | 4 p.m.

For more info, to donate, or to watch the  
performance online please visit our website:  
[www.stjohnsmpls.org/music-series/](http://www.stjohnsmpls.org/music-series/)



St. John's Music Series seeks to offer  
all people the opportunity to hear great  
music, performed well, free of charge.

4842 Nicollet Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55419  
[www.stjohnsmpls.org](http://www.stjohnsmpls.org) 612-827-4406

## COMMUNITY & NEIGHBORHOOD (CAN)

The Justice Page Middle School Food Backpack Ministry needs your help in DECEMBER.

Donations NEEDED:

- peanut butter
- canned tuna or chicken
- canned soup or stew
- canned ravioli
- mac & cheese
- boxed cereal
- apple sauce cups
- 16 oz. bags brown rice
- canned fruits and vegetables.



Join after worship on Sunday, Dec. 11 to pack 20 backpacks.

Join us after worship on Sunday, December 11 to pack 20 backpacks.

We are doing GOOD in OUR Neighborhood with your help. Thank YOU !

**Missionary Circle** will meet Wednesday, Dec. 7 at noon in St. John's Lounge. The Circle will host a **Holiday Bazaar** this year following the 7 p.m. Messiah performance on Dec. 10 and also following 10 a.m. worship and the 4 p.m. performance on Dec. 11.

## Harbor Light Shelter....



THANK YOU

## CAN and CHILD CARE

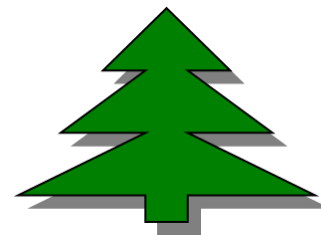
### THE GIVING TREE 2022

Bring your donations/unwrapped gifts by December 12

- Gift cards to Walmart, CUB and Target cards (\$25 amount suggested; we hope to provide \$50 for each of 20 Justice Page families). These help meet broader needs for items such as food, hygiene items, diapers, formula, etc.
- Clothing needs identified:
  - Gray or black sweatpants for middle school boys (boy's size large or men's size small)
  - gray or black leggings (women's sizes medium, large and XXL)

This is our 24<sup>th</sup> year of the GIVING TREE! St. John's Child Care Center teams with St. John's church members on this project to multiply our impact on the community. We hope to help our children and all who participate realize the importance of helping others in need.

Donations can be dropped off at the church office. There will be a tub just inside our Nicollet entry door to drop off clothing items.



Thank YOU, St. John's people, for helping to show we care about our Justice Page Middle School families. TOGETHER we DO make a difference for families in our community. Thank you for your generous gifts and kindness!!

*(The GIVING TREE project is in ADDITION to our Food Backpack Program. Please see separate listing for foods needed to pack 20 December backpacks.)*

## ADMINISTRATION

### St. John's Congregation Council Summary of meeting November 17, 2022



#### Pastor's Report

New member Sunday, Dec. 4: Alex and Jenessa Gronemeyer, Graham Zima, Edith Bohardt, Annabelle Letourneau.

**Need nursery attendants desperately**, ask anyone that can pass a background check.

No midweek advent service, devotional instead. No Christmas Day service (Sunday) as decided by council.

Veronica (weekend custodian) is filling in during the week, working quickly and learning. **Need to find a weekend snow-removal person.**

May 2023 St. John's will celebrate 140 years. **Need a celebration planning task force.**

#### Treasurer's Report - Monthly & YTD Financials

Checking account balance ~\$41,000.

Child Care and St. John's congregation are on course with budget projections.

Chi Rho is \$32,000 below budget for income and \$9,000 above budget for expenses, which is a \$41,000 departure from budget overall.

Chi Rho: WCC contract in process. WCC not having exclusive use all summer. A family reunion over July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend will increase income ~\$11,000, and camp won't be vacant. \$85,000-95,000 for WCC contract. Chi Rho pricing rates will be raised for 2023 to motel rates. Booking software is being explored.

A/C: total cost \$69,700. The major portion (~\$60,000) will be paid in December 2022. A/C dedicated funds are \$60,356; put final payment in 2023 budget, or move from Organ fund.

Organ fund Capital campaign; current balance \$95,838. Will need to raise ~\$33,000.

A motion was made to sell Edward Jones stocks/mutual funds and stocks from the Slifer bequest for approximately \$60,000. and move cash into Thrivent Money Market. Money goes for website, new doors, awnings, etc. Also, remainder to pad the rainy-day fund.

The motion passes.

#### Old Business:

Langer Proposal: Pr. Mark and Steve will work with Ron to revise list of projects. Council will put fee into 2023 budget.

Rustic Lodge Task Force update: Plumbing and electrical needs. Windows need painting. Lutheran Social Services may be able to find an organization to manage the property.

Roof: No new information on possible lawsuit. Exploring other roofing options – metal, asphalt that would facilitate solar panels.

#### New Business

Jaeden Micco has resigned from Council.

December 15, 5:30pm, event with all staff and council. Council to meet in person in 2023.

Council approves spending \$500 to wire fellowship hall. #MartinLuther is new password for guest Wi-Fi. Wi-Fi access to most of the building now.

Respectfully submitted by Anna Carlson, Council Secretary

**WORSHIP & MUSIC**

- **Worship will remain at 10 a.m. in person and online**
  - ◊ Live on YouTube (link posted on St. John’s Facebook page and website).
- Masks and social distancing are encouraged but not required.
- Holy Communion is celebrated each Sunday.
- Activity bags for children are available at the back of the sanctuary.
- Fellowship time will be offered following worship each Sunday.

*Come, join the Choir!*

*Come, Ring the Bells!*



**Rehearsals are in Fellowship Hall**

**Wednesdays**  
from 6:45—7:30 p.m.

**December 7 & 21**

*Peder Flaten, director*  
[pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org)

*Masks are optional.*



**Rehearsal in the Sanctuary**

**Wednesday**  
from 6:00—6:45 p.m.

**December 14**

*Peder Flaten, director*  
[pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org)

*Masks are optional.*

**Assist in Worship:**

If you have a new or renewed interest in serving as a reader, communion preparer and/or server, usher/greeter, acolyte, or cantor for worship, please contact Deborah Dunham, Pastor Mark, or Ann. The more who are willing, the more flexibility there is in planning and in frequency of serving.

**Hymns or Musical Offerings:**

If you have suggestions for hymns you’d like to sing or a special music selection to offer, please contact the office or Peder Flaten.

**Worship Assistants in November**

The Burdick family, Ron & Bonnie Conrad, Andy Dosedall, Steve & Ellen Dosedall, Deborah Dunham, Vicky Ercolani, Larry Fraser, Mark & Tamara Gebhardt, Lori Johnson, Sharon Koschak, Eleanor Nervig, Sam Nervig, Dylan Noaman, Annie Paulson, Elizabeth Roe, Diane Rooney, Oly Stromberg, Jeanne Tuvey, Eric Willette, Susan Zabel



St. John’s worship  
on Youtube



St. John’s podcasts  
on Spotify



**DECEMBER  
LECTIONARY**

**December 4**  
Advent 2

**Isaiah 11:1-16**

*The Peaceful Kingdom*

**December 11**  
Advent 3

**Isaiah 42:1-9**

*A Light to the Nations*

**December 18**  
Advent 4

**Matthew 1:18-25**

*Jesus as Immanuel*

**December 24**  
Christmas Eve

**Luke 2:1-20**

*Birth of Jesus*

**December 25**  
Christmas Day

**Luke 2:8-20**

*Shepherds visit*



**In Our Prayers....**

**Ones in need of healing, comfort, encouragement or sustaining care:**

† Amy Arens, Margery Arens, Ken Carroll, Kathy Cashin, JoAnn Christoferson, Brian Conrad, Keith Demmings, Harriet Ellis, Mike & Eleanor Erickson, Wes Gebhardt, Ron Hasselmann, Debra Jacobs, Neil Jenkins, Pastor Karl Jacobson, Marge Korzenowski, Veronica Lacy, Jane McNaughton, Pastor Michael Pancoast, Jan Sammelson, Karen Schoenecker, Betty Shannon, Susan Stagg, Lorenzo Statin, Susan Tasa, Lana Tiede, Jeanne Tuvey, Bruce Walker, Vicki Wheeler, Hans Wiersma, and all whom we hold in our hearts and are known by God

**Ones remembered at St. John's on All Saints Sunday, November 6, having died this past year:** Anna Koosmann, Warner Northrup, Rhonda Stanley, Nira Flaten, Kevin Lehse, Marajen Lee and Ray Christianson

*Dear Pastor Mark and members of St. John's,*  
*Thank you for allowing us to celebrate our mom's 80th birthday at St. John's. It was a very special night that we will remember always.*  
*Sincerely,*  
*Billy Birch, Jennifer Belz & Kathryn Gimse*

**ST. JOHN'S WELCOME STATEMENT**

*St John's is a Reconciling in Christ congregation that celebrates and cares for all people. As followers of Christ, who calls us to reconciliation and wholeness through baptism, the members of St. John's Lutheran Church welcome all who are seeking God. We affirm that this reconciliation extends to people of all gender identities and sexual orientations. We welcome members of the LGBTQ+ community as well as those who may have been excluded because of other human distinctions. We strive to live as a welcoming people in our life together and our outreach to the community. Our doors are open. Come as you are. You belong.*

***Please let the church office know if you would like to share information with the congregation.***

You can reach the church office at 612-827-4406 or [communications@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:communications@stjohnsmpls.org)  
 Email Pastor Mark at [pastortiede@stjohnsmpls.org](mailto:pastortiede@stjohnsmpls.org)



*Callers to St. John's have the option to talk with or leave messages for individual staff by choosing one of the following prompts:*

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Church Office/Ann Paulson                              | 4. David Roinas, Bookkeeper         |
| 2. Pastor Mark  | 5. Joseph Sahai                     |
| 3. Edith Bohardt, Director of Cross+Generational Ministry | 6. Tina Shear and Child Care Center |

**December**



**Happy Birthday!**

- 1 Sharon Koschak
- 2 Kevin Hurbanis
- 12 Mary Ites  
Henry Landin
- 15 Susan Koliha
- 19 Blake Anderson  
Brandon Megal  
Susan Zabel
- 23 Nora Tellijohn
- 28 Diane Rooney
- 30 Brian Landin

**Happy Anniversary!**

- 18 Brandon & Stephanie Megal
- 27 Micah & Nikki Niermann

**Christmas Eve**

Saturday, December 24

**Christmas Day**

Sunday, December 25

If your birthdate or anniversary has been inadvertently omitted or is incorrect, please forgive us, then call the church office at 612-827-4406.

*Thank you!*

A page for your own notes and  
drawings...

## December 2022

### December 4 - 10

Sunday, December 4—Advent 2

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
*in person and live via YouTube (FB)*  
**'Grace Place'** during worship

**11 am Fellowship** following worship (FH)

**11:15 am Worship Committee** (Lounge)

Monday, December 5

**7 pm 'Messiah' Rehearsal** (Sanctuary)

Tuesday, December 6

**10 am SJ Staff meeting**

Wednesday, December 7

**12 pm Missionary Circle** (Lounge)

**6:30 pm Confirmation** at Bethlehem LC

**6:45 pm St. John's Choir** (FH)

Thursday, December 8

**10 am Holy Conversations** (Lounge)

**5:30 pm ECFE** (Child Care) (FH, Lounge)

**6 pm Chi Rho Committee**

**7 pm 'Messiah' Dress Rehearsal** (Sanct)

Saturday, December 10

**7 pm 'Messiah' Performance**  
Reception and Bazaar following

### December 11 - 17

Sunday, December 11—Advent 3

**9:30-12:30 Nursery open**

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
*in person and live via YouTube (FB)*  
**'Grace Place'** during worship

**11 am Fellowship & Adult Forum**  
**plus Packing of Backpacks**  
following worship (FH)

**~11:30 am Cross+Generational Team**

**4 pm 'Messiah' Performance**  
Reception and Bazaar following

Monday, December 12

**5 pm Admin Team**

Wednesday, December 14

**6 pm St. John's Bells** (sanctuary)

**6:30 pm Confirmation** at Bethlehem LC

Thursday, December 15—**Backpack Delivery**

**10 am Holy Conversations** (Lounge)

**5:30 pm Staff & Council Holiday Party**

**7 pm St. John's Council** (Chapel)

Friday, December 16

**6-8 pm Fun Night** (FH)

### December 18 - 24

Sunday, December 17—Advent 4

**9:30-12:30 Nursery open**

**10 am Worship w/Holy Communion**  
*in person and live via YouTube (FB)*  
**'Grace Place'** during worship

**11 am Fellowship** in FH following worship

**11:15 am Christmas Pageant** (FH)

Tuesday, December 20

**10 am SJ Staff meeting**

Wednesday, December 21

**6:30 pm Confirmation** at Bethlehem LC

**6:45 pm SJ Choir** (FH)

Thursday, December 22

**10 am Holy Conversations** (Lounge)

Saturday, December 24—Christmas Eve

**4 and 10 pm Candlelight Worship**

### December 25 - 31

Sunday, December 25—Christmas Day

*St. John's will not hold worship this Sunday*

Monday, December 26—Staff holiday

Tuesday, December 27—'Messenger' deadline

#### Chi Rho

weekends:

Dec. 30—Jan 2

Music Meditation  
group



**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**4842 Nicollet Avenue**  
**Minneapolis, MN 55419**



**THE MESSENGER**

**Information**

Church Office .....612-827-4406  
Church Office Fax .....612-827-0574  
Child Care Center .....612-827-1237  
Chi Rho Center .....320-274-8307  
Church Office email:  
communications@stjohnsmpls.org  
Website: www.stjohnsmpls.org  
Facebook: .www.facebook.com/  
StJohnsMpls

**Parish Staff**

**PASTOR**

*Mark Tiede*

**ORGANIST & MINISTER OF MUSIC**

*Peder Flaten*

**DIRECTOR OF CROSS+GENERATIONAL  
MINISTRY**

*Edith Bohardt*

**ASSISTANT FOR MINISTRY**

*Ann Paulson*

**BOOKKEEPER**

*David Roinas*

**VIDEO/MARKETING SPECIALIST**

*Graham Zima*

**MEDIA ASSISTANT**

*Matthew Tiede*

**NURSERY ATTENDANT**

*Diane Harayda*

**CUSTODIANS**

*Joseph Sahai (weekdays)*

*Veronica Lacy (Sunday/events)*

*Mill City Cleaning (Child Care)*

**CHILD CARE DIRECTOR**

*Tina Shear*

**CHI RHO CENTER MANAGER**

*David Helm*

**Church Council**

*Jennifer Burdick*

*Anna Carlson, Secretary*

*Patrick Coveney, Treasurer (ex-officio)*

*Steve Dossdall, President*

*Deborah Dunham, Vice President*

*Jaeden Micco*

*Anne Nervig*

*Dustin Olson*

*Ann Paulson*

**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**A Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation of the**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).**

**Our Mission:**

Fueled by Christ's redeeming love, St. John's is called into a joyful life of welcoming hospitality, grace-filled worship, transformational relationships, and Gospel-driven service in the world.

**Our Core Values:**

*Welcoming*

Celebrating and caring for all people. Our doors are open.  
You belong. Come as you are.

*Worshiping*

Gathering together to joyfully thank God in prayer and  
praise for Jesus, who calls us, centers us, and sends us  
into the world.

*Healing*

Reflecting God's unconditional grace and love by walking  
together through the joys and pains of life.

*Serving*

Gratefully responding to the needs of the world with the  
abilities God has gifted us.

**Our Vision for the Future:**

A vibrant community living faith boldly

**In-Person Worship Hour—Sunday 10:00 a.m.**  
**Traditional worship that is joyful and welcoming to all.**

ELCA Presiding Bishop:

Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop:

Bishop Ann Svennungsen