St John's Lutheran Church

The Messenger

Volume 61, Issue 5

MAY 2023

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ST. JOHN'S SUNDAYS

Come and Worship! Each Sunday at 10 AM

Nursery Care available

All services are in person and online (YouTube/Facebook & website) www.facebook.com/StJohnsMpls.org www.stjohnspls.org



WORSHIP w/Holy Communion-10 AM Grace Place & Nursery for children



May 14

Fellowship following worship (*remember to bring a mug!*)

Cross+Gen & Worship Meetings, 11:15 AM

WORSHIP w/Holy Communion-10 AM Grace Place & Nursery for children Fellowship following worship Packing of Backpacks Lutheranism 101. 11:15 AM

May 21



May 28

WORSHIP w/Holy Communion-10 AM Grace Place & Nursery for children Fellowship following worship Dustin's Farewell

WORSHIP w/Holy Communion-10 AM Pentecost Sunday Nursery available for children Fellowship following worship

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THE MESSENGER

Thoughts from Pastor Mark



Looking back into April, I am amazed at all the ways that you have stepped up to make our ministry reach so many people. Thank you! Holy Week and Easter were fantastic (the bulletins were gorgeous, Ann!) All of the music was beautiful, and having the trumpets herald in the Day of Resurrection was divine. The Pancake breakfast made a return after a 3-year hiatus and boy, was that ever welcome. Thank you to all who made that happen. (See this month's Moment of Generosity for more on this.) And how fun was that to see so many children for the Faith Formation Moment and the Easter Egg hunt prior to worship? Thank you all for making Easter worship a priority. Seeing all your faces filled me with hope for what is about to come.

So, we turn to the month of May. I love Minnesota in the month of May. It is beginning to warm up to consistent shorts weather, farmers and gardeners alike begin to prepare their soil for planting, and there aren't (yet) many mosquitos. It is also the time of the year when we celebrate the end of the marking the end of one chapter of life and the commencement of a new one.

The same is happening here at St. John's. This week we will be saying our goodbyes to two long-time members of St. John's: Idamae Northrup and Betty Shannon. We said farewell to Sabrina Rowe after 20+ years as Child Care Center Food Service Coordinator. We will watch Jaeden Micco graduate from High School and later in the summer hold a send-off blessing before he departs to Wheaton College. But we also mark the opening of new chapters as we welcomed MANY new staff: Diane Harayda in the nursery, Molly Manor as the Church weekend Custodian and weekday dishwasher for the Child Care Center, our Child Care Center's new Food Service coordinator Amy Edberg, and 5 or 6 new classroom teachers. Together we will gather to spruce up our grounds with newly planted flowers, replace wood chips, and make our facility both beautiful and ready for what is soon to come.

Last fall I learned of the Employee Retention Credit from the Federal Government and learned that we were likely eligible to receive those funds. So Patrick Coveney, Congregational Treasurer and David Roinas, St. John's Bookkeeper met with a company who assisted us in filling out the application. Last October we applied for ~\$406,000. In March we received 4 checks from the ERC which included interest which totaled a little more than \$436,000! The Church Council then met on retreat in April to explore how to best put this money to use. \$100,000 of it was immediately put into our check book to help our financial system with its cash flow. Then, another \$35K went to replenish some borrowed money from Child Care Savings and the Organ Console project. This puts the balance of the ERC funds at approximately \$300,000. Of these funds the Council discussed many needs which remain and demand attention, most notably is the roof over the sanctuary. That project alone would consume all of those funds and we are still awaiting the engineer's report on the amount of damage we sustained in the hail and windstorm of May 11, 2022.

So, with the many additional facility repairs and upgrades needed, the council discussed with the Facility Committee to identify, prioritize, and approve spending up to \$50,000 of the ERC monies in total (it is stipulated by constitution that no one project is to exceed \$25,000 without prior congregational approval) on the following four projects: 1) new plants and flowers outside the church, 2) recaulking exterior steps east of Narthex, 3) Repair/replace Child Care main entrance steps, 4) Pressure wash and paint Newman Lodge at the Chi Rho Center.

These are exciting moments of life which reflect our Life Together. We might only be 45 people on any given Sunday in person, but we are alive and moving; and I am grateful to be with you through it.

CROSS+GENERATIONAL MINISTRY

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

By the time you will be reading this, I will have been at St. John's for just over a year. I cannot believe it has been an entire year! Not because it felt long, it did not. I think the old saying "time flies when you are having fun" applies to my first year. I had so much fun helping to get Grace Place up and running, collaborating with different people, getting to know adults and children, and adjusting to being back "home" in a Lutheran church. It has most definitely been a fun filled year:

- o We tried a "funday" once a month, varying the time, days, and activities. Some events were better attended than others, so we know better how to plan for next year.
- o We held Sunday school during the worship service every Sunday except on the fourth Sunday. We learned that this is not optimal.
- o We offered a Cross+Generational opportunity on the fourth Sunday of each month. Sadly, these were not well attended.
- o We had a "Many Ways of Prayer Day" at Chi Rho in October. Those who attended found it helpful.
- We had a Shrove/Fat Tuesday celebration this year. Had we not gotten the snow, I believe we would have had triple the number of people who attended. All who were there expressed an interest in doing "something like this" in the future.
- o We offered a monthly "Mini Messenger" to families with children.
- o We brought back a Live Children's Christmas Pageant.
- o We brought back the Chili Contest.
- o We will be holding a National Night Out event on our lawn in August.
- We are bringing back a traditional Vacation Bible School to St John's in connection with a few other area congregations.

All these take prayer, people, and planning. As you have heard by now, Dustin will be moving to Chicago this summer, and so we have a need for someone (or a few people) to be a faith formation companion that will help with Sunday school. Ideally it would be nice to offer two classes next year, one for elementary ages and one for ages 3-PreK. If you would be interested or know someone who might, please let me know. We will be offering Sunday School AFTER worship next year.

If you would be interested (or know someone who might be), we are looking to replace two people on the Cross+Generational Ministry Team. We try to meet on Sundays after worship once per month. We keep our monthly meetings to an hour or less. If you cannot help by serving in these ways, would you consider being a prayer partner for the Cross+Generational team and pray for us?

Blessings to you on behalf of the Cross+Generational Ministry Team,

Mandar CMONDAY Wate

Decorating our own mugs....



'4th Sunday' - planting herbs





Sunday, May 14 at 11:15 a.m. For confirmation students, their entire family and ALL our church members and friends.

Holy Conversations Thursdays at 10:00 AM in St. John's Lounge

Text in Context—exploring together the lectionary texts for each week, sharing our own stories as we reflect on God's Story.

Come, join the conversations!



SAVE THE DATES:

SATURDAY, MAY 20th Spruce Up St. John's (outdoor work) 9AM -1PM with light lunch
SUNDAY, JUNE 11th Congregational Annual Meeting after worship
MONDAY, JUNE 12th Red Cross Blood Drive at St. John's (12 noon—6 PM)
SATURDAY JUNE 17th Funday Board Games and snacks 5-7PM, Fellowship Hall
SUNDAY JULY 23rd - THURSDAY JULY 27th 6-8PM Vacation Bible School at St. John's
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1st National Night Out at St. John's 6-8PM
FRIDAY AUGUST 25th THROUGH SUNDAY AUGUST 27th St. John's Weekend at Chi Rho

John Norris Scholarship

A thank you from our John Norris Scholar 2023-24 Dear St. John's Lutheran Church,

My name is Haidyn Battle, and I am a recipient of the John Norris Memorial Scholarship. This is the second year I have received this scholarship, and I want to express my gratitude. This academic year was made possible by the funds donated from your church, and I am eternally grateful. Your donation has helped me pay off both semesters, allowing me to work less during the year and upcoming summer, opening more musical opportunities including performances. That being said, I would love to perform for your church as thanks for letting me pursue music. I will have much more available so please feel free to contact me.....

> -Haidyn Battle Augsburg University



The John Norris Scholarship was established by St. John's in 1986 with money from friends of John Norris to honor his life and perpetuate his exceptional loving spirit. John spent nearly 50 years as a sexton at St. John's; he was also a musician—a drummer. Each year an Augsburg University music major is chosen to receive the John Norris Scholarship Award, with preference given to racial minority students.

John Norris

An Easter Thank You....

Thank you to those who made Easter breakfast a success: Brad Nelson, Dave Helm, Scott Belz, Larry Fraser, Mark Nervig, Steven Rose, Diane Harayda and Edith Bohardt. A special thank you to those who came early to enjoy the good food.

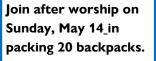
Thank you all, Oly Stromberg

COMMUNITY & NEIGHBORHOOD (CAN)

The Justice Page Middle School Food Backpack Ministry depends on your support. Please contact Tamara if you can contribute 10 or 20 of a certain item for May or June.

Donations NEEDED:

peanut butter canned ravioli mac & cheese boxed cereal 16 oz. bags brown rice canned fruits and Vegetables







Join us in fellowship hall following worship on Sunday, May 14 to pack 20 backpacks.

FYI - the delivery dates for the end of this school year are 5/18 and 6/8.

Mark and Tamara Gebhardt Cochairs, Community and Neighborhood Ministry 612-275-2317

Donations for Harbor Light appreciated....

Harbor Light Shelter in Minneapolis is in dire need of blankets, towels and washcloths. Clothing for their women's shelter is also being accepted and we bring some items to Mary's Place for homeless families with children as well. Donated items may be left in the church office lobby to be collected and delivered. Bea Hasselmann will provide tax donation forms available for any who would like them.

Thank you for all you do!

Missionary Circle

Missionary Circle will be meeting on Wednesday, May 3 at <u>11:30 a.m.</u> in St. John's Lounge. Anyone is welcome. Bring your lunch if you like and join the conversation.

ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRY (Green Team)

We are anxious to invite a couple new members to join St. John's Green Team.



<u>Tangletown</u>

Solar rebates are available now to help with the cost of your own rooftop solar panels. Go to https://tangletown.org/ for information and application.

Sustainability Sam will answer your questions about how you can be more sustainable. Send your questions to <u>SustainabilitySam@tangletown</u>. org You can also sign up to receive, monthly or so, a Sustainability Sam email newsletter which will feature sustainability news, resources, events, and more.

Dates to remember

May 6: Dig up a foot deep of mulch in playground and put in dumpster

May 13: Tangletown Spring Spruce Up Day 10 am-noon

Besides cleaning up the neighborhood, you can go to Mayflower Church parking lot for compost. Ten tons have been ordered. Bring a pail or bag with \$2 donation for 20 pounds. They'll also have a Food Drive and a table set up for information on topics like solar panels.

May 20: Churchyard Spruce Up at St. John's. Come plant flowers, sweep up winter sand and gravel, clean up the landscape, edge the sidewalks, etc.

Mental Health Connect is an interfaith non-profit organization where Twin Cities faith communities collaborate together to provide mental health support, educational programming and resources for their community. Focus is on the Mental Health Collaborative, with a Mental Health Navigator helping people gain access to mental health services and support.



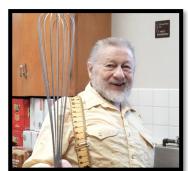
CALL 612.642.1220 TEXT 612.642.1220 EMAIL <u>navigator</u> @mhconnect.org

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Moments of Generosity

Easter Breakfast

What a great gift to be able to once again celebrate Easter at St. John's with the traditional breakfast---Oly's famous pancakes with special blueberry topping this year, along with sausages, juice, coffee, melons, etc.! Oly's amazing generosity through over 20 years in planning and providing this breakfast, along with the Chi Rho Committee and all who help, has offered a wonderful time of fellowship. This year about 100 people were served and \$1,000 in donations were received toward the ministry of St. John's Chi Rho Center. Thank you to everyone who made this possible!





Photos of Oly and breakfast courtesy Graham Zima





Minneapolis Brass Ensemble is excited to perform their first dedicated public concert since 2019, "Color Bursts of Spring," at St. John's on Saturday, May 13 at 4:00 p.m. Admission is free!

The Minneapolis Brass was formed in 1994 by a number of Twin Cities brass musicians who wanted to play the great literature available to brass instruments. Instrumentation includes four trumpets, four horns, two tenor trombones, bass trombone, euphonium, tuba, and percussion instruments as needed. The group plays a wide variety of literature from Bach to modern day compositions.

Formed by Mark Lammers, who was also the first conductor, the group has also been led by Eric Kodner, Henry Charles Smith, John Zdechlik, and Ron Hasselmann. This year the group re-formed (after the pandemic) under the direction of Seth Davis from the University of Minnesota. St. John's is their primary rehearsal venue and the ensemble provided music during worship in January 2023.



ADMINISTRATION

Council Highlights

St. John's Congregation Council

April 20, 2023, 7 p.m., in person and Zoom

 Pastor Mark is celebrating nine years as pastor this month. There have been farewells, but also many new members, and congregational membership has shifted from average age of 69 pre-Covid to average age now of 49.

Leadership

- Treasurer's Report: St. John's had a first quarter 2023 budget deficit of \$34,000 due to expenses going \$7000 over budget. The timing of income and expenses contributes to shifting financials. St. John's received \$435,000 funds from a Government Employee Retention Credit program.
- Easter Breakfast was served for the first time since 2019, 100 plates counted with \$1,000 taken in to benefit the ministry of St. John's Chi Rho Center. Thank you to Oly, Brad, Dave and helpers!
- Ministry Team Reports
 - The Community and Neighborhood (CAN) ministry is asking for donations of 10-20 of a particular item; next backpack packing on May 14 for delivery May 18.
 - Reconciling In Christ (RIC) a proposal received from Anne Nervig concerning request of RIC for updating of congregations' welcome statement. Council accepts the newly added language as recommended by RIC and it will be a topic for discussion at our June annual meeting.
- Council is seeking new members for election in June to each serve a 3-year-term.
 - o A new council President will be elected, and a new treasurer will also be needed.
 - o June Annual Meeting date is set for <u>Sunday</u>, June 11 following worship.
- Up to \$50,000 from the ERC funds will be used to cover the following Facilities projects: landscaping to replace old and missing, re-caulk steps at east entrance to narthex, repair/replace Child Care main entrance steps, and pressure wash and paint lodge and two dorms at Chi Rho. Two additional Facilities projects were approved for go-ahead with funding already available: school age door and side light; emergency exit to parking lot (threshold); and accessible glass doors at office entrance (with funds from the Bob Slifer bequest).
- Spring Workdays at St. John's:
 - o Saturday, May 6 Removing mulch in playground to prepare for new mulch; light lunch provided.
 - o Saturday, May 20 Yard Work Day: facilities requesting help from congregation to clean up the land scape, separate hostas, plant flowers (weather permitting), edge the sidewalks, etc. Lunch provided.

Complete minutes from the Council meetings are available in the office or via email:

communications@stjohnsmpls.org

Respectfully submitted by Anna Carlson, Council Secretary

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Thank you to all who helped prepare the sanctuary for Easter and who sponsored flowering plants; who provided music, who planned, led and assisted in worship during Holy Week and on Easter morning; and all who worshipped together here or joined online.

Worship Assistants in April

Christian Belz, Andrew Berg, Jacob Boettcher, Edith Bohardt, Jennifer Burdick, Anna & Steve Carlson, Ron Conrad, Ellen Dosdall, Deborah Dunham, Peder Flaten, Larry Fraser, Lori Johnson, Sharon Koschak, Mark Nervig, Anneliese Paulson, Elizabeth Roe, Oly Stromberg

Fellowship Hosts

Jennifer & Matt Burdick, Deborah Dunham, Sharon Koschak, Beth McAllister, Jaeden Micco

Counters

Bonnie Conrad, JoAnn Christoferson, Deborah Dunham, Elizabeth Roe, Diane Rooney, Oly Stromberg, Jeanne Tuvey

Media Volunteers

Andrew Berg, Eleanor Nervig, Sam Nervig, Dylan Noaman Special Music

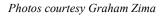
Edith Bohardt, Matt Burdick, Ron Hasselmann

Choir Rehearsals in May Wednesdays May 3, 10, 17 6:45 p.m.— Fellowship Hall Bell Rehearsal Wednesday, May 10 6:00 p.m.—Sanctuary

pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org









May Lectionary

May 7

Easter 5

Romans 1:1-17

Gospel as Salvation for All

> May 14 Easter 6

Romans 3:28-30, 5:1-11

God's Love Poured Out

May 21 Easter 7 Romans 6:1-14 Hope of Resurrection

May 28 Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1-4 Romans 8:14-39



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In Our Prayers....

WE PRAY for those in need of healing, comfort, encouragement or sustaining care:

⁺ Amy Arens, Margery Arens, Kathy Cashin, Brian Conrad, Michael Cuto, Harriet Ellis, Lynn Griswold, Thomas Helm, Debra Jacobs, Neil Jenkins, Pastor Karl Jacobson, David John, Marge Korzenowski, Sharon Koschak, Jane McNaughton, Doug Miller, Jan Sammelson, Susan Stagg, Oly Stromberg, Susan Tasa, Lana Tiede, Debbie Tuvey, George Tuvey, Nels Tuvey, Mary Vollmar, Bruce Walker, Vicki Wheeler, and all whom we hold in our hearts and are known by God

WE PRAY for the family and friends of St. John's member Ida Mae

Northrup as together we mourn her sudden passing on April 26. Her memorial service is being held on *Wednesday, May 3 at 2 p.m.* at St. John's with visitation one hour prior and a reception in Fellowship Hall following.

WE PRAY for the family and friends of St. John's member Betty Shannon, whose memorial service will be held at St. John's on *Thursday, May 4 at 11 a.m.* with visitation one hour prior to the service. A reception following the service will be held at Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel, 5000 W 50th & Hwy 100 at 12:30 p.m. Betty died February 13, 2023.

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.

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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 Email Pastor Mark at 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
- 2. Pastor Mark
- 3. Edith Bohardt, Director of Cross+Generational Ministry
- 4. David Roinas, Bookkeeper
- 5. Joseph Sahai
- 6. Tina Shear and Child Care Center

MAY Celebrations

Happy Birthday!

- 8 Brad Nelson
- 10 Hana Qumseya
- 13 Dan Dunham
- 15 Jennifer Burdick
- 17 Marge Huseth
- 18 Julie Hurbanis
- 21 Clara Dahle Cole Megal
- 22 Mary Johnson
- 25 Sydney Eid Anne Nervig
- 26 Steve Fricke Maren Fricke Mayson Lee
- 28 Jeanne Tuvey
- 29 Carmen Ercolani

Happy Anniversary!

- I Andrew & Sarah Tellijohn
- 9 Emilia & William Smith
- 19 Jim & Cynthia Gambucci
- 20 Brian & Jill Landin

Mother's Day

May 14

Memorial Day

May 29

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!*

May 2023

May	1-7
may	1-/

Tuesday, May 2	
10 am	St John's Staff meeting (Lounge)
Wednesday, Ma	iy 3
11:30 am	Missionary Circle (Lounge)
2 pm	Memorial Service for Idamae
	Northrup (Sanctuary)
	Visitation one hour prior; reception in
	Fellowship Hall following service
6:45 pm	St John's Choir (FH)
Thursday, May	4
l l am	Memorial Service for Betty
	Shannon (Sanctuary)
	Visitation one hour prior at St John's
	Luncheon at 12:30, Washburn-
	McReavy Edina Chapel
6 pm	Chi Rho Committee (Zoom)
Saturday, May 6	
9:30-11:30 am	Mulch Removal
	(Child Care Playground; lunch served)
Sunday, May 7-	–Easter 5
9:30-12:30	Nursery open
10 am	Worship w/Holy Communion
	in person and online
	'Grace Place' during worship
ll am	Fellowship following worship (FH)
11:15 am	Worship Committee (Lounge)
11:15 am	Cross+Generational Team
	(Grace Place)

<u>May 22-31</u>

Thursday, May 25 10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge) Sunday, May 28—Pentecost Sunday 9:30-12:30 Nursery open 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion in person and online 11 am Fellowship following worship (FH) Monday, May 29—Memorial Day Church and Child Care closed Tuesday, May 30—'Messenger' deadline

<u>May</u>8-14

Monday, May 8 5:30 pm Admin Team Wednesday, May 10 6 pm **St John's Bells** (Sanctuary) Thursday, May 11 10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge) Saturday, May 13 **Minneapolis Brass Concert** 4 pm (Sanctuary) Sunday, May 14—Easter 6 (Mother's Day) 9:30-12:30 Nursery open Worship w/Holy Communion 10 am in person and online 'Grace Place' during worship ll am **Fellowship** following worship (FH) and Packing of Backpacks

<u>May 15-21</u>

Tuesday, May 16 10 am St. John's Staff (Lounge) Wednesday, May 17 6:45 pm SJ Choir (FH) Thursday, May 18—Backpack Delivery **10 am Holy Conversations** (Lounge) 5:30 pm ECFE (Child Care) (FH) 7 pm St John's Council (Lounge) Saturday, May 20 9 am-1 pm Yard Spruce Up Workday at SJ Sunday, May 21 9:30-12:30 Nursery open 10 am Worship w/Holy Communion in person and online 'Grace Place' during worship **II am Fellowship** following worship (FH) (Farewell to Dustin)



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



THE MESSENGER

Information

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) Mill City Cleaning (Child Care) Molly Manor (Day Asst/Sundays/Events CHILD CARE DIRECTOR

Tina Shear CHI RHO CENTER MANAGER David Helm

Church Council

Jennifer Burdick Anna Carlson, Secretary Patrick Coveney, Treasurer (ex-officio) Steve Dosdall, President Deborah Dunham, Vice President 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.

St. John's worship on Youtube



St. John's podcasts on Spotify



ELCA Presiding Bishop: Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop: Bishop Elizabeth Eaton Bishop Ann Svennungsen