

## The Messenger

Volume 61, Issue 9

**SEPTEMBER 2023** 

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## ST. JOHN'S SUNDAYS

Come and Worship!

## Each Sunday at 10 AM

Air-conditioned Sanctuary
Nursery available

## Fellowship time following worship

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

## September 10 - Pentecost 15

God's Work · Our Hands Sunday

Genesis 2:4b-25

(Mark 1:16-20 or Mark 10:6-8)



## September 17 - Pentecost 16

Grace Place Open House at 9 AM
Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7
(Mark 10:27)



## September 24 - Pentecost 17

Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30 (Mark 14:32-36)

"Faith in Community" following worship

Welcoming, Worshiping, Healing, Serving

## Thoughts from Pastor Mark



St. John's was organized on May 29,1883 with Pastor Trabert and just seven (7!) charter members. September 2023 is the 140<sup>th</sup> start to a "program year." Change over the past 140 years has been a constant: waxing and waning in the number of members, its physical location (Downtown Minneapolis, 17<sup>th</sup> and Chicago, to 49<sup>th</sup> and Nicollet), and upon its final move it merged with St. James Lutheran Church and changed its name from St. John's English Evangelical Lutheran Church to St. John's Lutheran Church, Washburn Park.

An ironic cliché offers that "change is the only constant." Perhaps it is correct! We can read about our congregation's enormous changes over the past 140 years in Dr. Doris Flesner's book *Mother Church of English Lutheranism in the Northwest: St. John's Lutheran Church, Washburn Park*, but we have also experienced significant changes in just the past 5 years. And still with all those changes constantly occurring there are things happening that have not and will not change: we still hold weekly worship, we provide a deeply valued sense of welcoming hospitality, we continue to do our part to address the issue of food insecurity, and we together proclaim in unison that Christ is risen and continues to divinely love all people in our world.

One of the ways we will learn how to engage in these changes is through the Minneapolis Area Synod's sponsored program called *Faith Practices & Neighboring Practices: Renewing Congregational Imagination* (or FPNP for short). It is a two-year learning community for congregations in the Minneapolis Area Synod. The FPNP leadership believes that vital congregations take seriously the small simple practices that build community, cultivate mutual relationships, and expand our awareness of God's activity in the places where we have been called to live. FPNP leadership guides cohorts of congregations (4-5 congregations per cohort) through a learning process focused on collaborative learning, community building, and spiritual practice. As a whole congregation, we'll experiment with practices in our own community to build authentic relationships with neighbors, connect across difference, and engage contemplative spirituality. The practices are grounded in asset-based community development, intentional simplicity, and contemplative spiritual traditions. Each month, the cohorts meet to process and support one another's work, explore new practices, and build meaningful relationships. We have been placed within a cohort comprised of Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran Church, and St Luke's Lutheran of Bloomington. This is new. It is a change. And it is exciting!

As we embark on our 140<sup>th</sup> "program year," let us be mindful of all that has changed, yet also confidently lean into the changes that are likely yet to come—knowing that whatever change comes, God is nevertheless still present with and among us and calling us forward into the future God prepares for us.

## **CROSS+GENERATIONAL MINISTRY**

#### WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER VACATION

Those dreaded words I did not like to hear when I headed back to school each year. The first words were "welcome back!" Then it was: "What did you do this summer?" Neither of my parents drove, so I never experienced the family pile-in-the-car and travel to state parks and /or monuments, like many of my friends did growing up.

This summer was slightly different. I took vacation time from my FT Job. One day was the Friday of our St. John's weekend at Chi Rho. I came to the church building to gather some things we would need (Thanks Ann for the help). When I left for Chi



Rho, for some reason the GPS had me take 12 instead of 55. I was at Chi Rho last October and I know I took 55 to go west. But not one to argue with the GPS, I followed directions. As I got a little closer to Chi Rho whatever road I was on, the first building that stood out to me was on the right-hand side of this road. It had a sign that read Grace Place. About a mile later, on the left-hand side was a St. John's Lutheran Church. God showed up to assure me that I was on the right path.

Once I arrived at Chi Rho (The new sign is NICE!) I started down the gravel road and saw the parking sign. I turned to the left and soon found myself in the correct parking area (I got lost last October). As I get out of the car, I see Oly and Dave outside along with my furry friend Cleo. As we chatted, Oly had the golf cart and helped me bring things up to the lodge that we would use for the sessions, and then I got the tour. Chi Rho is much bigger than I imagined. And it has a lot of potential.

Shortly after I started here at St. John's, I remember Pastor Mark telling me that I needed to go out and see Chi Rho, that I was really going to like it. Then each time that I saw Brad, he would always ask me if I had been up to Chi Rho yet, to which the response was no not yet, hoping to though. After two or three times of asking me this question, Brad presented me with my own "key" to Chi Rho. From talking with these men, I got the sense that Chi Rho was something special, and I was able to see that firsthand from our weekend there.

I cannot speak for everyone, but I had an AMAZING time! I had the opportunity to talk with people more this weekend than I have since I started here. To connect with one another on a deeper level was special. I wish we could do more of that. It was like I explained in the sermon that Sunday: If connecting with people was a white chocolate mocha, on Sundays we get to the whipped cream and the drizzle of the mocha, the surface. But this weekend we were given the opportunity to get all the way to the bottom of the cup! It was a wonderful opportunity that I wish more people would have been able to take advantage of and experience.

As we have been talking about Sabbath and rest these past couple of weeks, I must confess that I enjoyed not having a television, or a good Wi-Fi signal in places at Chi Rho. On Sunday morning I woke up at about 5 AM and listened for God as I watched the sun rise. I want to go back to Chi Rho again, and again, and again.

We practiced bubble prayers and bubble blessings and walked the labyrinth. People enjoyed themselves at the campfires, enjoyed the lake, and although I could not try them for myself, Dave's Rice Crispy Treats were the talk of the weekend!

And that is how I spent my summer vacation,

Edith

## Chi Rho Weekend!







Photos: Diane Harayda and Edith Bohardt









Praying in color....





Walking the prayer labyrinth



Chi Rho Cleo







the best veggie dog!



On September 10 the ELCA will celebrate the 10th anniversary of "God's work · Our hands" Sunday, an annual day of service in which congregations come together to lend a hand, help build a future and repair their communities. Following worship that day at St. John's following worship, join in tying blankets or assembling kits for Camp Noah kids, packing backpacks of food for children of Justice Page Middle School, making cards for homebound members, plus food and fellowship!

## GRACE PLACE OPEN HOUSE Sunday, September 17 Beginning at 9 a.m.



Households with children are invited to gather in Grace Place and meet your Faith Formation Companions for the coming year at Grace Place.

There will be a game or two with prizes for children.

Grace Place sessions move to <u>after</u> worship this year beginning Sept. 17, giving children the opportunity to participate in worship as they like.

## **Game Meet Up**

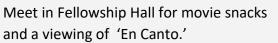
Friday, September 22, 6-8 p.m.

Come and enjoy some games and snacks together in St. John's Fellowship Hall. You're welcome to bring a favorite game to play, or the church has several to choose from. If you would like and are able, please bring a snack to share.

For all ages and stages! Please let Edith know you will be attending: edith@stjohnsmpls.org
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!!

## Friday Nite Flick

September 29, 6:30-8:00 p.m.





Coming soon to St. John's Lutheran Church...

## **FAITH IN COMMUNITY SUNDAYS**

We will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month after worship to learn as a faith community, with all ages together.

We will meet for 30 minutes:

Scripture Reading Interactive Response Options Prayer

Once you get your beverage and treats, we will meet. The idea is that we have several ages at one table. If you are interested in participating, please let Edith know.

Our first Faith in Community Sunday will be Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 11:20 a.m. in the Lounge.

## **COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD (CAN)**

Ministry Update

The Justice Page Middle School Food Backpack Ministry will restart in September following a two-month break.

Twenty backpacks are packed with food and delivered to the school across the street monthly during the school year. This month's backpacks will be assembled on **September 10** following worship.

#### **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



Please consider whether you can contribute 10 or 20 of any item for one month. If you can, please reach out to Tamara Gebhardt 612-275-2317.

You may choose to have food items delivered to the church if you wish; please let the office know so that we can watch for the delivery.

Exciting changes are happening within this food ministry! We hope to better meet the needs of "newcomers to the country" by tailoring 15 backpacks with foods for Latina and Somali families. We will share more info on that progress in October.

Thank you in advance for your support to feed our hungry neighbors.

Community and Neighborhood Ministry Team Leaders - Elizabeth Roe, Mark and Tamara Gebhardt

## **Missionary Circle**

St. John's Missionary Circle will Wednesday, September 6 at noon in the church lounge. Anyone is welcome to take part in this ministry.

The Circle provides support for various local and global efforts, including Harbor Light Shelter for the homeless and Mary's Place in Minneapolis, and Lutheran Partners in Global Ministry's sponsorship of students in India.



The Circle will meet on the first Wednesday of the month through December. JoAnn Christoferson is Missionary Circle president.

## ST. JOHN'S MEDIA MINISTRY



## Check out St. John's new website!

The new website launched on August 23. The web address is the same, ww.stjohnsmpls.org. The team welcomes your feedback as we explore and adapt to this new layout together.

Anna Carlson, Jennifer Burdick, Vicky Ercolani, Katie Ercolani, Patrick Coveney with Ann Paulson, Graham Zima and Pr. Mark

## CHILD CARE CENTER

## **Book Fair September 19-21**

Join in sharing a love of reading with our students at St. John's Child Care Center's Scholastic Book Fair. Visit the fair to make selections in person;

Tuesday, Sept. 19 from 7:30 am to 5:45 pm Wednesday, Sept. 20 from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Thursday, Sept. 21 from 9:00 am to 5:45 pm

Books can also be ordered online (9/18 - 9/29) at https://www/scjp;astoc/cp,/bf/stjohnschildcarectrl We appreciate your dedication to creating lifelong readers. See you at our Book Fair!



## **ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRY**

**Thank you** to all who donated items, came to shop, or helped in any way with the 3rd Annual Tangletown Clothing Swap in August. A Board

Member later commented that it was their most successful yet!

Bonnie Conrad, St John's liaison to Tangletown Environmental Commiittee





## ST. JOHN'S MUSIC SERIES

## Messiah 2023

Saturday, December 16 - 7 p.m. Sunday, December 17 - 4 p.m. at St. John's



Dr. Brian A. Schmidt, St. John's new Music Series Artistic Director, looks forward to leading the Oratorio Chorus and working with the Music Series Committee as they continue to plan for this performance season.



Chorus rehearsals are scheduled to begin on Sunday, November 12 at St. John's from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

If you are interested in singing and would like the rehearsal schedule or more information, please email communications@stjohnsmpls.org or call the church, 612-827-4406.

Also see St. John's Music Series Facebook page and St. John's website for updates as available.

Music Series Committee members are Vicky Ercolani, Steve Bubul, Dan Cherryhomes, Katie Ercolani and Ann Paulson with Brian Schmidt and Pastor Mark



## Blood Drive St. John's Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall 4842 Nicollet Avenue Minneapolis, MN 55419

## Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: St Johns Lutheran to schedule an appointment.





Download the Blood Donor App today. Get your digital donor card, schedule your next appointment, track your lifetime donations, view your blood pressure, and follow your donation on its way to a hospital.



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

Holy Conversations will continue to focus discussion on the Narrative / lectionary texts for the following Sunday.

9/7 Genesis 2:4b-25

(Mark 1:16-20 or Mark 10:6-8)

9/14 Genesis 18:1-15; 21:1-7

(Mark 10:27

9/21 Genesis 32:[9-13] 22-30

(Mark 14:32-36)

9/28 Exodus 1:8-14 [1:15—2:10]; 3:1-15 (Mark 12:26-27a)



Come and join your fellow explorers in these conversations led by Pastor Mark.

## TO members of TRUST churches....





Tickets at: <a href="https://givebutter.com/CLFzKe">https://givebutter.com/CLFzKe</a> or call the TRUST office at 612-827-6159.

Support services and community initiatives for all ages.

## **WORSHIP & MUSIC**

# Worship Assistants in August (Assisting Ministers, Communion Preparers, Ushers, Acolyte)

Deborah Dunham, Vicky Ercolani, Larry Fraser, Tamara Gebhardt, Sharon Koschak, Anneliese Paulson, Elizabeth Roe, Eric Willette

### **Media Volunteers**

Eleanor Nervig, Sam Nervig, Dylan Noaman *Fellowship Hosts* 

Steve & Ellen Dosdall, Deborah Dunham, Mark & Tamara Gebhardt

#### **Counters**

Bonnie Conrad, Deborah Dunham, Larry Fraser, Elizabeth Roe, Diane Rooney, Oly Stromberg, Jeanne Tuvey

#### Musicians

Matthew Burdick, Peder Flaten, Mark Tiede, Matthew Tiede, and Graham Zima—Men's Quintet



Many are needed to do the work of worship. New assistants are always welcome, and if you would like to try on a role (or a different one), we'd love to hear from you!

Deborah at volunteer@stjohnsmpls.org Ann at communication@stjohnsmpls.org

## Sing in the Choir!

Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings 6:45-7:30 in Fellowship Hall beginning September 6

## Ring the Bells!

First once-a-month rehearsal will be Wednesday, September 20, 6-6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary.



Peder looks forward to a great season and hopes to see (and hear) you! pflaten@stjohnsmpls.org

## **ADMINISTRATION**

## St. John's Council Meeting Highlights August 20, 2023



## Pastor's Report:

- Praised the Cross+Generational committee and Edith for its creativity and success of game night and activities.
- Encouraging are activities of CAN and our community involvement with clothing swap. Pastor has joined the Tangletown board to promote involvement in the neighborhood.
- Faith Practices and Neighboring Practices begins in October.
- Insurance claims:
  - Waiting on bid now that inspection of organ is complete.
  - Attorneys are pursuing claim for roof damage.

## Treasurer's report

- Overall budget in good shape. Gross profit is at \$444,153 over budget at this point. Income is down as usual at end of summer.
- Costs are up for utilities and waste pickup.
- Continue to study putting money into a CD.
- David has been asked to detail the 435 ERC funds for council.
- Pastor asked that we consider an outside audit which is overdue.

### Ministry Team Reports

- Facilities has three doors being replaced in September and concrete and blocks on steps replaced in October. Chi Rho Lodge will be painted in September.
- Missionary Circle will plan monthly collection events for men's and women's shelters.
- Cross+Gen has many activities planned including Grace Place Open House, Faith in Community Sundays, God's Work Our Hands Sunday, women's retreat and more. New meeting time second Tuesdays via Zoom.
- New website launch coming soon.

## **Old Business:**

- A cohort of up to five people is needed for Faith Practices which begins in October. Time commitment
  is 3 5 hours a month and maybe a retreat 3 times a year. Pastor praised its success using ancient
  Christian devotional techniques to "connect" and "listen."
- National Night Out highly successful. Two neighborhood groups want to join us next year.

## **New Business**

- Council voted to decide on use for Holden gift and not go with the automatic bequest protocol. Lynn Holden's letter asked that it be used for something meaningful to parents. Ideas being considered are to update camera system, put money towards a new outdoor lighted marque or put it towards a new utility vehicle at Chi Rho. Decision to be made in September.
- Council agreed monthly Temple Talks a good idea to give congregation updates, thank you's, encouragement and notices. Schedule not set.
- Pastor wants council to set some 10-year goals.

Respectfully submitted, Bonnie Conrad, Secretary

## In Our Prayers....

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

† Amy Arens, Margery Arens, Kathy Cashin, Dona Collins, Brian Conrad, Michael Cude, the Noto Florence family, Debra Jacobs, Pastor Karl Jacobson, Marge Korzenowski, Jane McNaughton, Anne Nervig, Colleen Pietenpol, Sandy Rader, Jan Sammelson, Kris Schepers, Ruth Speh, Susan Stagg, Susan Tasa, Jim Tiede, Lana Tiede, Debbie Tuvey, George Tuvey, Nels Tuvey, Mary Vollmar, Bruce Walker, and all whom we hold in our hearts and are known by God.

## WE PRAY for those grieving the loss of loved ones

- † Family and friends of Carol Forsberg, who died on August 14, 2023. Carol was Pastor Connie Tiede's and Pastor Mark's mother-in-law.
- † Family and friends of Dick Grodt, who died on August 16, 2023. Dick was Andrew Berg's uncle.
- † Family and friends of Bernadette Stevenson, who died on August 15, 2023. Bernadette (Bernie) was Mark Nervig's grandmother, Sam and Eleanor's great grandmother.

## 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
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

## September Celebrations

## Happy Birthday!

- I Jaeden Micco
- 6 Matthew BurdickHenry Dosdall
- 8 Sarah Tellijohn
- 9 Jim Collins
- 13 Susan Herridge
- 22 Mark Tiede
- 26 Ron Conrad
- 27 Jennifer BelzDrew EidDustin Olson
- 29 Whitney Strand

## Happy Anniversary!

- 7 Mark & Connie Tiede
- 13 Kevin & Julie Hurbanis
- 15 Steve & Ellen Dosdall
- 18 Jim & Dona Collins
  Eric Willette &
  Elizabeth Roe

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!

## September 2023

## September 1-3

Sunday, September 3

10 am Worship w/Holy Communion

in person and online

Nursery care available

II am Fellowship following worship (FH)
II:15 am Worship Committee (Lounge)

## September 11-17

Monday, September 11

5:30 pm Admin Team (Zoom)

Tuesday, September 12

6:30 pm Cross+Gen Team (hybrid)

7 pm Tangletown Environmental

Committee (Zoom)

7 pm Metropolitan Men's Choir (FH)

Wednesday, September 13

6:30 pm Confirmation @ Bethlehem

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

Thursday, September 14

10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge)

5:30 pm ECFE—Child Care (FH)

Saturday, September 16

**9 am** Minneapolis Brass (Sanctuary)

9 am Metropolitan Men's Choir (FH)

Sunday, September 17

9 am Grace Place Open House

10 am Worship w/Holy Communion

in person and online

Nursery care available

II am Fellowship following worship (FH)

11:15 am Church Council (Lounge)

### September 25-30

Tuesday, September 26

October 'Messenger' items due

12—6 pm Red Cross Blood Drive (FH)

7 pm Metropolitan Men's Choir (FH)

Thursday, September 28

10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge)

Saturday, Septemb<u>er 30</u>

9 am Metropolitan Men's Choir (FH)

## September 4-10

Monday, September 4—Labor Day Holiday

Wednesday, September 6

12 noon Missionary Circle (Lounge)

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

Thursday, September 7

10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge)

6 pm Chi Rho Committee (Zoom)

Sunday, September 10—God's Work · Our Hands

10 am Worship w/Holy Communion

in person and online

Nursery care available

II am God's Work · Our Hands

**Activities & Fellowship** 

## September 18-24

Tuesday, September 19

10 am St John's Staff (Lounge)

7:30-5:45 Child Care Book Fair (Lounge)

Wednesday, September 20

7:30-4:30 Child Care Book Fair (Lounge)

6 pm St John's Bells (Sanctuary)

6:30 pm Confirmation @ Bethlehem

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

Thursday, September 21

9-5:45 Child Care Book Fair (Lounge)

10 am Holy Conversations (Lounge)

Friday, September 22

6-8 pm Game Meet Up (FH)

Saturday, September 23

**9 am** Minneapolis Brass (Sanctuary)

9 am Metropolitan Men's Choir (FH)

Sunday, September 24

10 am Worship w/Holy Communion

in person and online; nursery open

II am Fellowship following worship (FH)

11:20 am Faith in Community (Lounge)

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



## THE MESSENGER

## **Information**

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)
Mill City Cleaning (Child Care)

CHILD CARE DIRECTOR

Tina Shear

**CHI RHO CENTER MANAGER** 

David Helm

#### **Church Council**

Jennifer Burdick, President
JoAnn Christoferson, Treasurer
Bonnie Conrad, Secretary
Deborah Dunham
Rick Falcon, Vice President
Sharon Koschak
Anne Nervig
Mark Tiede, Pastor

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