**Worship**

A foundation of faith for everything we do

Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

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**August 6: Pentecost 9 - Broken, Blessed, Given**

Readings:
- Isaiah 55:1-5
- Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
- Romans 9:1-5
- Matthew 14:13-21

Music: Peder Flaten and Samuel Grace

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**August 13: Pentecost 10 - God: “Present”**

Readings:
- 1 Kings 19:9-18
- Psalm 85:8-13
- Romans 10:5-15
- Matthew 14:22-33

Music: Ron Hasselmann

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**August 20: Pentecost 11 - The Open House**

Readings:
- Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
- Psalm 67
- Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
- Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Music: Colleen Pollack (at St. John’s)

Worship also at Chi Rho at 10:00 a.m.

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**August 27: Pentecost 12 - Who Do You Say That I Am?**

Readings:
- Isaiah 51:1-6
- Psalm 138
- Romans 12:1-8
- Matthew 16:13-20

Music: William Byrd’s *Mass for Three Voices*

with Jack Vishneski, Ian Cook, and Samuel Grace
Over the past three years we as a whole congregation have together explored our past, present, and leaned into God’s future by discussing: “Who did God create St. John’s Lutheran to be back in 1883?” “Who have we become today?” or “Who are we now?” and “Who is God creating us to become?” Then we distilled our thoughts and conversations further into focus still by pondering a new set of questions: “Who is God calling us to serve?” “What moves this congregation into action?” and “What are the matters of social injustice that are just not right?” When boiled down, the answers you provided in those conversations were that as a whole this congregation seeks to be Worshiping, Welcoming, Growing, and Serving. And those four convictions look a whole lot like those of the 1st century church devoting themselves to “the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

As our exploration brought our congregational core convictions into collective consciousness, there has been simultaneously the question of, “How does ___ fit into our congregational ministry?” Many members of our congregation filled in the blank of that question with “Chi Rho”, or “the Child Care Center,” or “the Music Series,” or “The Foundation.” It is the right question, but the truth is that since we as a congregation have not articulated an answer, we don’t have one. Certainly it is the case that individual members can answer the question, but as a congregation we do not have an answer; and we need one. The time has come for a Mission Statement to focus our entire congregational ministry and answer both questions of “How does ___ fit into our congregational ministry?” and “What are we supposed to do with our four convictions of Worshiping, Welcoming, Growing, and Serving?” I am excited for this moment and am convinced that this process can be a life-giving conversation for our life together.

Acting on its conviction that now is the time to create a Mission Statement, the Church Council passed a motion in June and July to hire Rev. Glenn Taibl as our consultant as we form a Mission Statement Taskforce. Together they will work to facilitate a process involving the whole congregation in creating a Congregational Mission Statement before the end of our program year (May of 2018). The Council then brainstormed several names of members, whom they asked me to contact and invite to serve on this taskforce. An open space on this taskforce remains for one more member of St. John’s, so if you or someone you know would like to serve, please inform either Congregational President Steve Dosdall, Vice President Jennifer Belz, Secretary Jennifer Burdick, or me. Already saying “Yes” to serving are: Elaine Taylor, Clara Willette, Ron Hasselmann, Bergit Nerheim, Patrick Coveney, Sarah Tellijohn, Scott Belz, and Jon Dosdall. Please thank them and pray for them as they serve in this pivotal and exciting work.

Our hope is that the Mission Statement will actively guide and form everything we do and help us more fully see that the programs and ministries we host and/or carry into the world are the tools we use as St. John’s Lutheran Church to reach our neighbor and the world with God’s love, abundance, justice, and grace. The metaphor I use in explaining this is that St. John’s is a wagon carrying God’s people who are performing God’s work; great burdens require big horses, and we have big horses. They just need focus, purpose, and to be directly connected with the direction of our wagon. The Mission Statement will serve as a guide to form, focus, and align the St. John’s Chi Rho Center, St. John’s Child Care Center, the St. John’s Foundation, and the St. John’s Music Series as this congregation’s “four ministry horses.” These and all our congregational ministries will be yoked together and with the congregation’s official committees and taskforces, metaphorically hitched as a unit to the wagon of St. John’s Lutheran Church. And the members of this congregation shall be holding the reins. The Mission Statement will also serve to remind that these horses exist to serve the congregation’s ministry of preaching the Gospel and serving the world. Rather than being an end unto themselves, our Mission Statement will remind us all that the “four ministry horses” are tools for the mission of this congregation, serving as platforms for our church to proclaim and provide to our neighbors God’s love, abundance, justice, and grace.

I believe God is moving through us, continuing to breathe life into us, and preparing us for a new day that is already beginning to dawn. God is truly good and graciously involving us in God’s own extraordinary and redemptive work.

And (the people of St. John’s) devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” That’s what I believe. Sincerely,

Pastor Mark
About Our People

Remembering in Prayer...

♦ Those in need of healing, comfort or sustaining care:
  Dave Holms, Anne Kinney, Mike Lee, Jane McDonald, Brian Miles,
  Kevin Shannon, Gregory Smetana, Oly Stromberg, Margaret
  Thompson, and Patricia Weller

♦ The family of Geneva (Mrs. Alvin) Anderson, whose memorial service
  was held at St. John’s on July 28. Geneva and her family have had
  many connections with St. John’s over the years.

♦ The family and friends of Andrew Gray, who died on July 28.
  Andrew was a friend of Peder Flaten.

Rejoicing with...

♦ Christopher and Tracy (Johnson) Yard, who were married July 8 at
  St. John’s

To the St. John’s faith community,

We thank you for the use of this beautiful facility for the memorial
service and reception of our mother, Geneva Anderson.

Gail Bagenstos
(Geneva’s daughter)

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

The phone system at church has changed. Callers to St. John’s now have the option to talk with or leave messages for individual staff, Child Care or even Chi Rho by choosing one of these eight new prompts:

1. Church Office/Ann Paulson
5. Joseph Sahai/Matthew Bell
2. Sam Grace
6. Dave Helm, Chi Rho
3. Tina Shear
7. Jackie Goossen, Bookkeeper
4. Venita Ditlevson
8. Pastor Mark Tiede

Email the church office at communications@stjoohnsmpls.org
Email Pastor Mark at pastortiede@stjoohnsmpls.org

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

Happy Birthday!

1  Molly Stromberg
2  Kendall Mylerberg
3  Lacey Koliha
3  John Rader
5  Bea Hasselmann
12  Elaine Taylor
13  Barbara Vieburg
14  Scott Belz
14  Matt Kind
14  Matthew Krogh
16  Dean Andrews
16  Jett Andrews
23  Emilia Smith
25  Steve Dosdall
25  Daniel Nordstrom
26  Heidi Raymond
28  Bob Holden
28  Hanna Taniguchi
29  Brian Falk
30  Margaret Thompson
31  Oly Stromberg

Happy Anniversary!

2  Mark & Anne Nervig
12  Gary & Julie Krogh
13  Rachel & Allan Ferguson
27  Andy & Nicole Dosdall
27  Steve & Anna Carlson
27  Mark & Tamara
28  Tim & Erin Manthey

Gebhardt

If your birth date and/or anniversary has not been included or is incorrect, please call the church office at 612-827-4406. Thank you!
MOMENTS OF GENEROSITY

The Stewardship committee would like to recognize Jon Dosdall for his work as weekend janitor these last five-plus years. The position not only entails setting up tables and chairs for Sunday fellowship, but also picking up doughnuts and setting up for other St. John’s concerts, weddings, funerals and other events. He’s stacked thousands of chairs, closeted several tables and even chased a stray bird or two out of the kitchen.

Jon’s getting married soon, so he is leaving the position. We thank him for his steady and consistent efforts.

COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD

Thanks again for all of the support for the backpack program last year. This fall we will restart our collection of food in order to continue to deliver backpacks to middle school families. In the meantime, we are collecting school supplies for students in need at Washburn High School and Justice Page Middle School. Please put school supplies in the food collection baskets.

Ideas include: backpacks, mechanical pencils, college-ruled notebooks, folders, binders/dividers, composition notebooks, highlighters, pencil cases, graph paper, and loose leaf paper. If you would prefer to donate a gift card/cash, those are used to purchase needed supplies. Please give those to Tamara Gebhardt, Elizabeth Roe, or Pastor Mark.

NOTE: Alexander Ramsey Middle School has been renamed Justice Page Middle School. This change was a student-led effort to have a name that reflects the values of the school. The change was approved by the Minneapolis Board of Education in June. In the coming year we will refer to the backpack program as the Page Backpack Program.

LEADERSHIP CHANGE

Four new Council members were elected June 25th and are ready to serve on St. John’s Council: Jennifer Burdick, Jim Gambucci, Bea Hasselmann, and Ann Paulson.

The Council officers elected for the 2017-2018 term are: Steve Dosdall, President; Jennifer Belz, Vice President; Jennifer Burdick, Secretary; and Allan Ferguson, Interim Treasurer.

STAFF CORNER

Introducing Jackie Goossen,
St. John’s Bookkeeper

Jackie Goossen began her work at St. John’s July 9, 2017 after she applied for the open position and was chosen as our new part-time Bookkeeper. She is enjoying the staff and positive environment. Jackie has already shown a great deal of knowledge and expertise that is very much appreciated in this transition.

Jackie has two sons, Preston (11 years) and Triston (8 years). Her outside-of-work interests include bowling, anything active, music concerts, traveling, and family activities. She is a frequent participant in 5K runs.

“I love running and being able to put the money toward a good cause. The Mud Runs are my favorite!”

Ms. Goossen also works full-time for Doctor on Demand as Accounting Manager and part-time at a warehouse in Hopkins as Bookkeeper. She would like to return to school for a Masters Degree and gain CPA standing. Her hope for 2017 and beyond is for “continued growth and success in my career.”

Welcome, Jackie – we’re glad you’re here!

ST. JOHN’S FOUNDATION

As we think about making St. John’s Foundation work harder for our congregation and community, on April 30, 2017 we had an All-Together conversation about what’s important to us, and what we want people to remember about us in the future.

Here’s what we learned…Worship, music, and our commitment to serving the community topped the list.

But not far behind were: our Ramsey backpack program, Sunday school, Bible study, the Messiah, coffee and donuts and the fellowship that goes with them, the community meal, Loaves & Fishes, Chi Rho, and St. John’s book club.

Go to St. John’s website to check out the presentation Andy Tellijohn shared on St. John’s Foundation, or ask Andy for a copy.

If you have ideas on how we can use the St. John’s Foundation to more powerfully impact our congregation and our community, we’d love to hear them!

- Matt Burdick, Ellen Dosdall, Julie Hurbantis, Andy Tellijohn
St. John’s Book Club will meet Sunday, August 13 at 11:30 a.m. in St. John’s lounge to discuss *Half Truths: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn’t Say*, by Adam Hamilton.

If you have trouble finding a copy of the book or have questions, feel free to contact Jennifer Belz or Jennifer Burdick (mattjen0625@msn.com or 651-636-0899).

Everyone, member or guest, is welcome to join the discussion!

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**Community Meal:**

**Saturday, August 26 at noon**

*Come and help…come and eat!*

St. John’s volunteers welcome guests, help prepare food and beverages, bus and wash dishes, and clean up. The time commitment is about two hours, 11:30-1:30 each fourth Saturday.

If you would like to help, you may sign up on the poster outside Fellowship Hall, or contact the church office to volunteer or for more information. Bring your family… invite a friend or neighbor!

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**ST. JOHN’S**

**AT LAKE HARRIET**

**Sunday, Sept. 3**

This year, we are partnering with St. Thomas the Apostle, a Catholic parish in Linden Hills, for worship at the Lake Harriet Bandshell on Sept. 3 at 10:00 a.m. We are excited to be sharing in this ecumenical service with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Worship will be led by leaders and volunteers from both churches. There will be an ad hoc combined choir, with rehearsal at St. Thomas on Aug. 30 at 7:00 p.m. Ask Samuel Grace for more information!

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Thank you to Bob Holden for his knowledgeable and diligent leadership in the sound system project.

Thank you to Ron Conrad and Anna Carlson for their advice and coordination of the chapel re-carpeting project.

Your commitment and expertise are appreciated!

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Thank you very much to Bob and Marlene Holden for their leadership in providing the Community Meals in both June and July.

Thank you also to those answering the call to help with the meal in on July 22: Bonnie Conrad, Kaitlyn Wiener, Vicky Ercolani, Carmen Ercolani, Phil Roe, and April Robinson.

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**TRUST Youth**

**2017-2018**

St. John’s Youth and their families --

The TRUST Youth Committee is planning events for 2017-2018. These will generally happen on the third Sunday of every month (Sept 2017-May 2018) from 12noon-2pm. (Some events may go longer, which we will publish well in advance.) All Trust Youth and friends are super welcome to participate!

The four active churches will each organize two monthly events. St. John’s will host the November 19th event which will be lunch and shopping for a holiday gift-giving charity event (likely through the Aliveness Project). We will also organize the February event which will likely be mini-golfing at Can Can Wonderland in St. Paul. (We are looking at changing the date of this one so that it doesn’t land on President’s weekend.)

Watch for a more complete schedule. We hope you can join us at lots of these events!

~ Pastor Mark and Elizabeth Roe
Summerfest at Chi Rho Center

SAT. AUG 19th starting at 12:00 PM
St. Johns Lutheran Church of Mpls Celebrating 50 Years!

Greater Lake Sylvia Assoc.
Join us at 4-8 PM for Music & Food

Food & Games
Bean Bag Tournament at 1:00 PM
Boaters Welcome ... Open Beach (No lifeguard on duty)

Pancake Breakfast
Sun. Aug. 20th 8-12 PM
Outdoor Worship Service 10am

5750 Porter Ave., Annandale 55302
@ChiRhoCenter

Fundraiser for Chi Rho Improvements/Donations Appreciated

Overnight accommodations are available. You may contact the church office (612-827-4406 or communications@stjohnsmpls.org) for reservations.

“68 miles due west”
South Sudan: A New Church For a New Nation

Lutheran Center and Clinic in Juba, South Sudan

In the midst of conflict, poverty and displacement in one of the world’s newest nations, the ELCA is called to be the light of Christ, working with partners in South Sudan to bring peace and reconciliation, healing and hope. Our local partners in South Sudan, including ELCA Sudanese congregations, the Episcopal Church of Sudan and South Sudan and the South Sudan Council of Churches, have invited the ELCA to help establish a Lutheran church and presence in Juba, the new nation’s capital.

As of May 31, 2017, construction of the Lutheran center and clinic in Juba has been completed! These facilities will help the new church establish its ministries of spirituality, healing and hope. Although the construction phase is complete, program support continues.

SPIRITUALITY: The church will call, gather, and send disciples into the world

- Weekly worship services intentionally welcome people of all tribes and cultures
- Promote peace and reconciliation between the different ethnic groups of South Sudan
- Train mission leaders and conduct outreach programs
- Worship space and offices for two ELCA missionaries

HEALING: The teaching clinic will serve a catchment area of 30,000 people

- Immunizations and basic care
- First fistula clinic in South Sudan
- Seven examining rooms, a dispensary, a trauma/first aid area, and areas for health education sessions
- Focus on women’s and children’s health, immunizations, family planning and pre-natal care
- Two doctors – one female

HOPE: The community center will convene people to work for a better future together

- Occupational skills training
- English courses
- Life skills and education programs
- Three vocational workshops and three classrooms

As construction was nearing completion, ELCA missionaries and team members posed in front of the Lutheran Center in Juba, South Sudan.
June 2017 Program Update
Lutheran Center and Clinic, ELCA Missionaries

Through our Global Church Sponsorship ministry, the ELCA has committed $1.5 million to help establish the Evangelical Lutheran Church Africa Mission in South Sudan. The first step was the construction of facilities to house the ministries of spirituality, healing and hope for the emerging Lutheran church in South Sudan. Now that construction of the clinic and community center is completed, a site administrator has been hired to oversee the center and clinic.

The ELCA is partnering with Global Health Ministries to ship a container filled with equipment that will help the clinic to provide health services to the community. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will coincide with the arrival of the container in late 2017.

Two ELCA pastors, both born in South Sudan, are serving as missionaries with the new church now — Pastor Wal Reat and Pastor Mawien Ariik. “God planned that I had to go back to where I was born, and bring the good news to my people. The mission work we are doing, we do it as a group: individuals like me, congregations, and ELCA Global Mission, so we’re a team,” says Pastor Ariik, who serves as evangelist and director of outreach for the new church.

“The refugees are going back now, and this is our time to take the church back home,” says Pastor Reat, who is doing outreach in several refugee camps on the border with Ethiopia. He says that the completed construction of the Lutheran center and clinic “gives me hope to spread the good news. Like Jesus tells us, go everywhere!” Born of feuding tribes, the two pastors are now working together to build peace and reconciliation among the people of South Sudan, in Jesus’ name.

Below: the clinic (left) and Lutheran Center (right), seen from the side. Construction has since been completed.

Clockwise from top left: Pastor Mawien Ariik, Pastor Wal Reat, Lutheran Center main hall and sanctuary.
St. John’s Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). We believe in the Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and the Gospel as the power of God for salvation for all that believe. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written Word of God, inspired by God’s Spirit speaking through their authors, recording and announcing God’s revelation centering in Jesus Christ. We believe the Church to be a people created by God in Christ and sustained by the Holy Spirit.

Sunday Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
Nursery care is provided.
Traditional worship that is joyful and welcoming to all.

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