



The Caller

Saint John Lutheran Church



Pastor Jon Benson



Pastor Lisa Johnson

*Followers of
Christ
who seek to
HEAR
the Word,
LIVE
the Word
and
SHARE
the Word.*



How Firm a Foundation

Saint John Lutheran Church
Capital Campaign 2023

- ◆ We've received pledges for \$1,105,725.00 as of April 25, and we are still accepting pledges that will help us get closer to paying off our loan.
- ◆ In April, we paid down our loan to \$1,395,000.
- ◆ Thank you to our Campaign Executive team! By working on this in house (without a consultant), we saved about \$50,000.
- ◆ Thank you to all other appeal committee members and helpers:



Those who helped with the creation of the publications and contributed devotions.

Those who cooked and served special meals.

Those who gave temple talks and supplied special music.

Those who developed the video that ran prior to services.

Those from Saint John who participated in Mission Fest.

- ◆ Thank you to the congregation for their support, to people who could not pledge, but prayed and helped in other ways. We thank you, we thank you all! Ultimately, **THANKS BE TO GOD!**

Saturday - 5:30pm

Sunday - 8:30 am
& 11:00am

Sunday school -
9:45am



May 7 - Class 9:45am

May 14 - No class;
Mother's Day

May 21 - Choir on Fire
Singing at 8:30am Service
LAST class 9:45am



May 7 - 11:00am
8th Grade
Confirmation

* arrive dressed and ready
for pictures at 10:15am

July 16 - 21 - Carol Joy Holling
Confirmation Camp



May 14 - High school
Senior Recognition,
8:30am service

Summer Youth Trip

Shout out to tent camping, white water rafting, and volunteering at Mosaic. We will travel to Fort Collins, CO and make stops along the way back. The focus will be: God in creation and God for each other. It is going to be an amazing experience.

Trip dates:
July 23 - 30



FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY - The first youth fundraising activity is offering yard work help. Call the office if you have a project for them. Your support is greatly appreciated!

The Quilting group is asking for donations of used sheets. These may be dropped off by the church office.
THANK YOU!



QUILTING GROUP



FOOD TRUCK PARTY
JUNE 12 -15, 5:00-8:00pm

* Fill out the registration form included in this newsletter and turn in!

* Please consider being a VBS Volunteer!
Watch for a poster board sign up sheet coming soon.

712 Initiative
CLEAN SWEEP -

May 9, 4:00 pm

*Meet at church, and we will pick up trash on our Adopt-A-Street



- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Connie Brougham | Jacob Nation |
| Megan Elam | Ryley Nebel |
| Kathryn Graham | Graci Roberts |
| Gracie Hays | Aubrey Stark |

* Recognition - May 14, 8:30 am service



From the Quilting Group:

“Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.” ~ Isaiah 40. This is what we do. Why we quilt... We make quilts to comfort people. We make them from the repurposed scraps that people give us! But quilts are made up of more than just small scraps of material. Quilt makers place their heart and soul into creating comfort for those who are distressed and in need of shelter.

You're welcome to come and lend a hand! When we make quilts, we do good work on many levels. It brings us together in service and fellowship, it creates a tangible message of love and caring to strangers in a far off land, and it delivers warmth and comfort to those who need it most.

Come as you are able. The Saint John Quilting Group wants to welcome you! If you are thinking about it, please know we will make you feel welcome as we tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief! Experience not required. In this ministry of serving, we set aside time each time we meet to enjoy fellowship, devotions, and snacks!

Next meeting is Wednesday, May 17, 2023! You're most welcome to join in. We meet between 9:00am and Noon at Saint John, in the Faith and Life Center. All ages are welcome! See you then! For more information, please call Sue Pagan at 712-325-0257. *** DONATIONS of used sheets are being requested ***



Good Times Group

Get ready for a “good time” with the Good Times Group! We will go to the home of Bob Kossow’s for burgers, brats, beans and beverages on Sunday, May 7. Beverages and a light snack will begin at 4:30. Dinner will be served about 5:30. Please RSVP to Bob by Friday, May 5. His email is bobkossow@ymail.com Bob will send you his address. Please bring a side dish or dessert. You don’t want to miss this Funday Sunday!! Hosts: Bob, Keith & Peggy



Players Group

The Players will meet on Friday, May 5 at 5:00pm at Pizza King. Please contact Roy & Lois Adams if you are interested in attending!



<u>May 6 & 7</u>	<u>May 13 & 14</u>	<u>May 20 & 21</u>	<u>May 27 & 28</u>
Mary Lou Burke	Marlys Lien	Patricia Minchin	Cookie Johnson
Norma Jones	Mary Jensen	Elaine von Gillern	Becky Taylor
Joyce Mlynarik	Debbie Plugge	Carol Wood	Kim Pace
Alan Meilike	Andrea Nebel		



- * Esther Group—May 9 at 9:30am
- * Mary Group—May 11 at 9:00am



MEN'S GROUP

The Men’s Club meets every 3rd Thursday of the month at 11:30am at The Dock Bar & Grill, 401 Veteran’s Memorial Highway. Men of all ages are welcome to join us for a good lunch and great conversation. Call the office or sign up on the attendance sheet if you plan to attend. Next lunch is May 18.



A special request for our pantries this month are fresh potatoes.



May 2023,

LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article
Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate and empower all the strong, loving women in your life. At LSI, we provide mothers, and soon-to-be mothers, with the education and resources they need to build the brightest future for their children.

LSI's Foster Care and Adoption Services work to bring families together and to help them throughout the process of becoming licensed for foster care and approved for adoption. Our Family Centered Services uses a strengths-based approach to keep Iowa families together by equipping parents with skills they need to be successful, independent and healthy.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember that your support helps empower Iowa moms. If you are looking for a way to help these moms, or to honor a mother in your life this year, please consider making a gift in her name to LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.



The Bethany Lutheran Health Services Auxiliary met on April 17 at the Heights Community Room. Eight churches were represented and 2 staff. St. John's Lutheran Honey Creek was host for the meeting with devotions and treats.

CeCe Mickells, Spiritual Advisor, updated on the purchase of furniture for the "Gathering Space" and also provided copies of the volunteer applications and background check forms. These forms are not necessary for those who help with birthday parties and bingo. She will be having a memorial service in May or June.




Michael Thomas, Activities Director at the Heights, reported they have 3 – 6 activities per day and 13 outings in April. CeCe conducted a Good Friday and Easter service and he smoked a brisket on April 14th.

Angel Watts, Activities Director at the Home, reported April activities were all Easter themed and Merry Makers was scheduled for April 18. Angel reported on the new planters and bird feeders and bird baths which the Auxiliary paid for.

The discussion on the possibility of an Ice Cream Social this year was tabled until we provide more information to the Director for review. It was decided to have "Christmas in July" again this year. Each church will provide a box for donations of items so the residents can choose gifts for their family and friends. Angel will provide us with a list of suggested items for the Christmas Store.

The next Auxiliary meeting is July 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the Heights followed by bingo and pie for the Heights residents at 6:30 p.m. Each church brings a pie for this event. Pies must be purchased, not homemade.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 - Communion -
7 - Communion - 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday school 11:00am Worship - Confirmation 4:30pm Good Times Group	8 6:45pm Seekers ChristCare	9 9:30am Esther Group CLEAN SWEEP 4:00 - 6:00pm  7:00pm Praise Team	10 9:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	11 9:00am Mary Group 5:30pm Grief Group	12 5:00pm Players Group	13  3:30pm Pastor Lisa & Lamy's Wedding 5:30pm Worship
14 <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20 - Communion -
8:30am Worship Senior Recognition 11:00am Worship		7:00pm Praise Team	9:00am Quilting Group 9:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Study 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Chancel Choir	11:30am Men's Club 5:30pm Grief Group		5:30pm Worship
21 - Communion -	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday school 11:00am Worship	6:45pm Seekers ChristCare	7:00pm Council Mtg. 7:00pm Praise Team	9:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Bible Study	<i>Caller Mailed</i> 5:30pm Grief Group		<i>Wedding Wilson / Heinrich</i> 5:30pm Worship
28  9:30am Worship <i>Baptism</i>	29 <i>Memorial Day - Office Closed -</i>	30 7:00pm Praise Team	31 9:00am Bible Study			

Saint John Lutheran Church
Birthdays

May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Frank Pechacek Blaire Plumer Aaron Sadr	2 Paul Stark	3 Madison Stark	4 Cole Campbell Mallory Olson Braylin Penney Chad Ruzicka	5 Kelli Gann	6
7 Jordan Fisher Ben McIntire	8 Kent Bogardus Shirley Doffin	9 Brookelyn Meador Jennifer VanMoorleghem	10 Abby Malskeit	11 Patricia Knudsen	12 A.J. Neal Carole Nissen	13 Mary Gittins Adam Nelson Anne Vorce
14 Brody Applegate	15 Tucker Hartz John Hansen Janice Myers David Warner	16 Ward Prine Barbara Stuckey	17 Blake Elam	18	19 John Phillips	20 Zelda Christensen Gracelynn Clanton Art Cruz Brooks Plumer
21 Sue Hansen Becky Pedersen	22	23 Shawn Knudsen Makayla Penner Mia Penner	24 Jeff Coats Megan Preston	25	26	27 Scott Walters
28 Sherril Gunderson Caiden Loose-Ives	29 Donald Knudsen Katie Meyer	30 Kayla Coonce Phoebe McIntire Abigail Nelson Pat Peterson	31 Christian Jensen			

HAPPY
Birthdays
FROM YOUR
CHURCH FAMILY



*Celebrating
-WITH-
you*

80th Birthday

Art Cruz (May 20)
1117 Arbor Ridge Dr.
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

96th Birthday

Pat Peterson (May 30)
1007 Arbor Ridge Cir.
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

55th Wedding Anniversary

Tim & Nancy Chew (May 25)
12112 Waldon Circle
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

67th Wedding Anniversary

Jack & Norma Pope (May 26)
2514 Franklin Ave.
Council Bluffs, IA 51503

5:30pm Saturday
9:30am Sunday
(starting May 28)



Thank you to all our Sunday school, Confirmation, and Youth group teachers, group leaders, companions and other volunteers!! It is so meaningful to be involved with our youth.

Sympathy to the families of...



- ~ Larry Miller, uncle of Mary Jensen
- ~ Randy Schiedeler, member of Mary Jensen's extended family
- ~ Roger Fox,
son of Judy Fox-Schwabauer



**Happy
Mother's Day**

Jokes only a mother could love

Why do mother kangaroos hate rainy days?
Because their kids have to play inside!

Why is a computer so smart?
It listens to its motherboard.

Saint John Lutheran Church Staff

- Senior Pastor: Rev. E. Jon Benson (JonBenson@SaintJohnELCA.org)
- Pastor Children, Youth & Family: Rev. Lisa Johnson (lisajohnson.saintjohn@gmail.com)
- Parish Ministry Coordinator: Patricia S. Minchin
- Sound Booth volunteers: Mack Bertelsen, Paul Schmidt
- Chancel Choir Director: Sam Schroeder
- Bell Choir Director: Laura Nelson
- Pianist / Organist: Joan Ebersold
- Foundation Board President: Ross Jensen (402-681-1383)
- Nursery Attendant: Susan Stellich
- Stephen Minister Leaders: Alan Meilike (328-1671) Debbie Plugge (256-5310) Pastor Jon Benson (323-7173)
- Office Manager: Kim Malskeit (712-323-7173) Info@SaintJohnELCA.org
- Custodian: Debbie Baird

Church 712-323-7173 ~ Fax 712-323-7174
Email: Info@SaintJohnELCA.org ~ Website: www.SaintJohnELCA.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/SaintJohnCouncilBluffs

Saint John Lutheran Church

633 Willow Avenue
Council Bluffs, IA 51501-4242

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SAVE A TREE

Please email us
info@saintjohnelca.org
if you no longer wish to
receive this newsletter.
Thank you.

May

7th - 8th grade Confirmation, 11:00am service

13th - Marriage of Pastor Lisa & Lamy Moghazy, 3:30pm;

~ Reception following in the Faith & Life Center

14th - High school Senior Recognition, 8:30am service

21st - Choir on Fire at 8:30 & last class of Sunday school at 9:45

28th - Start summer worship schedule, 9:30am Sunday

VBS FOOD TRUCK PARTY



June 12 - 15th
5:00 - 8:00pm

