



Pastor Jon Benson



Pastor Lisa Johnson

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

Saturday - 5:30pm

Sunday - 9:30 am



BBQ FUNDRAISER

Western Iowa Synod

HEART OF BBQ Fund for the Future

A Day of Food, Fun & Faith

Saturday July 22, 2023

Dunlap, Iowa
Four County Fairgrounds
Gates open at Noon
Dinner at 5:00pm

- Two meat challenge
- Dessert Auction
- Games, Music, BBQ



The youth are selling Saint John t-shirts!

An order form can be found on the welcome table. Many colors and sizes to choose from!

T-shirt costs are:
 Youth - \$15.00
 Adult - \$25.00



* Orders are due by **July 9.**

Keep the Faith.
 The most amazing things in life tend to happen right at the moment you're about to give up.

Hope

Hope, quilts & handmade crafts.

The Sewing Group is planning a 'More than Quilts Silent Auction' at Saint John this coming September 23-24, 2023 to feed, share the Word and provide Hope to the troubled homeless and near homeless in our community. Proceeds will help fund the 'Takin' it to the Streets Ministry' of Council Bluffs, which, with the help of God, has three goals: *Feed, Share the Word, and Help*, by connecting people with various local agencies.

Donated quilts will be offered on silent auction and smaller hand crafted items will be offered separately for freewill offerings.

"Cast your bread upon the waters, for after many days you will find it again..."

~ Ecclesiastes 11-1

Deliver hope and share the Word! If you are able to donate either quilts or items to be offered for freewill donation, please contact either Sue Pagan at 712-325-0257 or Beckie Gue at 712-325-6762





From the Quilting Group:

“Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.” ~ Isaiah 40. It’s why we quilt... we make quilts to comfort people. We make them from the repurposed scraps and fabric 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, July 19, 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.



Good Times Group

The Good Times Group will gather on Friday, July 14 at 5:30pm at the home of Barb & Gary Woods. Fried chicken, water and soft drinks provided. Please bring a side dish or a dessert and any other special beverages.

⇒ RSVP to Barb or Gary Woods by July 10.



July 1 & 2
July 29 & 30
 Mary Lou Burke
 Norma Jones
 Joyce Mlynarik
 Alan Meilike

July 8 & 9
 Marlys Lien
 Mary Jensen
 Debbie Plugge
 Sandy Cerveny

July 15 & 16
 Patricia Minchin
 Elaine von Gillern
 Carol Wood
 Andrea Hill

July 22 & 23
 Cookie Johnson
 Becky Taylor
 Kim Pace
 Diane Hartman



- * Esther Group—July 11 at 9:30am
- * Mary Group—July 13 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 July 20.



Soup, cereal, crackers, cookies, canned dinners and boxed dinners.



**July 2023,
LSI Newsletter Article**

God's work. Our hands.

As a social ministry organization of the ELCA, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) is so thankful for your partnership in ministry. Through your support, a first-time mom is able to receive the education and resources she needs to build futures full of hope, a person with a disability is reaching their goals and becoming more independent each day, and an immigrant is learning English through our Community Based English Language Learning (CBELL) program led by compassionate teachers.

This month, we would like to give a special thank you to those of you who have made LSI a focus on your congregation's "God's work. Our hands." project. On a planned day in September, each congregation is encouraged to reach outside of the church and do good deeds in the community by participating in a project for "God's work. Our hands." This is a perfect opportunity to combine community projects with a special project for nonprofits like LSI, whether it's raising money or contributing in-kind gifts.

We thank you for your generous support in this important work! If you are interested in supporting the Iowa children and families served by LSI or would like to get involved in a "God's work. Our hands." project with LSI, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI senior director of philanthropy and church relations, at Debrah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.



Bethany Lutheran Home



Items for residents to give as gifts

**DVD movies, electronic items,
handheld games, wall décor,
picture frames...**

**Holiday crafts, tempura paint,
ceramics, colored pencils,
washable markers...**

**Winter hats, gloves, aloe socks,
lap blankets, blankets...**

**Personal Care Items—combs,
brushes, shampoo/conditioner,
body wash, shower caps,
body lotion,
eye glass cases**

(For both men and women)

Water bottles/flip drinking hole...

All items must be new.

Thanks for your generosity!



SAVE THE DATE:
Bethany Lutheran Home
Ice Cream Social coming
Sunday, July 30th,
1:00—3:00pm



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|---|--|-----|------------------------------------|
| | | | | | | 1 - Communion - 5:30pm Worship |
| 2 - Communion - 9:30am Worship | 3 - Office Closed - | 4 - Office Closed -  | 5 9:00am Bible Study | 6 5:30pm Grief Group | 7 | 8 5:30pm Worship |
| 9 9:30am Worship | 10 | 11 9:30 Esther Group | 12 9:00am Bible Study | 13 9:00am Mary Group 5:30pm Grief Group | 14 | 15 - Communion - 5:30pm Worship |
| 16 - Communion - 9:30am Worship Baptism | 17 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;">Carol Joy Holling Confirmation Camp July 16-21</div> | 18 | 19 9:00am Quilting Group 9:00am Bible Study | 20 11:30am Men's Club 5:30pm Grief Group | 21 | 22 5:30pm Worship |
| 23 9:30am Worship | 24 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;">High school mission trip to Ft. Collins, CO July 23-28</div> | 25 | 26 9:00am Bible Study | 27 <i>Caller Mailed</i> | 28 | 29 5:30pm Worship |
| 30 9:30am Worship | 31 | | | | | |

Saint John Lutheran Church
Birthdays

July 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | | 1 Jeanne Blunk Lamy Moghazy Charles Pedersen Paul Schmidt Julia Taylor |
| 2 Brandt Andersen Brent Malskeit | 3 Rylee Loose-Ives Matt Preston Jordyn Schulte Teresa Walters | 4 Jodi Arnold Macy Mulder Adam Roane | 5 Kelly Gerhardt William Jones Jan Moxley Ryley Nebel Graci Roberts | 6 6 | 7 Jessica Maas David Solon | 8 Katie Comley Cindy Knauss |
| 9 Jaxson Archer Claudia Besco Linda Fisher Kristi Koopmeiners | 10 Jayne Marsh Joni Rasmussen | 11 Kathy Youngs | 12 D.J. Doebelin Brett Emsick Jerika Koopmeiners Justin Koopmeiners Carrie Nepple | 13 Brenden Ferreck Rosafie Hansen | 14 Kelly Prine James Wylter | 15 Mickey Stogdill |
| 16 Nancy Andersen Connie Bogardus Ben Brougham Ella Haitz Shelly Hovey Timothy Koesters Casey Malskeit Alex Michael Kyla Penney Anthony Wellman | 17 Larry Covalcic Becky Smith | 18 Michaela Burke Shaden Hammemeister Michael McIntosh Amber Michael Mackenzie Nailor Richard Schneider | 19 David Craighill | 20 Constance Byrnes Seth Frush Diane Hartman Barbara Woods | 21 21 | 22 Sara Conahan Jess Weltz |
| 23 Drew Dunkelberger Thomas Harm Henry Urlaub | 24 Matt Malskeit Jeffrey Pedersen | 25 Bonnie Archer Lottie Tawzer | 26 Brady Hansen Greg Reinders | 27 Curtis Burdick Kyle Ireland-Hotchkiss John Sautano Christine Sundermann Cookie Wood | 28 Laury Baxter Aaron Burke | 29 Grant Carstens Linda Geer Kathy Nelson |
| 30 Debbie Hamling Doug Thompson | 31 Samuel Hovey Karen Meilike | | | | | |



Thank you to all who volunteered their time and talents for VBS week!



A special thank you to the core crew for picking the theme and getting all the pre-planning done.

Thank you Pastor Jon, Pastor Lisa, Saint John's Prayer Chain group and our Church congregation for your kind thoughts, prayers, well wishes and nice cards received for my recent knee replacement surgery. It is all so greatly appreciated!

Thank you all so very much! Debbie Whitney

Our deepest gratitude to Pastor Lisa and the Saint John family for their kindness and love at the time of Bob's passing.

Eddie Goodwin & Family



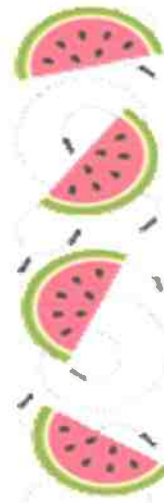
The gladdest thing of all...

Turn around and believe that the good news that we are loved is better than we ever dared hope,

and that to believe in that good news, to live out of it and toward it, to be in love with that good news, is of all glad things in this world the gladdest thing of all.

Amen, and come Lord Jesus.

— Frederick Buechner, *The Clown in the Belfry*



85th Birthday

Rose 'Cookie' Wood (July 27)

97th Birthday

Delores 'Lottie' Tawzer (July 25)



Warren Thomas was baptized on June 3.

Sawyer Ann was baptized on June 4.

Alice Faye was baptized on June 11.

Sympathy to the families of....

~ Bobbie Stobbe, aunt of Andrea Hill

~ Mary Griffin, aunt of Mack Bertelsen & Sue Schmidt

~ Wanda Jensen

~ Bob Goodwin



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:
- Bell Choir Director: Laura Nelson
- Pianist / Organist: Joan Ebersold
- Foundation Board President: Ross Jensen (402-681-1383)
- Nursery Attendant: Susan Stellish
- 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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Zip Plus Four
Change Service Requested



SAVE A TREE

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



Confirmation Camp at Carol Joy Holling
July 16 - 21

Western Iowa Synod Heart of BBQ - Dunlap, IA
July 22

High school youth mission trip - Ft. Collins, CO
July 23 - 28



Time again for
Church Directory
Photographs!

Save the dates:

September 12-16. More information to come...

