



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

Dear Church family, It's time for a New Directory!



Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

- Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at church or simply go online and follow the instructions. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.
• Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!
• Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to family and friends.

Set your appointment with Universal today!



Gathering families, Connecting generations.





Blessing of the Backpacks

All students, teachers, administrators, and coaches are encouraged to bring their backpacks, briefcases, or whistles and clipboards to receive a special blessing at any service the weekend of **August 19 & 20**.

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

September 12 - 15
2:00pm - 8:30pm

September 16
10:00am - 4:00pm

Church
Directory
Photos

Instructions for online signup:

1. Go to the Universal Church Directories website (www.ucdir.com)
2. Click on the box on the right side of the homepage entitled "photography appointment scheduling login"
3. Enter your church code: [ia233](#)
4. Enter your church password: [photos](#)
5. Click on the Enter button
6. Click on the desired photography date
7. Click on the Reserve Time button beside the desired photography appointment time
8. Enter the appropriate information in all required fields
9. Click on the Schedule Appointment button at the bottom of the screen to reserve the photography appointment time in your family's name
10. If you have more than six family members being photographed, please reserve two appointments consecutively (such as 6:00 and 6:10)
11. Print the next screen to use as a reminder of your family's photography appointment
12. **Contact the church office to change or cancel your photography appointment**



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 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

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, August 16, 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.



The Players will be having a Firehouse Sub meal hosted by Paul & Marlys Lien here at Saint John in the Faith & Life Center, on Friday, August 4 at 5:00pm.

Contact Marlys at 712-256-4357



August 5 & 6

Marlys Lien
Mary Jensen
Debbie Plugge
Sandy Cerveny

August 12 & 13

Patricia Minchin
Elaine von Gillern
Carol Wood
Andrea Hill

August 19 & 20

Cookie Johnson
Becky Taylor
Kim Pace
Diane Hartman

August 26 & 27

Mary Lou Burke
Norma Jones
Joyce Mlynarik
Alan Meilike



* Esther Group—August 8 at 9:30am

* Mary Group—August 10 at 9:00am



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 August 17.



A special request for our pantries this month are:
Peanut butter and Soup.



August 2023 LSI Newsletter Article

Back to School Month

Saying goodbye to summer and transitioning into a new school year can be a difficult time for many adolescents, especially those with emotional or behavioral disorders. LSI has 27 therapists that provide mental health counseling to individuals of all ages through in-person therapy in over 20 locations across the state and virtual therapy in all 99 counties. In 2022, our Clinical Services team served more than 1,000 clients, totaling 14,000+ therapy sessions for Iowans of all ages.

In addition, our Behavioral Health Intervention Services team wraps care around a child's entire family to empower them with skills like anger management, healthy decision-making and problem-solving. In 2022, the BHIS team served over 250 clients, resulting in more than 3,900 therapy sessions for children and their families.

Through LSI's Trauma Informed Care program at the Juvenile Detention Center in Waterloo, our staff work with the teens by completing trauma assessments on each adolescent and providing a summary to their juvenile court officers. The LSI staff also facilitate both individual and group therapy sessions with the teens to help them deal with their trauma and work through it in a productive way.



If you or someone you know could benefit from therapy – even from the comfort of your own home – reach out by calling 888.457.4692 or visiting LSIowa.org/therapy.

We thank you for your support of LSI's mission as we respond together to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! We know there are more Iowa children and families in need of this critical care. If you would like to learn more about how you can give a gift to support these crucial services, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI 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.



August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 9:00am Bible Study	3	4 5:00pm Players	5 - Communion - 5:30pm Worship
6 - Communion - 9:30am Worship	7 9:30 Esther Group	8	9 9:00am Bible Study	10 9:00am Mary Group	11	12 5:30pm Worship
13 9:30am Worship	14	15	16 9:00am Quilting Group 9:00am Bible Study	17 11:30am Men's Club	18	19 - Communion - 5:30pm Worship 
20 - Communion - 9:30am Worship 	21	22 7:00pm Council Mtg.	23 9:00am Bible Study	24	25	26 5:30pm Worship
27 9:30am Worship	28	29	30 9:00am Bible Study	31 <i>Caller Mailed</i>		

Saint John Lutheran Church
Birthdays

August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Meela Alderton Ren Harm Pam Jensen Tom Pagan	2 Melissa Nation Lexie Nelson Madison Short Carlie Wilson	3 Chad Burdick	4 Barbara Paulson	5 Robert Hansen Mary Mauch Don Reed
6 Gary Matters Thaddeus Riggs Rich Sorensen	7 Linda Hansen	8 Billy Cates Mariana Silva-Kleckner Kolbe Upson	9 Earl Myers	10 Marcia Benson Roger Burmeister Waverly Riggs Mary Stellish Kent Thornton	11 Sandie Smith Nancy Walker	12 Diane Emsick Joel Nelson
13 Audie Alderton Randy Mowery Grace Warner	14 Kirk Koopmeiners Paige Messenger Leah Wilson Eric Wylar	15 Joni Anderson	16 Torsten Sahl Audrey Schneider Nathan Taylor	17 Hannah Hansen Pat Nepple Pat Thompson	18 Tim Wegner Kaye Wohlers	19 Chad Andersen Dylan Dunkelberger
20 Sue Haven	21 Austin Hill Karl Means	22 Lillian Boyesen Reid Johnson Beth Townsend	23 Chris Olson	24 Steve Nelson	25 Bob Knauss Adam Moon	26 Lois Adams Alexander Jones Patrick Jones Dale Pukall Jayden Walker Roza Weigel
27 Joshua Weltz	28 Jay Bramman Hattie Rindone Mianna Thornton	29 Anthony Hartenhoff Taylor Hartenhoff Terry Moxley	30 Linda Hahn Blake Sadr	31 Sue Mize Barbara Richardson		





*Celebrating
-WITH-
you*

85th Birthday

Robert Hansen (August 5)

85th Birthday

Sue Haven (August 20)

94th Birthday

Lois Adams (August 26)

65th Wedding Anniversary

Dale & Sue Haven (August 3)

Baptism



Maren Lynnae
was baptized on July 16.



Sympathy to the families of...

~ Mike Taylor,
brother of Bill Taylor

~ Brent Malskeit

~ Alvina Hjortsvang

~ Gene Rodenburg

Daily reasons to celebrate

Poor August, the only month without holidays! Still, there's lots to celebrate these final weeks of summer. Enjoy some summer flavors: August 1 is National Raspberry Cream Pie Day; August 2, National Ice Cream Sandwich Day; August 3, National Watermelon Day; August 10, National S'mores Day (have a bonfire!); and August 24 is National Peach Day.

If you share life with young kids, have a water balloon fight on — you guessed it — National Water Balloon Day, August 6! Head out for a final (National) Beach Day on August 30. Or head out for an intergenerational hike on National Trail Mix Day, August 31.

And don't forget to celebrate God's precious gifts of friends — National Friendship Day is the first Sunday in August; creation — Global Sleep Under the Stars Night is August 8 (prime time for meteor showers!); laughter — National Tell a Joke Day is August 16; and the opportunity to put God's love into action by serving others — on August 22, National Be an Angel Day, or August 28, National Thoughtful Day, and, for that matter, every day of the year — holiday or not.

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: Elmer Ellefson

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

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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.

UPCOMING FALL EVENTS

August 19 & 20

Blessing of the Backpacks

September 10

Two service Sundays will resume -
8:30am and 11:00am worship times

September 12-16

Church Directory Photographs

September 23 & 24

Hope, quilts, and handmade crafts

Watch the bulletin announcements and next
months Caller for September start dates on all
fall activities....