

Pastor Jon Benson



Pastor Lisa Johnson

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

Worship Times

Saturday - 5:30pm

Sunday - 8:30 am &
11:00am
(starting Sept. 10)

Sunday school
9:45am



Sunday school is for all children ages PreK - 5th grade. Classes begin at 9:45 each Sunday, of which the first 10 minutes is Choir on Fire practice. **First day is September 10.** Please fill out a registration form.

Confirmation is for youth in 6th - 8th grade. Classes meet most Wednesday nights at 6:30pm. A **parent / student meeting will be held on September 13 at 6:30pm.**

HS Youth meet on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm. Join us on **September 13.**

Chancel Choir

Please welcome Elmer Ellefson as our new Chancel choir director! We are excited he is here.

Choir Kickoff:

September 6 - 6:00 - 8:00pm

Bell Choir

Wednesdays at 6:30pm
starting **September 20**

Praise Choir

Tuesdays at 7:00pm.



Adult Bible Study

Wednesday night adult bible study will start on September 13.

Class will meet each week at 6:30pm.

(Wednesday morning bible study will continue at 9:00am)

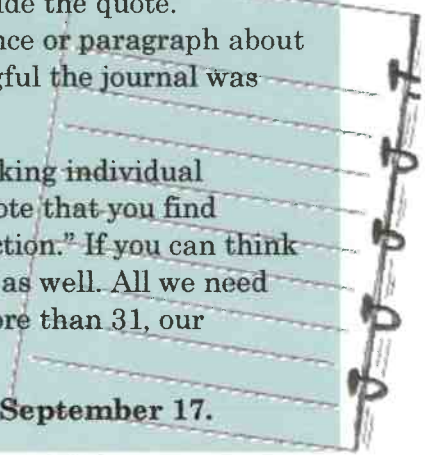


GRATITUDE JOURNAL: PART 2

As a part of our stewardship emphasis last fall, members from Saint John read daily entries from the "Gratitude Journal" for the entire month of October. You may recall that each page of the journal included a quote from some author, followed by a Bible passage to read alongside the quote. Members could then "journal" in the space remaining, writing a word, a sentence or paragraph about something specific for which they were grateful. Many expressed how meaningful the journal was and how much they enjoyed it.

This year, we are planning to print another Gratitude Journal, but now are asking individual members to give input into this year's journal. Perhaps you have a favorite quote that you find personally inspiring; or, maybe you would like to write your own (short) "reflection." If you can think of a Bible passage that would connect with your quote, you could include that, as well. All we need are 31 members to offer their input, one for each day of October. If we have more than 31, our journal can be extended into November.

The deadline for submitting your "devotional quote" is September 17.



The Sewing Group is planning a ***More than Quilts Silent Auction*** on **September 23-24**, 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,

HOW CAN YOU HELP make the quilt auction a success? Consider putting together a gift basket or sharing your crafts made from your unique talents. Crafting not your thing, no problem! We are also having a bake sale and could use your baking skills.

SJ-101 New Member Classes will be held on Sundays, Sept. 17, 24, and October 1 at 9:45am. New members will be received on October 8.



DIRECTORY PHOTOS
SEPTEMBER 12-16



Please help us make our new directory as complete as possible. Everyone participating will receive a free 8 x 10 photo.



"THE HOLY LAND"
JULY 9-18, 2024

Registrations are being taken for this NAWAS trip to Caesarea, Haifa, Nazareth, Tiberias, Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, Jericho and Jerusalem. Turn in your registration to Pastor Jon.

Log on to www.ucdir.com. Click on the right side of the homepage entitled "photography appointment scheduling login."

Church code: ia233 Church password: photos

PLEASE NOTE: NO calendar collection this fall as Treats for Troops has disbanded.

LOST AND FOUND table has coffee thermos' and various items that were found while cleaning the kitchen.



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 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, September 20, 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 be going to Tobey Jack's Mineola Steak House on Friday, September 8 at 6:30pm. Their address is 408 Main St.

⇒ Please RSVP to mdash66@cox.net or call 712-323-3234 by Tuesday, September 5 if you can join us. Hope to see you there!



Players Group

The Players will be meeting at Olive Garden Restaurant on Friday, September 8 at 5:00pm.

Please RSVP to Roger or Mary Burmeister by Wednesday, September 6.



<u>September 2 & 3</u>	<u>September 9 & 10</u>	<u>September 16 & 17</u>	<u>September 23 & 24</u>
<u>Sept. 30 / Oct. 1</u>	Patricia Minchin	Cookie Johnson	Mary Lou Burke
Marlys Lien	Elaine von Gillern	Becky Taylor	Norma Jones
Mary Jensen	Carol Wood	Kim Pace	Joyce Mlynarik
Debbie Plugge	Andrea Hill	Diane Hartman	Alan Meilike
Sandy Cerveny			

Altar Guild meeting - September 11 at 9:30am



- * Esther Group—September 12 at 9:30am
- * Mary Group—September 14 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. Next lunch is September 21.



A special request for our pantries this month are :
boxed dinners such as Hamburger Helper - store brands are fine
canned dinners such as Spaghetti O's, Ravioli - store brands are fine



**September 2023,
Leave a Legacy Gift**

LSI has responded to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service for over 150 years. During this time, we've created a legacy of lifting up and empowering thousands of our Iowa neighbors, thanks to the generosity of donors like you.

You can celebrate your lifetime through a legacy gift, to ensure LSI can continue to provide lifesaving services for those in need. Many of our faithful donors want their gifts to continue after their lifetime, and have elected to leave a legacy through LSI's foundation or the ELCA foundation.

Planned gifts to LSI help to create a firm foundation for our ministry and contribute more than \$400,000 each year.

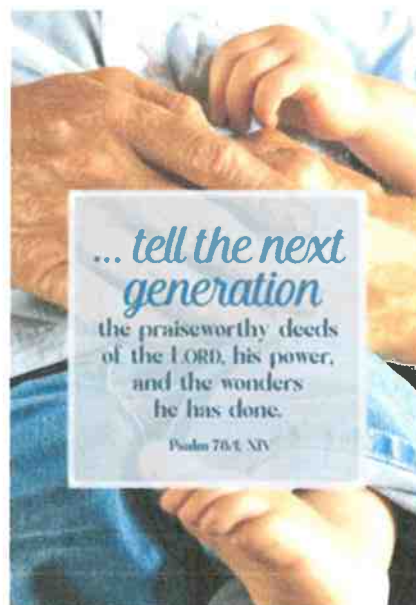
Thanks to the generous compassion of individual donors, congregations such as yours, and our ministry partners at the three synods of the ELCA, we can be confident LSI will be here to meet the changing needs of Iowans for years to come.

You Can Make a Lasting Impact

A longtime supporter of LSI turned an appreciated real estate asset into a charitable remainder unitrust agreement with the ELCA foundation. Because of this agreement, they will receive income from the trust for the remainder of their two lives, and subsequently to their two adult children for a twenty-year term. According to the actuarial tables, this gift will finally terminate in about forty years, leaving a very strong and greatly appreciated impact on LSI's future. Another LSI donor elected to share their investment by directing a required minimum distribution (RMD) from their IRA directly to LSI. The donor used this contribution to match new or increased gifts during the annual matching gift campaign.

To learn more about planned giving opportunities, go to LSIowa.org/leave-a-legacy/ or contact Deb Whitford, LSI senior director of philanthropy and church relations, at Debrah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

	<p><u>September Special dates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labor Day, <i>September 4, 2023</i> • National Grandparents Day, <i>September 10, 2023</i> • Patriot Day, <i>September 11, 2023</i> • First day of autumn, <i>September 23, 2023</i> 	
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September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 - Communion - 9:30am Worship	4	5	6 9:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Chancel Choir Kick-off	7	8 5:00pm Players 6:30pm Good Times Group	9 5:30pm Worship
10 <u>START FALL SCHEDULE</u> 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship	11 9:30am Altar Guild 6:45pm Seekers ChristCare	12 9:30 Esther Group 7:00pm Praise Choir	13 9:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Confirmation Student & Parent Mtg. 6:30pm H.S. youth group 7:30pm Chancel Choir	14 9:00am Mary Group	15	16 - Communion - 5:30pm Worship
17 - Communion - 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am SJ-101 11:00am Worship	18	19 7:00pm Praise Choir	20 9:00am Quilting Group 9:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm H.S. youth group 7:30pm Chancel Choir	21 11:30am Men's Club	22	23 SILENT QUILT AUCTION 5:30pm Worship
24 SILENT QUILT AUCTION 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 9:45am SJ-101 11:00am Worship	25 6:45pm Seekers ChristCare	26 9:30am Women's Board 7:00pm Praise Choir 7:00pm Council Mtg.	27 9:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Bell Choir 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm H.S. youth group 7:30pm Chancel Choir	28 <i>Caller Mailed</i>	29	30 - Communion - 5:30pm Worship

Church Directory
Photos 10:00 - 4:00

Church Directory
Photos 2:00 - 8:30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Korie Hansen Amy Pedersen Jennifer Pedersen Addilyn Schneider	4 Malachi Hansen	5 Angela Nelson Ross Nickerson Colton Pestel	6	7 Sandy Cerveny Judith Fox-Schwabauer Grant McCool Gloria Olson Jack Pope Joyce Steppuhn	8 Maren Wendl	9 Phil Hansen Anna Roane
10 Russell Barker Alicia Steppuhn	11 Jill Applegate	12 Katie Warner	13 Anne Benson Thomas Graham	14 Mary Burmeister Timothy Cash, Jr.	15 Stevi Brougham Eric Haltz Evan Nano Diane Welch	16 Megan Frush Jason Maas Dallis Thompson Rebecca Thompson Darren Warner
17 Garry Maiskeit	18 Pamela Pick Carolyn Wellman	19 Joan Ebersold	20 Mary Lou Burke Ian Coats Chloe Conahan Diane Walters	21 Richard Heininger Sonya Weltz	22 Beth Matters Tracy Simpson Ryan Vander Helm	23 Sydney Frush Jeri Gardner Tim Means
24 Andrea Hill Pam Wilson	25 Joyce Murphy Rob Riggs	26 Abrams Alderton	27 Monica McIntire Wade Taylor	28 Paige Hammermeister	29 Kellie Doffin Margaret McCool	30 Valerie Moore Jeanne Trachta





*Celebrating
-WITH-
you*

80th Birthday

Pam Wilson (September 24)

85th Birthday

Jack Pope (September 7)

50th Wedding Anniversary

Doug & Pat Thompson (Sept. 7)

55th Wedding Anniversary

Keith & Peggy Tye (Sept. 6)

61st Wedding Anniversary

Gary & Sandy Bronson (Sept. 2)

67th Wedding Anniversary

Earl & Jan Myers (Sept. 29)

Sympathy to the families of....

- ~ Roger Sorensen,
brother of Richard Sorensen
- ~ Scott Prine
brother of Ward Prine
- ~ Ann Hanigan
mother of Ryan Hanigan



I want to thank everyone in the congregation for the wonderful surprise celebration of my 40th ordination anniversary and for all the gifts and cards

that people so generously gave to me. Even more, thank you for the last 20+ years for the privilege of being your pastor, it continues to be a joy for me to serve Christ among you.

Pastor Jon

Thank you to Pastor Jon, Pastor Lisa, St. John Prayer Chain & our St. John Church family for all the prayers said for my sister Paula Roth. We truly appreciate you all very much and Thank you for your kind words, thoughts and prayers during her surgery and continued recovery time. We also say Thank you for your kind words, thoughts and prayers for me (Debbie) during my other knee surgery in July... all is going well!

Thank you all again very much!
Debbie & Giles Whitney

A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped clean the kitchen on August 23. More volunteers than expected came to help, and that was greatly appreciated. It takes a village, and I am glad you are a part of mine!

Peggy Tye

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

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.

★ Fall schedule starts
September 10, 8:30 & 11:00am
Sunday school 9:45am

★ New Member classes start
September 17 at 9:45am

★ Church directory photos
September 12 –16

★ Quilt Auction & Crafts
September 23 & 24

