

St John's Lutheran Church – Bennington

Church 291-6225

Website: www.stjohnsbennington.com

Pastor Beth A. Olson 319-483-8135

THIS WEEK AT ST JOHN'S

- Sunday: 5th - Worship w/ Communion – 9 AM
- Monday: 6th - Quilting – 9 AM
Pastor in Office – 10 AM
Hymns – 11 AM
- Wednesday: 8th - Pastor in Office – 1:30 PM
- Thursday: 9th - Brenda in Office – 9 AM
Pastor in Office – 10 AM
- Sunday: 12th - Worship – 9 AM
Semi-Annual Meeting after Worship
Vacation Bible School Meeting – 6 PM

About today: *The mystery of God’s ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God’s mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ’s invitation: “Come to me, all you that are weary.” Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls. (Sundays and Seasons)*

The next Vacation Bible School planning meeting is next Sunday, July 12, here at the church at 6 PM.

Vacation Bible School LINK: <https://forms.gle/T9evAY4UX1ai6u9P8>
Please use this link to register for the Aug. 9 VBS afternoon/evening. We start at 2:30 as we prepare to move into “Galaxy: Launching on a Mission of God’s love.” Pizza supper at church and then it’s off to the Tripoli pool for 6-8 pool party! Helpers can also sign up via the link for the areas they’re comfortable in. NOT A FAN OF using an online link? WATCH for the CLIPBOARD!!

School supply drive for Lutheran World Relief has begun. For the backpacks we are needing black and blue ink pens (not gel pens), unsharpened #2 pencils, pencil sharpeners, 2/5” erasers, blunt scissors, rulers with centimeters, packs of 16 or 24 crayons, and 70 page spiral notebooks. (Note: each backpack gets 4 notebooks.) We will plan on packing 40 backpacks again this fall. Last year 73,180 of the 179,200 backpacks assembled were distributed in the US.

Quarterly devotional books are still available on the entryway table.

Prayer of the Day Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 7/5/26

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Ministers of Worship

TODAY:

Accompanist: Pastor Beth
Lector: Drew Speer
Zoom Operator: Bobbi Seamans
Acolyte: Deacons
Ushers: Speer Family;
Kim Rigdon

Communion Servers: Kim Rigdon and Jessica Huntley
July Communion Bread Maker: Deanne Salisbury

Fellowship

TODAY:

Self-Serve

Attendance

Last Sunday’s Attendance: 41 plus 3 Zoom
Last Month Attendance Average: 43

NEXT WEEK:

Accompanist: Summer Lim
Lector: Jerry Mixdorf
Zoom Operator: Lukas Nelson
Acolyte: Deacons
Ushers: Marshall and Julie Mixdorf

All are welcomed at God’s table at St. John’s, Bennington today! We will commune using little cups and gluten-free bread. White grape juice is available in the center of each tray. Those not communing are invited forward for a blessing, and all are welcome at God’s table at St. John’s!

St. John’s is seeking donations of non-chocolate parade candy for the Dunkerton Days parade, on Saturday, July 18 at 10 AM. Candy may be left at the church no later than Friday, July 17. Thank you!

St. John’s Semi-Annual Meeting is next Sunday after worship. Copies of the camera access policy are available on the table outside the sanctuary, so you can review ahead of the meeting. Any additional agenda items need to be brought to the attention of the council or the office by Thursday, July 9.

SJB Kayaks event is planned for Sunday, July 26, 1 PM, at George Wyth State Park. Led by Dan and Deanne Salisbury. They have several kayaks for you to use or you can bring your own. Lifejackets are required. Let them know of your interest. Bring your own treats and drinks!

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion. –Psalm 145:8

Order of Service

Prelude

GATHER

Welcome and Announcements

- #Gathering Song **ELW # 765**
- #Greeting p. 203
- #Glory be to God p. 204
- #Prayer of the Day (see left) p. 205
- Children’s Message

WORD

- Scripture Readings: p. 205
- First Lesson: Zechariah 9:9-12
- Second Lesson: Romans 7:15-25a
- #Gospel Acclamation p. 205
- #Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
- Sermon

- Hymn of the Day ELW # 608**
- #Apostles’ Creed p. 105
- #Prayers of Intercession
- Offering
- #Offertory Song **ELW # 182**
- #Offertory Prayer

MEAL

- #The Great Thanksgiving p. 206
- and following pages.*
- The Lord’s Prayer p. 208
- Lamb of God p. 208
- Distribution

#Post Communion Prayer

SEND

- #Blessing p. 209
- #Sending Song **ELW # 742**

Kids meet pastor in back during last verse of song to help; congregation response is “And have fun doing it!”

- #Dismissal p. 209
- #Postlude
- # - Please stand as you are able
- ELW - Cranberry Book**