

St. John's Lutheran Church



Newsletter

Bryan Robertson, Pastor

November, 2023

Have you remembered St. John's in your will?

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It looks like the holiday rush is now in full swing.

We've already had three months of Halloween marketing to prompt us to part with our cash. Sales with some kind of "Black Friday" banner have shown up in our emails at least for a month. Black Friday, by the way, isn't happening until November 24th. Prime Day for Amazon shoppers, October 11, saw 150 million items ordered—up 50 million from last year. And Christmas marketing and shopping has barely begun in true earnest.

We will continually see and hear, everyday, the how's to buy this and the why's to buy that. Low prices, self-improvement, and ways to give and receive love are pitches we'll see to entice us to buy.

But inside these doors of St. John's and our churches around us, there is nothing for sale. There is nothing that's sold and nothing to buy. There are no self-help guides or programs that promise to make our lives better. There are no plans or planners to help us make money, secure our retirement, or protect what we own.

No, we have something better than these that is and has always been offered for free: we have Jesus right now and forever.

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We have Jesus gifts: his body and blood and the forgiveness of sins, promised in Holy Communion. We have the gifts of God's Spirit who gives faith in our Lord, the forgiveness of sins and the life everlasting. We have God's Word here among us, showing who God is since the beginning, and who Jesus is, both now and forever. We have each other, right now, as brothers and sisters in Christ, in life and in death and in heaven, above.

We'll be reminded of this on All Saints Sunday, the first Sunday of November. Those whom we've lost through the year are not lost forever. Though hurt and suffering are here in our lives, their time is short, while His love is forever.

We'll be reminded that no one is higher or holier than Jesus on Christ the King Sunday, our last Sunday this month. We'll hear how our Lord will come back in power on the last day and separate bad from the good.

And we'll give thanks to God at Thanksgiving worship, who gives us and the world our daily bread: food and clothing, health and family, daily work, and all we need from day to day.

This is a month of giving thanks for God's gifts and promises to us. And when the month ends, we'll begin to get ready for God's greatest gift: the birth of His Son, away in a manger.

Peace,

Pr. Bryan

Radio Ministry November 2023



- Nov 5 For all the angels that have left us in the past year
- Nov 12 In memory of Matthew Raymer
- Nov 19 Given by Dixie Libbey
- Nov 26 Given by Raymond & Judy Koshatka



Book Nook

Ordinary Women of the Bible:

"The Healers's Touch - Tikva's Story"

The shock of a family tragedy sent Tikva into premature labor, and she delivered a stillborn son. From that time until this, despite chasing after a multitude of healers promises and spending all she had on torturous treatments, nothing has stopped the resulting hemorrhaging. However, her aged mother-in-law has heard tell of a miracle - working Rabbi who is visiting their province. Does Tikva dare hold out one last hope for healing?

Submitted by Joan Moody



CIRCLE NEWS November

SARAH Circle: 9:15am Nov 11 in the Lounge with hostess Nancy Brandt & Bible study done together.

DORCAS Circle: virtually @ 7pm, Nov 11, contact Linda Groe with questions.

To Receive the Word ...



Sunday morning worship services are on the local radio station. Dial in 103.5 FM (KNEI) at 8:30 am or log into www.kneiradio.com to worship with St. John's. We also are video streaming on Facebook Live.

You may now receive the newsletter via email as a PDF document. Contact the church office if you would like to be on this email list.

St. John's is on the web at www.stjohnswaukon.net and Facebook stjohns@waukon



Thank you to the volunteers who have quietly slipped into the church property to take pictures of stained glass windows for booklet. We appreciate everything you have done for us and



Thank You for your service to our church.



Fall Back

Daylight-Saving Time Ends

November 5, 2023

October 2023

Baptisms: none

Weddings: none

Deaths: none



November 2023

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation, Sr Bells 8pm Sr Choir	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS 8:30am worship w/comm, install of WELCA Officers, Thankoffering 9:30am SS 10:30am worship w/comm		6am-9pm Election	6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation, Sr Bells 8pm Sr Choir			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30am & 10:30am worship 9:30am SS		9:15am Sarah Circle in Lounge 7pm Dorcas Circle meets virtually	6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation off site, Sr Bells 8pm Sr Choir	WIC 8:30am-4:30pm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am & 10:30am worship w/comm 9:30am SS 6pm Sr Bells		6pm Trustee mtg 7pm Church Council mtg	6-6:45pm Youth Bells 7pm Thanksgiving Eve worship w/comm 8pm Sr Choir			
26	27	28	29	30		
8:30am & 10:30am worship 9:30am SS		1pm Northgate Ctr 2:30pm Evergrn Crt 3pm Good Sam Ctr	6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation & Sr Bells 8pm Sr Choir			

Music Ministry



Thank you Senior Bell Choir for leading our worship services on Oct. 15 to help celebrate our 135th anniversary of St. John's congregation and the 35th anniversary of Pastor Bryan's ordination. Thank you Senior Choir for providing the anthem with the appropriate text for Pastor's ordination "My Vows to the Lord I Will Make".

Choir Dedication October 22 was held later than usual this year. As the fall has progressed, these new young members have or will be joining the Youth Bell Choir: Emma Berges, Maximus Neuzil & Henley Benson. It is such a joy for me to observe how these young ringers progress over the years and mature musically from middle school on into high school. Brandon Teslow & Dalton Ellickson are fine examples of young men who have grown up through the ranks and are now also members of the Senior Bell Choir as others over the years have done before them. Examples: Todd Pickett 1981 & Lisa

Johanningmeier 1999.

James H. Bieber - Organist / Director of Music

Trustee Meeting Oct 17, 2023



- ~Portable speaker system has arrived
- ~Board members find their own replacements
- ~Request for Fellowship Hall carpet to be cleaned
- ~Potential fundraisers discussed
- ~Use of elevator during winter procedure
- **SEE NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD for details**

St. John's Volunteer Duty List

Nov-23

Date	Service		Greeters	Readers	Comm Asst	Comm Prep	Acolytes	Ushers
11/5/2023 All Saints Day	8:30am	E W	Ken & Rose Beardmore Gary & Marlene Houg	Vickie Larson	Dave & Brenda Dougherty Dan Treangen	Chris Ellickson Dawn Teslow		Dennis & Linda DeBuhr Randy Hesse
	10:30am	E W	Urmanski family Ushers	Bill Roe	Karen Stamper	Altar Guild		Steve & Sheryl Evanson
11/12/2023	8:30am	E W	Tom & Caroll Schreiber Jens & Jane Kallevang	Tiffany Evans				same as above
	10:30am	E W	Lyle & Brenda Kurth Ushers	Ed Stamper	X	X		same as above
11/19/2023	8:30am	E W	Lee & Rachel Moser Randy & Lori Hesse	Dawn Teslow	Wendy Bucheit, Lori & Randy Hesse	Cindy Wuebker Ron Dahlstrom		same as above
	10:30am	E W	Jill Kistler, Sandy Deal Ushers	Sunday School	Vickie Larson	Ann Hagensick		same as above
11/22/2023 Thanksgiving Eve	7pm	E W	Matt Teslow family Wayne & Nona Sawyer	Nona Sawyer	Vickie Larson	Linda Groe		Bill & Linda Halvorson
11/26/2023	8:30am	E W	Steve Wilkes family Tom & Caroll Schreiber	Sue Blagsvedt				same as above
	10:30am	E W	Vickie Larson Ushers	Vickie Larson	X	X		same as above

St. John's Women Serving and Socializing



Hymns for November at St. Johns



Sunday, November 5th, the St. John's Women's ELCA will have installation of officers and our annual Thankoffering. The Thankoffering collection tray will be available in the Narthex. The offering will be split between the Women's ELCA organization in Chicago to support churchwide ministries and our local St. John's Women's ELCA organization projects. Following first service join us in the narthex for coffee provided by the Deacons.

St. John's Women's ELCA officers are: Treasurer, Deb Thorstenson; Secretary, Linda Halvorson; and Funeral Coordinator, Linda Groe. They are being installed Sunday, November 5th. We are still looking for a President and Vice President or Co-Presidents.

Our women's transition team has made several changes for the President and Vice President responsibilities. We have eliminated some activities at this time and have leaders who volunteered to be responsible for the following projects: Quilting leader, Ann Rademaker and Kathy Murray; Personal Care Kits and Baby Kits, leader Nona Sawyer; Nursing home visitations & cards, Gloria Payne and Judith Engle; Pennies for Presents leader, Kathy Murray. With the new positions of Funeral Coordinator and project leaders, the President's responsibility will mainly be to oversee good communication for the women of the church. The Women's Board currently tries to meet quarterly. This would be a good time for you to volunteer to lead the St. John's Women's organization during this transition of our organization.

The numbers of circles have changed from four to three circles. Mary and Rachel circles have combined. The current circles are: Sarah Circle, Mary/Rachel Circle and Dorcas Circle.

Submitted by Carroll Schreiber

Sunday School

We are planning to start practicing for the Christmas Program on Nov. 5th, 12th, 19th, Dec 3rd, 10th. To make the program run smoothly, we need to have your kids at practice. We will also practice Dec. 16th from 9am-10:30am. The program will be on December 17th, 2nd service at 10:30am.

Thanks,

Becky Roe & Chris Ellickson

November 5 Time After Pentecost

No. 422 For All The Saints

First Lesson: Micah 3:5-12

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

No. 425 Behold, the Host Arrayed in White During Distribution No. 414 & 415

No. 418 Rejoice in God's Saints

November 12 Time After Pentecost

No. 441 Oh Happy Day When We Shall Stand

First Lesson: Amos 5:18-24

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

No. 685 Take My Life, That I May Be

No. 717 Let Justice Flow Like Streams

November 19 Time After Pentecost

No. 815 I Want To Walk As A Child of The Light

First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

No. 327 Through The Night of Doubt And Sorrow

During Distribution No. 714 & 716

No. 678 God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

November 23 Thanksgiving Eve

No. 693 Come Ye Thoughtful People, Come

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

No. 679 For The Fruit of All Creation During Distribution No. 734 & 733

No. 694 Sing to The Lord of Harvest

November 26 Christ the King Sunday

No. 855 Crown Him With Many Crowns

First Lesson: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Second Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

No. 502 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

No. 434 Jesus Shall Reign

November 2023

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Ashley Horgen	2	3	4 Bill Halvorson Fred Oelberg Joe & Sarah Jackson (A) Lee & Rachel Moser (A)
5 Reed Bosley Braylon Emerson	6 Dan Treangen	7 Ken Beardmore	8 Jaxon Anderson	9 Gary Houg	10 Kathy Hay Joachim Holly Smith Lyla Urmanski	11 Cody Cook John O'Neill
12 Gary & Marlene Houg (A)	13 Russ Meyer	14	15 Pam Dundee	16 Linda DeBuhr Emma Palmer Eric Palmer McKinley Rostvold	17	18 Heidi Ryan Jacob Dougherty Adalyn Leiran Renee Martin
19 Brenda Dougherty Avery Frommelt Delilah Jones Annette Stock	20	21 Mason Jones Mya Jones Clay Rathbone	22	23 Bruce Barr Marian Bauercamper Jim Lomen Carrie McCartney- Vincent	24	25 Larry Dundee
26 Sarah Christen Braden Hemann Vickie Larson John Miller Tom & Sandy Fink (A)	27 Jean Stone Tharin & Bailey Benson (A)	28 Connie White Delaney Isabella Gordon Jenny Smith Wittrock	29 Brad Yohe Bruce & Rhonda Barr (A)	30 Betty White		

Anniversary Celebrations 2023

A celebration was held on Sunday October 15 for the 135th Anniversary of St. John's Lutheran Church and the 35th Anniversary of Pastor Bryan Robertson's ordination. The Rev. Kevin T. Jones, Bishop of the Northeastern Iowa Synod of the ELCA was in attendance. Between services Bill Roe, VP of the congregation was emcee of the program. A certificate from the synod was presented to Pastor Bryan by the Bishop and Steve Evanson, Congregational president. Gift certificates were given to Pr. Bryan by the church council. The Sunday school students sang songs and presented Pastor with a pie. Linda Groe made a presentation of the history of the church and its buildings, and Linda DeBuhr roasted Pr. Bryan. The deacons served rolls, bars and beverages. Thank you to all who attended and provided food. Our Congratulations to Pastor Bryan! We pray that God will be your constant companion and give you endurance to deal with our congregation's multitude of personalities and opinions. May we continue to know each other better and work together.

May God bless St. John's Lutheran Church for many years to come and guide us in our continued mission: "We are called by the Holy Spirit to share with all people God's love, forgiveness and acceptance Through Jesus Christ."



St. John's Lutheran Church
8 Fifth Street, S.W. Box 403
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Stained Glass Windows.....

One of the activities during the 1992 Vacation Bible School was to study the stained glass windows in our church and Linda DeBuhr, Superintendent and the students made a presentation to the congregation. Following this, Linda Groe researched, created and published a brochure with a history and explanation of each stained glass window. Interest in the stained glass windows was renewed with the planning of St. John's 135th Anniversary. Technology has advanced since the 1st edition was published 30 years ago. We have a new color edition and is free for you to take home. They are located in the narthex. Take the time to use the brochure to locate each window and read the story of the Bible from creation to the crucifixion. See if you can find the two "threads" that run through each of these windows. The black represents the simpleness of Man, and the red represents the mercy of God.

Linda DeBuhr & Linda Groe



St. John's Lutheran Church
Stained Glass Windows
1993
Updated 2023