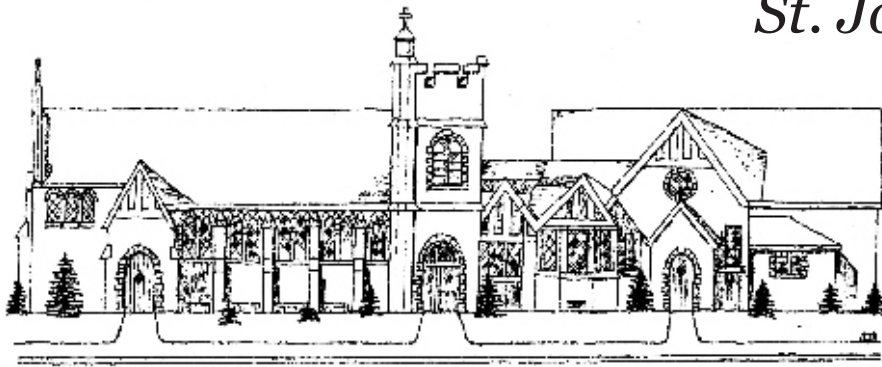


# St. John's Lutheran Church

## Newsletter

Bryan Robertson, Pastor

October, 2023



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

8 5th Street S.W. P.O. Box 403  
Waukon, IA 52172-0403

Phone 563.568.3623  
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stjohnswaukon@gmail.com  
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135 is not a large number. Compared to some numbers, like 4.5 billion, the number of years that the earth has existed, the number 135 doesn't come close to those with so many zeros.

But in terms of the lives that we're living right now compared to lives people lived in the past, 135 years seems as large as some numbers too large to be counted.

So much here has changed from back in the day when people sent letters instead of a text. So much here has changed since McGuffey Readers were new, teaching kids English, instead of Zoom classes on the computer.

And so much here has changed since a bunch of Norwegians got the idea to have their own church in the summer of 1888. Upstairs in the blacksmith shop of Halvor Simonson and Halvor Pederson, people began hearing God's Word and receiving God's sacraments and sharing Jesus with others in a church that is still here today.

135 years ago, St. John's Lutheran Church got its start in the fall, while horses plowed fields and groceries consisted of what's in your garden.

And if you told Halvor Pederson, pounding out horseshoes, that church will soon happen live on computer or broadcast on radio waves, he'd likely look blank and think you were crazy. God's Word can now travel for thousands of miles in less than a second.

Which is the one thing, God's Word, that still hasn't changed since our church got its start. The Good News of Jesus is the very same news that our ancestors heard in Allamakee County. And God's Word hasn't changed since Jesus lived and died and rose from the grave.

God's Word of forgiveness and life will never change, even though our lives change fast through the years. And our call to love others like Jesus loves us is as fresh and as new as when people first heard it.

This month we'll mark 135 years of being a part of this very small branch of God's family tree: St. John's Lutheran Church. We thank God for Jesus and Jesus' Good News that first brought us together. Our lives of today will someday seem ancient--as ancient as steam engine tractors and threshing our oats. But the Good News of Jesus and his love for us all, won't ever change, no matter the number of zeros that tally the years.

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*Peace*

*Pr. Bryan*

# Radio Ministry October 2023



- Oct 1 given by faithful listeners
- Oct 8 given by Dixie Libbey
- Oct 15 given by faithful listener
- Oct 22 memory of Gertrude Norden & Nan Grangaard
- Oct 29 Given by Marilyn Anderson

## 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](http://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](http://www.stjohnswaukon.net) and Facebook [stjohns@waukon](mailto:stjohns@waukon)



## Book Nook

Ordinary Women of the Bible:

**"An Unlikely Witness, Joanna's Story"**  
by Ginger Garrett

All Joanna wanted was a peaceful life at the palace and to bear children for her husband, Chunza, steward of Herod Antipas. Instead, Joanna became an eye-witness to the most shocking events in human history...events that would force her to choose between the life she once imagined, and a life she could never have dreamed of - a choice of maintaining the illusion of peace or following the Prince of Peace.

*Submitted by Joan Moody*



## CIRCLE NEWS October

**SARAH Circle:** 9:15am Oct 10 in the Lounge with hostess Joan Leiran & Bible study done together.

**DORCAS Circle:** virtually @ 7pm, October 10, contact Linda Groe with questions

## Thank you to the volunteers

who have quietly slipped onto the church property to fix a leak in the kitchen sink, check a toilet and cut windows in doors. We appreciate everything you have done for us and

*thank you for your service to our Church!*



## Mark on your calendars a special celebration on Sunday, October 15

to honor the 135th anniversary of St. John's, Pastor's 35th anniversary of his ordination and Pastor Appreciation Month. The Board of Deacons will be having coffee and treats in the fellowship hall between services.

There will also be some recollections of Pastor Bryan's pastoral service and also of the 135 years of St. John's Lutheran Church.

## September 2023



**Baptisms:** none

**Weddings:** none

**Deaths:** Elsie Sanderson  
Jean Ann Stuckman

# October 2023

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 8:30am & 10:30am service w/comm 9:30am Sun School	2	3	4 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Sr Bells, <b>Confirmation-Fields of Faith</b> 8pm Sr Choir	5	6	7
8 8:30am & 10:30am service 9:30am Sun School	9 2pm WELCA mtg in Lounge	10 9:15am Sarah Circle 7pm Dorcas Circle	11 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Sr Bells, Confirmation 8pm Sr Choir	12	13	14
15 8:30am & 10:30am service w/comm 9:30am Sun School	16	17 6pm Trustee mtg	18 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Sr Bells, Confirmation 8pm Sr Choir	19 WIC 8:30am-4:30pm	20	21
22 8:30am <b>w/Choir Dedication</b> & 10:30am service 9:30am Sun School	23	24 1pm Northgate Ctr 2:30pm Evergm Crt 3pm Good Sam Ctr	25 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Sr Bells, Confirmation 8pm Sr Choir	26	27	28
29 8:30am w/comm & 10:30am service w/comm & <b>Confirmation</b> 9:30am Sun School	30	31				

## Music Ministry



Choirs have been rehearsing in September after a later start this fall than usual. We thank Vickie Larson who provided special music on Sunday, Sept. 3 & Roddy Dull who provided music on Sept. 10 for the Service in the Park. Senior Choir has provided music for our Sept. 17 & 24 Sunday services. Senior Bell Choir members cleaned 61 bells between services on Sunday, Sept. 17th. We thank everyone for singing and or cleaning bells in September.

Choir Dedication Sunday will be delayed a bit this fall and dates will be announced at an upcoming Sunday Service.

*James H. Bieber - Organist / Director of Music*

## Trustee Meeting

Sept 26, 2023



- ~404 West Main property tax paid
- ~Discussion of church insurance
- ~Snow removal contractors to be contacted
- ~Possible stain glass window repairs; get estimates
- ~Trustees to review Church By-Laws
- ~Begin recruitment for Church Boards

**\*\*SEE NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD for details\*\***

St. John's Volunteer Duty List

Oct-23

Date	Service		Greeters	Readers	Comm Asst	Comm Prep	Acolytes	Ushers
10/1/2023	8:30am	E W	Steve Wilkes family Karen Grimstad, Rhonda Barr	Nona Sawyer	Russ & Mary Jo Meyer, Vickie Larson	Bonnie Roe Mary Jackson		Wayne & Nona Sawyer Russ Meyer
	10:30am	E W	Chester & Darlene Schlake	Nancy Brandt	Linda Groe	Altar Guild		Bernard Pausch Norm Peterson
10/8/2023	8:30am	E W	Cindy Wuebker family Bailey Benson family	Bailey Benson				same as above
	10:30am	E W	Richard & Evonne Kistler Ushers	Sandy Deal	X	X		same as above
10/15/2023	8:30am	E W	M Henkles, A Rademaker Virgil & Deb Thorstenson	Joan Moody	Sarah Bieber, Joan Moody Ron Dahlstrom	Mary Jo Meyer Bailey Benson		same as above
	10:30am	E W	Sandy Deal, Vickie Larson Ushers	Sunday School	Sandy Deal	Sandy Deal		same as above
10/22/2023	8:30am	E W	Gary & Marlene Houg Bill Roe family	Blake Roe				same as above
	10:30am	E W	Steve & Sheryl Evanson Ushers	Karen Stamper	X	X		same as above
10/29/2023	8:30am	E W	Lee & Rachel Moser Cindy Wuebker family	Linda Groe	Dennis & Linda DeBuhr, Bev Haas	Jane Kallevang Kathy Hay		same as above
	Confirmation Reformation Sunday 10:30am	E W	Harlan & Carole Yohe Ushers	Vickie Larson	Sadie & Wendy Bucheit Chris Stuckman	Linda Groe	Ushers	same as above



The Women of the ELCA organization (WELCA) of our congregation are currently in a transition period. With the passing of Sue Bieber, our former president for 20+ years, we are looking for an individual who is interested in helping guide our organization in a variety of ways. We have many decisions before us. Some of the mission projects WELCA has done in prior years include: quilting, personal care kits and baby kits. We have visited the Care Centers in Waukon and provided muffins or fruit. The Women of the church, who are each a member of one of our Circles, have been very willing over the years to provide food for funerals when asked. Workers are also needed for every funeral.

We are in need of someone who would be willing to be President of WELCA, and also someone willing to be Vice President or possibly we would create a Co-Presidency position. We are also looking for someone to be our Funeral Coordinator, who would receive the call from the funeral home and then call the president of the circle serving the funeral. That circle would then be responsible for calling for the food and workers needed to serve that funeral.

We ask that you give prayerful consideration to one of these positions. The current officers are more than willing to help anyone new with the learning process.

If you are interested in more information on any of these leadership roles, or if you have suggestions about how our WELCA organization can move forward in the best interests of its members and our church, please contact one of the individuals listed below.

*Gloria Payne at 563-329-0069 by either a phone call or text. Or she can also be reached by email at [gloriapayne0904@gmail.com](mailto:gloriapayne0904@gmail.com)*

*Caroll Schreiber at 563-794-0000 by phone call or text.*

**October 1 Time after Pentecost  
No. 532 Gather Us In**

First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32

**No. 772 Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My  
Ways**

**During Distribution No. 448 & 455**

**No. 538 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth**

**October 8 Time after Pentecost**

**No. 729 The Church of Christ, In Every Age**

First Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7

Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

**No. 803 When I Survey the Wondrous  
Cross**

**No. 826 Thine the Amen**

**October 15 Time after Pentecost**

**No. 579 Lord, You Give the Great Commis-  
sion**

First Lesson: Isaiah 25:1-9

Second Lesson: Philippians 4:1-9

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

**No. 632 O God, Our Help in Ages Past  
During Distribution No. 491 & 553**

**No. 652 Built on a Rock**

**October 22 Time after Pentecost**

**No. 834 Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise**

First Lesson: Isaiah 45:1-7

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

**No. 685 Take My Life, That I May Be**

**No. 705 God of Grace and God of Glory**

**October 29 Reformation Sunday**

**No. 505 A Mighty Fortress is Our God**

First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Second Lesson: Romans 3:19-28

Gospel: John 8:31-36

**No. 517 Lord Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word  
During Distribution No. 598 & 599**

**No. 665 Rise, Shine, You People!**



# October 2023

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Mary Lou Sorum Russ & Mary Jo Meyer (A)	2 Oliver Bailey Kloe Leiran Bernice Thies	3 Wendy Bucheit Bill & Sue Blagsvedt (A)	4 Steve Evanson Brock Iverson Tyler O'Neill Mike & Lauren Allison(A)	5 Grant Nuehring Travis Schnuelle Jeremy & Lana Troendle (A)	6 Sarah Olson Larry & Pam Dundee (A)	7
8 Alaina Emerson Stacey Kolsrud Annabelle Marti Sheylenn Neuzil Ross Stammeyer Brian & Denise Wullner (A)	9 Amy Decker Darrel Wicks	10 Cindy Barness Irv & Chris Engstrom Fosaaen (A)	11 Dave & Renee Martin (A)	12 Dennis DeBuhr Heath Hagensick Oliver Hagensick Jan Piffner	13 Elsa Thorstenson Craig Yohe	14 Greg Hagensick
15 Stacia Dougherty	16	17 Chris Ellickson Tim Fahey Cole & Ashley Horgen (A) Kevin & Trish Martin (A)	18 Barb Hill Kathy Murray Mike Neuzil Zach & Melissa Clarke (A) Steve & Sheryl Evanson (A) Jeff & Diana Johnson (A)	19 Tharin Benson Kashton Copp Lee & Chris Ellickson (A)	20 Karen Grimstad Scott & Pam Decker (A) Eric & Stacy Wyninger (A)	21 Dennis Lyons
22 Holly Harrington Gayle Larkin Drew Pierson Bristol Wilkes Scott & Brenda Houg (A)	23 Eve Hill Mason Martin Shelby Wyninger Fred & Geralyn Smith(A)	24 Dave Sorum	25 Travis Fish Ed Stamper	26 Matt & Emily Baade (A) Justin & Ashley Jones (A)	27 Sarah Bieber Ron Dahlstrom Heather Nuehring Seth Tweedy	28 Kade Halse Bill & Becky Roe (A) Carl & Joyce Thornton (A)
29 Cameron Emerson	30 Joplin Nuehring Mark & Stacy Stock (A)	31 Micah Burrow Lori Treangen				

# Worship in the Park

St. John's Service in the Park was held on Sunday, September 10th in the Waukon City Park. The day started out partly Cloudy with a light breeze. Men, women, children and pets began to appear with light coats at the amphitheater. Pastor Bryan provided a spiritual service with the children participating in the children's sermon. Roddy Dull (wife Lorinda attending) provided special hymns along with traditional hymns with the congregation singing along.

Following the church service, a brunch was held at the shelter by the ball field. Bacon, ham and sausage egg bakes were provided by Baxter Catering with many desserts provided by the congregation. The milk for the event was donated by the Allamakee County Dairy Board. Everyone participated in fellowship over a shared meal which has been long overdue.

Laughter could be heard and smiles visible from the kids playing in the bouncing house. Service in the Park numbers have been increasing each year. We hope to see you next year and bring a friend or two, three.....Thanks to all the volunteers who made this day a success. Any suggestions or comments, please let me know.

**THANKS AGAIN!!!**

In Our Lord Jesus Christ,

*Bill Roe*



St. John's Lutheran Church  
8 Fifth Street, S.W. Box 403  
Waukon, IA 52172-0403

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# And Finally

.....



Ila Johnsen assisting Jim Bieber at organ.



*Affirmation of Baptism*  
*October 29, 10:30am*  
*Parker Yohe*  
*Brooklyn Wilkes*