THE PULSE BEAT

Volume 47, Number 9

October 2022

A Word from the Pastor

The church year rapidly winds down as the weather gets cooler, the leaves on the trees turn color, and then begin to fall as we enter the month of October. Your heating system kicks in & turns on, in your home, if it hasn't already.

When autumn arrives, we get reminded, by these small measures, that we are a privileged people. We have a home, or apartment, or perhaps an assisted living facility to live in, that meets our basic needs: a roof over our heads, heat, running water, computer or television service (for a price). We have a vehicle to drive. We can go shopping when we need to, or out to a restaurant for a meal, or perhaps a movie for entertainment. We really do have many privileges, to help us enjoy, or at least get through the days of our lives.

We also have something important to belong to, which gives us our sense of value and worth ---the church – the "body of Christ." The community of faith, representing the presence of the risen Savior, Jesus Christ, in the world!

Throughout this month, our gospels deal with FAITH! The first Sunday, the disciples ask Jesus to "**Increase our faith!**" They practically command Jesus to do this, for them, after he challenges them to get better at forgiving.

He answers their demand saying: "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." A week later in the gospel, Jesus himself questions his disciples, "When the Son of man, the human one comes, will he find faith on earth?"

Jesus comes back to his disciples, which today is us who still belong to the church, with this challenging question. With all that is going on, in these days, Jesus' question still holds: *Will the risen Savior & Lord, when he comes, and when God is present in all the many ways he comes to us, "Will he find faith on earth?"*

The amount of faith a person has does not matter to Jesus. There is no such thing as amounts, for Christ! He means if we have any faith at all, we would do well to put it to use, by continuing to pray, no matter what! Walter Wink reminds us: "God does not intervene only occasionally. God is the constant possibility of transformation pressing on every occasion, even those that are lost for lack of a human response." Then he adds: "Prayer is not magic; it does not always "work." It is not something we do, but a response to what God is already doing within us and the world. Our prayers are the necessary opening that allows God to act without violating our freedom. Prayer is the ultimate act of partnership with God."

So in these days of changing weather, and the many other changes in our world and lives, we are called to keep on being faithful, keep on praying and acting in the world, knowing there is a God who is real, active, and wants to help! We are to live by faith, as if God's presence, and God's activity through the Holy Spirit, is a fact --- for it is!

Happy October! Pastor Jim

Pulse Beat

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Pastor James O'Reilly-Christensen Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm 920 988-9059 (Cell) E-mail: <u>stjohnpastor1@hotmail.com</u> Office Manager: Robin Fatla Church office hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – Noon 262-377-0410 E-mail: <u>stjohnsecretary@hotmail.com</u> Website: stjohngrafton.org

Congregation President – OPEN

Vice President – Dennis Jaeger Secretary – Sheila Kapke Treasurer – Peter Viesselmann Church Council: Dennis Jaeger – Worship Sue Dowe – Education Sharlene Sandquist - Stewardship OPEN – Outreach (formerly Evangelism) Roger Wendorf - Finance Joe Porth – Property & Grounds Sharlene Sandquist - Public Relations OPEN - Youth Jane Turowski - Financial Secretary

Organist St. John Choir Director Glory Ringers Director Flutist OPEN OPEN Dale Allen Sandy Allen

Newsletter staff:

Robin Fatla & Sheila Kapke **Newspaper Deadline:** Articles due by the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Church Phone Numbers:

Office: 262-377-0410 Fax: 262-377-0410 Pastor: 920 988-9059

E-Mail: (office) stjohnsecretary@hotmail.com (pastor) stjohnpastor1@hotmail.com FaceBook: St. John Lutheran Church-Grafton,WI

GENERAL INTEREST NEWS



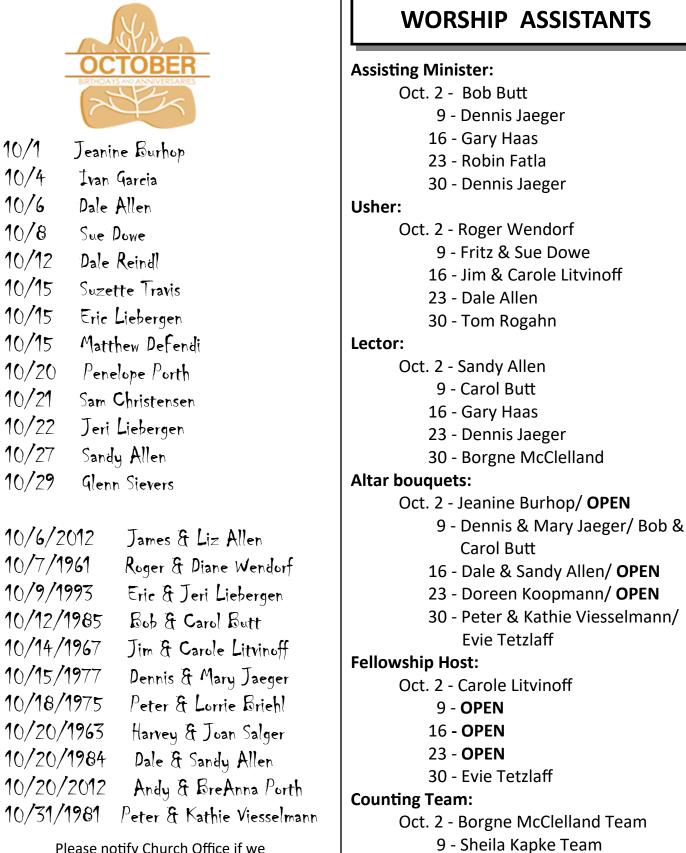
James Allen, Delaney Allen, Karen Baerbock (cousin of Bob Butt), Mary Barker (friend of Audrey Crowell), Barb Beckner (friend of Judy McMullin), Clarice Buchholz (Mary Jaeger's mother), Anna Bullio (greatgranddaughter of Florence Van

Cleave), Troy Burmesch (Dale & Sandy Allen's nephew), Emily Carney (friend of Kylene Wright), Marian Carraway, Cathy Collins (Florence Van Cleave's daughter), Amanda Combs (friend of Laura Christenson), Francis & Kathy Darga (Carole Litvinoff's sister & brother-in-law), Nan Donner (friend of Diane & Roger Wendorf), Roger Faretra (Doug's brother), Madelyn Gaulke, Maria Nehls. Paige Peirson (friends of Jesse Schauer), Wanda Gindt (friend of Bob & Carol Butt), Rick Gonzalez, Sue Haas, Jeanne Hass, Michael Horton (brother of Tara & Jeff Kapke), Mary Jaeger, Marvin Klemp (brother of Evie Tetzlaff), Joanne Levenick, Scott Maronde (nephew of Gary & Sue Haas), Ken Matthews (Kayla Matthews' father-in-law), Tim McCloskey, Chuck & Cary Mueller (friends of Glenn Sievers), Alice Murphy (family of MerryLou Green), Paul Ohm (friend of St. John), Sugeily Pineiro-Garcia, Eric & Karen Rautenberg (Sue Dowe's mother and step-father), Tom Rogahn, Kathy (sister of Jackie Rogahn), Harvey Salger, Mitchell Schmit (friend of Dale Allen), Wendy Tomter, Suzette Travis, Wendy Werner (Sandy Allen's sister-in-law), Marian Witte Military personnel: Kyle Christenson, Andy David "Home away from home" members: Jeanine Burhop (sister of the late Marilyn Speranza) – Lasata; Tim McClosky & John Clasen – at home with sister Merry Lou Green



Healing service Sunday, October 16 9:30 am

Pulse Beat



Please notify Church Office if we have missed someone. Thank you!

16 - Dennis Jaeger Team 23 - Jim Litvinoff Team

- 20 Borgno McClolland T
- 30 Borgne McClelland Team



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Fellowship hour 12:30 pm - Blessing of the Animals	3	4	5 Noon - Pastor's lunch 5:00 pm - Confirmation class at Trinity	6	7 Pastor's day off	8 Faithful Innovations training at Synod office Synod Women's Gathering
9 9:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Fellowship hour 6:30 pm - Comedy Club	10 9:00 am - Quilting 1:00 pm - Sarah Circle Bible study	11 6:00 pm - Pastor's prayer group	12 Noon - Pastor's lunch 5:00 pm - Confirmation class at Trinity	13	14 Pastor's day off	15
16 9:30 am - Holy Communion - Healing service 10:30 am - Fellowship hour 10:45 am - Church Council	17	18	19 Noon - Pastor's lunch 5:00 pm - Confirmation class at Trinity	20	21 Pastor's day off	22
23 9:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Fellowship hour	24 9:00 am - Quilting 5:30 pm - Campfire Cookout	25 6:00 pm - Pastor's prayer group	26 Noon - Pastor's lunch 5:00 pm - Confirmation class at Trinity	27	28 Pastor's day off	29
30 9:30 am - Holy Communion 10:30 am - Fellowship hour	31 Reformation Day					

St John Evangelical Lutheran Church Financial Summary For August 2022

		Actual		gust 2022 <u>Budget</u>	(Actual Over under) Budget		Yea Actual		o Date 2		Actual Over (under) Budget
Unified Income	\$	8,350	\$	11,707	\$	(3,357)	\$	84,318	\$1	02,431	\$	(18,113)
Expense Summary:												
Education	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Outreach	\$	-	\$	21	\$	(21)	\$	162	\$	516	\$	(354)
Worship	\$	1,070	\$	753	\$	317	\$	5,074	\$	4,850	\$	224
Youth	\$	-	s	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Stewardship	s	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	194	\$	210	\$	(16
Public Relations	\$	8	\$	40	\$	(32)	\$	616	\$	620	\$	(4
Property	\$	2,468	\$	1,263	\$	1,205	\$	16,390		15,238	\$	1,151
Finance (incl.Mission Support)	\$	9,227	\$	9,281	\$	(54)	\$	81,497		81,995	\$	(498
Total Expenses	\$	12,773	\$	11,358	\$	1,415	\$	103,931	\$1	03,429	\$	502
Net Income (Deficit)	\$	(4,423)	\$	350	\$	(4,772)	\$	(19,613)	\$	(998)	\$	(18,615)
Comparative 2021 Figures:							0	8/31/2021	L			
Unified Income							\$	83,156	-			
Total Expenses							\$(116,289)				
Net Income (Deficit)							\$	(33,133)				
	in the			e item diffe								
Thrivent Choice Gifts Rec. 2022: Memorial Gifts Received 2022:	Me	Wors Gas ELC/ \$1,744 Trapp (\$ ita Misun	ship hea A he \$20) (\$6	expense \$ t \$1,300 hi salth insura); Marianna 25); Joann	600 ighe ince a Zie ie Li) higher th r than last cost \$15 emer (\$10 evenick 90	t yea ,600); Ka 0th b	r & electri less than thy Reind 'day hono	last	\$500 hig year. 225)	he	n) r.
	Me	Wors Gas ELC/ \$1,744 Trapp (\$ ita Misun	hea A he (\$6 (\$3	expense \$ t \$1,300 hi ealth insura (; Marianna 25); Joann (,445); Nar	600 ighe ince a Zie ie Li) higher th r than last cost \$15 emer (\$10 evenick 90	t yea ,600); Ka 0th b	r & electri less than thy Reind 'day hono	last I (\$2 rari	\$500 hig t year. 225) um (\$120);	n) r.
	Me	Wors Gas ELC/ \$1,744 Trapp (\$ ita Misun	hea A he (\$6 (\$3 @	expense \$ t \$1,300 hi salth insura); Marianna 25); Joann	600 ighe ince a Zie ie Li) higher th r than last cost \$15 emer (\$10 evenick 90	t yea ,600); Ka 0th b	r & electri less than thy Reind 'day hono	ast last last rari	\$500 hig year. 225));	n) r.
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Memorial Gifts Received 2022: Assets At End Of Month <u>Assets Are Needed to Support The</u> Audio Fund (formerly Cassette)	Me Ani Do	Wors Gas ELC/ \$1,744 Trapp (\$ ita Misun n Burhop	hea A he (\$20) (\$6 (\$3 @ \$	expense \$ t \$1,300 hi aalth insura (; Marianna 25); Joann .445); Nar 8/31/2022 185,446	600 ighe ince a Zie ie Li) higher th r than last cost \$15 emer (\$10 evenick 90	t yea ,600); Ka 0th b ,290	r & electri less than thy Reind day hono)	ast last last rari	\$500 hig year. 225) um (\$120 <u>8/31/202</u>);	n) r.
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9/5/2022

Financial Summary

GOD IN MY LIFE MOMENT

"When we have the Holy Spirit we have all that is needed to be all that God desires us to be."
— A.W. Tozer

The <u>Spiritual Renewal Task Force</u> here at St. John knows that God is active and touching lives every day. To encourage you in your daily walk with Jesus, some of our members would like to share how God has touched their life. If you have a "God In My Life" moment that you would like to share with your faith family, please contact Judy McMullin at 262 483-5556. If you wish, these moments can be shared anonymously.

As the pandemic slowed down and things began opening up I had occasion to be sitting in a hospital room at Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital in Milwaukee. Since only one person was allowed to wait in the room I was alone waiting for my husband while he was having a procedure. When the doctor spoke with us prior to the procedure he estimated that the process would take two to two and one half hours.

After they took him for his procedure I read the paper then, tried to read on my Kindle and when that didn't work I started to do what I do best when I'm nervous; I tend to pace and pray. Then having had two long hours pass a nurse came in to let me know that everything was going well but taking longer than anticipated but, did not say why. So after having three hours pass, my level of anxiety was pretty high but then, I heard a voice come over the sound system; a prelude to a prayer. The speaker had a gentle calming voice and tone then began to pray. While listening to his words I began to relax. I felt that God was telling me "I've Got This" and not to worry. Then after another hour and a half the doctor came in and told me that everything was fine; that there were complicating issues resulting in the extended time.

Today I am unable to repeat the words of the prayer, only the feeling of comfort I received and the realization that God is indeed in charge.

In closing I need to provide this disclaimer to be HIPAA compliant; I have my husband's permission to share this God in My Life Moment. -Diane Wendorf



Circle Meeting in October :

Sarah Circle: Monday, October 10, 1:00 PM at church



QUILTING DATES

Monday October 10 & 24 9:00 - noon

Bring your fur baby on Sunday, October 2nd at 12:30 pm to the St. John Peace Garden to receive the blessing of St Fransis of Assisi who invited all of creation - animals, plants, natural



forces, even Brother Sun and Sister Moon - to give honor and praise to the Lord.



The September **Comedy Club Night** was canceled due to the heavy rains and has been rescheduled for **Sunday, October 9** at 6:30 pm. Please join us for the

comedy of Jeanne Robertson and bring your family and friends! Refreshments will be served.

COMMUNITY NEWS



`Yoga for Every Body A yoga experience we can all participate in

Beginning Wed. September 28 Ruth Ann Belknap will lead a six week morning yoga session focusing on breath, stretching and mindfulness. No

prior yoga experience needed. Participation will be either in a chair or on a mat depending on your preference. Herbal tea will be offered after the session. Drop in when you are able, coming several times will be most beneficial.

> Advent Lutheran Church W63 N642 Washington Ave. Cedarburg

9:30 am to 10:15 am, first session a bit longer, for six weeks Sept 28th-Nov 2nd

Cost – Donations accepted and will be used to support youth and family ministries.

Dress in loose clothing or yoga attire, bring your mat, some mats will also be available. Masks are not required at this time, we are mask friendly so please wear one if that suits you.

About the teacher: Ruth Ann Belknap PhD, RN, RYT began studying the mind body health connection in the mid-eighties, since then her career has focused on mental health, community health and violence prevention. She completed her 200 hour yoga teacher training at YOGA ONE in Cedarburg and is a Registered Yoga Teacher and is certified to teach Mindfulness practices. If you have questions please contact Ruth Ann at 414-719-2912 or ruth.belknap@marquette.edu.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Stewards of God-Given Talents

talent (n.) a special natural ability or aptitude, a power of mind or body considered as given to a person for use and improvement. <u>www.dictionary.com</u>

Key Message:

God has given each of us unique gifts and talents. One of the primary places that God has called us to use these gifts and talents is through our vocations. Our vocations may take the form of a job, but they also include our callings as mothers, fathers, siblings, friends, citizens and so much more. These vocations or callings are the places from which we love God and our neighbors. **Bible verses:** Ephesians 4: 1 - 16, I Corinthians 12.

GOD ENTRUSTS MANY GIFTS TO OUR CARE

Previous articles focused on how God comes DOWN to us through creation, baptism, and Jesus. Next, we look IN to discover all of the resources that God has entrusted to our care. God loved us so much that God gave each of us varying talents, time, money and stuff. We each have resources that we can use to love God and our neighbor. We need only to look IN to discover the abundance that God has entrusted to us.

USING GIFTS & TALENTS IN OUR VOCATIONS

Vocation means that all who are baptized have been called by God to serve our neighbor, individually and as members of communities and groups. Along with our love of the Word of God, Lutherans cherish the notion of calling or vocation. Luther believed that God's invitation to follow extended to everyone, not just professional church workers such as pastors or priests. All Christians have a "religious vocation," for God organized the world through an intricate network of roles. Fulfilling these various roles, people serve both God and their neighbors (Ephesians 4:1).

God has given us many talents. As Peter writes, "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received" (I Peter 4:10). We each have unique gifts and talents that we can use. How might God be calling us, both as individuals and as a congregation to use our unique gifts to love God and our neighbors?

CONGREGATIONAL VOCATIONS

Those who are called according to God's plan are to live out that calling by being unified as Christ's body, using their gifts to build up one another and the church in love, and living as children of light (Ephesians 4:3-5:20). Take some time to think about St. John Lutheran Church's vocation as a congregation.

Have you looked at the St. John mission statement recently?

IT IS OUR MISSION as people called by God into the congregation of St. John Lutheran Church to:

- * Proclaim the Gospel in worship and daily life.
- * Study and teach God's Word.
- * Fellowship among people of this congregation.
- * Serve people in our surrounding community.

This is the MISSION AND MINISTRY that we accept as fellow Christians at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lakefield.

- * What does this statement mean to you?
- * How is St. John currently living this mission?
- * Where is God calling this congregation to use its unique gifts?

INDIVIDUAL VOCATIONS

So often when we talk about talents in the church, we only talk about how these gifts could be used to serve the church. While this is important, the the church is not the only place in which we can live out our vocations. We are called to serve God in daily life. Take time to explore the ways that people in this congregation are serving God in their diverse vocations.

VOCATIONS SERVING OTHERS AT ST. JOHN

Below are just a few of the many ways people in this faith community are serving God and neighbors. Can you think of others?

*Musically gifted individuals enhance worship at St. John, share their gifts through school and community choirs and lead sing-alongs and caroling. **Thank you!**

*Some share their gift of speech by serving as assisting ministers or lectors on Sunday mornings, or talking with friends and neighbors. **Thank you!**

*Talented writers make and send meaningful cards, submit articles for the Pulse Beat. **Thank you!**

*Good listeners provide a caring presence to friends and neighbors, encourage family members. **Thank you!**

*Many with strong organization skills chair boards and committees at

St. John and manage extracurricular schedules for their families Thank you!

*Others offer their prayers for family members, friends, this faith community, and those in need around the world. **Thank you!**

*Some possess the gift of hospitality, welcoming worshippers to St. John, warmly receiving visitors in their homes; offering friendly smiles to those they meet. **Thank you!**

*Teachers enlighten their students, ignite a passion for learning, lead Bible study groups, and teach Sunday School classes. **Thank you!**

Ask:

*What is the primary vocation or calling of a Christian? Why?

*What unique gifts and talents has God given me?

*Am I using all my gifts to God's glory?

*How is God calling me to share his love with friends, neighbors,

co-workers, and others?

*What unique gifts does St. John Lutheran Church possess?

*Where is God uniquely calling this body of Christ to serve our community and the world?

Pray:

Gracious God, thank you for the talents and gifts that you have given us.

Help us to use them in your service as we live out our vocations in our

daily lives and together serve in Christ's mission to the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Sharlene Sandquíst

(Portions of this article were taken from the ELCA publication, Stewards of God's Love: A year-round guide to stewardship in your congregation, and Lutheran Study Bible NRSV, copyright 2009 Augsburg Fortress.)

OUTREACH TEAM



Be a piece of the peace puzzle.

- Collection continues for Mr. Bob's Under the Bridge. Much needed items include: Any size Blue jeans for men and women, but especially needed are waist sizes 30, 32, & 34, hooded sweatshirts, warm socks, sturdy shoes - these items can be new or used, but if used, in good, clean condition. Collection basket in Fellowship Hall
- Aluminum cans are being collected through the end of November for Habitat for Humanity of Ozaukee County. The agency that collects the most cans, weight wise, will receive a cash award to be used for future builds. Collection barrel in Fellowship Hall



Monday, October 24 5:30 pm

Join the Outreach Team around the campfire on the Peace Garden patio

for roasting hot dogs, baked beans, chips, apple cider, caramel apples, and pumpkin pie. Look for the sign-up sheet for attending and donations. Invite a friend to join you. See you there!

Volunteers Urgently Needed!

Volunteers are needed to deliver **noontime** meals to homebound elderly in this community. This service allows many individuals to remain in their own homes. You may deliver alone, as a couple, with a friend or with your children. If you are able to share an hour a month of your time, please contact Kari at the Aging and Disability Resource Center of Ozaukee County at 2262 284-8120. Thanks you for your consideration.



Below is a list of items that we are accepting for donations. Please only donate items from the following list, as that will make our sorting process much easier and ensure our friends are getting the items they need. We are streamlining items to be more gender-neutral. The following comments are for more clarity to our list. As a reminder, these items go straight to our homeless friends, so clean items are appreciated. These items should be freshly washed.

We will turn away items that are not listed below.

We continue to update this list, so check back often.

Winter Hats / Gloves / Hand warmers

- Men's / Women's / Children's
- All Sizes

Kid's Clothes

- Boy's / Girl's / Unisex
- All Sizes

Women's Pants

- All Sizes
- Jean
- Business Casual

Men's Pants

•All Sizes; especially 32, 34, 42, 44 inch waist

- Jeans
- Hiking Wear

Sweatpants

- Unisex
- All Sizes
- **T-Shirts**
- Unisex
- All Sizes
- Long Sleeve
- Short Sleeve

Hoodies / Sweatshirts

• Unisex

• All Sizes; especially L and XL

Under Garments

- Men's / Women's / Children's
- All Sizes
- New
- New or Used Bras (All Sizes; especially 36 & 38)

Socks

- New and Used
- All Sizes
- Men's / Women's / Children's

Shoes

- New and Used
- All Sizes
- Men's / Women's / Children's

Boots Seasonally

Winter Jackets

- New and Used
- All Sizes
- Men's / Women's / Children's
- September March Only

Summer Jackets

- New and Used
- All Sizes
- Men's / Women's / Children's
- April August Only

Bedding / Sleeping Bags

- Pillows
- Blankets
- Sheets
- Comforters
- All Sizes

Hygiene Products

- Travel-sized: Bar Soap, Shampoo,
- Conditioner, Lotion, Toothpaste
- Regular-sized Toothbrushes
 New Washcloths
- Towels

Luggage / Backpacks / Purses

• New or Used

Our new facility is located at: 2360 Dakota Drive, Grafton, WI 53204 We accept donations at our facility on Monday evenings from 4-6pm and Thursday evening from 5-7pm. 414-207-6615 mrboboutreach@gmail.com

October 2022 Pulse Beat



1193 Lakefield Road Grafton, WI 53024 "In God's Word, Serving You and the World"

Worship Schedule

- Sunday Morning - 9:30 a.m.

- Education hour - 11:00 a.m.

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"Faithfully Serving Christ Since 1866"

