

# July 2020 Newsletter

## Pastor's Message:

Dear St. John's Friends and Family,

To say "it's been an unusual spring and summer" would be an understatement! I've had a couple of folks ask "does this seem like the 'end times'?" One could only hope! We're in an endurance race, some of us face quite a bit of disruption and anxiety. Some of us are doing ok. Many around the world are struggling, and as a nation-we're struggling too.

There's a Taize song (short, scripture songs by the monks of the Taize community in France), that I'll be humming and singing this week: *Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart! (Psalm 27)*. While we wait, we pray-for God's kind of kingdom to more fully come; for God's will to be done in our lives and world. While we wait, we learn-things we didn't know during 'normal' times-about ourselves, about our neighbors, about our shared vulnerabilities. While we wait, we trust-that the Spirit of unity and love and power-can help us come together as a people and grow in faith, hope, and service even in times like these! -Pastor Paul

What's happening with worship? We've been able to do Drive-in Service six weekends in a row! And Facebook Live carries the Sunday 9:45 service too. Thanks to all who have joined in!

Here's our current plans:

*Drive-in Service Saturday at 5:00 continues (weather permitting). Feel free to bring a lawn chair and sit outside of your vehicle. Bring a cold water bottle on the hot days!*

*9:45 Sunday service will move indoors on July 12. We know that some of you will be ready to come back indoors and others of you will not (and should not.) We are doing so with an abundance of precautions, and thank you for your cooperation and patience! (See the enclosed "Covenant of Care" page, please.)*

*Facebook Live service will continue! We're also making plans to upgrade our video, sound, and streaming capability. That will take some time!*

*If there's demand for Sunday 8:00 service to restart (either Drive In or Indoors) we'll be happy to consider that. We're glad we can gather, even though things are going to be different for the foreseeable future! Thanks for participating as you are able, and as you feel safe doing so.*

Will I need a reservation to attend? No. Some churches are doing that to make sure they don't "overflow". We don't picture hundreds of people flocking back to indoor worship. We think our gathering size will likely be around 50.

What if I'm not comfortable gathering for indoor worship, even though I want to? Then feel free to wait, and participate at Saturday Drive-In Service and on Facebook as you are able.

What will be different indoors? Many things. We'll sit in every-other-row. We'll minimize singing. We'll not be able to do Coffee Hour. We won't shake hands. In short, we'll be careful! What will be the same is: we will hear God's Word; see friendly faces; enjoy good music; and find our shelter in God's love!

## May 2020 - Year to Date

### +YTD General Fund

Receipts: \$ 98,703 (includes PPP loan we received)

Expenses: \$ 83,888

### +YTD Building Fund:

Receipts: \$ 48,786

Expenses: \$ 55,832

### +YTD ELCA Benevolence:

\$ 3,779 Goal for 2020: \$15,000

### +YTD Missionary Sponsorship:

\$ 2,869 Goal for 2020: \$6,000

Thanks to everyone who has mailed in your offering, or signed up for electronic giving!

Bishop Elias in Tanzania is appealing for our support. Amongst the fight of COVID19 they were hit heavily with flood damage and serious loss in Tanzania. We can send our gifts of support through our Synod Office, which wires the funds to the Diocese Office in Tanzania, and that next wire transfer will be July 15. You can include your gift with your offering and we'll take care of sending it.

**Building Loan Balance:** \$ 181,805

## Things you can pick up; we can drop off; or can mail to you:

July - Sept devotion booklet

"Candle Time" booklet of 50 creative devotions for families/kids to use

## Sunday School Zoom Meetings

A few of us Sunday School folks are meeting by Zoom Sunday nights at 7:30 pm starting this week. Zoom meeting # is: 811 0043 8792, password 508328. *We hope your kid(s) will join in too, where possible! Contact Pastor for an invite!*

Zoom is free and VERY easy to use, but if you want a real simple tutorial click here: <https://www.vasynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Using-Zoom-101-v2-1.pdf>

Also, this church in the Chicago area has posted an online family devotion plan for riding out this pandemic: [https://unite-production.s3.amazonaws.com/tenants/trinityol/attachments/231128/Pandemic\\_Hope\\_Devotional.pdf](https://unite-production.s3.amazonaws.com/tenants/trinityol/attachments/231128/Pandemic_Hope_Devotional.pdf)

**St. John's Veterans Group** meeting is **Tuesday, July 14th at 9:00am** at church. We'll gather outside (weather permitting) or in the basement (so we can spread out). Please bring a lawn chair.

If you have a friend, that is a Veteran, please invite them to come also. If you have any pictures from your days in the Military that you would like to share, please bring them along, those might be interesting to see. Sweet-rolls/doughnuts will be served **BUT** you will need to bring your own coffee or whatever you want to drink.

**All Peoples' Church Lunch Bags!** Our Youth Ministry Team signed up to provide 2 weeks of lunches for All Peoples' "Kids Working to Succeed" summer program. We'll assemble grocery bags for 12 families each week. That means we'll need *by July 10 and July 17*: 12 gallons of milk, 12 packages of: lunchmeat or hotdogs, chips, cookies, small bag of apples or Cuties (each week.) Please let us know what you would like to contribute or ask us what we still need, or if you could help with \$10 or \$20 for a 'lunch' bag. We would want items at church on or by Friday the 10th and Friday the 17th. (Youth and parents are invited to help pack the bags on Sunday the 12th and 19th at 6pm.)



## July Anniversaries!

July 7	Ken & Janet Hansen – 64 years Jason & Jamie Stoecker – 13 years
July 9	Skip & Laura Bartelt – 37 years
July 12	Gary & Sue Kielisch – 45 years Paul & Beth Mittermaier – 40 years Bryan & Laura Scheunemann – 33 years
July 13	Jared & Elizabeth Kison – 1 year
July 22	Jack & Lindsey Stern – 3 years
July 24	Butch & Sue Callum – 55 years
July 30	Scott & Mary Novotny – 26 years
July 31	Ken & Carol Jacobs - 49 years

If we missed your special day please let us know.



Thank you to our Prayer Team for holding all those in need in your prayers.

Thank you to Jenny Trick for recording the Facebook Live worships! Thank you to Paul and Pam Stahl for the use of your pickup truck and for all your help during drive-in Worship.

Thank you to all our musicians and singers that have participated in worship.

Thank you to our callers/card senders to our shut-in/seniors!

Thank you to Susan Heidtke for continuing to care for and water our plants!

Be still  
and know that  
I am  
**GOD**  
Psalm 46:10

## July Birthdays!

July 4	Amy Meyers
July 7	Connor Stoecker
July 8	Dave Gardipee Chuck Heer Susan Hollister
July 10	Ty Brennan Randall Hellesen Kiarta Siegert
July 11	Rick Corlett
July 12	Janelle Lisko Samantha Pietenpol Rich Schneider Kristy Young
July 13	Ella Pickart Owen Pickart
July 14	Samuel Eisenhauer Dennis Heider
July 15	Staci Benz Mary Glocke Pete Kutzora
July 19	Hanna Bertucci Monica Bertucci Betsy Lauterbach
July 20	Warren Dhein Robert Glorioso Robert Hertzfeld Olivia Micksch
July 21	Sharon Adametz
July 22	Bob Bernau Clint Corwin Mike Starzman
July 23	Dennis Liebl Nadea Oestreich
July 24	Samantha Kreis
July 25	Karlie Binversie Laurie Matthews Leah Wagner
July 27	Jaxton Goodman
July 28	Heather Anders Sue Schroeder Nicole Seatz Isabella Weninger
July 29	Dennis Leist
July 30	Jamie Stoecker Barb Miller Lona Skyles
July 31	Heidi Kressin Tracy Weninger

St. John's Lutheran Church  
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At St. John's we're privileged and challenged to *Welcome, Worship, and Witness* in Christ's name. Thank you for being part of this faith community and for the serving you do to the glory of God!

Visit us at [www.stjohnsjackson.net](http://www.stjohnsjackson.net)

Like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson)

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Worship Services: Saturday 5:00pm Drive-in Worship, Sunday 9:45 am  
Holy Communion is celebrated the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend.

