

October 2024 Newsletter

Pastor's Message:

Dear Partners in the Gospel,

Last weekend, Beth, Sarah, and I were driving through the Hingham area in Sheboygan County, and in addition to all the campaign signs in peoples' yards, we saw quite a few signs that said *Don't Stop Praying!* I imagine one of the churches in that area may have promoted a sign 'ministry'. And, it did make me think!

And yes, we ought not forget to *Keep Praying!* There is power in prayer. We express our trust in God when we pray. We open our hearts to the needs of the world when we pray. We humbly remember that we are not in control of everything going on in and around us when we pray. And prayer is also a "2-way street", where God might or might not whisper in our ears, but where we listen for a word from God, and where we learn to wait on God.

Prayer, of course, goes along with action. Praying for the awful conflict in the Middle East to end is not a substitute for petitioning our leaders to pressure all sides to negotiate a cease fire, and it's not a substitute for finding concrete ways to help victims of that conflict. Prayer can unite us with the many people who long for peace and for justice, near and far.

As a nation, we are on the cusp of another divisive election. Even though our system of government, or of choosing a President, leaves much to be desired, *Don't Stop Praying!* Pray that voters and candidates will think clearly, act civilly, and speak truthfully, concerning the common good. (Pope Francis has commented on the U.S. election as a choice of the lesser of two evils; something that is often true!) And continue to pray for God's will to be done, through and even despite the chaotic ways of this world.

And thank you for asking for prayers when you need them! Thank you for offering up prayers for the congregation and our leaders! And thank you for remembering that prayer can be used to praise and thank God for the gifts of life, and grace, and daily bread, and endurance! The short letter of James reminds us: *the prayers of the righteous are powerful and effective (James 5:16)*. So, we keep praying!

-Pastor Paul

Prefer a digital copy of the newsletter? Let Nancy know (officestjohnsjackson@gmail.com) and she'll not send you a paper copy. *We put the 'link' in the weekend email update so that it's easy for everyone to find. The Newsletter is also accessible on our website: www.stjohnsjackson.net*

A special welcome to Brittany Moeller as our very part-time *Social Media/Marketing* person! Brittany will help us communicate within and beyond the congregation through FB and other platforms, and will help us get up-to-speed on the best ways to connect with and within St. John's!

Many thanks are due to: our Picnic & Raffle & Auction folks. (We raised \$1,000 to share with a clinic project in Tanzania, and with Ulong'a Parish, our 'sister' church there.); to Skip Bartelt and crew for a bunch of leveling and re-seeding in the cemetery; to those who supported the Blood Drive and the Underwear Drive; and to the Thrivent Action Team that built a much needed ramp for one of our folks!

"Bible For Dummies" anyone? We did a 4-session intro last spring, and Pastor would be happy to try another 4 weeks, either on Thursday evenings or Sunday after worship. Let him know!

What's Happening at St. John's

The Lutheran Relief quilts are on display until Sunday October 13th, when they will be transported and distributed to people in need, near and far away. You are invited to be part of the quilting group's on-going Lutheran World Relief project with a monetary donation for supplies, by donating fabric, or by purchasing a beautiful one-of-a-kind quilt. A donation of \$50 to \$100 per quilt is requested. Please consider a larger donation for the more intricate quilts - those with smaller squares, more detail, or with an extraordinary pattern or color. They take much more time to create.

Ruth's Circle is collecting personal care items for Lutheran World Relief Health Kits. All items in the kits are on display in the gathering space, but more **large tooth combs and dark colored bath towels are needed** to complete more kits. The health kits will be assembled for shipping at the next Ruth's Circle meeting on October 10th.

Trunk or Treat is Coming Soon!

Trunk or Treat will be Saturday, October 19th after the Saturday 5:00 service.

Wear a costume to the 5:00 service to join in the fun.

Bring a dish to pass for the potluck supper at 6:00 after the service. Everyone is welcome.

Adults, get into the Trunk or Treat spirit and turn your trunks with treats into someplace fun and spooky for the kids!

An ELCA Planned Giving event is planned for Sunday, October 20

The St. John's Mission Endowment Committee has invited Cindi Halverson, our local ELCA Planned Giving Coordinator, to join us on Sunday, October 20 to provide information and answer questions about charity planned giving and estate planning. Cindi will give a brief overview during our 9:00 worship service and then provide a more detailed presentation after the service. If you have questions about setting up a plan to support charitable organizations important to you and your family, please join us for the 10:15 presentation. Our ELCA staff and website have many resources available to assist you. If you would like to speak to Cindi or someone on the ELCA Planned Giving staff, please call (773) 380-2572 or contact Cindi directly at cynthia.halverson@elca.org.

New Saturday 5:00pm and Sunday helpers are needed. Look for the sign-up sheet in the gathering space and pick your Saturday 5:00 or Sunday 9:00 preference.

Year to Date as of August 31

+YTD General Fund

Receipts: \$ 135,693

Expenses: \$ 148,329

+YTD Building & Grounds Fund:

Receipts: \$ 16,278

Expenses: \$ 1,708

+YTD Missionary Sponsorship:

Receipts: \$ 3,522

Goal for 2024 \$ 8,000

+YTD ELCA Benevolence:

Receipts: \$ 9,028

Goal for 2024 \$ 18,000

+YTD Good Samaritan

Receipts \$ 5,935

Goal for 2024 \$ 8,000



Each month we'll feature St. John's members so we can all get to know each other better.

Getting to Know You: The Pickart Family

Jason, Angela, Owen & Ella

WISCONSIN is loudly and proudly belted from every member of the Pickart family – Jason, Angela, Owen, and Ella – who have or are currently attending UW-Madison. Jason and Angie met there the summer of 1995 while working on a dorm maintenance crew, and the twins are continuing the UW tradition by attending their parents' alma mater. Angie grew up in Janesville and went to Madison for her BS, double majoring in genetics and French. French studies and travel would take a backseat, though, as her trajectory was genetics; she earned an MS in genetic counseling from the University of Minnesota (but still, a Wisconsin Badger for life). Since, Angie has advanced the profession by working at Mayo Clinic as a laboratory genetic counselor, specializing in neurogenetic conditions. She's simultaneously an assistant professor for Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and an adjunct assistant professor at the Medical College of WI in its Genetic Counseling program. All doable because Angie's role at Mayo of analyzing and interpreting genetic tests, and writing test reports (simplified here for us laypeople) rarely requires her to make the trek to Rochester — online is where it's at!

Jason hails from Fond du Lac, and while at Madison earned both his BS and MS in finance, the latter as part of the Applied Securities Analysis program. He's currently a mortgage risk analytics manager at MGIC.

The couple was married in 2002, and welcomed Owen and Ella in 2004. They called Wauwatosa and West Bend home before Jackson in 2016, the year they joined St. John's. Jason serves on church council as treasurer and Angie on altar guild. The twins were confirmed at STJ's and now are juniors; Ella on the pre-pharmacy track and Owen studying mechanical engineering. Two must be the Pickarts' lucky number: In addition to the twins, the family also has two cats named Nelly and Nora and two wiener dogs named Mack and Millie. Unlike Owen and Ella, the cats and dogs fight like cats and dogs (or more appropriately for this family, like badgers).

Their new Airstream is a home away from home for the couple and its couple of couples to enjoy the glamping life, and Angie and Jason also are into playing pickleball as a way to get out of their offices and IN WISCONSIN.

Fun Facts:

- All "ale" to the family's chief beer maker: Jason makes a delicious brown variety.
- Another craft for the ages, Angie's now 94-years-young granny taught her to crochet. She's "hooked" on making blankets and clothing, and even crocheted a sunhat out of raffia!
- Window Screen Repair 101: Jason and Angie both earned an A+ after installing/uninstalling window AC units during their summer UW dorm maintenance gig.

October Anniversaries

October 1	Tyler & Kristen Apel	7 years
October 5	Jason & Angela Pickart	22 years
	James & Sharon Ziemer	39 years
October 8	Nick & Amber Singer	19 years
October 17	Bob & Michelle Jones	37 years
October 20	Brian & Lisa Kasubaski	34 years
October 22	Paul & Pam Stahl	41 years
October 26	Jeffrey & Laurie Matthews	33 years



Those Who Serve October 2024

		Oct. 6	Oct. 13	Oct. 20	Oct. 27
Readers	9:00	Dee Johnson	Reuben Heidtke	Amy Reid	Kim Guslick
Communion Assistants	9:00	Laura Bartelt	Kim Guslick	Staci Bohling	Steve Kusch
		Peter Uhlig	Diane Liberatore	Eileen Mack	Brennans
Ushers	9:00	Staci Benz	George Liberatore	Kelly Strnad	Bukovics
		Keith Heidtke	Joe Liberatore	Will Strnad	Bukovics
Greeters	9:00	Perry Benz	Donna Lamberg	Klayton Bohling	Brennans
Power Point	9:00	Sam/Ed	Scott DeChant	Wendy Heidtke	Sam/Ed
Facebook	9:00	Sam/Ed	Jenny	Jenny	Sam/Ed

*Give Thanks to the Lord,
for He is good.
Psalm 107:1*



October Birthdays

October 1	Tyler Apel Liam Mickie Alex Miller Sue Worden
October 3	Maryann Stoecker
October 4	Kristen Apel Kelli Fraley Candace Liebner Anna Reisinger
October 7	Kim Guslick
October 8	Steve Devoe Jon Gust Megan Olafsson Bob Zarda
October 10	Jack Frank
October 11	Ben Hollister
October 12	Hope Groth
October 13	Erin Anders Ryan Kutzora Reagan Nelsen
October 14	Jenny Micksch Christine Miller Terry Stoecker
October 15	Emily Blank Melanie Gierach Tracey Jackson Renee Liberatore
October 16	Lili Inchaurregui
October 17	Brantley Prost
October 18	Kristen Mickie Jacob Williams
October 19	Tim Kiernan
October 20	Abigail Adams
October 21	Truman Ayers Aiden Brice
October 23	Caleb Dalton Pam Dhein Cindy Driebel Ruth Bogart Harrass
October 24	Kayla Brennan Mary Bukovic
October 25	Kimberly Byrne
October 26	Tom Toll
October 28	Sammi Dyson
October 29	Randy Adametz Sharon Kiernan
October 31	Gavan Roberts

John's Lutheran Church
2881 Division Road
Jackson, WI 53037



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

Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson

Pastor Paul Mittermaier – pastorcarguy@gmail.com

Office hours: M-F 9:00am-1:00pm 262-677-3176

officestjohnsjackson@gmail.com

Worship Services: Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am With Holy Communion

Facebook Live at 9:00 am on Sunday

