

# November 2024 Newsletter

## Pastor's Message:

Dear Friends in Christ,

I am often drawn to that opening line of the poem in Ecclesiastes 3: *For everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven.* And then the writer goes on into all those activities and realities that make for the rhythms of life: *A time to be born, and a time to die...A time to speak and a time keep silent...*and so on.

It dawned on me that November is a time of *many* 'seasons'!

- +It's football season, of course!
- +It's "get your outside yard work done" season!
- +It's hunting season for many!
- +It's shopping season for many more!
- +It's time for farmers to wrap up harvest season in our part of the world!
- +It's Thanksgiving 'season' for those harvests, and blessings!
- +It's All Saints' 'season', remembering those who have gone before us!
- +And of course, this year, it's election season-which sums up a whole lot of our hopes and fears!

Needless to say, it can be a hectic season! And this is an important time to remember what is always in season:

- +It is time to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God!"
- +There is time to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself!"
- +It would be a really good time to: "Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus."
- +And it's an important time to remember: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."
- +Plus, it's always the right time for: "Speaking the truth, in love."

Ecclesiastes reminds us that God-who gives us all our days and years-provides time for every matter under heaven! -Pastor Paul

Grieving? Dealing with the death of a friend or loved one? Come to our **Service of Remembrance on Saturday Nov. 2 at 5pm.** We'll remember loved ones; be comforted by scripture and song; and encourage each other onward. *Invite a friend or neighbor as well!*

**Fellowship** is part of what it means to 'be Church'. We have some fun events that gather people together, and we've enjoyed some things in the past (like a Dominoes group before Saturday service, or a monthly or bi-monthly Senior Lunch). Wendy Wolf would like to gather a Fun and Fellowship Team to brainstorm more options. Let her know if that's something you'd like to help with! Email: clubwolfy@yahoo.com

**We'll welcome New Members on Nov. 3 (which is All Saints' Sunday!) Pastor has reached out to most of you folks who are 'new' here in the last 12-18 months, but if we missed any of you, please contact Pastor Paul. We want to include you!**

Year to Date as of September 30

+YTD General Fund  
Receipts: \$ 114,722  
Expenses: \$ 117,295

+YTD Building & Grounds Fund:  
Receipts: \$ 18,008      Expenses: \$ 1708

+YTD Missionary Sponsorship:  
Receipts: \$ 7962      Goal for 2024 \$ 8000

+YTD ELCA Benevolence: \$ 9328

+YTD Good Samaritan \$10,657



## What's Happening at St. John's



**The Winter Warmth Tree**, sponsored by the Ruth Circle group, will be in the sanctuary from November 14<sup>th</sup> – December 13<sup>th</sup>. Hang your donations of new or gently used mittens, gloves, hats, or scarves on the tree and help keep someone warm this winter.

**The annual Giving Tree** filled with gift tags will be up in the Gathering Space from mid-November to December 8<sup>th</sup>. The Giving Tree fills Christmas wishes for homeless families staying at the West Bend homeless shelter. Family Promise provides a safe place to stay for parents and their children while helping them with jobs and transitioning to their own place to live. Please bring unwrapped gifts with the tag attached to gathering room by December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Back by popular demand**, our great Italian Dinner will be Saturday night, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The dinner sells out, so save the date and watch for further details.

### **St. John's Mission Endowment Fund**

Our St. John's Mission Endowment Fund has been earning income 'quietly', for extra ministries beyond the walls of St. John's. Our Mission Endowment Team wants to celebrate with you these disbursements that they have recommended and Council has approved:

- \$1,000 to our ELCA World Hunger Appeal with a challenge attached!
- \$500 to our Crossways Camping Ministries
- \$500 to Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque Iowa for student scholarships
- \$360 to Lutheran Campus Ministry in our Synod (at UWM)
- \$360 to "Breaking the Chains" congregation inside the Felmers Chaney Correctional Center.

You are always welcome to contribute to our Mission Endowment as a longterm 'investment' in ministries! Some people make a bequest in their will or trust. Some donate stock or mutual funds or a life insurance policy.. You may designate towards a particular purpose, or leave it undesignated, so earnings can be used for local, regional, and global ministries. Thank you for remembering St. John's in your will or trust or as a 'beneficiary' of an account.

And, that challenge attached is: Let's "match" that \$1,000 and make it \$2,000 for our ELCA World Hunger Appeal! It's the 50th anniversary of this ministry that works locally and globally. A few hard facts:

+Half of all childhood deaths worldwide are linked to malnutrition.

+14 million children in the U.S. live in 'food insecure' homes.

+Millions in the great Horn of Africa region are facing one of the worst droughts in modern times.

+The wars in Gaza and Lebanon and Sudan have brought starvation.

Please pray for these hungry people and consider a \$\$ gift to ELCA World Hunger. Just add to your regular offering envelope and mark "Hunger." Thank You!

### November Anniversaries

November 4	Peter & Tracey Jackson	35 years
November 5	Larry & Bev Eder	47 years
November 9	Todd & Nicole Seatz	23 years
November 10	Randy & Sharon Adametz	34 years
November 12	Pete & Robin Kutzora	36 years
November 28	David & Linda McFadden	65 Years



**A big thank you to the new people that signed up to serve** at weekend church services. Please check the November serving scheule below and contact Nancy in the office if you aren't able to serve as scheduled. Schedules can be flexible and simple training can be provided for any of the positions.

Those Who Serve November 2024					
		Nov. 3	Nov. 10	Nov. 17	Nov. 24
Readers	9:00	Laura Bartelt	Renee Liberatore	Laura Hahn	Lee Ann Runnells
Communion Assistants	9:00	Sarah Stoecker	George Liberatore	Laura Hahn	Staci Bohling
		Scott DeChant	Dianne Liberatore	Jim Hahn	Eileen Mack
Ushers	9:00	Skip Bartelt	Jayce Liberatore	Joel Wolf	Kelly Strnad
		Joel Heidtke	Joe Liberatore	Tim Kiernan	Will Strnad
Greeters	9:00	Staci Benz	Mason Hein	Steve Kusch	Klayton Bohling
PowerPoint	9:00	Wendy Heidtke	Scott DeChant	Wendy Wolf	Wendy Heidtke
Face Book	9:00	Scott Kinter	Scott Kinter	Sam or Ed	Scott Kinter

### Update



The Prairie/Scattering Garden is seeded! We saw Phase 1 of our prairie plot grow and blossom and attract bees and butterflies this summer!

Now, the larger area is seeded with prairie plant seeds that need to 'winter over', with a temporary 'cover' of winter wheat.

A special thanks to Tim Kiernan and Skip Bartelt for all that prep and work.

Phase 3 will address "what kind of marker do we want and need for remembering those whose ashes will be scattered here?"

### November Birthdays

- November 1 Megan DeChant  
Bella Fraley  
Lucas Lemberger  
Gale Loehrl
- November 2 Kelsey Lisko
- November 3 Linda Grosser
- November 5 Natalie Frank  
Logan Lemberger  
Bob Pietenpol
- November 6 Lisa Belongia
- November 7 Ava Warren
- November 8 Chuck Campbell  
Cindy Uhlig
- November 10 Alan Christianson
- November 12 Ava Rauen
- November 13 Tim Brice  
Scott Kinter
- November 15 Nolan Mickie  
Bryan Scheunemann
- November 16 Laura Petrovic  
Isla Schott
- November 17 Eric Abel  
Chad Dhein  
Jenny George  
Wendy Heidtke
- November 18 Don Roth  
Carrie Warren
- November 19 Kaden Kasubaski  
Cheryl Roth
- November 20 Perry Benz  
Kandee Heidtke  
Paige Kutzora
- November 21 Eric Hollister  
Josie Trick
- November 23 Bev Eder  
Dan Johnson  
Rick Tomaz
- November 24 Jack Apel  
Ken Hansen  
Greg Siegert
- November 25 Carol Heider  
Roger Lamberg
- November 27 Leo Baumann  
Brittany Rathke
- November 28 Michele Schommer  
Sommer Strnad
- November 30 Ron Dhein  
Audrey Dohl



## **Getting to Know You!**

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

### **Getting to Know You: Susan Heidtke**

Heritage, home, and heart are the embodiment of Susan Heidtke, with love and pride for the longstanding Heidtke heritage in her home and family, at St. John's, and in the community.

The Heidtke family farm and homestead (Est. 1846), about a mile west of church, has been Susan's home her entire life, making her the fifth generation there. Her heart is in this home. Brother Keith still farms the land, and Susan helps where she can, as does their brother Joel. Older sister Gail is a retired pastor living in Illinois. Their parents, Fred and Janet, were active and loving members of St. John's.

Susan's two brothers make it possible for her to stay at the homestead, as they tend to the maintenance issues—but not lawn mowing! She welcomes her nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews with her whole heart when they come to visit and help, and is pleased they're part of the heritage.

Like those Heidtkes before her, Susan is a lifelong member of St. John's, and grew up faithfully attending church and participating in a variety of ministries such as Ruth Circle, the quilting group, choir, and various committees and activities. She taught Sunday School and was the Sunday School superintendent for many years. This congregation and church family are an important and special part of her life and heart.

Susan worked as a legal assistant her entire career; first for a general practitioner and then for an attorney who specialized in family law. Ironically, despite having a couple different employers, her "work home" ended up being in the same quaint downtown Cedarburg building. She was also a court clerk in Family Court for weekly divorce hearings. Susan retired early to care for her father at home after the sudden death of her mom.

The St. John's quilting group and sewing are favorite pastimes. Three generations have sewn quilts for Lutheran World Relief: Susan's maternal grandmother, Louise Hill; her mother, Janet; and her. During the COVID lockdown, Susan found a quilt top her grandmother started but wasn't able to complete. Then Janet worked on it but again didn't finish it. Susan completed it with the fabric squares her grandmother had cut and sorted. A lap quilt sewn by hand, by three generations, with plenty of stitches, love, and heart—a lovely reminder of the Heidtke heritage.♥

#### **Fun Facts:**

- Susan LOVES love, and hearts are her signature trademark. She sincerely believes Valentine's Day should be a national holiday.
- 1-2-3-4-5-6: Though she never moved, Susan attended six different elementary and high schools.
- U-RAH-RAH!—Susan was a pom-pom girl at Germantown High School and the only senior to make the team that year.
- Come sit a while: Susan has a "thing" for benches: eight in her yard and three in her house, with the entry bench built by Keith from a twin bedframe their dad and grandfather used.

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!

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Like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson)  
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Worship Services: Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 9:00 am With Holy Communion  
Facebook Live at 9:00 am on Sunday

