



St. John's Lutheran Church
Welcoming Everyone
Making Disciples
Trusting Jesus
Empowering Leaders

September 6th, 2026 15th Sunday of Pentecost

St. John's Office Hours: 8-5 Tues.-Fri. Building Hours: 8-5 Mon.-Fri.

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St. John's Lutheran Church of Le Mars, IA.

Senior Pastor: Steven Broers

Minister of Music: Mike Rathke

Office Manager: Kim Lang

Part-time Office Assistant: Connie Kellen

Facilities Manager: Todd Oetken

Sunday School Coordinator: Patricia Rachuy



WELCOME VISITORS If you are new to St. John's, we would love to get to know you. Please use this QR Code or text "Welcome" to 712-900-1070, to share your contact information.

FORTRESS OF FAITH and **RADIO ADS** are in need of sponsors. Call the office if you would like to sponsor a week.

HEARING ASSISTANCE If you are having difficulties hearing the service in the sanctuary, please see an usher for a hearing device that will boost the volume for you in the sanctuary.

LABOR DAY St. John's will be closed Monday, September 7th in observance of the holiday.

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS NEXT WEEK!!! Sunday, September 13th we return to 2 worship services, 8:15 am and 10:30 am. Sunday School will be held from 9:25 am till 10:20 am, please meet in the Fellowship Hall. Mark your calendars!

BELL AND SENIOR CHOIR PRACTICE have begun. Bells rehearsal starts at 5:30 pm and meets in the Heritage Room on the second floor. Senior Choir practice starts at 6:30 pm in the choir room in the basement. See Mike if you have any questions.

GROW & GROW MEALS begin this Wednesday, September 9th. GROW Meal will kick off at 6 pm till 6:30 pm with Papa Murphy's Pizza and treats. GROW will follow at 6:30 pm till 7:45 pm. You can register your child for GROW by scanning the QR Code on the other side of this page.

HS YOUTH GROUP will begin this Wednesday, September 9th @ 8:15 till 9:30 pm. We will be playing Minute to Win It and Amazing Race!!! Bring a friend for food, fellowship and a little Jesus.

THURSDAY IN THE WORD small group, will resume meeting on Thursday, September 10th, at 5:30 pm in the library. We will be looking at a study found on RightNow Media called "The Lie You Don't Know You Believe" by Jennie Allen. This is a 6 week study. We would love to have you join us!

CATECHISM PRAYER PARTNERS WANTED! We are in need of approximately 10 more people for our 6th grade class. If you would be interested in becoming a "Prayer Partner" for the incoming Catechism students or have any questions about what is needed as a Prayer Partner, give Kim a call and she can fill you in! 712-546-8855.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD NEEDS: small water bottles, youth underwear, youth socks, children's scissors

COLLEGE STUDENT WRITING MINISTRY We are looking for St. John's members to join in a writing ministry for our college students for the upcoming school year. This ministry is designed to encourage and help our college students during the school year. Through this ministry we will connect each college student with adults from our church who will send them a note/card (once per month) to remind them that someone from home loves and cares about them! What does this require?



- College Students - need to provide contact information, likes, birthday, and parent information.
- St. John's members - need to commit to sending a note/card once per month – September thru April.

Each month you will receive (via email) a different student to write, so by the end of the school year you will have blessed eight students!



Let's show our students that they are in our thoughts and in our prayers even while they are away at school. Adults and Students may register by scanning the QR Codes. If you have any questions, please contact Elizabeth Brennan via phone/text at 540-7315.

MEN'S TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY GROUP We will resume meeting on Tuesday, September 15th, for 7 weeks. 7 pm in the Church Library. The study will continue with Kathy Yoder's Book- "Walking Barefoot with God." If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Bill Young at 540-3749 or *sign up on the bulletin board, we will provide you a book.*





FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Sundays at **8:15** am and **10:30** am
Starting Sunday, **September 13th**
Sunday School **9:25 - 10:20** am
Wednesday Worship Services
have been discontinued. But, be
watching for new
Small Group Opportunities.



FALL WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

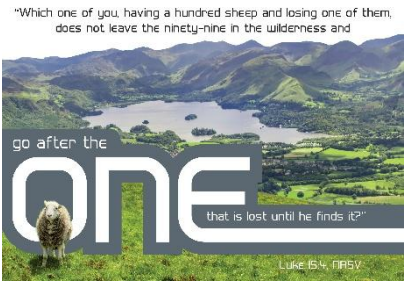
Bell Practice	5:30 pm - Sept 2nd
GROW Meal	6:00 pm - Sept 9th
Catechism	6:30 pm - Sept 2nd
GROW	6:30 pm - Sept 9th
Sr. Choir Practice	6:30 pm - Sept 2nd
HS Youth Group	8:15 pm - Sept 9th



Remember These People in Prayer: Julie Athens, Phyllis Hamann, Diane Z., Pat Gollhofer, Tammy Meier, Rex, Scott, Sharen, Joyce Gronemeyer, Angie, Denise, Carolyn, and Randy Stream; **Ongoing Prayers:** Nash, Diane K., Tim Lohafer, Jae'cion, Nancy H., Bellamy, Hanna Francksen-Small, Mason Sitzmann, Missy Rarrat, Alex Hines, Taelynn Ortmann, Kendra, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Jen, and Diane Riediger; **Deployed:** Blake Erdmann; **Care Facility Residents:** Good Samaritan - Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Asche; Accura Health - Patty Lubben, Bob & Nancy Potter; Stonebridge Suites - Joanne Klohs, Lynne Bogh, Roger Athens; Floyd Senior Living - Diane Utesch; Happy Siesta - Eleanor Westhoff, Wade Thompson
Sympathies: to the family of Harold Droegmiller, who passed on August 23rd. St. John's family includes Janet & Tim Lohafer.

Sun Sept 6	Mon Sept 7	Tues Sept 8	Wed Sept 9	Thurs Sept 10	Fri Sept 11	Sat Sept 12	Sun Sept 13
9:30 am Worship w/Comm	Building Closed 	9 am Do-Day 10 am Staff Meeting L/L 5:30 pm P.O.P.	9:30 – 11 am Care Facilities Chapel Service 5:30 pm Bells 6 pm Grow Meal 6:30 pm Catechism/Grow/Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	9 am Prayer Time 3 pm Imagine Small Group 5:30 pm Thurs. in the Word. 6:30 pm Discipleship Mtg.			8:15 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm/ Service of Promise 9:25 am Study Hour 11:30 am Chicago Mission Trip Mtg.

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First Reading: 2 Samuel 11:1-5, 14-17, 26-27, 12:1-14 ^{11:1} In the spring, at the time when kings go off to war, David sent Joab out with the king's men and the whole Israelite army. They destroyed the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David remained in Jerusalem. ² One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, ³ and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴ Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. (Now she was purifying herself from her monthly uncleanness.) Then she went back home. ⁵ The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." ¹⁴ In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it with Uriah. ¹⁵ In it he wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die." ¹⁶ So while Joab had the city under siege, he put Uriah at a place where he knew the strongest defenders were. ¹⁷ When the men of the city came out and fought against Joab, some of the men in David's army fell; moreover, Uriah the Hittite died. ²⁶ When Uriah's wife heard that her husband was dead, she mourned for him. ²⁷ After the time of mourning was over, David had her brought to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son. But the thing David had done displeased the Lord. ^{12:1} The Lord sent Nathan to David. When he came to him, he said, "There were two men in a certain town, one rich and the other poor. ² The rich man had a very large number of sheep and cattle, ³ but the poor man had nothing except one little ewe lamb he had bought. He raised it, and it grew up with him and his children. It shared his food, drank from his cup and even slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him. ⁴ "Now a traveler came to the rich man, but the rich man refrained from taking one of his own sheep or cattle to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. Instead, he took the ewe lamb that belonged to the poor man and prepared it for the one who had come to him." ⁵ David burned with anger against the man and said to Nathan, "As surely as the Lord lives, the man who did this must die! ⁶ He must pay for that lamb four times over, because he did such a thing and had no pity." ⁷ Then Nathan said to David, "You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. ⁸ I gave your master's house to you, and your master's wives into your arms. I gave you all Israel and Judah. And if all this had been too little, I would have given you even more. ⁹ Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes? You struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and took his wife to be your own. You killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰ Now, therefore, the sword will never depart from your house, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your own.' ¹¹ "This is what the Lord says: 'Out of your own household I am going to bring calamity on you. Before your very eyes I will take your wives and give them to one who is close to you, and he will sleep with your wives in broad daylight. ¹² You did it in secret, but I will do this thing in broad daylight before all Israel.'" ¹³ Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the Lord." Nathan replied, "The Lord has taken away your sin. You are not going to die. ¹⁴ But because by doing this you have shown utter contempt for the Lord, the son born to you will die."

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 5:17-21 ¹⁷ The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. ¹⁸ For Scripture says, "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain," and "The worker deserves his wages." ¹⁹ Do not entertain an accusation against an elder unless it is brought by two or three witnesses. ²⁰ But those elders who are sinning you are to reprove before everyone, so that the others may take warning. ²¹ I charge you, in the sight of God and Christ Jesus and the elect angels, to keep these instructions without partiality, and to do nothing out of favoritism.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise for the reading of the holy Gospel.

The holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 15th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32 ¹¹ Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³ "Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. ¹⁴ After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ "When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! ¹⁸ I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' ²⁰ So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ "The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² "But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴ For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. ²⁵ "Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. ²⁷ 'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ "The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' ³¹ "'My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.



REGISTER HERE FOR **"GROW"**

Thank you for serving!	9:30 am
Greeter	JoEllen Cronin/Jay & Vicki Dunn
Lector	Dianne Baack
Comm Serv	Dianne Baack/Pam Roling/Ellen Russell
Crucifer	Tim Larson
Acolytes	Kemper Davis
	Hadley Klein
ProPresenter	Brenda Haverhals
Video/Sound	Keith Westhoff
Altar Guild	Arlene Wiener/Donna Duque
Coffee Bar	Amy Kruse
Ushers	Rod LaBahn, Gary Borchers, Capt's., Joel J., Henry H., Mark K., Lowell P., Harold L., Jeff J., Levi TB