



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

September 7, 2025 13th Sunday after 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 Superintendent: Beth Larson

FORTRESS OF FAITH and **RADIO ADS** are in honor and gratitude of our veterans and deployed military by Karol Holton

CONGRATULATIONS to Everly Lynn Marie Neyens who will be baptized today at the 10:30 service. Parents are Brandon Neyens & Ashton Roling. Sponsors are Lane Camerer & Ashley Neyens. Welcome to St. John's family, may you be blessed.

RALLY DAY/BLESSING OF BACKPACKS TODAY!!!

It is the kick off for the new church education year. Students and adults involved with education, bring your backpacks up for a blessing and receive a "blessing tag" to carry on your bookbags. Sunday School begins at a new time of 9:15 AM. See you there!!!

SAVE THE DATE! SEPTEMBER 10

- ⇒ 5 pm Bells
- ⇒ 5 pm - 5:45 pm Wednesday Meal & Catechism Pizza and Game Night
- ⇒ 6 pm Worship
- ⇒ 6:30 pm Catechism
- ⇒ 6:30 pm GROW Stories, Activities, and Games (pre-k - 5th gr)
- ⇒ 6:30 pm Sr. Choir
- ⇒ 8:15 - 9:30 pm HS Youth Group Scavenger Hunt

GET YOUR SMILES ON! The NEW St. John's Directory is in the making and online sign-up has begun. Photo sessions will be

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15-SATURDAY OCTOBER 18, 2025
HOURS: 2:00PM- 8:30PM WEDNESDAY- FRIDAY
10:00AM- 4:00PM SATURDAY

To schedule your photography appointment, simply go to **www.ucdir.com**. Click on **"Photography Session Sign-up"** on the right side. Enter **ia371** in the "Church Code" field and enter **photos** in the "Church Password" field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have six or more in your family, please use two consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!

Appointment times fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time. You are an important member of the St. John's church family so be sure to sign-up, show up, smile, and...SAY CHEESE!

Excel in The Grace of Giving! The Bible encourages us to share our time, talents **and** treasure. Some people want to donate money to church but don't want to be involved. God has bigger plans for you than that! Others argue that since they volunteer, they shouldn't have to give anything else. But that's the same problem. God wants us to learn to be generous in **all** aspects of our life; not just the ones we feel most comfortable with.

WE WANT YOUR SILLY DRESS UP CLOTHES! Donate your silly dress up clothes and accessories to St. John's for use in our Confirmation classes. Talk to Pastor Broers if you have any questions. Thanks!

YOU GOT MAIL! COLLEGE WRITING MINISTRY Paper forms can be found in the lobby by the bulletin board. Or sign up using the QR codes below. Questions, please contact Elizabeth Brennan via phone/text at 540-7315.



College Student address form: provide contact information, likes, birthday, and parent information.

Adult/Writer Form: commit to writing notes once a month, September - April.

Each month you will receive, through email, a different student to write.



3RD GRADE BIBLES will be handed out on Sunday, September 14th. Be looking for a letter soon, if you have a 3rd grader. If you haven't received a letter, contact the office.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SEPTEMBER WISH LIST The new list of items needed is in the September newsletter or a copy can be found on the bulletin board. Items can be dropped off in the green tub, by the office.

MISSIONS FOR LWR Please leave the items in the basket in the entryway. Each school kit contains: 4 - 70 sheet notebooks (no loose leaf paper), 1 - wooden ruler, 1 - pencil sharpener, 1 - blunt scissors, 5 - black or blue ball point pens (no gel ink), 1 - 24 count box of crayons

DITCH CLEANING...WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Sunday, September 28 meet at church at 1 pm in the parking lot. We will head over to the section of HWY 3, East of town to clean the ditches St. John's sponsors. Wear gloves, long pants and closed toe shoes. We hope to see you there!



Thank you to our worship assistants!

Greeter	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Lector	Katie Gerloff	Harold & Tammy Lee
Comm Serv	Jane Arnold	Cheryl Peyton
	Jane Arnold	Dave & Liz Brennan
	Joel Johnson	
Crucifer	Cameron Pauling	
Acolytes	Lauren Forbes	Riley Harms
	Kinley Tingwald	Harper Grause
ProPresenter	Brenda Haverhals	Megan Jeneary
Video/Sound	Tim Larson	Jacob Jeneary
Altar Guild	JoEllen Cronin	Jane Arnold
	Arlene Wiener	Ashley Bennett
	Sherri Harms	
Coffee Bar	Tracy Wingert, Capt.	Bryce Tingwald, Capt.
Ushers	Greg McInnis	Nathan Pauling
	Doug Schultz	Joey Posivio
	Rob Sudtelgte	Jeremy Ferguson

JOIN US THIS FALL TO

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!



We're looking for people that love God, love kids and are willing to spend their Wednesday nights growing the kingdom of God. Positions needed include readers/guides, helpers, and greeters. Contact Kristy or Pastor Broers. Thanks!

PRAYER PARTNERS NEEDED! We are looking for Prayer Partners for the incoming 6th graders, who will be starting Catechism this fall. Call the office to sign up or for more information. Thanks! 546-8855

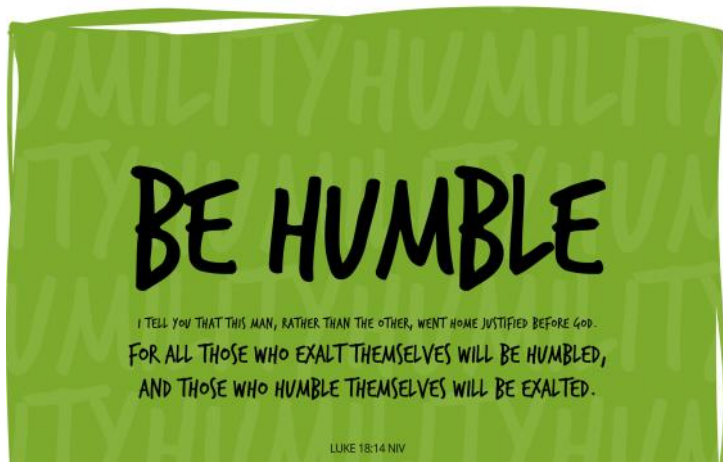
Remember These People in Prayer: Alex Hines, Richard Miller, Mason Sitzmann, Taelynn Ortmann, Michael, Kendra, Terri Clinton, James, Scott, Logan, Norm Nielsen, Jen, Kathy, Bob Pick, Kay Allen, Shirley, Karla Hansen, and Kathryn

Ongoing Prayers: Roma Lancaster, Louis Westhoff, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Robert, Ali, Paula Parkin, Brady Plucker, Diane Riediger, and Missy Rarrat

Sympathies to the family and friends of Ron Miller, who passed away on August 29. St. John's family includes his wife Bette.

Sun Sept 7	Mon Sept 8	Tues Sept 9	Wed Sept 10	Thurs Sept 11	Fri Sept 12	Sat Sept 13	Sun Sept 14
Rally Day/Backpack Blessings 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/ Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 10:30 am Neyens Baptism	7 pm Council Mtg.	9 am Do Day 10 am Staff Mtg. 5:30 pm P.o.P.	9:30 am Care Facility Chapel Services 5 pm Bells/GROW Meal/MS Pizza /Game Night 6 pm Worship 6:30 pm Catechism/Sr. Choir/GROW 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	9 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 11 am Imagine Study Group L/L 5:30 pm Jarvis Small Group		8 am Koerselman Private Event	3rd gr Bible Presentation 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/ Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 9:30 am Bible Reading Class 3rd Grade

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First Reading: Isaiah 56:1-8 ¹ This is what the Lord says: "Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed. ² Blessed is the one who does this - the person who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it, and keeps their hands from doing any evil." ³ Let no foreigner who is bound to the Lord say, "The Lord will surely exclude me from his people." And let no eunuch complain, "I am only a dry tree." ⁴ For this is what the Lord says: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant - ⁵ to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that will endure forever. ⁶ And foreigners who bind themselves to the Lord to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant - ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." ⁸ The Sovereign Lord declares - he who gathers the exiles of Israel: "I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered."

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

Please join in a responsive reading of Psalm 103:1-14

¹ Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

² **Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits -**

³ who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
⁴ **who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,**

⁵ who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

⁶ **The Lord works righteousness
and justice for all the oppressed.**

⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:

⁸ **The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.**

⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he harbor his anger forever;

¹⁰ **he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.**

¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;

¹² **as far as the east is from the west, so far
has he removed our transgressions from us.**

¹³ As a father has compassion on his children,
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him;

¹⁴ **for he knows how we are formed,
he remembers that we are dust.**

Second Reading Ephesians 2:11-13 ¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (which is done in the body by human hands) - ¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

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 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel: Luke 18:9-14 ⁹ To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people - robbers, evildoers, adulterers - or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' ¹³ "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' ¹⁴ "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

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.