



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS Bruce & Brenda Erickson and Paul & Kathy Schwader! Be sure to say hello and introduce yourself.

FORTRESS OF FAITH and **RADIO ADS** are sponsored by a friend of St. John’s.

NOISY OFFERINGS will be collected today. Thank you for supporting The Gospel Mission with your change and loose bills.

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BED BUILD TODAY Pizza will be served after the 2nd service for those helping and then we will head to Sioux City.

NEW “MEN’S” SMALL GROUP STUDY A new Men’s study group has begun and will meet on Tuesday’s, through November 18th. We will meet at 7 pm in the church library. We will be studying Right Now Media’s “Be a Godly Man.” Dave Brennan and Kent Westphal will be leading this study. All men, of all ages are encouraged to attend. **Sign up on the bulletin board.** Go to your RightNow Media acct and take a look at the material. It’s free!

GROW MEAL for October 29 will be ham & cheese sandwiches.

GRIDSHOCK—A FILM ABOUT HUMAN TRAFFICKING Plan to join us on Thursday, October 30th at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary. Stacy Besch will be sharing this film and educating on the dangers of human trafficking in Iowa. Committed to bringing awareness to every community in our state, to help combat and bring clarity on the misconceptions of human trafficking. Key points include: what it is, who is involved, action steps, what to look for, and the “seed” of it all. Plan to join us!

JOCELYN OLIVIA CONCERT St. John’s is excited to host Jocelyn Olivia: “Work Hard Pray Hard” Tour on Saturday, November 1st, at 2 pm. Jocelyn is a worship leader and songwriter native to Iowa, promoting her new album: “Work Hard, Pray Hard.” Blending modern country music with contemporary Christian, the album sings through a young adult’s journey of walking with Jesus in the present, letting Him heal your past, and trusting Him with your future. Admission is free. Bring your friends and plan to join us for a lovely afternoon of music and fellowship.

FAMILY BOWLING EVENT Join us on November 9th @ 2 pm at the Sweet 16 Bowling Alley. Sign up for this event will be on the bulletin board. Shoe rental will be covered by St. John’s. Be sure to sign up, so we can have enough lanes reserved. Hope you can join us.

THANK YOU ST. JOHN’S! Thank you to everyone who was a part of the pastor appreciation potluck on October 19th! I was very surprised! The youth did a wonderful job acting out Kristy and I in the skit and it was very funny. The food was delicious and the gifts were very thoughtful. I have been wearing new shirts and one of the nice warm jackets every day this week! You were all very generous as well with the gift of money in the card. The whole day was a blessing to me and my family and I am so grateful to God that He called us here. Thank you!

CHOIR CANTATA PRACTICE BEGINS Oct 29 @ 6:45pm.

October 26th, 2025 Reformation Sunday

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

Excel in The Grace of Giving! One of the best gifts you can give to St. John’s is your presence at Sunday morning services and weekly activities. No amount of money can buy your enthusiasm, your dedication and your heart for worship. Thank you for being a part of this faith community!

MISSION TRIP DEADLINE Youth (grades 8th-12th) and Adults who are interested in going on the Mission Trip to Chicago July 18th-24th, 2026 need to fill out their commitment letters and turn in a \$50 check to St. John’s by Wednesday, November 5th to Pastor Broers or the office. We had a great turnout at the informational meeting, but we want to make sure that everyone who is interested in going is able to be a part of it. You can learn more and download the commitment letter on our website at <https://www.stjohnslemarsia.org/missions> Please contact Pastor Broers if you would like more details but were unable to make the informational meeting. Thanks!

DIRECTORY PICTURES Nov. 11th is the final day to get a picture taken for the directory. 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. Sign up on the bulletin board if you can help check people in.

OKOBOJI OUTREACH NIGHT: Sunday, November 2 – Outreach Night at Ingham Okoboji. **High School and Middle School students** are welcome to attend this night. No charge to attend. Students must tell Pastor Broers if they plan to attend by Wednesday 10/29 so that arrangements can be made for enough drivers. Parent drivers are needed.

BAND/ORCHESTRA SUNDAY will be November 9th. All Middle School, High School, and adults are invited to bring their instruments for a full band piece or two at the 10:30 am service. We will practice the week prior, so please sign up on the bulletin board so we can prepare for all the parts needed.

Thank you to our worship assistants!

	8:00 AM	10:30 AM
Greeter	Rob Sudteagle’s	Dave Brennan Family
Lector	Arlene Wiener	Alisha Jelken
Comm Serv	Pam Roling	Denise Anthony
	Rose Heeren	Harold Lee
	Dianne Baack	Tammy Lee
Crucifer	Hadley Klein	
Acolytes	Aubrey Jelken	Lauren Forbes
	Autumn Jelken	Kinley Tingwald
ProPresenter	Brenda Haverhals	Sophia Brennan
Video/Sound	Micah Broers	Megan Brennan
Altar Guild	Roma Lancaster	Roma Lancaster
	Sherri Harms	Linda Oloff
Coffee Bar	Sandy LaBahn	
Ushers	Rod LaBahn, Capt.,	Gary Borchers, Capt.,
	Joel Johnson	Harold Lee
	Henry Herring	Jeff Jelken
	Mark Kehrberg	Levi Te Brink

Remember These People in Prayer: Alex Hines, Richard Miller, Mason Sitzmann, Phyllis Hamann, Taelynn Ortmann, Michael, Kendra, Terri Clinton, James, Scott, Tim Lohafer, Logan, Norm Nielsen, Jae’Cion, Jen, Kathy, Nancy, Shirley, Kathryn, JoEllen Cronin, Bryan Utesch, and Bellamy; **Ongoing Prayers:** Louis Westhoff, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Robert, Ali, Brady Plucker, Diane Riediger, and Missy Rarrat; **Deployed:** Jaime Koopman, Kylie Britt, Blake Erdmann, Brent Jarvis, Mitch Lang

Sympathies to the family and friends of Brenda Rose, who passed away October 17th.

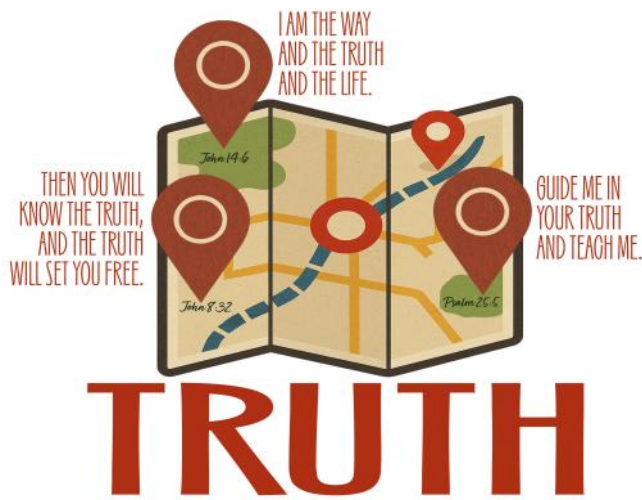
Sympathies to the family and friends of Dan Hystad, who passed away October 20th. Services will be held on Monday Oct. 27th @ 5 pm at Rexwinkel Funeral Home.

Care Facility Residents: Good Samaritan - Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Asche, Warren Oetken; Accura Health - Patty Lubben; Stonebridge Suites - Joanne Klohs, Lynne Bogh, Roger Athens, Dorothy Luschen; Floyd Senior Living - Diane Utesch, Judy Schmidt; Heartland Care Center - Le Ann Hurlbut; Holy Spirit Retirement Home - Alma Willer; Prime Living - Wade & Betty Thompson; Vintage Hills of Indianola - Jane Schultz

Sun Oct 26	Mon Oct 27	Tues Oct 28	Wed Oct 29	Thurs Oct 30	Fri Oct 31	Sat Nov 1	Sun Nov 2
Noisy Offering New Member Sunday 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/ Comm/SS sings @ 8 am 9:15 am Study Hour 11:30 am Pizza 1 - 3 pm Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build	LifeWise 4 pm Hearts of Fire L/L	10 am Staff Meeting LifeWise 2 pm Imagine Heaven Study L/L 5:30 pm P.o.P Rehearsal 7 pm Men’s Study Group L/L	LifeWise 5 pm Bells/GROW Meal 6 pm Worship 6:30 pm Catechism/ GROW 6:45 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Group	9 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Jarvis Small Group L/L 6:30 pm Human Trafficking Seminar		2 pm Jocelyn Olivia Concert	Daylight Savings Time Ends All Saints’ Sunday 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/ Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 11:30 am Band Practice 3:30 pm HS & MS Okoboji Outreach

October 26, 2025

Reformation Sunday



First Reading: Ezekiel 36:24-28 ²⁴ "For I will take you out of the nations; I will gather you from all the countries and bring you back into your own land. ²⁵ I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. ²⁸ Then you will live in the land I gave your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.

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

Please join in a responsive reading of Psalm 119:97-105

⁹⁷ Oh, how I love your law!

I meditate on it all day long.

⁹⁸ **Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies.**

⁹⁹ I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes.

¹⁰⁰ **I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts.**

¹⁰¹ I have kept my feet from every evil path so that I might obey your word.

¹⁰² **I have not departed from your laws, for you yourself have taught me.**

¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴ **I gain understanding from your precepts; therefore I hate every wrong path.**

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28 ¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. ²⁰ Therefore no one will be declared righteous in God's sight by the works of the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of our sin. ²¹ But now apart from the law the righteousness of God has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. ²² This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. ²⁵ God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood - to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished - ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus. ²⁷ Where, then, is boasting? It is excluded. Because of what law? The law that requires works? No, because of the law that requires faith. ²⁸ For we maintain that a person is justified by faith apart from the works of the law.

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. John the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel: John 8:31-36 ³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." ³³ They answered him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never been slaves of anyone. How can you say that we shall be set free?" ³⁴ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin. ³⁵ Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

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.

ALTAR GUILD IS RECRUITING: WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

If you are interested in joining a fun group of people to help with worship services, please reach out to Sandy LaBahn 712-539-9584, Lynn Breuer 712-540-4421, Brenda Haverhals 712-546-9579, or Sherri Harms 712-540-2654. We would love to have new members on Altar Guild. The task is very simple and the more people we have the fewer services for each person in Altar Guild. Work will begin on the schedule for 2026 in late November, so if you know of a month or months of the year that you are unable to serve, please call or contact one of the chair ladies.

ELECTION NIGHT SOUP SUPPER Calvin Christian Reformed Church is hosting its 2025 Election Night Soup Supper Tuesday, November 4, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. We will be serving a variety of homemade soups, pigs-in-blankets, taverns, and homemade desserts. Adult meals are \$15, children 5-10 are \$5, and children 4 and under are free. Proceeds will go to Lifewise Academy in Le Mars. Calvin CRC is located at 326 7th St. SE, Le Mars.

IN SEARCH OF BEAUTY - Join the American Center for Puccini Studies and Professors Cindy Moeller (NWC) and Michelle Monroe (UNI) for a FREE concert showing the development of music for women's voices from Handel to Mozart to Mascagni. This elegant selection of duets will be performed Saturday, November 8, 7pm at Gezellig Events Space in downtown Orange City, with an additional reading of the play that inspired Mascagni's opera *Zanetto* on Tuesday, November 4 at 7pm. Both events are FREE with food and drink available for purchase, but reservations are requested--call Woudstra Market at 712.737.2913.

SALUS VOCAL ENSEMBLE invites you to their fall concert "Bring Me All Your Dreams" on Sunday, November 16, 2025. There are two performances that day to choose from - a 2pm concert at St. Joseph Catholic Church (605 Plymouth St. NE) in Le Mars and a 5pm concert at the Cathedral of the Epiphany (1003 Douglas Street) in Sioux City. The program features songs about America and the immigrant experience past and present. There is no charge for admission, freewill offerings are accepted. Mike Rathke is the accompanist and sings baritone in the ensemble. Jack McInnis sings tenor in the choir.