

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
201 1st AVE. NW
LE MARS, IA. 51031

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
PERMIT NO. 110

12270008



St. John's Lutheran Church



**Welcoming Everyone
Making Disciples
Trusting Jesus
Empowering Leaders**

October 2025



How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" – Romans 10:14-15

When we are babies, the whole world revolves around us. There is actually a term used to describe this coined by developmental psychologists: egocentrism. When we are very young, it's hard for us to distinguish between our wants, needs and perspectives and the understanding that the people around us may have different viewpoints on the world. Which is why, even though you've made it clear to everyone in the house that you are in a hurry to get to church, your youngest child might take that opportunity to start throwing a tantrum over not being able to bring a particular stuffed animal that just last week they had wanted to get rid of! The fact is that they aren't thinking about anyone else in that moment but themselves because, developmentally, they really don't have much capacity to do that.

As we get older, around 2 or 3, we start sensing that others have feelings about things. We might cry when they cry or laugh when they laugh, but we still don't think much about how **our** actions affect other people. Around 3-5 years old, we start recognizing that the people around us have feelings and beliefs that are different from our own. From 5-11, we get much better at understanding that not all people see things the same way. During adolescence, our empathy skyrockets and we might even start thinking a lot about what other people are thinking about us! In our late teens and early adulthood, we mature a great deal in this regard and we can start truly caring for other people and deliberately choosing **not** to act selfishly. We can care for other peoples' well-being and better balance their feelings, needs and desires with our own.

Part of our development as Christian men and women means that we need to start focusing on the needs of others rather than just our own feelings. Coming to church and being a part of a Christian community is about much more than our **personal** salvation. God calls us to think about how to spread this message of hope to the ends of the earth so that **all** people might come to faith in Jesus! And yet, it is very easy to make church all about ourselves. As I heard it put several years ago, for many people, church is thought to be like Burger King's old motto: "Have it **your** way." But if we are serious about sharing the gospel message with people who are not yet Christians, like Jesus wants us to, we really need to consider their perspectives, their backgrounds, their desires and their needs.

St. Paul was an expert on considering the perspectives of others in order share the truth of Jesus more effectively with them. He shares this attitude in 1st Corinthians 9:19-23, *"Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone to win as many as possible. To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. . . To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the*

gospel, that I may share in its blessings." When sharing the gospel with others is your primary goal, you start developing a lot of empathy for what people are going through and how Jesus meets them where they are.

We already are doing this in lots of ways here at St. John's. Years ago, in order to modernize the worship service for younger families, the Contemporary worship service was started using drums, guitar, piano and song leaders to sing Praise songs. In order to help people remember the announcements and connect to the weekly sermon, we use the screen and pictures to get the message across. To help people more easily build community, we have been offering coffee and donut holes between services so that they might hang around and make new friends or reconnect with people they haven't seen in a while. We even started the GROW program on Wednesday nights so that we might have a way to reach out to the wider community who might not be in a habit of Sunday morning worship and Sunday school. And we are providing free food Wednesday evenings for busy families or for those struggling to make ends meet.

World Missions is another way that we seek to share the gospel with people around the globe. In order to spread the message of Jesus Christ with people from other cultures and languages, we have to think about what they need and how we might serve them. **On Sunday, October 19th, we are going to be celebrating what I hope becomes an annual event: Missions Sunday!** We have invited Pastor Mark Vander Tuig to give the message that day about the importance of Missions and we will be building awareness of local and worldwide Missions at several tables throughout the church. There will be a table for Compassion International Child Sponsorship, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Her Health, Voice of the Martyrs, Lutheran World Relief and the Mission Trip St. John's will be going on next summer to Chicago. I hope that you take time that day to learn a little bit more about how you might impact the lives of others throughout our community and the world. Finally, there will be a potluck after the second service where we can reconnect with one another and continue to build a stronger community.

I look forward to seeing everyone at church on Sunday, October 19th, so that we can expand our perspective on how to love other people and follow God's call to go and tell everyone around the world about salvation through Jesus Christ. Amen.



Thank you to my church family for all your prayers, phone calls, thoughts and well wishes as I recovered from my hospitalization. Your kindness shown to me has been so helpful in my home recovery. You are all very special and are forever appreciated beyond words. Again, thank you! God bless you all! ~ Norman Nielsen

Thank you to all the people at St. John's who sent well wishes and offered prayers for my recovery. I am so grateful to you and to God who is merciful. God bless you and thank you. ~ Kay Allen



RightNow MEDIA

Thanks to everyone who has signed up for an account with Rightnow Media! Next, I want to encourage you to **use** it! In order to make that happen, I thought that I would give you all a few suggestions on some videos that I believe are really good. Some of these are meant to be used for personal devotions while others would work best in a small group. You can also find them in the St. John's Lutheran Church Custom Library under "Pastor Steven's Picks" when you login to your RightNow Media account.

1. Missions Upside Down – Aaron Baart

Missions Upside Down is a whirlwind tour of modern Christian missions with numerous stops around the world. Seeking to rekindle a passion for missions in the church today, this series celebrates those who have gone before, examines modern practices, and asks fresh questions about what comes next in the church's effort to answer the call of the Great Commission.

2. A Vision for the Global Church – Francis Chan

In this crucial four-part series, church leaders from nations around the world share the heartbeat of the global mission movement. Join Kwasi Amofo, Jorge Salazar, Chadwick Mohan, and Anne Zaki as they encourage church leaders with the vision to spread the gospel to every person, to build disciple-making churches for every people and place, to raise up Christlike leaders for every church and sector, and to make a Kingdom impact in every sphere of society.

3. Messengers of the Gospel – Don Cousins

The Good News of Jesus is the message that everyone needs to hear. Disciple-making isn't just for pastors and church leaders. Helping others know and follow Jesus is something all of us are called to do. The Messengers of the Gospel series, featuring scenes from the hit TV show The Chosen, will equip you to share the Good News of Jesus with confidence. The 5-week series includes compelling biblical teachings, beautiful scenes from The Chosen, and amazing real-life testimonies of men and women who have taken the challenge to live as Messengers of the Gospel.

I hope that you will take advantage of these videos and the over 25,000 other videos on all kinds of spiritual topics. They can really help you grow in your faith! – Pastor Broers

Get Access

Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.



ELDERBERRIES

Elderberries will meet on October 22, at 2 pm in the church parking lot. We will be taking a field trip to a family Green House. We will car pool to the Green House. The Green House harvests fresh produce year round. Wear good walking shoes and bring your assistance device if needed for walking. There is a steep incline to get down into the main part of the green house, but there is a railing to hold on to. We hope you will join us for this interesting afternoon!



Excel in The Grace of Giving!

"If you will live like, no one else, later you can live—and give—like no one else"- Dave Ramsey. When you make sacrifices now to get out of debt and build wealth, you will have the financial freedom to be incredibly generous later in life.

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.

"Volunteers truly make St. John's the wonderful ministry it is! I have seen so many of you sharing your lives and your time with the youth of our community and I want you to know that it truly makes a difference. Every gift, whether it is your time, talent or treasure, is appreciated. Thank you!" – Pastor Broers

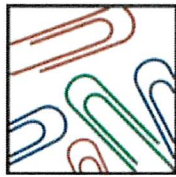
Consistency in giving is key. If you saw someone come to church once a month and drop in a hundred dollar bill each time for the offering, you would probably feel like they were a pretty generous giver. However, when you set up online giving for \$25 a week for the whole year, you will actually end up giving more! That's the power of consistency! Thank you for every gift you share with St. John's no matter how big or small!

Treasurer's Report

- 1) Our operating checking account increased \$7,585 to \$14,485 in August. We have \$10,212 in unpaid Benevolences as of 8/31/25 which will need to be paid by September month end.
- 2) We continue to be debt free.
- 3) Continued good news! Monthly offerings in August came in at \$49,656 after the July offerings of \$50,008. Excluding the month of December, this is our highest two-month total since the fall of 2022. Year-to-Date offerings now are at \$322,049 which compares to \$311,894 last year, 303,946 in 2023, \$255,907 in 2022, and \$328,527 in 2021.
- 4) August operating expenses of \$40,698 were about \$2,000 under budget and we are now about \$25,000 under our year-to-date 2025 budget.
- 5) Endowment funds total \$653,000 after an August investment gain of \$15,632. The overall gain in 2025 is now \$53,696.
- 6) Estate Gifts under investment (time certificates and savings accounts) total almost \$433,000. The interest earnings over the past 2 years total just over \$46,000.

Bill Young
Church Treasurer





FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

Contact us: 712-546-8855 or
stjohns@stjohnslemarsia.org

If you would like to supply
ALTAR FLOWERS
in honor of an occasion or in memory of someone, please call the office to make arrangements. 546-8855



Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

Please turn in your newsletter articles by
October 21.



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

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.

Sympathies: To the family of **Robert Pick**, who passed away September 5th. St. John's family includes Brad & Kaylyn Pick family.

Sympathies: To the family and friends of **Ellen Utesch**, who passed away September 3rd.

Care Facility Residents: Good Samaritan - Ron Smith, Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Asche, Warren Oetken; Accura Health - Patty Lubben, Marge Adler; 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



CHURCH RECORDS FOR SEPTEMBER

Baptisms: Everly Lynn Marie
Neyens

Deaths: Ron Miller
Ellen Utesch
Robert Pick

Service Times for Fall Have Begun

8:00 am Traditional

9:15 am Study Hour

10:30 am Contemporary

Weds @ 6 pm Contemporary

*All services are now Live Streaming
to Facebook and YouTube.*

GET YOUR SMILES ON!

The NEW St. John's Directory is in the making!

Online Sign-Up is happening now! And times are filling up fast! Or get signed up on Sunday in the lobby.



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!**

NEW SMALL GROUP FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS!

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

If you are interested in finding out more about St. John's or if you would like to join our church community, you are invited to be a part of a small group to help you get to know one another, learn more about the church and find out what we teach and believe. Our first meeting will be Thursday, October 2nd at 6 pm downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. If you know someone who is not a member, but you think that they would be a great addition, tell them about this opportunity! Contact Pastor Broers if you would like to join or have any questions. Thanks!



COFFEE IS ON!!! The coffee bar will be ready at 9 am Sunday mornings this fall! Come early or stay after. Grab a cup of coffee and a Lally's donut hole, or two! Free will donations are appreciated. Enjoy!!

WEEKLY MUSIC SCHEDULE

Tuesdays

5:30-6:30 People of Praise

Wednesdays

5:00-5:50 Handbell Choir

6:00-6:30 Wednesday Worship

6:45-7:45 St. John's Choir



SAVE THE DATES!!!

WORK HARD PRAY HARD



Saturday November 1st, 2:00pm
St. John's Lutheran Church
201 1st Ave NW, Le Mars IA



Free Admission, donations welcome!
Reception to follow concert

Jocelyn Olivia Concert

A worship leader & songwriter native to Iowa, Jocelyn is touring the Midwest to share the heart behind a 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.

****Choir Cantata** practices will begin on Wednesday, October 29 at 6:45pm in the choir room. The cantata will be performed at both services on Sunday, December 14.

****Band/Orchestra Sunday (November 9)** - all instrumentalists (Middle School through Adult) are invited to bring their instruments and play a special group piece together on November 9 at the 10:30 service. There will be one short rehearsal the week before - details to come. Please sign up to let Mike know if you are interested so he can write parts for your specific instrument.



Friday, October 3rd - Saturday, October 4th from 8 pm - 6 am, the St. John's High School Students are invited to join us for a lock-in at the church. Friends are welcome. **Chaperones are needed.** Please see Pastor Steven if you can help.



Middle School 5th Quarter on Friday, October 10th. All middle school students and friends are invited to meet at the Albert's Party Barn (12155 Hwy 75) for food, fellowship and games. 8:30 pm - 11 pm. **We are looking for at least 2 adults to chaperone.** Talk to Pastor Steven if you can help.



**NO KID SLEEPS
ON THE FLOOR
IN OUR TOWN!**

Save the Date: The Catechism Students will be participating in a bed build for Sleep in Heavenly Peace on October 26th, from 1 pm - 3 pm in Sioux City. St. John's members are invited to join us. More information on how to sign up will be in the upcoming bulletins. Pizza will be served to those helping in the fellowship hall before we head to Sioux City. If you can't help at the build, we are inviting you to help by **donating "NEW" twin size comforters, sheets, and pillows.** Donations can be brought to the lobby collection site. Be watching for more information!



LIGHTED CHRISTMAS PARADE

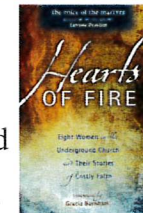
Save the Date!!! Saturday, December 6th We need walkers along side our lighted church float. We also need a home for our float. If you have extra garage or shed, please consider offering your space.



NEW SMALL GROUP BEING OFFERED ON MISSIONS!

If you are interested in committing yourselves anew to the faith. If you need courage, take a look at these women.

Remember that God will provide a 'way of escape'. We wait patiently for God's timing, when He will make all things new. Even if you cannot attend the group, it is worth taking a read of the book, "Hearts of Fire; Eight Women in the Underground Church and Their Stories of Costly Faith" St. Johns will order the book for you. Please let Iris Hemmingson or Pastor Broers know that you are interested in joining this group. Thanks!



Thank you to those serving St. John's this month:

Worship Assistants

Sunday, October 5:

8:00 AM
Greeter: Rod & Sandy LaBahn
Lector: Sandy LaBahn
Communion Server: Rod LaBahn
Sandy LaBahn
Iris Hemmingson

10:30 AM
Greeter: Mel & Donna Heeren
Lector: Lisa Erdmann

Communion Server: Lisa Erdmann
Eliese Hoffman
Paula Kommes

Sunday, October 12:

8:00 AM
Greeter: Dean Bohlken
Lector: Kyleigh Bohlken
Communion Server: Aleigha Bohlken
Mark Kehrberg
Marylyn Muecke

10:30 AM
Greeter: Joyce Brownmiller
Lector: Kayla Foelske
Communion Server: Nicole Jarvis
Harold Lee
Tammy Lee

Sunday, October 19:

8:00 AM
Greeter: Mary Rieken
Lector: Kristy Broers
Communion Server: Jo Ellen Cronin
Elvira Nielsen
Jany Schrodeder

10:30 AM
Greeter: Cindy Kamies
Lector: Kristy Broers
Communion Server: Cindy Kamies
Mary Roder
Anne Jeneary

Sunday, October 26:

8:00 AM
Greeter: Rob & Jaime Sudtegtle
Lector: Arlene Wiener
Communion Server: Pam Roling
Rose Heeren
Dianne Baack

10:30 AM
Greeter: Dave Brennan Family
Lector: Aubrey Jelken
Communion Server: Denise Anthony
Adam Schmidt
Amy Schmidt

Acolyte Schedule

Sunday, October 5:

8:00 AM
Crucifer: Avery Bogh
Acolytes: Kaden Brownmiller
Carter Westphal
10:30 AM
Acolytes: Kenzie Harms
Riley Harms

Sunday, October 12:

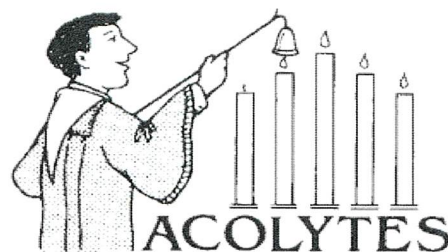
8:00 AM
Crucifer: Kasen Niehus
Acolytes: Kylee Den Ouden
Cameron Pauling
10:30 AM
Acolytes: Zoey Junck
Emma Ryan

Sunday, October 19:

8:00 AM
Crucifer: Gavin Rolling
Acolytes: Aiden Fintel
Owen Fintel
10:30 AM
Acolytes: Chesney Keleher
Journey Keleher

Sunday, October 26:

8:00 AM
Crucifer: Hadley Klein
Acolytes: Aubrey Jelken
Autumn Jelken
10:30 AM
Acolytes: Lauren Forbes
Kinley Tingwald



Sound Board

October 5:

8:00 Larry Brangwin - ProPresenter
Tim Larson - Video/sound
10:30 Keith Westhoff - Pro Presenter
Micah Broers - Video/sound

October 12:

8:00 Keith Westhoff - Pro Presenter
Micah Broers - Video/sound
10:30 Megan Jeneary - Pro Presenter
Jacob Jeneary - Video/sound

October 19:

8:00 Brenda Haverhals - ProPresenter
Micah Broers - Video/sound
10:30 Ian DeRuyter - ProPresenter
Becky DeRuyter - Video/sound
Kemper Davis - training

October 26:

8:00 Brenda Haverhals - ProPresenter
Micah Broers - Video/sound
10:30 Sophia Brennan - ProPresenter
Megan Brennan - Video/sound

All Wednesdays at 6:00: Todd Zinnel



Website update! www.stjohnslemarsia.org

In today's technological world, a church's website is often considered the new "front door" for people who are interested in attending church. Everybody who is even thinking about coming to worship services or programs will often check out a church first online before ever stepping a foot inside the building. On our new website, there are a lot of great resources you can find (service times, bulletins, newsletters, sermons, calendars, upcoming events) as well as information about activities and groups (Sunday School, GROW and small groups opportunities). You can also point people who are interested in St. John's to the website if they want to learn more about our vision and our beliefs or to give them a sense of what our services look like. There are a lot of great pictures and videos to give people a sense of what our faith community is all about!

Coffee Bar Schedule

October 5 Amy Kruse
October 12 Sheri Oetken
October 19 Jane Westphal
October 26 Sandy LaBahn

Altar Guild

October 5

8:00 Jany Schrodeder/Kay Powell
10:30 Jany Schrodeder/Kay Powell

October 12

8:00 Jeannette Davis/Connie Kellen
10:30 Jeannette Davis/Connie Kellen

October 19

8:00 Jany Schrodeder/Sherri Harms
10:30 Jany Schrodeder/Linda Oloff

October 26

8:00 Roma Lancaster/Sherri Harms
10:30 Roma Lancaster/Linda Oloff

October Usher Schedule

8:30 am Rod LaBahn, Capt.,
Joel Johnson, Henry Herring,
Mark Kehrberg
10:30 am Gary Borchers, Capt., Harold Lee,
Jeff Jelken, Levi Te Brink,

GROW October Schedule

Oct. 1 -

-PreK-K Teacher - Bette Miller
 -PreK-K Helper - Micah Broers
 -1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
 -1-2 Helper - Megan Jeneary
 -3 Teacher - Anne Jeneary
 -3 Helper - Jacob Jeneary
 -4-5 Teacher - Kent Westphal
 -4-5 Helper - Simon Kern
 -Greeters - Sonya Hanisch
 - Dianne Baack
 -Extra Help - Nicole Jarvis

Oct. 8 -

-PreK-K Teacher - Micah Broers
 -PreK-K Helper - _____
 -1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
 -1-2 Helper - Dawn Otto
 -3 Teacher - Nicole Jarvis
 -3 Helper - Donna Duque
 -4-5 Teacher - Sandy LaBahn
 -4-5 Helper - Cindy Kamies
 -Greeters - Kate Braband
 - Rhonda Justice

Oct. 15 -

-PreK-K Teacher - Bette Miller
 -PreK-K Helper - Brenda Haverhals
 -1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
 -1-2 Helper - Megan Jeneary
 -3 Teacher - Anne Jeneary
 -3 Helper - Jacob Jeneary
 -4-5 Teacher - Kent Westphal
 -4-5 Helper - Simon Kern
 -Greeters - Sonya Hanisch
 - Kate Braband
 -Extra Help - Nicole Jarvis

Oct. 22 -

-PreK-K Teacher - Micah Broers
 -PreK-K Helper - Brenda Haverhals
 -1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
 -1-2 Helper - Dawn Otto
 -3 Teacher - Nicole Jarvis
 -3 Helper - Donna Duque
 -4-5 Teacher - Sandy LaBahn
 -4-5 Helper - Cindy Kamies
 -Greeters - Sonya Hanisch
 - Dianne Baack

Oct. 29 -

-PreK-K Teacher - Bette Miller
 -PreK-K Helper - Pam Roling
 -1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
 -1-2 Helper - Megan Jeneary
 -3 Teacher - Anne Jeneary
 -3 Helper - Jacob Jeneary
 -4-5 Teacher - Kent Westphal
 -4-5 Helper - Simon Kern
 -Greeters - Kate Braband
 - Rhonda Justice
 -Extra Help - Nicole Jarvis

Nov. 5

-PreK-K Teacher - Micah Broers
 -PreK-K Helper - Brenda Haverhals
 -1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
 -1-2 Helper - Dawn Otto
 -3 Teacher - Nicole Jarvis
 -3 Helper - Donna Duque
 -4-5 Teacher - Sandy LaBahn
 -4-5 Helper - Cindy Kamies
 -Greeters - Sonya Hanisch
 - Rhonda Justice

OCTOBER GROW MEALS

Join us for Wednesday Night Meals
 serving 5:00—5:45 pm

October 1
October 8
October 15
October 22
October 29

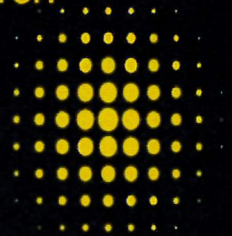
Pizza
 Taverns
 Taco in a Bag
 Hot Dogs
 Ham and Cheese Sandwiches



FREE PUBLIC SHOWING **St. John's Lutheran Church**

**Thursday,
 October 30
 6:30pm**

Le Mars, Ia



**Educating on the
 dangers of human
 trafficking in Iowa**

We are committed to bringing awareness to every community in our state, to help combat and bring clarity on the misconceptions of human trafficking.

Key points:

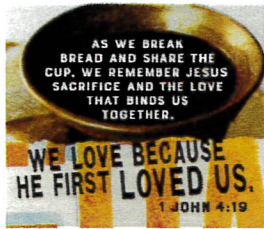
- WHAT IS IT
- WHO IS INVOLVED
- ACTION STEPS
- WHAT TO LOOK FOR
- THE 'SEED' OF IT ALL

**Presenting:
 Stacy Besch, Team Iowa**



GRIDSHOCK
 A FILM ABOUT SEX TRAFFICKING IN IOWA

>>> October 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
	 NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!	
5 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 9:30 am Pre-Communion Class for 5 th Grade LCMC Convention 5 th – 8 th	6 LifeWise 6 pm Outreach Mtg L/L	7 LifeWise 10 am Imagine Study Group @ IC Parlor 5:30 pm People of Praise
12 1 st Communion 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 10:30 am Anthony Baptism 9:15 am Study Hour 3:30 – 9:30 pm HS Okoboji Outreach	Columbus Day 13 LifeWise 7 pm Church Council D/R	14 LifeWise 9 am Do-Day 10 am Staff Mtg 3 pm Imagine Study Group @ IC Parlor 5:30 pm People of Praise 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Mtg
Mission Sunday 19 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 11:45 am Potluck 	20 LifeWise 1:30 pm Anna Circle L/L	Newsletter Deadline 21 LifeWise 9:30 am Hannah Circle L/L 10 am Staff Mtg 2 pm Imagine Study Group @ IC Parlor 5:30 pm People of Praise
Noisy Offering 26 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 11:30 am Pizza 1 – 3 pm Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bed Build	27 LifeWise	28 LifeWise 10 am Staff Mtg 2 pm Imagine Study Group L/L 5:30 pm People of Praise

>>> October 2025

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 LifeWise 9:30 am – 11 am Chapel Services at Care Facilities 5:00 pm Bells/Meal/MS Fun & Game Night 6:00 pm Worship/Comm 6:30 pm Catechism /GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	2 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Jarvis Small Group L/L 6 pm New Member Small Group F/H	3 8 pm – 6 am HS Lock In 	4
8 LifeWise 5:00 pm Bells/Weds Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Catechism /GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	9 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Jarvis Small Group L/L	10 8:30 - 11 pm MS 5 th Qtr @ Albert's Party Barn 	11
15 LifeWise 9:30 am Prime Living Chap. 10 am Accura Chapel 1:30 pm Dorcas Circle L/L 2 - 8:30 pm Directory Pics 5:00 pm Bells/Weds Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Catechism /GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	16 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 2 - 8:30 pm Directory Pics 5:30 pm Jarvis Small Group L/L	17 2 - 8:30 pm Directory Pics	18 10 am - 4 pm Directory Pics
22 LifeWise 2 pm Elderberries 5:00 pm Bells/Weds Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Catechism /GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	23 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 12 – 6 pm Blood Drive 5:30 pm Jarvis Small Group L/L	24	25
29 LifeWise 5:00 pm Bells/Weds Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Catechism /GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp	30 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Jarvis Small Group L/L 6:30 pm Human Trafficking Seminar	31	

MISSION TEAM NEWS

St. John's Mission Team supported the Ronald McDonald House in Sioux City last month. Two members of the team, Iris Hemmingson and Terri Pauling worked together with Lorene Rexwinkel and Ellen Russell to make 30 meals for parents of patients in the hospital. We took a check for \$150 and the "house" food organizer purchased all the ingredients for the meal that we prepared. The menu we prepared included Sloppy Joe meat, Rice Krispie bars, and we cleaned fruit and vegetables to be included in the decorated paper sacks. Other items included in the bag were yogurt, granola, dip for the vegetables and a bag of chips. It was a wonderful experience. Our team hopes to offer this experience to members of the congregation in the future.



MISSION SUNDAY & ALL CHURCH POTLUCK

Mission Sunday ~ October 19th. We will have a special guest speaker, Pastor Mark Vander Tuig at both services. And, the Mission Team will have a number of tables in the lobby, promoting benevolent organizations. Be sure to stop by the tables between services. You will also have an opportunity to sign up and share your gifts with St. John's. Please see the Time and Talent sheet in this newsletter to decide on where you would like to share your gifts.



The newly formed Missions Team invites you to our 1st **ALL CHURCH POTLUCK** Sunday, October 19th immediately following second service. Tableware and beverages will be provided. Here is what you can bring.

If your last name begins with the letter:

A through I, please bring a main dish

J through R, please bring a side dish

S through Z, please bring a dessert.

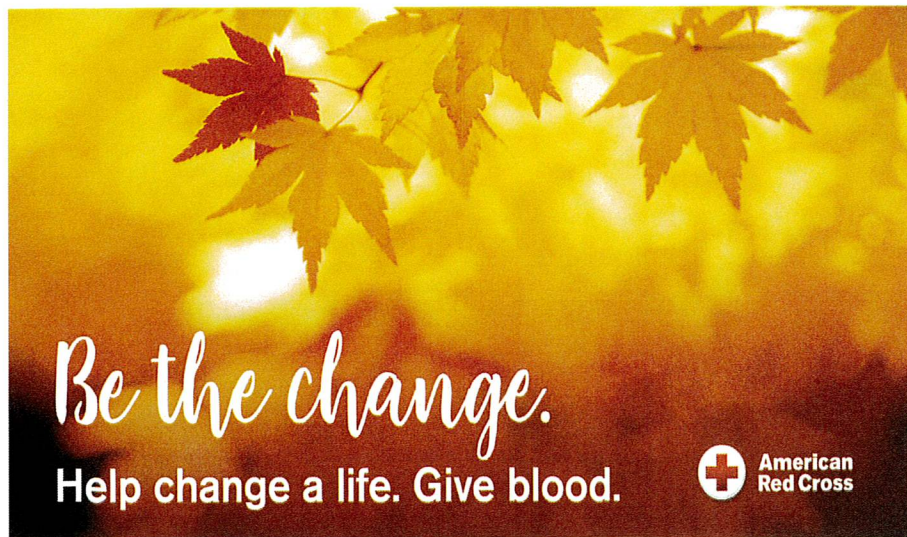
St. John's Mission Team & Inreach Team

Name _____

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. ~ 1 Peter 4:10
(Fill out for each family member)

TIME TALENT SURVEY

LEADERSHIP	SERVICE	TEACHING
Church Council	Offering Counter (Monday AM)	Small Group Leader
Endowment Committee	Sound Board/ProPresenter	Confirmation Guide
Personnel Committee	Deliver Meals on Wheels	Sunday School Teacher
SS, VBS or GROW Coordinator	Deliver Bulletins to Care Facilities	Sunday School Helper
	Check Pew Supplies on Thurs/Fridays	Sunday School Substitute
HOSPITALITY	Newspaper Helper (Weekdays AM)	Bible School Teacher/Helper
Funeral Lunch Helper		GROW-Guide
Funeral Lunch Chairperson*	SKILL / CRAFT	GROW-Helper
* (rotating schedule)	Do-It-Yourself	GROW-Greeter
GROW Kitchen Helper	Quilter	Confirmation Prayer Partner
	Drama & Skits	High School Chaperrone
WORSHIP	Photography/Publicity/Graphic Art	
Altar Guild	Social Media	MUSIC
Communion Server	Decorating (Holidays)	Adult Instrumentalist
		Youth Instrumentalist
8:00 AM Sunday		Vocal Soloist
10:30 AM Sunday		Special Music
Greeter	TEAM VOLUNTEER	St. John's Choir Member
8:00 AM Sunday	Inreach Team	Handbell Choir Member
10:30 AM Sunday	Missions Team	People of Praise Member
Lector	Outreach Team	Brass Choir Member (HS/Adult)
8:00 AM Sunday	Property Team	
10:30 AM Sunday	Spiritual Growth Team	MUTUAL MINISTRY
Usher	Worship Team	Prayer Chain Email
8:00 AM Sunday	Youth Ministry Team	Hospital/Home Visitation
10:30 AM Sunday		
Funerals	ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBER	
	Women's Circle	



Blood Drive
Le Mars Community
 St. Johns Lutheran Church
 Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 23, 2025
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
 or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: LeMars to schedule an appointment.



Come to give blood Oct. 20-Nov. 16 for a \$10 e-gift card
 + chance at \$5K prize! rcblood.org/harvest



Scan to schedule
 an appointment

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2023 The American National Red Cross • 419321-104-000-000

JOIN US THIS FALL TO

GROW
 in the grace and knowledge
 of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 ~ 2 Peter 3:18

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
SEPT 10- MAY 6

~ DINNER ~ SERVICE ~ EDUCATION ~

GROW KICK OFF



WED. SEPT. 10, 2025
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

All Pre-K through 5th
 grade students are invited
 to our new Wednesday
 night program at St.
 John's Lutheran, to come
 GROW in the grace and
 knowledge of Jesus Christ.

NEW THIS YEAR!!!

Evening Highlights

Dinner 5:00- 5:45 ◀

Check our schedule to see what meals will
 be served each week. All are welcome.

Worship 6:00-6:30 ◀

Meet in the sanctuary for our
 Wednesday night worship service.

Catechism & GROW 6:30- 8:00 ◀

Bible education for Catechism students
 6th-9th and GROW students Pre K-5th.

High School Youth Group ◀

All High School students are welcome
 to join us in the Youth Room from
 8:15PM - 9:15PM each Wednesday.

Contact us:
712-546-8855
www.stjohnslermarsia.org

St. John's Lutheran
201 1st Ave NW
Le Mars, IA 51031

Help Wanted

We're looking for people that love God, love kids and are willing to
 spend their Wednesday nights growing the kingdom of God. Positions
 to prayerfully consider: **Teachers/Guides ~ Helpers ~ Greeters ~**
 Please pray and ask God if He is wanting you to step out in faith and
 join us! Contact Kristy or Pastor Broers. Thanks!



This year the St. John's youth will be taking part in a mission project packing shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child**. The mission of **Operation**

Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations and they do it all one shoebox at a time.

Each month between August-November we will be working as a church to gather items for the kids to pack in the shoeboxes come mid-November. These boxes will go to children between the **ages of 2-14** all over the world. All donations can be placed in the OCC box located by the church office. For a quick and easy way to shop for appropriate items, there is an Amazon link listed on the website <http://www.samaritanaspurse.org/occ> under "gift suggestions". If you would rather donate **money**, we are also seeking the funds to ship the boxes (\$10 each), for the discipleship program for each recipient (\$6 each), and for the designated plastic shoe boxes (12 for \$25). Simply write "Operation Christmas Child" on your check or envelope and put it in the offering plate. Please keep in mind that all items donated need to fit inside a shoebox, so they must be small.

October Collection Items:

Games and Activities

• Puzzles • Coloring books or pads • Dry watercolor set • Binoculars and compass • Musical instruments • Chalkboard and chalk • Jump rope • Stickers • Games

Toys

• Small ball • Building blocks or LEGO® sets • Slinky® or yo-yo • Plastic animals • Magnets • Finger puppets • Interactive toys • Other small toys and figures • Toy cars

Please do not include any of the following: • Soap • Food, candy, or gum • Toothpaste • Used or damaged items • Scary or war-related items • Wearable traditional camouflage • Seeds or organic matter • Liquids • Medication • Money • Breakable items • Matches, fire starters, or aerosols • Knives, saws, or razor blades

Thank you for your generosity and for helping to show our youth the joy of sharing Jesus with others while providing for their needs.



Study Hour for ages Pre-K through Adults happens every Sunday, from 9:15 am - 10:15 am. Come join us!!!

The Fall quarter, Portals of Prayer are here. Pick up your copy soon. They can be found in the lobby and North entryway.



WOMEN'S CIRCLES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

1:30 PM Dorcas Circle, Library

MONDAY, OCTOBER 20

1:30 PM Anna Circle, Library

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21

9:30 AM Hannah Circle, Library



All women are welcome to join St. John's Women Circles. Circle meetings are held the 3rd Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of each month.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14 DO-DAY 9 AM

Join us from **9 am-3 pm** as we put together quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief and Global Health. If you can iron, sew, tie a knot, or use a scissors, we want you to join us! Please call the church office if you would like more information or pick up a booklet from the information table in the entryway or lobby to learn more about this women's ministry!

Please save your gently used Bibles and canceled postage stamps for Do-Day. These items can be placed in the designated baskets which are currently in the north entryway of the church.

Dear members of St. John's;

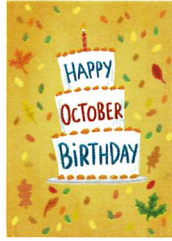
It is with gratefulness that we thank you for your hospitality as we gathered for our Iowa Mission District Convocation on Saturday, September 20th. From your staff to the ladies in the kitchen we enjoyed meeting you and felt truly welcomed. The food was excellent, of course! We commented about the absolute beauty of your sanctuary and listened with joy to your organ music. Finally, Pastor Steven was a valued colleague and friend in the preparation and execution of the agenda.

We greet you with best blessings for your continued ministry in Le Mars.

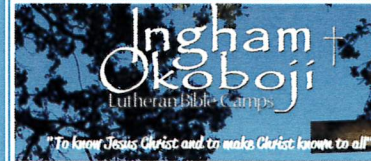
The Rev. Solveig A.H. Zamzow, Secretary, IA-MD, the NALC

October Birthday blessings to St. John's members:

- 1:** Ethan Rachuy, Norah Kellen, Tom Wacker
- 2:** Jakob Francksen-Small, Kyle Borchers, Pam Roling
- 3:** Allissa Britt, Arthur Williams, Kay Allen, Larry Brangwin, Sheryl Oetken
- 4:** Jane Arnold, Kari Van Oort
- 6:** Blake Beitelspacher
- 7:** Jan Schietzelt, Ray Anstine
- 8:** Cindy Hanno, Elizabeth Larson, Benjamin Weitl, Taylor Anstine
- 9:** Alex Chihak
- 10:** Cole Brownmiller, Vaughn Bagstad
- 11:** Bonnie Driscoll, Margaret Adler, Steve Jester, Audrina Schoenrock
- 12:** Aaron Lee, Alaina Te Brink, Cooper Royalty
- 13:** Tim Larson, Brenda Sturgeon, Christine Wacker
- 14:** Emma Brennan
- 15:** Megan Brennan, Briggs Niehus
- 16:** Devyn Trobaugh
- 17:** Kayla Kellen, Tyler Borchers, Clara Renken
- 18:** Virginia Freyermuth, Korey Sargisson
- 19:** Chase McNaughton, Kyle Niehus, Landon Bohlken, Randy Stream
- 20:** Betty Sundt
- 21:** Blakely Petsch, Jillian Klein, Ronald Britt, Tristan Hoffman, Kyle Dunn
- 23:** Sophie Pauling
- 24:** Joanne Klohs, Joyce Roeser, Mya Skov, William Hartman, Janice Milne, Pastor Steven Broers
- 26:** Beth Williams, Madison Husk, Lynn Breuer, Cody Sanow, Patricia Penning
- 27:** Isabella Niehus, Alonso Hernandez-Van Voorst, Al Rolling, Abby Scott
- 28:** Loren Pageler, Anna Ferguson
- 29:** Brexley Farmer
- 30:** Jeff Davis, Kyle Miller, Adam Hanisch



ST. JOHN'S will be hosting LifeWise classes again this year. For the safety of the children, we ask that you limit your use of the building when classes are in session, if possible. The days and times include Monday 11:30 am - 12:30 pm. Tuesday & Wednesday from 11 am - 1:30 pm. Thank you for your cooperation.



Check out the Bible Camp website:

okoboji.org

There are a lot of fun events happening!
For all ages!

Women's Day Away October 11, 2025 @ Ingham Lake Bible Camp.



The Gospel Mission workers are witness to spiritual transformation everyday. But Rescue Mission work is not easy. It takes prayer, perseverance and resources. Would you consider supporting The Gospel Mission in one of these meaningful ways?

- Make a financial gift (St. John's has been collecting Noisy Offerings this year and our total to date is \$1,603.63)
- Volunteer your time
- Donate in-kind items (top 10 most-needed)
 - ◆ Bibles (The women of St. John's have been collecting used Bibles for many years and donating to this mission. St. John's catechism students all received a new Bible this year and the used Bibles were also donated to the mission.)
 - ◆ Ground Beef
 - ◆ Bottled water
 - ◆ Canned goods
 - ◆ Clothing
 - ◆ Furniture (They will even make arrangements to pick up your donations)
 - ◆ Garden/frozen vegetables
 - ◆ Ham/pork/ribs
 - ◆ Hygiene products
 - ◆ Twin bed sheets

Dear LSI Supporters,

One hundred sixty years ago, the first orphans found safety, love, and a nurturing home in Andrew, Iowa. Supported by a caring community, they received not only essentials like clothing, bedding, and furniture, but something far more powerful: unconditional love and compassion.

Over the years, that mission grew. What began as a refuge for orphans evolved into Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) an organization that now supports thousands of individuals and families across the state.

As needs changed, so did LSI offering hope, walking alongside those who are vulnerable, and providing life-changing services across generations. Thanks to your generous financial gifts, in-kind donations, volunteer time, and ongoing support, this work continues to thrive.

Now, it's time to celebrate.

Join us on October 17, 2025, for a special fundraising event marking 160 years of shared impact. The event will take place at the Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport and promises an inspiring evening of celebration, connection, and remembrance.

- Tickets: \$100 per person
 - VIP Tickets: \$160 per person
- Tables seat 10 guests

Whether you attend solo, with friends, or as a group we'd love to have you there!

Please register online. If you'd like to be seated with others, you can list their names in the seating request section of the registration form.

Scan the QR code below to reserve your tickets.

We can't wait to celebrate with you!



Noisy Offerings will be collected on **October 26** for The Gospel Mission. Remember to mark on your calendars the last Sunday of the month, Noisy Offering Sunday!! Thanks in advance from your Outreach Team!

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY PARTNERS

St. John's is supporting the following agencies with Benevolence funds in 2025:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| • Lutheran Services in Iowa | LSIowa.org |
| • Lutheran World Relief | LWR.org |
| • Ingham Lake Bible Camp | www.okoboji.org/ingham |
| • Global Health Ministries | www.ghm.org |

We encourage you to go to each of these agencies websites to read more about the good work they do.



If you wish to stay informed on what is happening in the NALC, you can go to: www.thenalc.org/newsletter and subscribe. You will receive

informative newsletters by email. Sign up today to receive the "NALC News." You can also go to www.thenalc.org for the main church website.

To stay up to date on what is happening in the LCMC, go to this link to sign up for their e/newsletter.

<https://mailchi.mp/ed05627605ee/lcmc>

You can also go to www.lcmc.net for the main church website. Printed materials may also be found on the information tables in the lobby and north entryway.



SHARE THE WORD OF GOD BY SPONSORING

FORTRESS OF FAITH, a half hour recording of the church service broadcast on 1410 KLEM/AM on Sundays at 1 pm. Your name and reason for sponsoring will be included in the broadcast. The cost to sponsor this is \$25. **SPONSORS ARE NEEDED!**



SPONSOR A RADIO MESSAGE, which airs on Fridays on KLEM, advertising our service information for the upcoming weekend, and costs \$10. **CALL THE CHURCH TO SPONSOR!** You can sponsor either (or both!) of these in memory or in honor of a loved one, in honor of an anniversary or birthday, or you can sponsor anonymously as a friend of St. John's. 712-546-8855 **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**



Watch St. John's worship services on **CABLE CHANNEL 12** on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm, or on the St. John's website, www.stjohnslemarsia.org listed under Video Sermons on the left side of the home page.

A Little Free Pantry always needs donations. No one needs to know, shop for non-perishable items (quick snacks are best) and drop them off at the Pantry. Please keep in mind as the weather warms up, avoid items that may melt or glass that may break. Thanks!

Rejoice! Food Bank Distribution is the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 4-5 pm. If you are in need, please call 548-4430 or email rejoice@hotmail.com.

Sunnybrook Hope Center Food Pantry Distribution is the 3rd Monday each month from 6 - 8 pm by appt. Located West of Le Mars Fareway. Make a reservation through the QR Code or go to www.sunnybrookchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/399133



PLEASE DONATE TO SAFEPLACE

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

Shampoo/Conditioner
Body Wash
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
Deodorant/Lotions
Hairbrushes and combs
Towels/washcloths
New women's underwear
Women's pajamas/robes
New women's sweatpants
Writing journals
Women's hygiene products

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Pots/pans Dishes/silverware
Paper products Sheets/blankets
Coffee and filters Disposable razors
Canned foods, Pastas
Laundry soap
Zip Lock bags/Garbage bags
Clorox wipes/Bleach
Dish soap/cleaning supplies
Luggage

These are just a few of the ways you can help. For more information go to the website: www.safeplacesiouxland.org

Staff & Contact Information

Office Hours: 8-5 Tue-Fri

Telephone: (712)546-8855

Web Home Page: www.stjohnslemarsia.org

Email: stjohns@stjohnslemarsia.org

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven Broers broers@stjohnslemarsia.org

Minister of Music: Michael Rathke mrathke@stjohnslemarsia.org

Office Manager: Kim Lang kim@stjohnslemarsia.org

Part-time Office Assistant: Connie Kellen
assistant@stjohnslemarsia.org

Facilities Manager: Todd Oetken custdn@stjohnslemarsia.org

Sunday School Supt.:
Beth Larson elizabethrgraf@hotmail.com

Church Council

Nicole Jarvis-President, Ed/Youth Becky DeRuyter-V. President

Ashley Bennett - Secretary, Inreach Bill Young-Treasurer

Brenda Haverhals - Mission John Hines - Mission

Tammy Lee - Technology Dick Milne - Property

Joey Posivio - Property Pam Roling - Worship

Doug Carlsen - Endowment Adam Schmidt - Ed/Youth

Cindy Kamies - Outreach

For contact info call 546-8855 or email stjohns@stjohnslemarsia.org

Mark Your Calendars -- New Fall Worship Schedule

Service times will be:

6:00 PM Wednesday Worship

8:00 AM Sunday Worship w/Communion

9:15 - 10:15 AM Study Hour

10:30 AM Sunday Worship w/Communion

