

St. John's Lutheran Church

*"Sharing the changeless Christ
in a changing World"*



ST JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Ministry Booklet

302 NE 2nd Street

Buffalo, MN 55313

763-682-1883

stjohnsbuffalo.org

Welcome!



A note from Pastor Clark.....

Hello, St. John's family! What a joy it is to do life together! Part of doing life together is serving together. We serve one another inside our family, and together we work to serve our Lord Jesus Christ and His Gospel

mission to our community and world.

1 Corinthians 12:7 says, "Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good." The Holy Spirit manifests Himself uniquely in each one of us. Each of us has unique natural abilities, spiritual gifts, passions, personalities, and experiences. Each of those are "on purpose" so that we would each use our uniquenesses "for the common good."

As you page through this booklet, ask yourself, "Who has God made me to be? What am I passionate about? What am I good at?" And ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to one or two areas of service that match who you are.

You are at St. John's "on purpose"! You are made the way you are "on purpose!" There are areas of important service to our church family and community outlined in this booklet that uniquely fit you. May God's Spirit bless you as you find your fit!

In the service of Christ Jesus,
Pastor Clark

CHILDREN & FAMILIES (BIRTH-5TH GRADE)

Cradle Roll Ministry — Newborns to preschool — provides child development information along with encouragement to parents of newborns to age 3. Volunteers help keep records and mail gifts periodically.

Nursery — available to families with infants to 4 years of age during worship, education hour, and also offered during special events and meetings.

Little Lutheran Bags — contain age-appropriate activities for families with children to utilize during worship (available in the narthex). Volunteers help clean and reset the bags and toys.

Seasonal Family Events — (Fun Fest, Bowling/Mini Golf, Fall Family Event, Christmas program, Easter Family Event, Winter game night, etc.) Open to all ages. Volunteers can help prepare supplies ahead of time, come help setup the event, and/or volunteer to run games or activities during the event.

First Faith Steps Class — For infants/toddlers and a parent. Meets in the nursery during the Sunday School hour.

Sunday School — preschool to 8th grade. Online registration required.

Sunday School Teachers — Teachers are needed at all age and grade levels on Sundays during the school year. This could be alone or as a team.

Vacation Bible School — Children 3 years to 4th grade; this is offered one week each year during the summer. Volunteers are needed for prepping, decorating, teaching, and tear down.

Faith Milestones — Through yearly classes, events and special blessings, we equip and encourage families with tools and resources to see God working in each season of our faith journey.

Worship Sensory Bags — contain objects and tools including, “figit” items, headphones, weighted blankets, etc. These are available for children and adults who may need assistance in participating in worship and can be found by the Welcome Center.

NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL (3-5 YEAR OLDS)

Noah's Ark preschool is a ministry of St. Johns that seeks to provide the children of our congregation and community with a quality Christian education in a safe and caring environment where they will be nurtured with the love of Jesus. Classes are offered for students ages 3 to 5 years with morning and extended day options throughout the week. You do not need to be a member to attend. Volunteers are always welcome.

YOUTH (6TH-12TH GRADE)

Sr. High Youth Sunday Morning Bible Class — 9:15-10:15 AM in the youth room.

Jr. High Youth Sunday Morning Bible Class — 9:15-10:15 AM in the trustee conference room (119).

Confirmation — 6th thru 8th grade 6th grade meets on Sunday mornings during Sunday School time. 7/8th grades and their parents meet Wednesday evenings 6:30—8 PM during the school year. This prepares them to be confirmed members at the end of 8th grade.

Jr. High Youth Group — 2 Sunday evenings per month from 5—6:30 PM during the school year with additional activities as announced.

Sr. High Youth Group — Wednesday evenings 6:30—8 PM during the school year.

Various Monthly Activities — Bonfires, Lock-Ins, Guy's/Girl's Nights, Kickball Tourney, River City Extreme, Sky Zone, etc.

Summer Wednesday Evening Bible Study for Sr. High Youth — 10 AM on Wednesday mornings during the summer months.

Summer Mission Trip — Location changes every summer; various fundraisers throughout the year.

Youth Board — Members of the Youth Board meet regularly to support the vision of youth ministry, be a resource to the youth director, and to communicate about dynamics of jr/sr youth groups.

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Greeters — Meet and greet worshipers as they come and go from services. Welcome guests and show them to the Welcome Center.

Welcome Center — Meet first-time visitors. Give out a folder of information and a small gift. Answer questions about the church and give visitors a first point of contact. Introduce to pastors or elders.

Ushers — Distribute bulletins before worship, help worshippers find seats, collect the offering during the service, light candles, help direct worshippers to communion, and take attendance counts.

Scripture Reader — Read scripture lessons at one of our three worship services.

Altar Guild — Prepares the altar with the proper paraments corresponding with the time of the church year, refills oils in candles, prepares for and cleans up after communion.

Sound Team — Operates sound and screens during Saturday and Sunday services and other special events (training is available).

YouTube Team — Livestreams the 8am worship service. When asked, can be scheduled to stream weddings or funerals.

Coffee Servers — Serve coffee and treats following the first service on Sundays and cleans up afterwards.

Decorating Committee — Decorate for the Christmas and Easter seasons and keep the sanctuary and the church entrances looking welcoming and inviting all year.

Altar Flower Sponsorship — Altar flowers can be sponsored to honor a special occasion in your life. Cost is \$50. Date and wording arranged using the pink form or by calling the church office.

KRWC Radio Ministry — Broadcasts on AM 1360 at the 8:00 AM services each Sunday. Sponsorship in honor or memory of a loved one or meaningful date, which is mentioned at the beginning of the broadcast. Cost for sponsorship: \$150.

MUSIC MINISTRIES

Worship Choir — Mixed choir (9th grade through adult) shares an anthem during Sunday services twice per month during the school year, plus special services. Rehearsal is Wednesday evenings at 6 PM in the choir room.

Gospel Ringers Handbell Choir — meets on Wednesday evenings at 7pm from September –May and offer special music during worship throughout the year. All abilities welcome! Ages 10 and up.

Contemporary Worship Team — Mixed team of instruments and vocalists (teen through adult) lead songs at our Saturday night worship service. Members sign up for specific Saturdays and rehearsal is at 3:30 PM prior to the service.

Special Music— Individuals occasionally prepare and share sacred music during communion or other time to enhance the worship service. Ensembles are formed for holiday or festival services.

TECHNOLOGY & PROPERTY MINISTRIES

Trustees — Complete projects and repairs around the building, maintain the property.

Technology Committee — Upgrades and maintains technology around church, such as network, computers, sound systems, monitors, phones, and more.

Sound Team — Operates sound and visual technology during Saturday and Sunday services and other special events. (Training available)

YouTube Team — Video recording and live streaming of our services and Bible class. (Sometimes weddings and funerals, as requested.)

Podcast — Converts the livestream of Sunday worship into a podcast of just the sermon shared on website, podcast outlets, and on YouTube.

CONNECTING AND GROWING

Sunday Bible Classes — Offered between services at 9:15am on Sunday mornings. Adult Bible class led by Pastor Clark. Men's group led by Pastor Ryan. Moms group led by Stacy Rutten.

Life Group Ministry — Small groups within our congregation meet weekly for Bible studies within homes or at the church. Some groups meet for 6-8 weeks, others meet year round. More info on website.

Life Season Groups — Life Season groups like Free Fliers (empty nesters) and Classics (baby boomers & older) provide fellowship opportunities for people to get to know one another better, fellowship together, and do life together. Watch newsletter & bulletin for events.

Fellowship Team — Serves coffee and treats after the 8 AM service on Sundays, pizza fellowship after 2nd service on the 1st Sunday of the month as well as organizing events such as Progressive Dinner, Service in the Park, Lutheran Night at the Twins Game, Thanksgiving Dinner, etc.

PEP (People Enjoying People) — Meets the first and third Tuesdays throughout the year. Bible study at 9:00 AM followed by games.

Women in Mission — A Committee of ladies meets once per month to plan various events throughout the year and the Country Fair. Country Fair raises money which funds their many mission projects. They meet for Bible study the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 1:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

SERVING & OUTREACH MINISTRIES

Office Volunteers — Help collate bulletins and newsletters.

Counters — Help count the weekly offering and prepare for deposit. (background check required)

Funeral Meals — Volunteers help prepare in the kitchen, serve and clean up for funerals. Volunteers are also needed to prepare cookies or bars to be served.

Meals for New Mom — Volunteers sign up to prepare and deliver meals to families after birth or adoption.

Sewing/Quilting Group — Make hats, scarves, mittens, dresses and other items for distribution to those in need. Quilts are made and sold at the Country Fair, which is the women's largest fundraiser helping them meet their goals to support many mission groups.

Library Committee — Organizes, maintains, researches, and purchases new materials, and encourages members to make use of our library materials. Maintain the bulletin board outside the library with an encouraging seasonal message.

Project Compassion — Sends cards and makes visits to shut-ins, the sick, and those who are recovering from surgery; give out Thanksgiving and Easter baskets to shut-ins, and send Grief Mailings to those who have lost a loved one.

MOSES (Members Offering Service to Elderly and Singles) — They do projects of ALL types from transportation to appointments to leaf raking to snow removal and much more.

Outreach Team— Provide opportunities for the congregation to serve the community and connect with missions we support. Maintain the Mission Wall outside the sanctuary to give missions connection and provide outreach resources.

Operation Christmas Child — A church-wide ministry that uses a shoebox to share a simple gift and the love of God. Supplies are collected all year to fill shoeboxes for our yearly packing party event. Church wide campaign to fill and collect shoeboxes runs late October - November.

Country Fair — One-day event by the Women in Mission on the 2nd Sat of Nov. Baked items, crafts, cookies, candies, garden produce, canned goods, plants, silent auction baskets, etc. Set up is the day prior; clean up after the sale. Proceeds support many missions chosen by our Women in Mission.

Prayer Shawl Ministry — Knit or crochet shawls to be given to those who are shut-ins, hospitalized or those fighting a disease. Yarn available in the East Narthex for at-home projects.

Meals on Wheels — St. John's volunteers twice per year (May and December) to deliver meals to those in need within our community.

*We are glad
you are here!*

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

STAFF & LEADERSHIP:

Senior Pastor — Rev. Ryan Clark

Assistant Pastor — Rev. Chris Ryan

Director of Parish Music — Noah Gundermann, DPM

Director of Youth Ministries — Paul Nelson, DCE

Director of Children & Family Ministry — Kelly Thole, DCE

Director of Special Ministries — Katherine Clark

Office Administrator — Beth Langland

Director of Noah's Ark Preschool — Chelsey Erickson



Chairman of the Congregation — David Haggerty

Head Elder — Ryan Rutten

Treasurer — Jim Chapa

Secretary — Kathy Klemz

Trustee — Scott Spadgenske



Church Address — 302 NE 2nd Street, Buffalo, MN 55313

Phone — 763-682-1883

Fax — 763-343-7885

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES (Summer 2024)

LIFE Groups — Get connected to others at St. John's!!! See separate schedule or stjohnsbuffalo.org/life-groups/

Greeter Ministry — Be scheduled on a rotation to greet people as they are arriving for services in the narthex or downstairs closer to Sunday School classes. (SignUp Genius link on website >ministries>serve)

Fellowship Team — Join the Fellowship Team which plans and facilitates social events for congregation members throughout the year.

Coffee Crew — Prepare and serve coffee on Sunday mornings (sign up for a weekend monthly or periodically) OR make and drop off treats to be served on Sunday mornings.

Scripture Reader — Sign up to periodically read the Scripture during worship service.

Ushers — Help worshipers find seats for social distancing, bring offering to safe after collection, light candles, help direct people for communion, and take attendance counts.

Nursery Attendants— Sign up on a rotation to serve in the nursery during 9:15 Bible class hour and during 10:30am service. Talk to Kelly.

Contemporary Worship Team — Someone with musical talent willing to be a part of this team once or more per month for our Saturday worship. This would involve being present at the 3:30 PM Saturday rehearsal and the 5:00 PM service.

Sound Technicians/YouTube — help with sound and PowerPoint during worship services or video record for our YouTube livestreams. This would be on a rotating schedule with other volunteers.

Outreach Team — Meets 1/x mo on 1st Tuesday at 5:30 pm to discuss and plan our outreach to the community and our mission projects.