



Summer Worship Hours

Sunday Worship @ 9:00am
through September 8th

Families Moving Forward

A Program of  Beacon
INTERFAITH HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

Our next opportunity to serve at Families Moving Forward is August 25th – September 1st

FMF provides short term shelter for people who have come to be homeless. FMF moves people from homelessness back to independence. Churches provide overnight shelter for people in the program. Cross of Peace will be the host site, but St. John's will provide volunteers! A number of different things are needed, from evening and morning meals to overnight presence to greeters and afternoon/evening activity folks.

We need volunteers! Please respond to Jesus' call to love our neighbors! Explanations of each volunteer position and what is needed can be found at the sign-up link. Please follow the link on the church website and weekly email to learn more and to sign up to help.

Please contact the church office for specific prayer requests or if a home or hospital visit is needed.

Rev. Gary Kinkel, Senior Pastor
Rev. Jerod Freeberg, Associate Pastor
Sean Vander Veen, Worship Music Accompanist
Lisa Friesen, Administrative Assistant

pastorgary@stjohns-shakopee.com
pastorjerod@stjohns-shakopee.com
vanderveen.sean@gmail.com
info@stjohns-shakopee.com

Office Hours: 8:00am-1:00pm Monday & Tuesday and 1:00pm-5:00pm Wednesday & Thursday, closed – Friday

St. John's Lutheran Church 119 West Eighth Avenue, Shakopee, MN 55379
952-445-5666 www.stjohns-shakopee.com

From Pastor Gary Kinkel...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

"What's new at St. John's?" people sometimes ask me. What I WANT to say is, "Absolutely nothing!" That doesn't mean we should not try new things at church. It does not mean I find change problematic. Indeed, sometimes change is necessary for life. As Bob Dylan sang:

The hollow horn plays wasted words proves to warn that he not busy being born is busy dying.

Dylan is not wrong. And yet, what is to change and how, precisely? These are the two key questions. What needs to change and in what ways do we need to be busy being born? We tend to identify institutions and structures, public statements and official stances as the things that need to be changed. And sometimes that is true. Sometimes. But if you look carefully at what Jesus says and does and listen closely to what Paul wrote, you will see that the primary emphasis tends to fall somewhere else. We absolutely have to pray and think hard about how to be faithfully Christian in our public life, in our political engagement (which includes our voting), in our economic and financial behavior, and so on. These areas of life are spheres in which God calls us to exercise our faith and practice our obedience. BUT...But...

The New Testament points in a different direction. Now, we have to be careful, because sometimes this New Testament direction is taken by some kinds of Christians to mean that we need not worry about whether our political judgments, our social ethical views, etc. are faithfully reflective of and obedient to Jesus, our Savior. They do matter. Every detail of life matters to the living God. But the emphasis in the New Testament is that WE need to be changed. I myself, and you yourself, need to be transformed; need to become new and different than we are now. What is at stake every Sunday is salvation and damnation and whether I will leave as a different person than the one who entered; whether I will leave more stamped, embossed, with the form of Jesus Christ and look, think and act more like him and less like the self I used to be.

Ironically, in order for me to be transformed in the proper ways, the ways that are most faithfully Christian, there are things that must not be changed. One important feature of Christian worship, one of its key purposes, is to remold and reshape us. It is to teach us to pray and to direct all things to God. Christian worship does this by NOT entertaining us. Rather, there need to be certain things that do not change so that their repetition forms our minds and hearts in a habit. We NEED the liturgy and we NEED the ancient prayers of the church to form us in the right habits that make Christians Christian. Repetition and habit have a profound power to shape our ways of thinking, feeling and acting.

Moreover, we live in a society that does not help us to hear the Gospel or to live faithfully as Christians. Every day, in every waking moment, our society hammers us with its message that God does not matter, that public worship is a trivial thing (and so, it does not matter whether I go or not), that Jesus, salvation and faithfulness are quaint but silly, that self-sacrificing love is weak or masochistic, etc. In other words, the world shapes and forms us every day in every waking moment in ways contrary to the Gospel. But on Sunday morning we gather for DIFFERENCE, to do something very different. We need to be clear that we are doing something different and that we mean to be transformed, to be different from, the society that surrounds us. And we need some time in order to do that. We need to be jarred by the difference, so we need music and ways of doing things that are quite different from our everyday songs and language. And the first, and primary difference, is that we are not in charge here. We are not in control and we are not the central focus. This congregation and the time we spend together at St. John's belong to God for God's purposes...not ours. Here, let us adopt Martin Luther's call as one of our watchwords: "Let God be God!" See you Sunday!

Pastor Gary

On True Christianity, a selection from a Lutheran devotional classic

“Prayer is an awesomely powerful, fiery reality, if one prays in love. Since if love for God burns fervently, and if one receives God with inward love, that produces true childlike prayer and such a person gains that for which they pray...The more fervent the love for God, the more powerful the prayer. Wherefore, the primary things for which we have to pray are for the increase of faith and for an overflowing abundance of love for God. It is an especially comforting promise of God that he has poured his love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. (Romans 5:5)”

The St. John’s Big Time Bible Quiz!

(The answers will be in next month’s newsletter.)

1. Where was Abram living when God called him to leave everything he knew and head out on the road?
2. Who was the last “Judge” of biblical Israel?
3. When the LORD called Isaiah to be a prophet (Isaiah 6), the LORD also described Isaiah’s task. What WAS Isaiah’s surprising task?
4. In the first chapter of his book, what so deeply troubled the prophet Habakkuk?
(Note, it comes into sharp focus in 1:13)
5. In chapter 11 of the Gospel of Mark, following the “cleansing” of the temple – a symbolic prophecy of its destruction and end, Peter pointed to the fig tree Jesus had similarly spoken a word against. The tree has withered by Jesus’ word. What Peter says implies a question: If not the temple, then what? What thing, what structure, what practices take the place of the temple? Where and how is worship of the One God centered? Jesus answered in Mark 11:22-25 by placing **three things** where the temple with its rituals and sacrifices had been in the people’s faith practice. What are they?



Money Counter Volunteer Needed

The St. John's Money Counting Ministry needs a volunteer to join their team to count money after the Sunday morning worship services. This would require your time usually for only one Sunday a month. Please see Sarah Baumgartner for more information at 952-913-2677 or sarah.a.baumgartner@gmail.com.

Save the Date!

September 8th

9:00 am worship



New Fall Worship & Youth Education Schedule

As a pilot project, the council has voted to change the service times this fall from 8:15 A.M. service to 8:00 A.M. and the 10:30A.M. service to 10:00 A.M.

The change was made based of the need to make re-look at our Sunday school program. We started researching options for changing up the programing in the spring after noticing a decline in the attendance and family involvement in worship services. We surveyed the Sunday school families regarding different times and days for Sunday school. The education committee after reviewing the surveys and parent comments proposed the following:

The Sunday school kids will join us for worship at the 10:00 am service and after the children's sermon, they disperse to their Sunday School rooms for music time, classroom time and fellowship. Sunday school will end at 11:15 with the congregation joining us downstairs in the fellowship hall for donuts and coffee.

As mentioned earlier the proposal passed at the July council meeting.

We are aware that many important activities besides Sunday school will be affected by this change and pray that all of you will be open to this change understanding that this is going to be a trial that may need to be adjusted throughout the year.

Aimee Johnson, Spiritual Formation Team Lead

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

WHO IS *my neighbor?*



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Dates: August 11- August 15

Time: 6:00pm - 8:30 pm

Where: St. John's 119 West 8th Avenue Shakopee

Contact: pastorjerod@stjohns-shakopee.com

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes - May 21st, 2019

Council Members Present: Pastor Gary Kinkel, Pastor Jerod Freeberg, Jesse Rients, Jenny Pudwill, Sandy McCullough, Jim Hime, Kirsti Youngs, Paula Brennan

Council Members Absent: Aimee Johnson, Scott Wilts (resigned)

I. Gathering

- A. Call to order 7:05 pm – Families Moving Forward had many volunteers from St. John's and was a tremendous success!
- B. *Motion to approve agenda: Pastor Gary Kinkel/Jim Hime; carried.*
- C. Scripture and prayer: Pastor Gary Kinkel, The Council in the Word, Acts: 10:1-21

II. Discernment (New Business)

- A. Open Council position with the resignation of Scott Wilts.
- B. The Council discussed a capital campaign for repairs to the building and missions.
The pilot light on the stove in the kitchen does not work properly and a new boiler will be needed. The State of MN is offering rebates for the installation of rooftop solar panels, and there may be grants available as well. Grants may also be available through the ELCA for replacing lights with LEDs.
Mike Sexton requested an electrician look at the following items: Worship area fans rheostat, Mechanical timer for the outdoor lighting, Light switches on the East wall in the social area
Motion to advise Mike Sexton to coordinate bids for estimates for the electrical repairs to the building: Jenny Pudwill/Pastor Gary Kinkel; carried.
- C. St. John's does not currently have an emergency plan. The council discussed the need to establish a plan for lock down; missing child, active shooter, etc.
- D. Discussion of possibly moving Sunday School to Wednesday evenings.

III. Decisions (Old Business)

- A. Treasurer's Report: Jim Hime
Motion to approve Treasurer's report: Pastor Jerod Freeberg/Jesse Rients; carried.
Jim Hime and Pastor Jerod will work with Lisa to setup different funds and a line item on treasurer's report for Confirmation expenses.
- B. *Motion to approve council minutes: Jim Hime/Kirsti Youngs; carried.*

IV. Sending

- A. Review action items established - next council meeting date is **June 18, 2019**
- B. Closing Prayer – Sandy McCullough
- C. Adjournment – *Motion to adjourn: Jim Hime/Jenny Pudwill; carried 9:05 p.m.*

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes - June 18th, 2019

Council Members Present: Pastor Jerod Freeberg, Sandy McCullough, Jim Hime, Kirsti Youngs, Jenny Pudwill, Paula Brennan

Council Members Absent: Pastor Gary Kinkel, Jesse Rients, Aimee Johnson

I. Gathering

- D. Call to order 7:03 pm, Sandy McCullough
- E. *Motion to approve agenda: Jim Hime/Kirsti Youngs; carried.*
- F. Scripture and prayer: Pastor Jerod Freeberg, Matthew: 6:25-34

II. Decisions (Old Business)

- C. *Motion to approve council minutes: Pastor Jerod Freeberg/Jim Hime; carried.*
- D. Treasurer's Report: Jim Hime shared a letter from the Minneapolis Area Synod thanking St. John's for 2018 contributions.
Motion to approve Treasurer's report: Kirsti Youngs/Jenny Pudwill; carried.
- E. Update on electrical: Sandy McCullough – Mike Sexton met with an electrician who quoted \$947 for the 3 items needing attention. \$450 is replacing outdoor LED lights. Mike will be seeking at least one other bid.
- F. Pastor Jerod Freeberg shared some things to give thanks for:
 - St. John's raised \$300 in one Sunday to send bibles to Tanzania.
 - A digital SLR camera was donated anonymously by a St. John's member, including a gift receipt.
 - The mission trip was wonderful! Gardening, yard work, raking and mulching, made an incredible impact in Williamsburg, NY. The experience made a significant impact in the lives of the 4 students who attended the mission trip.

III. Discernment (New Business)

- A. Update on big list: Sandy McCullough –
- The electrical repairs are in progress.
 - Replacement of the wiring in the old part of the church is currently not necessary.
 - New lighting in the sanctuary is over halfway done.
 - Gift of digital SLR camera.
 - The coffee pot in the kitchen has been repaired.
- B. Proposed use of excess funds: Sandy McCullough proposed mission work, giving a payment to the synod, and having an emergency fund for people who may be seeking help.
Motion to set up a designated fund for emergencies within the community and/or congregation to be used at the discretion of the pastors: Paula Brennan/Jim Hime; carried. This motion is based on seed money given by a member of the congregation.
- C. Slavic Baptist Church proposal: Requesting further information and will discuss at the next council meeting.

IV. Sending

- D. Review action items established: Next council meeting date is **July 23, 2019**
- E. Assign report for newsletter: Kirsti Youngs
- F. Closing Prayer: Sandy McCullough
- G. Adjournment: *Motion to adjourn: Jim Hime/Kirsti Youngs; carried.*

Respectfully Submitted, Paula Brennan, Council Secretary

AUGUST 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	2	3 9:00 AM AA*
4 9:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Hispanic Church	5 6:30 PM Memorial Concert Rehearsal 7:00 PM AA* District Meeting 7:00 PM Gemeinschaft	6 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study	7 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study	8 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	9	10 9:00 AM AA*
11 9:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Hispanic Church 5:30 PM Luther & Lager 6:00 PM Vacation Bible School	12 6:00 PM Vacation Bible School 7:15 PM Discipleship Team	13 6:00 PM Vacation Bible School 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study	14 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 PM Vacation Bible School	15 6:00 PM Vacation Bible School 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	16	17 9:00 AM AA*
18 9:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Hispanic Church	19 7:00 PM Gemeinschaft	20 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	21 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study	22 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	23	24 9:00 AM AA*
25 9:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Hispanic Church 4:00 PM Families Moving Forward Week Begins	26 7:15 PM Discipleship Team	27 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study	28 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study	29 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	30	31 9:00 AM AA*

* - "AA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution..."

119 West Eighth Avenue
P.O. Box 178
Shakopee, MN 55379
Phone: 952-445-5666
www.stjohns-shakopee.com

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The Eagle is a publication of St. John's Lutheran Church. It is published monthly and mailed to its members.

The Eagle welcomes news and features from its readers. We reserve the right to edit submitted material for content and length. All newsletter materials are due in the church office on the 20th day of the month preceding publication.

All addressing changes and mailing inquiries should be directed to the church office at 952-445-5666 or info@stjohns-shakopee.com.

The Mission of St. John's
Called as children of God
Comforted and **Challenged** by the Holy Spirit
Committed to serve **Christ** in the world