

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER



St. John's Lutheran Church has been around for more than 150 years and has a long history of events, pastors and members throughout that time. One reason St. John's has been successful is due to the ability to keep Christ at the center while changing with the times.

Please join us for one of the gatherings to discuss St. John's Moving Forward Together. All gatherings are in the downstairs fellowship hall unless otherwise noted. Don't worry these discussions will not be scary, painful, or boring. You will be grouped together with your friends, your community, your neighbors. There is no preparation for you to do, there are no wrong answers, we just need your thoughts and ideas! If you haven't already attended a discussion group, there are still plenty of chances. Our goal is to get 100% of our members to provide feedback.

Sunday School Parents:

- 1st – 3rd Grade Parents: Sunday February 12th, 9:30-10:15am
- 4th – 6th Grade Parents: Sunday February 19th, 9:30-10:15am

General Member Sessions:

- Sunday February 26th, 9:30-10:15am

Other Sessions:

- OWLS – Wednesday March 1st, during regular meeting time.
- High School Youth – Sunday March 5th, Wilts Home
- Bells/Choir – Sunday February 12th, 9:30-10:15am

To prepare, please think about these questions:

- For what purpose does this specific congregation exist?
- What are we right now?
- And what does God call us to become in ten years? Twenty?



SUNDAYS

8:15 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

9:25 AM EDUCATION HOUR

10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

WEDNESDAYS

7:30 PM SUMMIT WORSHIP

From Pastor Gary Kinkel...

Grow Your Faith

Here is a great opportunity to grow in faith and understanding. Pastor Gary will be leading a book study through the season of Lent. The day and time will be decided (negotiated) by those interested in participating. We will read and discuss together Dietrich Bonhoeffer's powerful book, *Discipleship*. We will each buy a copy of the book and meet once a week until Easter to discuss portions of it. The book is an extended reflection on and interpretation of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7). Please join us for this exciting discussion!

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Body of Christ that gathers here at St. John's has been shaken. When someone we love departs this mortal life it is always difficult for us. Grief overtakes us. Lots of different feelings come to us. During the past year, I have had the privilege of accompanying a number of saints on the final steps of their pilgrimage on earth. It is a holy time. As the psalmist reminds us, "Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his saints." (Psalm 116:15)

But it hits us hard when someone young, someone in the prime of life, comes to the end of their days. It feels unfair. It feels like a violation of what is right. And it can leave us feeling desolate, abandoned and in doubt about whether God is here and whether God loves us. In the 8th chapter of Romans Paul says, "...even we who have the Spirit [of God] groan [at the way things happen in the world] as we wait...for the redemption of our bodies." (Romans 8:23) So where do we turn? How do we go on?

Paul goes on to say that we are saved in hope; that hope only makes sense if we hope for something we do not yet see or possess; and that we wait, then, with patience for that for which we hope. And our hope is grounded not in our experience, not in what we see and hear, sense and feel, but in what God has done. We do not look to our thoughts or our abilities. We look to Christ, crucified and risen. This thing has happened in the world. It is an event. Only in the cross of Jesus we know and are certain that God loves us. Only in the cross of Jesus and in his resurrection from the dead do we know that God is with us and has a future, a destiny, for us. Indeed, by faith we will share Jesus' destiny with the Father, we will share his life—if we share it even now. His resurrection contains the promise of our own. His resurrection points to the Final Feast of the Kingdom, in which we have a place by faith. His victory is ours by faith and we will share his glory. As Colossians puts it, "When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will be revealed with him in glory." (Colossians 3:4)

But we don't experience these things now. We do not see these things now. We live in the time between the times: between the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and his final appearing in glory. And in these days, we live by hope. But our hope is not empty or sentimental or based on fiction. It is a muscular and resilient hope that clings to Christ, who was crucified for us and raised for us. In this hope, let us support and encourage each other in the loss of our brother, let us believe and rejoice even in our tears. In the cross of Jesus Christ we know that he is safe and in peace. The Lion of the tribe of Judah has conquered, (Revelation 5:5) let us follow him!

In the grace of Jesus,

Pastor Gary



Annual Meeting Highlights

If you missed the annual meeting on January 29, you will want to pick up a copy of the annual report and the narrative budget compiled by the stewardship team lead, Mollie Viola. The meeting's agenda appeared routine: new business, old business, reports, and budget. Beyond the routine, however, three highlights emerged.

First, I put out a call for committed volunteers. At this time, when Pastor Gary is working alone, we have the opportunity to show our dedication to using our hands to do God's work. Areas of greatest immediate need: care team helpers to visit members who cannot make it to church, a volunteer coordinator, ushers willing to come early or stay late to prepare for worship or close down after worship, and a pastoral care committee to support Pastor Gary.

Second, Mollie Viola presented the narrative budget, a new way of considering how St. John's uses its resources. Using pie charts and personal stories, the narrative budget tells how our time, talent, and treasure make an impact on our congregation and the community around us.

Finally, Erik Allen, treasurer, reviewed the 2016 budget, which showed an encouraging rise in giving. We give thanks to God and to those of you who contributed for this generosity. Erik then outlined the proposed 2017 budget, which carried unanimously.

In approving the 2017 budget, the congregation voted to allocate resources toward calling a full-time associate pastor. Expanding our clergy staff will allow us to build our volunteer and mission base. Pastor Linda McPeak, even though she worked far more than the half-time hours her salary covered, could not do everything she would have liked, in particular, ministering to our older teens and young adults—a population segment greatly at risk in our culture for falling away from the faith. A full-time associate will help us reach more of our teens and young adults.

St. John's seeks to be a faith home for all ages and a force of hope and help in the Shakopee community. Increasing our staff and telling our story are steps one and two toward becoming a spirit-filled example of Jesus' kingdom on earth.

**Sandy McCullough,
St. John's Council**



OWLS

**(St. John's Older, Wiser,
Lutheran Seniors)**

The OWLS will meet on Wednesday, February 1st, at 10:00 a.m.

Our guest speaker will be Josh Sweet from the Parks and Recreation Department in our area. He will talk to us about services provided for seniors in Scott County and the surrounding counties. Of special interest to us is his knowledge of owls in Minnesota. It will be an interesting meeting.

Please invite your friends to join you for this day of learning.

Questions? Call Del at 952-412-4917.



LOAVES AND FISHES

Loaves and Fishes will be on **Tuesday, February 7th, 2017** at St. Mark's Catholic Church on Third Street in Shakopee. We need volunteers to help prepare the meal, it is usually slicing and putting items out on the tables. These volunteers arrive at 3:00 p.m. and leave by 5:00 p.m. The volunteers for the second shift arrive before 5 p.m. and serve food to the people in line. Then all help with the clean-up.

It goes fast and is fun. Join us!



Sunday School Singing Schedule @ 10:30 a.m. services

Little Lambs

(3yrs - 2nd grade) - February 12th

Singing Shepherds

(3rd - 6th grade) - February 26th

The Sunday School will continue to collect food for the **CAP Agency** and weekly offering for **Jose Carlos**, an orphan in Guatemala. We will have a basket outside of the Sunday School office each Sunday and the children can also bring their donations to their Sunday School room.

The staff of St. John's is here to serve you. Please don't hesitate to contact the church office at 952-445-5666 if you have any questions or concerns. If you are in need of pastoral care or have a pastoral emergency, please call the church office and you will be directed to Pastor Gary. ***Please contact the church office for specific prayer requests or if a home or hospital visit is needed.***

Rev. Gary Kinkel, Senior Pastor
 Lois Petricka, Custodian
 Sean Vander Veen, Worship Music Accompanist
 Karen Van Sickle, Choir Director
 Lisa Friesen, Administrative Assistant

pastorgary@stjohns-shakopee.com
ljpetrick@yahoo.com
vanderveen.sean@gmail.com
kvansick@shakopee.k12.mn.us
info@stjohns-shakopee.com

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Monday, Tuesday & Thursday,
 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Wednesday, Closed – Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

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

February Worship Servants

Please sign up on SignUp.com to be a worship servant in February. If you have any questions, please contact either Jim Johnston, or Tim Lea. Thank you for your service in God's church.

(Please find a replacement if you are not available for the time listed below.)

February 5

	DUTY	NAME
	Communion Preparation	
	Communion Clean-up	
	Coffee Fellowship	
	Money Counters	Bonnie Ohrt, Sarah Koehn
8:15 AM	Scripture Reader	
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	Jim & Donna Hunter
10:30AM	Scripture Reader	Melody Hime
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	

February 19

	DUTY	NAME
	Communion Preparation	
	Communion Clean-up	
	Coffee Fellowship	
	Money Counters	Sarah Baumgartner, Kirsti Youngs
8:15 AM	Scripture Reader	
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	Jim & Donna Hunter
10:30AM	Scripture Reader	Nancy Berndt
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	

February 12

	DUTY	NAME
	Communion Preparation	
	Communion Clean-up	
	Coffee Fellowship	
	Money Counters	Jane Moriarty, Lola Mensing
8:15 AM	Scripture Reader	
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	Jim & Donna Hunter
10:30AM	Scripture Reader	Nancy Berndt
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	

February 26

	DUTY	NAME
	Communion Preparation	
	Communion Clean-up	
	Coffee Fellowship	
	Money Counters	Steve Sauer, Beth Johnson
8:15 AM	Scripture Reader	
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	Jim & Donna Hunter
10:30AM	Scripture Reader	
	Communion Servers	
	Ushers	

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2016

Council Members Present: Sandy McCullough, Jim Hime, Mollie Viola, Renee Lea, Erik Allen, Mark McGraw, Patti Hayer, and Pastor Gary Kinkel

Council Members Absent: Nancy Berndt

Meeting called to order: Sandy McCullough, President @ 7:05
Patti Hayer / Renee Lea: Motion to approve the agenda: *Carried*

Devotions (Scripture and Prayer): Pastor Gary Kinkel – Acts 2:37-47

Discernment (New Business):

- **MWAM Update** – Mark McGraw reported on the success of the December performance which raised about \$3800 in donations. MWAM contributed \$1000 to the American Cancer Society, \$1500 to Feed My Starving Children and \$1000 to the general fund with the remainder going toward new equipment and future show expenses.
- *Erik Allen / Mark McGraw:* Motion to approve the MWAM 2017 spring musical charity to be ELCA Good Gifts: *Carried*
- **2017 Annual Meeting:** It was agreed that the 2017 annual meeting will be held after the second service at 11:30AM on Sunday, January 29.
- **2017 Budget Review:** Erik Allen presented the council with the proposed 2017 budget that will be presented at the 2017 annual meeting.
- *Mark McGraw / Renee Lea:* Motion to approve the proposed 2017 budget: *Carried*
- **Narrative Budget and Annual Report** – Sandy McCullough informed council that ministry reports for the upcoming annual report were due 12/23. Mollie Viola reported on work being done in the stewardship working group in preparation for the narrative budget that will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting.

Decisions (Old Business):

- *Mollie Viola / Erik Allen:* Motion to approve October council minutes: *Carried*
- *Jim Hime / Mollie Viola:* Motion to approve treasurers report: *Carried*
- **Newsletter Report Assignment:** Renee Lea was assigned to write the ministry report in the next newsletter.
- *Jim Hime / Mollie Viola:* Motion to Adjourn: *Carried.*

Respectfully Submitted
Jim Hime, Church Secretary

FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 AM OWLS 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM God Squad 6:30 PM HG Rehearsal 7:30 PM Summit Worship 8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	2 7:00 PM AA*	3	4 9:00 AM AA *
5 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Sunday School/ Adult Education 10:30 AM Worship 3:00 PM Hispanic Church	6 7:00 PM AA* District Meeting	7 5:30 PM Loaves & Fishes @ St. Mark's Church	8 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 1:00 PM Quilters 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM God Squad 6:30 PM HG Rehearsal 7:30 PM Summit Worship 8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	9 7:00 PM AA*	10	11 9:00 AM AA *
12 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Sunday School/ Adult Education 10:30 AM Worship 3:00 PM Hispanic Church 5:30 PM Luther & Lager @ Badger Hill Brewing	13	14	15 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM God Squad 6:30 PM HG Rehearsal 7:30 PM Summit Worship 8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	16 1:00 PM Martha Circle 7:00 PM AA*	17	18 9:00 AM AA *
19 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Adult Education (No Sunday School) 10:30 AM Worship 12:30 PM MWAM Rehearsal 3:00 PM Hispanic Church	20	21 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	22 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM God Squad 6:30 PM HG Rehearsal 7:30 PM Summit Worship 8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	23 7:00 PM AA*	24	25 9:00 AM AA *
26 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Sunday School/ Adult Education 10:30 AM Worship & Hiskes Baptism 3:00 PM Hispanic Church	27	28				

* - "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