



Praise and Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday November 21st at 6:30 pm

Food donations for CAP will be collected for offering

Followed by a Pie Social

(Bring a pie or dessert to share)

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

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Office Hours: 8:00am-1:00pm Monday & Tuesday and 1:00pm-5:00pm Wednesday & Thursday
Closed – Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

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From Pastor Gary Kinkel...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We are in the last interval prior to Advent and Christmas. The season of Advent marks the beginning of a new year for the Church. Our society pressures us to observe secular rites of various sorts and for many of us these have become much more important than the Person and purpose for whom the Church exists. Some voices are expressing concern that we are in the last interval, experiencing the final expiring gasps, of a dying Church. Bizarrely (to me) some who claim the name of Christ believe the antidote is to attempt to get (or keep) social and political power. Evidently, they think they can give life to the Church, or to the Faith Once Delivered to the Saints (Jude, verse 3), by imposing it on an unwilling society or by forcing people to live as if they had faith even when they don't. This misguided effort only either teaches people how to be good liars (to get along without trouble) or causes them to experience the God of grace and the announcement of human salvation and liberation as an oppression. It also has caused some of our sisters and brothers to lose their balance and embrace obvious, outright evil and open, egregious lying for the sake of what they mistakenly think will give them some of the power or influence they want.

There are also those who believe the key to a living Church is to work on the institution: get more people in the building one way or another, get more members (I know a pastor who would persuade people to join who were openly not Christians, but he would say, "That doesn't matter! Just join for the music and fellowship! Besides, I'm trying to reach a quota, so would you help me?"), have more fun, be hipper, seem less like the Christian Church, and generally try to massage the massive dead weight of an institution bound by a terrible inertia. And while such measures have a short-term effect on single congregations, they do not cause the Church to rise, to get out of its inertia, to be impelled by the fresh, clean wind of the Holy Spirit; they do not give Life to the Church. But our concentration on all these kinds of things caused one great Lutheran theologian in Germany (Wolfhart Pannenberg), at the close of the 20th century, to write that he thought that unless there were some major changes—a rebirth, by roughly 2050 Christians in the U.S. would exist only in small, isolated pockets. Of course, he said, there will still be big gatherings in places people will still be calling "churches," they will sing songs, pray prayers, even have reference to the Christian Scriptures and use the name of Jesus—but they will not be Christians, and neither will their gatherings. His remarks warrant serious reflection and should give us pause.

The LIFE of the Christian Church, the one and only thing that can save us from sin, death and the devil, give us new life and power to explode into faithful discipleship in the world is the living Jesus Christ himself, the Spirit that he sends to his faithful, and the most holy Word of and about him. Our attention is diverted, we are looking at the wrong thing, when we spend our time figuring out how to revive or move an institution. We need to turn away from being institutional custodians and concern ourselves first and foremost, day and night, with the Person who called it into being and for whom it exists.

Rebirth will come with the descent of the power of God among us. The questions to ask, at least a few of them, are: How can we sink more deeply into the Word so that we might know Jesus Christ better and hear the voice of the Holy Spirit? How can our praying become more frequent and fervent, and how can we pray more like Jesus? How can we let go of our own wills and desires to be caught up in Jesus' will, Jesus' cause and Jesus' desires? And, Lord, what would you have me do?

These are the things that make for life. These are the things through which the Church rises, throws off its shackles and MOVES with God into the kingdom future.

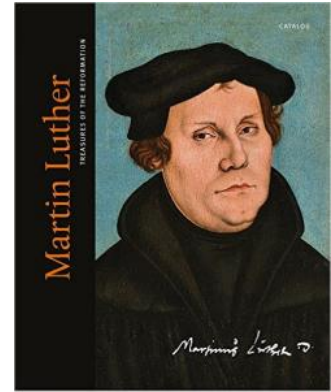
We are about these things every Sunday.

In the grace of Jesus,

Pastor Gary

MOVIE NIGHT @ ST. JOHN'S!

Sunday, November 11, at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Gary will be showing the *Luther Movie* – the good one. All are welcome! We will view it in the basement, using the new television we recently purchased. This is a great opportunity to see some key moments of Luther's life, and the Reformation of the Church, told pretty much straight. The actors are great, and so is the cinematography. Come and see why there is a Lutheran Church and what we stand for portrayed in all its historical drama!



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

OWLS – November Meeting

One of the topics suggested by a member of our OWLS group is "HOSPICE CARE." We will be focusing on that topic at our meeting on Wednesday, November 7th, at 10 a.m. Sheila Duddy, with Allina Health, will be our guest speaker. She is a registered nurse and has a master's degree in education. She worked over a decade as a Hospice Admissions Nurse and more recently as the Hospice Nurse Educator for Allina Health Hospice Care. She is known for her creative spirit and for her compassionate care of the whole person and their family in the terminal phase of life.

Sheila is a mother of two teenagers and presently lives in St. Paul. She is also an artist and recently showed her work at the Minnesota State Fair.

Her passion: Sheila has been a lifelong learner on all things related to the meaning of life and death.

It is a great privilege to have Sheila come to the OWLS gathering at St. John's. Please invite your friends and neighbors to come with you for our meeting on November 7th. *OWL are welcome!*

For more information on these programs call Del at 952-412-4917.

Driving Volunteers Needed

Do you have some time on Sunday morning to help get Karl and Signie Nylene to the 10:30 church service? They live at All Saints Senior Living in Shakopee in the memory care unit; they both use a walker. They have been members at St. John's for 4 years and really appreciate being able to worship on Sunday morning. During these 4 years we have had many faithful members assist with transporting Karl and Signie; at this time, we are in need of some new drivers. If you can only help once a month that would be great. If you can help more often that would also be great.

Please contact Nancy Berndt (612-269-2450) if you have questions or if you are able to help. *Thank you!*

Confirmation News!

November Confirmation schedule:

11/07: A Holy Name
11/14: The Kingdom
11/21: **NO** Confirmation (*Thanksgiving*)
11/28: The Divine Will

Simple Supper Helper schedule:

11/07: 7th Grade families
11/14: 8th Grade families
11/21: **NO** Meal (*Thanksgiving*)
11/28: 9th Grade families

Below is the schedule for worship helpers. Everyone will be helping once every couple of months.

**If you cannot be at your scheduled time, please reach out to your classmates to see if they will switch with you.*

	4-Nov	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov
8:15 Service				
<i>Cross Bearer</i>	Jacob Radke	Edie Schmidt	Mitchell Blenkush	Gavin Holm
<i>Acolyte</i>	Abby Swenhaugen	Holly Schmidt	Jordyn Blenkush	Maya Mitchell
<i>Communion Server</i>	Emma Swenson	Sierra Nascene	Lilly Allen	Ella Doty
10:30 Service				
<i>Cross Bearer</i>	Luke Wilts	Alexis Schuler	Jacen Skogrand	Molly Anderson
<i>Acolyte</i>	Lindsay Schmidt	Madison McGraw	Kady McGraw	Nicholas Briggs
<i>Communion Server</i>	Gabby Anderson	Cannon Miller	Cameron Johnson	Colin Kostelac



Feed My Starving Children One Million Meal Packing Event

Join FMSC for a "million thanks"! FMSC is hosting a one million meal packing event at Friendship Church in Shakopee from Wednesday, November 14th through Saturday, November 17th.

Register for a 2-hour shift for yourself or gather a group of friends and family together to help!

Call 763-486-8619 or register online at www.friendshipmn.org/events.

Properties Committee Update

Happy Fall! I would like to give an update on some church property projects/activities. As the weather turns, we look to wrap up outside duties and prepare ourselves for more inside time.

We have concluded the fall outside preparation for winter. We have completed our routine duties of sprinkler blowout, fall leaf clean-up and a signed snow removal contract is in place....yes snow removal!

In addition, we have put in place a temporary sign regarding worship service times. We continue to look into the possibility of constructing a permanent sign as early as next spring/summer.

Turning to inside projects, we have our new Wi-Fi system in place! A portion of the funds raised at the Spring Social went to a new Wi-Fi system. Connection can be attained throughout the building, including the fellowship area and all Sunday School classrooms. Signs are posted throughout the building indicating the use of "St. John's Guest". ALL ARE WELCOME to use this church enhancement! Please let the office know if you experience any issues!

One advantage of this improvement is the use of a new smart TV placed in the children's choir/confirmation meeting area. It can be used for internet connection and thus expand our teaching tactics for our young. A special thank you to those that donated to the Spring Social and the recent appeal for the new TV the church! I have personally witnessed the great use by our youth leaders!

Please mark your calendar for two dates in November for painting projects!

What: Painting project: overflow area, west church entrance

When: Tuesday, November 13 and Thursday, November 15th from 4-9pm.

Consider attending for the full evening or a portion of the time to assist. Please bring a brush or paint roller. All other supplies will be provided! It will be great to get this area freshened up prior to Advent!

A special thank you to Pastor Jose Luis for his excellent care of the church grounds and church building!

Peace,
Scott Wilts, Properties Chair



NIGHT OF HOPE

Benefit Concert

Saturday, November 17th

Doors open @ 6:30pm, Concert begins @ 7:00pm

Location: St. John's Lutheran Church

Admission: Free Will Offering

*Join us for a night of music supporting the
American Cancer Society!*



Families with young children are invited to BIBSS!

This is for families with young children that are not of Sunday School age. Come to the nursery to meet other young families, sing songs and a small art project. Our next gathering is **Sunday, November 18th 9:30 - 10:15am in the nursery**. If you are unable to attend on the 18th we will be meeting again December 2nd.

Also, the nursery is in need of baby dolls. If you have some dolls you can donate, please drop off in the nursery. *Thank you!!*

St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes September 18th, 2018

Members Present: Pastor Gary, Pastor Jerod, Nancy Berndt, Aimee Johnson, Jenny Pudwill, Scott Wilts,

Members Absent: Erik Allen, Renee Lea

I. Gathering

Meeting called to order at 7:06. Scott Wilts was offered to take minutes and be the timekeeper. Motion made by Jenny and second by Aimee to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Pastor Gary led the council in prayer using Acts: 5:54-8:1. Scripture is based on Stephanos (filled by the Holy Spirit) following the actions of Jesus' crucifixion; spoke similar words as he was stoned to death. Discussion continued regarding faithfulness and truthfulness as being above "success".

II. Discernment (new business)

- a. Aimee led discussion regarding the possibility of reforming a worship committee. Further discussion to take place, beginning with Pastor Gary having a discussion with the current worship leaders. Topics would be an alternative, contemporary or blended service offering. The Christian elements of the worship service would remain but how to enhance services.
- b. Rally Sunday wrap up: It was a successful day in multiple regards. The Sunday school registration rose from 17 to 57 children. A huge thank you to Kelly Roe and Patty Hayer for the planning of the children's activities and the pancake breakfast! Job very well done!
- c. Aimee notified council of the children's choir area projector no longer functioning. Replacement bulb was tried without success. Aimee (Sunday school) will be appealing from the congregation for donations for a new TV and wall bracket. The general cost is estimated at \$800. Please see in the bulletin and Sunday school weekly email.

III. Decisions (old business)

- a. Motion made by Scott and seconded by Pastor Gary to approve the council minutes from July. Motion passed.
- b. Pastor Jerod discussed tentative Mission trip to Puerto Rico in June of 2019. He made a motion to start fundraising for the trip. Council gave direction to move forward. Estimate cost for trip would be \$1000-1300/ person. Pastor Jerod planted the seed that in 2022, the goal is to travel to Nigeria to assist our sister congregation.
- c. Reviewed the treasurer report. At present, we have a cash balance of \$39,000 down from \$55,000 in July. This is decreased due to the installation of the church WIFI, VBS and MWAM (Little Mermaid expenses and donations). In addition, we ran a \$5,000 operating deficit. Giving slowed over the summer months and year to date offerings are \$148,000 compared to last year at \$152,000. Year to date budget shortfall is \$5,000. Pastor Jerod motioned to approve the report and Pastor Gary seconded, the motion passed.

IV. Sending

- a. Next council meeting moved to Oct. 23, 2018 due to schedule conflicts with present council members.
- b. Closing prayer provided by Pastor Jerod.
- c. Meeting adjourned at 8:42.

NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 PM AA* 7:00 PM Hispanic Church	2	3 9:00 AM AA * 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Band Rehearsal
4 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Sunday School/ Adult Education 9:30 AM Bell Choir 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Worship 1:00 PM Hispanic Church 6:00 PM MWAM Rehearsal	5 7:00 PM AA* District Meeting 7:00 PM Gemeinschaft	6 6:30 PM MWAM Rehearsal	7 10:00 AM OWLS 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation- Large/Small Group 6:30 PM Higher Ground 7:30 PM Worship 8:00 PM Choir	8 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA* 7:00 PM Hispanic Church	9	10 9:00 AM AA * 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Band Rehearsal
11 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Sunday School/ Adult Education 9:30 AM Bell Choir 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Worship & Baptism 1:00 PM Hispanic Church 5:00 PM MWAM Rehearsal 5:30 PM Luther Movie Showing	12	13 6:30 PM MWAM Rehearsal	14 12:00 PM Bible Study 1:00 PM Quilters 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation- Large/Small Group 6:30 PM Higher Ground 7:30 PM Worship 8:00 PM Choir	15 1:00 PM Martha Circle 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA* 7:00 PM Hispanic Church	16	17 9:00 AM AA * 7:00 PM American Cancer Society Concert
18 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Adult Education 9:30 AM Bell Choir 9:30 AM Choir 10:30 AM Worship 1:00 PM Hispanic Church 5:00 PM MWAM Rehearsal	19 7:00 PM Gemeinschaft	20 6:30 PM MWAM Rehearsal 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	21 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:30 PM Thanksgiving Service & Pie Social *No Confirmation (Thanksgiving Break)	22 Thanksgiving (office closed)	23 Thanksgiving (office closed)	24 9:00 AM AA * 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Band Rehearsal
25 8:15 AM Worship 9:25 AM Adult Education (No Sunday School) 10:30 AM Worship 12:00 PM MWAM Set Move-In 1:00 PM Hispanic Church 4:00 PM MWAM Rehearsal	26 6:30 PM MWAM Dress Rehearsal	27	28 12:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation- Large/Small Group 6:30 PM Higher Ground 7:30 PM Worship 8:00 PM Choir	29 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA* 7:00 PM Hispanic Church	30 7:00 PM MWAM Performance	

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

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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