

Abundantly Blessed, Graciously Giving

Abundantly Blessed, Graciously Giving Campaign is here!

Over the next few weeks, several families will be hosting small group gatherings for an opportunity to have some fellowship, as well as discuss stewardship at St. John's. Please watch for an evite in your inbox (or invite via post mail if an email address is not on file). We have a great group of hosts, but we would love to have a few more.

If you are interested in hosting, please reach out to Mollie Viola at mollieviola@gmail.com or 952-393-3804.



Worship Hours

Sunday Worship – 8:00 & 10:00am

Adult Education – 9:10am

Sunday School – 10:20am

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
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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
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From Pastor Gary Kinkel...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God and from our Lord Jesus Christ, and grace in the Holy Spirit! I hope autumn is going smoothly for everyone. We all participate in culture. We are all shaped by our culture. Our sensibilities, the things that feel “right,” our expectations for how things should go and the way we talk are driven by our culture. But our culture is not necessarily right, or a truthful reflection of reality. People in America have largely stopped employing the subjunctive mood in their use of English. The result is almost universally poor English—but everyone does it, so, the assumption goes, it must be right. But it is not right—it is just that almost everyone is equally wrong, so few notice the absence, or improper use of, the subjunctive. But it is still wrong. Or, again, we hear the ubiquitous phrase that something happened, “On accident.” No, that’s incorrect. Something happened “By accident,” as in, “By means of an accident,” or “An accident was the instrument of this event.” But, as in the prior case, almost everyone is incorrect in the same way, so few even notice the mistake. But it is still wrong. It is still (as the early Christian theologians Origen and Augustine might have said) a barbarous way to use language.

This power of culture extends, significantly, to our moral judgments, our religious life and our expectations and ways of thinking about the church, too. Much of the time we are driven in these matters not by the mysterious God we worship, nor by our Savior, nor by the Word of God, nor even by the Great Tradition of the Church’s mind and practice across the centuries, but rather by the feeling of our culture, the sensibilities of our surrounding environment, and by our own desires. But just as with language, the universal agreement of our surroundings does not make it right.

There are churches today that try as hard as possible to mirror our culture; to be like the culture around us. Christian language is still used there, sort of. It is an open question whether Christian language is being used properly there, in accordance with the “grammatical” rules and practices of the Old and New Testaments and of the Jewish and Christian traditions. To the degree that they have simply become a representation of our culture with its common moral judgments and general religious sensibility they have ceased to be Christian—even though they may refer to Jesus Christ and even though they may sing about God with apparent emotion and pleasure.

Our central task in the Church of Jesus Christ is to preach and HEAR the Word of God in order that we might have direct contact with the living God through our Savior Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

(continued from page 2)

Our primary aim and directive is to KNOW the triune God (John 17:3), to learn what it is to love God with our whole being and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Close behind that is Jesus' command to make new disciples of the nations, baptizing them and teaching them to do all that Jesus said (Matthew 28:18-20). The latter is not exhausted by teaching our children. We are called to be seeking others to become disciples, followers, apprentices, of Jesus Christ. To do these things is why we exist.

Part of what this means is that we have to learn to make judgments, to feel, to look at things and to have expectations that are NOT about our culture and its ways, but rather about the Lord God. We have to learn to hear the otherness of the Scriptures and of God in order that we might be lifted, or jolted, out of our expectations, our desires; out of OURSELVES, in order to worship God in Spirit and in truth. Only then can we begin to live as the people of God, the people of Jesus, in the midst of the world. Only then can we begin to live against the grain of worldliness and begin to experience godliness.

The Church is actually trying to get us to drop our own desires so that we can desire what Jesus wants; to purge us of our cultural baggage so that we can see and hear clearly, so that our hearts can hear the voice of the Lord more than our own voice or our culture's voice(s). Come join us in this cleansing and re-learning every Sunday morning! I'm saving you a seat!

In the grace of Jesus,

Pastor Gary



Families with young children are invited to B.I.B.S.S
(Based in Baptism Sunday School)

B.I.B.S.S 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. Parents will go with their children to the Nursery during Sunday School time.

Next B.I.B.B.S date: November 17th



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

OWLS will meet on Wednesday November 6th at 10:00 a.m.

"Creating Caring Faith Communities: 5 Things You Can Do"

The OWLS will be welcoming Kay King from NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Minnesota. The first thing Ms. King said to me when I extended the invitation from the Owls was - I can't teach you everything about mental illness in an hour. She'll sure try, King has been with NAMI for 10 years as a public educator. She also has programs on gray matter and depression in seniors. Are you interested now? Come and see just what NAMI is all about on

Wednesday November 6th at 10:00 a.m. Please join us for this special event.
OWL are welcome! For more information, contact Becky Sexton at 952-445-4002

Families Moving Forward

A Program of  **Beacon**
INTERFAITH HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

Our next opportunity to serve at
Families Moving Forward is NOW! (thru November 2nd)

It's not too late to sign up to help!

Families Moving Forward (FMF) volunteer opportunity available!

We need a contact person to help get the word out regarding volunteer opportunities with FMF. You would help communicate volunteer openings alongside Cross of Peace Church. You would not be required to be a volunteer at FMF unless you feel called to do so! If you are interested, please see Pastor Gary or Kirsti Youngs, kirstifree@gmail.com.

Confirmation News!

November Confirmation schedule:

11/06: Samuel & Saul
 11/13: King David
 11/20: Solomon
 11/27: NO Confirmation (*Thanksgiving*)

Simple Supper Helper schedule:

11/06: 9th Grade families
 11/13: 8th Grade families
 11/20: 7th Grade families
 11/27: NO Meal (*Thanksgiving*)

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.

	3-Nov	10-Nov	17-Nov	24-Nov
8:00 Service				
<i>Cross Bearer</i>	Nicholas Briggs	Brinley Garvey	Colin Kostelac	Peter Swenhausen
<i>Acolyte</i>	Hailey Sauer	Noah Lindquist	Jacob Radke	Caitlin Swenson
<i>Communion Server</i>	Hailey Sauer	Landon Vaupel	Josie Pond	Hogan Vaupel
10:00 Service				
<i>Cross Bearer</i>	Colby Hahn	Sierra Nascene	Cannon Miller	Mitchell Blenkush
<i>Acolyte</i>	Kylie Hahn	Seth Appert	Kady McGraw	Noah Brown
<i>Communion Server</i>	Gavin Holm	Olivia Hayer	Cameron Johnson	Cece Lemke



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

This Advent season we will be decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias purchased from the **Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women's Shelter.**

Live plants that raise funds to save lives!

Instead of purchasing a plant you can contribute towards the cost in honor or memory of loved ones. Watch for contribution forms in the bulletins starting the week of Nov. 24th.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes – September 17th, 2019

Council members present: Pastor Gary Kinkel, Paster Jerod Freeberg, Sandy McCullough, Jenny Pudwill, Jesse Rients, Aimee Johnson, Jim Hime, Kirsti Youngs, and Paula Brennan.

I. Gathering

- A. Call to order 7:02
- B. *Motion to approve agenda: Pastor Gary Kinkel / Aimee Johnson; carried.*
- C. Scripture and prayer: Pastor Gary Kinkel - The Council in the Word, Acts 11:1-18

II. Discerning Our Mission

- A. Pastors' Reports: Pastor Gary Kinkel – Food for the Poor speaker will be here during both worship services on Sunday, October 6.
- B. Properties Matters: Council is still in search of a Property Management council member. Pastor Jose Luis Delgadillo purchased a carpet cleaning machine.
Motion to pay Pastor Jose Luis Delgadillo for half the cost of the carpet cleaner; Jesse Rients / Jim Hime; carried.
- C. Youth Updates: Pastor Jerod Freeberg requested the remaining 2019 continuing education budget be used for 2020 continuing education for the 2020 ELCA Youth Extravaganza to be paid yet this year. There are several opportunities for continuing education including Community Organizing Training, ELCA Youth Extravaganza, and Pastoral and Leadership Formation. The 2020 ELCA Youth Extravaganza is in Anaheim and 2021 is in Minneapolis. Leadership on the Way is 2020 / 2021.

Website Update: Thanks to an anonymous donation, there are photos of St. John's members on the website rather than stock photos. Pastor Jerod is requesting permission to launch the new website. The cost for website hosting is \$250 and permission to publish under St. John's name.

Motion to approve launch of website and allocating \$250 toward the new hosting service: Jim Hime / Jesse Rients; carried.
Pastor Jerod would like photos of continuing council members for the website into 2020.

Maintenance Projects: Pastor Gary Kinkel:

Snow removal contractor is needed.

There is water leakage / damage in various areas in the basement. A capital campaign may be necessary to take care of our building.

Nominating Committee is needed.

Motion to commission Mike Sexton to seek a new snow removal contractor up to the amount we paid last year: Pastor Jerod Freeberg / Aimee Johnson; carried.

Eagle's Nest: Pastor Jerod Freeberg - Next week will be the first high school youth group. Lots of cleaning and removal of broken furniture has been done in the Eagle's Nest. A contractor has been consulted regarding the structure of the space as updates are made. Looking at painting and flooring.

Scrip Fundraising: Pastor Jerod Freeberg - A percentage goes directly back to St. John's and an initial investment is needed to purchase the cards. This is happening because we are having a second mission trip this year, one for middle school and one for high school. The high school youth group is gathering again also.

Motion to approve St. John's enroll in Scrip account for future fundraising efforts:
Pastor Jerod Freeberg / Jim Hime; carried.

III. Giving Thanks

- A. Review of Rally Sunday: The Sunday school kickoff was a great success, there were many families in attendance.
- B. *Motion to approve council minutes with edits: Kirsti Youngs / Jim Hime; carried.*
- C. Treasurer's Report: Jim Hime - *Motion to approve Treasurer's Report: Pastor Gary Kinkel / Kirsti Youngs; carried.*
- D. Synod in need of support - give more of our budgeted support now. Will be discussed at next council meeting.

IV. Sending

- A. Review action items established: Next council meeting date is **October 22, 2019**
- B. Assign report for newsletter: Sandy McCullough
- C. Closing Prayer
- D. *Motion to adjourn: Jim Hime / Jesse Rients; carried.*

November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 9:00 AM AA*
3 <i>Daylight Savings Time Ends</i> 8:00 AM Worship 9:10 AM Adult Education 9:15 AM Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School 1:00 PM Hispanic Church	4 7:00 PM AA* District Meeting 7:00 PM Hope Al-Anon 7:00 PM Gemeinschaft	5 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study	6 10:00 AM OWLS 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM St. John's Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Worship	7 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	8	9 9:00 AM AA*
10 8:00 AM Worship 9:10 AM Adult Education 9:15 AM Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School 1:00 PM Hispanic Church 5:30 PM Luther & Lager	11 7:00 PM Hope Al-Anon 7:15 PM Discipleship Team	12 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study	13 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 1:00 PM Quilters 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM St. John's Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Worship	14 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	15	16 9:00 AM AA*
17 8:00 AM Worship 9:10 AM Adult Education 9:15 AM Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM B.I.B.B.S 10:20 AM Sunday School 1:00 PM Hispanic Church	18 7:00 PM Hope Al-Anon 7:00 PM Gemeinschaft	19 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	20 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 PM Simple Supper 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:45 PM St. John's Choir Rehearsal 7:30 PM Worship	21 1:00 PM Martha Circle 6:30 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM AA*	22	23 9:00 AM AA*
24 8:00 AM Worship 9:10 AM Adult Education 9:15 AM Bell Choir & Choir Rehearsal 10:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School 1:00 PM Hispanic Church	25 7:00 PM Hope Al-Anon 7:15 PM Discipleship Team	26 6:00 PM Hispanic Church Bible Study	27 12:00 PM Pastor's Bible Study	28 THANKSGIVING (office closed)	29	30 9:00 AM AA*

* - "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