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God's OASIS IN THE DESERT

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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| <p>LWML <i>Art Show & Ice Cream Social</i></p> <p>Serving the Lord Chart <i>Check the chart to see when you are serving this month.</i></p> <p>Page 2</p> | <p>Stewardship <i>What's on God's Refrigerator Door?</i></p> <p>Page 3</p> | <p>Ways to Grow at St. John's <i>Check the table and see what is going on and how you can get involved.</i></p> <p>Birthdays & Anniversaries</p> <p>Page 4</p> | <p>Calendar <i>Print out and hang up so you won't miss any events at St. John's</i></p> <p>Page 5</p> |
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A Word From Our Head President

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Summer is almost upon us, and for St. John's it's a season of change. We have four young adults graduating high school in June, and they are preparing for their first steps into adulthood, whether it's higher education they're seeking, or employment, or both, they have our heartfelt thoughts and prayers for a blessed future. For all of us with kids still in school, it's that time of year again when we try to think of things to keep our kids busy on those long summer days. Well, for many of you, Vacation Bible School will be an excellent way to get their summer started. St. John's is hosting VBS this year, so if you can volunteer some time, I know it will be appreciated.

This month brings on another change as well. Pastor Hilpert and his family will be following the Lord's call to Hawaii, and after a time of prayer, reflection, and discussion we will be seeking out a new pastor. As many of you are aware, this will not be a quick process, and we have no intention of jumping in headfirst in our search.

We will be seeking assistance from the District Council in finding an interim pastor, who will not only assist us with our spiritual needs, but will also help us figure out what direction to take in finding a permanent replacement. The Church Council and the Elders and Deaconesses will be seeking out your thoughts and ideas in the near future.

For now though, I think we need to reflect on the wonderful service and love that Pastor Hilpert and Rachel have shown for St. John's. We have been truly blessed by their time here. They and their wonderful children will be sorely missed. Please make sure you thank them for their service to us when you see them. God has a plan for St. John's, and it's a good one. As long as we stay focused on serving Him and loving one another we will continue to grow spiritually and as a church body. Please pray for our church, that we might serve the Lord every day.

Peace and Blessings,
Gary Coleman

Serving the Lord in June

| DATE | ELDER & DEACONESS / LECTORS | USHERS | ACOLYTE | CHILDREN'S CHURCH | MEDIA TECH | CRUCIFER |
|-------------------|---|------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 6/7 Communion | John Mitchell (E) Dustin Simpson (L) | Mart Vance | Carl Barnes | Rachel | Jacob Davis | Joshua |
| 6/14 Communion | Donna Mitchell (D) Naomi Brown (L) | | Bryan Carlson | Donna Sarah | Linda Mulac | Zachery |
| 6/21 | Kelly Gregg (D) Tracy Olsen (L) | | Caleb Coleman | Kathy Emily | Joshua Cook | Julia |
| 6/28 | Phil Locke (E) Pete Olsen (L) | | Hailey Bunker | Jane Ellen Kitty | Allison Woolsey | Daniel |

LWML

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, with help from the Fellowship Board, will host an Art & Hobby Show & Ice Cream Social on Saturday, June 20, from 1 to 4 pm.

We welcome all members (youngsters and oldsters) of St. John's to share their art, hobbies, collections, etc. Examples of what to display include art work, collectible vehicles, cup and saucer sets, postcards, stuffed animals, Hot Wheels, dolls, spoons, old tools, piggy banks, coins, the list goes on and on.....

If you don't have anything to share, come and see and enjoy the fun, fellowship, and the ice cream. Flyers will be in the Sunday bulletins with an entry form to fill out. We will need this to determine how many items will be on display and the space needed.

Any questions? Call Georgine Scheuermann 867-5109.

Stewardship

What's on God's Refrigerator Door?

If you are a parent or grandparent or even just an admirer of a young child, your refrigerator door may be the showcase of one or more paintings or drawings. To a visitor, that work of art may be just a mass of scribbles, but to the one who loves the child it is a masterpiece. We love the gift because of the person who made it and gave it to us. It is precious to us because it was a gift from the heart. The motive of the child was pure and loving.

Perhaps our gifts to God are similar. We're such amateurs, such babies. God could accomplish His work much more efficiently by Himself. Our works, even if monumental by human standards, are just scribbles if God would judge them in relation to His ability. Because He loves us, though- and loves us far more than a parent or grandparent loves a child- He looks at our works with eyes of love. He sees our hearts and knows we are motivated by love and faith, and He is pleased. He is so pleased that, if He had a refrigerator, He'd use it to display our works done for His glory.

God has given us gifts to use for this purpose-to glorify Him by serving others. In 1 Peter 4:10 we read, "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." God has seen to it that each of us has something to offer. He gives us the privilege of serving and then provides all that we need to do so.

Just as the budding art student improves with the help of a teacher and with appropriate tools to create his work, so does God teach us through His Word how to fulfill our purpose and how to improve our service. So also He gives gifts of time and money and talents and then His Word and Sacrament to strengthen us for service.

The Stewardship Committee,
Gloria Stillman

Children's Church

Children's Church is one of the wonderful ministries we have at St. John's. It is a great program for parents and children alike. Children's Church brings the Sunday message to our children on a level they can truly understand. When we take the children into the Beck Wing, it not only allows the parents to enjoy the sermon, but the children also get to do an activity linked to the intentions of the message. However, due to several relocations of active families from our congregation, the number of parents involved in Children's Church has dwindled. Thus, we are asking for volunteers, as we would like to continue having this special ministry. If we have enough volunteers, each person would only need to be with the children once a month, or maybe even once every other month. Please keep in mind that you are not required to have a young child to participate. If you feel that you have the ability to work with young children, please consider utilizing the gifts that God has so graciously given you. For more information, you can contact Kathy Seline at 423-7589.

Ways to Grow at St. John's

| GROWING IN WORSHIP | GROWING IN GOD'S WORD | GROWING IN SACRIFICIAL LIVING | GROWING IN INTENTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS |
|---|--|--|--|
| Sunday Service Sundays 10:00 a.m. | Bible Study Sundays at 8:45 a.m. Studying Romans | May Income: \$12,983.25 May Expenses: \$16,536.27 | Fellowship Sundays at 11:15 a.m. |
| Room To Grow Chapels Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. | Sunday School Sundays at 8:45 a.m. | May Net Income: \$3,553.02 Yearly Income: \$75,934.05 | LWML Meeting 6/6 at 1:00 p.m. |
| | | Yearly Expenses: \$80,767.37 Yearly Net Income: \$4,833.32 | Farewell to the Hilpert Family 6/13 at 11:00 a.m. at Laura Mills Park |
| | | These figures are as of 5/27/09 | |



Elise Harms 6/1
 Dustin Simpson 6/2
 Rose Finley 6/5
 Geri Washer 6/7
 Colleen Reynolds 6/8
 Leslie Hoover 6/9
 Christopher Scott 6/9
 Heidi Carlson 6/13
 Joan Bunker 6/14
 Nellie Deda 6/15
 Micah Kiletico 6/17
 Sarah Busch 6/18
 Nita Reynon 6/20
 Sally Rae 6/21
 Joshua Hilpert 6/23
 Bryan Carlson 6/24
 Caleb Harkins 6/28
 Adam Coleman 6/30

Sean & Jenny Hiskett 06/07/2008 1 year
 Frank & Cass Barrett 06/11/1989 20 years
 Cathy & Doug Coval 06/11/2005 4 years
 Dale & Shana Carlson 06/20/2007 2 years
 Elmer & Ruth Doege 06/26/1948 61 years
 Reuben & Ardella Blumhagen 06/28/1954 55 years
 Pastor Matt & Rachel Hilpert 06/29/1996 13 years
 Bob & Gloria Stillman 06/30/1956 53 years

JUNE

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 6:00p Elder & Deaconess Meeting | 5 | 6 1:00p LWML Meeting |
| 7 8:45a Bible Classes 10:00a Communion Service CONFIRMATION SUNDAY | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 6:00p Council Meeting | 12 | 13 11:00a Hilpert Farewell Party at Laura Mills Park bring side dish, drinks and chairs |
| 14 8:45a Bible Classes 10:00a Communion Service | 15 8:00a-12:00p VBS at St. John's Newsletter Articles Due | 16 8:00a-12:00p VBS at St. John's | 17 8:00a-12:00p VBS at St. John's | 18 8:00a-12:00p VBS at St. John's | 19 8:00a-12:00p VBS at St. John's 4:00-5:00p Girl Scout Troop 97 Meeting | 20 1:00p LWML Art & Hobby Show along with Ice Cream Social |
| 21 8:45a Bible Classes 10:00a Service | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 8:45a Bible Classes 10:00a Service | 29 | 30 | | | | |



Lauren, Adam, Jacob, and Chelsey would like to thank the congregation for the wonderful graduation brunch. A special thanks to Donna Mitchell for putting it together, and to everyone who brought food and/or gifts.



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Reaching with Love