

# September Newsletter

224 Mary Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 • Phone: (507) 723-5397 • [www.sjlcmc.org](http://www.sjlcmc.org) • Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9am - 2pm CST

## DISAPPOINTMENT, FEAR AND STUMBLING BLOCKS TO FAITH

We have all faced at some time in our lives one or all of the above.

Disappointment may come after we fail a test or a driver's license examination, ( some may remember those days), quickly followed by fear ,what will I tell the parents and then stumble through what should be faith that our parents will understand.

We read in the Bible how God is disappointed in what his people do. Today we still struggle with have we taught our kids and grandkids enough that they won't be a disappointment.

We fear that maybe we should have spent some more time and energy. In Psalms 18 we hear of David calling out to God, *"You are my strength and refuge."*

We read of Peter in the storm trusting Jesus as he gets out of the boat in a storm only to lose faith in God and sink.

Let's not forget about Jonah, running from God. God will always test our faith because he gives us free will. We get to choose which road to take.

When we are broken, He picks up those broken pieces, and if we trust him, he'll put us back together. Let God be God. When God through the Holy Spirit directs our actions, we don't need to worry about deadlines.

*"You are  
my strength  
and refuge."*

*Psalms 18*

No matter what life throws your way, God is there to pick you up. Sometimes we all wish that He would tell us His plans, but maybe He does we just don't want to listen.

Are you willing to take a different path, the road less traveled to do God's will. Listen to what he calls you to do. We are never led to waters that go beyond our abilities.

How do we answer the call?



**Rally  
Sunday**

potluck meal and activities for all ages. This is our kickoff for the Sunday School year starting Sept 17. Don't forget to bring a lawn chair! All Ages are Welcome.

Rally Day is  
Sunday  
September 10th at  
Browns Park with  
Worship at 10am,  
followed by a



First Communion Classes will begin in September, more info to come in weekly bulletins.

**Teachers  
Needed**



Board of Ed. is looking for Sunday School Teachers for this fall? Contact me, April Beyer at 605-695-5074 or via email to

[april\\_2@hotmail.com](mailto:april_2@hotmail.com) if interested in teaching.

# September Church Calendar

## Sunday, September 3 (Holy Communion)

9:00AM Worship  
10:00AM Coffee & fellowship

## Tuesday, September 5

9:00AM` Quilting

## Wednesday, September 6

4:30PM Prayer Time

## Thursday, September 7

9:00AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time  
5:30-6:30PM Kitchen Table Ministry

## Sunday, September 10

10:00AM Worship/Rally Sunday @ Browns Park

## Tuesday, September 12

9:00AM` Quilting  
3:00-5:00PM Pro-Kinship  
7:00PM WOW Planning Mtg

## Wednesday, September 13

5:15-6:45PM The Kitchen Table  
6:00PM Confirmation Student/Parent Mtg  
7:00PM Council Meeting  
7:00PM Choir Starts

## Thursday, September 14

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time

## Friday, September 15

2:00 PM Bingo @ St. Johns Home

## Saturday, September 16

8:30AM 2023 WOW Annual Gathering

## Sunday, September 17 (Holy Communion)

9:00AM Worship Service  
10:00AM Coffee & Fellowship  
10:15AM Sunday School Starts!

## Tuesday, September 19

9:00AM` Quilting  
3:00-5:00PM Pro-Kinship

## Wednesday, September 20

5:15-6:45PM The Kitchen Table  
6:00PM Confirmation  
7:00PM Choir Starts

## Thursday, September 21

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time  
6:30 PM. WOW

## Sunday, September 24 (Noisy Offering)

9:00AM Worship  
10:00AM Coffee & fellowship  
10:15Am Sunday School

## Tuesday, September 26

9:00AM` Quilting

## Wednesday, September 27

5:15-6:45PM The Kitchen Table  
6:00PM Confirmation  
7:00PM Choir Starts

## Thursday, September 28

9:00 AM Bible Study  
10:15AM Prayer Time

# September Worship Helpers

## September 3 (Holy Communion)

Lay Readers ..... Sue Anderson  
Com Asst ..... Katie Thram  
Acolytes ..... Amaira Brown  
Birthday Reader ..... Katie Thram

## September 10

Lay Reader ..... Lori Milbrath  
Acolytes ..... NA  
Birthday Reader ..... Olivia Milbrath

## September 17 (Holy Communion)

Lay Reader ..... TJ Smith  
Com Asst ..... Brady Anderson & Lucas Milbrath  
Acolytes ..... Olivia Milbrath & Liam Eberhard  
Birthday Reader ..... Brady Anderson

## September 24

Lay Reader ..... TBD  
Acolytes ..... Thomas Beers & Logan Shoen  
Birthday Reader ..... Thomas Beers

**LAY READERS ARE NEEDED! WILL YOU SPARE A SUNDAY?**

## SEPTEMBER USHER

» Curt Frederiksen

# Women of the Word



## 2023 WOW GATHERING

**Saturday, September 16, 2023**

hosted by  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
Springfield, MN



We are so grateful and rejoicing that we have the privilege to host our sisters in Christ for the WOW Gathering, but it takes a lot of hands to be a successful event and so we are asking each and every one of you to help us in anyway you can. This is such a spiritually uplifting day, and our goal is for all the women to attend and grow in their faith. As stated earlier we do need help, the sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall, so sign your name where you would like to serve. Registration forms are on the desk in the hallway, be sure to pick one up and get it sent back so you can come and enjoy the day with us!

Registration form is also available for download at [www.augustanadistrict.org/church/women-of-the-word](http://www.augustanadistrict.org/church/women-of-the-word)

**We are asking for men and youth to sign up in the fellowship hall if they can assist with serving the meal and refreshments during the WOW Gathering**

 **There are many announcements on the bulletin boards so please take a look!** 



**Nursing Home Bingo is the 3rd Friday of every month.**

**Volunteers can sign up on the lists by the offices.**



Bible study Thursday mornings is now available via Zoom. Contact Church office, we will need your email address to get you linked in.



St. John's church offers free access to RIGHT NOW MEDIA for all our members. Call or email for a link to start exploring the amazing resource library. Sign up today and grow in faith and knowledge in your walk with God.

Church email: [sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com)



### Confirmation Meeting

Meeting for Confirmation Students and Parents on Sept 13 at 6 pm. Supper will be available at 5:15 p.m. Feel free to eat before the meeting.



Wish your St John's Newsletter came sooner? Get on our email list! Just email us at [sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com) With the subject line: "I want to have my newsletter emailed to me" and we will subscribe you to receive the newsletter digitally or sign up at the website.





**September 2**  
Emma Walker

**September 11**  
Mitchell Anderson

**September 19**  
Greg Scholtz  
Nolan Hauger

**September 26**  
Anna Dressen  
Glen Graff

**September 3**  
Jalyn Louwagie

**September 12**  
Harper Korkemeier

**September 20**  
Paisley Madsen (?) –  
Kylee Wells  
daughter

**September 27**  
Brooklyn Petersen

**September 4**  
James Anderson  
Adam Beers  
Isaac Martin

**September 13**  
Joshua Anderson  
Becky Hillesheim

**September 28**  
Ann Groebner

**September 5**  
Chad Thram

**September 14**  
Colt Wenisch

**September 21**  
Jordan Kieper  
Donovan (DJ) Anderson  
McKenzie Anderson

**September 29**  
Chris Petersen  
Jennifer Nath

**September 6**  
Brenda Anderson

**September 15**  
Cathy Hauger  
Noah Richert  
Samantha Richert

**September 23**  
Dennis Youngerberg  
September 24  
Taya Beyer

**September 30**  
Taylor Augustin

**September 7**  
Annette Anderson

**September 16**  
Jenny Mude

**September 25**  
Kolten Anderson  
Paisley Nath

**September 10**  
Leonard Groff  
Caleb Groff  
Camila Trejo

**September 18**  
Ted Anderson

# Happy Anniversary

**September 2**  
Nick & Kristie Yokiel

**September 16**  
Curt & Linda Fredin

**September 6**  
Bruce & Michelle Ahlness  
Bernie & Mae Wenner

**September 19**  
Joe & Roxy Korkemeier

**September 9**  
Andy & Lainie Scholtz

**September 21**  
Paul & Lisa Arnoldi

**September 10**  
Will & Brianne Luckman

**September 30**  
Rick & Kim Louwagie

**September 12**  
Curt & Lorie Frederiksen

May God bless  
you all with good  
health, good  
fortune and lots of  
love on your  
special day!

**THANK YOU**

Thank you, Lori Milbrath for providing our  
birthday and anniversary lists. Your help is  
very appreciated.

## REMINDER

Please check your  
mailbox...



There are many unclaimed items.

## "He who sings prays twice" - St Augustine



Choir will be resuming after a summer  
break. The first rehearsal will be  
Wednesday, September 13th at 7:00 PM.  
The members of the choir would love to  
see new faces. All are welcome to join.

If you have questions please feel free  
to talk to any member or give Jenn  
Eberhard a call or text at 507-993-4571.

**St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 12, 2023**

**In attendance:** Andrew Hauger, Rod Smith, Brian Meier, Sue Anderson, Tracie Berg, Brenda Krieger, Chad Thram, April Beyer, David Milbrath, and Adam Beers

**Absent:** Todd Wells and Chris Petersen

Called to order by Andrew Hauger at 7:20 pm.

Pastor Godfredsen opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Secretary's Report:**

1) Two corrections from the 6-14-23 meeting minutes were that a part of the AC unit was replaced and not the whole unit and April Beyer was not in attendance.

m/s/c David Milbrath/Rod Smith

Stewardship/World Hunger/Benevolence Report: Minutes were provided. No additions or corrections.

m/s/c Rod Smith/David Milbrath

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Andrew Hauger

1. Bank accounts as June 30, 2023: General account \$81,715.62; Dedicated account \$99,450.10
2. There is a -\$1450 line item under India Missions and Andrew Hauger will contact our CPA to determine why it has a negative value. m/s/c Adam Beers /Chad Thram

**Board of Education Report:** Presented by Andrew Hauger

1. Vacation Bible School this summer had 44 students attend.
2. Two students of St. John's Lutheran Church will be going to Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp this summer.
3. There is still research being done about flooring in the church basement.

**Board of Trustees' Report:** Presented by Andrew Hauger.

1. Reviewed monthly financial statements and disbursements.
2. Kitchen Fund has an extra \$500 from Thrivent funds deposited, but of that \$500, \$300 will be reallocated to RightNow Media and \$200 will be reallocated to the Meal Ministry.
3. Two windows have been replaced so far and further estimates of replacing windows will be sought, but repainting may be done once more.
4. The India Missions Fund will be closed once the funds begin to be transferred to Pastor Julie Smith's church and St. John's Lutheran Church will no longer manage this mission.

**Board of Deacons' Report:** Presented by Rod Smith.

1. Communion assignments for August are:
  - a. 8/6- Brenda Krieger set-up and assist
  - b. 8/20- Rod Smith set-up and assist
2. Regarding membership changes for the month of June:
  - a. Baptisms- 0
  - b. Transfers in- 0
  - c. Transfers out- 2 Pastor Denton Bennet and Michael Tews
  - d. Funerals(visitation)- 2 Margaret Moe on 6/2/23 and Fran Bast on 6/20/23
  - e. Inactive list- 0
  - f. Removal- by request- 0
  - g. Requested membership- 0
3. Communion format- We will continue to do a single line with Pastor Godfredsen serving the bread to all.

**Pastor's Report:** Presented by Pastor Godfredsen

1. Christmas Visitor- Pastor has a friend that will be "special visitor" that will be coming and participating during one of the December services.
2. Pastor has done four visits and has four more visits scheduled tomorrow.
3. Presented a survey to consider to be filled out for input on the current sentiment toward our church and to gauge our understanding of the doctrines of our faith.
4. Confirmation considerations were discussed including service hours, sermon notes, grades of confirmation, and first communion.

**Discussions:**

1. Stewardship & Evangelism: No reports provided.
2. Worship and Music: Call Committee special meeting and Kayla Moe's retirement meeting is 7/16/23.C
3. Children, Youth, and Families: Discussed considerations under Pastor's report.

**Old Business:**

1. Inactive membership plan: This topic will be tabled.
2. Pictorial Directory- Will be held from 8/15 - 8/19.

**New Business:**

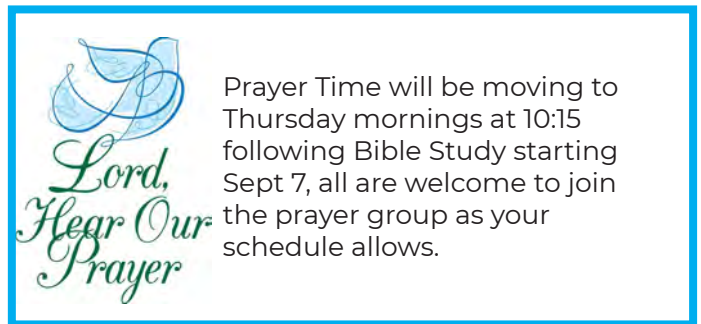
1. Donation from Fran Bast will be allocated toward our video system upgrade.
2. During the 6/28/23 Augustana District Meeting at St. Paul's Church, Andrew Hauger was approached to meet with Comfrey Church members to discuss considerations to share services. Members of their church and possibly St. Paul's Lutheran Church will be invited to attend at 6:00 pm to discuss future considerations of possible sharing of pastoral services, youth activities, staff, etc.

**Closing Prayer:** Led by Sue Anderson

Adjourn: m/s/c All

**Next meeting:** August 9th @ 7:00pm.

Secretary, Adam Beers



.....

**St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 9, 2023**

**In attendance:** Andrew Hauger, Rod Smith, Sue Anderson, Tracie Berg, Brenda Krieger, April Beyer, Todd Wells, Pastor Roger Godfredsen, Chris Petersen, and Adam Beers**Absent:** Chad Thram, Brian Meier, and David Milbrath

Called to order by Andrew Hauger at 7:20 pm.

Pastor Godfredsen opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Secretary's Report:**

1. One correction from 7-12-23 minutes is that April Beyer presented the Board of Education Report. No corrections from the 7-16-23 special congressional minutes. m/s/c Rod Smith/Sue Anderson

**Treasurer's Report:** Presented by Andrew Hauger

1. Bank accounts as of July 31, 2023: General account \$69,583.36; Dedicated account \$102,270.58  
m/s/c Adam Beers /Chris Petersen

**Board of Education Report:** Presented by April Beyer

1. 8/2/23 was the last Board of Education meeting and discussion was focused on getting ready for the upcoming Sunday School year.
2. 8/20/23 is "Blessing of the Backpacks" Sunday.
3. 9/10/23 is Rally Sunday at Brown's Park.
4. 9/17/23 is the first day of Sunday School and being handed out are Bibles(preschooler & 3rd graders) while Small Catechisms(2nd graders) will be handed out also.

**Board of Trustees' Report:** Presented by Andrew Hauger.

1. Reviewed monthly financial statements and disbursements.
2. Last month the -\$1450 line item up for discussion entailed one Luther League check and one India Missions check that have not been cashed.
3. Two new basement windows will be ordered from Gramstad Lumber and replaced to see how well it

- works before additional windows are ordered.
- 4. All fire extinguishers and AED are recertified.
- 5. More weeds were sprayed.

**Board of Deacons' Report:** Presented by Rod Smith.

1. Communion assignments for September are:
  - h. 9/3- Sue Anderson set-up, Brenda Krieger to assist.
  - i. 9/17- Adam Beers set-up, Todd Wells and Rod Smith to assist.
2. Regarding membership changes for the month of July:
  - a. Baptisms- 0
  - b. Transfers in-0
  - c. Transfers out- 2: Pastor Denton Bennet and Michael Tews
  - d. Funerals(visitation)-1: Nadene Ahlness on 8/1/23
  - e. Inactive list-0
  - f. Removal- by request- 0
  - g. Requested membership- 0
3. Communion format- We will be reverting back to two line communion beginning on 9/17/23.

**Pastor's Report:** Presented by Pastor Godfredsen

1. He made 26 calls to members.
2. Performed Nadene Ahlness' funeral.

**Discussions:**

1. Stewardship & Evangelism: No reports provided.
2. Worship and Music: No reports provided.
3. Children, Youth, and Families: Picnic potluck meal is following the 8/13/23 church service is at Riverside Park, Shelter 3.

**Old Business:**

1. Confirmation Plan: Results below as voted on by the council.....
  - a. Item one- 20 service hours and 20 sermon notes per year.
  - b. Item two- Confirmation will be 8th and 9th grades.
  - c. Item three- First communion will be 5th grade.
  - d. Item four- Parents will be sitting in for confirmation classes.
2. Congregation Survey: This survey will be given to the congregation that can both be a tool for the call committee and the following question will be added to determine level of interest for a multiple point parish.
  - a. Seeing that there is shortage of pastors, what are your thoughts on sharing resources with neighbor?
3. Review for continuation - Inactive membership plan. The letter that Brian Meier and Dave Milbrath generated will be contacted to get their input on the inactive letter to be sent. An email will be sent out and voted on.

**New Business:**

1. Comfrey and St. Paul's Church Discussion: A 6:00 pm meeting took place with initial discussion about potential models co-oping together(multiple point parish).
2. Call Committee: Andrew Hauger will discuss with them the direction of what kind of candidate we will seek to hire.

**Closing Prayer:** Led by Andrew Hauger

**Adjourn:** m/s/c All

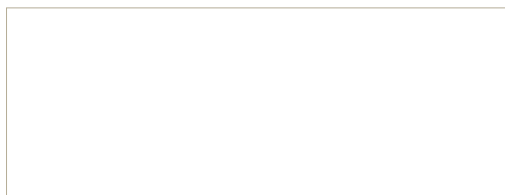
**Next meeting:** September 13th @ 7:00 pm.

Secretary, Adam Beers

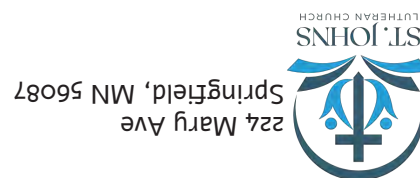
## LIBRARY NEWS

The first 3 seasons of The Chosen on DVD have been added to the St Johns Library with Margaret Moe memorial funds and the library donation funds.

Please check this or any other book or DVD from our Church Library.



place  
POSTAGE  
Here



# The Kitchen Table Ministry

We want to thank all who have participated in any way with The Kitchen Table Meal Ministry. To those who attended, we hope you felt welcomed and loved during your time with us. To those who have supplied food, desserts, and beverages, we couldn't have done it without you! To those who have shared a donation to keep the ministry afloat, we are sincerely grateful and know that God is working through you as well.

Since its beginning in January 2023, we have enjoyed great food, laughter, and conversation. People from all walks of life have joined us and seen God move quietly. An average of 20 people have attended on any given week, and we plan to continue as long as possible with this great outreach ministry.

Moving forward, we aim to reach even more people. With that said, **The Kitchen Table Ministry meal will be switching to Wednesday evenings starting September 13th.** The meal will be served from 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. so we can include our confirmation students and families, too.

Life gets so busy that we need to remember to stop, breathe, and fellowship with others; everyone from the area is invited (not just St. John members). We express our thanks to the confirmation families who will be providing our desserts each week. (THANKS GANG!)

The meals are served FREE of charge. Donations are always gratefully accepted.