



# 2018 Newsletter

## A brief look at the month ahead:

- June 5—Baccalaureate at Zimmerman High School
- June 7—Rum River Garden Club
- June 10—New Member Class
- June 12—Executive and Music and Worship Meetings
- June 14—VBS Planning Meeting
- June 19—Council Meeting
- June 20—Painting Class
- June 21—Office Closed
- June 21—Community Dinner
- June 24—New Member Sunday





## "Three Prescriptions and a Book!"

At a former church for whom I was a shepherd there was a member of the Evangelism Team who had a connection with a pharmacy. Inspired by the Spirit, she resourced a donated case of empty prescription bottles and guided by the Spirit I resourced a dozen life-giving passages from the Old and New Testaments. We put the passages on small slips of paper and filled the bottles with the nourishing, healing, inspiring Words from God. We created a label we applied to the outside of the bottles which read, "Prescriptions: One-a-Day Words of Life for Wellness and Wholeness!" Three of those prescriptions have come flooding back to me as I ponder and pray {Look Up!} over St John's and my own future.

### **Jeremiah 29:11, Joel 2:28, and Acts 1:8... plans, visions, and missions...**

The prophet Jeremiah offered powerful, promising words of encouragement and hope to the people of God for their time {650 B.C.E.} about their future being in the hand of God...

***For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the LORD,  
plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope.***

Those words speak with poignant relevance to us today as we journey and strive toward a blessed future with a new pastor for St. John. It is God's plans for us, not our own into which we seek live and hope.

The prophet Joel speaking God's Word to God's people some two to three hundred years later promising visions of their future...

***I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.***

Our vision operating in our own power may be weak and small, but God's vision for us is clear and grand. Our Godly visions are God-sized and while challenging to make real, they will be a delight to live into with a new spiritual leader.

The risen Lord Jesus, a few centuries later {now 2000 years ago}, gathered outside Jerusalem shared these last commissioning Words with His disciples just before His ascension...

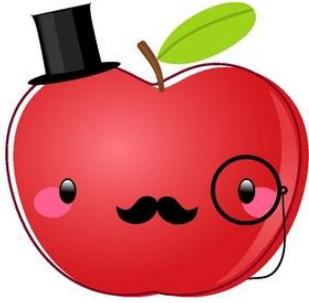
***But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."***

As those disciples heard the call to witness and mission that day, we disciples... we the church of St. John... we hear the call to courageous and bold witness and servant of the Kingdom mission for our time.

Our prescriptions are sound and clear, inspiring and hope-filled, good and life-giving!

**The Book... "Canoeing the Mountains,"** is about Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory. Some of the Council and the Call Committee are reading it in preparation for upcoming conversation with consultant, Rev. Jerry Wahl, former Bishop's Association of the Mpls Area Synod Tuesday June 5 at 6:30pm. We'll be investigating new ways of operating and being organized as a church living into our times. As the world changes with ever-increasing frequency and evermore dramatically, the church needs to change and adapt in how we do effective and life-transforming ministry that leads and makes a difference in the world for God's sake. Change is here, change is coming, change is necessary... change is painful, change is exciting! **Please pray for us, "Look Up!" for us,** for all involved, for the Council, the Call Committee and for the pastor God is preparing and has in mind and heart for us.

**Interim Pastor Bob Rusert**



## Cornerstone's Church Corner

Join us for Camp Cornerstone July 16th-19th (Monday -Thursday) and July 23nd-26th (Monday -Thursday) 8:30am-12:00 noon Ages 3-6 (Must be potty trained) "Crazy Art Theme"

\$150.00 for both weeks \$80.00 for one week

Check out our website: [www.cornerstonechristianpreschool.org](http://www.cornerstonechristianpreschool.org)  
Contact the Preschool: [zimmermanccp@yahoo.com](mailto:zimmermanccp@yahoo.com) or 763-856-4561 ex 14.

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### Cradle Roll

#### CRADLE ROLL:

Our long-awaited Minnesota summer has arrived. Your family may enjoy walks, picnics, and vacations at the lake. Remind your children that everything we are given is a gift from God. Pray with your child, thanking God for warm weather, good food and family time spent together!

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#### Call Committee Update

We have had a busy month! We want to thank everyone from the congregation who joined us for dinner with Bishop Svennungsen on May 16th. She led a wonderful conversation about our previous pastors and what we are hoping for in our new pastor. The Call Committee met with Pastor Hulden from the Synod on May 21st, and he presented us with 3 potential candidates for our pastor position. All 3 have very strong resumes, and we are excited to have them come and interview with us. We continue to be open to additional candidates, including nominations from the congregation. If you know a pastor who you feel would be a good fit for St. John, please forward the name to a member of the Call Committee or to the church office. We are hopeful that we will complete first and second interviews with our candidates in June and July, and that we will have a recommendation to present to the congregation by August. We welcome your prayers as we continue through our call process.

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#### YOUTH MISSION TRIP - GREELEY, COLORADO JUNE 23-JULY 1

We sincerely appreciate all of the support you have given us in making the Greeley Work Camp a reality. Thanks for supporting so generously our fundraising efforts over the year: wreathes, gift cards, and the many donations! Please pray for our campers faith journey to, in, and from Greeley, Colorado.

*Students:* Teagan Braun, Caitlin Hackbarth, Elizabeth Hackbarth, Noura Kassem, Chase Loudon, Molly Schmidt, and Matthew Trutna.

*Chaperones:* Dan Hackbarth, Maren Hackbarth and Janna Luebben



**Sign up in the Narthex to volunteer at CAER in Elk River**  
for June 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:15-3:30pm.

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**Free Monthly Community Dinner: June 21<sup>st</sup> from 5-7pm in Fellowship Hall. Cowboy dinner: Hotdogs with the fixin's.**

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**Painting class Monday June 20 from 6:00-9pm in Fellowship Hall.** Cost is 35.00, The sign up is on the window to the Church office. Our last painting class filled up and was so much fun. This painting will be a barn scene. Very pretty. Don't forget to sign up! You can pay Sabrina in the Church Office!

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**VBS Planning Meeting: June 14, 6:00 pm in the Sunset Conference Room.** All people: old and young interested in helping with VBS please attend! If you have any questions, please contact Sabrina in the Church Office. 763-856-4561, EXT 10.

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**Summer Worship Themes and Texts  
June 3 – July 8, 2018**

**"Grasping the Gospel in Galatians!"**

We'll be reading and studying through the Apostle Paul's letter to the Galatians. This letter brings the promise of liberty, freedom through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It also unpacks the significance and blessings promised in the gifting of the Holy Spirit. Come to worship and experience both the freedom and the Spirit of God.

**June 3 Lectionary 9 (2 Pentecost) 9:00am Galatians 1:1-12**

"The Gall of Galatia: Grasping the Gospel?"

Child's Portion: "Guarding the Genuine Gospel Gem"

**June 10 Lectionary 10 (3 Pentecost) 9:00am Galatians 1:11-24** "Grabbed for Good!"

Child's Portion: "The Apostle Paul: Gallivanting Gospel Guardian!" {A Human Interest Story}

**June 17 Lectionary 11 (4 Pentecost) 9:00am Galatians 2:15-21**

"Justified: Guaranteed Godly!"

Child's Portion: "Getting Gracified!"

**June 24 Lectionary 12 (5 Pentecost) 9:00am Galatians 3:23-29** "Baptized: Great to Be Grafted by God!"

Child's Portion: "Godchildren: Guilt-free and Gathered by the GodFather!"

**July 1 Lectionary 13 (6 Pentecost) 9:00am Galatians 5:1, 13-25**

"Gliding with the Ghostly Guide!"

Child's Portion: "BFF: Good Buddy Gusty!"

**July 8 Lectionary 14 (7 Pentecost) 9:00am Galatians 6:1-16**

"God's Gaggles Getting Godly!"

Child's Portion: "Grouped for Goodness Gladly!"

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# VBS Sunday, July 29-Thursday, August 1, 5:30 pm to 8pm.

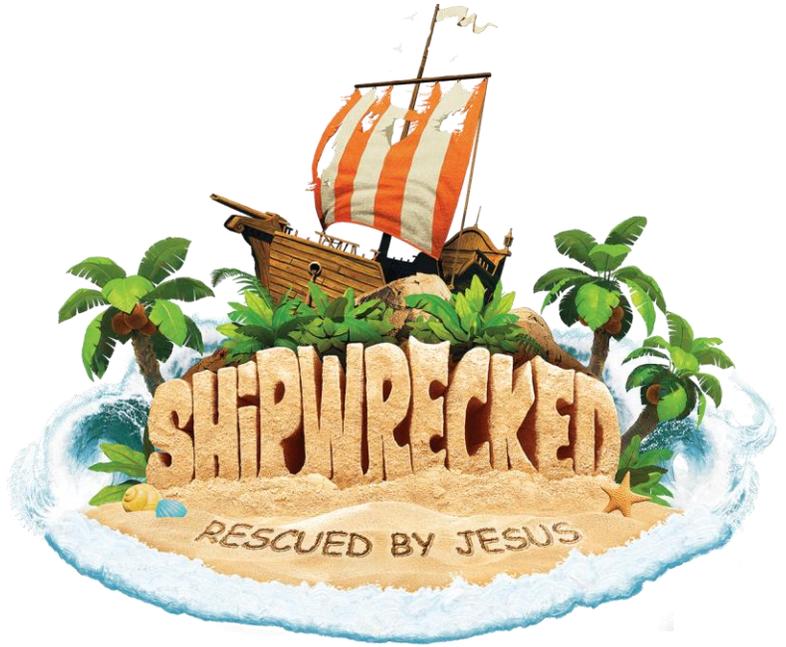
Our theme this year is Shipwrecked! We are going to need a lot of help this year!

Are willing to lead a group activity station? (We have a Lesson station, Snack station, outdoor/activity station, craft station and music station! Same stations as last year just different theme)

Are you willing to be a crew leader? These are ideally teenagers, but we also need about 5 adults.

## Can you help us?

**We have a meeting Scheduled for June 14 at 6:00pm in the Sunset conference room. Please join us!!**



God Bless!!

Sabrina Auel and Carrie Stevens

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## Dear High School Graduates, Class of 2018,

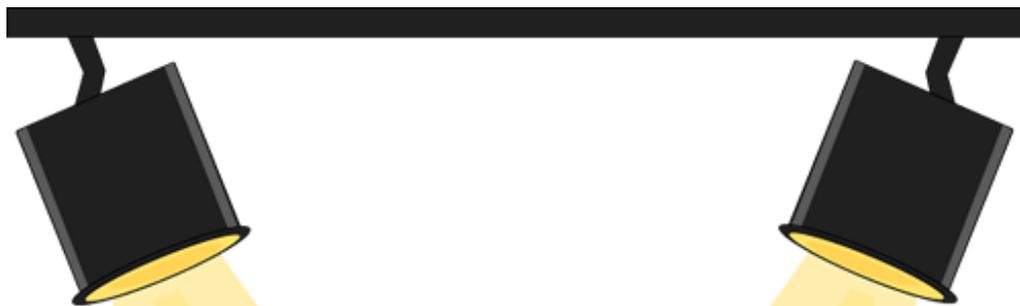
You've done it! You have completed your high school education and many of you will be pursuing a career or continuing your education at other institutions. Congratulations!

Most of you are graduating from Zimmerman High School. A Baccalaureate service has been planned for Zimmerman and the surrounding area **Tuesday evening, June 5 at 7:00 PM at Zimmerman High School**. We will use the same space as the graduation ceremony the next day.

A "baccalaureate" is actually a Christian ceremony held a few days before the high school graduation. Unlike commencement exercises held in large arenas, baccalaureate ceremonies offer a quieter, more intimate opportunity to pause and reflect on your graduation and hear some wisdom for the graduating class. The service (not the message :) will last about an hour and there will be a drawing for a \$400 scholarship near the end! We encourage all of our graduating seniors to attend with their families!!

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**New Member class will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:15-11:45am.** Anyone wishing to attend this class to become a member of St. John will need to RSVP with the Church office ASAP. (This is so we can have enough materials for everyone.) Sabrina in the Office: [churchoffice@green-church.org](mailto:churchoffice@green-church.org) or 763-856-4561, EXT 10



## **What is Great River Family Promise**

Great River Family Promise is an affiliate of Family Promise. A network includes thirteen houses of worship and engages between 800 – 1000 community volunteers each year. Host congregations provide overnight shelter, meals, and hospitality for up to four families for one week every four months on a rotating basis.

Our families are from the areas of Monticello, Big Lake, Elk River, Otsego, Zimmerman, and Rogers. The families we serve all have minor children and are all experiencing homelessness.

Families have access to a Day Center which houses administrative offices and provides a place to do laundry, take showers, store a few personal items and receive mail. Transportation between the Day Center and congregation facilities is provided through the network.

Great River Family Promise opened its doors to its first family on February 2nd, 2013.

### **Mission:**

Building partnerships throughout our communities in support of children and families experiencing homelessness to achieve sustainable independence.

**St. John's involvement:** We host families here at St. John 4 times a year as a part of GRFP. We have two Coordinators: Janna Luebben and Lori Schleif, and many volunteers. If you want to be a part of this wonderful mission, the next opportunity to serve will be the week of September 30<sup>th</sup> through October 7<sup>th</sup>. There will be a sign up board in the Narthex in September so watch for opportunities to sign up!

