



2018 Newsletter

A brief look at the month ahead:

- May 3—National Day of Prayer, Constitution Committee Meeting
- May 5—Spring Clean up around the Church
- May 6—Sunday School Send off and Confirmation Worship
- May 7—Choir Practice
- May 8—CCP Board Meeting and Call Committee
- May 9—Green Hat Crew
- May 10—Friends in GRACE tea party
- May 13—Mother's Day
- May 14—Painting Class AM, Choir Practice
- May 15—BBQ Fundraiser
- May 16—Bishop Visit/meal and worship
- May 19—Green Hat Crew
- May 20—Celebrating all Servants/Pentecost Sunday
- May 21—Choir Practice
- May 22—Council Meeting*, Call Committee
- May 27—We move to 9am worship service



St. John Lutheran Church
green-church.org - Zimmerman, Minnesota



CALLED ▷FOR A◁ PURPOSE

“Imagine Forward... What St. John Will Share with Our Next Pastor!”

I’m sure many of you are looking forward to the arrival and settling in of your new pastor, imagining what gifts, strengths, and talents she or he will bring to St. John...

- **Strong people, leadership, and preaching skills... that will secure and challenge us!**
- **An evident and contagious strong sense of personal faith... that will inspire us!**
- **A love for the Lord and God’s Word and exploring them together... that will bless us!**
- **A joyful spirit and a lively sense of humor... that will lighten our hearts and minds!**
- **A warm, comfortable demeanor and presence... that will comfort us!**
- **A strong jaw, a knowing eye, an insightful and bright mind and courageous will...**

I’m imagining that must be Jesus you’re imagining is coming and can’t be soon enough! 😊

Seriously, I am confident the new pastor of St. John will come with many gifts, even some of those for which you are hoping. Your Transition/Call Committee has been preparing and working to ensure that is the case. But I believe it is equally if not even more important to be imagining and ensuring the new pastor will find an “exceptionally gifted congregation” eager to gift her/him when that new leader arrives. I imagine the new shepherd of St. John is looking forward to arriving and being welcomed by a congregation that has...

- **An eager spirit of sacrificial, Christ-like service... they will be great to work with!**
- **An openness to newness, change, and risk... they will make life so exciting!**
- **A practice of behavior that insures mutual respect... they will be wonderful!**
- **A commitment to generosity and sacrifice... they will empower fruitful ministry!**
- **A determination to live forward into God’s future... they will be free of troubled past!**
- **A passionate pursuit of openness and reliance on the Spirit... they will be in unity!**

I’m imagining that congregation is close to heaven if not already there! 😊

Seriously, I am confident the new pastor will find St. John has many gifts and is eager to share them. I am confident the new pastor will bring wonderful gifts and will be eager to share them. You’ll be in the adventure and journey of faith together and together you will “do greater things!”

The Apostle Paul loved the churches he was involved with and share gifts for ministry. One comes to mind and heart. To his church partner in Philippi he wrote,

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.”

Seems Paul thought ministry was all about bringing and sharing best gifts and practicing best behaviors, living into mutual ministry that is a blessing to all involved. Excellence... imagine giving God your best together.

**Imagining us Forward, Praying us Forward, confident in the Spirit.
Interim Pastor Bob Rusert**

Cornerstone's Church Corner



Cornerstone Christian Preschool is currently accepting registrations for the 2018/2019 Preschool year. We currently have openings for 3 year olds on Mondays and Wednesdays. We also have openings for four/five year olds on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, half days or Tuesdays and Thursdays full days.

The four and five year old students of Cornerstone Christian Preschool will be graduating in May! The Graduation ceremony will take place on May 18th at 9am! All are welcome to attend to share in this special time with our Preschoolers! Hope to see you there!

Please contact us at 763-856-4561 ext 14 to set up a tour or get your questions answered!

Check out our website: www.cornerstonechristianpreschool.org

Contact the Preschool for more info; zimmermanccp@yahoo.com or 763-856-4561 ex 14.



CRADLE ROLL:

Many tasks as parents are like planting a garden. The seeds of love, trust, and forgiveness are the foundations of faith. You are giving your child the gift of growing up knowing God's love.

Keep on planting, the harvest will come one day!

We welcome Bennett Schifsky, and Kensy Weyek, who were all recently baptized to Cradle Roll.

Confirmation Sunday:

9th Grade Confirmation Students will make affirm their faith on May 6th at the 10:30 am Worship service.

We will be Celebrating all of our volunteers with a special recognition on Sunday May 20th at the 8 am and 10:30 am Worship Services. We appreciate every single one of you. Our church would not be able to accomplish missions, hold worship services, help the community, educate children or give to the needy if it wasn't for our volunteers. If you are a volunteer please attend these worship services so we can recognize your service! Thank you!



Free Community Dinner: May 17th from 5-7pm in Fellowship Hall. We will be serving delicious Tacos and Churros! Yummy!!! Bring your family, invite your neighbors and friends!

Sign up in the Narthex to volunteer at CAER in Elk River
for May 7th and May 9th





Transition/Call Committee Updates:

The Call Committee is excited to report that our Ministry Site Profile is now complete! It was approved by council and submitted to the synod on April 17th. As the next step in the process, Bishop Ann Svennungsen will be meeting with our congregation on Wednesday, May 16th. She will join us for dinner at 6 PM, followed by conversation regarding our transition process, identified growth areas, and hopes for our new pastor. We hope that you'll all join us for this important event. The following week, the Call Committee will be meeting with Pastor John Hulden to review names of possible candidates. We are hopeful that we'll be interviewing candidates in June and July.

St. John Building and Grounds Spring Clean up

On Saturday May 5th starting at 9:00am we will be doing a spring cleanup day. This will consist of cleaning all the windows in and out washing down the wood work and just doing a deep clean of the corners and crevices. Time and help allowing would like to rake dethatch and clean up the grounds. Many Hands Make light work! In my Lords Service, Kevin Johnson



Join us for a BBQ Fundraiser!

May 15th at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall

Join us for a delicious menu of Ribs, brisket, pork butt, and more!

All proceeds will benefit our Sunday School program and the Live Nativity!

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

We will be selling gift cards to Nelson's Nursery to fundraise for our trip to Greeley Colorado. Before and after services we will be selling \$25 gift cards to Nelson's Nursery. You get \$25 to spend at Nelson's on anything you want and we get \$5 toward our trip June 23-July 1 to Greeley, Colorado. Gift cards will be on sale April 8-May 13. Please consider supporting our trip and getting ready for spring in the process!



Workcamp Fundraiser

**Sign up in the Narthex to volunteer at CAER
in Elk River** for May 7th and May 9th



Upcoming Opportunities

- CAER is preparing for the upcoming summer supplemental food program, Kidz Kitz! Each week during the summer, we plan for

approximately 250 Kidz Kitz to be distributed. If you're interested in donating to help us reach 250 of each of the following items, it would be appreciated!

- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Microwave Popcorn
- Canned Corn
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Granola Bars
- Poptarts
- Canned Tuna

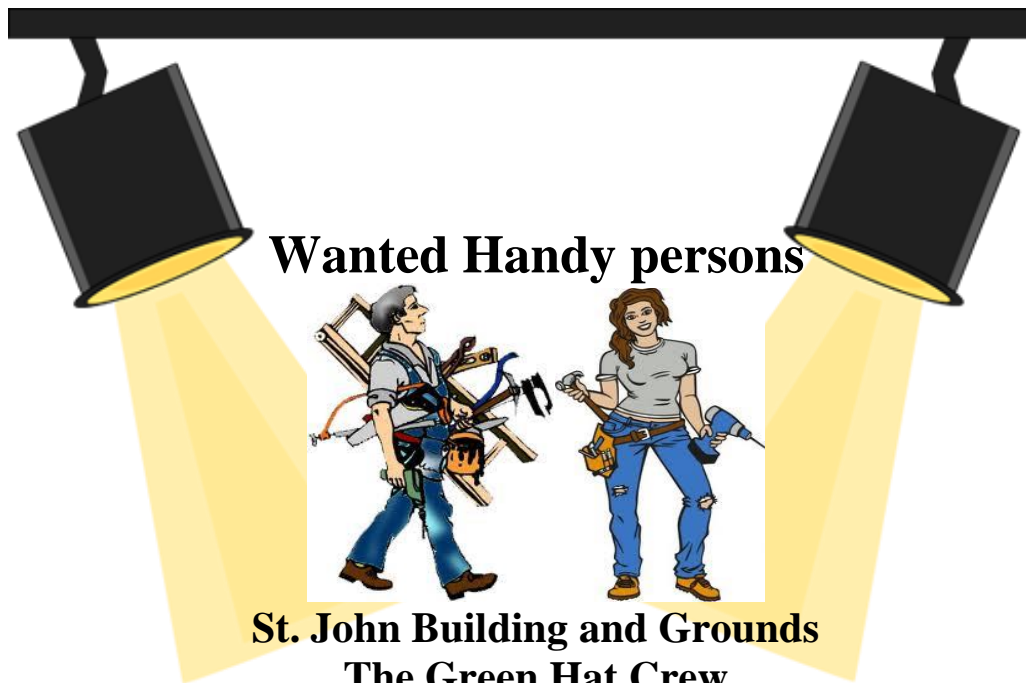
For more information, email info@caerfoodshelf.org. Donations can be dropped off during regular business hours (10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday and 6-8 p.m. Monday and Thursday)



Bishop Ann Svennungsen will be visiting St. John on Wednesday May 16th to talk with us about calling a new pastor. You will not want to miss this opportunity. We will have a meal at 6:00 pm for fellowship before our 7:00pm Worship Service. Please join us in making the Bishop feel welcomed here!

Donations for Alaska/VBS Mission: We need small toys/small stuffed animals, jump ropes, balls, bubbles, beads/ jewelry, popsicle sticks, napkins, wet wipes, 50 paper plates, 4 staplers, socks any size for ages 3 and up. Any donations can be put in the "RED Box" in the Narthex! All Donations due by May 30th. Thank you!

Painting class Monday May 14th from 10am to 1pm in Fellowship Hall. Cost is 35.00, due upon arrival to the class. The sign up is on the window to the Church office. Painting is flowers in a mason jar and you can pick your colors! This is a super easy step-by-step class!



The Green Hat crew was formed to do small projects around the church to help save on the cost of maintenance in and around the church so the budget could be kept lower and to save the funds for projects needing licensed trades people. Once we had fully taken care of the church needs our goal was to step out into the community. This would include members and nonmembers in need of help. We could help the elderly, spouses of active duty personnel or people with short term disability or illness. We would do light yard work, house repairs, transportation for appointments etc.

We meet the second Wednesday 8-10 and the last Saturday 8-10

Emails are sent out before hand on projects coming up.

We know that St John has many talented people to make this happen.

If you have questions contact Kevin Johnson or Eric Roensch

Cornerstone Christian Preschool is a mission of St John Lutheran Church.

We believe children are our future and they are a gift from God! Members of St John can be a part of Cornerstone Christian Preschool by supporting the program with donations of prayer and support.

How can you support the program you ask? Here are a few options....

- *by taking home craft project that need to be traced or cut.
- *By saving misc materials we use such as plastic laundry caps, metal juice lids or other needed supplies as posted on our bulletin boards throughout the year.
- *being a member of the Cornerstone Christian Preschool board (which meets one time each month)
- *volunteering in the classroom to read to the children or help out with a special project
- *Share your talents; do you play an instrument, do magic tricks, have plants or harvest items to show the children, face paint, have a pet or animal to share? We would love to have you come in to our classrooms.
- *Help with our yearly Family Fun Night event. (Serve food, help the children make a special craft, run a game booth, etc)

Cornerstone Christian Preschool staff encourages you to share your talents with the children! Our Preschool program is blessed to be located in such a caring and loving church! Thank you for all of your support and prayers!



Worship for May at St John!

May 6th 2018 6th Sunday of Easter 8 AM Traditional
10:30 AM Contemporary w/ Confirmation

Text: John 15:9-17 **"Christ-like Love is Sacrificial Love!"**

"¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends."

Acts 10:44-48 Psalm 98 1 John 5:1-6

The story tells of Jesus' commissioning His disciples to the same kind of love with which He loved all people. The highest form of love is sacrificial love, loving to the extent of giving oneself in the place of and for the sake of others. In a world encouraged to secure privilege and get love for one's self, mature Christians willingly and deliberately seek to give love sacrificially.

May 13th 7th Sunday of Easter 8 AM Traditional 10:30 AM Contemporary

Text: John 17:6-19 **"Secure in the Prayers of Jesus!"**

"¹... Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."

Acts 1:15-17,21-26 Psalm 1 1 John 5:8-13

The story tells of Jesus' praying for His disciples to secure them in this world and the next. With the power of the evil one so evident and so strong in this broken world, it's great to know that Jesus is looking out for us in the battles of life with evil. We need all the help and encouragement we can get to live hopeful and secure.

May 20th 2018 Festival of Pentecost 8 AM Traditional 10:30 AM Contemporary

Text: John 15:26-27 and 16:4b-15 **"Living with the Advantage!"**

"⁷Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you."

Ezekiel 37:1-14 Ps. 104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21

The story tells of Jesus' promise of life with the advantage of the Advocate. Too many people struggle living with disadvantages. Self-reliance proves unreliable, relying on the world proves catastrophic, relying on the power of the Spirit, the Advocate, proves healthy and wholesome, productive and victorious.

May 27th 2018 9AM Blended * Summer Schedule*****

Text: John 3:1-21 **"To Believe or Not to Believe... that Is the Question!"**

¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

The story tells of curious Nicodemus coming to Jesus in the dark. Seems he seeks to know more in order to secure enough knowledge of Jesus to "believe in Him." What does it take to secure and ensure faith?

**Confirmation Students Affirming their Faith on May 6th, 2018 at
10:30 am worship service. Join us in celebrating these young adults!**



Teagan Braun
Cassi Gould
Thomas Katter
Emily Kutzler
Chase Loudon
Tucker Paulsen
Nick Peterson
Ryan Petersen
Gina Pogones
Ava Wark

Mother's Day May 13th, 2018

We Pray for Mothers

Loving God, we ask your blessings on all mothers.
May they be inspired with your mercy, wisdom,
strength and selfless love.

For new mothers with new responsibilities; For expectant mothers, wondering and waiting;
For those who are tired, stressed or depressed; For those who balance the tasks of work and family;
For those whose children have physical, mental or emotional disabilities; For those who raise children on their own;
For those who struggle to feed their children due to poverty; For those who selflessly place their child for adoption;
For those who adopt a child into their family; For those who have lost a child;
For those who care for the children of others; For those whose children have left home;
For those whose desire to be a mother has not been fulfilled.

Bless all mothers, that their love may be deep and tender, and that they may lead their children to know and do what is good.

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Hey friends! Our VBS has been scheduled for July 29-August 1, 5:30 pm to 8pm....Sunday thru Thursday.

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 leaders- these are ideally teenagers but we also need about 5 adults.

Can you help us? Please contact the church office if you are interested!

We have other areas of need as well so stay tuned as planning develops!

God Bless!!

Sabrina Auel and Carrie Stevens

