

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 36 ISSUE 10 OCTOBER 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the creeds of the Church, we make our confession about The Church. The Church is, as Luther's Small Catechism says, "It is the Body of Christ—that is, all people whom the Spirit, by the Means of Grace, has gathered to Christ in faith throughout the world." The Church not only spans the world, but all time as well.

We make our confession in these words: "I believe in ... the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints." These two phrases are two ways of saying the same thing. The Church is holy because it is Christ's body, and He is holy and therefore He makes the Church holy. In the word "communion" we find the aspects of "community" and "union." What all true believers in Christ Jesus hold in common is their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. And saints are those who are holy—declared holy, declared forgiven, pardoned of all sin because of Christ's suffering and death on their behalf.

Later in the month of October, we will be observing the Reformation. The Reformation was not a one-day event. The Reformation actually spans years of God's word and work in bringing the Gospel into a more clear position—starting with Luther in Germany, spreading throughout Europe, and out into the world. God the Holy Spirit, through the Word of God, worked in the heart and mind of Martin Luther as he studied the Word of God. Through growth of faith and understanding and learning over a number of years, Luther sought to bring the Gospel into clear light in his preaching, teaching, and writings.

As Lutherans, we treasure the heritage of this work of God. Yes, we call ourselves Lutherans after Luther, but it's not because of Luther—rather, we rejoice in what God did through Luther for the sake of the Gospel and the truth of God's Word that reaches out to all the world.

We stand with Luther and with all the Reformers and with all Christians who confess their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation from sin. We rejoice in being members of the body of Christ—believers in Jesus who lived righteously for us, suffered and died on account of our sin, and was raised in victory over sin, death, and the devil. The observance of the Reformation can focus on so many facets of the Gospel; but one facet is remembering God's work through people in bringing many into faith in Jesus Christ. The Church is holy; it is in Christ; it is a community of saints/believers. It is one. Jesus Christ is the Head and we are His body.

Rejoice for you are a member of the body of Christ along with fellow Lutherans and Christians who confess faith in Christ. Therefore, we firmly and confidently confess our faith in "the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints." Peace to you in Christ, Pastor.

PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO CHRIS HOLLMAN BY 25TH, THANK YOU!

Clothing for Orphan Grain Train: We can once again send used clothing to Orphan Grain Train. When leaving clothes in the drop box outside the church by the back door, please mark them for either OGT or PCM (People's City Mission).

LYF SPONSORED ROADSIDE CLEAN UP
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16 (weather permitting)
DURING BIBLE CLASS HOUR

Help is needed for the roadside cleanup. Please let Bryan Bell or Pastor Toensing know if you will be able to help. We want to thank you for helping us in our roadside clean up commitment.



October & BAPTISMS
BIRTHDAYS

BIRTHDAYS

1 Ken Kastanek
2 Bruce Miller, Gary Renner
4 Barry Doiel, Mindie Hughes,
Nathan Patak
6 Jarod Mundt
8 Cheryl Skillet
9 Amber Johnson
10 Dale Wohl
12 Bryce Kalkwarf
15 Dianne Kouba
16 Joe Kalkwarf, Jaclyn Ourada,
Elyana Lee
18 Kasen Wagner
19 Scott Brunelle,
Jerad Reetz, Abigail Scott,
James Walker
21 Sean Murphy
22 Michelle Kvasnicka

23 Donna Brunelle, Chloe Davis,
Levi Mehl, Trevis Trautman
24 Gwen Kalkwarf
25 Raelyn Morava,
Alexandrea Tremblay
26 Jerry Ferguson Jr.,
Slane Kvasnicka
27 Ellen Miller
28 Jeff Tremblay
29 Fran Sieck
30 Kourtney Tarnick

BAPTISMS

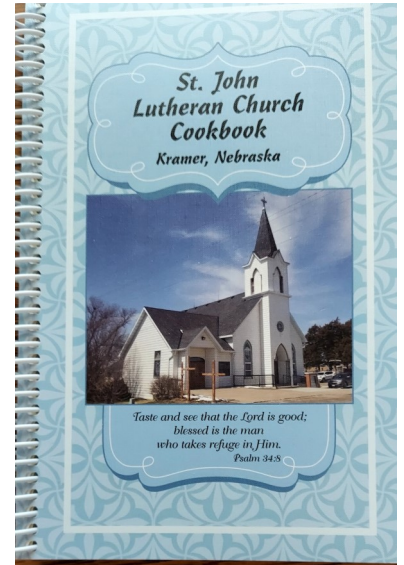
2 Chris Reetz, Shane Renner
3 Brady Hestermann
4 Linda Lee, Dewayne & Henry
Slama
7 Marilyn Weidner
8 Joshua Wohl, Petra Dewey

9 Genie Dittmer,
Brianna Williams
12 Garrett Mehl
14 Kirk Miller, Ted Muff
16 Jim Ellingson
17 Randy Adams,
Holland Hollman
18 Austin Weber
19 Jarod Mundt
20 Travis Eggert
21 Lynn Meinke, Gary Renner
24 Mindie Hughes
25 Cinder Johnson,
Kirk Johnson
30 Wayne Eggert
31 Dianne Kouba

OUR MISSION Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.



The St. John Lutheran Cookbooks which commemorate our church's 150th Anniversary and St. John Ladies Aid's 100th Anniversary are here for you to purchase and enjoy! They will be available at the church in the narthex each Sunday in October, 2022. Cost for the cookbooks is \$15.00. If you have questions or wish to purchase cookbook(s), please contact by phone or text, Diane Kahle at 402-641-0922 or Marianne Tesar at 402-418-0449.



LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid met on September 28, 2022, with Donna Brunelle as hostess. Pastor Toensing led us in prayer and a Bible study "What Will it Be Like?" from Revelation 21:4. We then sang "I Know that My Redeemer Lives".

Roll call was taken with 10 members present. The minutes of the August 2022 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given.

We served and cleaned up at the Rally Day potluck.

Ladies Night Out turned out really well. Good food and fellowship was had by all.

The cookbooks turned out really nice. We will be selling those in the Narthex during the month of October.

There is a list of who is on each committee for the anniversary celebration. Each committee will make monthly updates on what is going on with their committee.

Elections will be held soon. Diane Kahle, Janice Reetz and Deb Walker will each stay in their positions for next year.

Dianne Kouba will be the hostess for October.

Linda Pomajzl celebrated a birthday in September and anniversaries were celebrated by Ray & Bonnie Bleich and Freddie & Olga Weidner. The anniversary song was sung to Bonnie.

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and common Table Prayer.

Deb Walker, Secretary

TRUNK OR Treat

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

6-30—7:30

Games & Activities in Church

7:30

TRUNK OR TREAT

Cars for Trunk or Treat should be in place by 7:15.

Trunk or Treat will begin at 7:30.

Please join us for this fun event!!!



LERT Basic Training, Christ Lutheran Church, Lincoln, Nebraska

A Basic LERT Training class will be held at **Christ Lutheran Church, 4325 Sumner St., Lincoln, NE 68506 on October 22, 2022**. Participants will be introduced to the LCMS Disaster Response program and learn the basic nature of disasters, the opportunities to respond to personal needs in such disasters and how as Christians, can support families, congregations and the public, as the hands and feet of Jesus, during these trying times.

Please register to become a LERT volunteer at www.lcms-lert.org. Once registered, you may sign up for this training class at the same web-site. If you are already registered in the LERT system, simply sign up for the class at the web-site. A registration fee of **\$30** per person helps cover the cost of lunch and snacks, training materials, and LERT T-shirt. Please send your registration fee to **Nebraska District LCMS Office, 152 S Columbia, Ave., Seward, NE 68434** ahead of time if possible, and note "LERT Training October 22, 2022" on your check. Participants are encouraged to pre-register before October 3, 2022 so we have the proper materials for everyone. Last minute attendees are also welcomed, however course materials may be limited if you are not pre-registered. If you have questions, please contact *Mick Onnen* at DisasterResponse@ndlcms.org.

The training will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, October 22, 2022. Participants should arrive by 8:30 am to complete registration and sign in.

[What will we study? These are main topics of the training:](#)

Christian Care in times of disaster

An introduction to the LCMS Disaster Response program

Lutheran Early Response Teams

Safety Protocol

Congregation preparedness and Mercy Teams

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

Schedule at a Glance

- Worship Service (Sundays) 9:00 a.m.
- Bible Class/Sunday School /LYF (Sundays) 10:15-11:15 a.m.
- Midweek Classes (Wednesdays) 6:30 -7:45 p.m.
- Elders’ Meeting (October 3) 6:30 p.m.
- Quilting Group (October 11 & 25) 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- Constitution & By-Law Committee (October 13) 7:00 p.m.
- Church Council Meeting (October 17) 6:30 p.m.
- Lutheran Women in Mission (October 18) 10:00 a.m.
- Evangelism Board (October 19) 8:30 a.m.
- Voters’ Meeting (October 23) following Worship Service**
- Ladies Aid Meeting (October 26) 2:00 p.m.

FROM THE ELDER’S

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The outdoor rally held on September 11th was well attended and enjoyed by all. We were blessed with a beautiful day. Thank you to those who planned, set up, and organized as well as the delicious dishes and cakes that were brought. Be ready to purchase your church cook book which should be available soon. Thank you to the Ladies Aid for all their hard work. Snacks are once again being shared before bible study in the church basement immediately after service. Even if you are unable to stay for bible study, please join us for fellowship and treats.

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am among them”

Blessings from the Elders

THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

DUTY	10/2/22	10/9/22	10/16/22	10/23/22	10/30/22
Organist	Jayne VanAsperen	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen
Elders	Phil Hughes	Dolyn Meinke	James Walker	John Reitz	Troy Henning
Greeters	Bryan & Erin Bell	Art & Carol Brinkmeyer	Todd & Cindy Hoyer	Roger & Ellie Koch	Glen & Verna Louch
Acolytes	Amy Hollman		Paisley Williams		Kian Morris

In honor of Clergy Appreciation Month, use these alphabetical reminders of how to treat your pastors:

Accept them as people.

Build them up. Say “thank you.”

Communicate with them.

Defend them when someone tries to run them down.

Entertain them. They like to have fun, too!

Family. Allow them to have a family life.

Genuine. Be honest with them. Be yourself around them.

Honor them. Don't put them on a pedestal, but respect them.

Income. Pay them enough so money isn't a concern.

Judge not! Avoid being critical.

Kind. Treat pastors as you want to be treated.

Love. See 1 Corinthians 13.

Maintain. Their families have the same needs as other families.

Nurture. Help them grow in grace.

Offer to help. The list of things you can do is endless.

Pray for them. Lift up their names to God daily.

Quelch not. Encourage instead!

Rejoice in and with them.

Surprise them — in little and big ways.

Trust them. Believe in them.

Understand them. Put yourself in their place.

Vacation. They need time away.

Welcome them into your home. Don't wait for an invitation.

eXpend yourself, not them.

Yoke. Help them bear their burdens with grace and dignity.

Zap all gossip!