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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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CHURCH

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN



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The Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod

ST JOHN LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by God's Holy Spirit,
we will share our Savior, Jesus,
so our members, our commu-
nity, and all people live and
grow in Biblical Christian Faith.

"SHARE-LIVE-GROW"

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER NOVEMBER

Promise Keepers	Tuesdays 7:30pm
Confirmation	Wednesdays 2:30pm
Divorce Care	Wednesdays 6:30pm
Veteran's Day	11/11
Koinonia	11/19
THANKSGIVING	11/25
Church Offices Closed	11/26

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Dear Members and Friends of St. John,

Kathy and I entertain often, including many church leaders from outside. We often serve dinner and visit. One of our favorite dishes to serve is roast. But, when someone tells us how good the roast tastes which Kathy has cooked we get to tell them something surprising. That's not beef, that's moose! The source of the meat is not what was expected.

This month we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. Most churches take Thanksgiving Day as an opportunity for worship. But do you know the source of Thanksgiving Day? Thanksgiving is actually a national holiday, established by our government beginning with President Abraham Lincoln. As a nation we are called on to give thanks to God. For many the source of this day to thank God is unexpected.

In this month of national elections, in a time when our country is seriously divided in politics and values, the words of God about government are helpful. God speaks to us through St. Paul:

1 I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone-- 2 for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. 3 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, 4 who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

As a child of God I urge you to go to the polls this month and vote your Christian values.

As a child of God I urge you to give thanks to God and pray for all our leaders. When the government works well we can “*live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.*” This allows God’s people to respond to God’s call, grow in faith, and share the good news of Jesus. After all, we are told, *God . . . wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.*

A Blessed Thanksgiving to you. And may God bless our leaders to point our country toward righteousness, justice, and peace.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rockey



Christian Growth



HOW HEAVY IS YOUR PURSE?

How heavy is your purse? At a baby shower I attended, a contest was held: all the party-goers weighed their purses, and the heaviest bag won the prize!

In real life, a bulky bag is not a winner. The weight stresses our shoulders and throws off our posture.

Isn't worry like a handbag we carry around with us day after day? Doesn't worry weigh us down as we continue to throw more and more into that cumbersome tote? And isn't anxiety like a macramé bag—full of knots?

Worry not only burdens us, it can also affect our physical well-being. Health professionals warn us that anxiety can raise blood pressure, increase blood clotting, and prompt the liver to produce more cholesterol, raising our risk of heart attack and stroke. And if the effect of worry on our bodies isn't enough to make us give it up, remember that worry doesn't really help. Most of the time what we worry about never even happens.

Philippians 4:6-7 offers great advice for our worry-weary selves: *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

The Greek word for *anxious* that the apostle Paul uses here means *distracted*. When worrisome thoughts pop up, don't let them distract you. Rather, transfer them back to our heavenly Father in prayer. His Word promises we can bring anything and everything to Him. Nothing is too big or too small.

So when you're tempted to pick up that macramé purse of worry, remember there is Someone who wants to carry it for you. And as distracting and anxious thoughts crop up, turn them back over to your loving Savior in prayer.

Ditch the heavy purse...the contest is over...the Prize is already yours!

Lutheran Women's Quarterly Fall 2010



Official Acts

Baptisms

Nikita Alizae Idleman 10-03-10

Weddings

Funerals

Robert (Bob) Williams 10-07-10

Date	Offering	Attendance
10-03-10	\$12,031.26	180
10/10/10	\$13,430.05	186
10/17/10	\$12,875.59	193
10/24/10	\$8,367.20	176




John and Nit Lee
Matthew Lee

Celebrating a




- | | | | |
|-------|---------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 11-03 | Rod Christiansen | 11-20 | Kevin Vig |
| 11-04 | Diana Christensen | 11-21 | Amanda Leonard |
| 11-06 | Crystal Dietz | 11-23 | Joe Ahrens |
| 11-06 | Walker Thomas | 11-25 | Hunter Richards |
| 11-08 | Larkin Christiansen | 11-28 | Tierra Colberg |
| 11-08 | Dwayne Jenson | 11-29 | Herman Griese |
| 11-10 | Rylee McIntosh | 11-29 | Donita Odland |
| 11-11 | Jamie Moser | 11-29 | Katie Trimble |
| 11-12 | Scott Christiansen | | |
| 11-13 | Cliff Proetz | | |
| 11-14 | Elizabeth Leonard | | |
| 11-14 | Grace McDonald | | |
| 11-17 | Jean Woods | | |
| 11-19 | Arlene Fox | | |

<p>11-09 <i>Bill and Sharon Allen</i> 11-11 <i>Steve and Dee Arlow</i> 11-20 <i>Sig and Mary Colberg</i> 11-20 <i>Joseph and Cheryl Homme</i> 11-21 <i>Joe and Paula Ahrens</i> 11-27 <i>Dwayne and Lisa Jenson</i> 11-28 <i>Owen and Cindy Van Orman</i> 11-29 <i>Micah and Regina McDonald</i></p>	 <p><i>Happy Anniversary!</i></p>
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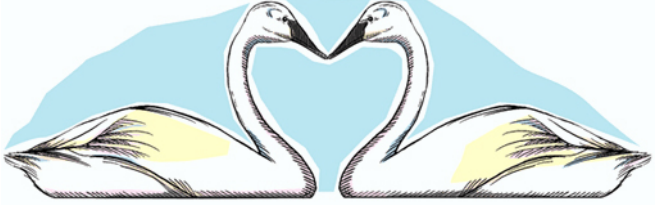


“He who sings, prays twice” Augustine

Come sing with St. John’s Senior Choir! Practice starts September 8th at 5:30pm. Lots of singing, laughing and fellowship.



JOYFUL NOISE worship team practices the Fridays before the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month in the Sanctuary at 5:30 p.m.



Engagement

April Miranda
 To
Travis Bonnet

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASSES FOR FALL AND WINTER 2010

The Following Classes are being offered.

18 months to 3 years old - "Woolly Lambs Sunday School is lead by Carol Gustafson and friends!

3 years through 5th Grade – Sunday School this year will be held in VBS style, with classes attending each of 4 stations. This year, classes focus on Jesus and His work and life.

Middle School and High School Classes – These are held each Sunday. High Schoolers meet in the portable classroom building in the parking lot.

Adult Bible Classes – Three Adult Classes are scheduled for Sundays this year –

Mary Jo Lentz will be leading a class on "**The Power of One Christ-Like Life**" by Francis Frangipane. This class meets in the cry room and addresses apathy, anger, judgment and resignation toward sin, and answers the question 'What difference can one person make?'. The study includes twelve brief biographies of outstanding Christians who provide real-life examples of the ability of a godly intercessor to impact the world for Christ.

Randy Luffberry is leading a class on **Old Testament Prophets**, in the library.

Kathy Rockey will lead, "**Bible Stories For Adults**," a class that gives adults an opportunity to look again at the Bible stories that are taught to our children. This class will meet in the class room at the south end of the downstairs hall and include the old Sunday School pictures and flannel-graph. *Sounds like fun!*



DECEMBER



THE COMMUNITY ADVENT SERVICE will be held at St. John on Wednesday, December 1st.

A meal will be served at 5:30 p.m., and the Worship Service will take place at 7:00 p.m. Also, everyone is asked to bring 'Christmas goodies' to share after the worship service.

MID WEEK ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICES will be held in December on Wednesdays December 8th, and 15th. These services help us to prepare our hearts for the coming of the real gift of Christmas, God's Son, our Savior, Jesus.

We will hold all services at 6:30 p.m. following the Advent Meal.

MID WEEK ADVENT SUPPERS will again be offered. A sign up sheet will be placed on the table in the Narthex. **We ask 3 or 4 families to sign up to serve these Advent meals together.** These meals become a real time of fellowship for our congregation.

OUR ANNUAL VOTERS MEETING will be held after late worship on Sunday, December 12. At this meeting we will vote to elect new officers and board members, and we will vote on a budget for 2010. These are decisions we want all St. John members and friends to participate in making. **SO PLEASE ATTEND!**



Advent
SUPPERS

The meal at this meeting will be a pot luck meal, organized by the Fellowship Board.

Again, we ask all St. John members and friends to attend and to help in decisions as we work together to do the ministry of the Lord.



Sunday, November 7th

2:00 A.M.

REMEMBER!!!

Set your clocks back one hour
before going to bed on
Saturday, November 6th.



Many books have been donated to our library. There are new Arch and other children's tub books. A reminder to parents, if you want a book or two for your child to look through during church, they are located in tubs on bottom shelves in the library. Feel free to use them during church or check them out to take home.

UPCOMING WORSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

WITH NOVEMBER WE ARE ENTERING A VERY BUSY . . .
AND JOYFUL SEASON!!!

NOVEMBER



"A Day of Thanks and Commitment – Stewardship Sunday" - On Sunday, November 21, St. John will celebrate **"A Day of Thanks and Commitment"** with a special worship service and a congregational pot luck after late worship.

On that day **in worship** we will have an opportunity to remember God's goodness, and respond with planned commitment for God's work at St. John in 2010.

After the worship we want to celebrate with a **"Meal of Thanksgiving,"** celebrating God's goodness. We ask that people bring a main dish and side dish or dessert for this meal. You can bring "traditional thanksgiving" food such as turkey and dressing or pumpkin pie. Or, you can bring some "Alaskan Thanksgiving," such as moose, or halibut, or salmon.

Thanksgiving
Eve
Worship



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP will be held at St. John on Wednesday evening (Thanksgiving Eve), November 24th, at 7:30 p.m. While Thanksgiving is a *national* holiday, Christians have traditionally used this day to thank our Lord for all His Blessings. Future seminarian, Hunter Richards will be preaching at this service. Please plan now to attend.

KOINONIA will be held Friday, November 19th in the Church Fellowship Hall. Pastor Richard and Eleanor Allen will host this evening which will be a combined Thanksgiving and Christmas program.

OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN



PROMISE KEEPERS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER GROUP will meet on Tuesday nights beginning October 5th at 7:30 p.m. This group is open to all men of the congregation and provides a time of sharing, support, Bible Study and prayer.

This year We are considering a new study from Lutheran Hour Ministries Men's Network, *"Working for the Man Upstairs – Your Job"*

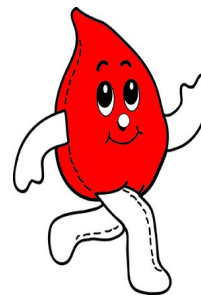
All men of the congregation are encouraged to join us for this time of growth and support!



LIFELIGHT BIBLE CLASSES have been held Wednesdays from noon—1:00pm for about 19 years. A group of St. John members and friends meet at noon to study God's Word and share pot luck lunch. This year we will start studying *Proverbs*. Class meets Wednesdays at noon. Come, bring leftovers to share and participate in a fulfilling Bible study.



CONFIRMATION CLASSES for students in grades 6-8 . These classes help middle school youth to grow in knowledge, faith, and Christian friendship. Classes are held from 2:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. each Wednesday.



DONATE BLOOD!!

Join us in the **LIFEmobile!**
St. John Lutheran Church
Sunday, November 21st

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Make your lifesaving appointment today!

Contact Judy @ 745-3338



Are you going through, or do you know someone who's going through the pain of divorce or separation? St. John Lutheran Church will soon be offering a Christian-based program called **DIVORCE CARE**. Please contact Bev Dubos @ 745-0514 or Judy in the church office: 745-3338 for more information.



Our sincere thanks to all for your prayers and support, your visits and cards during Bob's illness. Our special thanks to all the volunteers who prepared such an elaborate and abundance of food for the reception following the funeral. Your kindness and generosity are much appreciated.
Phyllis Williams and family.

Praise and Thanksgiving

Immutable God, in this world of rapid change, we lift our hearts in praise and thanksgiving for those things in life which remain constant, and most of all for the assurance of your ever-present, unchanging love and care for us. Amen.



GO GREEN

*Would you like to help us save the environment and money?
Go Green!*

Sign-up with the church office to receive your monthly newsletter via email!

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

The Human Needs Board is encouraging St. John members and groups to support the Palmer Food Bank as they coordinate and distribute Thanksgiving baskets to local families in need.

Following is a list of suggested items for Thanksgiving baskets. You may contribute all or part of the items. You may take your items directly to the Food Bank at 221 S. Valley St. The Food Bank hours are 1:00pm to 5:00pm.

If you or your group would prefer to make a monetary contribution to help the Food Bank purchase food for the baskets, please make your check payable to the Palmer Food Bank and mail it to PO Box 579, Palmer, AK 99645.

The Food Bank volunteers will be putting the baskets together on November 21st and distributing them on November 22nd and 23rd. Therefore, they would like to have all donations of food and money by Friday, November 19th. Thank you for your support in helping local families have a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.



Family of 1 to 5

- 1 Turkey 10+ pounds or 5+ pounds of ham
- 1 box of instant potatoes or 5+ pounds of real potatoes
- 2 packages of gravy mix or 1 jar of gravy
- 1 box instant stuffing or stuffing ingredients
- 2 cans of vegetables
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 pound of butter
- 1 package of dinner rolls or biscuits (minimum of 8)
- 1 pumpkin pie with whipped topping

Family of 6 to 10

- 1 Turkey 20+ pounds or 1 ham 10+ pounds
- 1 box instant potatoes or 5+ pounds of real potatoes
- 3 packages of gravy mix or 2 jars of gravy
- 2 boxes of instant stuffing
- 4 cans vegetables
- 2 cans of cranberry sauce
- 1 pound of butter
- 2 pumpkin pies with whipped topping
- 2 packages of dinner rolls or biscuits (minimum of 16)
- 2 cans of corn

Optional Items

Marshmallows; Non _Alcoholic beverage (i.e. Kool-Aid, juice, coffee, tea, milk, etc.); fresh vegetables (i.e. celery, onions, carrots, salad, etc.); jam, honey, peanut butter, store baked goods, disposable roasting pan; salt & pepper; foil/plastic wrap/roasting bags; brown sugar; any additional store bought items are welcome.

FINANCIAL NEEDS UPDATE

ST. JOHN FINANCES - Last year our congregation was seriously struggling financially as we entered October. In the last 3 months of the year we caught up, in part because of Permanent Fund Dividend gifts. This year we lowered our budget, BUT, we are *behind last year's giving!*

Thanks, to those who have shared God's blessings with them by tithing off these dividends. However, this year we are not only behind in giving to this point, but giving from permanent funds is behind giving last year from Permanent Funds. Please consider helping the Lord's work at St. John with a tithe on your dividend, in addition to your regular, cheerful, proportionate, sacrificial offerings.

THE PROPHET—RESCHEDULED

THE PROPHET is a dramatic presentation of verses from Old Testament prophets in the Bible by Shakespearian actor, Brad Sherrill of Atlanta, Georgia. **The Prophet** will have 4 shows in Anchorage, one in Soldotna, one in Palmer at St. John on Saturday evening, **January 22, 2011**. Plan now to attend this 90 minute presentation that looks at judgment and hope as God speaks.

The Alaska Christian Conference is bringing Mr. Sherrill to Alaska. He previously presented **The Gospel of John**. Tickets will be on sale and any proceeds exceeding cost will help the local Food Banks.

Tickets prices are: Adults \$15, Youth/Seniors/Military \$10

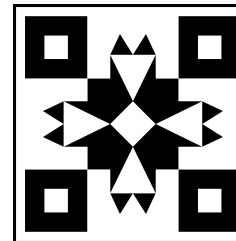
(This presentation was to have taken place October 30th, 2010 but due to Mr. Sherrill's health, needed to be rescheduled)



Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) November meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 9th in the north fellowship hall at 7:00pm. Kim Kirby and Barbara Barney will lead a study of "**Five Kernels of Corn**". All ladies of St. John are invited to attend.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LWML QUILTERS AND LADIES WHO PUT TOGETHER LAYETTE KITS. LWML sent to Lutheran World Relief a total of 127 quilts (374.5 pounds), 24 layettes (98.5 pounds) with an overall total of 473 pounds. The shipping was paid for from funds in the LWML General Funds and half from the Gift Nook funds.

"God of all mercy and grace, thank you for your gift of grace to those that worked on this project."



QUILTING for Lutheran World Relief meets Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited to come and enjoy this fun fellowship. If you can use a pair of scissors, sewing machine or can lay large pieces of fabric out and pin it together, **you are a St. John Quilter.** It is noted that many hands make light work and our goal for the year is to put together 150 or more quilts that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief in October 2011. The quilts are sent to many places in the world where laundering is done in a river, so the quilts are made of durable fabrics. The quilters always welcome your unused fabric, nicely used sheets, light weight blankets, heavier materials and polyesters (a good way to get rid of those 1970's fabrics you have stored away). You are welcome to bring them by the church during the week and leave at the office or give to any LWML lady on Sunday.



Let us take time to say a prayer and honor those who have given their lives for our freedom.

MITES

The International Mite Grants we will focus on for November are: Earthquake Relief and Church Plants in Peru, a grant of \$100,000. Peru, a beautiful country on the coast of South America, experienced an earthquake in 2007 that destroyed many cities and towns south of Lima, killing 500 people and injuring over 1,000. Rev. Jorge and Olga Groh were there to help hand out humanitarian aid as well as spiritual comfort, gaining the approval of the local government and opening doors for further mission work in the region. This \$100,000 grant supports the work LCMS World Mission with the Evangelical Lutheran Church-Peru, continues the humanitarian aid, trains and identifies local church servants, and plants new churches throughout the region.

Another Grant is for Concordia Seminary, St. Louis Food Bank Location a grant of \$50,000. The Food Bank and Re-Sell It Shop at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, have very limited space in their present locations and are not convenient to students or their families. Relocating these student service areas to Koburg and Wartburg Halls will make it easier for students and their families to take advantage of these services. Delivery of donated goods such as food and gently used clothing or household items will also be more convenient for donors. Using the Food Bank can save a seminarian family up to \$100 per month on their grocery bills. A grant of \$50,000 helps the Seminary maximize its use of existing buildings to meet the living needs of future pastors, deaconesses, missionaries, and chaplains. Your prayers and Mites are needed to accomplish these grant goals.

Mites Sunday is November 14th. Place your donations for Mites in the brown Mite box in the narthex.

ALL ABOUT LWML MITES

- Mite boxes are used to collect money for missions
- Twenty-five percent of the mite offering is sent to LWML for mission grants and the remaining seventy-five percent is used for your district's mission grants.
- Mite money is used to further God's kingdom through the mission grants selected by delegates at district and national convention.
- Please continue to save pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters, etc and place in your little Mite box whenever and wherever you can feed it; dressings table, office desk, laundry room, car, kitchen counter, etc. You might want to give a Mite box to family members or friends. If you wish to obtain a new Mite box there are extra Mite boxes next to the Mite box in the Narthex.
- Return your filled Mite box and place it in the brown wooden box in the Narthex.



It's Picnic Time!
Annual St John Youth Dinner Auction :: Saturday, November 13, 2010

NOVEMBER

3- Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge
7- FISH @ Our Redeemer, Chugiak
Meet at St John @ 2:30-5:30pm
10-11- Youth Lock-In (Wed-Thurs)
7:00pm-10am
13- DINNER AUCTION
Doors open at 5pm. Set-up at 3pm.
17- Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge
21- FISH @ Lamb of God, Wasilla
Meet at St John @ 2:30-5:30pm
24- Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in the Youth Lounge
25- Thanksgiving Day!

High School
Middle School

H2Oasis
Date & Time
are TBA.

Confirmation Classes
will start
October 6th



Jamie L. Walters, DCE

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IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF *THE SR HIGH L.I.G.H.T.*,
CONTACT JAMIE VIA EMAIL