

THE STAFF OF ST JOHN

Church Office **Judy Stahancyk**
 jstahancyk@st-john-lutheran.org
 Phone: 907-745-3338

Senior Pastor **Rev. Jonathan Rockey**
 jonathanrockey@st-john-lutheran.org
 Home Phone: 907-746-5131

Assistant Pastor **Rev. Richard Allen**
 richardallen@st-john-lutheran.org
 Home Phone: 907-746-3919

D.C.E. **Jamie L. Walters**
 doe@st-john-lutheran.org
 Home Phone: 907-355-1456

Music Coordinators **Sara Guhl**
 guhl@mtaonline.net
 Home Phone: 907-745-8097

Marilee Nufér
 marleenufer@hotmail.com
 Home Phone: 907-745-6528

Custodians
 John and Cathy Glaser
 Home Phone: 745-5067

Official Acts

Baptisms
 Tory Lynn Rock *9-11-2011*


Weddings
 Kate Josephine McNiven & Kyle Le Johnson
 9-10-2011

Funerals
 Anna May Shackelford *9-07-2011*

Date	Offering	Attendance
9-04-11	\$10,009.00	126
9-11-11	\$8,015.00	183
9-18-11	\$8,045.00	166
9-25-11	\$4,573.00	132
Wed. 09-07		6
09-14		6
09-21		6
09-28		12

IN THIS ISSUE OF
THE TABLET
 VOLUME 10 ISSUE 9 OCTOBER 2011

Pastor's Corner
Spiritual Growth
Sunday School News
LWML News
Youth
Birthdays & Anniversaries
Official Acts and Stats



Tory Lynn Rock
Carol Moormon
CathySmith
Karen Johnson
James and Marvella
McIlmail
And Children



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"

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page	Item
3.....	Pastor's Corner
4.....	Spiritual Growth
6-8	Growth Opportunities
10	LWML News
11.....	Parish Nurse News
15 ...	Birthdays & Anniversaries
16.....	Official Acts & Stats



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER October

- 10-04 Promise Keepers Begin
- 10-05 Lighthouse Begins
Confirmation Class Begins
- 10-09 LWML Sunday
ALL BOARD MEETING
- 10-11 LWML Meeting
- 10-12 Columbus Day
- 10-22 Fall Festival
- 10-31 Reformation Day

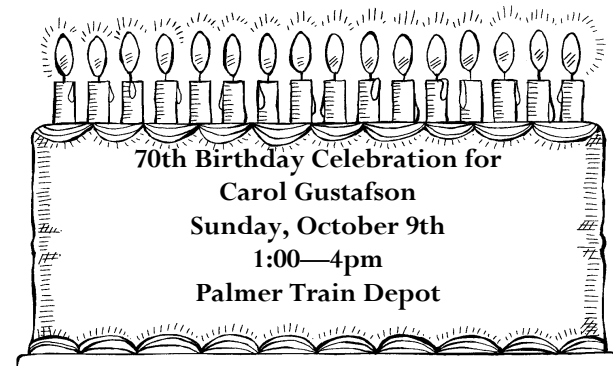
SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10-01 Lisa Johnanson
Ann Knuth | 10-21 Lea Dent |
| 10-03 Richard Moore | 10-22 Jeff Curry
Wyatt Gardipee
Dee McAllister |
| 10-06 Carol Gustafson | 10-23 Tucker Christiansen
Beverly Dubos
Leon Savage Jr. |
| 10-07 Dona Hermon | 10-24 Chris Arneson |
| 10-08 Veronica Arneson | 10-25 Logan Arneson
Marissa Arneson
Natalie Arneson |
| 10-09 Timothy Rockey | Brooke Lehman
Karen Jones |
| 10-10 Bryce Idleman
Brandon McKechnie | 10-27 Brendan Andree
Mary Rockey |
| 10-11 Julie Guhl | 10-31 Grace Bingham |
| 10-12 Alexandra Leonard | |
| 10-15 Ken Bingham | |
| 10-16 Aaron Christiansen
Jacob Hicklin | |
| 10-19 Jenna Sutton | |
| 10-20 Aidan Johanson | |

Anniversary Wishes



10-27 William and Barbara Barney





Dear Members and Friends of St. John,

I am home from my yearly vacation to go moose hunting. I shot a moose each of the last two years. But this year I did not even see a live bull moose! Lots of cows and calves, but no bull! In fact, for a number of reasons nobody in camp shot a moose this year. The weather was warm. The conditions were dry and some of the ponds we hunt were no longer even ponds. Because it was dry and accessible, there were more hunters than ever as well. So, no moose this year.

However, just because we did not get a moose does not mean we wasted our time. We enjoyed the Lord's creation. We talked and solved the problems of the world (if only others would listen!) We played some cards. And . . . we spent time in devotions each day.

We are focusing this month on Christian discipleship. In John 8:31-32 Jesus says,


*³¹ . . . "If you **continue in my word**, you are truly my **disciples**.³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free."*

I have personally found that what Jesus said is true for my life. I find that spending time in God's Word is vital to my life. I find that spending time with others in God's Word brings us closer together and sharpens our vision and purpose.

As we seek to live as disciples, as children of God, how are you "continuing in Jesus word?" Are you letting God speak to you daily in devotional and prayer time? Are you in Sunday Bible Class or a small group? Are you regular in worship?

There is no place that God's Word is not a power for good in our faith and lives . . . even in moose camp!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rockey

OCTOBER 

2— FISH @ Our Redeemer,
Meet at St John @ 2:30-5:30p

5— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge

7— Movie Night
7-10pm in the Youth Lounge

11— Breakfast Bible Study
6:30a-7:15a in the Kitchen

12— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge

16— FISH @ St John
3pm-5pm in Youth Lounge

19— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge

21— Annual Progressive Dinner
Meet at Church @ 6pm

26— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm in Youth Lounge

28— Fall Retreat
Meet at Church @ 6pm ~ \$30

High School Youth Schedule

Middle School



**Confirmation
Classes Return**

Wednesday, October
5th
2:30-5pm

Parent Meeting
Sunday, October
2nd
12:30pm

Please, plan to attend, we're looking at adding some improvements to our program and would like your input!



Jamie L. Walters, DCE
907-355-1456
dce@st-john-lutheran.org
Look for me on Facebook & Twitter (dcejamie)

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



Christian Growth



Autumn

Good and generous Lord, You have once more brought the year full circle, through planting and growing and ripening to harvest time, and autumn.

We thank You for the sun and the wind, the rain and the dew, the minerals of the earth and all the plants that grow and all the beasts and birds of farm and field. We marvel at Your wonderful ways of bringing food from the earth for man's good.

Dear God, help us to use Your rich gifts as You want us to. Teach us to share them with our neighbor when he is in need. Make us see, in the marvelous succession of seasons, and in the growth and ripening of our crops, the merciful, generous hand of Your divine providence.

Help us to realize, too, that if we keep Your commandments and live according to the inspirations of Your grace, we shall also reap a plentiful harvest in the autumn of our lifetime: a harvest that we will be able to enjoy for ever and ever, where no rust can destroy, nor blight spoil any least part of it. Amen.




st john's annual
Family & Children's Fall Festival
 saturday, october 22, 2011
 10a to noon
 church fellowship halls

Join us for fun Fall crafts, games,
 and an outdoor hayride for the kiddos!





*Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions
Six-Part Class coming in 2012*

January 3, 10, 17, 24, 26, 31

St. John Lutheran Church in Palmer

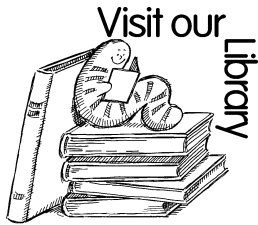
5:30pm to 8:00pm

Light healthy meal provided during class

There is no charge to attend or for the course materials

You must pre-register.

*Taught by your Paris Nurses—Zanthia Timblin and
Margaret Runser*

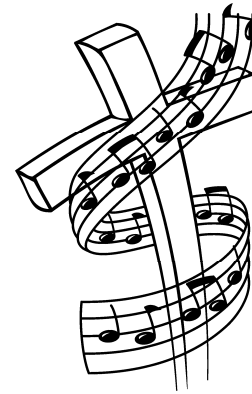


Tim and Darcy Gill of *The Voice of the Martyrs* donated 2 books and 4 DVD's to our church library. The book *Tortured for Christ* (#229) is Richard Wurmbrand's (founder of *Voice of the Martyrs*) personal account of his 14 years in Communist prisons in Romania because he refused to denounce his faith.

The 2nd book, *The Pastor's Wife*, (#194) is his wife Sabin's account of the same period and how she raised their son and maintained the underground church.

One of the DVD's is a 50 minute documentary, *The Underground Pastor and His Wife* (#54) about the Wumbrand's story. Another DVD, entitled *The Richard Wurmbrand Story*, is a 30 minute animated *Heroes of the Faith* movie told from the perspective of the Wurmbrand's young son. It has activities for children. Then there are 2 DVD's about the underground churches in Vietnam and Columbia, (#52) respectively. Actual footage of teams of teenagers who are smuggling Bibles into these nations where persecution against Christians exists, asks the question of all of us, "How far are you willing to go for your faith?"

Check these out in the library across from Pastor Rockey's office.



*"Shout for joy to the Lord all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness;
Come before Him with joyful songs"
~Psalm 100:1-2~*

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

ADULT CHOIR—Practices on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm, after Mid-week worship. Contact Sara Guhl for more information at 745-8097.

JOYFUL NOISE—Worship team practices on Friday evenings at 5:30pm. Contact Marilee Nufer at 745-6528 for more information.

BELL CHOIR—Practices on Thursdays at 5:30pm. Contact Sharon Allen at 746-0908 for more information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

DIRECTORIES – The St. John Pictorial Directories ARE coming. Our photographer was injured and spent most of the summer in the hospital and doctors' offices. He has indicated he is near production. Keep an ear out for delivery!!

YOUTH AUCTION – Jamie Walters, St. John DCE, has asked me to remind the congregation that **there is NOT going to be a youth auction this year.**

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAYS

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASSES FOR FALL AND WINTER 2011 – The Following Classes are being offered.

18 months – 3 years old - “Wooly Lambs” Sunday School is taught 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 whole years 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:

WOMEN’S CLASS - Denise Larsen is leading a class on "*The Lutheran Difference.*" This class looks at issues of current concern from the Lutheran Biblical perspective. They meet in the Cry Room in the Sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE CLASS - Randy Luffberry continues teaching the "*A First Century Faith for the Twenty-First Century Church.*" This book was written by Pastor Waldo Werning, the grandfather of member Aaron Werning. This class is taking an in-depth look at the teaching of God in Scripture, and practical ways God’s teachings impact how Christians can and do live in today’s world. It is helpful and practical direction for St. John as we seek to be God’s people in our community. They will meet in the church library.

TOPICAL CLASS - Linda Griese is leading a class by Gary Smalley on "*Relationships.*" Gary Smalley is a well known and well-respected teacher who helps Christian families lives under the grace and direction of God. This Class will meet down stairs in the church.

MONDAYS

Cantora Arctica – This is not officially a St. John group. This is a women’s choir which has been practicing at St. John for a number of years on Mondays and brings beautiful music praising the Lord to the Valley community. They practice at 7:00 p.m.

Stephen Ministry Supervision is held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each



Faith and Communities Fight Flu

You play an important role in keeping your family, your community, and yourself healthy! Protect your family and yourself by getting the flu vaccine. In the U.S. between 5% and 20% of the population gets the flu each flu season. Each year more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu-related complications.

Symptoms of Flu

Symptoms of the flu may include fever, coughing, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, headaches, body aches, chills and fatigue. Some people may have vomiting and diarrhea, though this is more common in children than adults. It’s important to note that not everyone with flu will have a fever. A fever is a temperature taken with a thermometer that is equal to or greater than 100.4°F (38°C).

Five Everyday Steps to Protect Your Health

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. If a tissue is unavailable, cough or sneeze into your shoulder or elbow instead of your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you cough or sneeze. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- If you have flu-like symptoms, stay home for at least 24 hours after you are free of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications like acetaminophen, aspirin or ibuprofen. This step is to help stop the spread of the virus to others.

Groups at High Risk for Medical Complications From the Flu

Anyone can get flu and can have serious problems from flu, though some groups are at higher risk for complications from seasonal flu, including:

- Pregnant women
- Children younger than 5
- People who are 65 years of age or older
- People who are morbidly obese
- People with certain chronic conditions, such as heart disease, asthma, diabetes and/or those with kidney, liver or nervous system disorders.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommend that **every person 6 months and older receive an annual flu vaccine.** Check with your local health department, pharmacy, or clinic visit www.flu.gov to find where you and your family can be vaccinated.



LWML SUNDAY—OCTOBER 9th, will be observed . . . with worship and a display of the quilts. Following the second worship service, the quilts will be boxed up for Lutheran World Relief . . . along with the Personal Care kits gathered. Anyone wishing to help is invited to join us after worship as we share our care for others through Lutheran World Relief.

LWML monthly meeting—will be held the evening of October 11th, beginning at 7:00pm. Pastor Jonathan Rockey will be leading the women in a devotional Bible Study. A report on the Alaska Zone LWML Fall Rally/Retreat held at Anchorage Lutheran on September 16, 17 & 18th, will be given. All women of the congregation are warmly invited to attend —*Serving Our Lord With Gladness!*

COMING!! 32ND Annual Lutheran Women’s Advent Brunch — December 3, 2011. SAVE THE DATE. . . further information to follow.



PUMPKINS

- P** is for the people Jesus came to save
- U** is for the unconditional love He gave
- M** is for the message we should all share
- P** is for the priceless gift God above gave to show he is caring
- K** is for the King of Kings
- I** is for the insight He brings
- N** is for the nails in His hands
- S** is for the Savior who gave His life so we could stand.

TUESDAYS

DIVORCE CARE is a 13 session video-based class and support group to help people get through the struggles of divorce with Christian help. This video series is led by St. John member, Bev DuBos. This new group brings Christian help, support, and healing to people who have experienced a divorce. This group met on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays last year. The meeting time is determined by those who attend. If you are interested please call Bev at 745-0514 or the church office at 745-3338.

Promise Keepers – Our Promise Keepers men’s group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm. 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, “*Fatherhood*”.

Girlfriends in God – This group led by Linda Griese and Kathy Rockey offers an opportunity for experienced Christian women to mentor and bless younger Christian women. If you would like a time of Bible study and Christian support, listen for announcements in church or call Linda at 357-0703.

Lutheran Women’s Missionary League – Our LWML meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. for Bible study, mission efforts, and planning of service.

WEDNESDAYS

Quilting – Our ladies have quilted for decades on Wednesdays and donate the quilts to Lutheran World Relief to share the Lord’s love throughout the world. Quilting happens at 9:30 a.m. in the North Fellowship Hall.

Lifelight – This is our 20th year of this noon Bible Study. We are studying *James and Jude* this year from noon to 1:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Bring leftovers to share pot luck.

Confirmation – Classes to help Middle School Children grow in faith are held at St. John on Wednesdays from 2:30 – 5:15 p.m.

Senior Choir – The St. John Senior choir practices on Wednesday evenings beginning at 5:15 p.m.

THURSDAYS

Bell Choir – The St. John Bell Choir practices on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

month at 6:30 P.M. at the home of David and Kathy Grosz.

FRIDAYS

Friday Night Bible Study – This long term small group of interested people meet on the Fridays before the first and third Sunday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (after music group practice.)

OTHER

Young Adults – The St. John Young Adult Group will begin meeting in September. Times and location to be announced.

Parent Share Preschool – This Christian pre-school has met at St. John for about 30 years. There are classes beginning at 9:30 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday for 4 year olds, and Tuesdays and Thursdays for 3 year olds. Mrs. Jenny Nash teaches the 4 year old class and Mrs. Tausha Petrie teaches the 3 year old class.



OCTOBER SERMONS – In October we will focus on Discipleship in our Sermons for the month. Below are the themes for each Sunday.

October 2 – How is Your Relationship with God?

October 9 – What’s helping you grow Spiritually today?

October 16 – What Ministry is making a difference – in Your Life and others?

October 23 – Discipleship showing in Financial Steward ship, Giving to God what is God’s”

October 30 – Reformation – What could the church do differently that would help you grow more?



**ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH
WE WILL CELEBRATE OUR 5TH ANNUAL
THIRD GRADE BIBLE SUNDAY**

**IF YOU HAVE OR KNOW A THIRD GRADE STUDENT,
PLEASE LET JAMIE KNOW THEIR FULL NAME
(OR THE NAME THEY’D LIKED IMPRINTED!)
ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 16TH.**

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP CONTINUES—Wednesday worship continues each week at 6:30pm. The goal for Wednesday worship is to provide an alternate opportunity for those who can’t make Sunday worship, and to provide extra opportunities for time with the Lord and His people for people who nevertheless can attend on Sundays. The services and sermons on Wednesday are different from the Sunday service and sermon. These Wednesday services are continuing during the school year.

While attendance at Wednesday services was good from April through July, it dropped in August and early September, but picked up again at the end of September.

PERMANENT FUNDS—Soon Alaskans will receive their permanent fund checks. For many years members have been asked to consider at least tithing from their permanent funds toward the work of the Lord at St. Joh. Many of you remember Pioneer Alaskan June Liebing standing up in worship and saying, “God made the earth, the oil is in the earth, my permanent fund is a gift from God. I encourage you to give to the Lord from this gift from God.” (June is now in the Pioneer Home.) **Please consider returning to the Lord as He has blessed you with this permanent fund.**

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE ST. JOHN

Historian/Archivist to keep scrapbooks about our congregation. Wil- lie Pedersen is currently doing this job.
A person to lead **Children’s messages** somewhat regularly.
If you would be interested in any of these ways to serve, please talk with Pastor Rockey, contact Judy in the church office or look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

ATTENTION * ATTENTION**
BOARD OF EDUCATION
Is looking for people interested in getting involved with the Spiritual education of our children, please consider giving of your time to the Board of Education. It is a fun and rewarding way to give of your time and talents to your church. If you are interested or just have questions please contact Jamie Walters, DCE, at the church office at 745-3338.