



St. John Lutheran Church

The HERALD

Volume 112, Issue 5

"Growing Community in Christ"

June/July 2012

Summer at St. John

Wednesdays in June & July

Outdoor Worship every Wednesday in June & July
Starting at 6:15 pm

for a mid-week out-door worship service on the lawn.
begins Wednesday, June 6: Worship at 6:15 pm

(If it rains, we will worship in the church! NO worship on July 4th)

Vacation Bible School: "Splash in God's Word!"
June 10-13: Sunday-Wednesday, 5:30-7:45 p.m.
Check out page 3 for more information.



Summer BBQ: All are Invited!
Wed., June 13, 5:00-6:15 p.m.

Come for fellowship, good food and worship!
Menu: Hot dogs, chips, watermelon, and lemonade.
Stay for a youth-led worship starting at 6:15 p.m.!

Sundays in Summer

Worship & communion at 9:30 am

Get ready for the 6th Annual

"Ugly Shirt & Tie Contest"

Father's Day, June 17

~A Prize will be awarded for the Ugliest Shirt & Tie
~Show off some of those awful Father's Day gifts
you've received in the past!

NEW MEMBER GATHERINGS:

Wednesday, July 11, 18 & 25 at 7:00 pm
New Members Received: Sunday, July 29, 9:30 am
If you are interested in joining, or if there is a conflict with the Gathering times, call the church office, 232-8521. If you are simply wanting to know more about St. John, please feel free to attend one or all of these Gatherings.

From the Pastor:

Over a year ago, during a time of transition for St. John, the **rediscovery process** (conducted with our Eastern North Dakota Synod staff) was begun. Throughout that process, several goals were identified. To continue the process of deepening this congregation in faith and opening this congregation toward our community with grace, these goals have been lifted up monthly at our council meetings and at our weekly staff meetings. As a staff, we have focused on these goals and would like to share with you our continued hope for the growth of St. John. Here are the Rediscovery goals alongside the ministries of St. John.

-Increase awareness and appreciation for members living the Christian life.

The staff has been writing letters of thanks to volunteers. Faith Milestones (i.e.) Senior Recognition, 1st communion, and backpack have shaped our community. Parents live this out by bringing their children to the different ministries of St. John. This is experienced as many small groups meet in the home and it is also experienced when groups like boards and committees pray for each other. Families directly increase awareness of God when they live out faith in the home.

-Enhance the experience of God's word and presence.

Our Lenten Series was on 'Living Out Our Christian Faith'. We offer a three week new member class to connect new members to God and also to the mission of St. John. In Confirmation, as we closed out our year, Senior High youth led the confirmation youth in various activities. We ended in prayer and celebrated communion on the banks of the Red River. Our small group ministries have expanded. We have: Dueteronomy28 Men, Women and Wine, Café for Women, Young Adults, MUGG (Men Under God's Guidance), Moms Book Study, New Member Gatherings. Many small groups already meet such as; Hands and Feet, Yoga, Faithfully Fit, Jambalaya Quilters, Footcare, etc.

-Empower laity for ministry.

The many small groups offered here at St. John empower laity to grow beyond themselves. Our Sunday School and Confirmation programs empower many to serve as teachers, guides and mentors. We have opened up many volunteering opportunities to the congregation to serve and share their gifts with this community, i.e. those who painted the fellowship hall and the nook.

(continued on page 2)

MUSIC NOTES!

Questions: call or text 388-4200 (Dawn) or email:
dawn@stjohnfargo.com or ldpapenfuss@gmail.com

Thank you to **Steve Wennblom** for heading up the new sound system project. He gave of his time to make it a successful installation!

Congratulations to **Trax of Faith** (St. John Worship Band) for making it into the Battle of the Bands competition! You were awesome!

Thanks to the **St. John Drama group** for their drama presentation on May 6. Your commitment/hard work is appreciated!

Thank you to **Lois Nelson** for constructing the new cart for the worship band soundboard. It is beautiful!

Muscians: Summer is a great time to use your gifts and talents. If you want to enhance our worship experience by singing, playing an instrument, etc., email me at dawn@stjohnfargo.com or call me at 232-8521 ext. 108.

Outdoor Worship on Wednesdays begins on **June 6 at 6:15 pm**. Because of the earlier start time, bring your supper and eat it on the grass and worship with us!

Special Event: Sunday, August 19 at 9:30 am.

Worship will be accompanied by the Kringen Accordion Band of which **Jay Goos** is a member!

Trax of Faith is searching for a bass player. If interested in auditioning or if you know of someone who might be interested, contact Dawn at 232-8521. If you would like more information, contact any band member, or the church office. Thanks!

(Continued from page 1)

Members with technical expertise have helped make our new sound system a reality.

There will be a continued effort to train all members of St. John to be welcoming to others as other brothers and sisters in Christ join us for worship.

The Parish Health Board has been looking at starting Stephen Ministry which is a lay visitation program to continue to connect our members together in ministry.

-Expand faith formation opportunities.

This will continue to be worked on through our milestone ministries like the First Communion class where the children decorated their own chalice.

Many small group ministries have a core understanding of faith formation.

We continue to ask all boards to spend time in prayer together along with some component of scripture reading and devotional.

Ministries like the Adult Forum continue to challenge and open us up in growing in faith.

-Intentionally lift up stewardship.

Financial Peace University.

Stewardship of time, energy, and resources are essential for any congregation to do ministry.

This community has wonderful stewardship towards the world with ministries like homeless and hungry, world hunger, and malaria.

The stewardship of time was a big event for St. John when we housed the homeless in our community.

The children's offering globe used during worship is an

Question & Answer Session with the church council: Sunday, July 29, 10:30 am
Bring your questions and suggestions. All are invited!

To the Members of St. John Lutheran

It has been my privilege to serve for the past six years on your Church Council, your Executive Committee and most recently as your Church Council President. I have grown in my faith and have been inspired by the many acts of service carried out by the faithful volunteers and staff at St. John. In Ephesians 4:11 we learn that Christ gives gifts to the church. With these gifts we are equipped by the Holy Spirit to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ. I would ask that you remember to pray for our Church Council members and our staff as they continue to do their work on behalf of our congregation. May all the Glory go to God!
Council President, Keith Burck

Parish Health Ministry: Healthy Feet Are "Happy Feet"

The Foot Care Clinic provides foot care performed by trained health personnel. It is particularly helpful to those with foot health issues. We provide foot washing, nail trim and massage. It's also a social time to visit with friends and enjoy a cup of coffee. Our next two clinics are **June 19 and July 17**. Please call Cathy Chatelain at 293-6772 or 261-2707 to schedule an appointment. Cost is \$16 paid to Sanford Home Care-Fargo. Donations are appreciated and go to support this ministry.

easy way to teach our children the power of giving towards a world in need.

We will continue to work on stewardship as we have substantial debt from the building project.

-Enhance Communication.

St. John has a communication board which has pushed hard to find new ways of communicating. The Communication Board completed all the new signage around the church, the new TV which has increased awareness of new ministries happening at St. John, and they completed the welcome center which has been a central place to communicate for all members.

We have a new, more concise newsletter format which was designed to focus on the ministry St. John.

We also have an email version of 'The Herald' if you would like that option. (currently 50 people have signed up for this option on our website)

Facebook has been a fun way for this community to stay connected outside of the few hours we worship together.

This list is not the end, but rather the beginning and the present picture of our ministries. I continue to be excited for the ways God is inviting you to serve in a unique and authentic way so that God's people in this place are growing in faith and growing in the ways God is working in this world through our hands and feet. May God bring you periods of great rest this summer and may God open your life in new ways as you continue to grow as a disciple of Christ.

In Christ's love,
Pastor Nathan Keith

Youth and Family Ministry

Jessica Miller, Director of Youth and Family Ministry
701.232.8521, ext. 107 jmiller@stjohnfargo.com

Summer BBQ, June 13, 5:00-6:15 p.m.

All are welcome for fellowship, good food, and worship! Menu: Hot dogs, chips, watermelon, and lemonade, then stay for a youth-led, VBS worship!

St. John Summer Service Trip to Minot, June 21-24 A group of St. Johnnies will be traveling to Minot, ND to help with flood recovery after the devastation of the Souris River Flood of 2011. Please pray for this crew, and for the community of the Souris Valley as they recover.

100 Wells Water Carnival, July 11, 4:30-8 p.m.

The Youth of the ELCA have been challenged to raise funds to build 100 wells in parts of the world where there is no safe drinking water. What better way to do this, than through having fun with water! Knock down Pastor Nate, Dawn, Jessica, & multiple parents, youth, and others in our dunk tank! Soak people in the All-out Water Balloon Fight! Bring change to help fill our water jug! BBQ is 4:30-6 pm; "water-themed" worship with blessing and sending for our youth at 6:15. Come for a FUN-Filled evening!!!!

National Youth Gathering, July 16-23

We have 15 St. Johnnies who will be participating in the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana. Join us for a special blessing and sending for this group during worship on July 11 at 6:15 p.m.

Prayer Partners Needed! We are seeking 15 prayer partners to pray for our youth and adult leaders as they participate in the National Youth Gathering. We ask that you pray for your prayer partner as they prepare for the trip, and daily during the time of the Gathering, July 16-23. If interested, please contact Dan Altenbernd at 701-261-0939.

ELCA Summer Bible Camp Want to have a week that's full of fun, adventures, new friends, and faith? There's still time to find an ELCA summer camp that will work for you! St John offers a scholarship to youth attending a week of summer Bible camp to help offset costs for families in need. Check out the youth board for more info.

Milestones

Faith Chests What is a faith chest you might be wondering? It is a chest that would be built by members of our congregation, presented to a person at baptism and used throughout their life to hold significant faith items, i.e., a baptism candle, faith step stoles, first Bible, first communion chalice, funeral programs, special items from Sunday school or VBS, etc. If you enjoy woodworking, crafting, sanding, or staining or would like to learn more about serving in this beginning ministry, please contact Jessica Miller at 232-8521.

Vacation Bible School

Splash in God's Word, June 10-13, 5:30-7:45 pm

*For all youth ages 3- going into Gr. 5. \$15/child or \$35/family.
Youth Gr. 6 and older are encouraged to be leaders!*

Sign up NOW for a super fun, wet and wild VBS where we will be 'Splashing in God's Word' all week! Tie dye your own shirt! Fun Games, Cool Crafts, Exciting Science Experiments, & MORE! For more information, or volunteer to help lead, contact Tressa McMahan at 701.526.1955. Registration forms can be found on the youth board, in church office, or at www.stjohnfargo.com.

2012 Financial Status: (January 1-May 20, 2012)

\$ 9,615 Weekly amount needed for 500,000 Annual budget
8,850 Average weekly receipts
185,867 Income-to-Date (through 5-20)
201,923 Budget-to-Date (through 5-20)

General Memorial Fund:

In memory of Kevin Brandvig:
David & Lenora Halvorson

Address Changes

Janna & Paul Callahan
7818 Scorpio Cir S
Fargo, ND 58104

Brian & Denise Gorder
2801 23rd Ave S #315
Fargo, ND 58103

Ministerial Acts: Baptisms

4/29: Sloane Janice Zimney, daughter of Mike & Karina Zimney
5/13: Adalyn Faith Cockerill,
daughter of Michael Cockerill and Caitlin Henderson
5/13: Michael Cockerill

A huge Thank You to all those who brought in items, helped sort donations, and volunteered to help during our Youth Rummage Sale in May! We raised nearly \$2,000 to date to help send our youth to New Orleans this summer, and it was a huge success! THANK YOU!

The JUNE Service Unit is posted in the parlor by the telephone. Please sign up for serving/providing food for the Sunday morning coffee. Thank you!

Richard & Shirley Bolme

Joe & Nicole Bosch

Donna & Randy Christianson

Amy & Vince Emerson

Chris & Lynn Gruhl

Justin & Kayla Henderson

Elliott & Denise Kabanuk

Dale & Kim Larson

Audrey LePore

Mavis Lura

Linda & Mark Merck

Judy Paul

Tim & Melissa Rhode

Donna Root

Robert & Suzanne Schultz

Wes & Julie Staigle

Dianne Stenon

Kim Vance

Mary Ann Walen

Carl & Rhonda Watkins

Dennis & Diane Wiesenborn

Trish Wiste

JULY 2012 Service Unit

Rachel Asleson &

Melissa Tomlinson

Steve & Debbie Bates

Gloria Boland

Larry Dommer & Linda Walks

Douglas & Karen Dufty

Sue Erickson

Scott & Lisa Gail

Holly Gapp

Paul & Janet Graalum

Robert & Kari Hatfield

Marvin & Diana Heaton

Brandon & Amanda Hongerholt

Henry & Rosalie Hongerholt

Kristean Konrad

Charles & Rosalyn Krumwiede

Guy & Susan Nicholls

Harold & June Olsen

Greg & Lindsay Peterson

Tonya Poole

Carol Schwartz

Richard & Diane Stenberg

Ron & Heidi Twedt

Larry & Cindy Waasdorp

Sunday School News: stjohnfargosundayschool@gmail.com

Sunday School Leadership Team: **Bethany Grahn, Tressa McMahan, Eric Nelson, Lanelle Vasichek.**

Sunday School Teachers Needed! Believe it or not, we are getting ready for the 2012-13 Sunday School year already, and we would love for YOU to share in this ministry! You can be any age, you may have your own kids, or not, or have grandchildren or great-grandchildren. You may be a high school student. You may have never gone to Sunday school yourself. But if you love God, and love kids, and want to help them learn more about the awesome gift of God's love for them, then you may be called to teach in our Sunday School ministry! Teachers use the awesome and user-friendly Spark curriculum, to plan their weekly lessons through opening our Bibles, reading & hearing the stories, and engaging in fun, faith-filled activities to spark faith in our children! Sunday School teachers team teach, so you would be paired with another teacher or two, and would coordinate your teaching schedule for the year. If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Bethany Grahn.

Thanks to **Eric Nelson** for serving on the SS Leadership Team this year. Congrats, Eric, on your upcoming marriage, move, and new call to ministry! God's Blessing to you and Kaitlyn!

St. John Lutheran Church
1710 South 5th Street
Fargo, ND 58103

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

'THE HERALD'
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St. John Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday: 9 am-4:30 pm
Friday: 9 am-2 pm

Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Permit #1040
Fargo, ND 58102



Café is a small group for young adult women who want to build **Community**, participate in **Advocacy**, strengthen **Faith**, and strive toward **Enlightenment (CAFE!)**. Check out our monthly conversation topics at www.boldcafe.org and join us

8 p.m. on June 18 & July 16 at Granite City (West Acres)!

Contact Jessica Miller at 232-8521 with any questions.

June-July-August Mission of the Month:

Minot Flood Recovery Effort

In June of 2011, a flood on the Mouse River (also called the Souris) which goes through the heart of Minot, broke all records for flooding and in the process destroyed one third of the homes and buildings in Minot. Although there was no loss of life, this was a disaster of epic proportions because so many were not prepared for such an event and didn't have flood insurance or a plan to deal with a disaster of this magnitude. The ELCA Synod's relief effort in Minot is being led by Hope Village, which is working under the aegis of ELCA's Lutheran Disaster Response. Preliminary plans for a **St. John Mission Trip to Minot** to work on the recovery effort is tentatively scheduled for **June 21-24**. If you have an interest in learning more about plans for this trip, please call Jessica Miller at church, 232-8521, or Char Grant, 287-1447. Monetary donations for the recovery effort can be made by writing a check to St. John, in the memo line write "Minot Flood Recovery". Your prayers for the recovery effort in Minot are needed and greatly appreciated!

To receive this St. John monthly newsletter by email, go to www.stjohnlutheran.com, click on 'View latest newsletter' and follow the links to sign up.

St. John Lutheran Church

1710 5th St. S., Fargo, ND 58103 701-232-8521

e-mail: office@stjohnfargo.com; www.stjohnfargo.com

The Ministry Team of St. John: All the People of God,
along with-Rev. Nathan Keith, Pastor

Dawn Papenfuss, Director of Music/Organ

Jessica Miller, Director of Youth & Family Ministries

Trish Wiste, Finance/HR Officer

Judy Haugo, Secretary Richard Henderson, Custodian

Jana Bruhschwein, Preschool Director

Connie Tranby, Kellie Knodel, Preschool Teachers

Jeri Ekstrom, Wedding Coordinator

Peggy Hammerling, Recorders Jessica Westgard, Handbells

Robert & Bonnie Ames, Gospel Group

Dean Froslie, Web site manager Editor: Judy Haugo

Articles accepted before 1 pm on Friday, July 13 '12

for the August '12 'Herald'.

Where would you like to see St. John in the next 3 to 5 years?

Many of the goals which our congregation adopted at our January 2011 annual meeting are coming to fruition. As our staff and Church Council continue to explore ways to help accomplish these congregational goals, we have struggled with how to serve our members with our current ministries but also how to grow new ministries as laid out in our goals. The Executive Committee has also been looking at staffing alternatives to service our ministries today as well as for the future. When our Parish Nurse resigned, a void was left in our leadership and services. However, this change also gives us an opportunity to prioritize our goals.

We are pleased to inform you that people who served on the former St. John Discovery Team have agreed to reactivate and provide direction and leadership to help our congregation in this decision making process. We welcome your input and ideas.

One question this committee will be asking is: "Where would you like to see St. John in the next 3 to 5 years?" As you contemplate this question and think about our

current ministries, our goals, and our future, we ask that you dream a little and pray a lot for guidance from the Holy Spirit.

We look forward to visiting with you and sharing your future dreams for St. John. Don't wait to be asked to share your thoughts. *You can email your comments and thoughts to Keith Burck, kburck@alerusmail.com and Pastor Nate, nkeith@stjohnfargo.com.*

We are looking for feedback on ministry specifics as to what you would like to see St. John doing more. Specifics dealing with, but not limited to: Youth and Family, Mission Outreach, volunteer opportunities, adult education, etc.

The committee members are: **Rachel Asleson, Cindy Bloom, Stephanie Christeson, Dave Duval, Diane Edwardson, Sarah Franson, Rikki Fugleberg, Joel Kangas, Jessica Miller, Larry Papenfuss, Trish Wiste and Keith Burck.**

We look forward to how God leads St. John and our ministries. St. John Visioning Committee

LET'S TALK STEWARDSHIP!

For congregation council members, stewardship leaders, rostered leaders and interested congregational members:

Monday, June 18 at 7:00 pm at St. John

During our recent synod assembly, Bishop Rindy presented us with a challenge. His challenge was for each congregation to live with these three questions:

- Why in God's name does your congregation exist?
- What is God calling you to do for Christ's sake?
- How is the Holy Spirit equipping you for this work?

How might our congregation respond to this challenge and what are the implications for our stewardship life? The Stewardship Table will host four gatherings across our synod to have conversations about these vital questions and the implications for strengthening our congregations' stewardship. Through these conversations we hope to learn what congregations are doing about stewardship; what have been the best practices implemented so that we can all share resources; and plant seeds of stewardship throughout the Synod.

Bethany Homes Annual Meeting Report

St. John member, Sylvan Melroe, is our representative to Bethany Homes. He attended their annual meeting on April 3, 2012. This is his report.

Bethany Retirement Living, Fargo, is sponsored by 40 area North Dakota ELCA congregations, including St. John Lutheran. Delegates elected three Trustees to Bethany's eleven-member governing board and also elected next year's Nominating Committee. Reports were presented by Board Chair Mary Johnson, President/CEO Shawn Stuhag and various Department Directors.

Bethany on University consists of a nursing facility; assisted

living facilities; independent living units at Bethany Kinder House; Bethany Personal Care Services and Bethany's Foundation.

Bethany on 42nd consists of nursing facility; transitional Care beds; and senior housing/assisted living units.

Bethany remains thankful for the volunteer hours provided through Congregation Auxiliary members and pastoral support, as well as the prayers, visits and financial support received from congregational members.

Respectfully submitted, Sylvan Melroe