

March 2024

ST. JOHN EV.  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ELCA

Firmly Rooted in God's Word

401 3rd Ave NE  
Waseca MN  
507-833-1703

# Lifeline

## Church Office Hours

Monday — Thurs.  
7:30 am — 11:30 am  
12:30 pm — 4:30 pm  
Fridays Closed



There will be a pizza party for all that help after the kits are assembled and a short meeting of the Women of St. John

**St John Women (all St. John women are invited) and Confirmation students will be doing a Thrivent Action Team for LWR Personal Care Kits on May 1, 2024 at 5:30PM.**

We are currently collecting items for these Kits. Cleanliness helps a person feel more human and when families find their homes destroyed or must flee for safety a Personal Care Kit can provide much needed items for self care. These will be sent to refugee camps and areas that have experienced a disaster. We are asking for contributions for these kits. You may leave them in Trinity Hall in the large basket by the library prior to May 1, 2024.

## THRIVENT ACTION TEAM-LWT PERSONAL CARE KITS

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### Items needed are:

- \*Light - weight bath size towels (20"x40" or 52"x27" dark colors recommended)
- \*Bath size bars of soap in original wrapping, any brand
- \*Adult size toothbrushes in original
- \***Sturdy** combs( no picks or fine toothed combs)
- \*Metal nail clippers (attached file optional)



# St John Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Mission Statement

*St. John is a Christian family of disciples alive in a Scripture-based, Spirit-led mission of ministry, worship and play.*

*Disciples at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church are expected to pray often, worship regularly, learn from the Scriptures, participate in the serving groups if physically able, offer their time and talent as the spirit calls them, and regularly contribute monetarily to support the mission and ministry of the church.*

*Photograph by Curt Yess*



**He is Risen, He is Risen indeed!**

For the next 7 weeks we will be celebrating Easter! As we gather for worship, we will encounter the Risen Christ as we meet Jesus along side the early believers. The enthusiasm for the alleluias may fade, but the joy of meeting Jesus won't! As we meet Jesus during the season of Easter we experience what it means to be a follower of Jesus, a loved child of God.

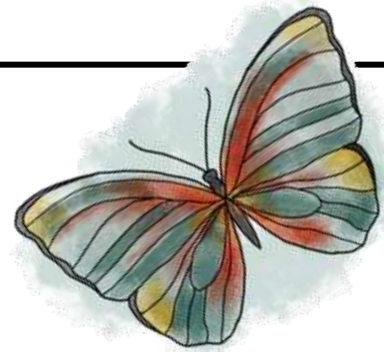
During April you will be hearing more from the Transition Team as they begin their work. The goal of the Transition Team is to write the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). The MSP introduces candidates to consider St. John as they consider their next call. The writing of the MSP requires input from the entire congregation. At the next Transition Team meeting they will be determining the best way to collect information, look for details to come for opportunities to participate!

The Transition Team is comprised of:

Kim Elias, Pam Grunzke, Lexi Kanewischer, Sue Micheals, Ann Ruedy, and John Scholljegerdes

Most importantly keep the Transition Team in your prayers as they do their work, as well as those who are considering a transition in their own ministry. This is Holy work wrapped in prayers as we follow God's direction.

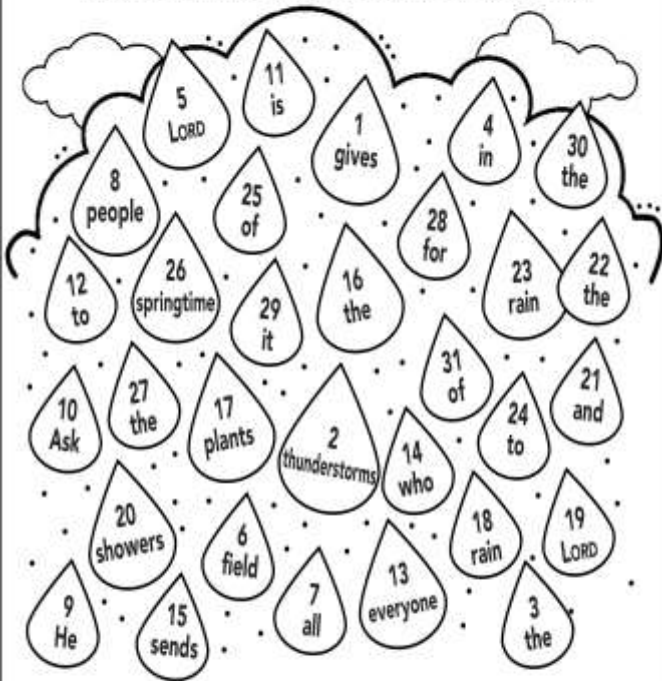
*Pastor Kristen*





# Puzzle!

Complete a Bible verse about spring by writing the word from each raindrop on the correct numbered line below.



10 \_\_\_\_\_ 16 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 28 \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 22 \_\_\_\_\_ 26 \_\_\_\_\_ i \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 29 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 27 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ 31 \_\_\_\_\_ 23 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 21 \_\_\_\_\_ 17 \_\_\_\_\_ 25 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 30 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 24 \_\_\_\_\_ 13 \_\_\_\_\_

Zechariah 10:1, NIV

Answer: Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. Zechariah 10:1, NIV



## When it rains

The skeleton flower, a perennial native to Japan, has delicate petals that change from opaque white to almost transparent when wet. After it rains, only the flower's intricate, skeleton-like veins are visible.

When the rains come (and they will!) in our lives, the same can be said. Amid difficulty and struggle, our true selves often become more transparent. During a parenting challenge, criticism might emerge. Or while we tackle a tough work project, impatience might rear its ugly head.

Hosea 6:3 (NLT) proclaims: "Oh, that we might know the Lord! Let us press on to know him. He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains in early spring." The rains will come. Whether you're experiencing light rain or a downpour, ponder what the water reveals. Then ask God how you can be more open to his work in that area.







Happy Anniversary

**3rd** - Dan & Kim Groskreutz—42 yrs.

**8th** - Don & Shirley Baker—24 yrs.

Russell & Marie Tesch—63 yrs.

Doug & Marlis Scholljegerdes—52 yrs.

**16th** - Robert & Jean Miller—63 yrs.

**23rd** - Tim & Polly Klampe—30 yrs.

**30th** - John & Cathryn Shifflett—30 Yrs.

*I sincerely apologize if any information is incorrect. This comes from what we have on file. Please let the office know of any corrections.*

**February 2024**

Monthly

Income \$18,201.19

Expense - 23,654.58  
-5,453.39

Year to Date

Income \$34,118.00

Expense -41,562.77  
Diff -7,444.77

Dylan Wesseling  
Dana Elias  
Jacob Lemmen,  
Owen Thomas  
Matt Wantoch  
Kennedy Hodgkins

**Trustworthy stewards**

After making people in his own image, God entrusted them with the rest of his creation. He wants us to manage well our bodies, our minds and our earthly home. Consider these stewardship quotes from Christian thinkers:

“We ourselves are not masters of our own ability and knowledge. They, like our talents and health, are a loan presented for our use. We must live as people who know that such temporary possessions are not true belongings and that we must give account for our management of them.”

—Albert Schweitzer



Lutheran World Relief



**Looking for that special Coffee or Tea for yourself or a GIFT? We have just the brew for you! “Fair Trade Coffee” or “Fair Trade Tea” may be purchased by contacting Sue Erdman. Call 507-461-5108.**

**Welcome Back**

**“As We Gather Together”**

**Minnesota River Conference**

**2024 Spring Event**

**9:00am Program-12:30 Lunch**

**Saturday, April 20, 2024**

**Zion Lutheran Church**

**211 E Robinson St., Lake Crystal, MN**

**Presentation: Pastor Nancy Hansen**

**REG. Fee \$15.00 Due Apr. 6, 24**

**Checks made to SE MN Synod Women of the ELCA. (Incl. Morning coffee & lunch)**

**SEND to: Karen Myers, PO Box 330, Lake Crystal, MN 56055**



**Noisy Offerings**

First Sunday of  
the month  
March 2024 offering

**63.74**

**VANCO MOBILE and E-GIVING**  
**You Can Choose Where Your Gift Goes**

We know our members feel passionately about supporting many causes. Our church uses donations to fund everything from mission trips to building maintenance. When you make a gift using our eGiving tools, you can direct the funds toward the cause you wish to support at our church.

To give, please visit the **GIVING** tab at  
[www.stjohnwaseca.org](http://www.stjohnwaseca.org) or  
**Vanco Mobile App**



**YOU ARE INVITED ...to the  
Women 's Ministry**

**Bible Study**

**Mary Bible Study**  
**April 8, 2024**  
10.00 AM  
Trinity Hall  
Leader: Jean Miller

**Ruth Bible Study**  
**April 16, 2024**  
7:00 PM  
Trinity Hall  
Leader: Shirley RAetz  
Hostess: Linda Sandborg



**Scrip**

Scrip Cards area available for purchase  
in the church office.  
Every scrip purchase you make will  
help the youth of St John.

Please contact:  
\*Kari Priebe 507-521-4723  
or Julie at the Church  
office 507-833-1703.

Applebee's	Oscar's
Cash Wise	Pizza Ranch
Domino's Pizza	Subway
El Molino	Walmart
Yellow Mushroom	Hy-Vee
Kwik Trip	McDonald's

**BUTTERFLY**

The butterfly symbolizes resurrection, Easter and the new life we have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a chrysalis, so Jesus' lifeless body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ's resurrection — and ours.



**2024**



**2024**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
	1 10 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	2	3 5:30 Confirm	4 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	5 CHURCH CLOSED	6
7 9am Trad. Worship/ Noisy offering/Asher Pentico Bapt. 10:15am –MIM 5pm Video Voice	8 10 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	9 6:00pm Commission mtg 6:30 pm Council	10 Luncheon 12 pm 1pm WELCA 5:30 Confirm	11 Grace Luth. 2pm Lakeshore NH 3:30 Col. Court 7pm Men in Mission BS-via Zoom	12 CHURCH CLOSED	13 Nina Carlson 101 Bday
14 Pulpit Supply Erika Cunningham 9am Contemp. Wor- ship/comm 10:15am-Quilters 5pm Video Voice	15 10am Mary BS 10 am Quilters 10:30 Video Voice	16 7pm Ruth BS	17 5:30 Confirm	18 4:30 I.C.E 7pm Men in Mis- sion BS-via Zoom	19 CHURCH CLOSED	20 MN River Spring Event Lake Crystal Zion ***** TH rental 1-6 pm
21 9am Trad. Worship w/comm. 10:15 Fellowship National Quilters Day 5 pm Video Voice	22 10 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	23 <b>Lifeline deadline</b> 6pm Men In Mission	24 5:30 Confirm	25 4 7pm Men in Mis- sion BS-via Zoom	26 CHURCH CLOSED	27
28 9am Contemp. Wor- ship/ 9:20 Sunday School 10:15 –Fellowship 5pm Video Voice	29 10 am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	30 10am Lakeshore church-St.John				







***Communion  
Bread Maker  
The Wesselings***



**Sunday, April 7, 2024  
Traditional Worship, 9:00 am**

***Acolyte: Jacob Knutson  
Reader: Mary Schultz  
Ushers: Mary Meyman, Sue Michaels  
Council: Rhonda Behsmann  
Video: Pam Grunzke***

**Sunday, April 14, 9:00 AM  
Contemporary Worship-communion**

***Acolyte: Mitikie Gushwa  
Reader: Kim DeMarce  
Ushers: Val Possehl, Kim DeMarce  
Comm. Prep: Kevin & Cindy Dickie  
Council: Diane Blowers  
Video: Merril Schultz***

**Sunday, April 21, 9:00 am  
Traditional Worship-communion**

***Acolyte: Dathan Elias  
Reader: Dennis Sommers  
Ushers: Dennis Sommers,  
Mark Sommers  
Comm. Prep: Gyle & Carol Randall  
Choir Director: Debra Yess  
Council: Kim Elias  
Video: Curtis Yess***

**Sunday, April 28, 9:00 am  
Contemporary Worship**

***Acolyte: Ella Linnes  
Reader: Pam Grunzke  
Ushers: Jody & Teri Wilker  
Choir Director: Debra Yess  
Council: Kyle Gallagher  
Video: Kaden Elias***

**A wakeup call**

God — let me be aware.  
Let me not stumble blindly down the ways,  
Just getting somehow safely through the days,  
Not even groping for another hand,  
Not even wondering why it all was planned,  
Eyes to the ground unseeking for the light,  
Soul never aching for a wild-winged flight,  
Please, keep me eager just to do my share.  
God — let me be aware.

God — let me be aware.  
Stab my soul fiercely with others' pain,  
Let me walk seeing horror and stain.  
Let my hands, groping, find other hands.  
Give me the heart that divines, understands.  
Give me the courage, wounded, to fight.  
Flood me with knowledge, drench me in light.  
Please — keep me eager just to do my share.  
God — let me be aware.



**ASHER JAMES PENTICO**

**Date of Birth: 2-24-2024**

**Baptism: 4-7-2024**

**Parents:**

**Alex & Jamie Pentico**



# SERVICES



## Video voice of St John

Each Sunday morning the worship service at St. John is vide taped and broadcast on Media Comm Channel 8 Consolidated Communications 107 Sundays at 5:00 p.m. and Mondays at 10:30 am.



Anyone that wants to be included on our current **Homebound Communion** list please call the church office at **833-1703**. Pastor Kristen and trained members of the congregation make regular visits. **You may also request a copy of the weekly bulletin, announcements, and/ or prayer concerns to be sent to your residence.** Remember we broadcast on the local television station Sundays at 5:00 pm and Mondays at 10:30 am .



**Complimentary bus tokens are available for St. John** members and guests riding the bus to church. Call the church office at 833-1703 to get your tokens. You must call DISPATCH to arrange a pick up for yourself.

**SMART Transit** 1-855-762-7821 before 3pm Saturday to schedule your pickup and drop-off for church or 24 before other destinations.



## Hospitalized or Ill?

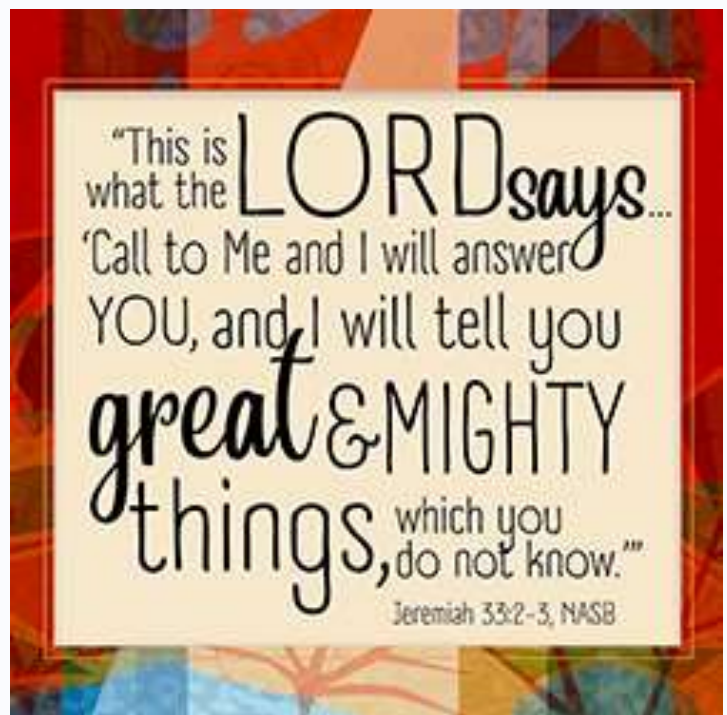
Pastor Kristen would like to visit you if you have any mental or physical health issues. Therefore if you or a loved one is sick, or if you are in the hospital for a planned surgery or any other reason do contact us! Call 833-1703

## SAVE THE DATE

**April 28th** will be our last "In Room" Sunday School class until Sept. 29th.

### **\*Look forward to The Huber Farm Day in May!**

Date to be determined and will be announced in the May LifeLine and bulletins!  
Hope to see all our Families there.  
It's such a fun day for all!







### **Beloved Is Where We Begin**

If you would enter into the wilderness, do not begin without a blessing.

Do not leave without hearing who you are: Beloved, named by the One who has traveled this path before you.

Do not go without letting it echo in your ears, and if you find it is hard to let it into your heart, do not despair. That is what this journey is for.

I cannot promise this blessing will free you from danger, from fear, from hunger or thirst, from the scorching of sun or the fall of the night.

But I can tell you that on this path there will be help. I can tell you that on this way there will be rest.

I can tell you that you will know the strange graces that come to our aid only on a road such as this, that fly to meet us bearing comfort and strength, that come alongside us for no other cause than to lean themselves toward our ear and with their curious insistence whisper our name.

Beloved. Beloved. Beloved.

Jan Richardson  
from *Circle of Grace*



### **SAVE THE DATE!!**

**Southeastern Minnesota Synod  
Lutheran Men In Mission**

### **Breakfast With the Bishop Sat. , April 20, 2024**

**9am-11am at Cabela's  
in Owatonna**

*(Please note the Cabela's doors do not open until 9am)*

**Tickets: \$15/person**

**Checks made out to SE MN LMM**

**Send to Russell Tesch**

**906 4th Ave. SE, Waseca**

**Guest Speaker:** Dwight Tostenson DEO & Co-founder of The Redemption Project will share about the compassionate work his team does with those touched by the criminal justice system.

***Bishop Regina Hassanally will be present to share a devotion***



St John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
401 3rd Avenue NE  
Waseca MN 56093

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

# Lifeline



## Council Members and Staff

### **Council President**

Michael Behsmann (507)461-7490

### **Council Vice-President**

Terry Huber (507)461-5424

### **Council Secretary**

Julie Spies (507)461-0227

### **Financial Secretary**

Al Tonn, (507)234-5737

### **Congregational Life**

Diane Blowers (507)461-5196

### **Education Committee**

Karla Lange (507)201-2037

### **Worship and Music**

Pam Grunzke (612)910-7230

### **Social Ministry and Outreach**

Rhonda Behsmann (507)461-7490

### **Building and Grounds**

Kyle Gallagher (507)461-3347

### **Rev. Dr. Kristen Venne**

**Church office** (507)833-1703 **cell:** (507)995-2467

**E-mail** prkristenv@gmail.com

### **Administrative Secretary**

Julie Keane (507)833-1703

stjohn@hickorytech.net

### **Senior Choir Director**

Deb Wantoch-Yess (507)835-3498

### **Assistant Choir Director**

Jan Macklay, (507)835-8706

### **Organists**

Jan Macklay, (507)835-8706

Al Tonn, (507)234-5737

### **Custodian**

Bill Erdman (507)461-1359

**E-mail :** [stjohn@hickorytech.net](mailto:stjohn@hickorytech.net)

**Facebook:** St John Lutheran Church ELCA

WEBSITE ADDRESS: [www.stjohnwaseca.org](http://www.stjohnwaseca.org)