

to know and proclaim Jesus Christ and as disciples reach out in love

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#### Worship Times

Saturday at 5:15 pm  
 Sunday at 9 am  
*Beginning September 11*  
 Sunday 8 & 10:30 am

#### Christian Education

Monday at 6:30 pm  
 Sunday School (K-6)  
*resumes September 11*  
 9:15 am

#### Coffee Fellowship

Sunday 9:15 am  
*Beginning September 11*  
 10:15 am

#### Office Hours

Monday–Thursday  
 8 am to noon  
 1:00 pm to 5 pm  
 Friday—8 am to 12:30 pm

The Evangel is a monthly  
 publication of  
 St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

#### Office phone numbers:

608-254-9763 or 608-524-4516

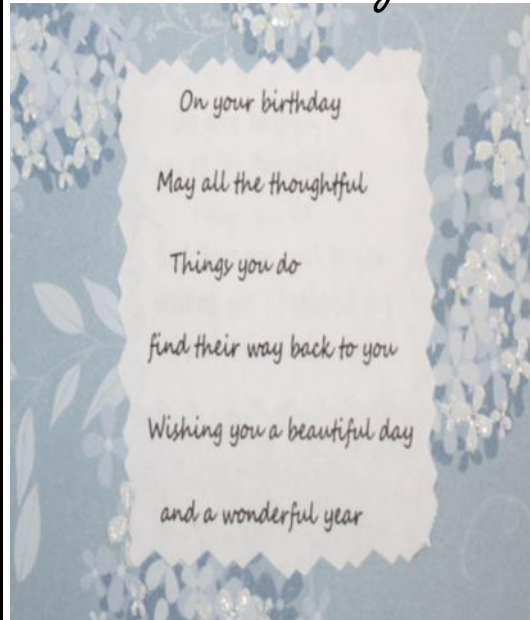
#### Email

stjohn@stjohnreedsburg.com

#### Web Site

www.stjohnreedsburg.com

## Card Ministry



Jesus has called each one of us to reach out in love. The card ministry at St. John is a small way to do this. September is here and we want to remind everyone that the Card Ministry is in full swing. Barb Stone and her team create cards by using parts of old cards and creative stamps. The cards are: *thinking of you, get well, sympathy and special occasions*. The card ministry then sends cards to those who have been on our prayer chain, those staying in a nursing home or assisted living. Cards are also sent

to those facing medical problems or surgery; and sympathy cards are sent to those who have lost loved ones.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry there are many ways that you can help. You can contribute supplies: cards you have received and would throw away, card stock paper, envelopes and ink pads. You also can purchase an already made card which you can find on the back windowsill in the Narthex or at our display during Taste of St. John. These cards are \$2.00 ; the money we earn from the cards goes to purchase stamps and supplies.

Better yet, you can come and help make the cards and have fun and fellowship with the other card ministers. You need no experience and you don't have to consider yourself artsy or creative. In fact, this is a great beginning craft. The card ministry meets at 9 am the second Monday of every month, usually at church, but the next few meetings will be at Barb Stone's home. If you have questions please contact Barb Stone at 524-2550.

Also, the card ministry would like to express a THANK YOU to Linda Olson for her many contributions. Thank you also to all who have contributed old greeting cards and supplies.

## Rally Sunday September 11

September 11 marks our return to our fall schedule:

- Services return to 8:00 and 10:30 am.
- Sunday School begins in the sanctuary at 9:15 with Sunday School registration and classes following, in the classrooms.
- Then, after the 10:30 worship service, come and join us for our Rally Sunday kick off picnic. We will be serving hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, chips, fruit, and dessert. After we eat, there will be games for the whole family. Can't wait to see you at 11:30 am, on the east lawn of the church.

## Congregational Council Notes

During the month of August we did not have a Council Meeting. Listed below are some of the things that continue to happen here at St. John.

The call committee continues to seek an associate pastor for our church.

The Council is beginning to seek names for consideration for Council next year. My six year term is up, so we know that is a spot where we will need to find a replacement .

There are Boards seeking new people to step into positions to increase numbers on them, or in some cases, replace people who no longer wish to serve.

As we look toward September, please remember Rally Day, which will be on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Various boards and committees have been asked to bring specific food or drinks for the occasion. Please plan to attend this picnic that will take place on the grounds of the church.

Although it seems to be far away we are reflecting on this past year and beginning to write reports for our annual meeting. If you are chair of a committee or board, please be thinking about what you would like to include in an article about this past year's "adventures".

I close this article with a beautiful piece from the summer *Lutheran Digest*.

### Miles of Sun

Summer is miles of sunshine.  
Birds' music in the trees,  
Wind chimes tinkling on the porch.  
Humming songs of bees –  
Summer is grass that turns to lace  
A peaceful, happy town,  
And wherever flowers grow,  
God sends His incense down.

*Marion Shoerberlein*

Peace be with you!

Migs Percy, Council President

## The Taste of St. John

The Taste of St. John will happen on Sunday, September 25. We are looking for individuals, families, or groups to sponsor a table and provide small servings of an ethnic food, a family favorite, or just something fun like an array of chocolate delicacies. We're hoping for a wide variety of fun and delicious foods from which to sample. Following the 10:30 am worship service, we're hoping you will come down to Fellowship Hall, purchase handfuls of tickets for fifty cents apiece, and then go around the room and sample whatever appeals to you. Some items may cost one ticket, some may be more. We'll also have coffee and milk available. So . . . start thinking about what you would like to provide as one of the "tastes of St. John." Please, make plans to attend and enjoy a fun time of church family fellowship and great food! You may sign up on the attendance sheets to indicate your willingness to provide one of the "tastes" for our event! Please watch for an email to those of you who volunteered, so we can put together an accurate menu of food offerings. If you volunteered and do not hear from the office, please call ASAP: 254-9763.

## 2011 Annual Harvest Festival

The Harvest Festival Committee has completed the plans for this year's Harvest Festival celebration. The event will take place on October 9. Please mark your calendar and plan on attending this annual event..

There will be a silent auction. Items will be on display in the Narthex two weeks before the event. Crafters are encouraged to donate items to the silent auction. Donations are being requested from all members of our congregation. Please call Dorothy Gant with your donations or drop them off at the church office as the day draws closer...

The menu will be the same as it has been, pork, turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable, squash, sauerkraut, roll, dessert, beverage and hot dogs for the kids. We will again need cooked squash so if you can donate this item it will be much appreciated. Look for more information in the bulletins and October *Evangel*.

Cost for the meal is as follows: \$7.00 for adults and young people 13 years of age and above. Seniors \$6.00. Children 6 – 12 are \$4.00 and children 5 and younger are free. It will be announced when tickets are available. Please invite all of your friends and relatives to the event.

The chairmen are as follows:

Kitchen—Diane and Lou Kirt 524-9612  
Dining room—Debby Adams 524-8004  
Carry out – Sue Johnson 524-6880  
Meat preparation – Andy Adams 524-8004  
Silent Auction – Dorothy Gant 524-2826

**Reach Out  
In Love  
2011**



## From Pastor David

As I write this I am getting ready to take some time off before the fall onslaught of life, programing and meetings kicks into high gear. So far I have determined one thing; before you even start them, vacations can be a lot of work!

Experts tell us to get the full benefit out of our vacation we need to be at peace about leaving. In order to be at peace during my time away, I want to make sure loose ends are tied up, obligations met, and groundwork laid to prepare for a good re-entry once I am back in the office. You almost need a vacation just to get ready for vacation; and then, of course, a vacation to rest up from your vacation wouldn't be bad either. Well it doesn't work that way, does it?

Actually it has been kind of fun taking a look from the top of my desk out into the weeks and months ahead to see what needs to be planed for and prepared. In that light, I have been looking at all the scripture texts I will preach on in September. So far, I have picked up a pretty strong theme of forgiveness in all of them. The timing for these scriptures seems to be divinely inspired, because I don't know if it is just the end of the summer, or something in the water, but I have had to speak to quite a number of folks about forgiveness lately. Some have issues with co-workers, others with family members, some are more than a few years older than I and have been carrying around burdens for years; others are young, some very young, who have been treated unjustly and just don't know what to do.

I mention to all the couples with whom I do pre-marriage counseling, that forgiveness is a very large part of a successful and happy marriage. Let's face it, no matter how perfect the bride looks in her gown, no matter how dashing the groom, they both will make mistakes. They will both need to give and receive forgiveness. It has been my observation that other than the church, there is no place in our culture that teaches us about this very important life skill. Oh sure your kindergarten teacher told you to say sorry to little Suzie when you pulled on her pigtails. You may have *said* the word sorry, but most likely any remorse you may have felt was because you got caught, not because you were facing up to your wrong doing and genuinely asking for and seeking forgiveness.

So, in order to prime the pump for the sermons in September and to generally help us grow in our understanding of forgiveness, I am quoting from the Prepare-Enrich materials we use for couples about to be married. The materials state that:

Forgiveness is the decision or choice to give up the right for vengeance, retribution, and negative thoughts toward

an offender in order to be free from anger and resentment. This process promotes healing and restoration of inner peace, and it can allow reconciliation to take place in the relationship.

They also point out that "forgiveness is not forgetting, condoning or perpetuating injustice." They also make clear that forgives is not always quick, and is often a time consuming process.

So how do you go about this? Well, prayer is always a good start; clear your mind and your heart before God. Then, you may choose to follow the steps below:

### Six Steps for Seeking Forgiveness

- Admit what you did was wrong
- Try to understand/empathize with the pain you have caused.
- Take responsibility for your actions and make restitution if necessary.
- Assure your partner you will not do it again.
- Apologize and ask for forgiveness
- Forgive yourself.

### Six Steps for Granting Forgiveness

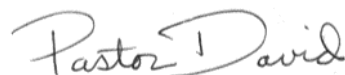
- Acknowledge your pain and anger. Allow yourself to feel disrespected.
- Be specific about your future expectations and limits.
- Give up your right to "get even," but insist on being treated better in the future.
- Let go of blame, resentment and negativity toward your partner.
- Communicate your act of forgiveness to your partner.
- Work toward reconciliation (when and if safe to do so).

(From pg. 13 Couples Workbook – Prepare-Enrich [www.prepare-enrich.com](http://www.prepare-enrich.com))

Forgiveness is tough work, but it is good and Godly work. In Colossians 3:13 we hear these words "Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

May God bless you this day as you seek to grow in love and forgiveness in Jesus' name.

In Christ,



Pastor David

## Christian Education News

*This logo represents Christians of mature faith holding the cross, inspiring the growth of others, while creating a shell of love and guidance.*



### Looking for a few good small group leaders for the LIFE program.

If you are interested in being a small group leader for our 7<sup>th</sup> grade LIFE students please let Beth know as soon as possible!

**Soon to be ninth grade LIFE students...**Just a reminder – it's time to choose your mentor for your ninth grade mentorship year. This individual needs to be a member of St. John but not immediate family (like Mom and Dad, or grandparents). Ask your parents for advice or give me a call or e-mail at the church if you need some inspiration. Ideally, your mentor is someone who is willing to meet at various times throughout the year, with whom you feel comfortable, and who is excited about exploring church in a variety of settings. I'd like to have all mentor names by the beginning of September – so now is the time to act!



### Sunday school kick-off

and registration is Rally Sunday, September 11.

A reminder to families that we begin our program year Sunday, September 11, at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary.

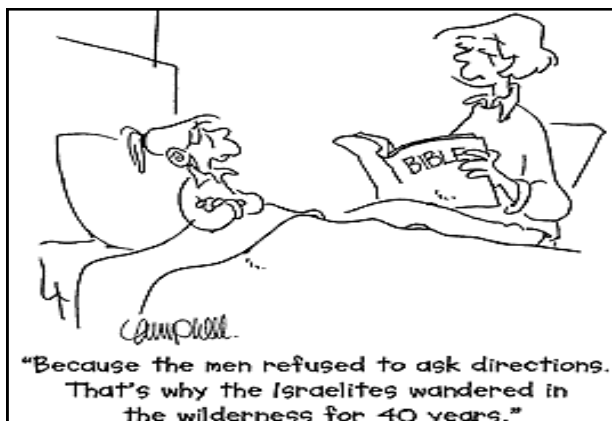
Then, registration will take place in the classrooms, followed by a group activity. Remember, we are beginning our *Little Lambs* class on Sep-

tember 11 as well. If you have a two or three year old child, our Little Lamb classroom is across from the Women's restroom.

**Adult Education on Sunday morning** begins September 12 at 9:15 am in the Bride's room with Pastor Jerry.

**Monday Adult Education** resumes Monday, September 13 at 6:30 p.m. in the Koinonia room – subject TBA.

Beth



### Sunday Education Hour Adult Class

*Understanding the Liturgy*— Our Adult Education program resumes with Pastor Jerry, beginning Sunday, September 11 at 9:15. The first topic of this study will be our Lutheran liturgy. Each Sunday we gather and worship according to a prescribed order that is called the liturgy. Sometimes we aren't aware of why we do what we do or the history and reason behind the elements of our worship service. So, for a few weeks we will be taking a look at the liturgical practice of St John. Liturgy literally means "the work of the people." Worship can be more meaningful when we understand what and why we are following the order of service we follow.

### Safe Harbor Homeless Shelter

Safe Harbor has invited Warren Nelson and his son Rowan Nelson-Ferris to perform at the CALCenter for one performance on Saturday, September 10. Come enjoy their repertoire of musical styles; from bluegrass to swing, pop to country, all performed with wit and humor. Warren is the founder of the Big Top Chautauqua. The performance is at 7 pm, and tickets are \$10.00 for adults in advance and \$12.00 at the door. Children, students, and seniors are \$8.00 in advance, and \$10.00 at the door. Tickets may be purchased at Viking Village Grocery, IGA, and the Reedsburg Chamber of Commerce. You may also call Safe Harbor at 768-0040 for tickets. Lemonade and popcorn will be sold during intermission. Join us for a night of great entertainment.

**Befrienders** begins its series with a retreat Saturday, September 24 at 9 am at the church. If you have not already done so, be certain to notify Beth or the office if you are definitely attending this program.

### After VBS, a boy sees God

Kitty Katzell of Medford, NJ, tells the story of a little boy who was zigzagging his way home from Vacation Bible School one beautiful summer day. He found a caterpillar and a fluffy milkweed pod, and blew out all the filler. He saw a bird's nest in a tree and a swan in a pond. He picked up a worm and thought of going fishing. A neighbor watched his zigzag path, greeted him, and asked him what he was doing.

"I've been to Vacation Bible School," the boy replied.

"Good for you," the neighbor said. "If you tell me where God is, I'll give you this quarter."

"I'll give you a dollar, Mister, if you can tell me where God ain't," the boy replied. (Reprinted with permission from the *Joyful Noiseletter*)

## Parochial Report

### Baptisms

August 14— Carter Dale Coplien, son of Theodore and Jamie Coplien

### Funerals

We wish to extend deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

Lloyd E. Buelow, who died July 29, 2011

Gary K. Burton, who died August 17, 2011

Gerald F. Stemper, who died August 25, 2011

### Sponsorship Calendar— September

**Altar Flowers (\$30)** — all weeks available

**Bulletins (\$25)** — all weeks available

**Radio Broadcast** — weeks of Sept 11, 18, 25 available (\$30, \$60, and \$90)

**TV Cable Broadcast (\$40)** —all weeks available

**Coffee Fellowship** — Check out the three ring binder in the coffee serving area to reserve the Sunday you wish.

**We need volunteers** to continue this ministry

### Thrivent Choice Dollars

This month St. John deposited \$1,277 because Thrivent Financial members have designated their “Choice Dollars” to St. John. These people include:

Donna Bergman, Laverne Bergman, Gloria Crawford, Delores Ellingson, Blaine Hedberg, Brenda Hockmuth, Edna Karstetter, Marcia Karstetter, Beverly Leake, Dawn Mac Farlane, Matthew McGlynn, Paul Mittelsteadt, Norma Peters, LeRoy Petersen, Sharon Schulte, Shirley Stando, Vernon Stando, Mark Steiner, Darcy Swiscz, Verna Watts, Wendell Watts, Shirley West, Thomas White,

### Meetings & Greetings

**Dorcas Circle** - 9:30 am, Wednesday, September 21.

**Hannah Circle** - 2 pm, Tuesday, September 6.

**Sarah Circle** - 9 am, Thursday, September 15.

**Sunshine Circle** - 1:30 pm, Thursday, September 8.

**St. John Quilters** - 9 am, Thursday, September 1  
- 9 am, Friday, September 16

**Card Ministry** - 2nd Monday of the month (see article)

**Men’s Breakfast** - 7:30 am, the 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month at Marty’s

**Park Street Study** - 10:30 am—Tuesday, September 20  
Park Street Apts.

**Sheeper than Therapy** - 4-6 pm, weekly on Mondays in the Fireside Room.

### Thank You’s

To Lorraine Traeder, for donating candle oil.

To Barb Stone for the planting and care of flowers and plants decorating our parking lot.

To all of the singers and players who provided special music during the summer worship services, enhancing our worship.

To Dave Knoble for coordinating the summer music and the cantors for summer services.

### **A Special Thank You**

from Andrea Holcomb —

Over 300 people were served at the **Touched Twice** Clinic this year. The medical clinic served 17 people. I want to thank Jean Holtz, Crystal Link, Jesse Phalen, Norma Peters, Bev Hoege, Keith Holcomb, Patty Sauey, Dianna McGlynn and Rosemary LaRowe for their help and support this year at the medical clinic, and also my thanks to those of you who volunteered but were not needed this year.

### **Save the Date: September 23, 2011**

**Creating Peace of Mind for Yourself and Your Family**, an end-of-life forum featuring the original musical play *“From the Start, Consider the Finish”* is coming soon. We all know how difficult it is to start a conversation about our wishes at the end of our life (about the way we want to die if given a choice). Every adult needs to consider these questions. Reedsburg Area Medical Center will be hosting an event at the Fusch Community Center, Reedsburg, WI, that will assist you in getting the conversation started. Please plan to join us. Doors open at 4 p.m. with resource information available, a light meal will be served at 5 p.m. and the play begins at 5:30 p.m. **Admission is free; however, registration is required by September 19.** Call 608-768-6245 to register or to get more information.

### **Scripture Readings for September**

**September 3 & 4**— Ezekiel 33:7–11; Psalm 119:33–40  
Romans 13:8–14; Matthew 18:15–20

**September 10 & 11**—Genesis 50:15–21; Psalm 103:8–13; Romans 14:1–12; Matthew 18:21–35

**September 17 & 18**—Jonah 3:10–4:11; Psalm 145:1–8; Philippians 1:21–30; Matthew 20:1–16

**September 24 & 25**—Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32; Psalm 25:1–9; Philippians 2:1–13; Matthew 21:23–32

## Developing a Personal Mission Statement

In order to grow in relationship with the Lord, it may be beneficial to develop a personal mission statement. A mission statement has the potential to enhance our lives by helping us focus our thoughts, energies, and resources, as well as give us purpose for our lives. A mission statement can help provide a framework for thinking and help us achieve our goals.

Jesus gives us the basis for our mission statement. *“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age”* (Matthew 28:18-20).

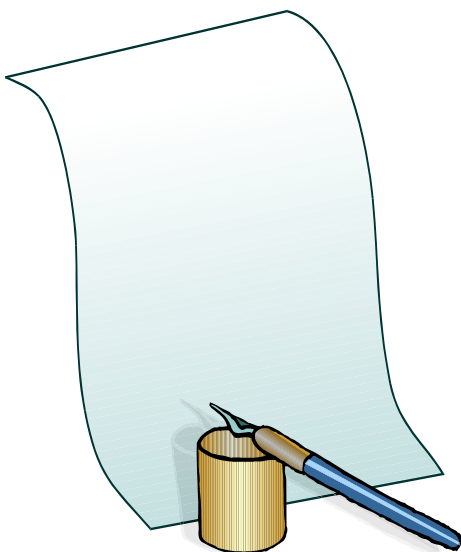
The Great Commission prompts and calls us to do the Lord’s work during our lifetimes. Our individual mission statements will identify our own unique individual gifts, abilities, and resources.

In order to develop your personal mission statements, determine what you want to accomplish and which characteristics you want to develop. In addition, examine the calling God has given you. If you are a spouse, parent, teacher, manager, plumber, or doctor, you identify God’s specific plan for you. In this process, you identify core principles and values by which to live.

Below is an example of a brief three-sentence personal mission statement:

Through God’s grace, I seek to please Him in all I do as a husband, father, churchman, and disciple of Christ. With God’s guidance, I will do all I can, as long as I can, to equip myself to serve Him and others in order that I might help to *“make disciples of all nations.”* It is my prayer that He will prepare me and place me in settings where I can make a difference in people’s lives.

Go and write your own personal mission statement!



## St John Mission Statement

*To know and proclaim Jesus Christ and as disciples reach out in love.*

We recite this statement at the beginning of every worship service; so that the words do not become merely rote, it is useful to reflect on the purpose of mission statements for any organization. According to Janel M. Radtke in her article *How to Write a Mission Statement*, “every organization has a mission, a reason for being.”

The church’s overall charge is The Great Commission: As Jesus commanded, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18-20)

With that early purpose clearly in mind, members of St. John developed our current mission statement and supporting core values and finalized these on March 3, 2002. Again, Radtke writes, “A good mission statement should accurately explain why your organization exists and what it hopes to achieve in the future. It articulates the organization’s essential nature, its values and its work.” A periodic examination of our core values allows us to evaluate how well we align the mission of this church to Christ’s teachings, both as individuals and as an organization.

### Core Values

#### To Know

To know Jesus Christ, we must believe in the authority of scriptures, establish a foundation of prayer, partake of the sacraments, nurture faith through fellowship and active learning, and accept salvation by God’s grace alone.

#### To Proclaim

As people who proclaim Jesus Christ we believe that the unconditional love of Jesus Christ compels us to show and tell that love in open, honest, forgiving, respectful way to one another.

#### Reach out in Love

We believe that the unconditional love of Jesus Christ compels us to show and tell that love in open, honest, forgiving, respectful way to one another.

**As Disciples**—we believe that as disciples of Jesus Christ, our mission is to move people from outreach to fellowship to faith nurture to discipleship, so that once equipped, we are encouraged to reach out to others.

Knowing that contacts and events can become a bridge to persons building a relationship with Christ and by having good leaders who believe in teamwork and serve as role models, recruiters and equippers, St. John will provide a safe, affirming environment, fellowship events, active learn-

## St John Mission Statement, cont.

To practice discipleship we must be role models, recruiters, and equippers; we must use God's given gifts; we must be actively engaged in knowing and proclaiming who He is; and we must be followers of Jesus.

**To Reach Out in Love**—we believe that the unconditional love of Jesus Christ compels us to show and tell that love in open, honest, forgiving, respectful ways to one another.

## Escaping the Lure of Money

Who or what is the master of your life? What receives most of your attention? What do you spend most of your time, energy, and money on? Jesus knew what would be one of the biggest challenges or rivals to His authority in our lives. In Matthew 6:24 Jesus said, *"You cannot serve both God and Money."* Although there are many obstacles and temptations which may keep us from faithfully following Jesus, God's Word indicates that one of Satan's best tools to separate us from our relationship with Jesus is money or the things that money can buy. Jesus said, *"No [person] can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one or love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other."* Between money and God, it is not "both and"; it is "either or." We can't serve both. We must choose.

Having money does have its advantages. Money enables us to purchase not only life's necessities, but luxuries that comprise a comfortable lifestyle. There is nothing wrong with nice things, but the pleasures of this world and comforts of life can become too important. When we become too attached to things of this world, we push God aside, and we begin to believe that our life's worth is measured by the abundance of our possessions. Whether we have much or little, God wants us to live with an inward detachment from our possessions. We are to possess our possessions rather than letting them possess us.

In the Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:13-21), Jesus warns us about the problem of greed. In this parable, Jesus tells about a wealthy and successful farmer who produced such a big crop that he made plans to tear down his existing barns and build bigger ones to store his abundant harvest. Basking in his success, he had no worries about his future as he looked forward to an easy retirement of eating, drinking, and being merry. We might admire his success, but God called him a fool, because God saw him as selfish and greedy. By ignoring God as well as his neighbors, he forfeited his life.

Jesus did not condemn the rich farmer because he had wealth, but He did condemn his wrong attitude toward his riches. His wealth had become the most important thing in his life. Through this parable, God is warning us about the problem of greed and our need to use our wealth properly.

With God's help, we can escape the grip that money can have on us and *"seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well"* (Matthew 6:33).

## Fairly Traded Coffee



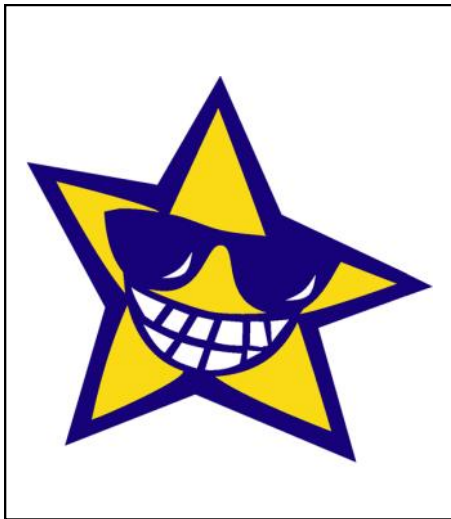
As you have wandered about the Narthex on Saturday evenings or Sunday mornings, chatting with friends or with the pastors, surely you've noticed the **coffee display** near the coat area. If you are a coffee drinker, you should know that St. John sells *Fairly Traded Coffee*, a Lutheran World Relief project. These coffees are grown, harvested, and dried by small scale farmers. The fairly traded coffee project ensures these farmers a more fair share of income, helps them obtain health care and education, trains them to better care for the environment, and enables them to build a better future for their entire communities.

In addition to the humanitarian reasons for purchasing fairly traded coffee, another important consideration for the coffee connoisseur is that this is truly excellent coffee. This is the coffee we use for coffee fellowship. It is smooth, robust, aromatic, and available in a variety of flavors.

Now we can add yet one more reason for purchasing LWR *Fairly Traded Coffee*. The Dorcas Circle is promoting the sale of these coffees (and fairly traded teas and chocolates) as a fund raiser for the St. John Benevolence fund. So if you are a coffee (regular OR decaf) or tea drinker, please consider making your purchases here at St. John. Visit the display in the Narthex or talk with a member of Dorcas Circle. Help St. John reach out in love over a steaming cup of java.

**Reach  
Out  
2011**





## Calendar of Events

**King's Kids** September 21st

**Son Seekers** September 28th

**MSYG**

•Bonkers at Pineview from 1-3 pm on Sept. 18th

•“See You at The Pole” Sept. 28th

**YG**

•Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm in Youth Room!

•“See You at The Pole” Sept. 28th

# SHINE

Shine is a time to get together for music, fellowship, and teaching aimed at high school youth and young adults.

We will sing 4 to 5 songs about 15-20 minutes,  
have a teaching time about 10-15 minutes,  
then finish with prayer and songs.

The goal of SHINE is to help those who attend to grow in their walk with Christ and to provide fellowship with others from our congregation.

**When:** Sunday's starting Oct. 9th

**Time:** 9:30-10:15 am

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

### Kings Kids

**Who:** K-2 grade youth

**What:** Time to grow in faith through game, crafts, and Bible lessons

**When:** 1st & 3rd Wednesday

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**Time:** 3:30-4:30

**Cost:** Free

Pick up registration form and sign up on Rally Sunday September 11th

### Son Seekers

**Who:** 3-5 grade youth

**What:** Time to grow in faith through game, crafts, and Bible lessons

**When:** 2nd & 4th Wednesday

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**Time:** 3:30-4:30

**Cost:** Free

Pick up registration form and sign up on Rally Sunday September 11th

# September

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	9:00 AM HC Worship 9:15 AM Coffee Fellowship 4:00 PM Open Table	29 4:00 PM Sheeper than Therapy 6:30 PM Adult Study	30 9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM AA	31 6:00 PM YG BBQ 7:30 PM Sr Choir	1 9:00 AM AA 9:00 AM Quilting 6:30 PM Admin Bd 7:00 PM AA	2 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Marty's	3 5:15 PM HC Worship
4	9:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Coffee Fellowship	5 OFFICE CLOSED	6 9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 2:00 PM Hannah Circle 5:30 PM Cong Life Bd 6:00 PM Education Bd 7:00 PM AA	7 6:00 PM LIFE 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM YG 7:30 PM Sr Choir	8 9:00 AM AA 1:30 PM Sunshine Circle 6:00 PM United Fund Meeting 7:00 PM AA	9	10 5:15 PM Worship
11	8:00 AM HC Worship 9:15 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:15 AM Sunday School Rally Day 9:15 AM Adult Education Hour 10:30 AM HC Worship 10:30 AM SS & LIFE Staff Installation 11:30 AM Rally Day Picnic	12 9:00 AM Card Ministry 4:00 PM Sheeper than Therapy 6:30 PM Adult Study	13 9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Council	14 6:00 PM LIFE 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM YG 7:30 PM Sr Choir	15 9:00 AM AA 1:00 PM Sarah Circle 7:00 PM AA	16 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast at Marty's 9:00 AM Quilting	17 1:00 PM Ashley Courtnage & Corey Leichtman Wedding 5:15 PM HC Worship
18	8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:15 AM Education Hour & Sunday School 9:15 AM Mentor Training 10:30 AM Worship 1-3 PM MSYG Pineview 5:30 PM Acolyte Training G-7	19 4:00 PM Sheeper than Therapy 6:30 PM Adult Study 6:30 PM Open Table Core Group	20 Evangel Articles DUE 9:00 AM AA 10:30 AM Park St Study 11:00 AM Staff meeting 5:00 AM Yoga 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Church in Society Bd 7:00 PM Worship Bd	21 9:30 AM Dorcas Circle 3:30 PM King's Kids & Son Seekers 6:00 PM LIFE 6:30 PM No Bell Choir 6:00 PM Mentor Program Orientation 7:00 PM YG 7:30 PM No Sr Choir	22 9:00 AM AA 5:00 AM Yoga 7:00 PM AA	23	24 9:00 AM Befrienders Retreat 5:15 PM Worship
25	8:00 AM HC Worship 9:15 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:15 AM Education Hour & Sunday School 10:30 AM HC Worship 11:30 AM Taste of St John 4:00 PM Open Table	26 4:00 PM Sheeper than Therapy 6:30 PM Adult Study	27 9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 5:00 AM Yoga 7:00 PM AA	28 See You At the Pole 3:30 PM Son Seekers 6:00 PM LIFE 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM YG 7:30 PM Sr Choir	29 9:00 AM AA 5:00 AM Yoga 7:00 PM AA	30 3:00 PM Cynthia Wohling & Kenneth Andreilis Wedding	1 5:15 PM HC Worship

## Worship Assistants September & October

September	Greeters	Lector	Acolytes	Ushers	Communion
<b>4-Sep</b> 9:00 AM	Lorna Spohnholtz Alice VandeWater	Bunny Frank	Callie Senzig Hannah Erdman	Warren & Bunny Frank Lorraine Kaun, Teri Senzig	
<b>11-Sep</b> 8:00 AM	Tom & Delores Geimer	Julie Adelman	Brent Firari Cassie Stone	Tom & Anna Seamonson Jim Knuth, Shawn Foss	Cheri Newlun Judy Bransted
10:30	Bill & Julie Ratajczyk family	Rachel Burkel	Kate Gesteland Loren Tock	Norma Peters, Patrick Boyd Ron & Kim Chovan	Julie Ratajczyk Yvonne Brekke
<b>18-Sep</b> 8:00 AM	Gary & C.J. Newmann	Sherry Atkinson	Tasha Haase Jacob Wilbrandt	Dan Biermeier, Deb Vanthournout Greg Adelman, Don Erickson	
10:30	Lynelle Roessler & Darcy Swiszcz	Donna Hahn	Tyler Hongisto Hannah Belk	Bill & Barb Klang Tami VanBeek, Norma Peters	
<b>25-Sep</b> 8:00 AM	Lyle & Jean Holtz	Deanna Benish	Tarek Horkan Adam Colvin	Al & Barb Exner Tom & Linda Reeder	Judy Bransted Jeannine Mueller
10:30	Keith & Andrea Holcomb	Derek Horkan	Dillon Keller Brent Firari	Derek & Lynn Horkan Warren & Bunny Frank	Lisa Hoff Patty Sauey
<b>October</b>					
<b>2-Oct</b> 8:00 AM	Please volunteer	Bev Hoege	Andy Matz Ross Baldwin	Glen Weirauch, Maggie Andres JR Colvin, Shawn Foss	
10:30	Please volunteer	Rachel Burkel	Logan Penkwitz Riley Fusch	Keith & Andrea Holcomb Norma Peters, Lorraine Kaun	
<b>9-Oct</b> 8:00 AM	Please volunteer	Barb Exner	Darcy Ondersma Gabriel Gauf	Myron La Rowe, Dave Buss Ryan Hayes, Jim Knuth	Judy Bransted Pat Lewis
10:30	Please volunteer	Donna Hahn	Mike Olson Alexis Johnson	Tim & Becky Greenway Lorraine Kaun, Teri Senzig	Norma Peters Please volunteer
<b>16-Oct</b> 8:00 AM	Please volunteer	Jake Jacobson	Rebecca Schwerman Chris Johnson	Jerry & Mary Zuhlke Tom & Linda Reeder	
10:30	Please volunteer	Wendy VanDusen	Maddie Stieve Libby Peterson	Bill & Barb Klang Todd Sauey, Ed Zobel	
<b>23-Oct</b> 8:00 AM	Please volunteer	Eva Kalin	Caitlin Voltz Danielle Schmidt	Jennifer Kitson, Barb Demaske Judy Bransted, Jim Knuth	Jeannine Mueller- Please volunteer
10:30	Please volunteer	Bunny Frank	Haley Templin Max Steinhorst	Warren & Bunny Frank Todd Sauey, Ed Zobel	Patty Sauey Please volunteer
<b>30-Oct</b> 8:00 AM	Please volunteer	Cheri Newlun	Trenton Adams Rachel Anderson	Louis Voltz, Art Behnke Beverly Leake, Ron Snyder	Judy Bransted Please volunteer
10:30	Please volunteer	Joy Nowak	Jarod Davis Robert Yngsdal	Bill & Juli Ratajczyk and family	Norma Peters Please volunteer

**Note to ushers:** Please make your own arrangements when you need a substitute. It saves the staff an unbelievable amount of time!

Also, head ushers are responsible for: turning on lights; taking attendance count and recording; and offering follow-up.

**Acolytes** are also asked to find their own substitutes and notify the office of any changes.

## Communion Bread



September 3 — Diana  
McGlynn

September 11— Sheri Weldy  
September 17— Patty Sauey  
September 25— Lisa Hoff

October 1 — Yvonne Brekke  
October 9 — LaVera Craker  
October 15— Cindy Sandberg  
October 23— Kristi Behn  
October 29 & 30  
— Rabecca Francour

**Radio Monitor**  
Steve Muchow

**Videographers**  
Todd Gardner  
Fred Farber

**Money Counters**  
Audrey Thronsen/  
Linda White  
Migs Percy  
Elaine Borman

## Spiritual Reflection for September 2011

### Focus

One day, as my husband and I ate breakfast, we noticed a female cardinal in the birch tree outside our sun porch window. Only the night before at supper we had watched a male cardinal swoop from the birch tree to a small hydrangea tree located close to the house. We began to wonder if there indeed was a nest in the tree (although at first glance the night before we found nothing). Now with this new clue we looked a little closer. We took the time to *focus*.

Sure enough with the naked eye we could see there were twigs arranged in the shape of a nest. We could hear a tiny chirping sound, yet we could not see a baby bird. My husband went for the binoculars. He brought the strongest pair we own. They did not work. The nest was too close for the high powered lenses. Granted these binoculars can see things far away amazingly well, but they were no good to us for this up-close discovery.



I sent my husband off to get the other, older, less “new and improved” binoculars. Now we could see the nest much more clearly, but there were still too many branches to see what was inside. I decided to pause, stand really still and focus on the nest. There it was. Movement. There was indeed a pulsation in the nest. I could not make out the features of the baby bird, but I could see the pulsation of life flowing within it.

It made me wonder. How focused was I on the pulsation of my life? You see, only days earlier, while I was out walking, the topic of staying focused came to mind as a great reflection for this time of my life when there seemed to be so many distractions. Even within the first minutes of considering the topic of staying focused on the present, I was distracted by some event in the future. Then I was distracted by the cars going by. I was distracted by the smell of new asphalt. I was distracted into thinking that my topic for reflection should be distractions!

I did not do any writing that day. I was *too distracted*. I was *not focusing*! So God sent me yet another reminder for what he wanted me to hear. He sent me a tiny bird that beckoned me to focus on the pulsation of life not only in a tiny unseen bird, but also within myself.

I had been longing for weeks to focus on one thing at a time. Life was getting out of focus for me. I was constantly thinking about what I needed to do weeks down the road and how fast the time was going. I was constantly planning ahead. The pulse of my spirit was straining to stay the pace. I needed to focus on the here and now, on refueling my spirit.

These two events came to me just as I was approaching a day with nothing on the schedule! Nothing! No obligations, nothing needing to be done. Chores were completed to a point where a break was easily accepted. Enter in a full moon and the stage was set to *focus*!

Sometimes our binoculars are too high powered. We look at life in the distance. We focus on what is to come rather than what is in the here and now. Other times we try to see things through our own eyes and the distractions of life get in the way. They block our view. When we use the right lens, God’s eyes, to view life we can see the very pulse of life.

When I view my life through God’s eyes I can focus on what is really important in my life. I become more appreciative of what I have. I am better equipped to share his message with others. You may think it is the distractions of life that need to be dealt with, but let me encourage you the distractions of life will lose their power when you begin to *focus*.

May God Bless you,

Tammy Koenecke, RN, BSN

Spiritual Care Coordinator, RAMC

*Wherever your treasure is, there your heart and thoughts will also be. Matthew 6:21*

Consider:

Does this verse also apply to where my *focus* is?

Will my heart and thoughts be where my focus is?

Where is my focus right now?

Which lens am I using in my life, a high powered lens, my own vision, or God’s eyes?

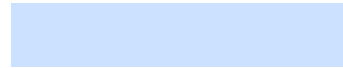
September, 2011

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Volume 51, No. 9

307 6th Street  
Reedsburg, Wisconsin 53959

This newsletter was especially prepared for:



## Congregation Council

Migs Percy, President <i>Administration</i>	524-5150	Patty Sauey <i>Worship</i>	524-6150
Rich Sorom, Vice President <i>Education, Cemetery Board</i>	524-2720	Lorraine Traeder <i>Education</i>	524-3821
Deb Adams, Secretary <i>Worship</i>	524-8004	Bill Henke <i>Congregational Life</i>	524-8606
Blaine Hedberg, Treasurer <i>Budget Task Force, Foundation</i>	524-2896	Shirley West <i>Congregational Life</i>	524-2942
Jim Wheeler <i>Youth &amp; Family</i>	985-7067	Todd Erdman <i>Church in Society</i>	524-9888
Don Ondersma <i>Administration</i>	415-5259	Jennifer Kitson <i>Youth and Family</i>	524-8612

*Italics indicates board or committee which the council member serves as liaison*

## St. John Foundation

Diane Thieding, <i>Pres.</i>	727-2591
Terry Penkwitz, <i>Vice-pres.</i>	524-8638
Jane Zuehlke, <i>Sec. Treas.</i>	524-4676
Eleanor Luehrens	524-2634
Tom White	985-8076
Blaine Hedberg	524-2896
Bill Weis	524-9875

## St. John Cemetery Board

Jake Steinhorst	524-2874
Rich Hahn	524-6609
Barb Demaske	524-3379
Dan Biermeier	547-3435
Rich Sorom	524-2720

## St. John Staff

Ministers	Members of St. John	Financial Secretary	Shirley Buss
Senior Pastor	David J. Glesne	Saturday Music Coordinator	Leta Palmer
Interim Associate Pastor	Jerry Pribbenow	Custodian	Tim Brown
Visitation Pastor	Jake Jacobson	Head Organist	Diana McGlynn
Youth & Family Director	Ben Berg	Sr. Choir Director	David Knoble
Christian Ed Director	Beth Voigt	Bell Choir Director	David Knoble
Secretary	Carol Julius		
Assistant Secretary	Arlo Ketchpaw		

## Chairs of St. John Boards

Administration	LeRoy Petersen
Church in Society	Andrea Holcomb
Congregational Life	Julie Ratajczyk
Education	Kristi Glesne
Worship	Jolene Westerman
Youth & Family	Position open