

St. John's Lutheran Church
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Email: Office@stjohnspierce.org
Pastor Jacob Tuma ** Email: PastorTuma@stjohnspierce.org
Sunday Morning Worship @ 9:00 AM **Bible Study 10:15 AM
Sunday School 10:15 AM (Aug-May)
Newsletter – Issue 22 – Sept-Oct 2021

From the Pastor...

Joy at Work

Dear St. John's Family,

As we settle into the school routine and leave behind our summer vacations, we are going to tackle a subject that many of us deal with every day: work. Now, a number of activities may give us joy: things such as hobbies, sports, social events, summer vacation trips, favorite meals, or even a good nap! But I am going to ask you: *how about your work?*

I ask this question because any kind of work can often give us the *opposite* of joy, right? Sooner or later, even “dream jobs” can leave us “working for the weekend.” Rather than sources of joy, the work we do (as employees, babysitters, farmers, grandparents, volunteers, spouses, parents, students, etc.) easily can be perceived as nothing more than chores that we all have to do to get by in life.

But have you ever thought about this? When God created the world and placed Adam in it, He gave Adam work to do. **Genesis 2:15** says, “**The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.**” In other words, work itself is not a bad thing. Work is something that God gave man to do *before* the fall into sin. We are created to do this!! Work itself is something very good!

Of course, sin came crashing into the world in **Genesis 3**, messing up the gift of work. Though work is a gift, it can be hard! Nonetheless this is true: your vocations are still means by which God chooses to use you to serve family, fellow-workers, and/or your neighbors. Through your vocations, God uses you to extend His hand of care. That's a beautiful thing. That's a humbling thing. That's something in which you and I can find joy.

As we seek to serve the Lord and others with joy, here is a prayer from *Lutheran Book of Prayer* that is fittingly titled “For Joy in My Job.” Let us pray:

Heavenly Father, Creator of heaven and earth, it is out of Your love and wisdom that You gave me work to do and fitted me in body and mind to do this work. And yet my sinful will too often dreads the workday and casts about for other things to do. But You, O God, have called me to this work. Forgive me my sin. Strengthen me by Your Spirit that I may see that my place of work is a field of Your service to my family, my fellow worker, and my neighbor. Give me joy in my vocation, and make me glad and grateful for the strength to serve You; through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Lord bless and keep you,
Pastor Tuma



Our Hearts in HIS Hand

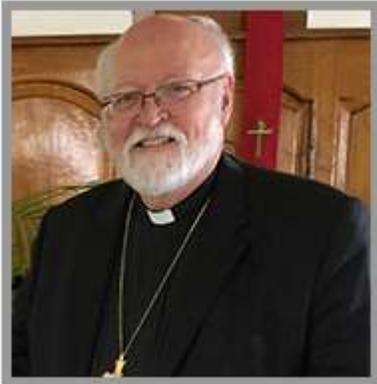
Sunday, October 3rd, has been designated for the observation of LWML Sunday.

“Our Hearts in His Hand” is the theme for LWML Sunday 2021 and is based on Peter’s first letter to persecuted Christians in Asia Minor. In chapter 4:8, Peter tells them, *Above all, keep loving one another*

earnestly. The heart of the LWML is its members; our hearts have been made holy by God. We are fully dedicated to serving Him, by serving His Church at home and abroad. Our hearts for Christ are in His hand of service, wherever and when He has need of us. Please join us for this service. The JOY Circle is asking that all congregation members bring their pennies for a special offering of “mites”.



MISSIONFEST – OCTOBER 24TH



Please join us for Missionfest on Sunday, October 24th, at 9:00 am for worship, 10:30 am for a presentation from Rev. James Dahlke from the Lutheran Heritage Foundation and then everyone is invited to stay for a potluck dinner at the Parish Hall. The Lutheran Heritage Foundation helps translate and publish Lutheran Materials, such as Luther’s Small Catechism into other languages to share the love of Jesus with other countries. We hope you will join us for this very interesting presentation.



We still have a few.....

150th History Books

150th Mugs

150th T-shirts

Call the church office if you still want one.



Here are a few pictures for the 150th Celebration on September 4-5, 2021. More pictures will be posted at a later time. We are so thankful to God for Blessing us here at St. John's Lutheran Church. It was a great weekend with much to be grateful for. (Pictures courtesy of Lisa Kruger)

HAYRACK RIDE

The Youth Group is hosting an All-Congregation Hayrack Ride on Saturday, October 22nd. Watch for more details in the Sunday Bulletin!



Needing some extra prayers?

St. John's has an active prayer chain where folks confidentially pray for any issue or need that arises. To request prayers, please talk to Pastor Tuma.

**Men's Group Meeting
will meet Saturday, October 16th
at 8:00 am for their Breakfast
meeting. All men welcome!**



St. John's Constitution

The St. John's Constitution, with the recommended updates, many of them from the Nebraska District, have been shared on the St. John's Member Information Facebook group. We plan to take a vote in October at the voter's meeting. Please look them over and if you have any questions, please contact Pastor or one of the Elders. If you would like a printed copy of these changes, please let us know also. Thank you!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9/2: Eldred Laubsch
- 9/3: Kyle Kuehler
- 9/4: Bonnie Hulscher
- 9/6: Isabelle Kuehler
- 9/8: Debi Doerr
- 9/9: Trevor Zellmer
- 9/10: Brett Koehler/Jeff Schulz/Sally Zellmer
- 9/14: Shanna Schulz
- 9/16: Bruce Buss
- 9/19: Diane Schulz
- 9/21: Brooke Schaecher
- 9/29: Julie Asmus

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 10/1: Bonnie Weich
- 10/15: Paula Koehler / Nick Koehler
- 10/17: Scott Koehler
- 10/18: Sharon Hoppe
- 10/20: Ted Taylor / Adrian Koehler / Maleyah Luebe / Kristy Rampone
- 10/28: Nikki Wragge / Cody Koehler
- 10/30: Blayke Doerr / Kayla Weich

SEPTEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 9/2: Willian & LeAnn Herbolsheimer
- 9/4: LeRoy & Brenda Sporleder
- 9/14: Lydon & Vickie DeJong
- 9/21: Ty & Sally Zellmer
- 9/30: Ted & Carol Taylor

OCTOBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 10/5: Grant & MacKenzie Doerr
- 10/15: Dan & Joyce Compton
- 10/17: Tyler & Brooke Schaecher
- 10/19: Matt & KayeLynn Christiansen
- 10/23: Jeffrey & Ariel DeJong

September's Church Servants

Elder: Nick Koehler

Acolytes:

- 9/5: Blaine Weich
- *9/12: Natasha Zamora
- 9/19: Kyle Kuehler
- *9/26: Alexis Asmus

October's Church Servants

Elder: Jeff Schulz

Acolytes:

- 10/3: Isabelle Kuehler
- *10/10: Aspyn Rampone
- 10/17: Wyatt Asmus
- *10/24: Cailyn Rampone
- 10/31: Blaine Weich

***denotes Communion Sundays**

Don't forget to call the church office if you have switched with someone.

Bible Trivia

- *Where was the first Piggy Bank? (Hint: 2 Kings 12)
- **Who was the first person to fall asleep during a sermon? (Hint: Acts 20:9)
- ***Who was the first Hunter? (Hint: Genesis 10:9)



Find and circle the fall words from the word list.

