



The EAGLE CALL

145th Anniversary 2010 Pictorial Directory

Volume 41, Number 11
November, 2009

Worship

Saturday
5:00 pm

Sunday
7:45 am
8:45 am
11:00 am

Radio Broadcast
KRNT 1350 AM
Sunday Mornings
8:30 am

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Robert Speirs
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Ramon Runkel
Visitation Pastor
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We want you to be included in our new 145th Anniversary Pictorial Directory. It won't be complete without you! By selecting a pose, you will receive a free 8 x 10 photograph, a free directory, and an opportunity to order other pictures if you so choose, though you are not obligated to do so. This can all be done in one appointment at church.

There are two ways to sign up: before and after services in the lounge (until November 8), or on-line at our website: www.stjohnsdsm.org and click on the link under the pictorial directory announcement on the home page (until November 6). If you have questions, call Darla Stiles at church, 243.7691.

All photography will be at St. John's -- ground floor. Notice some dates are around the Thanksgiving holiday for families who have college students home.

Check out Page 7 for the full schedule.



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St. John's Lutheran Church
In the City for Good!
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Office Hours are:

Monday – Friday

9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Next Eagle Call Deadline

November 16 at 12 pm



A Word from Our Pastors
Pastor Rachel Thornson Mithelman

“People want to know what St. John's is going to do.”

This statement was made during the discussion that followed a presentation on the outcomes of the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Two members of St. John's – Jennifer Early and Larry Christensen – were elected at the 2008 SE Iowa Synod Assembly to serve as voting members

of the churchwide assembly this past July, and they reported on their experiences at an open forum held at St. John's on October 13th. Those in attendance that evening received a two page handout titled “Brief Summary of Actions.” Jennifer and Larry spoke to the fact that, among many other things, voting members of the churchwide assembly:

- Approved a full communion agreement with the United Methodist Church. This means that the two churches identify in one another a common Christian faith; agree to mutual recognition of Baptism and the sharing of Holy Communion; and recognize each other's ordained ministers for service in either church. (This is not, however, an exhaustive list of the meaning of “full communion.”)
- Approved a proposal to raise \$10 million over three years to support the ELCA's HIV/AIDS strategy.
- Approved continued development of the Lutheran Malaria Initiative, to fight the disease of malaria, particularly in Africa.
- Adopted budget proposals for 2010 and 2011.
- Encouraged comprehensive reform of U.S. immigration policies and processes.
- Resolved to advocate on behalf of a peaceful resolution of the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

But even though the church in assembly sought to be faithful to Christ's command to feed the hungry, heal the sick, work for peace and justice, and strive for unity in our Christian witness to the world, millions of people will remember the 2009 assembly as being about only two things:

- The adoption of the Social Statement, “Human Sexuality: Gift & Trust,” and
- Directing that changes be made in the ELCA ministry policies to allow those who are or hope to be in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous same-gender relationships to serve as rostered leaders in the ELCA.

These two actions were debated long and well at the assembly. They were surrounded by prayer, and, with only a few exceptions, debate was very respectful. Both actions open doors to the full inclusion of gay and lesbian Lutherans in the life and ministry of the ELCA. However, these very tangible acts of inclusion have provoked a vocal response from some who claim that, with these decisions, our church has turned its back both on Scripture and 2000+ years of Christian tradition. And now there are pastors and congregations – even some in the Des Moines area



– who are threatening to withdraw from the ELCA and/or, in an action that is most damaging to “the least of these” whom we are commanded to love, to withhold financial support for the church because of the assembly’s actions.

In response to some of the misinformation that is circulating in regard to the churchwide assembly’s actions, please understand the following:

First of all, the social statement, in a nutshell, addresses the importance of mutual trust in relationships; i.e. that we, as Christians, are called to be trustworthy in matters of human sexuality and “build social institutions and practices in which trust and trustworthy relationships can thrive.” It does not condemn same-gender relationships, and acknowledges that not all members of the ELCA are in agreement on the issue of same-gender committed relationships.

And secondly, that the recommended changes in ministry policies – changes that the ELCA Church Council hopes to put in place by next spring – “allow congregations who choose to do so” to recognize and support people in accountable lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships and to call as pastors those who are in, or hope to someday be in, accountable lifelong, monogamous, same-gender relationships.

Has the ELCA, in opening the door to inclusion of gay and lesbian people and their families, proven to be less than faithful to Scripture? Some say yes. I, as you know, believe with all my heart that the answer to that question is “no.” And even though you may be hearing the loudest response from those who claim the ELCA has lost its Scriptural compass, millions of others believe that we are, indeed, being faithful to Scripture and to Christ’s call to make God’s love known.

And must St. John’s “do” something with the church-wide assembly’s action on human sexuality and ministry policy change? No! Those who have been vocal in condemning the assembly’s actions have led people to think that congregations must “do” something in response to the changes that were adopted. However, the ELCA does not work that way. Congregations do not “ratify” the actions of the churchwide assembly after the fact. The social statement and ministry policies are the product of at least seven years of discussion at all levels of the church and have now been adopted by the church. (Numerous opportunities to be informed and to respond to the ELCA were offered to members of St. John’s.) This congregation and every congregation of the ELCA will continue to decide who to call as their pastors, and pastors – with the trust and support of their congregations – will work to extend Christ’s blessing to all who seek to ground their

relationships in God’s life-giving love.

I must add, however, that there is plenty to do, my friends, as we seek to fulfill God’s mission for St. John’s! There are prayers to be prayed, praises to be sung, testimonies to be shared, offerings to be given, Bible stories to be taught, hungry people to be fed, homeless people to be sheltered, missionaries to be supported, prisoners to be visited, and daily acts of Christ-like love to be extended to one another, to our neighbors here in Des Moines, and to our brothers and sisters around the globe. This is what St. John’s is going to do – today, tomorrow, and every day that the Lord give us!

I am more grateful than I can say for your partnership in the Gospel, a partnership that has always welcomed the stranger and valued the gifts of every child of God. My prayer is that we will continue to grow in faith, service, and praise.

New Advent Vestments

Beginning with the start of Advent on Sunday, November 29th you will see new blue paraments and vestments being used in the Sanctuary. These items were purchased through fundraising efforts of Delaine Marker and members of the St. John’s Altar Guild.

In addition to individual contributions from members and friends of the Guild, a number of memorials were given toward the purchase. Delaine and Gary Marker contributed in memory of their grandson, Alex Thomas Marker. Delaine felt these paraments would symbolize hope for all during the Advent season. Other memorials were received from long-time Guild member, Bob Hamman, in memory of his mother, Edna L. Hamman. In addition, memorial contributions were received from the family of Garnett M. Morris. Garnett was a founding member of Altar Guild when it was started in 1978.

We hope that you will enjoy the paraments and that they will bring special meaning to your Advent season. Thanks to all who helped in this endeavor.

Janet Witte
Altar Guild President



Prepare for Worship

Sunday, November 1, All Saints Sunday

Every Sunday during the Great Thanksgiving, before we receive communion, we are reminded that "with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn." In worship we are always surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses," including the famous saints of the church, our own loved ones, and members of this community of faith who worship with us on another shore. Given the truly awesome nature of that vision, we at St. John's celebrate All Saints Sunday with all we have and from the depth of our souls. As one visitor last year said, "I never want to miss another All Saints at St. John's!" The readings are Isaiah 25:6-9; Psalm 118; Revelation 21:1-6a; and John 11:32-44. The hymns are powerful, and, along with the organ, there will be a full orchestra leading us in ELW 422, "For All the Saints" (which Larry spent all summer arranging!) ELW 880, "Oh God, Beyond All Praising; and ELW 426, "Sing with All the Saints in Glory." An augmented Cathedral Choir and St. John's Orchestra will sing at both 8:45 and 11:00 presenting a new work by K. Lee Scott, "I Am the Resurrection," during offering plus three portions of the Faure' Requiem: "Santus," "Agnus Dei," and "In Paradisum" at communion. A candle will be lit and a bell tolled during the prayers for the name of each member of St. John's who passed on to the Church Triumphant this past year.

Sunday, November 8, Time after Pentecost 32

Widows are visible everywhere in this Sunday's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widow's houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus does not see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance. This is also a Sunday which includes the laying on of hands and anointing with oil for healing within the liturgy. The readings are 1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; and Mark 12:38-44. The hymns will be ELW 695, "As Saints of Old;" ELW 712, "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service;" and ELW 538, "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth." The Kisansa Choristers will sing "God's Loving Call," by Wayne Wold, which, in the text, focuses on the widows in the 1 Kings and gospel stories. At 11:00 Cathedral Choir will sing "On God Alone My Hope I Build," by Felix Mendelssohn.

Sunday, November 15, Time after Pentecost 33

November begins with All Saints Day and ends with the beginning of Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again, so the readings for this Sunday are the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised. The readings are Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16; Hebrews 10: 11-18; and Mark 13:1-8. The hymns will be ELW 327, "Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow," ELW 438, "My Lord, What a Morning," and ELW 805, "Lead on, O King Eternal." During offering, Cantorei at 8:45 and Cathedral Choir at 11:00 will sing "Canticle of the Turning," by Hal H. Hopson. During communion at 11:00 Cathedral Choir will sing "Thou Judge of Quick and Dead," by S.S. Wesley.

Sunday, November 22, Christ the King

In scripture, Jesus is given all the titles that the kings of that time wore: "King of kings," "Son of God," "The Anointed One," and many more. But Jesus was not like any earthly king, something we today struggle with as much as did Jesus' contemporaries. We want God in Jesus to "fix things," to come in power and, with might, set things right. When Jesus does not do this, we humans tend to take matters into our own hands, to force God's hand, just as Judas did. But Jesus is a king who serves, dies, and gives himself away, and he bids his followers to do the same. The readings are Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4b-8, and John 18:33-37. The hymns are ELW 855, "Crown Him with Many Crowns." ELW 434, "Jesus Shall Reign," and ELW 826, "Thine the Amen." At 11:00, Cathedral Choir will sing "At the Name of Jesus," by Rene Clausen during communion. With "Christ the King," the Church Year comes to a close, and we prepare to begin the cycle over again the next Sunday with the Advent I.

Thursday, November 26th, Day of Thanksgiving

The readings assigned for a national day of thanksgiving reflect two strains: gratitude for abundant harvest and civic prayer for a peaceable common life. The Church weekly holds a "feast of thanksgiving," since the Greek word, "Eucharist," literally means "thanksgiving." May the meals we share in our homes, the meals shared with



the homeless, and the Lord's Supper we share all reflect those deeper meanings, recognizing that the "Host" wants everyone brought to the table. The readings are Joel 2:21-27; Psalm 126; 1 Timothy; and Matthew 6:25-33. The liturgical setting will be the Marty Haugen "Now the Feast" and the hymns the familiar ones for the day. Make thanking and worshipping our generous and gracious God a priority for this Thanksgiving.

Sunday, November 29th, First Sunday of Advent

Advent is about the "coming days." God's people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a "righteous Branch to spring up for David." The Thessalonians awaited "the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints." Our Lord's contemporaries hoped for the time "to stand before the Son of Man." With them, we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of our Lord in word and supper. The readings are Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; and Luke 21:25-36. The hymns will be "A Flickering Candle," Stephen P. Folkemer (not in the ELW), ELW 436, "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying," and ELW 244, "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers." At 8:45 Cathedral Choir will sing "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming," in the famous setting by Hugo Distler. During communion the assembly will sing ELW 247, "Come Now, O Prince of Peace," and Cathedral Choir will sing a choral setting of Psalm 25, "Show Me Thy Ways," by Walter L. Pelz, with Sue Odem playing oboe. We will process the "peace candle" from which the Advent Candles will be lighted, and the sanctuary will be decked in the hopeful blue of Advent.

WELCA Updates



The mission of the Women of the ELCA (WELCA) is to mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. The St. John's WELCA Groups, Sarah and Lois, are committed to learning, fellowship and action. During the year the groups support projects within the congregation such as managing the Sunday coffees and providing cash toward the purchase of the new carpet

in Fellowship Hall. Outside our walls support is offered to various entities that serve others at home and abroad. Each month the groups collect and distribute items aimed for specific needs. In November the emphasis will be the completion of the congregational goal of Hospice Kits for Tanzania and the Thank Offering for missions. In December the groups

will recognize our shut-ins and bring gifts for the mothers living at the New Directions Shelter to give to their children.

WELCA welcomes the participation by the entire congregation in any of these efforts. If you have any interest in being more involved in the activities of the WELCA, please contact Kathy Kroll at 285-8619.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS COOKIES CUTTERS OUT AND ARE YOU READY TO USE THEM?

Christmas will soon be here and you know the second Sunday in December is WELCA's Annual Cookie Walk and Silent Auction. We are not having a Treasurer Table this year but would like to enlarge our Cookie Walk--so if you want to bring any kind of cookies (decorated Christmas cookies are best), candy, cake, breads, etc, they are welcome. A good old fashioned bake sale with Christmas cookies the center of attraction. Bring all items to the Church on Saturday, December 12, between 9:00 and noon for the sale on the 13th of December. Remember to bring your red buckets (we will also have some for sale for \$1.50), the cost of a bucket of cookies is \$12.00. Remember we need lots of help, so get out your recipes, cookie cutters and have fun. If you have an item for the Silent Auction, call Lou Johnston at 287-2424 and she will advise you as to the items we want to auction.

COMING SOON: WELCA COASTER SETS

Just in time for Christmas giving---WELCA's set of four coasters, each featuring a beautiful color image of a favorite area of our church captured by St. John's talented photographers. Watch for posters showing the coasters, announcing the winning photographers in our coaster contest and providing sales information. In the meantime, check your gift list. These coasters are perfect for hostess gifts, stocking stuffers, or just for yourself as a remembrance of our church on the eve of its 145th year. For details, contact Janie Clemenson at 274-0924.



Small Groups

Questions? Contact Darla Stiles, Small Groups Coordinator
243.7691 or darlastiles@stjohnsdsm.org

CALENDAR

The Readers Club, a NEW Reading Group

Will meet on November 4, 18, and December 2 on Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in Neumann

In the Word—Saturday am Bible Study

Saturdays, November 7, 14, 21 at 8:30 a.m. at Caribou Coffee on Ingersoll

Digital Photography

Sunday, November 8, 10:00 a.m. in Neumann

3D

Wednesdays, November, 11, 18 at 10:00 a.m.

EAGLES

Will be going to Winterset to tour covered bridges and John Wayne's birthplace—watch for more details in the bulletins

Couples Club

Saturday, November 14, 6:30 p.m. at Judy and Phil Latessa's

Prayer Shawl

Monday afternoon, November 16, 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge

Lunch Bunch II

Will meet Wednesday, November 18 11:30 a.m.

Recreational Book Club

Wednesday, November 18, 4:30 p.m. in Rose Holm

Lunch Bunch I

Will meet Thursday, November 19, 11:30 a.m.

In the Word—3100 Grand Group and Marker Group

Monday, November 23, at 1:00 p.m.

Prayer Shawl

Tuesday evening, November 24, 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge

Be sure to check www.stjohnsdsm.org for small group dates and events.

More information on upcoming events

EAGLES will be touring covered bridges, John Wayne's birthplace and dining at Northside Grill in Winterset. Watch the bulletin for date and time.

The Readers Club, a new reading group starting at St. John's, will be meeting on Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. in Neumann to discuss the book *Hot, Flat, and Crowded*. The group will read about a fourth of the book and meet every other Wednesday to discuss that portion; then they won't meet again until winter. They plan to read about 3 books a year. For Fall, the dates are October 21 (Reading Part I of *Hot, Flat and Crowded*—pp. 3 – 110); November 4, Part II, (pp. 111 – 202); November 18, Part III (pp. 203- 340); December 2, Parts IV & V, (pp. 341 – 421). The group is open to anyone interested and hopes more will join them. You may email David Stewart at stewjd428@yahoo.com if you have questions.

Digital Photography will meet on Sunday, November 8, at 10:00 a.m. in Neumann. The theme is fall or the new sculpture garden. Bring two pictures to share.

Recreational Reading will meet Wednesday, November 18, at 4:30 p.m. in Rose Holm. The book to discuss is *Any Bitter Thing by Monica Wood*.

Prayer Shawl Gatherings: These two groups continue to knit and crochet shawls to give to those going through difficult times. Join them on Monday, November 16, at 1:00 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge and/or Tuesday, November 24, 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Bring your knitting needle/crochet hook and yarn, three skeins (preferably Homespun, any color). Questions, contact Darla Stiles, 243-7691 or darlastiles@stjohnsdsm.org.



Interfaith Hospitality Network

On November 10th & 12th, St. John's will assist WDM Christian Church in hosting three homeless families in transition. Please consider volunteering for a shift. We need morning van drivers, food preparers and servers, evening and overnight hosts. This is a great opportunity for youth, families or small groups to serve together. We hope to have all shifts covered before the middle of October.

November 10th & 12th

- 6:00 a.m.— 7:00 a.m. Drive families in van to Westminster Church
- 5:30 p.m.— 7:00 p.m. Serve supper & clean up
- 6:00 p.m.— 8:00 p.m. Evening Hosts
- 8:00 p.m. — 6:00 a.m. Overnight hosts (at least one male needed)

FOOD NEEDS—DELIVER BY 5:30 p.m. We need enough for 25 people of a: main dish; salad; vegetable/starch; dessert; bread—two loaves; and milk—2 gallons. PLEASE SEE SIGN UP SHEET! Contact Jennifer Early or Wanda Havard with questions, 274-6872.

Medicare Plan D Changes

Every Fall Medicare prescription drug plans (Part D) announce changes to their premium, co-pays and the drugs they cover. Stay on top of these changes. You may be able to save money by choosing a different plan. November 15 through December 31, 2009, you can change your Part D plan for 2010 or enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage (Part D) if you haven't done so. If you have questions or need help comparing plans and enrolling, call the Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP) at 800-351-4664. Trinity Lutheran Church, 3223 University is hosting a Medicare Part D Check-Up Event on Monday, November 23rd from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Appointments are required. Call SHIIP at 800-351-4664 to schedule your appointment.

Sound Techs Needed

Sound Technicians needed. Looking for volunteers to run the sound system at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. services. One service, once a month commitment is all we are asking. Please contact Todd Warming at trwarming@hotmail.com or phone at 274-1129.



DATES	TIMES	Sign up ONLINE / CHURCH
November 17, 19	1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	ONLINE
November 28, 20	1:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	CHURCH
November 21	9:30 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.	ONLINE
2 Photographers November 23 - 28		
November 23, 24, 27	1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	ONLINE / CHURCH
November 28	9:30 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.	ONLINE / CHURCH
December 2, 4	1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	ONLINE
December 3	1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	CHURCH
December 5	9:30 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.	CHURCH
December 6	11:00 a.m. to 5:10 p.m.	CHURCH



Children's Ministries

- November 1** The Ten Commandments
(Exodus 20: 1-17)
Faith Trait - Obedience
Big Idea - God helps us do what is right.
- November 8** David is Anointed (1 Samuel 16)
Faith Trait - Humility
Big Idea - Anyone can be called to serve God.
- November 15** First - Sixth Grade
Advent Program Rehearsal in ROOM 208
Three year olds - Kindergarten
Mary Visits Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)
Advent Program Rehearsal for last part of session
Faith Trait - Joy
Big Idea - God brings joy.
- November 23** First - Sixth Grade
Advent Program Rehearsal in ROOM 208
Three year olds - Kindergarten
John is born (Luke 1:57-80)
Advent Program Rehearsal for last part of session
Faith Trait - Thankfulness
Big Idea - Speak the news
celebrate God's gifts!!!!
- November 30** Three Year Olds - Sixth Grade
Advent Program Rehearsal in ROOM 208

Sunday School families-- mark your calendars:

Saturday, December 12 (9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.)

Children's Advent Program Dress Rehearsal for 1st-6th Graders in Sanctuary

Sunday, December 13 (10:00 a.m.)

Children's Advent Program in Sanctuary

A reception will follow the program in Weertz Fellowship Hall. Hot chocolate will be served.

Donations needed for Children's Ministries

(please drop off at front desk for Sheryl Reed):
hot chocolate mix (enough for 200 people)
candy canes
peppermint candies
marshmallows
miniature chocolate chips

Growing in Faith at Home--Wait with Us

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his Word I put my hope; Psalm 130:5

"Wait for me!" "Wait for dessert until after dinner!" "Wait for your brother!" "Wait, wait!" Waiting is hard. Advent is waiting. We wait for the tree to go up. We wait for the cookies to bake, for school to let out, for Dad or Mom to hang the outside lights. We wait for the birthday celebration. We wait for Christmas. The Bible tells us God's children waited for a Savior for thousands of years. Now that was a long wait! But God sent his prophets to remind the people that the Savior would come. They had to wait patiently and trust God's promises. Advent is a good time to practice patience—while we WAIT! Now is the time to assemble your Advent wreath! Set aside a few minutes each day to light your wreath with your family, read the Bible, pray, and sing together. If you need some Advent devotion resources, contact Sheryl Reed at sherylreed@stjohnsdsm.org.

Youth Ministries



November, already?! Where has the time gone? The middle school students have been busy in Confirmation. They worked on a book and a banner to send to Mramba in Tanzania and they spent a whole weekend in October at the Y-Camp getting to know better each

other, the world, and God! The high school students have been busy studying the book of Romans and spending time in fellowship with one another! We cannot forget that nine ninth grade students became adult members of the church when they affirmed their Baptism on Reformation Sunday!

Middle School Students: Mark YOUR Calendars!!!

EARLY OUT ACTIVITIES @ St. John's!!! (6th-8th grade) November 11th...starting whenever school gets out...Cost is \$5...there will be pizza, snacks, games, a movie, and fun!!! Email Megan to sign up! (meganc@stjohnsdsm.org)

Deposits (\$60) are DUE for the summer service trip to Duluth, Minn the week of July 17-23!!! Megan needs these ASAP! You are not signed up for the trip until your deposit is turned in!

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Breakfast Club Schedule for November:

- November 1: Stewardship Brunch & Recognizing Hunger Part 2
- November 8: Recognizing Hunger Part 3
- November 15: Living Faithfully Part 1
- November 22: Living Faithfully Part 2
- November 29: No Breakfast Club because of Thanksgiving

Confirmation Schedule for November:

- November 4: Jesus Calls the First Disciples
- November 11: The Beatitudes
- November 18: Gerasene Demoniac
- November 25: NO Confirmation. Happy Thanksgiving!

High School Students: Mark YOUR Calendars!!! Deposits(\$60) are due for the summer service trip to Chicago from July 30-August 6, 2010!!! You are not guaranteed a spot on the trip until you have paid your deposit! Megan needs the deposits ASAP!!!

Think seriously about going on a service learning trip to Denver, Colorado over Spring Break 2010! Cost will be around \$100-\$150 per person! TELL Megan if you are interested!

November Family Dinner will be at Arian Vinca's home (Jerry and Arlys McCauley's residence) on November 29th from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ask Megan or Arian if you need directions.

In the City (and the World) for Good!

Have you ever wondered what that slogan on the west side of our building means? At least these three things: St. John's is called to share the Good News of God's love for all of God's people, to do good and life-giving things for this city and world, and to remain in the heart of Des Moines – a place that has been our faith community's home for all 144 years of our life. There are many ways in which the members & friends of St. John's use their passions to serve the city & the world. Below are some updates on our ministry & opportunities to continue to be "in the city (and the world) for good"!

It is our privilege, once again, to assist West Des Moines Christian Church in hosting three homeless families through the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Volunteers are needed on November 10th & November

12th to provide an evening meal, evening & overnight hosting, and early-morning transport to the Day Center at Westminster Presbyterian. Please sign up on the clipboard in the narthex. Questions may be directed to either Jennifer Early or Wanda Havard when you see them at church, or call 274-6872.

We plan on reaching our goal of providing 300 Hospice Kits for our friends in Tanzania by December 31! As of October 15, we needed approximately 80 more kits. The kits are shared by community health workers who make home visits to people with terminal illness – including AIDS, cancer, and other diseases – often in remote settings where there is no easy access to medical care. To participate, just pick up a 2 gallon ziploc bag from the box in the narthex. The list of items needed is in the bag. Shop & return the filled bag to church! Thanks to all who have participated in this project. It is a tangible way to make Christ's love known to neighbors we may never meet, but whom we are called to love.

The other kind of kit that is an ongoing activity for St. John's is the Hygiene Kit shared with Central Iowa Shelter & Services and others who are in ministry with and to people who are homeless. A small, drawstring bag holds toothbrush & toothpaste, soap, nail clippers, etc., and a deck of playing cards. You may always pick up one of the empty bags and list of items to purchase from the marked box in the narthex.

Thanks to all who faithfully support the evening meals we serve on the 18th & 19th of each month at Central Iowa Shelter & Services. Residents there are always appreciative of St. John's homemade meals that include casseroles, salads, bread, and dessert. (A tip to dessert-makers: pie is a particular favorite!) If you have not volunteered at the shelter before, serving these evening meals is also a great way to make new St. John's friends!

Thanks to all who participated in the AMOS House Meetings either at a person's home or at St. John's on a Sunday morning! St. John's members Judi Kaut, Diana Sickles, Bonnie Ekse, Jim Pullen – along with many others – made these meetings a success.



Hospitality & Outreach



Smile... You're going to be on a not-so-candid camera!

As many of you know, the pictorial directory is coming our way within the next month. This major endeavor only rolls around only every five years

or so. This is prime opportunity to photograph archives for your personal family, and also for the family of St. John's.

As one who avoids having her picture taken at all costs, I understand photo-phobia. In fact, I personify it. But, now that my parents have passed, as have some dear friends, I find that I cherish pictures. As I take more frequent trips down memory lane, I find myself reliving times with my children that only pictures have documented.

I encourage you to find the time and take this occasion to immortalize your connection with St. John's. Even only having been here a few months, several times I have been involved with people who came back to visit the parish and tour the church. St. John's was a key part of their lives; they are nostalgic for the support and love they experienced here. Sometime down the road when you look back, you'll want a directory to aid your memory (believe me, it'll help!) and relive the support (prayerful and personal), the laughs (Weertz Fellowship gatherings), the outreach (assisting at shelters), and the worship (solemn services in the sanctuary or praising God and nature at Jester Park).

I am altering my work schedule so I may serve as a greeter at the photography sessions – a perfect chance to meet more of you. So, please, check your schedule, pick your time, sign-up. I look forward to seeing you there!

If you are interested in learning how your gifts and passions can assist the ministries here at St. John's please contact Katie Tippins, Hospitality & Outreach Coordinator, at 243-7691 or katietippins@stjohnsdsm.org.

Did you know?

St. John's now offers Wi-Fi internet access from Weertz to DDI. Just look for the STJOHNS wireless network and use 'inthecity' for the passcode.

Artist of the Month



November's Artist of the Month is a collection of works in many different styles and mediums from the group, "The Saturday Sketch Club". This club dates back to the 1940s and started as a men's only group. Now both men and women meet each Saturday to go into the area surrounding Des Moines to sketch. The show honors a long standing member and a past St John's Artist of the Month, Libby Momberg, who died in May. Her beautiful self-portrait will be on display.

TZ Auction Recap

The TZ Auction was a roaring success – we made \$1,340. It was a great hour of fun and laughter with Pr. Mshana joining us. Greg Anderson, Auctioneer, kicked off the auction with TZ fabric, children's clothing, and placemats that had been purchased at the Mramba Sunday auction or from the Mramba Women's Group. So many people opened their hearts and brought wonderful baked good, pumpkins, real maple syrup, breads and firewood. Thank you to everyone for contributing and participating in our first TZ Auction.

Couples Plus Event

The Couples Club and Singles will gather at the home of Phil and Judy Latessa on Saturday, November 14 at 6:30 for musical entertainment by David Crabbs and for wine tasting and critiquing. The cost will be \$10.00 per person. Please call Phil or Judy Latessa at 276.8811 for a reservation.



Garner Organ Recital



The Fine Arts Series at St. John's continues to build momentum with its next offered concert on Saturday, November 14th at 7:30 p.m. The Friends of the Arts at St. John's present our congregation's organist, Sarah Garner, in concert on the King of Instruments, as well as the most intimate of instruments, the harpsichord. Sarah studied harpsichord and continuo playing with

Arthur Haas at the Eastman School of Music and Larry Palmer at Southern Methodist University. "I have a great affinity for early music. Playing it on the harpsichord allows me to utilize the plucking of the strings and opulent ornamentation in an expressive way that is impossible to experience at the organ," she says in reference to Rameau's Allemande that will be showcased on the harpsichord in the recital. While harpsichord is more of an avocation, Sarah's Bachelor and Master's degrees, were earned in organ performance under the tutelage of international concert organist, David Higgs, and the late Robert Anderson. "The concert repertoire for the pipe organ is unparalleled among instruments. It is as ancient as the beginning of written music and as contemporary as the most recent improvisation at Notre-Dame in Paris! This concert allows me to showcase some of the greatest of music which doesn't have a place in worship services."

J. S. Bach's electrifying Toccata in F for organ will open the concert and the first half will close with Handel's Organ Concerto Op. 4, No. 4 performed with the St. John's Chamber Orchestra. Sarah boasted, "It's incredible that I'm playing an organ concerto accompanied by our very own chamber orchestra! These are amazing musicians that range from youngest of string scholars to the more seasoned of fine arts performers... under the baton of Larry Christensen, they create a beautiful ensemble with which I'm honored to perform."

The second half will commence with the brilliance of Aaron Copland's Fanfare for the Common Man. Estonian composer Arvo Pärt's Annum per Annum (Year by Year) unfolds in his tintinnabuli style the liturgical mass, rooted in ancient chant, mysticism and minimalist tonal qualities. Louis Vierne's Naïades

creates, with the help of the pipe organ, the fantasy of underwater fairies. The program culminates in Franz Liszt's powerful tribute to the composer who opens the concert: Fantasia and Fugue on the name B-A-C-H. "It never ceases to amaze me how music feeds the souls of those who engage and partake in it. Our sanctuary is a powerful space in which to hear these sounds, not only because its fine organ and harpsichord but also because of the beauty of its grandeur. Please join me on November 14th at 7:30 for a wonderful evening!" This Fine Arts Event is open to the public at no cost and is approximately an hour in length.

Photos of the Month



Sunday School at Jester Park



Thanks to everyone who braved a chilly morning and participated in our Jester Park service.

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Beloved Community Menus for November

Join us for a fun filled evening on
Wednesdays starting at 5:30 p.m.

Nov. 4 Beef Stroganoff

Nov. 11 Potluck Wednesday, Marinated Pork

Nov. 18 Turkey Breast with the trimmings

Would you like to receive an electronic version of the Eagle Call? Email businessoffice@stjohnsdsm.org and request the eEagle Call. Help us save on the cost of postage and see each issue in FULL COLOR.



NOVEMBER EAGLE CALL DEADLINE

The deadline for all December Eagle Call information is Monday, November 16, 2009. Please send information or articles, in digital format if possible, to Scott LaBlanc. At scottl@stjohnsdsm.org. If you cannot send it by email, drop it off at the church office. Thank you!