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Pastor Pool's Sunday Bible Study The Gospel According to Job

Our Sunday class continues our study of the book of Job.

The Christian life is a struggle. But the struggle is worthwhile. This book is full of surprising answers to some of our most difficult questions about suffering, evil, and redemption. We meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome. Bring your Bible.

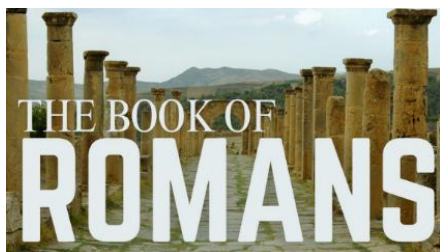
August 2: Job's Final Appeal: Job 31

August 9: Elihu Critiques Job's Friends: Job 32

August 16: Elihu Critiques Job: Job 33

August 23: Elihu Addresses Justice: Job 34

August 30: Elihu Critiques Job Again: Job 35



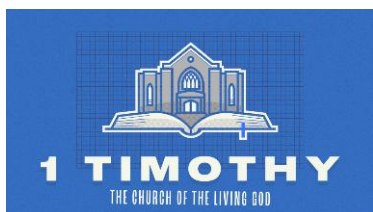
Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor The Book of Romans

Our Tuesday Bible Study is working through Paul's Epistle to the Romans. Now is a great time to join us!

There is no cost. Bring your Bible and your questions. We normally meet on the first and third Tuesdays. We have two class options at 9:30 am or 7:00 pm.

August 4: Life in the Spirit: Romans 8:1-11

August 18: Revelation of the Sons of God: Romans 8:12-30



1 Timothy: The Church of the Living God

Summer Wednesday Sermon
Series Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
Service of Prayer and Preaching

August 5: Those Who Labor in Preaching: 1 Timothy 5:17-25

August 12: Godliness with Contentment: 1 Timothy 6:1-10

August 19: Fight the Good Fight: 1 Timothy 6:11-21

August 26: A Few Thoughts about Our Church: 2 Timothy 1:1-7
(Evening Prayer)

Special Giving Opportunities

This summer we are preparing to replace the roof of our Education Building. Your gifts above your regular giving will greatly help us with this project. Consider supporting Donivan Sirna as he prepares for the pastoral ministry at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. The local church has an important financial role in preparing future pastors. You may mark your offering envelopes for these special giving opportunities.

Mary Martha

The Mary Martha Society will meet on Tuesday, August 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Hostesses are Lisa Hagen & Christine Frett. All ladies are invited to join us.

Youth Catechesis: Mark Your Calendar

Youth Catechesis, for those entering 6th grade or older, begins on Wednesday, September 2 at 7:00 p.m. At the first class, Parents and students will meet together from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. The cost for student materials is just \$15 and may be paid at the first class. Please make checks payable to St. John. Youth Catechesis will meet each Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., Beginning September 2 – April, except when the public schools schedule a vacation or close school because of bad weather. Watch future bulletins for more information. Letters were sent to eligible students in June. Please call the church office with any questions.





Engagement During Holy Communion

Our Planning Council and Board of Elders have been working on a plan to keep us engaged during Holy Communion. It is easy in such moments to stare off into space. We

forget the nature of the Sacrament. We ignore the sacredness. We whisper in private conversations. We stop singing.

Of course, it is okay to pray when you prepare or return to your seats. I realize it might take a moment to find yourself in the hymn. But I want you to think about the Service of the Sacrament as worship. It is time to be engaged.

One of our minor hurdles is the time it takes between tables. We want to make this time more efficient to keep us engaged. Our ushers and elders are working on having full tables and smaller gaps. Please approach the altar as soon as I have blessed the last table. You don't have to wait until the sacristy is empty.

More importantly, remember our theology of the Sacrament. *The Augsburg Confession* tells us what the Sacrament is. "Our churches teach that the body and blood of Christ are truly present and distributed to those who eat the Lord's Supper."

The Large Catechism tells us the purpose. "It is indeed called a food of souls, which nourishes and strengthens the new man. The Sacrament is given as a daily pasture and sustenance, that faith may refresh and strengthen itself so that it will not fall back in such a battle, but become ever stronger and stronger. The new life must be guided so that it continually increases and progresses."

Based on our rich theology, I hope you will come to the altar in reverence, repentance, and faith. I hope you will stay engaged while others commune. I hope you will sing the faith in our great hymns. Even think of your singing as support for those who are at the altar.

In addition, we received a special gift, and we intend to update our chalice and ciborium. The chalice is the "common cup." The ciborium holds the host for Holy Communion. We will have a dedication when these arrive. The older chalice and paten will

be moved to our new chapel downstairs for smaller settings and private Communion.

“For You, O resurrected Lord, are found in means divine.
Beneath the water and the Word, beneath the bread and wine.”
– LSB 720

Pastor

Operation Christmas Child: August Collection



In August we are collecting school supplies: **Pencils, Sharpeners, Crayons, Coloring books, Paper, Pencil bags, Glue sticks** (no liquid glue), **Sling bags**. The ages are 2-14, boys and girls. Please place your **NEW** items in the bin in the fellowship hall.

*This year we are not only asking for donations, but also encouraging individuals to pack their own boxes for OCC. The church will provide the boxes and get them sent off, but we'd like you to pick up boxes from the church, pack them, and return them to church by collection day. Thanks!

St. John Family Night

Each Wednesday from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., St. John hosts a family night for families with kid's Pre-K through 5th grade. The night includes a shared meal, devotions, singing, fun, and time with the Small



Catechism. Parents will meet together with kids and also with each other for conversation. Help is needed with meals and clean-up. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall if you would like to provide food and/or volunteer. Thanks!

Setting 2

In August, we are going to return to Setting 2 in the LSB. We recommend a little preparation. Sing through it a few times to get comfortable. <https://resources.lcms.org/worship-planning/liturgy-audio-collection-divine-service-setting-two/>



Summer Sunday School

Our Summer Sunday School meets on the first Sunday of the month in June, July, and August. It is for all ages and we all meet together in Classroom 4. This summer we have been learning how to pray, why to pray, who to pray for, what to give thanks for, etc. We have been writing our prayers down on Prayer cards and have hung them on a special lighted Prayer Tree which

you can view in the fellowship hall. Please send your kids to the next Summer Sunday School Class on August 2 at 9:00 a.m.

Matthew 19:14 *"But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.'"*



Weekly Sunday School

Our Weekly Sunday School program begins on **Sunday, September 6**. Sunday school meets every Sunday morning from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Following is a list of Teachers, Grades, and Classrooms:

Pastor's Bible Study	Pastor Pool	Fellowship Hall
Adult Bible Study	Kurt Flathers	Classroom 1
Opening	Anna Krueger	Preschool Classroom
9 th – 12 th Grade	Ross Eberhart	Mother's Room
5 th – 8 th Grade	Sallie Pool	Classroom 2
2 nd – 4 th Grade	Janice Wheelock	Classroom 4
Pre K – 1 st Grade	Sarah Flathers	Classroom 5
	Sheryl Jindrich	
PWYK Class	Lucas Krueger	Nursery

Save The Date Higher Things 2027

Please plan to send your confirmed youth (8th grade through college age) to next year's Higher Things Youth Conference on June 22-25 at our own Concordia University, Wisconsin. Registration is due by November 10, 2026. This one will sell out quickly, so do not procrastinate!



YOU'RE INVITED

Who: Your family
What: Church Picnic
Date: Sunday, August 30, 2026
Time: Late Service 10:15 A.M.
Picnic 11:30 A.M.

There is no cost but a freewill offering will be taken to help defray the cost of the meat. Each family is asked to bring a dish or 2 to share choosing from: potatoes, salads, vegetables, or dessert. Meat, rolls, beverage, and table service will be provided. After filling your plate you may find a seat in the fellowship hall or at the picnic tables outside at the church pavilion. There will be activities and games, inside and outside, for both adults and children after lunch. Please join us for food, fellowship, and fun!

Picnic Volunteers Are Needed

A sign-up sheet is in the fellowship hall for volunteers to help with various tasks for the Church Picnic on August 30. Help is needed: In the kitchen during late service, cleaning the kitchen after dinner, and cleaning up the building & grounds at the end of the picnic.

Picnic Special Offering

At the Church Picnic we will be accepting a special offering which will go toward replacing the roof in our Education Building. We would greatly appreciate any help. Thank you!





Preschool News

August is an exciting month! While the children are still enjoying the end of summer break, Cindy and Gina will soon be at work setting up the classroom, prepping the playground,

meeting our new students and their families, and welcoming back our returning students. The first day of preschool for the 2026/2027 school year is Tuesday, September 8. We still have openings, so please spread the word about our fabulous Christian, play-based preschool! To begin an application, please go to: stjohn-clinton-ia.org and click on the preschool tab. All paperwork may be filled out online. Please sign up soon.



Raise Right Fundraiser

Our next order is due **August 2**.

Cards will be in your box on **August 9**. Please place your order form and payment in the blue box

in the fellowship hall. If you're looking for a gift card that isn't listed on the sheet, you can look online to see if it is offered and then write it in on the order form. Thank you for participating in the Raise Right fundraising program for our preschool.

St. John Blood Drives

Our next Blood Drive at St. John is on Friday, October 2 from 12:30 – 4:30 p.m. Please go to redcrossblood.org today to sign up to donate. Blood is needed now more than ever and there is no substitute for blood. Thanks!

Below are the results from our June 12, 2026 Blood Drive:

Donor Goal	35	Donors
Presenting donors:	11	Donors
Blood Units Goal:	21	Units
Whole blood collected:	7	Units
Power reds collected:	8	Units
Total Units Collected:	15	Units



August Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Kathleen Schrader, who will be 82
on August 22.

Darlene Detlefsen, who will be 86
on August 25.

James Harper, who will be 86
on August 27.

Marlene Greve, who will be 83
on August 28.

August Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to:

Harlan & Ellen Gluesing 60th wedding
anniversary on August 6.

Roberto & Christy Mendez 10th wedding
anniversary on August 6.

Ben & Olivia Rowan 10th wedding
anniversary on August 6.

Ryan & Bethany Dell 10th wedding
anniversary on August 13.



CONGRATULATIONS!

We list birthdays 80 and above and anniversaries for year one and every five years thereafter unless we receive a request not to do so.

Holy Communion at Home

If you are at home and would like a visit from Pastor, please call the office to set up an appointment. He is glad to come and bring you God's Word and the Sacrament. Pastor also does a monthly service at the Alverno on the second Sunday of each month at 1:30. Visitors are generally welcome.



THOSE WHO SERVE IN AUGUST

Early

Elders: David Reynolds
Bill Ross

Ushers: Jon Meyermann
Craig Miller
Rick Christiansen

Late

Elders: James McHugh
Lucas Krueger

Ushers: Tom McHugh
Jay Mueller
Eli Mueller

Recording

2 – Darlene Paysen
9 – Darlene Paysen
16 – Darlene Paysen
23 – Darlene Paysen
30 – Darlene Paysen

Acolyte Schedule

2	Early	Elder
2	Late	Elder
9	Early	Elder
9	Late	Elder
16	Early	Elder
16	Late	Elder
23	Early	Elder
23	Late	Ben Leslie
30	Early	Elder
30	Late	Aryanna Hagen

Wednesday Night Elders

5 Rick Eizenga
12 Bill Ross
19
26

NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE: AUGUST 20

If you would like to put any information in the newsletter, contact Camil Dell, and get her the information by August 20.

