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Pastor Daniel Pool: 563-593-2502, cell

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Board Meetings

Board of Elders

The Bd. of Elders will meet on Mon., Sept. 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Trustees

The Bd. of Trustees will meet on Sun., Sept. 14 at 12:00 p.m.

(Note: This is a different day and time than usual)

Board of Stewardship

The Bd. of Stewardship will meet on Mon., Sept. 15 at 6:00 p.m.

Board of Education

The Bd. of Education will meet on Mon., Sept. 15 at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Evangelism

The Bd. of Evangelism will meet on Tues., Sept. 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Voters' Assembly

Our Voters' Assembly will meet on Monday, September 22 at

7:00 p.m. All are invited to the Voters' Assembly.

Please note that the church office will be closed on

Monday September 1 for Labor Day.

Our regular office hours are Mon. – Fri., 8:30 – 1:00.

Pastor is off on Thursdays.



Pastor Pool's Sunday Bible Study The Footsteps of Paul

Beginning September 14, our Sunday class will discuss the cities of

the second and third missionary journeys of Paul. This series is based on Pastor and Sallie's trip to Greece and Turkey. Pastor will share a few photos, but we will especially look at the Scriptures as we get to know these ancient cities and the Gospel work of the Apostles in these places. We meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Everyone is welcome. Bring your Bible. *See you there!*

September 7: The Lectionary Readings with Special Guest, Kurt Flathers

September 14: Athens

September 21: Ephesus

September 28: Patmos



Tuesday Bible Study with Pastor Dreams and Visions in the Bible

Our Tuesday Bible study continues our look at the dreams and visions of the Bible. We are now focusing on New Testament experiences. Our goal is to understand how and why God gave these revelations. We normally meet on the first and third Tuesdays, but because of Pastor's trip, we will meet the third and fifth Tuesdays. We hope that works for you! We have two class options at 9:30am or 7:00pm.

September 16: Joseph's Dreams

September 30: Pilate's Wife and Pentecost

Pastor On Vacation September 2 – September 13

Mark your calendar. Pastor and Sallie will be on vacation from Tuesday, September 2 – Saturday, September 13.



The Footsteps of Paul

Sallie and I will be gone Tuesday, September 2 through Saturday, September 13 to travel to Europe for a vacation based on the missionary journeys of Paul. This trip is coordinated with Pastor Hartwig and Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Iowa

City. We have never taken a trip like this before.

The tour will take us places we hear about in the Bible like Athens, Ephesus, Patmos, Corinth, Thessalonica, Philippi, and Berea. We will walk in places that Paul preached the Gospel and planted churches in Greece and Asia Minor (modern Turkey).

When we return, I plan to talk about the trip in my Sunday Bible class, beginning Sunday, September 14. I hope you will join me. My purpose is not to share a slideshow of our trip, although I will have a few pictures. I intend to talk about the spread of the Gospel in the ancient Mediterranean world. Getting to know a little geography, history, and ancient culture helps us to understand the Bible better. I think you will find it interesting.

In Greek, “siga, siga” (σιγά σιγά) is a common phrase used to encourage a more relaxed lifestyle and a mindful approach to life, disconnected from devices. And that is what we will be doing. We will be very hard to reach during this trip. We can’t receive text messages or calls. Pastor Wille and Pastor Redhage will be available to handle hospital visits. We also have a wonderful group of elders who would be glad to pray for you in a moment of crisis. Call the office if you have a need.

Our trip means a few changes to the church calendar. Keep an eye on the bulletin and newsletter. And I hope you will all be in church while I am away. Our elders work very hard to care for things in my absence. Please support them, support one another, and receive God’s gifts at church. I look forward to seeing you again Sunday, September 14!

God’s Peace,
Pastor

Sunday School

Weekly Sunday school classes will resume on **September 7**. Our Sunday School and Bible Classes meet on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. We can't wait to see you!



Sunday School Mission Project

The first Mission Project for this year's Sunday School offerings will go toward St. John's new Chapel. The Chapel is being built in classroom 2 in the Sunday school hallway. We will begin this Mission project on Sunday, September 7 and collect offerings through the end of October. Thanks for your help!

Parents With Young Kids Class

This class meets at 9:00 a.m. in room 6 (nursery) every Sunday and is designed for parents who have young children, preschoolers, or even kids on the way. Young adults without children are also invited to attend.

Kurt's Adult Bible Study – Room 1

Beginning on Sunday, September 7, Kurt's bible study will resume. On September 7 we will meet in the fellowship hall. Starting on September 14 we will meet in classroom 1. Class meets at 9:00 a.m. Each week we go over the three readings in the lectionary for that Sunday, Old Testament, Epistle, and Holy Gospel. We will learn and discuss the readings in depth and see how they work together. Our class is very informal and any questions may be asked. We have a fun time. Come and join us!

Confirmation Class



Confirmation Class

Youth Catechesis begins on Wednesday, September 17 at 7:00 p.m. For the first class, parents and students will meet in the fellowship hall. The cost for materials for the class is \$15 and can be paid at the first meeting. Checks should be made out to St. John. Class will meet each Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. September – April, except when the public school has vacation or closes school because of bad weather. Please talk to Pastor or call the office with any questions.

College Students

Parents of college students are asked to give a note to Camil Dell or to call the church office, 242-5588, with their student's address. Students will be added to our mailing list and will receive the monthly newsletter.

Mary Martha

Mary Martha Is having a Salad/ Sandwich/ Dessert Supper on Tuesday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m. Hostesses for the Supper are:

Salads: Camil Dell, Christine Frett

Sandwiches: Carol Hill, Marianne Wenzel

Desserts: Donna Dell, Karen Judd



Operation Christmas Child

In September we are collecting

Toiletries: Combs, Brushes, Toothbrushes, Hair Ties, Mirrors, Nail Clippers, etc. (Please NO toothpaste, Ivory bar soap or liquid items).

We have the empty boxes ready to go and encourage everyone to pick up a box, take it home, and fill it. Instructions are in the fellowship hall. Each box costs \$10 to ship. Please turn your shipping fee into the office with a note that it's for OCC. Checks should be made out to St. John. You may also make donations to OCC shipping by writing a note on your offering envelope. Thank you!



OCC Fishing Kits

Help is needed to assemble fishing kits for our OCC boxes. This is something that would be done at your home. All the supplies and directions would be provided. Men are especially encouraged to volunteer. Please contact Janice Wheelock if you are interested in getting started. Thanks!

National Back to Church Sunday - September 21

This holiday is all about reinvigorating the sense of belonging and purpose that comes from being part of a faith community. Please invite past members, friends, and relatives to attend church with you on September 21. Sometimes they're just waiting for someone to ask. See you in church!



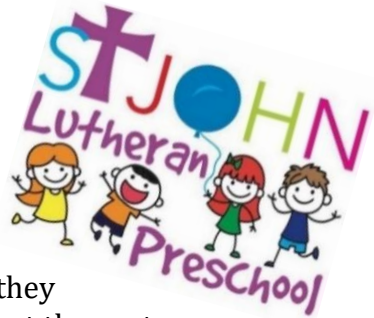
St. John Blood Drive: Friday, September 19

Come to give on September 19, 2025, and we'll say thank

you with a free PEANUTS t-shirt. **Go to redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment, or sign-up in the fellowship hall.** Walk-ins are also welcome. Please sign up soon. Thanks for helping to save lives!

Preschool News

St. John Preschool will open its doors on Tuesday, September 2 for the preschool's 54th year of operation. Please remember our staff, Cindy Sperry and Gina Andresen, and the children of St. John Preschool in your prayers as they begin another school year with Jesus at the center of all they do and learn. Thank you!



Raise Right Fundraiser

Our next RaiseRight order is due **September 7**. Please pick up an order form in the fellowship hall. Order forms, along with payment, may be placed in the blue box. Checks should be payable to St. John. Cards will be in your box on **September 14**. Thank you for supporting our Preschool!

A New Year of Family Night

We are starting a new year of Family Night on Wednesday, Sept. 3. This year, we are focusing on hearing a bunch of Bible stories and learning some Bible verses by heart. This experience is for young families with children up to the 5th grade. We share a meal, sing a hymn, teach the catechism, and enjoy some devotional time together. Please join us!

A Look Around – By William Ross

As you sit in church waiting for the service to start, What are you doing? Are you talking to the person next to you? Maybe you are looking the sermon over, or just looking around.

As you scan the church, what do you notice? Are you looking at the stained-glass windows? Do you know what the symbols on the windows mean? What about the wall behind the altar? There is a cross at the top reminding us of Jesus. But what about the two trees on either side? Do they represent the two criminals that hung beside Jesus that day? Have you noticed the ten large circles? Could they represent the Ten Commandments? I'm sure that we have all watched the acolytes and elders light the candles hundreds of times, but have you ever looked closely at the candelabras? Are you aware that the bases are engraved?

Our current church building was dedicated in February 1940. So, we are not only celebrating our 170th Anniversary this year, we are also celebrating the 85th year of our church building. In 1941 the candelabras were gifted to our church by members William and Margaret Roeh in memory of two of their children who had passed. Arthur Paul passed in 1921 and Victor passed in 1934. Margaret passed away in 1946 at the age of 75 and William passed in 1954 at the age of 84. They are all buried in Oakland cemetery in a family plot.

I cannot tell you what the candelabras would have cost in 1941, but I do know that the average weekly income was \$35 - \$40. So, not only was this a wonderful gift of love for their children, their Lord, and their Church, it was an amazing gift for that time. The candelabras have served our church for probably around 9,000 plus services. There have been thousands and thousands of candles used in the candelabras.

The next time you are waiting for the service to begin, take a look around the church and notice the things that make our building a wonderful place to worship and to hear God's Word. Maybe, from time to time, when you look at the candelabras, you will think about the Roeh family and say a little prayer of Thanksgiving to God for those saints who have gone before us.

God's Blessings, Bill



September Birthdays

Happy Birthday to:

Sharon Gillette, who will be 83
on September 8.

September Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to:

Rick & Mary Eizenga, 50th Wedding
Anniversary on September 6.

Larry & Sheryl Gray, 15th Wedding
Anniversary on September 11.

Tim & Sue Ingwersen, 40th Wedding Anniversary on Sept. 14.

Chad & Lezlie LeQue, 25th Wedding Anniversary on Sept. 16.

Brian & Angela Stewart, 30th Wedding Anniversary on Sept. 30.

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 SEPTEMBER

Early

Elders: Rick Eizenga
Kurt Flathers

Ushers: Bill Schemers
Daniel Schemers
Darrin Schemers

Late

Elders: Troy Bialas
Dave Becker

Ushers: Bryce Petersen
Randy Housenga
Ryan Dell
Kevin Dell

Recording

7 Darlene Paysen
14 Darlene Paysen
21 Darlene Paysen
28 Darlene Paysen

Acolyte Schedule

7 Early Elder
7 Late Elder
14 Early Elder
14 Late Elder
21 Early Elder
21 Late Elder
28 Early Elder
28 Late Lainey Schroeder

**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE: SEPT. 20**

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

