

**"Welcome Visitors & Members!"**

*We hope you enjoy our worship service. Members and Visitors, please sign the Friendship Registers in the pews either before the service begins or during the offering. Visitors, please record your mailing address, so we may acknowledge your visit. If you do not have a church home and would like more information about St. John's, please talk with the pastor or any of our members. Information about our school may be obtained from the principal.*

*To assist you in worship, please be aware that both personal listening devices & large print hymns are available for anyone to use. Please talk to the ushers.*

*If you have young children and you need to take them someplace private, we have a parents' room down the hallway off the North side of the entryway. If this room is full, you are welcome to take your child down to the church basement.*

**WORSHIP PREPARATION:** *O Lord, your Word is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. Guide our footsteps by your Word so that we may remain steadfast in faith, may love you with all our hearts and our neighbor as ourselves; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.*

**WORSHIP FOCUS:** *The life of faith is one of true humility. But it is humility rendered by faith in the promise of God that those who exalt themselves on earth will be humiliated for eternity, but those who humble themselves now will be exalted.*

**Order of Worship**

**WORSHIP ORDER:** pg. 26

**HYMNS:** 478; 525; 419; 563:1-3

**PSALM OF THE DAY:** none today

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** back cover

***Sermon Text: Hebrews 13:1-8***

***Sermon Theme: LABOR THAT REALLY MATTERS***

***is labor that shows we're under God's control;***

***is labor that relies on Jesus Christ.***

**OFFERING:** The offering is an opportunity for the members of St. John's to worship God with His wealth, responding with joy to what we believe. Visitors, you are our guests today. Please don't feel obligated to take part in our offering. It's important first that you examine what we stand for before we ask you to support our ministry here.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER:** Among other things, the Bible teaches that we demonstrate our unity in faith as we attend the Lord's Supper. It also warns that those who attend improperly are guilty of sinning against our Savior's body and blood. In Christian love we therefore practice "close communion" which invites all members of WELS and ELS to join us. We encourage others to commune at a church of their chosen affiliation. Please note that page 156 in Christian Worship has Personal Preparation for Holy Communion.

*Serving The Lord With Gladness!...*

**ORGANIST**

**Today:** Judy Trunkel

**Next Sunday:** Donna Sternitzky

**GREETERS:**

**Today**

Lamar & Thelma Schmitz

**Next Sunday**

Wilbert & Dorothy Henchen

**SEPTEMBER VISITATION:**

Eileen Bell, Vivian Bohnsack & Jeanette Watenpuhl

**DONATING BULLETINS TODAY:**

Ruby Meihack

**VIDEO TAPING:**

Bob Cords

**ALTAR COMMITTEE**

**Today**

Florence Spiegel, Peg urban & Alice Tews

**Next Sunday**

Jeanne Aumann & Ann Aumann

**USHERS**

**Today**

Team 1-Joel Zschernitz's team

**Next Sunday**

Team 2-Verlyn Shaw's team

**ATTENDANCE**

**8/29: 217; 8/30: 23**

**OFFERINGS**

**8/29:** Home-4641.35; Missions-381.00; Debt Red-460.00; Free-Will Debt Red-531.21; Undesignated Memorial Fund-800.00; Calvary Academy-152.00

**Total-\$6965.56**

*OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S BUSINESS THIS WEEK—*

<i>Today</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
† Communion Service 9:00	† Labor Day-No School  † Communion Service 7:00	† School Resumes	† Chapel Service 8:15  Confirmation Class 3:45  † FSJ 7:00
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Next Sunday</i>
† Sunday School Teachers' Mtg 6:30  † LIGHTS 7:00	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <i>Church/School Campout, Hatfield</i> </div>	† J-14s meeting & mini-golf at campout, 2:00	† Communion Service 9:00

## CHURCH NOTES

**Monday Worship:** When we first began our Monday services, we had announced that we would not hold a service on holidays such as Memorial Day or Labor Day. After listening to some comments from several members, we have re-evaluated that decision. We have decided that we will have a worship service on Labor Day at the normal time of 7:00. We hope that this will benefit those who cannot attend church today because of weekend holiday plans. Again, **we will have a worship service tomorrow.**

**Special Collection:** \$157.00 was donated in the free-will offering for Calvary Academy. Thanks to all who participated!

**Church Campout:** Our annual church/school campout will be held at the West Arbutus Jackson County Park near the Hatfield roller rink this coming Friday-Sunday, September 10-12. Please join us for the whole weekend or part of the weekend.

We will be having a potluck supper at 5:00 Saturday evening under the pavilion. We will be enjoying leftover BBQ and plain pork for sandwiches from the school picnic, and ask that attendees please bring a dish to pass. We will hold an outdoor worship service at 6:00 Saturday evening, also under the pavilion, and are happy to announce that the band "Sojourner" will again be joining us and providing the music for our service as well as for a sing-a-long after the service.

You are all invited to join us for the potluck and the worship service, even if you are not interested in camping.

**Campers, please note:** You will need to register at the camp office when you come in. Please indicate on the registration slip that you are with the "St. John's" group, and mark "prepaid." Money will be collected later. Firewood will again be provided.

All are invited to join us for a fun, relaxing weekend at the campground.

**J-14s:** We will be having a mini-golf activity and talking about the upcoming year's events for all interested 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders at the church/school campout in Hatfield September 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. We will be meeting at Ed and Lynn Crothers' campsite. Even if you're not camping, please feel free to give your input on the upcoming year's activities and join us for a fun afternoon.

If anyone has a golf putter(s) the J-14s could have or borrow for this weekend, please let Linda Biebert know. Thanks!

We are going to try something new this year: meeting on Wednesdays at 5:45 for Bible study instead of Sunday evenings. Our first Bible study will be on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. If you have any comments or thoughts on this change, please contact Linda Biebert or Lynn Crothers.

**School News:** Adult volunteers are needed to help out in the Kindergarten-grade 1 classroom. If you would enjoy spending some time with the young children at our school, please talk to Mrs. Heiman, or you may call the school office (715-743-2501). Thanks!

**FSJ:** Parents, please note that the first meeting of the Friends of St. John's will be held this Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00. While meant primarily for parents with children attending our school, any "friends" of our school are welcome to attend these meetings.

Our first volleyball and flag football games of the season will be played here at home this Thursday again St. Mark of Eau Claire. B-team volleyball and flag football begin at 4:00, with A-team volleyball beginning at 5:00. Come and cheer for the Hornets!

**LIGHTS:** Our LIGHTS group will hold its first meeting of the new school year this Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00. (Remember ladies, the meetings were moved from Monday to Thursday so as not to conflict with our Monday worship service.)

The LIGHTS Group meets once a month during the school year. The group is primarily an inreach group, serving our own members. Some examples of group projects include: calling members on their birthdays and anniversaries, serving during Lent, sending out care packages to college students, providing materials for families who just had a child baptized, providing greeting cards, and more.

There is always room for new members. Ladies, give our LIGHTS group a try!

**Choir:** Choir rehearsals will begin on Tuesday, September 14, at 7:00 in the church balcony. Adult Choir is open to all members of St. John's who love to praise God by singing. Choir regularly meets every Tuesday during the school year at 7:00 in church, with a few exceptions. The Choir sings in church peri-

odically throughout the year. The Choir presents a special Christmas concert on one of the Sundays in December. Do you love to sing? Please join us!

**Pioneers:** Our girl and boy Pioneer groups will be holding their first meeting of the school year on Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30. Pioneers is open to all students in grades 1-8.

**OWLS:** St. John's OWLS group (Organization of WELS Lutheran Seniors) is meant for any seniors age 55 and older and their spouses. The group gets together once a month for a pot-luck dinner. They support our church and school by helping out in various ways. The group is led by Bob and Bernice Cords. The first get-together of the new school year will be held on Thursday, September 16, at 6:00. Please join us!

**Sunday School:** Sunday School for children in preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade will begin again on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 10:15. Parents, this is a wonderful opportunity for your child to hear more about their Savior, something we can never hear too much or too often! Help your child's faith to grow and mature by bringing them to Sunday School.

**Adult Instruction Class:** A new year of adult instruction class will begin next month. Not only is this class meant for those interested in membership or learning more about what our church teaches, but also for those members who would like to take a refresher course. Members who have gone through the class have indicated that taking this refresher helps them to

*understand what we believe more clearly and gives them zeal to become more fully committed our church's work.*

*If you know of someone who is looking for a church, invite them to come to adult instruction class and offer to attend with them. It could be a good way to overcome their uneasiness at attending while giving you the bonus of a refresher. Please talk to Pastor if you have questions or would like him to contact a friend or family member.*

*In order to help us begin planning for class, a sign-up sheet has been placed in the entryway. If you are interested in coming to class, please sign up. In the past we have held class on Tuesday evenings at 5:30. If this works for you, please indicate that on the sheet Pastor is happy to hold class at different days or times for those who cannot make it on Tuesday evening. If this is your situation, please indicate a better day and time for you on the sheet. Thanks!*

**Ladies' Bible Class:** *Our Ladies Bible Class will resume on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30. We will be trying something different this year. Ladies, you are all welcome.*

**Hospitalized:** **Doug Braun** *was hospitalized this past week in Neillsville. Let's keep him in our prayers.*

**Special Gifts:** *\$300.00 was given to debt reduction by Gary & Marlene Kuechenmeister for their 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary today.*

*\$800.00 was given to the undesignated memorial fund and \$200.00 to the general fund by family and friends in memory of Jean Marg.*

*Offerings to our free-will debt reduction on August 29 totaled \$132.00. Total for August was \$531.21. The real estate loan continues to go down, thanks in part to these free-will donations!*

*Thank you to all!*

**Coats for Kids:** *Some of you may remember that we participated in the "Coats for Kids" program last year. We will be doing that again this year. This is a community sponsored project to collect coats or other winter clothing and distribute the items to those in need in our area. If you have any coats or winter clothing (hats, gloves, snow pants, etc.) that you no longer use and would like to donate, please bring them to church and put the items in the box in the entryway. All items should be new or in good condition/clean; coats of all sizes from infant to adult are needed. The coats and winter outerwear will be distributed on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, at the Neillsville American Legion. Thanks for your participation.*

**Thrivent Choice Program:** *Those of you who have Thrivent insurance have probably heard about the new "Thrivent Choice" program. Thrivent members have a certain amount of "Choice Dollars," and this program allows you to designate the organization that you would like to receive those dollars. Your participation in this program is now the only way that our church and school will receive any funding from Thrivent.*

*You can direct your choice dollars either by visiting the website or by phone. You should have received instructions in a letter that was sent out. However, if some of you find these instructions*

confusing or if you are not comfortable going on the Internet and would like some assistance, please feel free to call the church office (715-743-2944) and we will be happy to assist you.

**Special Thanks:** We would like to take this opportunity to thank those men who lead our Sunday Bible Classes this past summer. Bible Class leaders were:

**Mel Nemitz, Sam Biebert, John Hagedorn, Pastor Edwin Biebert, Jacob Biebert, Jerry Schwanz, Ken Krause, Dave Anding, Drew Lambrecht, Henry Berry, Tom Maciejczak**

We thank these men for their willingness to serve in this way.

## **Council Highlights:**

### **Pastor's Report:**

**Sunday Bible Class:** Sunday class will resume on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:15. On that Sunday we will begin a special 4-week emphasis on stewardship under the theme, "Christ's Love Our Calling." Our worship services as well as our Bible Classes will be focused on this theme. Class will be held here in the church proper to make it easier for more people to attend.

Following this stewardship emphasis and our fall mission fest Sunday, we will begin an extensive look at the book of Hebrews. Please make plans to join us!

**Wednesday Bible Class:** We would like to resume our Wednesday class on September 15<sup>th</sup>, and would like to study a series of 3-4 week topics. We feel this would represent a shorter commitment time that may encourage people to attend. We are looking for ideas for class, whether on some aspect of the world

around us or something involving the life of our congregation. If you have any ideas for Wednesday Bible Class, please either talk to Pastor or to our adult discipleship elder, Drew Lambrecht.

We have also placed a sheet in the entryway that you may make use of to write down your ideas for Wednesday Bible study. Thanks for your help!

**Worship Elder:** We will be having a special Northland Sunday on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Watch for further details.

**Adult Discipleship:** We will be doing more follow-up on the work of our shepherding committee.

**Youth & Family:** A detailed report on this past summer's day camp was given, along with a list of prospects.

**Fellowship:** We thank all who attended the church/school picnic last Sunday. Thanks to all who helped set up, brought food, and helped in the kitchen. Special thanks goes to Mrs. Maciejczak for organizing and running games for the children. \$322.88 was given in free-will offerings; thanks to all who donated. Our only expense is about \$15.00 for the buns. The rest of the money was given to the school. A very special thank you also goes to **Keith and Betty Durham**, who donated and cooked the pork. The sandwiches were delicious. Thanks, Keith & Betty!

**School Board:** We have 48 students enrolled in grades K-8 and 7 in preschool (down from an expected 10).

**Outreach/Evangelism:** It was reported that at least one person, possibly more, came to our day camp because of the flyers handed out at the Heritage Days parade.

**Ministry Support:** The parsonage basement bathroom project has been completed. We are waiting for resources before beginning the remodeling on the upstairs bathroom.

**Volunteers Needed:** We are planning to put the new rubber roof on the carport September 17-18. Volunteers are needed!! Please talk to Grant Harder or Bob Bell if you would like to help. Thanks!

**Other Business:** We will be holding an open forum on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, beginning right after church. The main topic of discussion will be the school heating system, and we will also be introducing the council's plan, mentioned at the voters' meeting, to further help with debt relief.

**Treasurer's Report:** Good News first: Income in August totaled \$37,378.58. Expenses for the month totaled \$36,293.35. Checkbook balance on August 31<sup>st</sup> was \$2,832.37. Our current bank indebtedness on August 31<sup>st</sup> has gone down to \$127,944.60.

**Memorial Fund note:** We currently owe \$8,005.50 to the memorial fund. All

donations given to the memorial fund over the summer months are actually in the memorial fund. We have not borrowed any more money from the fund this past summer. Most of the \$8,000 we still owe ourselves is from several years ago. Current balance of the Memorial Fund is \$3,284.85.

**Note of Caution:** The end of September happens to be the end of another quarter, when extra bills, especially the pension payment and insurance payment, are due. The first two Sundays in September sometimes make it easier to lose track of good Christian stewardship, as we have Labor Day weekend and then the church campout the following weekend. September of last year was when we ran behind. We had to borrow \$6,200 from our revolving line of credit in October of 2009.

In light of our tenuous financial situation but even more so because of what our Savior has done for us, please accept this reminder to continue practicing thankful Christian giving, so that we may end the quarter on a more positive note. Thanks!