



# The Buzz

September 1, 2022

## Living for Jesus Means Putting God First

*"Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness."*

-Matthew 6:33

Could you do it? Could you make it through an entire week without watching television? Could you make it through a week without playing computer games? How about a whole week without using any technological devices, not even a phone? Unfortunately, for many people that would be impossible. We have become a country that is so addicted to these devices that it is nearly impossible to ignore the control they have over us. Research shows that there are some startling problems arising as a result of this addiction. Many young people today admit to their obsessions with cell phones, computers, televisions, and other gadgets.

Let's switch gears. Could you do it? Could you give up prayer for a week? Could you last a week without thinking about Jesus? What about a week without reading your Bible? Do these sound a bit easier to do without than the TV and computer and cell phones? Maybe you can even remember a week when you actually didn't pray to Jesus, and that was much easier than trying to make it a few days without TV. How sad! If this is the case, our priorities are upside down. Is it that much easier to do without the Lord than to give up our toys and treasures?

The story of Mary and Martha is a familiar story. These two sisters both loved their Savior dearly, and both wished to give the Lord their full attention. Yet their actions presented a very teachable moment for the Savior. The Bible says that Martha was concerned about *"all the preparations that had to be made"* (Luke 10:40). She was busy trying to be a superb hostess for Jesus. That was certainly an honorable thing for her to do. Her sister Mary however, *"sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said"* (10:39). This bothered Martha so much that she came to Jesus and asked if he would step in and get her sister to help with the dinner. But Jesus gently scolded Martha, teaching her a lesson about what is really important in our life. Mary had made the right decision because she spent her time with the one thing that was needed, the spiritual food she was getting from hearing Jesus teach.

The priorities that Martha was following are worldly priorities that don't last, like television shows and computer games. Our hobbies, sports, material things, friendships, and pastimes are not wrong in themselves, yet they all come in second place when comparing them to our time with Jesus. Sometimes we must sit back and ask ourselves why we are here. The truth is that we are here because of God and for God. That means that everything we say and do is connected to our relationship with Jesus. To put God first in our lives, we must put him first in our hearts. That's what living for Jesus is all about.

The Christian has three priorities in life. We might call them the three Ws. The first priority is to *worship* God. That includes attending church, praying to God, and reading his Word. Psalm 104 says, *"I will sing praise to my God as long as I live"* (Psalm 104:33). Second we are to *walk* with God. We should live lives that allow God to direct every step. First John 2 says, *"Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did"* (1 John 2:6). The third "w" is to *work* for God. Being an ambassador for the Lord will always be a goal. Paul once wrote, *"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us"* (2 Corinthians 5:20). Proper worship, walk, and work will set our priorities where they need to be. Yes, living for Jesus means putting God first in our lives.

In Christ,  
Mike Allard, Principal @ St. John's

## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, Sep 1

VB Practice 3:30-5:00

### Friday, Sep 2

No School

### Sunday, Sep 4

Worship 9:00 am

### Monday, Sep 5

Labor Day

No School

ELC CLOSED

### Tuesday, Sep 6

3K/4K First Day of School

VB Games at Home vs. St. Mark 4:00 & 5:00

### Wednesday, Sep 7

Chapel 8:20 am

FB Practice 3:30-5:00

### Thursday, Sep 8

VB Practice 3:30-5:00

### Friday, Sep 9

No School

### Thurs-Sun, Sep 8-11

Church/School Campout @ West Arbutus

### Saturday, Sep 10

Bags Tournament  
1:00 pm

Pot-Luck Supper 5:00 pm

Worship 6:00 pm

### Sunday, Sep 11

Worship 9:00 am

### Monday, Sep 12

FB Practice 3:30-5:00

### Tuesday, Sep 13

VB Practice 3:30-5:00

### Wednesday, Sep 14

Chapel 8:20 am

FB Practice 3:30-5:00

FSJ Supper & Meeting  
6:00 pm

**School Schedule:** There is **NO SCHOOL** Friday, September 2, Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, or Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

**ELC Closed:** The ELC will be closed on Monday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, for the Labor Day holiday.

**Volleyball Games:** Our first volleyball games will take place next Tuesday, September 6, here at home vs. St. Mark of Eau Claire.

The **B Team** will play at **4:00**, and the **A Team** will play at **5:00**.

***Come and cheer for the Hornets!***

**Campout:** Our annual school campout will be held September 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> (Thursday-Sunday) at the West Arbutus Jackson County Park. **All school parents and children are invited.**

There will be a potluck supper Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. and a worship service Saturday evening at 6:00 p.m. You are invited to come for the potluck and worship service even if you are not camping.

The campground does not take reservations after Labor Day, but there should be plenty of room for all. You can pick your site when you come out.

We hope many of you can join us!

**Bean Bag Tournament:** We are excited to have our second bean bag tournament this year at the campground. The tournament will start with the youth singles at 1:00 on Saturday (9/10). We will have a youth singles tournament, an adult singles tournament, and an adult doubles tournament. There will be no entry fee; we just want as many people to come and play as possible. Prizes for first place winners are being donated by the kind people at Ratsch Engineering.

**Flag Football Practice: Wednesday, 9/7: 3:30-5:00**

**Volleyball Practice:**

**Thursday, 9/1: 3:30-5:00**

**Thursday, 9/8: 3:30-5:00**

**Chapel:** Each Wednesday at our children's chapel service the students have a chance to give a mission offering. This year our mission offerings will go to the WELS Mission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, which offers resources to help share the gospel of Jesus Christ with those who are deaf or have any degree of hearing loss.

***Parents, you are always invited to attend chapel services with us. They are held in church every Wednesday morning at 8:20.***

**Breakfast/Lunch Info:** Breakfast costs \$2.00/day and lunch costs \$3.00/day. Milk at snack time (Gr. K-1) or milk with a cold lunch costs 30 cents.

We would strongly encourage parents to fill out the free/reduced lunch applications that were included in your orientation folders if you think your income and family size may allow you to qualify. Not only does this help our families who are eligible, it also benefits our hot lunch program. Please turn in applications to the school office as soon as possible. Reduced breakfast price is \$0.30/day, and reduced lunch price is \$0.40/day.

We ask that parents please pay money for breakfasts and lunches ahead of time. We will put that into your meal account, keep track of your child's meals, and let you know when your account is running low. **IF YOU HAVE NOT TURNED IN LUNCH MONEY YET, PLEASE DO SO ASAP.**

**Amazon Wish Lists:** Our teachers have come up with "wish lists" of items they could use for their classrooms from Amazon. These lists will continually be updated throughout the school year. If anyone is interested in checking these out or would like to help out with needed donations, please click on the links below.

Grades 6-8: <https://a.co/feSfEIO>

Grades 4-5: <https://a.co/8GnKaZr>

Grades 2-3: <https://a.co/h0Ybri3>

Grades K-1: <https://a.co/6PmhZSp>

School Office: <https://a.co/9jLZa5t>

Infant Room: <https://a.co/csapH64>

Toddler Room: <https://a.co/5rNMOGO>

3K Room: <https://a.co/93pM1v2>

4K Room: <https://a.co/hTahVtI>

**Friends of St. John's:** This is our parent-teacher group. This group is for all parents and friends of St. John's-not only those who are members at our church. There will be three scheduled meetings throughout the school year.

The first Friends of St. John's meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, in the school gym starting at 6:00. We will begin with a light supper, then have a short devotion and our business meeting. All of you are invited to attend.

This first FSJ meeting will involve a presentation and discussion about a campaign called "**Wait Until 8<sup>th</sup>**" which encourages parents to hold off on giving their child a smart cell phone until they are in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. As our world becomes even more digital and the harmful information and images that our children could be exposed to on a smart cell phone are easily accessible, we are looking forward to some thought-provoking discussions. If you would like to check this campaign out beforehand, please visit [www.waituntil8th.org](http://www.waituntil8th.org).

We thank the parents who have signed up to provide supper before the FSJ meeting. They are: *Joseph & Becca Biebert, Craig & Rachel Anderson, and Jenny Shadrick*. Thanks for your willingness to help out!

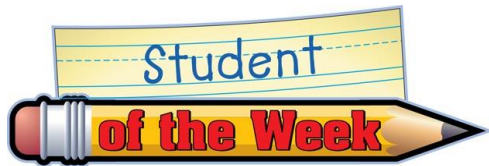
**Fall Dinner:** One of the items of discussion at the Friends of St. John's meeting will be our upcoming Fall Dinner (Oct 16). Those parents who signed up to help with that are listed below. More volunteers are needed and welcomed!!

*Fall Dinner Committee:*

*Joseph & Becca Biebert, Ed & Jenn Schmid, Shawn & Jenny Shadrick, Rene Defourneaux & Skye Goode, Kristine Boon, Josh & Amanda Dux, Ian & Courtney Pierce*

**Survey:** Our annual parent survey is available for you to fill out online. Please take a few moments to fill out the survey, if you haven't already done so. We appreciate your cooperation! Once the survey is closed, we will be drawing a name to receive a \$25 Kwik Trip card.

The link to the survey is: [22-23 Parent Survey](#)



### **Natalie Boon**

The student of the week is Natalie Boon. Natalie is in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. She has started out the year with a great attitude, has been looking out for her fellow classmates and helping them get used to classroom routines, and has gotten a great start on homework projects.



***Congratulations Natalie!***

## **You Are Invited!**



**What:** Informational meeting about our rejuvenated youth program

### **Lutheran Pioneers!**

**Who:** Boys and Girls in 5k-8th Grade!

**Where:** St. John's School Gym

**When:** **Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2022**

**@6:00pm**

(Meetings every 3rd Wednesday of each Month Sept.-May!)

**Why:** Our sincere hope is that all children get the chance to learn life skills in a fun and supportive environment through a Christ centered lens!

**Some life skills:** Knot Tying, First Aid, Navigation, Cooking, Sewing, Carving, Fishing, and much more!

**Activities:** Camping, Canoeing, Fishing, Biking, Hiking, Craft Making

Pioneer Leaders: Brian Thell and Jenny Shadrick

**Rec Dept Football:** The Neillsville Recreation Department is once again offering a youth flag football league on Saturday mornings for boys in grades 1-6 and girls in grades 1-7. Pre-registration must be completed by Tuesday, Sep 6. Forms are available from the school office.