



Saint John Lutheran Church
Bellevue, Iowa
*A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

*Growing and responding
Every Day as disciples of Jesus*

September 2024

WEEKLY WORSHIP

**Saturday - 5:00 pm
Sunday - 10:00 am**

~ ARK ~

Education with
Children
(Kindergarten
Through 5th grade)
Friday 3:20—5:00 pm
Starting date to be
determined

~ CONFIRMATION ~

6th - 8th Grade
**Wednesday
6:00-8:00 pm**
Starting date to be
determined

**~ CHURCH PHONE ~
563-872-5849**

~ EMAIL ADDRESSES ~

Office
saintjohn.bellevue@gmail.com
Pastor
sjpastor.pp@gmail.com

**~ WEBSITE ~
SAINTJOHNLUTHERAN.NET**



**~ OUR FACEBOOK ~
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
SAINTJOHNBELLEVUE**

Coming Events

You Should Know About!

**Confirmation Gathering
For 6th - 8th Grade
Beginning Wednesday
September 4 at 6:00**

**ARK
Need Volunteers**

**ARK Begins
Friday, September 13**

Pictures within this newsletter can
be viewed in color by going to our
website
saintjohnlutheran.net



“All for One and One for All”

This was the motto of the Three Musketeers who were the main characters in Alexandre Dumas' 1844 novel. I have wonder if Dumas might have been influenced from the apostle Paul's writings to the people of Corinth. Paul wrote, "For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12) He was trying to remind the people that all people were needed, and everyone's gifts were needed and important. He also mentions that "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it." (1 Corinthians 12:25)

Whether it is the motto of the Three Musketeers or the words of Paul, I believe that we ALL need to remember that we all are one—one body in Christ. All are needed! Without one, the body is not complete and can't function as God intended.

I know how true this is as a coach of the middle school football team. As coaches we constantly remind the players that everyone is needed—starters and reserves. We can't improve if we don't have the reserves pushing the starters. We can't be a championship team if players decide to take a practice off and even a play. One player—yes one player missing will influence the whole team.

We live in a time when many people seem to put their personal needs above the needs of the "team" - the one body of Christ. I have to believe that many might say "what difference does it make if I don't show up." The truth is that the absence or lack sharing your gifts causes the body to suffer.

Imagine if everyone would have the motto "All for One and One for All" showing their love, compassion, and concern for all. I believe this world would be a better place.

Imagine if every member of Saint John would see themselves as truly one who cares about all members and seeks to show this community what it means to be the body of Christ who worships and serves together.



| | | | |
|--------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| Bentley Budde-Heiar..... | 9/1 | Bently Ernst..... | 9/15 |
| Cherie Heister..... | 9/3 | Ben Gieseemann..... | 9/15 |
| Landon Merrick..... | 9/3 | Aviana Herrig..... | 9/15 |
| Dustin Ploeger..... | 9/3 | Ashlee Jess..... | 9/16 |
| Izabella Claussen..... | 9/4 | Koleson Merrick..... | 9/17 |
| Miranda Felderman..... | 9/4 | Toby Gieseemann..... | 9/18 |
| Kelly Griebel..... | 9/4 | Chris Ernst..... | 9/19 |
| Henrick Herrig..... | 9/5 | Lacey Ruden..... | 9/20 |
| Bella Penniston..... | 9/5 | Tim Gieseemann..... | 9/20 |
| Jhett Johnson..... | 9/6 | Chris Roling..... | 9/21 |
| Dennis Felderman..... | 9/7 | Adrian Humphrey..... | 9/22 |
| Ronald Schroeder..... | 9/7 | Noah Schlie..... | 9/22 |
| Todd Gieseemann..... | 9/8 | Brian Kellogg..... | 9/23 |
| Alex Sieverding..... | 9/9 | Izzy Mootz..... | 9/24 |
| Anthony Both..... | 9/11 | Alex Putman..... | 9/24 |
| Nathan Both..... | 9/11 | Ryan Putman..... | 9/25 |
| Nicole Both..... | 9/12 | Dave Dagitz..... | 9/26 |
| Britany Deppe..... | 9/12 | Eric Ruggeberg..... | 9/26 |
| Jordyn Mohr..... | 9/12 | Bryce Bonifas..... | 9/27 |
| MaKenna Putman..... | 9/12 | Chase Medinger..... | 9/27 |
| Brennan Ries..... | 9/12 | Evelyn Schlecht..... | 9/27 |
| Breanna Cooper..... | 9/13 | Kylie Ernst..... | 9/29 |
| Ashley Schlecht..... | 9/13 | Doug Griebel..... | 9/29 |
| Joseph Ernst..... | 9/14 | Erin Mohr..... | 9/29 |
| Alyxandria Gleason..... | 9/14 | Penelope Ploeger..... | 9/29 |

Members Celebrating Their 80+ Birthdays!

Freddie Thielen
September 6

Donna Felderman
September 13

Willard Felderman
September 17

PASTORAL ACTS & RITE OF PASSAGE



Married - August 8, 2024
Demi Prichard and Cody Husemann

Funeral—August 28, 2024
Verrena Dagitz-Stein



Memorials & Gifts Received In Memory of

Shirley Hachmann
Youth Bible Fund



OUR GIFTS TO WORLD HUNGER MAKE A DIFFERENCE ...

Every Dollar or Quarter Changes and Saves a Life

Several quarters weekly ... one or more dollars monthly will make the difference in the life of a hungry person.

For years, we have been collecting quarters in our Quarter Tube for World Hunger that is located in the back of the church. When we first began, we emptied this tube every other month. Now, we will be lucky if the hunger tube is filled 3 - 4 times in a year.

Would you consider bringing 1 or 2 quarters a week to worship. If everyone would do that we could get back on track with filling the hunger tube every other month or sooner.

If you want to give additional gift, place your gift in a pew envelope and mark it "World Hunger."



YES, WE CAN HELP make a difference



CONFIRMATION NEWS

*Living in Faith ... Walking our Talk ...
Doing God's Work*

6th-8th Grade Confirmation Begins Wednesday, September 4 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

This fall, we will welcome a new group of sixth graders in our confirmation ministry. Confirmation (6th - 8th) will be gathering on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 8:00. Confirmation is open to all middle school youth.

During the three years of Confirmation, the youth will explore what it means to live as a faithful Christian who strives to make good choices in our every day life. Each year, we explore a part of Luther's small Catechism along with the bible. This year, we will be looking into bible to see how the 10 Commandments came about and how the commandments shape our faith and the way we live our life.



9TH GRADE CONFIRMATION YOUTH

*Preparing for the
Rite of Confirmation Meeting*

Sunday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m.

There will be a meeting on Sunday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m. for the 9th grade youth who have completed Confirmation and desire to be confirmed on October 27, 2024.



HELP SUPPORT OUR CONFIRMATION MINISTRY

We want to thank all who have supported our confirmation ministry by giving a donation toward providing the pizza and beverage.

For the past years, we have been able to offer this meal - two slices of pizza and a can of pop for \$1.00 - due to the help of the generous donations from individuals in the church.

If you would like to give a gift to help with the cost of our confirmation meal, place your donation in an envelope marked "Confirmation Meal."

THE GIFT OF GOD'S WORD



Sunday, September 8 Presentation of "Lutheran Student Study Bible" To 6th Grade Confirmation Students

On Sunday, September 8 at the 10:00 service, we will be presenting our 6th grade confirmation students with a study bible.

In the past, our church presented a bible to our third graders. When we decided to give the "Spark Story Bible" to the Kindergarten youth, we made a change from presenting a bible to third graders to presenting a student bible to those students entering confirmation.

This Lutheran Student Bible includes many helpful aids, along with Luther's Small Catechism in it. We believe that this bible will be helpful during confirmation and beyond.



Confirmation News

- continued -

ACTOLYTE SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

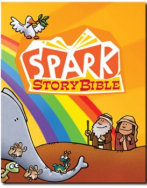
| Saturday | | Sunday | | |
|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| 31-Aug | Ali Dierks | 1-Sep | Cash Kirk | Marcus Small |
| 7-Sep | Jax Eichorn | 8-Sep | Jackson Van Gorp | Tobias Humphrey |
| 14-Sep | Aubrey Michel | 15-Sep | Bendan Booker | Fischer Johnson |
| 21-Sep | Katie Sauser | 22-Sep | Casey Rowan | Bently Ernst |
| 28-Sep | Zoey Bies | 29-Sep | Cambree Jess | Addi Kutsch |
| 5-Oct | Eli Portz | 6-Oct | Coy LaCoursiere | Aleyha Mootz |
| 12-Oct | Carter Ruggeberg | 13-Oct | Charlee Scheckel | Coy Schroeder |
| 19-Oct | Leonard Wies | 20-Oct | Tempy Anderson | Carson Casel |
| 26-Oct | Davis Braet | 27-Oct | Trace Bonifas | Claire Dempewolf |

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE/SERMON

REMINDER TO ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS AND PARENTS



Each confirmation student is expected achieve at least 2 points per month by attending worship at least twice a month (all year round) or submitting at least 3 on-line sermon notes each month or any combination of both.



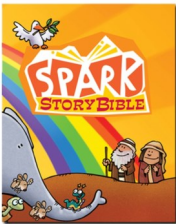
Kindergarten Youth Receiving a Spark Story Bible

SUNDAY, **SEPTEMBER 15**

Once again, we will be presenting the “Spark Story Bible” to our baptized children who will be entering Kindergarten this school year. The presentation of the “Spark Story Bible” will **be on Sunday, September 15 at 10:00 worship service**

The “Spark Story Bible” has 150 of the most popular bible stories. We believed that it is important for our children to start hearing and reading the stories that are in the bible at a young age. We also believe that these stories need to be heard in the home as well as at church during ARK - our elementary Christian educational ministry.

It is our hope that the parents will take time to read a story each day to their child. As the child learns to read, then they can read these stories over and over.



The funding for these story book bibles and confirmation student bibles comes from our Bible Fund. If you would like to make a donation to the Bible Fund, place your gift in an envelope and mark it “Bible Fund.”



ARK BEGINS
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

SIGN UP NOW!
PASS THE WORD ON TO YOUR FRIENDS

If we have the necessary staff to have ARK, we will begin on Friday, September 13 after school. ARK is for all Kindergarten through 5th grade youth. ARK begins at 3:15 and ends at 5:00 on Friday when there is school (September - April)

ARK begins with a snack and then we gather for singing and learning about various bible stories. Youth will be in their age groups guided by a group leader.

TO SIGN UP YOUR CHILD: go to our website: saintjohnlutheran.net and then go to forms and click on [view form](#) below **ARK Student Registration**.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are still in need of more volunteers so that our group size would be 6-8 students and have subs.

If you would like to be involved with this exciting educational ministry with elementary children (K-5th), go to our website: saintjohnlutheran.net and go to forms and click on [view form](#) below **ARK Volunteer Sign Up**.



**THANK YOU
TO OUR VOLUNTEERS
WHO MOWED OUR
CHURCH GRASS**

We want to thank the following volunteers who have mowed the church grass this summer:

**Dean Kilbug
Terry Dempewolf
Jason Gilmore
Garry & Laura Arensdorf
Todd Gieseemann**


**Payton Griebel
Mark Guenther
Allan Keil
Pastor Paul**



We also want to thank the following who did volunteer work of maintaining our grounds at the Retreat Center.

**JASON GILMORE
MARK & BETH ROGGE
PASTOR PAUL**

CHURCH COUNCIL



The church council had no pressing business, and did not meet in July and August



LOCAL / GLOBAL OUTREACH EVENTS

COIN DROP/Donation to support “Clothes for Kid”

The Local/Global Outreach Committee will be having a coin drop/donation beginning in September. The proceeds will go to "Clothing for Kids" in Bellevue. There will be a container at the back of church for this outreaching mission.



Bellevue Bread Basket

Served 34 families
(76 people)
in August



ELIZABETH CIRCLE: Tuesday, September 17 at 1:30 pm

REBECCA CIRCLE: Tuesday, September 24 at 3:30 pm

Weekly Worship Attendance & Offerings

| Weekend of | Sat. | Sun. | Total | General Fund Offerings |
|------------|------|------|-------|------------------------|
| July 28 | 24 | 44 | 68 | \$3,661.18 |
| August 4 | 23 | 48 | 71 | \$3,386.18 |
| August 11 | 30 | 52 | 82 | \$1,691.18 |
| August 18 | 29 | 61 | 90 | \$3,307.30 |
| August 25 | 33 | 50 | 83 | \$1,424.18 |

TREASURER'S REPORT

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| General Fund Balance—7/25/2024 | \$2,731.61 |
| Income: | |
| General Offerings | 13,470.02 |
| Cemetery Custodian Reimbursement | 500.00 |
| Lodge Rental | 150.00 |
| Interest & Misc. Income | .18 |
| Trust Fund/Perpetual Offering | 2,000.00 |
| Budgeted Expenses: | <u>(18,615.45)</u> |
| General Fund Balance—8/26/24 | \$236.36 |



2019—6th Grade Confirmation Students received their Bibles. These students are now Juniors in high school.



2019—Kindergartners received their Spark Bible Story book. These students are now Juniors in high school.





2019—First Day of ARK