St. John Lutheran Church 1710 5th Street South Fargo, ND 58103

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

'THE HERALD'

November 2016 Published 12 times/year Vol. #116. Issue #11

St. John Office Hours: Monday-Thursday: 9am-4:30pm Friday: 9am-12pm

Non-Profit Org. **US Postage Paid** Permit #1040 Fargo, ND 58102



Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Volume 116, Issue 11



FALL/WINTER SCHEDULE!

Sunday:

8:30am Worship/Communion 9:45am 1st day of Cross+Walk 10:45am Worship/Communion

Wednesday:

5:00pm Children's Handbells

5:30pm Adult Handbells

5:30pm Children's Choir

7:00pm St. John Choir (for adults and older teens)

Following choir we have coffee & treats.



Fall Back! Nov 6, 2016 - Daylight Saving Time

Set your clocks back 1 hour.

2016-2017 Council Members

Donna Wallgren President/Exec. Committee; Janis Keller V.P. for Ministries; Susan Quandt V.P. for Support: Dean Froslie Secretary: Rachel Rude Worship and Music; Jack Anderson Property: Aaron Nissen Property/ Preschool; Tari Wieers Youth and Family; Shawn Vasichek; Larry Papenfuss.

Attention Snowbirds

If you'd like church correspondence delivered to you without interruption, please call or email the church office (232-8521/ office@stjohnfargo.com), confirm to us your winter address and tell us what date to begin using it and what date to switch back to your local address. Thank you!

Contact Us

St. John Lutheran Church 1710 5th St. S., Fargo, ND 58103 701-232-8521 e-mail: office@stjohnfargo.com; www.stjohnfargo.com

The Ministry Team of St. John: All the People of God, along with Rev. Brian Hansen, Pastor Rev. Paul Balaban, Interim Pastor Dawn Papenfuss, Director of Music/Organist Jackie Jabens, Finance/Office Manager Carly Cox, Secretary Randy Shone, Custodian Jana Bruhschwein, Preschool Director Kellie Knodel, Chervl Dietz, Katie Olson, Preschool Teachers Peggy Hammerling, Recorders Jessica Westgard Larson, Handbells Editor: Carly Cox, Articles accepted before 1 pm November 15th for the December 16' Herald.

St. John Lutheran Church

HFHFRAI

Community in Christ: Christ in Community

November 2016

Thanksgiving Worship and Pie Social Tuesday, November 22nd 6:30 pm

Sunday November 27th there will be 1 Worship Service at 10am!

NEW MEMBER GATHERINGS

Do you know some one who is interested in joining St. John? Spread the word! **Orientation is scheduled for November 6th** and New Members will be received November 13th at 9:35am.

For more information about St. John, call the church office, 232-8521 or email office@stjohnfargo.com

Adult Forums

November 6th - Robert Moen will be addressing the history of being a RIC congregation. November 13th - Jessica Thomasson from Lutheran Social Services will be speaking about the many programs they offer to our community November 20th - Rev. Mytch Pierre-Noel Dorvilier partners with congregations in Eastern North Dakota Synod to enhance and encourage mutli-ethnic congregational growth November 27th - No Adult Forum-1 Worship service at 10:00am

A Note From the Pastor,

And they're off!

Now I'm not a big fan of NASCAR. I think watching cars go around in a circle for umpteen hours is about as exciting as watching your computer update. You know it's going to end, you just don't know when. Sad to say, but calling a new pastor is a lot like that.

Like the drivers and pit crews, we've have our prep time: reviewing past mistakes, thinking of new strategies, filling out our required forms, fine tuning and adjusting the car (MSP), debating our direction (of course for NASCAR the direction is always a right turn, another right turn, and another right turn.) All needs to be done before race day (before we interview and call a new pastor).

The Call committee has its share of preparation time. And they are coordinating/collaborating with the MAP survey so as to not duplicate work. The Call Comm. still will have discussions, many meetings, and will debate the results as they were filling out the MSP (Ministry Site Profile, the church description and "job" listing). When they are finished, the Church Council will give their stamp of approval before the MSP is sent on to Bishop Brant.

When the MSP is finalized the Call Comm. will need to switch gears in their preparation or working process. When we get a candidate's file, what criteria do we use to evaluate? If we have more than one candidate, what is our process? Do we telephone interview first or bring them on-site? How do we decide what is the next step? How do we host the candidate (and are spouse/children invited?) How do we make the best use of their time? Who pays for what and when?

Of course the candidate(s) will have similar options about us as well. The decision to proceed is always mutual. How we present ourselves, how prepared we are for them, how we show our hospitality sometimes makes all the difference. Let's all help to make sure that we use the best fuel (MSP), equipment (our facility, members, mission) and select the best driver (candidate) to win this race! **TGBG** – Interim Pastor Paul

For the Young At Heart

"It's not the years in your life that count, but the life in your years"-Abe Lincoln

Please Join Us for Christian fellowship, food and fun!

Thurs. November 10 at 11:30AM-Thanksgiving Pot Luck Lunch in the Fellowship Hall. If you can't cook, come anyway And let's give thanks together. Program given by Ken Bauer-Connecting canine helpers with individuals who are blind.

Thurs. December 8 at 10:00AM Enjoy Christmas cheer with coffee and Cookies in the Parlor. Ray Green will be here to entertain us with his Holiday music and humor.

Thurs. January 12 at 10:00AM Join us in the Parlor for coffee and refreshments. Amy Rand will share with us her recent experience of living with her family in South Africa.

Questions? Call Mavis Lura 238-4147, Cathy Chatelain 261-2707

Contest!

Let's re-name the Nursery!

Nursery implies baby care. However, young parents today prefer to have their children with them in the church service.

Be Creative! How can a new name bring new ideas for this room!

Get your vote in-Thurs. Nov.17th-Sun. Nov. 27th in the Narthex. Decision of the name will be made December 6th at the Good Samaritan Committee Meeting and brought to Council.

Community in Christ : Christ in Community

St. John received \$553,590 in pledges as part of our three year capital campaign aimed at enhancing ministry and reducing our debt. With five weeks remaining in this campaign, we have received pledge payments plus other donations totaling \$551,158. With these funds we have made significant progress toward our goals.

- 1. Debt Reduction: We have reduced our loan balance from \$1,143,300 to \$749,738
- 2. Ministry Support:
- Paid \$40,000 of our \$50,000 commitment to Churches United for the Homeless.
- Expanded Associate Pastor Position from ¹/₂ to ³/₄ time (Pastor Brian)
- Funded Sunday School/Cross+Walk Ministry Coordinator Position

Seminary Intern Pastor (Jeff Brown)

- 3. Facilities and Equipment Improvements and Support for:
- HVAC System Replacement
- Heat Transfer Fluid Replacement and Related Boiler Maintenance Needs
- Sanctuary Wireless Mic System
- Security Camera System with Alarm
- Landscaping Work to Eliminate Water Seepage
- Fellowship Hall Projector and Screen
- Room B11 TV and DVD Player
- Addition of Electric Panel and Heater to Storage Shed
- Replaced and Added Phone and Internet Switches

Security Locks for Sacristy Area

With five weeks remaining in this campaign, we give God thanks for debt reduction and increased ministry impact!

The campaign ends November 30, so if you have not yet completed your pledge, please consider doing so in the next few weeks. Contributions to the capital campaign can be made in the collection plate, by scanning the QR code in a worship bulletin, online at www.stjohnfargo.com, or in person at the church office.

Memorials, Honorariums & Special Gifts

General Memorial Fund: In Memory of Ardella Ronson: Sylvia Morgan, Gail Reierson & Lynn Wolff, The Ronson Family **Special Music Fund:** In Memory of Ardella Ronson: Gini & Dave Duval, Mary Ann Walen, Fred & Judy Haugo

Capital Campaign Update!

	FINANCIAL UPDATE - General Fund
	Thank you for supporting God's mission through St. John Lutheran Church!
\$6,981	Sunday 10/16 Offering Plate Electronic Giving 10/15 thru 10/21 Total Offering
\$10,768	Weekly amt needed for \$563,023 annual budget
\$408,094	Income thru 10/21/16 Expense thru 10/21/16 Budget thru 10/21/16

MUSIC NOTES by Dawn Papenfuss

Nov 6 8:30 Children's choir 10:45 St. John choir

Nov. 13 Worship band

<u>v</u>

Nov. 20 Adult HB & SJC Adult HB & kids HB ?

Nov. 22 Tuesday 7pm **Thanksgiving Service**

Nov. 27 No choirs....Thanksgiving weekend (One Worship service @10:00am)

נונועני מחמח You are invited....3:30 pm on Saturday November 12th there will be a handbell concert at Olivet utheran that is free and open to the public! This will be the final concert of Anthornis North, a handbell festival of advanced music, that most of the St John adult handbell choir is participating in.

Come and provide some emotional support for your St John ringers! (If you can't make it, you'll get to hear some of the music for the event performed in church this fall.)

$\tilde{\mathbf{u}}$ uuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuu

God's By Grace

The first St. John event I attended after my Arizona winter was the Reconciling in Christ dinner and discussion last spring. I was bursting with excitement to see so many great people come together to openly share and talk about how we can include all people in our worship and service to God. By the end of the evening I felt there were two lingering questions:

- 1. What has the larger Lutheran church said about the RIC designation?
- 2. What might happen to our congregation if we choose to become an official RIC designated church?

Not long after that evening I had a chance to visit my brother John and his husband Robert in Minneapolis. Robert was a board member of Lutheran Concerned in the 1970's. This was the first official group within the Lutheran Church to explore inclusion of lesbian and gay people. This history may be important for us to understand. Secondly, John and Bob belong to an RIC congregation, Mount Olive Lutheran in Minneapolis. It might help us to hear what an actual RIC designated church looks like. Robert has agreed to be our speaker on November 6. I hope you will consider attending this Adult Forum as we continue the process of discovery to decide our stand on becoming a Reconciling in Christ community.

Deb Magnuson

Looking Ahead to Sheltering

Many of you are aware that our St. John Congregation has been a part of the emergency sheltering of the homeless in our community during the past five years. For some 22 weeks during the coldest part of the year we join with approximately 24 other congregations in providing a safe, warm, and welcoming environment for up to 30 single men and women one week at a time (Sunday night through Saturday night). Our aim is to have a minimum of two men and two women who volunteer for each of the two nightly shifts (8pm-2am; 2am -8am) each evening. We also provide an evening snack when our guests arrive as well as a warm breakfast the following morning just prior to their departure.

We will be hosting our week here at St. John Sunday, January 15, through Saturday, January 21, 2017. Please look ahead to see if you might be able to help us. If this week doesn't work for you Churches United are also are looking for volunteers when sheltering will be held at Oak Grove Lutheran School (north campus) the week of Sunday, December 25, through Saturday, December 31.

If you have guestions, feel free to call Elwood Rieke at 701-293-0717. Sign-up sheets for volunteers as well as for contributing food items will be made available beginning in early December.

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

At Cross+Walk this year we've explored the themes of trust and honor. Now join us as we prepare for Christmas!

Through stories, activities, readings and more, we will explore all the ways joy shows up throughout the Christmas story of God's promise and Jesus' birth. We will be reminded each week that, regardless of our situation, there's a reason to celebrate our relationship with God.

Families of all ages are welcome at Cross+Walk. Come and be part of this exciting ministry!

WEDNESDAY SIMPLE DINNERS!

We are pleased to be able to offer dinner on Wednesday evenings again! Meals will be served 5:15-6:45 and everyone is welcome! PB & J will be served every week in case the weekly menu doesn't appeal to everyone's tastes. :) A free will offering will be received to cover costs, and any extra money collected will be given to ELCA World Hunger. This is a volunteer effort so anyone who wishes to help cook, bring food, serve or clean up can sign up on the tentative menu sheet posted on the service tower in the main entry.

Please contact Bethany Grahn at anybeth@gmail.com with any questions or ideas!





Announcing...