

St. John's Epistle

September 2023

A Newsletter of

St. John's Lutheran Church—LCMS
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Do not be conformed to this world,

*but be transformed by
the renewal of your mind,*

that by testing you may discern
what is the will of God.

ROMANS 12:2, ESV



Jesus said, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.”
(Mark 7: 27)

Can you imagine going to Jesus and having Him say that it’s not right to take the blessings of His chosen people and give it to the dogs? It doesn’t seem right, but that’s exactly what Jesus said. Matthew gave us further understanding by recording what Jesus said to His disciples about this woman. Jesus said, **“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”** (Matthew 15:24) Jesus reminded His disciples that His mission was limited to the people of Israel. This is further supported when Jesus sent out His twelve Apostles saying to them, **“Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”** (Matthew 10:5-6). The disciples were to concentrate their immediate efforts on the Jewish people living in Galilee.

This created a huge problem for the woman Jesus was speaking to! After all, she was a Gentile. She was not from Israel. She was not a Jew. So, that would mean, that there was no way she could receive the blessing of having Jesus remove the demon from her daughter. Yet, she understood exactly who she was and said, **“Yes Lord; even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”** (Mark 7:28)

What great faith! The woman whole heartedly accepted what Jesus said about the Divine arrangement of His Messianic Mission as being confined to the chosen nation Israel. She didn’t get angry. She didn’t try to change the language of Jesus. She didn’t try to rationalize what He said. She didn’t even ask why God did it that way. She accepted what Jesus said and would be happy with whatever blessing He saw fit to give her. Jesus said, **“For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left**

your daughter.” (Mark 7:29) When the woman got home she found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

As time went on, Jesus told His disciples **“to make disciples of all nations.”** (Matthew 28:19) The Apostle Paul was called by our Lord to do missionary work to both the Jews and the Gentiles. Paul spoke about his missionary work when he wrote, **“Rather through their [Israel] trespass [rejection of the Gospel] salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous. Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and their failures means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean.”** (Romans 11:11-12) In other words, our Lord came for all people! No one lies beyond the scope of Jesus’ great love and grace! It doesn’t matter who you are. Jesus, through the work of the Holy Spirit, wants all people to have faith so that they place their full trust in Him; just like the faith this Gentile woman demonstrated. For that reason, we continue to share God’s Word, because **“Faith comes from hearing and hearing through the word of Christ.”** (Romans 10:17). Amen

In His service,

Pastor Craig S. Zandi

Notification of Pastor When in the Hospital

There has been some confusion when people check in or go to the hospital. The hospital will **not automatically** inform your church, or pastor, that you are there unless it is specifically stated in your records. Furthermore, inform your family members to call your pastor. They can also contact the chaplain’s office at the hospital and give them the information. Again, don’t assume the hospital will do it, because they won’t. You must be proactive to make sure your pastor is informed if you want him to come see you. Many times people are in the hospital and he has no idea they are there.

ASSISTING FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

Acolytes: *Ushers*

Altar Guild: *Dave & Jamie Werner*

Finance: *Jackie Dolan & Tammy Busse*

Worship Assistants for September

Sunday, Sep 3

Elder: Ray Tousey

Greeters: Janice Zandi

Ushers: **Team 1:** Dave Scott-Captain,
Dave Kuchta, Tom Rosolowski,
Vic Plockelman, Stu Pask

Sunday, Sep 10

Caring & Sharing

Elder: Sam Barg

Greeters: Harris Family

Ushers: **Team 2:** Dave Kmosena- Captain,
Terry Schar, Mike Kuchta, Jim Rodd,
Lee Purdy

Sunday, Sep 17

LWML

Mites In

Gathering

Elder: Tom Rosolowski

Greeters: Vic & Bonnie Plockelman

Ushers: **Team 3:** Dennis Flater-Captain,
Bob Hauser, Alden Hook, Ray Tousey,
Kurt Harris

Sunday, Sep 24

Stewardship

Elder: Darrell Kuchta

Greeters: Stu & Clara Pask

Ushers: **Team 4:** Chuck Perenchio-Captain,
Sam Barg, Dave Werner, John Monnier,
Gene Zillmer

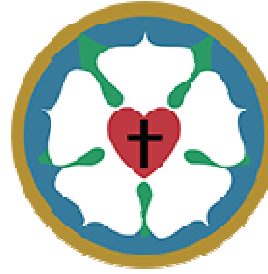


We are off to another great school year starting on September 5th!

We have 9 students this year so far—so that means we are looking for 9 Bible Buddies! If you are interested in being a Buddy to one of our Preschoolers, please let Janice know ASAP.

Also—for the month of September, we will be having a School Supply Drive. Please check out the list:

**White only duct tape
Liquid hand soap
Scotch Transparent tape
Paper towels
Liquid Elmer's school glue
Lysol wipes
White medium paper doilies
Stickers (seasonal)
Snacks (goldfish, cheez-its,
etc...)**



What Luther says:

In a sermon of the same year on Matthew 15:21-28, the story of the Syrophenician Woman, the Doctor [Martin Luther] adduces Joseph as providing an instance of untiring prayer.

For about thirteen years Joseph cried and continued to pray to God to help him. But the longer, the worse; the more he prayed, the worse he fared. To this day this is what happens to Christians. When they have called and cried for a long time to God, they feel no improvement, but things grow worse, as they did with Joseph. If God had liberated Joseph, Jacob, his father, would no doubt have been glad; but Joseph would have remained a sheepherder. However, since the help was delayed so long, he became lord over all Egypt, so that certainly no greater man can be found in Holy Scripture, no one who rose higher as world ruler than did Joseph.

Thus God still intends to deal with us. After He has denied us our petition for a long while and always said no, but we firmly cling to the yes, it shall finally be yes, and not no, for His Word will not lie: *“Whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in My name, He will give it to you.”* (John 15:16) But our reason is highly offended at this delay and would gladly have God answer us promptly. So it is necessary not to be offended. Let our Lord God say no and suspend the answer of our petition for a year, two years, three years, or longer still, and let us only watch that hope and faith in His promise are not torn from the heart. Something will come of our prayer in the end, and God will give far more than we asked Him to give. (WLS p. 1090)

September Preschool Supply Drive

Items needed are as follows:

*Duct tape (white only)



* Liquid hand soap

*Scotch tape



[This Photo](#)

* Paper towels

*Liquid Elmer's school glue

* Lysol wipes

*white paper doilies



*Stickers (seasonal) [This Photo](#) by

*Snacks (goldfish crackers, sandwich
crackers, cheez-its, etc.)



[This Photo](#) by Un-

**The Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod Stewardship Newsletter – September 2023**

Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word *öenchrionö* is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for *öhandbook.ö* The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.

Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment: You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us.

He has promised as much ö and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money

and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 569)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect our belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.

From past newsletters:



DON'T STAY AWAY FROM CHURCH

Because you are poor. There is no admission charge.

Because you are rich. You can be cured of that.

Because it rains. You go to work in the rain.

Because it is hot. So are the golf course and the ball field.

Because it is cold. It is warm and friendly inside.

Because no one invited you. You go to movies without being asked.

Because you don't like the preacher. He is human like you.

Because you are not interested. You should and need to be!

Because you have little children. What if you no longer had them?

Because your job makes you tired. You may lose your job.

Because you have company.

They will admire your loyalty if you bring them along,
or tell them to wait to you get back.

Because you need a weekend vacation occasionally.

If your soul takes a vacation from you, then what?

Because your clothes are not expensive.

Our church isn't a fashion show.

September 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Everything is subject to change. Please check our website (www.stjohnsladysmith.org), Facebook. and/or phone the Church office 715-532-5780.					1	2
3 9:00AM Worship <i>Bible Study after worship</i>	4 Labor Day 11:30AM Ladies Birthday Luncheon	5 8:30-11:30AM First day of Preschool 6:00PM BOCE/YM	6 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	7 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 7:00AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study at Ladysmith Family Restaurant	8 12:00-6:00PM American Red Cross	9
St John's Volunteers serve meals at the Senior Center Meal Site this week						
10 Caring and Sharing 8:00AM Finance 9:00AM Worship +HC Sunday School Teacher Installation NO Bible Study after worship 10:15-11:15AM First Day of Sunday School 11:15 Elder meeting	11 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 6:00PM Ladies Bible Study 7:00PM Lutheran Women in Mission meeting	12 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	13 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 11:30AM Evangelism/Stewardship 1:00PM Ladies Society	14 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	15	16 8:00AM CareNet Walk for Life
17 LWML Mites Ingathering 9:00AM Worship <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School	18 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	19 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 1:00PM FAPQG 6:00PM Council NEWSLETTER ITEMS ARE DUE TODAY	20 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 6:30-7:15PM Confirmation	21 7:00AM Men's Breakfast & Bible Study at Ladysmith Family Restaurant 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 4:00-6:00PM Fall Dinner	22 5:00PM Frohn/Stoll Wedding Rehearsal	23 4:00PM Frohn/Stoll Wedding
24 Stewardship Sunday 9:00AM Worship +HC <i>Bible Study after worship</i> 10:15-11:15AM Sunday School	25 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	26 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	27 8:30-11:30AM Preschool 6:30-7:15PM Confirmation	28 8:30-11:30AM Preschool	29	30

Crafty Stitchers



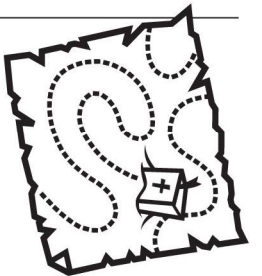
Our group will meet on Saturday,
September 16th from 10:00 – noon. Come
and join us! Bring whatever craft you enjoy
doing. If you would like to learn to knit or
crochet, we can teach you.

If you want to come for a while just to visit;
that would be great too!



Puzzle!

Starting on the bold word, follow the maze to read a Bible passage. Move from one box to another if the sides or corners touch. Some boxes are used multiple times.



out	and	the	knowledge	of				
for	call	search	silver	hidden	find	God.		
insight	aloud	you	look	as	it	treasure	and	LORD
and	cry	for	if	as	it	treasure	and	LORD
understanding	and	you	will	then	understand	the	of	fear

PROVERBS 2:3-5, NIV

Answer: If you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God. Proverbs 2:3-5, NIV

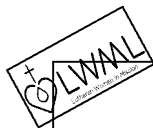




2023–2025 Mission Grants

A Healing Space for At-Risk Children — Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND \$100,000

The Christ-centered, healing ministry of Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch creates an eternal, life giving, impact in the lives of children, age 10 to 18, who have faced unimaginable trauma. Due to childhood traumas of violence, abuse, neglect, and more, Ranch children experience debilitating emptiness and loneliness at the deepest of levels; levels that only Christ can heal. A gap in spiritual care on the Ranch's Bismarck campus has been a chapel facility specifically designed to be a healing space for traumatized boys and girls. A construction date of Spring 2024 has been set to build a chapel to serve as a healing space to help them know and experience the mercy of Christ and His healing power. This grant will help meet the construction costs of the Chapel on the Bismarck campus and provide healing for at-risk children.



Ladies Bible study, Monday,
September 11, 2023 at
6:00pm. Bible study entitled "Here am I,
Send Me!". Copies of the Bible study are
available in the LWML mailbox at the bottom right hand
corner of the mailboxes. Help yourself. All women of
the congregation are invited to participate in the Bible
study.



**The *Next* Caring and Sharing Sunday
is **September 10th****

**This is your opportunity to show you care
for the hungry in our community by making a donation
to the Hope Food Pantry or show your concern
for the hungry children in our community by making
a donation to the
Back Pack Program.**



Mites are collected on the third Sunday of each month! Simply deposit your donation in the large mite box when you come to worship. These mites continue to fund district and national mission projects. Check the LWML bulletin board for details on some of those projects. Please let Amy Tousey or Paula Hook know if you have any questions.

Rada Knives

If you are interested in purchasing Rada Knives, please contact Lorraine Flohr at 715-532-5095

All proceeds go to the St. John's Ladies Aid.

Orders are processed quickly! *They make great Christmas and wedding gifts.*

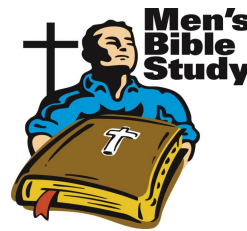
Ladies! Birthday lunches aren't just for birthdays; of course birthdays for the month are celebrated, but also it gives us an informal excuse to get together with our sisters in Christ to form bonds and friendships. No invitation needed!



Birthday Mondays!

Monday, **September 4th** at
11:30 a.m. at the Ladysmith
Family Restaurant.
All are welcome!

Men's Bible Study will be on
Thursday, **Sep 7th & 21st**;
7:00AM at the Ladysmith
Family Restaurant.



ONGOING COLLECTIONS

- ◆ Aluminum cans for Preschool
- ◆ Canceled Stamps (LWML)
- ◆ Greeting cards
- ◆ Used eye glasses
- ◆ Soft eyeglass cases



Please, leave only aluminum cans! We cannot take aluminum foil, plates, etc.; aluminum cans only! Thanks for your assistance.

JOYFUL RESPONSE

JOYFUL Response (e-giving program) is run through VANCO and LCEF. It is now available for use by St. John's members, free of charge to you, as long as the money is taken out of your bank account (no credit cards). This account is for General Operating offerings only, no designated funds. The information and application to enroll are on St. John's website (www.stjohnsladysmith.org). As the Financial Secretary of St. John's, Nancy is the contact person for this program. An account has been set up at LCEF for your offerings to be deposited. Nancy will receive a statement when your offering is received at LCEF so she can enter it on your St. John's offering account. If you have any questions, please contact Nancy.



Submit Your Information!

ITEMS FOR BULLETINS are due on Tuesday by close of day each week (unless indicated otherwise in bulletins due to holidays). *Newsletter items are due* in the office no later than close of day on the Tuesday preceding the last Sunday of the month.

E-mail to: stjohnladysmith@centurylink.net
(preferred method).

Don't forget that **LARGE PRINT** bulletins and newsletters are available for those who need them. **Contact the office to get your name on the list!**





SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Karl Howe
2	Deb Drohman
3	Brooks Bernard
4	Astrid Held-Tucker, Robert Elton
5	Livija Held
12	Alden Hook, Cassidy Scott
14	Lois Hoople
19	Curtis Drohman
21	Chuck Perenchio
22	Diane Birch, Judy VanWey
24	Charlee Thompson
25	Shane Bishop
27	Avery Canfield, Brandon Lee
28	Ray Tousey
29	Jacquie Bernard



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

1	Ernie & Susan Mogensen	18	Matt & Ann Boehmer
2	Tom & Jeanne Glessing	20	Duane & Joanne Phetteplace
6	Dave & Dawn Scott	22	Bob & Kathy Kuchta
12	Cliff & Pam Kibellus	28	Lisa & Bob Moreau
14	Chris & Rubie Kibellus	30	Jim & Cheri Lee
17	Kayla & Tyler Nazarens	30	Mary Ann & Tim Riegel



A PATH TO PRAYER

God's Word offers lots of insights about how to pray.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete a Bible passage about prayer.



ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHGFEDCBA

_ R _ G _ S _ Z _ M _ P _ N _ B _ T _ L _ W _
 _ V _ E _ V _ I _ B _ G _ R _ N _ V _ R _
 _ I _ V _ N _ V _ N _ Y _ V _ I _ B _ L _ F _
 _ R _ M _ Z _ O _ O _ N _ B _
 _ K _ I _ Z _ B _ V _ I _ H _ U _ L _ I _ Z _ O _ O _
 _ L _ U _ B _ L _ F _ , _ R _ Z _ O _ D _ Z _ B _ H _
 _ K _ I _ Z _ B _ D _ R _ G _ S _ Q _ L _ B _
 _ K _ S _ R _ O _ R _ K _ K _ R _ Z _ M _ H _

1:3-4, NIV

Answer: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. Philippians 1:3-4, NIV