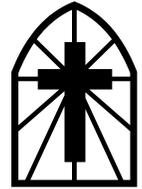


ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS  
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333

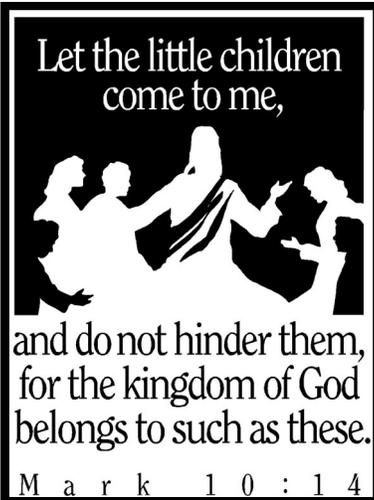


Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 35 ISSUE 9 SEPTEMBER, 2021

Dear Saints in Christ,



Children and families are precious to our Lord. He seeks all to be saved through faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself, says,

*“Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them. Mark 10:14–16 (ESV)*

God created families and He loves the little children. God sent His Son Jesus to die for all people, and those who do believe in Christ as Savior and Lord, He calls His children. Jesus invites ALL of us to His loving arms.

This next year (September – May) we are going to focus on strengthening families. We want to encourage participation in the Christian growth of every person and family in the family of St. John Congregation. We want to grow our connections to one another and seek to build one another up in Christ.

I am committing myself to children's messages every Sunday. I am looking for ways to incorporate intergenerational relationships and study and growth. I am looking to strengthen God's children— young and old—in the faith and through all our educational opportunities. I am looking to see how we can serve our families and assist everyone to grow in the assurance and promises of God.

We are planning a Rally Sunday on September 12<sup>th</sup> with outdoor worship, education time, potluck, and games for all. Please look for other announcements and information updates in this newsletter and in bulletins and on our website and Facebook pages.

I am praying for each of you and your family. I invite you also to pray for our children and for one another as we seek to grow in faith in Jesus and increase in love that shows itself in action.

Jesus said, “Let the children come to Me.” He means you! And me! I look forward to growing with you.

May God bless our worship time as family.

In the love of Jesus Christ, Pastor Toensing

PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO CHRIS HOLLMAN BY 25TH, THANK YOU!



Youth Group

Youth Group will meet during Bible Class time starting **Sunday, September 12**. We will meet in the youth room in the basement.

All youth in grades 7-12 are part of the youth group.

Come and meet new leaders, new youth members, have some fun and start planning for our year!

Questions – contact Shelley Toesning.

It's been a long time since we've met. Hope to see everyone there!

Clothing for Orphan Grain Train: We can once again send used clothing to Orphan Grain Train. When leaving clothes in the drop box outside the church by the back door, please mark them for either OGT or PCM (People's City Mission).



## BIRTHDAYS

1 Dave Wagner  
 2 Samantha Wagner  
 3 Aubrey Hollman  
 4 Vivian Kirkpatrick  
 6 Natahsa Ellingson  
 8 Janice Reetz , Paisley Williams, Cole Novak  
 9 Karla Renner  
 10 Blake Yost  
 11 Petra Dewey  
 13 Cheyenne DuBray, Bruce Nitzel, Kelly Reetz  
 14 Tonya Clark  
 15 Genie Dittmer, Tim McDermott, Linda Pomajzl  
 16 James Doiel, Wayne Eggert, Taylor Shore

18 Chris Reetz, Marilyn Weidner  
 19 Travis Eggert  
 20 Josh Wohl  
 22 Charles Slama  
 23 Abbie Reitz  
 25 Brady Ellingson  
 26 Chris Kirkpatrick, Shane Renner  
 27 Madison Hefner-Kattau, Brianna Williams  
 28 Austin Weber  
 30 August Wendelin

## BAPTISMS

2 Hannah Rethmeier, Marianne Tesar  
 4 Terry Meinke

7 Ray Bleich, Shirley Reetz  
 8 Michael Reiss  
 10 Sheila Church, Aubrey Hollman  
 12 Mara Hoyer, Miriam Weber  
 13 Kelli Jordan, Chauncey Ziemann  
 16 Austin Adams, Diane Gropp  
 17 Karen Bachman  
 18 Blake Yost  
 21 Kelly Reetz  
 24 Bruce Nitzel, Abbey Reetz  
 25 Bailey Stougard, Conner Slama  
 27 Paisley Williams  
 28 Madison Hefner-Kattau  
 30 Natasha Ellingson, Taylor Shore, David Wagner

**OUR MISSION** Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.

## LADIES' MORNING BIBLE STUDY

PLANTO JOIN US Saturday, September 11th, at 10:00 a. m. at church for Ladies' Morning Bible Study! The plan is to continue with the study guide "Golden Fruit" based on the Fruit of the Spirit, Galatians 5:22-23. If you don't have the study guide, or have lost track of your copy, not to worry—there are extra copies! (Interesting note: the "Fruit" that we'll begin with in this study is Patience!) Should make for some interesting sharing as we look back at the year we've just experienced.

## Nebraska State Fair Worship Service

The Nebraska Lutheran Laymen's League will host a worship service at the Nebraska State Fair in Grand Island on Sunday, September 5, beginning at 9 a.m. (This is a change from the previously announced 10 a.m. start time.) The service will be held in the Family Fun Zone area located at the north end of the fairgrounds, just south of the 4-H building. Guest speaker will be Pastor Jacob Bobby from First Trinity, Bloomfield, Nebraska District LLL Pastoral Advisor. Make worship a part of your State Fair visit. Also plan to visit the LLL display booth located in the 4-H building.

## LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid met on August 25, 2021, with Donna Hillgren as hostess. Pastor Toensing led us in prayer and a Bible study on "The Prodigal Son". We then sang hymn #609 "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive".

Roll call was taken with 10 members present. The minutes of the July 2021 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given.

Ladies Aid received a thank you card and a \$175 check from the family of Kate Kattau for the funeral meal.

Ladies Night out is all set up for September 28. On September 15, Diane Kahle will give a head count to Mike at the Veterans for Friends. Diane Kahle, Ellie Koch and Marianne Tesar will make some decorations. We will open the evening with a devotional and prayer and end with a hymn or two. We will have a table set up in the Narthex to get women signed up for this event.

Ladies Aid will receive food before and after the worship service on Rally Day and then put the food out for the picnic.

The cookbook committee will consist of Diane Kahle, Ellie Koch, Janice Reetz, Marianne Tesar and Deb Walker.

Shirley Reetz celebrated a birthday in August.

Dianne Kouba will be the hostess for September.

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and the common Table Prayer.

Deb Walker, Secretary

# RALLY DAY



**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12**

**9:00 a.m. Outdoor Worship**

**10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
LYF Youth Meet  
Adult Fellowship  
Set up for Picnic**

**11:00 a.m. Potluck Picnic**

**Following Meal**  
the Face

**Fun for All**  
Bingo  
Egg Toss  
Corn Hole  
Pie in  
Frisbee Golf  
Sack Races  
Cake Walk  
Bouncy House

**WORSHIP, FOOD,  
FELLOWSHIP,  
& FUN FOR  
EVERYONE!**

**We hope to have a great day of fun and fellowship for everyone!**

## Outdoor Worship

Worship will be held at the front of the parsonage. Please bring lawn chairs or blankets for your family to sit on. Folding chairs will be available on the driveway for those who would have difficulty in grass.

## Sunday School and LYF

Both Sunday School and LYF will meet to start off the year. We hope all children and youth will join!

## Potluck Picnic

Please bring a main dish and a side or dessert. Drinks (pop and water) and dinnerware will be provided. During the Sunday School hour, adults may help set up for the picnic and/or join in some social time.

## Fun and Games

Asking all bakers to please (sign up at church) bring a cake or baked goods for an old-fashioned cake walk. Corn hole games needed. Join us for some good ol' fashioned fun

## ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH –LCMS

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secretarystjohn@hotmail.com  
www.stjohnkramer.org  
Rev. Maynard Toensing, Jr.  
pastortoensing@gmail.com



**That All May  
Know Him**

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

#### **Schedule at a Glance**

Worship Service (Sundays)	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School/LYF (beginning Sunday Sept 12)	10:30 a.m.
Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Constitution/By-law Committee (Sept 2)	6:30 p.m.
Evangelism Board Meeting (Sept 7)	1:30 p.m.
Elder's Meeting (Sept 7)	6:30 p.m.
Ladies Morning Bible Study (Sept 11)	10:00 a.m.
Quilting Group (Sept 14)	9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Lutheran Women in Mission (Sept 21)	7:00 p.m.
Ladies Aid Meeting (Sept 29)	2:00 p.m.

Thank you to all who have expressed their sympathy for the loss of my mother. Your prayers and words of comfort are greatly appreciated. For those who have included monetary gifts in your cards of condolence, thank you. These memorials will be given to the Child Development Center at Grace Lutheran Church in Paris, IL. My mom spent years providing daycare and this is an outreach ministry of my parent's congregation. Again, thank you all for your expressions of love and care.

Pastor and Shelley

### **FROM THE ELDERS**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

School has started, and the Board of Education is planning on kicking the Sunday school year off on Sunday, September 12. That day we are planning the morning service to be held outside by the parsonage and afterwards there will be a potluck picnic with games and a cake walk for everyone to participate in. Please plan on attending this unique service and the church picnic afterwards. It has been a while since we have had the opportunity to get together in this setting and enjoy each other's company. With Sunday school and Mid-week beginning, there is also a need for volunteers for teaching our children. This is a good chance to use your God-given talents and get to know our youth. Please let the Board of Education know if you are interested. Always remember in our daily lives that God is with us. "The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing." Zephaniah 3:17.

God Bless, The Elders

## Ladies Night Out

*St. John Ladies Aid invites all ladies of the congregation to enjoy dinner and social time at Veterans & Friends 130 W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Crete on Tuesday evening September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 6:00 p. m.*



**MENU:**

*Baked chicken breast  
Mashed potatoes & gravy  
Green beans  
Salad  
Croissant  
Dessert & drink  
Cost: \$10*



*A sign-up sheet is provided in the narthex. Please sign up by Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>.*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL



# JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Board of Education would like to welcome all children ages 3 and up to come to Sunday school starting **September 12 following Rally Day Worship Service**. **Sunday School registration** is available on [www.stjohnkramer.org](http://www.stjohnkramer.org) website. If you would like to volunteer to teach or assist a teacher in a Sunday school class, please contact a member of the Board of Education. Also, please let them know if you have any questions or concerns. God's Blessings - St. John

Board of Education, Linda Lee, Kaylie Brethouwer, and Ashley Walker.