



20165 Heath Ave. Lakeville MN  
952-469-4916

# Journal May 2024

Kim Kylo - Pastor

## Sunday Schedule through May 19

8:15am Worship  
9:15 Fellowship/Sunday School/ACE  
10:30am Worship  
Nursery open from 8:15-11:30am

## Beginning May 26

8:30am Worship  
9:15 Fellowship  
10:00am Worship  
Nursery open from 8:30-11:30am

## Wednesday Schedule Through May 15

6:30pm—Chancel Choir  
in the Sanctuary  
8:00—8:30—HS Youth Group

## Inside this issue:

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And Much More!

More information is available on the  
website: [www.sjlcl.org](http://www.sjlcl.org)

**Submit information  
by the 15th of the  
month to:  
[candy@sjlcl.org](mailto:candy@sjlcl.org)**

St. John's friends,

As you read this, we enter the month of May!

This month will contain a series of wonderful celebrations, both for our church community and for your individual families. Graduations, Mother's Day, Installation Sunday, the end of the academic year for both primary and post-secondary institutions. Other celebrations will be more subtle, yet no less significant: walks in warm, spring air; more hours of daylight; budding trees, plants and flowers; and open windows in our homes.

Cherish each of these celebrations: the big ones and the small ones, the simple ones and the profound ones. May God's blessing be known in each of these!

I want to draw your attention to a scheduling update that will go into effect at the end of May: Starting Memorial Day weekend, we begin our Summer Worship Schedule, as usual. This year, that falls on Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

**This summer, we will gather for worship at 8:30 and 10:00 am.**

Yes, you read that right: both of the times are changing. This is an intentional update, as that 8:30 am starting time for the

earlier Sunday worship service *will remain as such in the fall and throughout the remainder of 2024.*

Why, you may wonder, are we updating the time for the earlier service? With the current vision for Sunday morning ministry, including worship, education, music, and more, the staff and the Worship Arts Ministry (WAM) Team alike feel confident that slightly reducing the amount of time between ministries will foster an increasing sense of cohesion among each important element of Sunday morning ministries.

Anecdotally, I know from some of our aging members that it can be increasingly difficult to physically get up and moving as early. Likewise, parents of children and youth (of all ages) say that even an extra 15 minutes can make a difference in being on-time for Sunday morning worship and faith formation.

So, mark your calendars, St. John's. Starting Sunday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, Sunday worship will be held at 8:30 and 10:00 am.

See you in worship!

*Pastor Kim Kylo*

## For Your Information

### May Worship News:

**May 5** - Sixth Sunday of Easter, with Holy Communion

**May 12** - Seventh Sunday of Easter: Mother's Day, with JAM Choir singing at 10:30

**May 19** - Pentecost Sunday, with Holy Communion, Senior Pastor Installation with guest Rolf Lowenberg-Deboer (St. Paul Area Synod), Sunday School singing at 10:30 & Chancel Choir Sings

**May 26** - Holy Trinity Sunday: Summer Worship Schedule Begins (worship at 8:30 and 10:00am)

### Worship at Winsor Plaza May 2 at 2 pm

St. John's hosts a monthly worship service with Holy Communion in the community room at Winsor Plaza, held on the first Thursday of each month at 2 pm. Come join us for worship!



### Faith Resources Altar Echo Podcasts

Did you know St. John's creates 3 podcasts? All podcast episodes can be found on St. John's Facebook page and website. Use the QR code for each podcast to access the podcast page, and subscribe to receive new episodes of each!

**Altar Echo Podcast** (the OG) is our weekly Scripture + Message podcast, a recording of the focus reading and sermon from Sunday worship. If you can't make it to church on Sunday, or you want a preview of the sermon, this podcast is for you. Episodes are released Friday or Saturday weekly.



Altar Echo Podcast



**Altar Echo Text Study Podcast** is our weekly deep-dive conversation between two or three pastors on the upcoming focus reading for Sunday. Episodes are released on Tuesday afternoons, and can be a great way to pique your curiosity about the upcoming Sunday's Scripture reading. Because this podcast includes multiple pastors, you get added content of multiple perspectives, questions, and ideas, many of which don't make the cut for the actual Sunday sermon.



Altar Echo Text Study

**Altar Echo Families Podcast** are twice monthly conversations about faith and parenting in our real lives. How does faith guide our parenting and family values? Pastor Kim and Amanda chat about good questions and practical strategies for raising good humans in this complicated world. Episodes are released on Thursdays, and can be helpful for parents, grandparents, or anyone who cares for children and kids of any age.



Altar Echo Families

### Everyday Bible Conversations (EBC's)

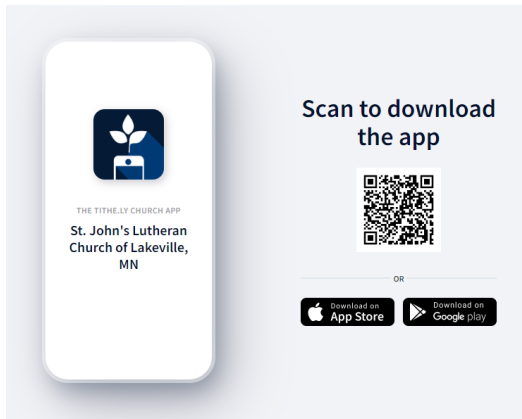
Join us as we find God EVERYWHERE! Every week, we look for God in our Everyday Lives with a video and devotions based on the week's Gospel, wherever we happen to be. We've found God in the hilltops above Lisbon, Portugal, at the American Revolution in Boston, MA, in the desert in California, on the shores of the Cook Inlet in Anchorage, AK, and every place and week in between!

Our weekly messages include a 3-5 minute video (available on St. John's YouTube channel, and through the website and app), as well as a one page devotional that summarizes the reading, asks a few questions, and encourages an action step for the week to come. The videos and devotional are both built so that they can be used alone or

together, and while the Bible reading is always encouraged, no advance Bible reading or knowledge is needed to enjoy EBC. EBC emphasizes Jesus' love, God's purpose for us, and how we can relate the week's message to our lives in 2024. EBC is a work of joy and love, driven by the faithful belief that the Bible can be applied to our Everyday Lives all things big and small, all the time, everywhere!

Thank you for all of you who already make EBC a part of their week, and we encourage everyone to enjoy! If you would like to access EBC, but need help, please ask Candy in the church office. And let's go find God!!

**Download St. John's App** St. John's App is a great way to access information, give online, access weekly EBC and podcast resources, and more.



### Are You Interested?

We are in the earliest planning stages of creating a new Pictorial Church Directory in the fall. It has been seven years since we last created one. We will need a team of volunteers to help with planning, scheduling and spreading the word. If you would like to be involved or want to know more, contact Candy in the church office.



### Sound Tech Needed

The Sound Tech team is looking for 1 or 2 new individuals to volunteer to run the sound board during Sunday morning worship. Training is provided! Sounds Tech volunteers generally serve for one worship service every eight weeks. Contact Danny Barth for more information or to sign up!



### Adult Christian Education (ACE) Schedule for May

Join us for ACE on Sunday mornings in the sanctuary from 9:30-10:15 am. ACE sessions are for everyone - bring a friend! Join us for ACE in the sanctuary or tune in via livestream on our YouTube Channel.

For the month of May, ACE turns our attention to the quintessential confirmation capstone experience: reflecting on what your faith means to you, at this particular time in your life, and articulating that meaning in your own words.

- May 5** - Faith Statement Writing Workshop
- May 12** - Faith Stories - Speakers
- May 19** - No ACE - Church Breakfast!
- May 27** - No ACE (on break until September)

### Coffee & Conversation at Highview Hills May 23 @ 2 pm

Pastor Kim hosts a monthly "Coffee & Conversation" at Highview Hills. This will take place on the 4th Thursday of every month at 2:00 pm. This month, we will gather on Thursday, May 23 at 2 pm to continue our study of other religions and other Christian denominations. St. John's members, friends and residents of HVH are welcome!



## Global Missions Scholarship Update

St. John's Lutheran Church continues to support the educational needs of many children within our companion congregation in Muhanga, Tanzania. The Global Mission Committee is pleased to report that 2023 was another very successful year, with three students completing their education and ten students moving up to the next school level. Please contact any staff or global mission committee member if you are interested in supporting this effort through scholarship assistance. This is a wonderful opportunity to enrich the lives of these children in a meaningful way.



## St. John's Prayer Chain

### St. John's has an active Prayer Chain ministry

"Are you in need of prayer for yourself or for someone else? The St. John's Prayer Group would be happy to pray for you. Prayers can be requested by:

1. Calling the Church Office at (952) 469-4916
2. Emailing Stacy Stanek at [sstanek06@gmail.com](mailto:sstanek06@gmail.com)

If you would like to be part of St. John's Prayer Chain, new members to this team are welcome. You can participate on an email team or on a phone team. Please contact Candy in the church office at 952-469-4916, if you would like to join the prayer chain team.



## Altar Flower Sponsorship

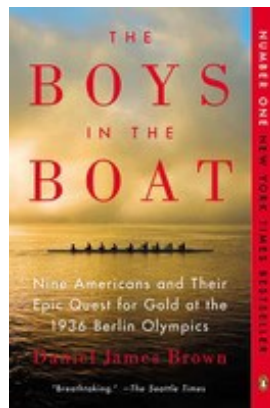


Reserve a date to sponsor Altar flowers. Each bouquet is \$45 and you can choose one or two bouquets per Sunday. Please review the available slots in the QR code and sign up. Or call the church office and place your order with Candy. Thank you!



## Book Group

Join us for the next book discussion:  
**Wed., May 8, 1:00-2:00 pm** "The Boys in the Boat" by Daniel James Brown



## Resources available for Children, Youth and Families for anxiety, self-injury and grief

We have resources for children and youth coping with anxiety self-injury and grief. Each workbook has many helpful tools and information to better understand these difficult issues. The anxiety workbook has over 40 helpful strategies to help understand and deal with anxiety and worry. The self-injury workbook has many helpful strategies to focus on positive ways to deal with stress and develop a stay-safe plan. Plus, we have children's books that can help children deal with grief.

Please contact Amanda Boe if you would like a free resource:  
[amanda@sjlcl.org](mailto:amanda@sjlcl.org)

## Children, Youth and Family News

### Last Day of Sunday School Breakfast Celebration!

May 19th, 9:15am-10:15am

On May 19th we will be celebrating many things, including: Pastor Kim Kylo's installation as Senior Pastor, Pentecost, Last day of Sunday School and the end of another wonderful year of faith learning! We will have a scavenger hunt and fun things for kiddos to do and we are looking forward to a fun day of celebration!



St. John's Lutheran Church  
**PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST**



SUNDAY • MAY 19TH  
9:15AM – 10:15AM

*Join us to celebrate...*  
Pastor Kim Kylo's Installation as Senior Pastor  
Pentecost  
Last Day of Sunday School  
Another wonderful year of faith learning!

*a few fun activities too...*  
Scavenger Hunt & fun things for kiddos to do!

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A FUN DAY OF CELEBRATION!

### Sunday School notes:

Our Sunday School Students have been diving into post-resurrection stories, focusing on the theme: Jesus wants us to tell the world his good news!

May 12<sup>th</sup>, Mother's Day we will celebrate by planting flowers outside if weather allows and we will celebrate all of the women in the congregation by passing out a special gift!

### Summer Garden Club!

Our Youth Garden Club has become an inspiring place to gather, learn and come closer to our faith. High School, Middle School youth and Senior Garden Mentors make up this amazing intergenerational group. We meet on Wednesday nights at 5:00pm. This group fulfills service hours for Affirm and NHS because everything grown will be donated to people in need of fresh produce.

Contact [amanda@sjlcl.org](mailto:amanda@sjlcl.org) for more information or visit our website at [sjlcl.org](http://sjlcl.org)

We will begin meeting Mid-May  
There is a place for you in the garden!

### Opportunities to serve

We would love your help filling up our acolyte and crucifer spots for our Sunday morning worship services.

**A crucifer (cross bearer) carries** the cross into worship at the beginning of worship and carries it out at the end of worship. This is an important part of our worship service at St. John's because bringing the cross in signifies a special and intentional invitation to Christ to come into our worship experience.

**An acolyte lights** the candles at the beginning of worship on each side of the altar and then dims them at the end of worship. This brings extra light into our sanctuary, bringing special significance to the light of Christ among us. In faith, light can also represent hope, peace, and God's promise. As an acolyte you get to remind all of us that Jesus brings that to us every day.

**When volunteering for these positions**, you arrive 10 minutes before worship begins (8:05am and 10:20am) and then check in with the worship coordinator at the welcome desk. That person, or myself will be there to walk the student through all that they need to know.

Jesus empowers us to lead, and these are some of the opportunities your children have to lead us in

faith during worship! If your student would like to help us out and fill up these spots, please fill out the sign-up genius link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040f4badaf22a6f58-acolyte#/>



## How MAY I help YOU? Mission Trip Youth for hire!

How MAY I help YOU? Mission Trip Youth for hire!

Yardwork? Window washing? House projects? Furniture rearranging? Childcare?

Support our Mission Trip Youth this Spring by hiring a youth for Spring Clean-Up projects! Last year we began this unique fundraiser during the month of May. Mission Trip Youth will be happy to help with yardwork, house projects or childcare. Please fill out this form and you will be matched with a Mission Trip youth ready to work and earn some extra income for their mission trip account! Paper forms also available in the Narthex.



<https://forms.gle/7yEdYkeCv1uCtccx7>

## Summer Stretch

Registration Link: Please register as soon as you are able, it is helpful in the planning process.

<https://forms.gle/rdhGdcv2s1uj2w1EA>

**What?** Participants put their faith into action! They are encouraged to be the light of Christ through participation in service projects for the greater community. Each day includes fun adventures with faith leaders and friends. Yes, friends are welcome as participants and leaders!

**Who?** St. John's Summer Stretch is a program for Upper Elementary and Middle Schoolers (students entering Grades 3,4,5, 6, 7 and 8 in Fall 2024) Volunteer Guides: Students who will be in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade in the fall of 2024 can apply to be small group guides and adult

chaperones will be welcomed. Cost- \$15.00 per day.

**When? Save these dates**

June 19, June 26, July 10, July 17 and July 24

**Times:** 9:00am-4:30pm



## Senior Sunday June 2

To celebrate your graduating senior please help us by completing two things:

1. Please take a look at the wonderful **scholarship opportunity** on page 13 offered by St. John's and encourage your student to apply.

2. Please fill out this [form](#) (QR Code) and send a **senior photo back to Amanda**.

We'd love to celebrate your High School Senior at our Senior Recognition Service at 10:00am on June 2nd, light breakfast at 9:15am



# thrivent®

**Thrivent: Did you know that programs such as Thrivent Action Teams have funded these service projects:**

- Making Fleece blankets for Lewis House and Highview Hills Memory Care
- Meals for Living Well Disability Services
- Homeless Care Kits
- Diaper drive for VEAP
- Summer Garden, growing veggies for senior living communities

Thrivent Action Teams is a program that gives \$250.00 twice a year to any person who is a Thrivent member. These funds are used to purchase the materials needed for projects like these. Please contact Candy or Amanda if you would like to sponsor one of our service projects with your Thrivent Dollars or another similar fund that your employer or investment or insurance may provide.

Our youth have a heart for service, please help us continue these and more projects in the future.

# Small Group Ministry

## Small Group Ministry

*Connect. Grow. Belong.*



St. John's offers a variety of small groups to include people of all walks, ages, and experiences of life. Check out our current small group offerings and consider getting connected with one or more of these vibrant spaces of relationship and faith.

### Yoga with Clarity

Lynn Coldren, Certified Yoga Instructor offers Yoga Classes, both in person and via Zoom **Monday evenings** at 5:15pm and **Wednesday mornings** at 8:45am, for ages 15+.

You will need to bring your own mat and props. Class size is limited, so if you have any questions or are interested please email Lynn at [l.coldren63@gmail.com](mailto:l.coldren63@gmail.com).



### Men's Monday Breakfast Small Group

Facilitator: Peter Gudel

(contact: [pjgudel@gmail.com](mailto:pjgudel@gmail.com))

Meets: 3rd Monday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next May 20**

Where: Perkins in Lakeville

Would you like to spend time chatting with old friends or get to know other men from St. John's? Gather with us at Perkins for fellowship and food.



### Dementia Caregivers Support Group

Facilitators: Pastor Kim Kylo & Lola Amendt (of Highview Hills)

Meets: Once/month, **10 -11 am, on the 2nd Thursday of each month**

**Meets next May 9**

Where: Highview Hills

Right now, millions of Americans face the devastation of Alzheimer's. The disease is robbing us of our families, our futures, and our finances. If you are a family member or caregiver to someone

experiencing Alzheimer's disease, join us for this small group, where you'll find an open environment for sharing feelings, thoughts, and experiences to better cope with and manage the shared problems of dementia. St. John's and Highview Hills are partnering to provide emotional, social, and educational support to caregivers. This group is open to anyone in our community. No RSVP; simply show up as you are available.

### "More Than Just Lunch" Small Group

Facilitator: Ginger Gustafson

Meets: Once/month

Where: A variety of locations, each to be announced in advance. If you would like to participate in a monthly outing with your church friends, experiencing a variety of unique places to have lunch and entertainment, then this is the small group for you!

On **Friday May 17<sup>th</sup>**, the More Than Just Lunch group will be going to the **James J. Hill House** in St. Paul. It is a 42-room house built in 1891 with a view of the Mississippi river. At the time it was being built, James J. Hill was establishing the Great Northern Railway. For that period, it was one of the largest and most expensive homes in Minnesota.

The cost of the tour is \$10 which **needs to be paid by May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. The money can be given to Candy in the church office or put in Ginger's box. We will meet at the church at 9:15am. After the tour we will have lunch at **Tavern on Grand** which is a very rustic setting and is known for its walleye.

The sign up sheet is near the coat racks at church.

### "Parenting Littles" Small Group

Co-Facilitators: Amanda Boe & Pastor Kim Kylo

When: 2nd Sunday of each month during Sunday School; **meets next May 12**

Where: St. John's

Are you parenting a child (ren) ages 3-10? Parenting Littles is for you!

St. John's Parenting Little Small Group meets the 2nd Sunday of each month during Sunday School. While your child learns about Jesus' love in Sunday School, tend to your own spiritual and

emotional wellbeing, gathering with other parents of littles to share best practices, parenting questions, and build community.

For this second year of this small group, we'll add a focus on strategies shared in the book, "The Sandbox Revolution: Raising Kids for a Just World." You are welcome to purchase your own book, or borrow copies from St. John's.



Parenting Littles  
Registration



### Paper Crafters Small Group

Facilitator: Jackie Knauf

Meets: 1st Thursday of every month at 9 am - 2 pm; **Meets next May 2**

Where: St. John's

The Paper Crafters Small Group makes cards to send to congregation members. Come when you can; leave when you must!

### Quilters Small Group

Facilitator: Ruth Weber

Meets: 2nd and 3rd Thursdays of every month at 9 am; **Meets next May 9th and 16<sup>th</sup>**

Where: St. John's

The Quilters Small Group sews and assembles quilts to be donated. Come when you can; leave when you must!

### Stitchers Small Group

Facilitator: Kathy Ziller

Meets: 4th Thursdays of every month at 9 am; **Meets next May 23**

Where: St. John's

Knitters create Confirmation stoles, baptismal blankets, and prayer shawls. Come when you can; leave when you must!

### Mary Breakfast Bunch

Facilitator: Jackie Knauff

Meets: 1st Tuesday of every month at 8:30 am; **Meets next May 7**

Where: Cracker Barrel, Lakeville

Mary Breakfast Bunch is a women's fellowship group open to all women.

### Hannah Bible Study Small Group

Facilitator: Ruth Weber

Meets: 1st Wednesdays of every month at 9:30 am; **Meets next May 1**

Where: St. John's

Topic: A study of other religions and other faiths, with fellowship and treats.

The study group is open to women of all ages and backgrounds.

### **Loaves and Fishes Community Meal**

We have a serving opportunity at Loaves and Fishes on **Thursday, May 16 at Easter by the Lake at Cliff and Pilot Knob Road.**

Loaves and Fishes provides free, chef prepared meals that are packaged in to-go containers for you to take home or deliver to others. Volunteer to help us cook and serve meals.

To sign up, please contact Kathy at 612-414-5073, [kmcomer72@gmail.com](mailto:kmcomer72@gmail.com) or Sign up on this QR code now.

**Thank you** for serving!



### **Everyday Bible Conversations (EBC's)**

Everyday Bible Conversations (EBC). Join us as we find God EVERYWHERE! Every week, we look for God in our Everyday Lives with a video and devotions based on the week's Gospel, wherever we happen to be. We've found God in the hilltops above Lisbon, Portugal, at the American Revolution in Boston, MA, in the desert in California, on the shores of the Cook Inlet in Anchorage, AK, and every place and week in between! Our weekly messages include a 3-5 minute video (available on St. John's YouTube channel, and through the website and app), as well as a one page devotional that summarizes the reading, asks a few questions, and encourages an action step for the week to come. The videos and devotional are both built so that they can be used alone or together, and while the Bible reading is always encouraged, no advance Bible reading or knowledge is needed to enjoy EBC. EBC emphasizes Jesus' love, God's purpose for us, and how we can relate the week's message



to our lives in 2024. EBC is a work of joy and love, driven by the faithful belief that the Bible can be applied to our Everyday Lives all things big and small, all the time, everywhere! Thank you for all of you who already make EBC a part of their week, and we encourage everyone to enjoy! If you would like to access EBC, but need help, please ask Candy in the church office. And let's go find God!!



### Scout News!

On Saturday, April 20th in the Scout Troops had 89 volunteers for Lakeville's annual Watershed Cleanup Day. They cleaned trash up from around the church and then all the way down the road to the fire station.

Thank you to all of the volunteers who worked to clean our grounds and support our community!



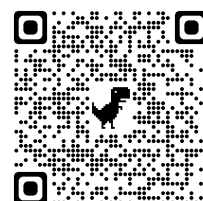
### GriefShare Small Group - Starting May 1

Facilitators: Lisa Horn, Heather Theel & Pastor Kim Kylo  
Meets: Wednesdays at 6:30 pm from May 1 - July 31  
(Except July 3; 13 weeks)  
Where: St. John's



GriefShare is a weekly video and conversation seminar designed to provide support, understanding, and practical tools for coping with grief. We know it hurts, and we're here to help. Whether your grief is fresh, or if you have been coping with grief for years, we hope you'll discover support here. This is open to anyone; you don't need to be a member of St. John's to participate.

Childcare may be available, upon request; please indicate your need when you sign up. Scan the QR code to sign up.



# May 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 9:30am Hannah Bible Study Small Group 3pm Worship Planning 6:30pm Grief Group 6:30 Chancel Choir	2 9am Paper Crafters 2pm Worship at Winsor Plaza	3	4
5 8:15am Worship/ Communion 9:15am Fellowship/ Sunday School/ACE 10: 30am Worship/ Communion	6 5:15pm Yoga With Clarity 7:15 WAM team meeting	7 10:00am Staff Meeting	8 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 3pm Worship 6:30pm Chancel Choir 6:30pm Grief Group	9 9am Quilters 10am Dementia Caregivers Support Group	10 Synod Assembly	11 Synod Assembly  Living In Peace Day at Casperson Park
12 8:15am Worship 9:15am Fellowship/ Sunday School ACE/Parenting Littles 10: 30am Worship	13 5:15pm Yoga With Clarity	14 8:30am Global Missions Team meeting 10:00am Staff Meeting 7:00pm CYF Team Meeting	15 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 2pm Worship at HVH with Holy Communion 3pm Worship Planning 6:30pm Chancel Choir 6:30pm Grief Group	16 9am Quilters 11am Kingsley Shores Worship 3pm Loaves and Fishes	17 9:15am More Than Just Lunch at the James J Hill House	18
19 Pastor Kim Installation 8:15am Worship/ Communion 9:15am Pancake Breakfast 10: 30am Worship/ Communion	20 8:30am Men's Breakfast Small Group-Perkins 5:15pm Yoga With Clarity	21 10:00am Staff Meeting 11am—5pm Blood Drive 6pm Ministry Finance Team Meeting	22 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 3pm Worship Planning 6:30pm Grief Group	23 9am Stitches 2pm Coffee & Conversation at HVH	24	25
26 <b>SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS</b> 8:30am Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10: 00am Worship	27 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	28 10:00am Staff Meeting 6:30PM Council	29 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 3pm Worship Planning 6:30pm Grief Group	30	31	

# Ministry Finance Team Report

The Ministry Finance Team presents this **Financial Performance Report for March 2024** to the Saint John's Lutheran Church Congregation and St. John's Lutheran Church Council. The MFT thanks you for your ongoing financial support and encourages you to remain faithful in your giving as the year continues and we all experience new challenges.

While the first two months of 2024 have been financially challenging for St. John's, March provided a welcome positive financial performance. Thanks to Easter occurring at the end of the month, March financial results were positive. As pledged, St. John's continues to meet the needs of the congregation and the larger community outside of the church. With that as background, the following is a summary financial report for March and the year-to-date numbers.

## March 2024 Summary

Financial results for March 2024 were positive. Our financial picture has improved with Easter in March. We see signs that our programs are increasingly well attended, and worship attendance continues to grow.

We have made a successful transition to Kim Kylo as our Senior Pastor. Her Christ-centered approach, strong theological knowledge and interpersonal skills are an excellent match to help St. John's live its mission in the community. We have filled the Director of Music position by engaging Roxanne on a more permanent basis. We are in the process of calling an Associate Pastor, after which we will have a full staff, on schedule. These staffing hires assist in stabilizing our 2024 Budget.

We encourage you to reach out with questions about Church finances and to ask about opportunities to serve and give to support the programs of St. John's.

## General Fund Report - 2024

*For March 2024:*

- Offering revenue was \$56,218 which is 1% above budget
- General Fund revenues & transfers were \$60,099, which is 3.5% above budget
- General Fund expenses were \$49,603, which is 4.2% below budget
- General Fund net operating performance was a

positive \$10,496

- PPP funds (a one-time funding source) of \$1,521 were used to support monthly cash flow

*Full Year 2024:*

- General Fund revenues & transfers were \$149,114, which is 100% of budget
- General Fund expenses were \$152,314, which is 100% of budget
- General Fund net operating performance was a negative \$3,200
- Net of receipts to expenses year-to-date is (\$3,200) including PPP allocation
- Net of receipts to expenses year-to-date is (\$7,762) excluding PPP allocation

Pending a final decision on rostered ministry staff, monthly Staffing expenses will vary from budget. Mild weather has favorably moderated operating expenses compared to budget.

## Benevolence Fund Report

The Benevolence Fund is allocated a portion (8%) of total offering revenues and all dedicated contributions. Benevolence Fund expenditures are distributed periodically according to identified need. Distributions are typically made late in the calendar year as funding needs are identified and approved.

*For March 2024:*

- Benevolence Fund allocations and revenue received is \$4,888, 4% above budget
- Other Benevolence income contributed \$2,245, 6% over budget
- Benevolence Fund distributions were \$4,000, 84% of budget
- Net Benevolence income and distributions year-to-date are on budget

The Benevolence fund in good financial shape to respond to St. John's and larger community needs in 2024. Benevolence distributions are being made as appropriate, with substantial distributions expected late in the calendar year.

## Building Fund Report

*For March 2024:*

- Building Fund revenues were \$11,529
- Building Fund expenses were \$10,094
- Building Fund Net is: \$ 1,435

*Full Year 2024:*

- Building Fund Revenue is \$27,793
- Building Fund expense is \$30,282
- Building Fund net is: \$(2,489)

March was a positive month for the Building Fund cash flow. While the surplus in March was not enough to fully offset the Jan/Feb shortfalls, it did reduce the cumulative shortfall for the year. In addition, the surplus funds contributed to the building fund in 2023 allow us the flexibility to absorb near term mortgage fund shortfalls. Finally, we have over 8 months of mortgage payment reserves to secure the mortgage payment, putting us in good financial shape for the near-term.

**How can I help or contribute?**

Prayerfully consider signing up to provide regular financial gifts, contributions, and support to St. John's. There are many ways you can support St. John's financially. You can:

- Contribute cash or by check when you worship at Church
- Drop off or mail your contributions to Church if you're not able to attend Sunday in person
- Text "Give" to 218.210.7853

- Go to the St. John's website at [www.sjlcl.org](http://www.sjlcl.org)
- Click on "Give" at the upper right of the home page, and scroll down to:
- "We have three ways to give," click on "Give Online"
- Gifts of stock, bonds, real estate, or other assets are gladly accepted
- Call Tyra at St. John's (612) 469-4916 for assistance with set-up or any questions
- Encourage friends, relatives, neighbors, and others to attend St. John's and join St. John's as members

If you use Tithe.ly, please consider checking the button to increase your gift to cover our processing costs.

*Ministry Finance Team Members and How to Get Finance Questions Answered*

The members of the Ministry Finance Team are always available and willing to answer any finance questions or provide financial operating information about St. John's. Contact the Church office to get connected or if you see **Mark Gelle, Mike Sobota, Lisa Drogemuller, Andy Schultz, Brad Paulson, Mark Renze, Chris Olson, or Treasurer Barry Fick**, don't hesitate to talk with them.

## Worship and Music News

### **Come and See – Come and Sing!**

Do you like to Sing?  
Do you want to meet fun, new people?  
Do you want to be a part of an important ministry?

### **Come and See - Come and Sing!**

Join the excitement of Chancel Choir for the *final Wednesdays of the Choir Season!*  
We'll sing through the Easter Season and *end with our worship celebration of Pentecost on Sunday, May 19th!*

### **SO - Come and See - Come and Sing!**

Beginning on Wednesday, May 1, choir will meet at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.  
Be ready to experience the joy of making music with others and singing praise to God!



Come and See, Come and Sing!



# Care and Compassion Team

## God In My Life Senior Scholarship

The Care and Compassion Team will be awarding up to three \$500 Scholarships to active St. John's Youth who will be pursuing a post-secondary education. If you are interested in this scholarship opportunity, please submit the following by **May 15th**: (deadline extended!)



*God In My Life Scholarship*

1. A **one-page, 500 word, essay** entitled "**My Faith Journey**". In your essay, describe the following:
  - Your early experiences with your faith at church and in your family (Sunday School, VBS, holiday traditions, etc.)
  - Your later, middle school and high school experiences with your faith. Include youth group experiences, mission trips, bible camp, clubs at church, activities outside of church etc.
  - Think about any special moments of faith you may have had, any "AHA" moments or stories of how you felt God in your life and include these also.
  - Your ideas about how you will continue your faith journey as you move on to this next life chapter

**The essay should be submitted as a Word or Google document to [elisa@sjlcl.org](mailto:elisa@sjlcl.org).\***

2. A copy of an original file of your graduation photo. If you didn't have graduation photos taken, please submit a clear copy of a recent photo of yourself. **Please submit either type of photo as a .jpg**
3. Your contact information including: **your email address; phone number; parent's email and phone number; your college's name and the mailing address for the college.**

\*The Compassion Team will review all submitted essays and select the scholarship recipients.

**\*\*The recipients of the scholarships will be announced on Senior Sunday, June 2nd.\*\***

**\*\*Students' essays and senior pictures will be shared with the congregation in the June newsletter.\*\***

**\*\*Scholarships for the winning essays will be distributed in Summer/early Fall 2024.\*\***

## Living in Peace Day

Great Opportunity for Families and Friends  
Please join us **Sunday, May 11th** at Casperson Park in Lakeville for a community event sponsored by the MN Multifaith Network.

There will be food, performances and activities provided by many community partners in Lakeville and Dakota County. The event is free and will be held at Casperson Park from 12:00 - 3:00; with food available from 12:00 to 2:00. St John's will have a table for people to create and send thank you cards. Looking forward to seeing you there and getting to know our neighbors better and celebrate our community!!

**MAY 11, 2024**  
**12 - 3 PM**

*4th Annual*  
**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF**  
**LIVING TOGETHER**  
**IN PEACE**

**CASPERSON PARK, LAKEVILLE, MN**

- ◆ **FREE FOOD, 12-2PM**
- ◆ **PERFORMANCES**
- ◆ **ACTIVITIES**
- ◆ **ART COLLAGE**
- ◆ **SERVICE PROJECTS**

**MORE INFO**  
QR CODE

**SAVE!**  
✓ paper bags  
✓ t-shirts  
✓ tennis shoes

**AISA** Association Internationale Soufie Alawiyya ONG  
**Rotary Lakeville**  
**MINNESOTA MULTIFAITH NETWORK**  
**JUSTSERVE**

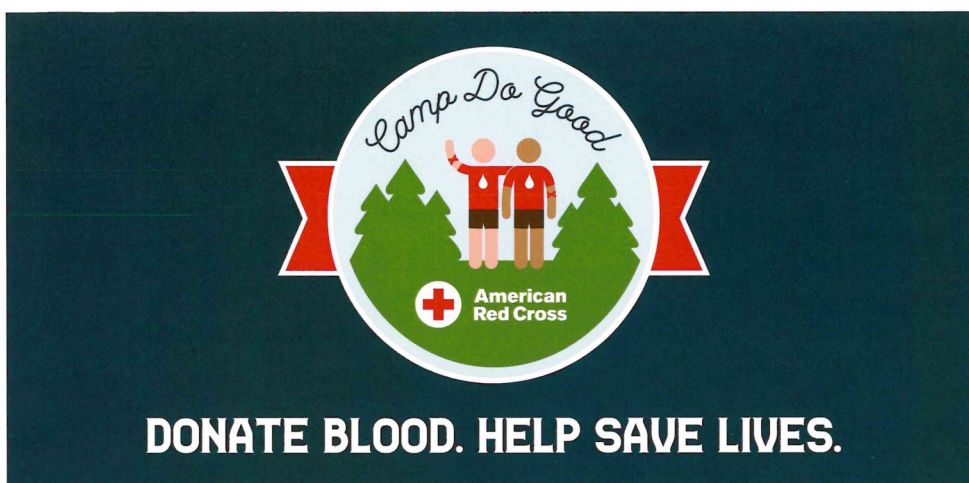
## Notes from the Finance Office:

Pink Envelopes in May & June support Loaves & Fishes.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Q1 2024 contribution statements were emailed to all members for which the church has an email address. If you didn't receive this email, please check your spam folder or call the office to update your email address. Going forward, all contribution statements will be sent out via email. Please call (952-469-6322) or email Tyra (tyra@sjlc.org) if you have any questions.



Through Tithe.ly, you can give to many of St. John's programs including Pink Envelopes, Vacation Bible School, Youth, Columbarium Funding Campaign and more. All of these funds can all be found in Tithe.ly using the QR code here. Open the drop down box to select the program you are giving to.



### **Blood Drive** **St John's Lutheran Church** **Lakeville**

Luke room  
20165 Heath Ave  
Lakeville, MN 55044

**Tuesday, May 21, 2024**  
**11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: SJLC to schedule an appointment.



Come to give blood May 20 to June 9 for an **EXCLUSIVE** Red Cross shirt, while supplies last!



[ 28 ] - Order ID: 1655640 - Item ID: 7750360 - Qty: 1 of 10 - 38172 - 2024-APL-0094 - AR17 - 242000

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2024 The American National Red Cross | 452201-1 CW

## St. John's Concert Piano Fund An Opportunity Awaits You

St. John's has a long tradition of providing great music to celebrate God. To keep that tradition in place requires musical instruments that enhance and elevate music, worship, and the musicians. For the past few years, our concert piano has been showing its age and has reached the point where it must be retired. To keep the music program growing, it is vital to replace the current piano with a new concert piano.

The music staff at St. John's has conducted extensive research and found an ideal candidate for St. John's. They presented their findings to Council, which has approved the purchase of a new piano, if the funds can be raised for the purchase. This is your opportunity to help with this task.

The cost of the new piano is \$26,000. We can trade in our current piano to reduce the cost of a new one a bit. In addition, generous donors to the Piano Fund, along with gifts from WELCA, Estate gifts and other donations have generated over \$9,100 in funding already on hand.

We have received challenge matching pledges of \$6,000, meaning if everyone contributes any amount, up to \$6,000 of those contributions will be matched dollar for dollar. That would result in an additional \$12,000 toward the piano purchase.

If you've been keeping track, we have over \$15,000 in cash and matching pledges already committed to the Piano purchase. We are asking you to contribute what you can to help raise the remaining \$11,000.

This is a "stretch request," over and above your regular giving. We ask you to prayerfully consider a gift to the St. John's Piano Fund in any amount. You can contribute by cash, check or electronically through our Tithe.ly app on your phone or computer.

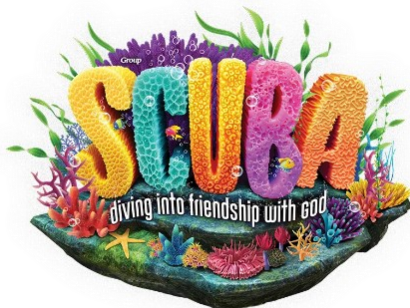
If you have questions or would like additional information to help contribute, please contact the Church office (952) 469-4916. Don't miss this opportunity to make a lasting difference for St. John's.

If you would like to make your donation online, use the QR code and follow these instructions:

- Fill out the amount
- In the "**Give to**" box - use the carrot drop down menu and select "Piano Donation Fund"
- Fill out email, name
- Kindly, cover the fees
- Complete payment



# Get ready for an awesome deep-sea adventure with St. John's SCUBA VBS!!



Our explorers will be diving deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. At our Scuba VBS, kids will be immersed in the all sorts of activities, games, bible stories and experiences that will help them learn about God and His amazing love for us.

Kids from preschool (age 4)-those entering 5th grade are invited to join us this summer, June 10-13 from 9-12, on this amazing adventure!

**\*\*Donations of \$10 per child are suggested but not required\*\***

Volunteers are also needed! Come and help our amazing explorers as a Crew Leader or Station Leader on our undersea journey! Middle School, High School and Adults are welcome to sign up to volunteer.

If you have any questions, please contact Elisa Brown at [elisa@silcl.org](mailto:elisa@silcl.org).



St. John's Lutheran Church  
May 2024 Newsletter  
20165 Heath Ave  
Lakeville, MN 55044

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