

St. John's Church
3383 8th Ave

2013
April -
May

MESSENGER



Special points of interest:

- Meet your new Council President - Eric Houghton
- St. John's Annual Spaghetti Dinner
- Welcome New Disciples
- 2013 Council Directory

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Message from your ...

Church Council President

Greetings from your new council president, with big shoes to fill. Carol was an excellent president and a delight to serve side by side with over the last five years. With God's help I hope to approach any coming challenges with as much grace and knowledge as Carol. Amy Ziesemer is now council vice president, so if we can't have Carol, we do get the next best thing...beside Ed perhaps.

It's my pleasure to be taking this position as three new council members begin their terms. Jean Preston is our new secretary, Debbie Paddock our new stewardship chairwoman, and John Peterman, once council president himself, has returned to council, as property chairman. That's right, three Ps. What's the significance? They will be joining the remaining bunch; Nancy Otis, Pat Tomsheck, Meg Wolfers, Mary Zorne, Pastor Jim, Amy Ziesemer and me, as we pray, then make the choices that keep the church going. A special thanks to our wise departing council member Dennis Tisch, and also Victor Main, who stood in for several months, and whose contributions were appreciated.

Since you may not know me very well, I'll you a little about my time with the church? When I first came to St. John's, on a warm Palm Sunday in 2006, I was apprehensive, like any church new-comer. Raised Catholic, I didn't know what to expect. And if you'd told me then that in seven years I'd be president of this church's council I would have thought "what's wrong with this place?" But my service at St. John's has been a gradual journey, with periods of excitement and times of rest, instances when I wondered if I was over extending myself, and moments I wished I was doing more than dropping a check in the tray.

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Words from Pastor Jim Lynch

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

We often refer to the assembly of the faithful as the body of Christ. In Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12 (quoted above) and Ephesians 4, Paul (or someone working in the name of Paul) reminds us that there are many members of one body. We've just come through Easter. One of the highlights of Holy Week/Easter is orienting and welcoming new disciples. So the body is growing in a good way. And it is better that the body is sound than unsound. That would seem to be obvious. So the next question is: How do we keep a body sound? We take care of it through regular checkups, exercise, eating right, to name a few important ways. How do we keep the body of Christ sound? Let me see. Oh yes, regular checkups, exercise, eating right, to name a few important ways. And how do we do all that for the body of Christ?

Regular checkups: Worship. The idea of a second worship service has met some resistance. Few see the need for it. You still can make your opinion known by filling out and returning the form elsewhere in the Messenger. While that may go on the backburner, we will continue to look for opportunities for more of us to gather consistently around word and sacrament or at least together in prayer and fellowship. Does this mean a Monday or a Wednesday night. We are approaching the summer vacation time. It might be beneficial to offer a time so that people traveling on weekends can still get their praise on.

Exercise: Worship is part of regular exercise. But so is Bible study, volunteer service, getting out into the community. The Tuesday morning Bible study is strong and seems to be popular. Is there a need for an evening study for those who work? We also will be holding a home communion/lay visitor training session and "Lutheran classes." Do we need to schedule multiple sessions of those so that all have an opportunity to attend? It's hard to get going on an exercise program but once you do, it feels so good you just can't stop. Am I right? Amen?

Eating right: The Lord's Supper, the Eucharist, the table, the meal, Holy Communion: No matter what or phrase you use, it is a key to our faith and keeping our body strong. Here again is the worship angle. But we also are nourished by the word and by the community. Remember, many members, many pieces, all working together to keep all of us in tiptop shape.

Message from your ...**Church Council President**

Continued from front cover

The first church group I joined was choir. Charlene talked me into it. You've probably also seen me reading, ushering, working the Christmas program, or even replacing a toilet if you came on the right day. My service on council has been primarily as property chairman. The first year I served we needed a new roof. Ah yes. It must have been exciting to be property chairman when the gathering space was put in. As council vice president, I worked to usher us into the twenty-teens with a new website, which, if you happen to click it now you will find, is fully up to date and user kind.

www. stjohnslutherankenosha.com

I found another family here at St. John's, an organization with a rich history, dedicated members, some of whom have been here since they were born. In that regard I'm a newcomer, so to have been entrusted with this post is an honor. I pray I do well. Remember, if ever you have a church related issue you need addressed, call me, email me, or just talk to me after Sunday service. I will happily direct you to the council member best suited to hear your concern. Thank you Jesus for our wonderful council.

Yours Truly
Eric Houghton

MISSION STATEMENT

***BY THE GRACE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE WILL
REACH OUT AND SHARE CHRIST'S LOVE, OUR
LIVES, AND OUR GIFTS WITH ALL PEOPLE.***

**St. John's Lutheran Church
will sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, May 19, 2013
3833 Eighth Ave. - Kenosha
Serving from 4 to 6 p.m.
Suggested Donation:
Adults \$8 * Children 6-12 \$4
Children Under 6 Free
Tickets will be ready April 21,
see D.L. Stika**

April 2 Election Day bake sale

Yes, there is another election coming up – and another bake sale. If you can contribute baked goods to the effort, it would be appreciated. Items can be dropped off from 5 to 7 p.m. April 1 or any time April 2. Dorothea Prust also suggested that, if you like, you can bake goodies, wrap them for freezing and bring them to church earlier. Thank you in advance for any help you can provide – baking, buying or both. The council discussed dividing the money raised between upcoming youth projects/trips and the fledgling Habitat for Humanity chapter in Kenosha.

If you move, change your phone number, marital status, have a baby, etc.; please let the church office know so that we may maintain our church records accurately.

HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT
 OUR WEBSITE?
www.stjohnslutherankenosha.com

**The Mission Basket Collection
 for the following months
 April - Women's Horizon
 May - Nicaragua Mission
 Thank you in advance for your generous
 donations to these causes.**

Pastoral Care

Please call the office, 262-654-7113, when someone is hospitalized so that a visit can be arranged or a phone call made. Because of Federal privacy laws, hospitals rarely inform Pastors when people are patients. **We are relying on your help & information so that people can be properly cared for.**

Pastor Jim will be in the office from 10 a.m. to around 5 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. To make an appointment, please call the church. Pastor also can be reached on his cell phone at 414-491-5033.

Phone messages are answered on a regular basis.

Church office email address: **stjohnswi@tds.net**

Pastor Jim's email address: **stjohnspastor@tds.net**

*Please include
 in your prayers:*

Louis Cobo

*Robert
 Schwartz*

*Jim Reilly
 (friend of Carol
 Larsen)*

Dr. Fred Wood

*Please pray for
 the family and
 all who mourn
 for Mary
 Erickson (Aunt
 of Eric
 Houghton)
 who recently
 died.*

*Pray for people
 who are dealing
 with results of
 natural
 disasters and
 economic hard
 times*

*and their
 families.*

*Please inform
 the church
 office with
 changes to the
 prayer list.*

Building up the body of Christ

One of blessings in the life of a pastor – and there are many – is to meet with and welcome new disciples into the community of faith. On March 23, the day before we lifted up Christ's passion and death, we lifted up a sign of new life. Gathered around tables in the gathering space, getting to know each other and the community of faith that is St. John's were Karen Kempinen, Candy Peterson, Leif Peterson, Allison Smiley (whose daughter Elaina, a greatgranddaughter of Evelyn Ryan, will be baptized April 7), Joan Rivera and Arlene Young. Those who chose to become part of the family were welcomed in at Easter Vigil. An Introduction Sunday will be scheduled for late spring or early summer. Please make our brothers and sisters feel at home.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We are always looking for children to join us.

Sunday School will be meeting on the following dates:

April 7, 14, 21 & 28 May 5 & 12- last day

Articles or information for the Messenger or Calendar should be submitted to the church office, electronically preferred, by the 15th of the previous month. Therefore the articles for the next **Messenger** should be submitted to Mary by May 15th, 2013.

The deadline for Bulletin submissions is Tuesday at noon.

Submissions can be e-mailed to **stjohnswi@tds.net**

Thank you!

Please pray for your Church Council Members

John Peterman Debra Paddock

Pat Tomsheck Meg Wolfers Mary Zorn

Eric Houghton - President Amy Zieseemer - Vice-President

Nancy Otis - Treasurer Jean Preston - Secretary

Amy Zieseemer - Financial Secretary



You could help the St. John's Sunday School

Program ~ and it is easy! Please remember, and tell your friends and family, to save their empty aluminum cans. Leave them in the back driveway garbage bin area. Cans should be in a plastic bag and tied up. Proceeds will benefit the Sunday School Program. Every little bit helps.

A Great Big Thank You to all who signed up to receive the Messenger and other Church related items by email. This saves the church money. If you would like to sign up, please inform the Church office.

Pick N Save We Care Program You can help St. John's every time you shop at Pick N' Save! Just fill out a *We Care Card* or fill out a *NEW We Care Card* and put St. John's ID number (774640) in the space marked for charity. There are forms in the Gathering Space if you need one. Thank you for helping with this project.

IT IS TIME FOR A NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

An updated church directory has been started. In the near future a copy will be left in the gathering space for you to review and note any corrections before it goes to print. An announcement will be put in the Sunday Bulletin as soon as it is ready for review.

Thank you for your help with this matter.

Mary Schneider
Church Secretary



**COME GET INVOLVED WITH
MENS MINISTRY**

**Active Men's
Ministry
Member's**

- Marv Modder*
- Erv Prust*
- John Tomsheck*
- Victor Main*
- Lee Otis*
- Pastor Jim Lynch*
- Ed Johnson-past
member of St. J.*

This group meets on the first Saturday of each month at 8:30am. April 6 they will be meeting at Gateway Café and on May 4 at the Marina Gardens Restaurant.

All Men are welcome. Look for the table of St. John's guys having a good time.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 9th - Tabitha Houghton
- 11th - Robin Mitchell
- 11th - Lloyd Isenberg
- 16th - Ruth Kulich
- 21st - Daniel Stika
- 24th - Ervin Prust
- 25th - Roger Moddes
- 25th - Jessica Retzlaff
- 25th - Kate Tisch
- 26th - Lorraine Paul
- 27th - Ann Venskus

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 6th - Allison Laurent
 - 10th - Jacob Laurent
 - 10th - Charlene Polanski
 - 22nd - Cynthia Kirkpatrick
 - 26th - Amy Jabs
-

If your
Birthday was
missed, please
let Mary in the
Church Office
know, so that
we keep our
records up
to date.



Sponsorship for Flowers or Bulletins

Thank you to everyone who helps with the service by sponsoring a monthly Bulletins and/or the weekly flowers that are set on the altar.

Altar Flowers for April

7 - Marilyn Bogdala
14- Ruth Kulich
21 - Lorraine
28- OPEN

Monthly Bulletin Sponsor's

April - OPEN

May -
Irene Bashinsky

Altar Flowers for May

5 - Carole Robbins
12 - Jaymie Laurent
19 - Donna Schneider
26 - Irene Bashinsky

Can we count on your help?

Help beautify the sanctuary by sponsoring the altar flowers. This is a great way to show that you are thinking of someone. For the Weekly Flower sponsorship, the cost is \$11.00 per week, plus you get to take home the flowers if you'd like. It is actually a really good deal; cheaper than the store and free delivery right to you after service. For Monthly Bulletin sponsorship the cost is \$25.00 for the month. Flowers and/or the bulletin sponsorship may be given in honor of a person or event, in memory, in thanks, or as indicated by the giver. A sign up chart and sponsorship envelopes for 2013 may be found in the gathering space.

FELLOWSHIP HOST

The 2013 Fellowship sign up sheet is in the Gathering Space. Please pick your dates so Mary can list them in the Messenger and in the weekly bulletins.

Thank you for your help in all of these areas.

OTHER AREAS OF NEED

Fellowship Host/Communion Assistances sign up is another way that you can help out. The sign up sheets are located in the gathering space. Please pick your dates. Your contributions to the church service is much appreciated.

FELLOWSHIP:

April 7 - Carole Robbins **14** - Karen Kempinen

21 - Bess & Bernie Alberg **28** - Carol Larsen

May 5 - Irene Bashinsky **12** - Jaymie Laurent

19 - Lorraine Paul/Karen Jabs **26** - Amy/Josh Jabs

Communion Assistants for April and May

April 7 - Carole Robbins/Deb Paddock

14 - OPEN **21** - Carol Robbins

28 - Deb Paddock/Amy Lynch

All of May is still OPEN

Please sign up.

Flower Chairperson - Ruth Kulich

Fellowship Chairperson - Mary – office

Bulletin Sponsorship Chair– Irene Bashinsky

Communion Assistant Chair - Jim & Debbie Paddock

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Thank you!

URBAN OUTREACH CENTER

Donor Stewardship dinner

The ELCA Urban Outreach Center's annual Donor Stewardship Dinner will be held May 22 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. The evening's events, which get underway at 5:30 p.m., will include raffles, a silent auction, a fashion show and testimony from center clients who have been helped by the services it offers. This is a great way to support the center's efforts and get to know center staff, clients, board members and fellow backers of the center's mission in Kenosha.

Each Month an item is chosen for the "Item of the Month" to be collected for the Urban Outreach Center. These are the items for the following months:

April - toothpaste/brushes

May - deodorant

Our next scheduled date to serve at the Shalom Center is May 29, 2013. We are in need of sandwich makers and servers starting at 3:15. Please let Mary Zorn, Social Ministry Chair, know if you are available to help.

764-0425 or mzorn@urbanoutreachkenosha.org

On Thursdays at the Urban Outreach Center from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. a Community Bible Study is held - all are welcome.

**St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
TREASURER REPORT**

	2013 Jan -Feb	2012 Jan-Feb	2011 Jan-Feb
Current Ministries & Other*	\$17,236	\$18,110	\$12,241
Rent:	\$850	\$1,700	\$2,550
Total Income:	<u>\$18,086</u>	<u>\$19,810</u>	<u>\$14,791</u>
Total Operating Expenses**:	<u>(\$21,373)</u>	(\$16,743)	<u>(\$15,687)</u>
YTD Surplus (Deficit):	(\$3,287)	\$3,067	(\$896)

*Other income includes contributions to church year celebrations, memorials for Current Ministries, Sunday School, plate cash, bulletin support, fellowship collections and interest earned on checking acct.

**Operational Expenses do not include Mission payouts, Pride in Property (PIP) Fund expenditures.

Checking Account Balance 2/28/2013 \$48,357.71

Thank you,
Nancy Otis, Treasurer

If you are interested in becoming a member of St. John's or you would like envelopes assigned to you, please contact the church office.

**SPRING HAS SPRUNG....
FINALLY!!!!**

LETTERS OF THANKS

Dear St. John's Lutheran Church,
 Along with this Certification of Appreciation I would like to express special thanks to the congregations who went an extra mile for synod benevolence. Because of increased generosity we exceeded our expectations for budgeted receipts for 2012. The greatest portion of that increase was due to congregations like yours that gave beyond what we anticipated.

Certainly that is reflected in the benevolence that we are able to send beyond our own synod, including support to the mission of the ELCA, campus ministry, seminaries, and various other ministries within our synod. It also puts the synod on better financial footing. For the first time in a few years we are able to direct energy toward new missions rather than trying to overcome deficits.

I realize what a challenge it is to continue to be the church in a world which is changing so quickly around us. At the same time, it is a tremendous blessing to be the church, to see how much more we are able to do together than we can as separate entities.

Thank you for continuing to believe in Christ's mission in the world through your generosity.

In Christ,
 Rev. Jeff Barrow
 Bishop

Dear Friend:

Gifts to Carthage Nicaragua Water Fund have a significant impact on our students and their educational experience. We are deeply grateful for your financial investment in the ongoing mission of the College.

Thank you for all you're doing to help.

Elaine L. Walton

Associate V.P. for Institutional Advancement

Carthage College

**If you were supposed to be listed and are not, please contact the church office to make sure that your donation was received and noted properly.
 Mary**

Since the last Messenger our records show that the following donations were received:

A Memorial gift has been received by St. John's in memory from the following people:

- ◆ Alice Kobrow, from Steven & Cindy Aasen, Aaron Galley, Carol Larsen, Jeff & Jaymie Laurent, Jane & Roger Moddes, Jim & Helen Redmond, Margery Richter, Audrey Walsh and Meg Wolfer
- ◆ John Hrupka, John & Irene Bashinsky, Jim Komarec, Ruth Kulich, Joan Lettrich, Mary Ann Ryan, Daniel Stika, Anne Venskus, Ziesemer Family
- ◆ Richard Lettrich, Mary Ann Ryan and Daniel Stika
- ◆ Parents and Grandparents of Margie Slavik

A decision was made to list names of people who make special donations or memorials to the church. If you are supposed to be listed and are not, please contact the church office to make sure that your donation was received and noted properly.

Mary