

# THE ST. JOHN NEWS

## August 2022

District in Convention  
**“In Christ...Newness of Life”**  
Romans 6:3-4 and 2 Corinthians 5:17

Greetings dear brothers and sisters in Christ!

Due to the pandemic, the regular gatherings of our districts and synod were postponed for one year. Districts have met in convention this year and the synod will meet in convention in the summer of 2023. Our congregation is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). The LCMS is divided into 35 districts, 33 of which are geographically based. St. John’s is in the Central Illinois District (CID) of the LCMS (that is a lot of letters!). Each district is broken up into circuits for the purpose of broad representation of congregations at district and synodical levels. St. John’s belongs to the Champaign Circuit of the CID.

The reasons our congregation belongs to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod are various. At the top of the list are the following:

- 1) We are in doctrinal and practical agreement with the other congregations in the LCMS. This allows for us to stand united with brothers and sisters in Christ who share the same beliefs in support of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in defense against the false teachings that exist in the world and even in other church bodies.
- 2) What we as one congregation are not able to do alone, we can participate in with other congregations. This has been primarily achieved in the field of mission work. Our synod, through the support of its congregations, is able to contribute significantly to the proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world, along with providing help and support to hurting peoples with mercy and relief efforts worldwide.
- 3) Being a part of a larger church body allows us wonderful fellowship opportunities with like-minded Lutherans. Our synod provides chances to gather through organizations like Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML), Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM), and the National Youth Gathering (NYG).

In order for all of these blessings to be realized and properly maintained, the synod and its districts meet on a regular basis. The synod meets in convention in the year following the districts and their meetings in convention. District conventions provide congregations and their representatives avenues for presenting new matters for the synod to discuss, along with supporting the synod and our fellow congregations with issues that continue on. The synod then meets in convention to discuss the business of the recent district conventions and decide how best to proceed. Each circuit of the synod has a pastoral delegate and a lay delegate for these reasons. Each congregation of each district is represented by a pastoral and lay delegate at their conventions.

For those who have made it this far and are still with me, here’s what happened at the Central Illinois District’s 60<sup>th</sup> regular convention:

- 1) The Rev. Michael Mohr of Vandalia was elected, in the first ballot, to serve as district president for a three-year term.
- 2) The Rev. Mark Eddy and the Rev. Michael Burdick were elected to serve as vice-presidents of the CID.
- 3) Members of the Board of Directors, of the Nominations Committee for the 2025 district convention, of the Constitutions and District Handbook Committee, and of the Nominations Committee for the 2023 Synod Convention were also elected.
- 4) Resolutions were passed to support the ongoing efforts to invite more people into our churches through the preaching and teaching of the Gospel, to reject the practice of Internet Communion, and to affirm the God-given distinctions between the two sexes, in light of the ongoing influence of gender identity controversies.

Those who attended the convention were also treated to an extensive Bible study led by Rev. Dr. Scott Murray, one of our synod’s vice-presidents. He is the pastor at Memorial Lutheran Church in Houston, Texas, and is the author of devotional materials and the book entitled *Law, Life, and the Living God*. Dr. Murray’s study was centered on the convention’s theme, which was “In Christ...Newness of Life.” His essay was divided into three parts: Baptism; Sanctification; and Resurrection.

Attendees of the convention were also addressed by synodical president, Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison. He was the preacher at our opening Divine Service, and he even shared his banjo-playing skills during one of our breaks at the convention.

Special thanks go to Mr. Bob Kellogg, who served as our congregation's lay delegate. We are blessed to hold fast to the solid doctrine handed down to us from our ancestors and equally blessed to hand that doctrine on to those who come after us. Truly, it is not our doctrine but the Lord's doctrine. We do well to conserve it and to teach it to others. And we are blessed to be a part of the LCMS, a solid church body remaining steadfast in the faith in the midst of an ever-changing world, and in the midst of many churches who follow the world's ways instead of the way of Christ.

To God be the glory for his work among us, and for the Christian faith he has seen fit to pass down to us. God grant that this continues through us to all who come after us, for the sake of Christ and his kingdom, in which we will dwell forever because the Means of Grace: the Word, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper.

In Christ's service,  
Pastor Caithamer

### Let Us Pray

**For Peace and Comfort:** Sue and family at the death of Sue's brother Tom; Larry & Vicky and family at the death of Vicky's father Earl Maynard; Bonnie and family at the death of Bonnie's brother Dan, Mimi and family at the death of husband Jim

**For Healing and Recovery:** Karla, Charlene, Judy, Roger-father of Stephanie, Brian, Larry, Teresa-godchild of Bob & Joan, Barbara -family friend of Bob & Joan, John, Tom, Hendricks-grandson of Dan & Joanie, Maria, Merv, Rebecca - daughter of Marvin & Esther, Roy - father of Anne, Todd - grandson of Harold, Brett-cousin of the Kindts'

**For Successful Treatments:** Barb, Luke, Earl, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy

**For our Military:** Adam, Nick, Andy, Brandon, Zachary, David

**For our Missionaries:** Pastor Randrianasolo Dembiniana Havanjanakary and the Madagascar Lutheran Seminary, Pastor Magnus Bengston and Lielsalaca Lutheran Church in Latvia, Pastor Obot Ite and the Lutheran Mission in Kingston, Jamaica



Evangelism Workshop  
Witnessing is the purpose of your everyday life. The Every One His Witness® Lutheran evangelism program considers the real world context in which Lutherans find themselves as witnesses of Jesus Christ. It puts sound doctrine into practical action for sharing the faith with the people whom God has placed alongside His witnesses in their everyday lives.

The workshop will be in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, August 20th from 8am to around 1pm. A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board across from the Fellowship Hall.

**Many Thanks** to those volunteering to teach Summer Sunday School: Betty, Adrienne, Deanna, Karen, Don, Dan & Faith, Karen, Katie, Pam, Alice, Susan and Bill. We couldn't have done it without you!

LWML is again collecting school supplies for the Orphan Grain Train, which it sends around the world where needed. Supplies requested are: 24-pack crayons, new pens and #2 pencils, loose-leaf paper and notebooks, spiral notebooks, glue sticks, construction paper, 12-inch rulers, scissors, washable markers (packages that contain 8 to 10 markers), and new coloring books. Supplies are donated as items not in sets, as they are put into kits by Orphan Grain Train. Please place your donated school items in the LWML box located in the coat room. A list of items is posted there as well for reference. Thank you for helping here and around the world! Please contact Donna, for further information.

**Mary Martha** will not be meeting this summer. We will meet again on Thursday, September 8th. We hope you all have a good summer and we hope to see you in September. All ladies the congregation are invited to attend.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Come join us for Rally Day as we kick off our Sunday School Year August 21! Christian education is so important for children and adults of all ages! We want to encourage everyone to be involved in Bible study and prayer on a regular basis. What better way for parents to show their children the importance of being involved in Bible study, than by participating themselves! On Sunday, August 21 starting at 9:30am, everyone will meet in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a scavenger hunt, puppet show, and songs. Students will proceed from there to their classrooms, while adults will remain for Bible class.

**Church Picnic August 21**—Picnic will follow the late service. Choices include hot dogs, hamburgers, and brats. Sign up for choice of meat, and to bring either side dish or dessert.

**Stewardship—James 1:17** – “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights.” God is the source of all goodness. When we do good, therefore, we imitate Him and reflect His light to all the world. Christians give freely because God has first given so freely to us. We are only imitating our Father and growing up into His likeness.



## August Music Notes



**The Alleluia Ringers need you!** Our faithful handbell choir is in need of 3-5 people to replace some of our number who have relocated out of the area. This group is open to all – men and women, young and not-so-young. We rehearse Wednesdays at 6:00pm in the church balcony, and generally ring once a month. No previous experience required – newcomers always and cordially welcomed.

If you like music, can wave your arms and count, and want to have fun and fellowship, you are a potential handbell ringer. Come give us a try when rehearsals resume in September. Or, if you would like to meet with Keith and give this a quick tryout before then, just let me know!

**Just added to the Church Library – The Lutheran Service Book: Companion of the Services.** This is the newly published companion volume to the *Lutheran Service Book: Companion to the Hymns*, which is also in our library. This volume is full of information about all aspects of our worship, discussed historically, theologically, and practically. Check it out!

**Instrumentalists** - I am putting together an updated contact list of who in our congregation plays instruments and would be willing to bring your talents to church. We regularly welcome instruments play in worship, both to play music on their own and to accompany the congregation. We work to have larger ensembles for major celebrations including Reformation and Christmas, but we also welcome soloists and smaller groups whenever we can put something together. I have lots of music to suggest for players at all levels of experience. Please let me know what you play and when you might be available.

**Mixed Choir and Men's Choir** – We are making plans to get these groups back into regular rehearsal and worship We are looking to resume Thursday evening rehearsals. Please speak to m and/or email me to let me know. New members always welcome.

*Soli Deo Gloria,*

### 4th Annual

### St. John Arts & Crafts Fair

Vendor applications available on the narthex table, from the school office and on the school website, [www.stjohnls.com](http://www.stjohnls.com).



Contact the school office with any questions.



Thank you so much for your support and donations for items for the new classroom and the school! Your generosity is truly appreciated. Our teachers will be busy in August getting their rooms ready. There are a few items on the donation board if you would still like to help.

**E.A.T Nights 2022-2023** E.A.T (Eat Around Town) Nights are back! Join us at Culver's on S. Neil St. on Monday, August 8! Culver's is giving back a portion of all sales from 5-8pm. Spread the word to your friends and family! Flyers are available on the narthex table, in the school office and on the school website. We will be providing Food Runners. Come out and see who will be delivering your food!



## BACK to SCHOOL

First Day of School - K-8 Thursday, August 18– 11:30 dismissal  
First Day of School - LL 3 & 5 Day classes Monday, August 22  
First Day of School - LL 2 Day classes Tuesday, August 23

### CHAPEL OFFERINGS — CAMP CILCA OUTDOOR MINISTRIES

The Central Illinois Lutheran Camp Association (CILCA) sits on 225 acres of woodland and open fields just north of Springfield, Ill., within an easy drive of the popular Lincoln sites in Springfield and historic New Salem. It offers a summer program of week-long camps and outdoor experiences for students of all ages and abilities; Outdoor Education programs for area students; and camping of many kinds for individuals, families and groups. Rustic and all-weather sleeping cabins, campsites for tents, trailers, RV's and pop-ups, swimming lake with beach, athletic fields, Challenge Course, and indoor and outdoor chapel spaces are among the camp's features. Collected offerings will be used to purchase a canoe or kayak and items from their wish list.



Chapel Offering for the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month will be food items for the St. John Food Pantry and Round Barn Food Pantry Program.

## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1 Jan, Mary, Janice, Eric                            | 23 Andrea, Claire, Tom    |
| 2 Jenny, Kathy, Barbara, Mason, Jackie, Lynn, Brandi | 24 Kyle, Nick, Robin      |
| 3 Rowan, Lucas                                       | 25 Chris, Kailyn, Lavina  |
| 4 Brian, Sophia, Jordan                              | 26 Maggie, Alan, Clayton  |
| 5 Renee, Jennifer, Kinsey                            | 27 Devven, Lucas          |
| 6 Cyrenus, Tami, Jansin                              | 28 Karen, Jakob           |
| 7 Brian, Riley, Sue                                  | 29 Joshua                 |
| 8 Nic, Gretchen, Margaret, Alex                      | 30 Ali Jo, Samantha, Lisa |
| 9 Matt, Mitchell, Phyllis, Evalyn                    | 31 Michael                |
| 10 Herb, Diann                                       |                           |
| 11 Richard, Letha                                    |                           |
| 12 Lorene, Chip, Tricia, Benjamin, Ronda, Joe        |                           |
| 13 Alyssa  |                           |
| 14 Thomas, Taylor, Cynthia                           |                           |
| 15 Jackson, Marc, Janet, Shelby, Eunice              |                           |
| 16 Kai, Elijah, Bill, Robin, Kate, Megan, Dee, Henry |                           |
| 17 Lisa, Donna                                       |                           |
| 18 Julie, Lorelei, Marissa, Cory, Donna              |                           |
| 19 Sharon, Kyle, Karina, Titus, Elliott, Beverly     |                           |
| 20 Eve, Charlotte, Paige, Roger                      |                           |
| 21 Sylvia, Beth, Logan                               |                           |
| 22 Aubrey, Ann,                                      |                           |

## AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Terry & Janet (52)  | 15 Garnet & Connie (41), Ray & Janet (2)                   |
| 2 Kevin & Susan (25); Don & Nancy (47)                        | 21 James & Lorene (51)                                     |
| 3 Todd & Sara (37)  | 23 Roger & SherryI (53)                                    |
| 5 Daryl & Chris (27); Paulos & Sina (13)                      | 25 Tom & Pam (32); Brad & Jackie (32); Gail & Beverly (65) |
| 6 Jack & Julie (34); Tim & Katie (11)                         | 26 Greg & Carol (50)                                       |
| 7 Jeff & Kim (29); Chuck & Phyllis (40); David & Amy (18)     | 28 Jonathan & Megan (12)                                   |
| 9 John & Charlene (47)  | 30 Brad & Chris (25)                                       |
| 10 George & Jeanette (59)                                     |  |
| 11 Steve & Jean (38)  |  |
| 13 Blake & Karen Bahler (34)                                  |  |
| 14 Neil & Traci Anderson (18); Stephen & Jennifer Roland (12) |  |



Let us hold fast the confession of our hope  
without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.  
Hebrews 10:23

# 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																																									
<p><i>Church Office</i> 359-1123</p> <p><i>School Office</i> 359-1714</p>	<b>1</b>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Class 5:30 Evangelism Board 6:00 Trustees, School Board</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Sammy's</p>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>																																																																																																									
<p><b>7</b> 9th Sun after Pentecost</p> <p>8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>5-8 E.A.T. Night @ Culvers 5:30 Finance Board</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>6:00 Elders</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Class 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">           Bus Trip to Creation &amp; Ark Museums         </div>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>																																																																																																									
<p><b>14</b> 10th Sun after Pentecost</p> <p>8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<b>15</b>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Class 6:00 Council</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>18</b> 1st day of School K-8</p> <p>9:00 Chapel</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><i>Newsletter Deadline</i></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>8:00 Evangelism Workshop</p>																																																																																																									
<p><b>21</b> 11th Sun after Pentecost</p> <p>8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Rally Day 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Church Picnic</p>	<p><b>22</b> 1st Day of LL 3&amp;5 Day</p>	<p><b>23</b> 1st Day of LL 2 Day</p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Class 6:00 Parish Ed 7:00 Youth Board</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>5:45 Midweek School 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>																																																																																																									
<p><b>28</b> 12th Sun after Pentecost</p> <p>8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<b>29</b>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>10:00 Adult Bible Class</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>5:45 Midweek School 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><i>Pastor Caithamer's day off: Fridays</i></p> <p><i>Summer Hours: Church Office 10:00am-2:00pm</i></p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">July 2022</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	July 2022							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">September 2022</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th> <th>M</th> <th>T</th> <th>W</th> <th>T</th> <th>F</th> <th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	September 2022							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
July 2022																																																																																																															
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																									
					1	2																																																																																																									
3	4	5	6	7	8	9																																																																																																									
10	11	12	13	14	15	16																																																																																																									
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																																																																																																									
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																																									
31																																																																																																															
September 2022																																																																																																															
S	M	T	W	T	F	S																																																																																																									
					1	2																																																																																																									
3	4	5	6	7	8	9																																																																																																									
10	11	12	13	14	15	16																																																																																																									
17	18	19	20	21	22	23																																																																																																									
24	25	26	27	28	29	30																																																																																																									