

# 2023

And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."  
Acts 2:38

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																																		
<p><i>Church Office</i> 359-1123</p> <p><i>School Office</i> 359-1714</p>	<p>Pastor Caithamer's day off: Fridays</p>	<p><i>Summer Hours:</i> <i>Church Office</i> 10:00am - 2:00pm <i>The School will not have</i> <i>office hours. Phone Messages</i> <i>will be checked regularly.</i></p>				<p><b>1</b> 9:00 Playground Mulch Spreading</p>																																																																																																		
<p><b>2</b> 5th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>3</b> 5:30 Finance Board</p>	<p><b>4</b> <i>Church and School</i> <i>Offices closed</i></p>	<p><b>5</b> 10:00 Adult Bible Class 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b> 6:00 Youth Group</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>																																																																																																		
<p><b>9</b> 6th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b> 6:00 Elders</p>	<p><b>12</b> 10:00 Adult Bible Class 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>13</b> 7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast @ Sammy's</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>																																																																																																		
<p><b>16</b> 7th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> 10:00 Adult Bible Class 6:00 Council</p>	<p><b>19</b> 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>20</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i></p>	<p><b>21</b> 6:00 Youth Group</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>																																																																																																		
<p><b>23</b> 8th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b> 10:00 Adult Bible Class 5:15 Parish Ed 7:00 Youth Board</p>	<p><b>26</b> 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>																																																																																																		
<p><b>30</b> 9th Sunday after Pentecost 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class, Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion 1:00 Voter's Meeting</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>				<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="7">June 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td> </tr> </table>	June 2023							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		<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="7">August 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>	August 2023							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		
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# **THE ST. JOHN NEWS**

## **July 2023**

### **VBS 2023 Wrap Up!**

All who participated in our Vacation Bible School this year did so with great joy! Many months are spent in preparation for VBS and it could not be done without the help of many volunteers. Over fifty youths and adults gave of their time and energy in the week of VBS alone. Many more prayed for the students and their families, as well as for our teachers and leaders. Over 85 children attended our VBS each day, from preschool age to those who just completed fifth grade.

Our theme was "God's Living Waters: Covered in Jesus' Grace". We explored the stories of water from the rock in the wilderness (Exodus 17:1-7), Naaman being miraculously healed from leprosy (2 Kings 5:1-19), Jesus and the woman at the well (John 4:1-30), Jesus washing his disciples' feet (John 13:1-20), and thousands who believed in Jesus and were baptized following Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41).

It is always amazing to reflect on the stories from the Bible, especially those involving water. Water has many vital uses for us in this life, such as for drinking, for cleaning, and for traveling. Water is necessary for all creatures, especially us humans. Because water is found wherever we are, it is used by God as his means of grace. Jesus attached his Gospel to common water as the source of life and salvation in Holy Baptism. Wherever water is, Baptism can be there as well, when the Word of Christ is spoken. Christ makes sure that his grace and forgiveness can be given out wherever there are people.

Each year, a special mission project is designated as the recipient of our VBS offerings. This year's project was an effort within our church body to raise money to purchase Bible study and Sunday school materials for children in our own country who are in areas where such resources are not readily available. Our goal was to raise \$500 and we were able to reach that goal, surpassing even \$600! Thanks be to God!

Special thanks go out to our VBS Director, Sara McPike, for organizing the event and recruiting volunteers. Thank you to everyone else who made the VBS week so special. We pray the Lord's continued blessings on the work of sharing the Christian faith with the youth of our church and community. We pray that God would work through these children to share his love with their families. And we pray that God would incline these families to make being with the people of God at church a regular part of their lives.

Many great memories are made at VBS and friendships are kindled that can last a lifetime. VBS continues to be a great time of studying God's Word, hearing the Gospel, learning new songs, playing games, making crafts, and fellowshiping and eating together!

The Lord bless your summer months and your continued dedication to your God-given vocations!

In Christ's service,

Pastor Caithamer



## July Music Notes



Thank you to all who requested favorite hymns for our Hymn Sing Prelude before both services on June 25. It is always a pleasure to sing some old and new beloved hymns together.

During July and August I will be playing some organ works based on some of these favorites as Preludes and Offertories on Sundays and Wednesdays. Keep an eye (and ear) out for one of your favorites!

I will be on vacation for two Sundays in July, the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Filling in for me will be a fine young organist, Trevor Good. Trevor is studying organ at the University of Kansas, and recently won an organ playing competition at the Minneapolis regional convention of the American Guild of Organists. Trevor is interning with me at Buzard Pipe Organ Builders this summer, and I invite you to introduce yourself and bid him welcome.

I again invite instrumentalists among you to join with me in the balcony to play along on hymns, and perhaps play a Prelude or Offertory. I am happy to provide parts for whatever instrument you may wish to bring along.

*Soli Deo Gloria,*

Keith

### Let Us Pray

**For Peace and Comfort:** Lavina and family at the death of granddaughter Hannah

**For Upcoming Surgery:** Ellie -daughter of Laran & Erin

**For Healing and Recovery:** Sherry, Lydia, Robin, Greg-brother of Joyce, David-grandfather of Sara and Ryan, Karla, Charlene, Brian, Teresa-godchild of Bob & Joan, Barbara -family friend of Bob & Joan, John, 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:** Rod, Dan, Nancy, Barb, Luke, Earl, Linda, Joan, Jeanette, Nancy

**For our Military:** 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



**VBS Thank You** – A huge thank you to everyone who was involved with the VBS process. Whether you helped during the week, gave monetary or snack donations, or even just prayed, you helped make this a great time. It's such a blessing to be at a congregation who is willing to give in so many ways toward the sharing of God's word with the children who were in attendance.

**SJL Youth** – Join us for dinner, games, devotion and teen hangout time at church from 6-9pm on Friday, July 7. Friends are always welcome. Upcoming Youth Group dates include: July 21st & August 18th. We are also having a pool party at Indian Acres on August 4th from 6-8pm.

Read Together  
Pray Together  
Summer Reading  
that's all about Jesus



Register at  
[cph.org/reads](http://cph.org/reads)  
May 31 - August 11

### 5th Annual Arts & Crafts Fair & Car Show OCT. 14, 2023 9am-2pm

More information about reserving booth space and other details coming soon. Contact the school office with any questions.

### — Summer Office Hours —

Church Office Summer Hours will be from 10am-2pm. The school office will not have regular office hours. If you need to get in touch with the School Office staff for any reason over the summer, please call the school office at (217)359-1714. Messages will be checked regularly. You may also reach us through email at [kschmidt - at - stjohlns.com](mailto:kschmidt-at-stjohns.com).

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>7 Jonathan &amp; Elizabeth (11) ♥ 8<br/>         John &amp; Sherrie (51)</p> <p>10 Jon &amp; Jaylyn (10); Brent &amp; Andrea<br/>         (13)</p> <p>11 Mitch &amp; Lindsey (14); Todd &amp; Aimee<br/>         (25)</p> <p>12 Dave &amp; Linda (37); Chase &amp; Nicki<br/>         (9)</p> <p>13 David &amp; Kendra (21); Chuck &amp; Jean ♥ (55)</p> <p>14 Zach &amp; Brittney (16)</p> <p>15 Alex &amp; Renee (28)</p> <p>17 Jim &amp; Kim (42); Jay &amp; Stephanie ♥(30)</p> | <p>19 Evan &amp; Alliso (9)</p> <p>22 Justin &amp; Jamie (17); Rod &amp; Anne (18)</p> <p>23 Dan &amp; Joyce (51)</p> <p>24 Brian &amp; Pat (33); Douglas &amp; Megan<br/>         (19)</p> <p>25 Lyle &amp; Jayne (36) 27 Mark &amp; Cheryl (32); Doug &amp;<br/>         Chris (49) ♥</p> <p>28 Richard &amp; Judy (55)</p> <p>30 Jay &amp; Joy Lou Walker (35); Nick &amp; Alayna<br/>         (7)</p> <p>31 Cole &amp; Erin (12); Joe &amp; Katheryn (19) ♥</p> |
|--|---|

**Stewardship Corner**—Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord and not for men, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23-24

PLEASE notify the church office (359-1123 or churchoffice - at - stjohn-lcms.church) if your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect.