

Youth

9th Grade Retreat **Sunday, October 7, 12 - 8 p.m.**
Our annual 9th Grade Confirmation Retreat will take place next Sunday, October 7 from 12-8 p.m. All 9th graders preparing to be confirmed this fall are expected to attend. The afternoon will be filled with good food, lots of fun, lots of faith building, and much, much more! For more information, please contact Pastor Greg at pbusboom@stjohns-springfield.org or 217.793.3933. See you there!

Encounter **2nd and 4th Sundays, 6 - 8 p.m.**
All 9th-12th graders and their friends are invited to Encounter each month in the PLC. Live Music provided by Andy Lazarides and friends - Specialty coffee drinks and smoothies provided by Solid Rock Cafe - Worship and Bible Study led by Pastor Greg - Small group discussion time. It's all back! And, it's new and improved! Don't miss it!

t.b.d. **Sundays, September 16, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.**
Pastor Greg is leading a new Sunday morning experience for 9th-12th graders in the Youth Room titled "t.b.d." Each week from 9:15-10:15 a.m., we will load up on unlimited supplies of chocolate milk, donuts, and apple slices dipped in caramel, followed by an engaging discussion of important faith topics! This fall's topic will be prayer as we wrestle with questions like: Is prayer important? Is there a right way to pray? Does prayer really change things? Does prayer really change God? C. u. @ t.b.d. this fall. Friends and foes are welcome!

Children

Trunk-or-Treat **Wednesday, October 24, 5:30-7:00 p.m.**
Come to the St. John's parking lot to trick-or-treat with your family and see all our decked-out trunks! Wear your favorite costume and bring a bag or bucket to collect your treats. Dinner will be provided for all who attend under the big white tent. Anyone is welcome to come to this event, so spread the word! If you would like to host a trunk or donate candy, please contact the church office by October 22.

Powerlight Skate Night **Monday, October 1, 6:00-8:30 p.m.**
Join us at Skateland South in Springfield for a night of skating, and enjoy FREE admission from our local Powerlight sponsors. See Sam Neahring to receive tickets for your family. Tickets do not include skate rentals.

Children's Music **Sunday, October 7, 10:30 a.m.**
Children will sing on the first Sunday of each month, alternating between Sanctuary and PLC worship. October's song will be "I am a Promise" during Sanctuary worship. Make sure to join us for Sunday School opening at 9:15 in the PLC to practice!

Christmas Program Auditions **Wednesday, November 7, 6:00 p.m.**
Can you believe we are preparing for our Christmas Program already?! If you are in 1st grade through 6th grade, you are eligible to audition for a speaking role or special singing role in this year's program. Sign up to audition on our Children & Family bulletin board today!

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

All events can be found at www.stjohns-springfield.org
There you will also be able to sign up for weekly event emails.

SUNDAY 9-30

Fellowship
PLC LOBBY 9:15 a.m.
Ministry in Context
Lay Committee
AMR 11:45 a.m.
Concert Series Ministry Team
PARLOR 12:00 p.m.

MONDAY 10-1

Transportation Ministry Team
PARLOR 6:00 p.m.
Powerlight Family Skate Night
OFFSITE 6:00 p.m.
Personnel Committee
AMR 6:00 p.m.
Leadership Board
AMR 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY 10-2

Coffee and Conversation
PLC LOBBY 8:00 a.m.
Women's Bible Study
AMR 9:00 a.m.
Men's Bible Study
PARLOR 9:00 a.m.
Staff Meeting
MUSIC ROOM 9:00 a.m.
Stephen Ministry Training
AMR 6:00 p.m.
Young Adult Bible Study
OFFSITE 6:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 10-3

Preschool Parent Pastries
NARTHEX 8:30 a.m.
Cancer Companion Training
AMR 10:30 a.m.
Preschool Parent Pastries
NARTHEX 12:15 p.m.
Wednesday Night Supper
PLC LOBBY 5:45 p.m.
Confirmation
CLASSROOM A/B 6:30 p.m.

Third Grade Bible Class
CLASSROOM C 6:30 p.m.
Worship Band Practice
PLC 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 10-4

Preschool Parent Pastries
NARTHEX 8:30 a.m.
Preschool Parent Pastries
NARTHEX 12:15 p.m.
Grief Support Group
PARLOR 5:30 p.m.
Bells of Glory
SANCTUARY 5:30 p.m.
Chancel Choir
MUSIC ROOM 6:40 p.m.

SATURDAY 10-5

Worship/Communion
SANCTUARY 5:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 10-7

Worship/Communion
SANCTUARY 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School/ Adult Forum/t.b.d.
VARIOUS 9:15 a.m.
Fellowship
PLC LOBBY 9:15 a.m.
Worship
SANCTUARY 10:30 a.m.
Contemporary
Worship/Communion
PLC 10:30 a.m.
Ministry in Context
Lay Committee
AMR 11:45 a.m.
9th Grade Confirmation Retreat
OFFSITE 12:00 p.m.
New Disciples Class
AMR 5:00 p.m.
Parenting the Early Years
OFFSITE 6:00 p.m.
Parents in Christ
OFFSITE 6:00 p.m.



ST. JOHN'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pentecost 19

September 29-30, 2018



Sarah Hembrook, Ministry Team Leader for PLC Hospitality, rocks the welcome desk on Sunday morning.

The Messenger

Welcome

to St. John's Lutheran Church! We are glad you are here! If you do not yet have a church home and would like to become part of Christ's community at St. John's, we invite you to visit with one of our pastors. In today's gospel reading from Mark, someone is casting out demons in Jesus' name who isn't part of Jesus' own circle, and the disciples want him stopped. Jesus, however, refuses to see this as a threat and welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

This Weekend

5 p.m. Saturday
Worship/Communion (Sanctuary)
Pastor Pam Mitcham, Preaching Minister

8 a.m. Sunday
Worship/Communion (Sanctuary)
Pastor Greg Busboom, Preaching Minister

9:15 a.m. Sunday
Discipleship Hour
Fellowship / Sunday School /
Adult Forum / t.b.d.

10:30 a.m. Sunday
Worship/Communion (Sanctuary)
Pastor Greg Busboom, Preaching Minister

10:30 a.m. Sunday
Contemporary
Worship/Communion (PLC)
Pastor Pam Mitcham, Preaching Minister

Pastor's Message

"For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward" (Mark 9:41).

To be a disciple of Jesus is to give. Disciples give their time. Disciples give their talents. Disciples give their treasures. Disciples give themselves in loving relationship to others.

Each fall here at St. John's, we ask the disciples of Jesus in this place to prayerfully discern how God is calling each of us to give in the coming year. As we look ahead to 2019, your faith-filled generosity is needed more than ever to support our ever-growing ministries.

To kick-off our fall stewardship campaign, the Stewardship

Pastor's Message Continued

Vision Team invites the entire congregation to join together for a special **Stewardship Brunch** on **Sunday, October 14** at **9:15 a.m.** in the **Parish Life Center**. In addition to enjoying a delicious meal of biscuits and gravy, fresh fruit, pastries, orange juice, and coffee, all disciples will receive their 2019 Stewardship Packets and will hear from our congregation's leaders why our faithful giving to St. John's is so important for the coming year.

Stewardship Brunch
Sunday, October 14
9:15-10:15 a.m.
Parish Life Center

This year's campaign is calling on all disciples to grow their financial giving by **ONE**. We are more than confident that if all disciples grow

their financial giving by **ONE** that God will supply us with all that we need and more to effectively carry out Christ's ministry in the world. Come to the Stewardship Brunch on October 14 to learn what **ONE** might mean for you!

Mark your calendars today and plan on joining us on October 14 as, together, we live out our discipleship to Christ by giving back to God what God has first given to us! Your giving is needed! **Come and see what ONE can do!**

Come and See +

Pastor Greg

Nursery Available We love having children with us in worship here at St. John's! However, we also realize that participating in worship is often difficult for parents of especially young children. We offer a fully staffed, safe, and secure nursery for children ages birth through 4-years-old each weekend during all four of our worship services. All of our nursery staff are fully screened and trained to provide the best care possible for our little ones. The nursery is located across from the restrooms in the Parish Life Center (PLC) Lobby. We are glad you are here and want you to have the most meaningful worship experience with us as possible.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Dorabel Weiskopf and in celebration of what would have been her 100th birthday by Michele and Ed Smith and family.

Remember in Prayer Dottie Beach, Marie Bomke, Marlene Carnduff, Ralph Chambers Sr., Bernadine Dickson, Darlene Edwards, Natalia Foard, Jim Greene, Steve Hardy, Chad Hicks, Eileen Kerasotes, Betty Lunik, Joe Merrick, Ken Martin, Donna Moore, Judy Nika, Johnita Osterhuber, Bentley Padilla, Gene Poehلمان, William Purdy, Dean Rademaker, Priscilla Rademaker, Liz Saner, Jean Sergent, Debbie Slater, Katie Smith, Pat Sriner, Perry Taylor, Carole Tracy, Helen Traeger, Suzie Weissberg, Stephanie van Ulft

Holy Baptism We rejoice in the baptism of Alexander James Rodden at our 8:00 a.m. worship service this weekend. Alexander is the son of Thomas and Katelynn Rodden. His baptismal sponsors are Micah and Tonya Miller. We pray for God's Holy Spirit to fill Alexander with the gift of faith as he grows into a disciple of Jesus!

General

Stewardship Brunch

Sunday, October 14, 9:15 a.m.

Come and see what ONE can do! Our annual fall stewardship campaign kicks off on Sunday, October 14 with an all-congregation brunch in the Parish Life Center! Come and share a delicious meal together, including biscuits and gravy, fresh fruit, pastries, orange juice, and coffee, as we learn what it means to be a faith-filled steward here at St. John's! In addition to our 5:00 and 8:00 worship services this weekend, we will also celebrate with a combined 10:30 worship service in the Sanctuary. All are welcome! Come and see!

New Ministry Guides and Spiritual Gift Inventories

The Holy Spirit is alive at St. John's in many different ways and you are invited to be part of it! Updated ministry booklets with team and group descriptions, related spiritual gifts, and contact information are available at the Welcome Centers. And, in less than five minutes you can find out how God has uniquely designed you for ministry! Look for quick, updated spiritual gift inventories inside the ministry guides. COME AND SEE how God is calling you to get involved in all that God is doing in and through this place! For more information, contact Kristen Schmid Schurter at 217.793.3933, or ksschurter@stjohns-springfield.org.

Soup, Salad, and Dessert Luncheon

Our sister congregation, Faith Lutheran Church in Jacksonville (1385 W Walnut St) invites us to a soup, salad, and dessert luncheon from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Columbus Day, Monday, October 8. The menu includes a choice of 3 homemade soups, lettuce salad with toppings, dessert buffet, roll, and beverage. Tickets are \$7/adults and \$3/children 10 & under. Tickets are available at the door.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels help is still needed on October 5, 9, 17, and 22. If you can help, please contact Janet Moulton at 217.971.9535 or jmoul537@hotmail.com. Any help would be greatly appreciated!

College Connection

The College Connection Ministry Team is looking for updated addresses for college-aged youth from St. John's. Please let the church office know any new addresses for our college-aged youth (freshmen through seniors) so that we can keep in touch with them this school year.

Lutheran World Relief Ingathering

Once again, it is time for our annual participation in the LWR ingathering. During the months of September and October, we will be collecting Personal Care Kits that will be distributed to people who have lost their homes in this country and around the world. While families are forced to live in shelters or refugee camps, these kits will give them the dignity of having their own personal toiletries. The following items are needed for each kit: 1 light weight bath towel (dark colors preferred), 2 or 3 bath size bars of soap in their original wrapping, 1 adult size toothbrush in its original packaging (do not purchase multi-packs), 1 sturdy comb, 1 metal nail clipper. You may provide individual items or complete kits! Thank you in advance!

Grief Support Group

Our St. John's Grief Support meets each Thursday at 5:30 p.m. We welcome people who have participated before, as well as those who would be new to the group. To register, please call the church office, 217.793.3933. If you have questions, please get in touch with Pastor Pam at pmitcham@stjohns-springfield.org.

Adults

Adult Forum: The Book of Judges

Starts Sunday, September 30, 9:15 a.m.

The Book of Judges cracks a window into depths of the human soul. Watch a nation struggle with its identity and relationship to its God. Heroes and heroines arise who seem to have the potential to save Israel, but in the end, each proves to be a broken savior that cannot deliver. Join us as we travel through the Book of Judges using a study written by pastor and author J.D. Greear. We will wade into the Book of Judges to shine a light onto the muddy waters of human rebellion. The stories and truths within are not just archaic tales with no relevance for us today. Rather, through each chapter we will be unpacking the truth of God's grace in the midst of human wickedness, and showing how only the divine can redeem the fallen. Grab a cup of coffee and join us in the Adult Meeting Room.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study group continues their Bible study in the AMR with the Jesus Calling series by Sarah Young: Experiencing God's Presence. We welcome everyone!

Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.

Men's Bible Study

The Men's Bible Study meets in the parlor to study "Great Figures of the New Testament" using presentations by Professor Amy Levine of Vanderbilt University. All men are invited and welcome.

Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m.

Parenting the Early Years

This small group for parents of elementary aged children is welcoming new families! Please consider joining us one or two Sunday evenings a month, beginning October 7, as we meet to grow together toward intentional parenting. This fall's study is designed to help parents grow from being "quick fix" parents into parents who build strong foundations for their families in their day to day lives. We gather in the home of a group family, with in home childcare. Please contact Dawn Moulton at MissW23@gmail.com or call/text 217.741.7174.

1st & 3rd Sundays, 6:00 p.m.

New Disciples' Classes Sundays, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., beginning October 7

Interested in becoming part of our St. John's family? Our next series of New Disciples' Classes will begin Sunday, October 7 at 5:00 p.m. in the Adult Meeting Room (AMR). This five-week class explores what it means to be in community, a Christian, a Lutheran, a disciple, and a servant. Each class begins with a light soup and sandwich meal together and child care is provided in the church nursery. If you are interested in learning more or in signing up for the classes, please contact Pastor Adam at 217.793.3933 or pconnolly@stjohns-springfield.org. All are welcome!