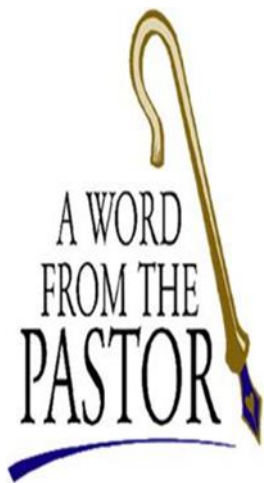


Pastor's Note

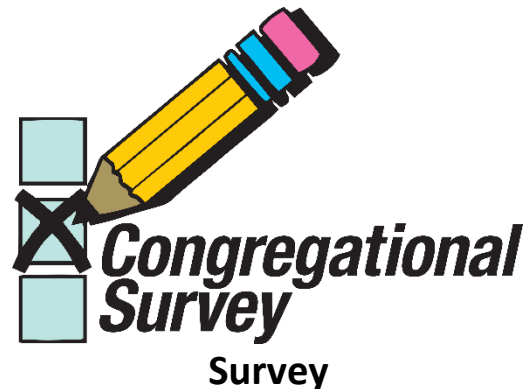
I shared these thoughts with Executive Committee some weeks ago, and they encouraged me to share them with you. Over my eight years at St. John, I have reflected on our sharing of space, and have observed a continuum of points of view. On



the one hand, there is the idea that, if we are letting someone else use a particular space, then that space is lost to us. We cannot use it. On the other hand, there is the idea that if we are letting someone else use a particular space, then we can use that space also.

Neither of these ideas are entirely true. Some areas are clearly ours, like the church offices are ours and Friends School offices are theirs. Others spaces are mostly ours. The Sanctuary is mostly ours, except after 2:00 on Sunday afternoon when a Congolese congregation worships here. The Friends School classrooms are mostly theirs, unless we use them on a Sunday morning or for VBS, which is part of our lease with them. Then there are spaces that are used regularly by both us and someone else, like Diehl Hall, which hosts an AA meeting Sunday evenings, weekday dance classes with Friends School, and bridge club first Wednesdays of the month, and which we use for potlucks, Bible study, Quilting Group Men's group and other social events.

My reflection is that figuring out the sharing of space takes time and effort. Difficulties will always arise because we are human. Frustrations will happen. Legitimate concerns will come up, which we will need to address. It takes work. But it is not fruitless work. People are healed, fed, taught and blessed because of our building, or, rather Jesus's building, which is what it really is. And precisely because it is in Jesus's building, it says that Jesus is about healing, feeding, teaching and blessing. That's one of the variety of ways we proclaim the good news in word and deed. Thanks be to God.



Please fill out a survey form at church, the first three Sundays in August, indicating whether you think it would be a good idea to continue with our one worship service at 10:00, or to move back to two worship services, 8:45 and 11:00 for September through May, 2023-2024. Please be sure to put your name on the survey so we can count it. Thank you!





All-Church Potluck

Second Sunday Potluck

August 13, after 10:00 worship. Bring a side dish or a dessert. Meat will be provided. Come for good food and fellowship.



Thank You!

Thanks to all who worked to provide food, set up, clean up and support the worship service for Tom Johnson's memorial. Many have said it was uplifting and comforting. We thank God for you.



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make Vacation Bible School a success. We truly appreciate it.



Summer Worship Schedule

One Worship Service June-August, 10:00: Sunday Bible Study will be at 9:00. In August, we will survey the congregation again to see whether we think it is a good idea to continue with one worship service at 10:00, or to return to two worship services at 8:45 and 11:00 for September 2023 through May 2024.



Favorite St. John Memories

A story from John Timmons, Technology Liaison to Council.

How I ended up at St. John – I was raised Roman Catholic, in a Catholic school. Went to mass every day. I was an altar boy. My grandparents were disappointed that I did not become a priest.

When you go to grade school with nuns, you get a lot of indoctrination. When I got older in high school, I began to push back against formal religion. I believe in God, that people should do good, but organized religion just didn't seem to work for me.

Fast forward 35 years. I had a friend who was a hairdresser, who had wanted to connect me with a certain someone named Denise for five years. I did not think it would work out at all. She was a golfer and a doctor. I ran a record store. How could that work? And on top of it all, she was a church lady! Nevertheless, we both reluctantly agreed to a blind date for lunch, and three and a half hours later we decided to have dinner.

Three or four dates later, she dragged me along to lunch with her pastor, Ed Young. We talked about biking and architecture and I felt good with him. Then, again, reluctantly,

I came to church. I found the congregation friendly. People made me feel welcome.

Fast forward again, and Pr. Young retired. And after several searches, Pr. Andy came. I really appreciate his messages.

There are certain people that God has placed in my way to keep me alive and on the right track (despite my best efforts.) Among these are Denise and several people in this church. Thanks be to God



Sending of Communion

Are you interested in spending 2 hours per month helping our home bound people? The Evangelism Committee is looking for volunteers who will give communion to congregation members who are unable to attend church services. Please contact Mike Murray for further information.





Helping With Hope Buss

If you want to help feed houseless and other folks, text @hopebuss to 81010 to get on the information list. If you want to coordinate your help with other folks at St. John, E-mail or text or call Denise Puthuff at dlputhuff@yahoo.com, or 502-558-8806. Thank you!



Worship Service on the Website

Please remember that our worship services can be replayed on our website. To share a part of the service with someone or review it yourself, please go to stjohnlutheranky.org.



75 Challenge

In February we set a goal of extending seventy-five invitations to St. John events or stories about God's work at St. John. The deadline was by Christmas. Here in July, we have already met that goal, and now have reached 76. This is so great that Council has challenged us to move even farther, and make 150 invitations or stories by Christmas.





Blessing of Backpacks

August 9, bring your backpacks, pens, notebooks, laptops and any other learning devices. Pr. Stahr will lead a blessing of backpacks, where we ask for God's blessing for our school year.



School Security

Sadly, all schools have implemented extra safety protocols in the wake of the current epidemic of mass shootings. As a result, Friends School has asked, and St. John Council agrees that during school hours, everyone in the building must check in and enter their name either at Friends School office or at the Church Office. If anyone from the church enters Friends School space, they must have a sticker or lanyard indicating that they have checked in at one of the two offices. All schools have safety protocols of this nature. It is inconvenient but has become necessary.



Volunteer Help

Anyone who can help the church with any of the following provisions, please contact Pr. Andy:

- Financial secretary
- Youth on-line games facilitator
- Community interviewers - 4
- Altar guild -4
- Mentors for new members -5
- St. Matthews Area Ministries board representative



Financial Update

Monthly Financial Update

	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23
Income	\$24,081	\$21,493	\$19,861
Expense	\$35,656	\$37,287	\$31,713
Result	(\$11,575)	(\$15,794)	(\$11,852)
(Income less Expense)			

Summer slump continues...

Thank you for your continuing support of the mission of St. John. Please continue to mail in your contributions. Feedback welcome and appreciated. Please reach out to Christi Elbert or Diane Kushman if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.

This Year's Goals



Church Goals

Last October, Council established four goals for 2024. Here are those goals and a few of the ways in which we are reaching them.

1. Increase communication with people both within and outside of St. John: We have achieved 75 invitations or stories to or about God's work at St. John, and have increased our goal to 150. We have hired technology associates who have helped us improve our online worship experience, put up the worship service on the website, and produce announcement slides in our building.
2. Increase collaboration with churches and community services: We developed a relationship with the Hope Bus in which we enable them to produce over 1,000 meals a week for hungry people in Louisville.
3. Revive music program: With the help of Denine LeBlanc, we have resumed regular choir anthems, and are currently in process of bringing on a part time conductor.

4. Assess and address needs in physical space: We have done and are in the process of addressing leaks in the roof and many other building maintenance issues. We are now in process of purchasing a sign, with help from a memorial gift from Bill and Alison Stemler, in memory of Ruthanne Stemler.

Thank you to everyone on council and to all who are contributing to these efforts. Please see the volunteer opportunities if you wish to be a part of continuing to reach these goals in the remainder of 2023.



August Yard Sales

For the eighth year, we'll be hosting a Community Yard Sale in our parking lot each Saturday in August and Labor Day Weekend, September 3. Church members are welcome to come sell alongside members of the community. Parking spaces are \$20. Sales run from 9am to 1pm. If you have any questions, contact Rebecca at beckysporch@yahoo.com or 502-403-7671.

The Women of St. John will feed us each Saturday while they are selling baked goods

and craft items in Diehl Hall. This year the profits will be used to renovate the Pastor's office. If there is money left over from the renovations, we will be donating it to our sponsored charities, Hope Buss, Ky Refugee Ministries, and St. Matthews Area Ministries. Also come buy your presents early. The quilt group of St John has many handmade items to buy.


Nitty gritty details: set up is from 7:30am - 9am. Cars will be directed to spaces on a first come basis. Cars will be moved to a different area of the parking lot before 9am. The \$20/space will be collected shortly after 9am. I don't collect money before the day of. I don't save spots. You have to bring your own tables and chairs. A pop-up style shelter is recommended as our parking lot is very exposed to the sun.



Magazine Collection

We have taken one more step to getting back to normal after the Pandemic – Yipee! Our magazine donations can now be resumed to Baptist Hospital East. Thank you for your continued and faithful support. As previously, there will be a collection basket at the entrance of the sanctuary and also in the hallway by Diehl. Please remember the magazines must be less than 2 years old.

Thank You, Rosie Wiebusch

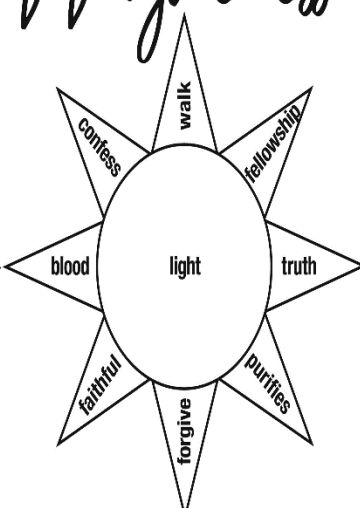


PUZZLE

The light of forgiveness

The Lord is full of mercy and light. What happens when we confess our sins to God?

Directions:
Use the coded shapes to fill in the blanks and complete 1 John 1:7-9, NIV.



But if we _____ in the _____, as he is in the _____,

▲ ● ●

we have _____ with one another, and the _____

▲ ▲

of Jesus, his Son, _____ us from all sin. If we claim to be

▲

without sin, we deceive ourselves and the _____ is not in us.

▲

If we _____ our sins, he is _____ and just and will

▲ ▲

_____ us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

▼

1 JOHN 1:7-9, NIV

Answer: walk, light, light, fellowship, truth, purifies, blood, confess, faithful, forgive



Pastor on Vacation

Pr. Andy will be on vacation from July 27 through August 14. Rev. Ron Poisel will be available for emergencies. If you need his cell phone number, please call Diane Kushman, 502-773-0836. Rev. Scott Meier will preach and preside July 30, Rev. Ken Stahr will preach and preside August 6, and Rev. Ron Poisel will preach and preside August 13.



Movie Night

August Movie Night will be Tuesday August 22 at 6:30 in the library. Movie this month: Second Hand Lions.



Use of Room 2

St. John is renting room 2 to Friends School for the coming school year. Confirmation and Friends in Faith will meet in the library, room 35, Diehl Hall or the Diehl Hall kitchen if cooking is involved.



Please...Just a quick reminder... When you enter a room lights go ON. When the room is no longer being occupied lights go OFF! Much appreciate your full cooperation!
St. John Congregation Council



2023-24 Stewardship Plan

In early August 2023 a form will be sent to congregation members to list the goals that they would like for the church to pursue in 2024. A computer link will also be provided for this purpose. Members will have until August 27th to return the responses. These responses will be funneled to appropriate committees for review. A Council meeting is scheduled on October 8, 2023 to discuss and choose three goals for 2024. No later than the week of October 22, 2023 a letter will be sent to the church members informing them of the church's progress accomplishing 2023 goals and the church goals chosen for 2024. This letter will also include the giving intent cards for 2024. The intent cards are due on November 19, 2023. In January 2024, St. John will begin the Stewardship for all Seasons (SFAS) Program.

Puzzle!

Search in all directions to find these words from the first seven chapters of Proverbs.

WORD LIST: covenant, delight, discipline, evil, father, fool, forsake, fountain, fruit, heart, honest, humble, insight, listen, Lord, love, neighbor, path, pleasant, poverty, protect, rebuke, sleep, son, teaching, tongue, walk, wisdom, youth

M I C W L O O F Y C C M N C T
D S K A C X J X H M K I P P N
E N I L P I C S I D A Y R E A
E J H K T O T R N T W O Y K S
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V M X U H D O A U M I T T A O
O E R E Y P Y H E K U B E R M
L F R K S L E E P H C N P N R



August Birthdays

Kevin Williams	08/01
Nancy Frystak	08/03
Susan Florence	08/04
Bonnie Wright	08/05
Douglas Bailey	08/07
Charlotte Davis	08/07
Taylor Florence	08/07
Morgan Stinson	08/07
Randall Wright	08/07
Karen Irwin	08/08

Nathaniel Jarrett	08/08
Brett Lowen	08/08
Ellen Goff	08/09
Silas Payne	08/09
James Downey	08/11
Brenda Painter	08/11
Charles Hann	08/12
Laura Bower	08/13
Brian Pulford	08/14
Sandra Lamar	08/15
Joseph Loiacano	08/16
Andrew Braden	08/19
Denise Puthuff	08/19
Ethan Lind	08/20
Roehn Dye	08/21
Meagan Pulford	08/21
Brian Foster	08/22
Bill Parks, Jr.	08/22
Spencer Jones	08/23
Ryan Rube	08/23
Emily Reeser	08/24
Carolynn Hall	08/25
Mark Lynch	08/26
Kai Florence	08/27
Cannon Roop	08/27
Jennifer Brown	08/28
Betty Meyers	08/29
Caleb Newman	08/31



August Anniversaries

Derrick & Jennifer Brown, Jr.	08/01
E. J. "Al" & Betty Shumate	08/05
Randall & Bonnie Wright	08/06
Douglas & Barty Bailey	08/11
Paul & Dinah High	08/22
Joshua & Laura Cox	08/31

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1 6:30pm - Property 7:30pm - Technology	2 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	3 Council Reports Due (1st) 6pm - Executive	4	5 7:30am - Set-Up for Yard 9am - Yard Sale 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
6 9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	7 6:30pm - Men's Group	8	9 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	10 6pm - Congregation	11	12 7:30am - Set-Up for Yard 9am - Yard Sale 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
13 9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 11am - Potluck Luncheon 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	14	15 Assumption of Mary Journal Deadline 6:30pm - Christian	16 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	17 4pm - Worship & Music	18	19 7:30am - Set-Up for Yard 9am - Yard Sale 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
20 9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	21 6:30pm - Men's Group	22 6:30pm - Movie Night	23 10am - Sewing Group 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	24	25	26 7:30am - Set-Up for Yard 9am - Yard Sale 8pm - AA (ABC) @ ABC
27 9am - Choir Rehearsal 10am - Worship 12pm - Stephen Ministry 3pm - Eben-Ezel 5pm - AA Group 19 (Diehl)	28	29	30 6:30pm - Choir Rehearsal 7pm - OA (ABC) @ ABC	31	1	2

AUGUST 2023 WORSHIP TEAM

8/6

8/13

8/20

8/27

Assisting Minister

10:00

Cindy L

Patti M

Diane K

John N

Lector

10:00

Mike M

Patti M

Dinah H

John N

Youth Lector

10:00

Magdalene M

Lily B

Lily B

Magdalene M

Cantor

10:00

Cindy L

Laura R

Diane K

Laura R

Crucifer

10:00

Trey L

Melvin G

Trey L

Melvin G

Acolyte

10:00

Magdalene M

Lily B

Lily B

Magdalene M

Usher

10:00

Sherley S

Rosie W

Joanne N

Edie M

Altar Guild

Dinah H, Brenda P

Communion Prep

10:00

Brenda P

Brenda P

Brenda P

Brenda P

Send a cheerful note to our members who are "under the weather" and/or can't make it to church services or church events.

Vivian Lenberger
Betty Pauley
Nancy Robinson
Skip Stearman
Maxine Wines

If you would like a copy of the addresses emailed or mailed to you, please contact the church office.

St. John Lutheran Church

901 Breckenridge Lane
Louisville, KY 40207

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www.stjohnlutheranky.org

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St. John Journal

St. John Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered, grace-based community proclaiming the gospel through word and deed.

Worship at St. John

Sunday

10:00 a.m. Online & In-person

Monday-Friday

12:00 p.m. Online

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Lunch 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Church Telephone

& Fax Number

Phone: (502) 895-9320

Fax: (502) 895-3979

Email

stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org



Visit us on the web at
www.stjohnlutheranky.org
or scan the QR code.



Staff

Reverend Andy Rutrough

Pastor

David McNease

Office Administrator

TBD

**Youth Project
Coordinator**

TBD

Choir Director

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

Organist