

Pastor's Note

Some years ago, National Geographic published an article on what it is like to live at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station. (Maybe I'm thinking of Antarctica because it's so hot here in summer.)

But at the South Pole, August is a winter month. Indeed, at the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station, extreme cold, twenty-four-hour darkness and high winds isolate everyone in a small, self-contained facility for months.

If you want to work at Amundsen-Scott over winter, you have to take an extensive battery of tests to make sure you don't go haywire a week after the last plane leaves. So, for example, they will put you in a dark room for a long time, to make sure you can handle it.

One person undergoing this test asked to be let out of the room early because he was afraid that if he died there, God would not be able to find him.

I think that sometimes we create South Poles of our own—cold, dark, isolated places where we think God can't find us. We think that our mistakes, or shame or humiliation or hard times are so vast, so absolute that nothing will ever touch us again.

But God does touch us. God always finds us, even if we think we aren't lost. The howling winters of addiction and loneliness and self-loathing cannot keep God away. No matter how far off we feel we are, God is still with us. And God will bring us back to joy and blessing and warmth again, though

perhaps not August heat. So, do not fear. God is beside you, to strengthen you on a journey of hope.

God's Blessing,
Pastor Andy

Vacation Bible School

As most of you know, this year's VBS took place during the third week of July, with our closing program on Sunday, July 23rd. We had an average attendance of 35 kids each day, with a total of 41 different children who came at least one day during the week. We also had about 40 volunteers throughout the week.

Our Roman adventure included time with age-group "families," visiting Paul while he was on house arrest, meeting in an Underground Church, playing Roman-themed games, visiting the Marketplace which included snacks and crafts, and learning some fun new songs!

We want to thank all of the volunteers who made this event possible, for dedicating their time and creativity to cultivating a fun and educational atmosphere, and giving the kids a great week! We also want to give a special thank you to the Hunsingers for our beautiful t-shirts!

Pr. Andy will be on vacation August 21-Sept. 4. Pr. Phil Garber will preach and preside Sundays, August 27 and September 3. We will take a break from Wednesday worship, August 23 and 30, and resume Wednesday evening worship Sept. 6.

Women of St. John

An organization to nurture and empower the women of St. John to better serve Christ, our church and our community.

Women's Salad Luncheon

August 20 after second service in Diehl Hall

All women are invited to join in the fellowship and food.

Small groups will provide the salads, bread and drinks.

Everyone else just please come and enjoy!

The small group Bible study will be *Heaven on Earth, a study of Matthew*. A leader's guide will be provided for each small group. Individual books will be available for sale at the Luncheon. If you are interested in doing this study on your own let Diane Kushman or Margi Hahn know so we can make sure enough books get ordered.

Yard Sale

The Women of St. John would like to thank everyone who helped make our yard sale a success:

From those who donated, priced the items, picked up and delivered items, to everyone who helped clean up. We also had the grand opening of the Yard Sale Café and Bake Sale which was a big hit with everyone!

We would like to give a special thank you to our St. John youth; Amber Lynch, Jenna and Destiny Nordstrom, Savannah House, Holly and RJ Perry and Megan Pulford! It was a pleasure working with you.

Everyone's hard work helped us to raise over \$1,000 for our youth programs and additional charities.

Thank you! We could not have done it without you!

Stephen Ministers to be Commissioned at St. John

Stephen Ministers undergo 50 hours of training in active listening, prayer and spiritual care. Anyone going through a hard time of life, such as unemployment, grief, divorce, or illness, can benefit from a Stephen Minister's listening and prayer. Stephen Ministry will begin and become an important Christian Care Giving Ministry here at St. John on Sunday, August 6, at the 10:00am service. Pastor Andy will commission 12 recently trained Stephen Ministers.

Please come and pray for and show your support for these 12 dedicated members whom God has called and equipped to add this important caring ministry at St John.

The Giving Tree

We have placed a "giving tree" in the Narthex (please look for it).

There are members of our congregation who are having financial difficulties as well as others who come to Pastor Andy for help but unfortunately his discretionary fund is very low on funds at the moment.

So, if you could purchase a gift card from Kroger, Walmart, or Target and pin it on the tree we could continue to spread God's love to others. Needless to say, cash is always greatly appreciated.

Thanks for your help,
The Evangelism Committee

Youth Events in August

National Youth Gathering – Youth & Parent Meeting

On Sunday, August 13th after late service, we will be hosting a meeting for youth who are interested in going to the National Youth Gathering next summer in Houston and their parents. During this meeting, we will be distributing additional information and answering any questions you may have before the sign-up window opens. If you think you may be interested and want to learn more, please join us! As a reminder, youth must be in 8th through 12th grade this fall (when the sign-up window opens) to be eligible to attend. Please let Whitney know if you think you can make it to the meeting, or if you have any questions.

Renaissance Fun Park

After our meeting on Sunday, August 13th, we will be heading to Renaissance Fun Park, an event we rescheduled from July due to the heat. Join us for a fun afternoon of mini golf, go karts, laser tag and arcade games! Please note, you do NOT need to attend the meeting in order to come to Renaissance Fun Park. All youth are welcome! Please let Whitney know if you think you can make it.

Synod Pool Party

On Sunday, August 27th at 2:00pm, Carol Taylor, who works with the youth at Faith Lutheran, has graciously offered to host a pool party at her home for all the youth within our synod conference. Parents and potential chaperones for the National Youth Gathering are welcome to come to meet one another and begin discussing logistics. Although the adults will be using this time to discuss the Gathering, please know that youth of ALL AGES are welcome to come to the pool party. Please see Whitney for more details.

Community Yard Sale

For the second year in a row, St. John is hosting a community yard sale in our parking lot each Saturday in August.

This year, the format is the same: \$20 gets a parking space to sell your items. Setup will be from 7-9am with the sale running from 9am-1pm.

Mike Murray of A Plus Shredding will be offering a low cost shred opportunity on August 12.

Members of St. John are welcome to participate. Please spread the word to both buyers and sellers. I have flyers available to anyone who would like some to distribute. If you live in an apartment or condo community, please consider posting one on any community bulletin boards you may have.

~~Rebecca

Book Club

We continue to meet the *second Tuesday* of each month at Homemade Pie and Ice Cream Kitchen on Lexington Road.

We welcome all readers, even those who just want to hear about the books.

Our next few books:

August *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

September *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* by Eric Metaxas

October *The Whole Town's Talking* by Fannie Flagg

November *The Great Reckoning* by Louise Penny

Property Work Day

We will have a Property Work Day on August 5th, from 9am to noon. We will plan to clean the Sanctuary, replace light bulbs and possibly do some odd jobs if time allows.

August Birthdays

Kevin Heslin	8/1
Kevin Williams	8/1
Susan Florence	8/4
Patrick Hamsley	8/4
Ingrid Irwin	8/4
Bonnie Wright	8/5
Douglas Bailey	8/7
Lisa Dick	8/7
Sylvia Grass	8/7
Randall Wright	8/7
Karen Irwin	8/8
Brett Lowen	8/8
Ellen Goff	8/9
Daniel Hart	8/9
Rose Mary Sample	8/9
James Downey	8/11
Brenda Painter	8/11
Charles Hann	8/12
Laura Bower	8/13
Brian Pulford	8/14
Sandra Lamar	8/15
Joseph Loiacano	8/16
Joy LaRue	8/18
Denise Puthuff	8/19
Ethan Lind	8/20
Meagan Pulford	8/21
Bill Parks	8/22
Spencer Jones	8/23
Susan Booth	8/25
Mark Lynch	8/26
Walter Liesegang	8/27
Jennifer Brown	8/28
Betty Meyers	8/29
Caleb Newman	8/31

August Anniversaries

Derrick & Jennifer Brown	8/1
Brion & Linda Tinsley	8/2
E.J. 'Al' & Betty Shumate	8/5
Randall & Bonnie Wright	8/6
Douglas & Barty Bailey	8/11
Carl & Phyllis Neumayer	8/19
Paul & Dinah High	8/22

God's Work, Our Hands

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is an annual Evangelical Lutheran Church in America day of service. This year on, September 10, we at St. John will join with other Lutherans throughout the country doing work that we hope will be a blessing to others. The Evangelism Committee chose Kentucky Refugee Ministry (KRM) as an organization that is doing important work in our area and one where we could be of help. KRM provides services that help refugees with basic needs as they adjust and settle into new lives here in Kentucky. We will collect personal care items for men, women and children and on "God's Work. Our Hands" Sunday on September 10 we will meet to assemble the items into packets to be given to KRM for distribution. Included in each packet will also be a note of welcome for each recipient which volunteers will be writing on that day.

Items needed by Kentucky Refugee Ministry

One of the first items given to refugees as they arrive in Louisville is a personal care package. St. John will be collecting personal care items and will assemble them into kits appropriate for men, women, and children.

Items needed for all are:

Toothbrushes and toothpaste,
Shampoo and conditioner,
Soap, Lotion,
Comb and brush

Additional items for men are:

Deodorant,
Razor and shaving cream

Additional items for women are:

Deodorant, Nail file,
Sanitary napkins

Additional items for children are:

Liquid bath soap, Diaper cream,
Q tips, Band-Aids

Tour Kentucky Refugee Ministries,

Aug. 3rd

Please consider joining a group from St. John as we tour Kentucky Refugee Ministries, one of Louisville's refugee resettlement agencies, on August 3. Come see where new refugee families receive comprehensive case management services, including English classes, youth and young adult assistance, and one-on-one casework. We will meet at St. John at 1:00 and carpool to the center at 969-B Cherokee Rd. Should you wish to meet us there the tour is scheduled to begin at 1:30 and last for about an hour. Please contact Connie Schumacher at 502-515-2395 if you plan to attend or if you have questions.

Evangelism Committee

Help and Hope for Struggling Marriages

Do you have little or no communication in your marriage? Are you thinking of separation or divorce, or are you already separated or divorced but want to try again? Retrouvaille, a peer ministry for hurting marriages, consists of a Weekend Experience and six additional four-hour-long Post Weekend Sessions. The next Louisville Retrouvaille program will begin the weekend of September 15-17, 2017. For information or to register, call (502) 479-3329 or (800) 470-2230. Information can also be found online at www.HelpOurMarriage.com. Registrations accepted on a space available basis. Confidentiality is assured.

ELCA News

96 young adult volunteers from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) have accepted the call to serve with the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission during the 2017-2018 program year. This is a record number of volunteers for the year-long program that started in 1999 with eight young adults who volunteered to serve in the United Kingdom.

Young Adults in Global Mission is an international mission opportunity for young people from the ages of 21 to 29 in which volunteers live and serve with ELCA companion churches and partner organizations around the world.

Country programs are in: Argentina/Uruguay, Australia, Cambodia, Central Europe, Jerusalem/West Bank, Madagascar, Mexico, Rwanda, Senegal, Southern Africa, and the United Kingdom. In addition to Hungary, the Central Europe program will add a site in Serbia.

The young adults will depart for their year of service Aug. 23.

For more information or to schedule an interview, please contact Candice Hill Buchbinder at:

Candice.HillBuchbinder@elca.org or

773-380-2877



St. John Lutheran Church, Holidays in United States

Aug 2017 (Eastern Time)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>30</p> <p>8:45am - Worship 9:30am - Coffee and 11am - Worship 12:30pm - Stephen</p>	<p>31</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>1</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo 6:30pm - Fellowship 7pm - Evangelism</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7pm - OA Meeting 7:30pm - Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9am - Walk & Talk @ Mall 1:30pm - Tour KRM 5pm - TaeKwonDo 6:30pm - Executive</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9am - Community Yard Sale 9am - Property Work Day 8pm - AIAnon</p>
<p>6</p> <p>10am - Worship</p>	<p>7</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>8</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo 6pm - Property 6pm - RFBL - ABC 6:30pm - Finance</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7pm - OA Meeting 7:30pm - Worship</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am - Walk & Talk @ Mall 5pm - TaeKwonDo 6:30pm - Congregation</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am - Community Yard Sale 8pm - AIAnon</p>
<p>13</p> <p>8:45am - Worship 9:30am - Coffee and 11am - Worship 12:15pm - Youth Meeting</p>	<p>14</p> <p>10am - Mom's Club - DH 5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Journal Deadline 5pm - TaeKwonDo 7pm - Christian Education</p>	<p>16</p> <p>First Day of School 7pm - OA Meeting 7:30pm - Worship</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9am - Walk & Talk @ Mall 5pm - TaeKwonDo 6pm - Worship & Music</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9am - Community Yard Sale 8pm - AIAnon</p>
<p>20</p> <p>8:45am - Worship 9:30am - Coffee and 11am - Worship 12:15pm - Women of St.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo 6pm - RFBL - ABC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7pm - OA Meeting 7:30pm - Worship</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9am - Walk & Talk @ Mall 5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9am - Community Yard Sale 9am - RFBL - DH 8pm - AIAnon</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:45am - Worship 9:30am - Coffee and 11am - Worship 2pm - Youth Party</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>29</p> <p>5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7pm - OA Meeting 7:30pm - Worship</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9am - Walk & Talk @ Mall 5pm - TaeKwonDo</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8pm - AIAnon</p>

AUGUST 2017 WORSHIP TEAM

8/6 10:00am

8/13

8/20

8/27

Assisting Minister

Carol G	8:45	Rebecca D	Jen S	Mrs. Shawn H
	11:00	Patti M	Mr. Shawn H	Don F

Crucifer/Communion Asst

Natalie L	11:00	Ally L	Jake M	Holly P
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Lector

Patti M	8:45	Skip S	Diane K	Marlene K
	11:00	Lola H	Lois D	Mary S

Ushers

Brian & Terri P	8:45	Marlene &	OPEN	Ruthann S
Lisa Y, Marco H		Roger K		Linda H
	11:00	Matt & Whitney A	Rosie W, Chet L	House Family
		Marty & Lisa D	Bill & Gail W	

Acolytes at 11:00am

Jake M		Amber L	Haley T	Nicholas S
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Altar Guild

Month of August – Ruthann S

Communion Prep

8:45	<i>Month of August – Jane B and Skip S</i>
11:00	<i>Month of August – Brenda P</i>

Send a cheerful note to our members who are “under the weather” and/or can’t make it to church services or church events

If you would like a copy of the addresses, please let Rebecca know and she can email or mail the list to you.

Kay Becher
Joy LaRue
Barbara Huber

Vivian Lenberger
Sylvia Grass
J. Herman Mahaffey
Lorraine Beyer
Ott & Dot Pollei
Warner Wicke
Rose Mary Sample
Nancy Robinson

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

8:45 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

*Worship on Wednesday
at 7:30 p.m.*

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Lunch 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Church Telephone & Fax Number

Voice: 502-895-9320
Fax: 502-895-3979

E-mail

stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org

Office

Staff

Pastor Andy Rutrough

Pastor

Rebecca Dimon

Administrative Assistant

Whitney Adkins

Youth Project Coordinator

Maggie Owens

Choir Director

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

Organist

Mr. David Alcorn

Custodian