

### Pastor's Note

Pledge time is here. A pledge is an estimate of financial giving to the church that we make for a given year. We pledge for three reasons. The first reason is about us, the second is about church, and the third is about God.

The first reason is about us. Pledging to the church and giving to God's work in the world in other ways brings a blessing on us. It deepens our sense of God's presence in our lives. If we give a proportion of our income—1%, 2%, 5% or 10%—then we will see God's presence with us in all our dealings with money. Whether we are paying our bills, spending, saving or planning for the future, money is not a bad thing or feeling. It is a way of serving God.

The second reason for pledging is about church, because this is how the church functions. We get no corporate grants or government subsidies. We do not support ourselves with outside fundraisers. St. John is our ministry and our responsibility, our gift to Jesus.

The third reason is about God. A pledge is a gift to God. Whether it is \$5.00 a month or \$5,000 a month, if we think and pray about our pledge, God is pleased. God uses what we give, along with our prayers, work, attitude and joy, to touch the world with life.

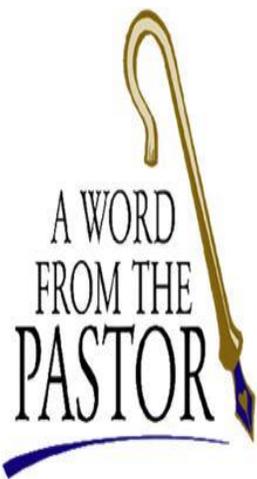
This fall, as we do each year, we are asking members and friends of St. John to pledge an amount to St. John for 2022. You will receive an e-mail September 7 and a letter that week making this request. Pledge cards will be included in the letter and available at church on

Sunday mornings September 12 and 19. We will announce the number of pledges and pray thanksgiving and blessing over them Sunday September 26.

As leaders of the congregation, the members of St. John Congregation Council have committed to making a pledge for 2022. Thanks be to God.

Please watch for your pledge letter and respond. If you have any thoughts or questions, please contact me or James Holden, Stewardship chair.

God's Peace,  
Pastor Andy



### ELCA Youth Gathering

The Gathering will take place July 24-28, 2022, in Minneapolis, MN and is open to youth currently in 8<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grades. The early registration deadline is September 22, 2021. This is a great event that happens only once every three years. The theme this year is *boundless, God beyond measure*. For more information, contact Pastor Andy or go to [www.ELCA.org/YouthGathering](http://www.ELCA.org/YouthGathering).



### Friends in Faith

In-person children's time with masks, 10:00-10:45, September 19.

# HIKING



## Activities Group

**Thursday September 9:** We will meet at St. John at 8:00 a.m. We will proceed to Bernheim forest to hike 2 miles to see all of the trolls. Then we will try to see if there is a volunteer to take us up the 900 stairs to the forest tower and walk the canopy. Sometime during this we will stop to eat in Issacs Cafe. Call Diane Kushman or Karen Karnes if you plan to join the party.

**Saturday October 16:** We are planning a road trip to Clifty Falls in southern Indiana. We will meet at St. John's parking lot at 8:00 a.m. We will carpool up and discover the trails that are available. The park's entrance fee is \$9.00. We will stop for some lunch. Don't forget your water bottle. The trails are intermediate. Call Diane Kushman or Karen Karnes if you plan to join the party.



## Online Worship

Daily Prayer – 12:00 Noon Monday-Friday  
Sunday Worship – 8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.  
Visit our website for links to online worship via Zoom. To access Zoom via telephone:  
Dial-in number – (301) 715-8592  
Meeting number – 671 535 477



## Blessing of the Animals

Blessing of the Animals will be held 1:00-3:00 p.m., Sunday October 3, in the area outside the offices behind the building, near Young Activity Center. Bring your pet dog, cat, elephant or alligator and we will say a brief prayer of blessing for it.



## Online Children's Time

Sunday, September 12, 10:15-10:45 a.m., at our worship link. See you there!



## Play Golf

Do You Enjoy Playing Golf? Sign up for the St. Matthews Area Ministries Golf Scramble, September 13, at [stmam.com](http://stmam.com).



### **In-Person Worship**

After careful consideration of advice from the Worship Committee, Bishop Bill Gafkjen, and the CDC, the Congregation Council has decided to implement the following Covid-19 protocols to address the recent surge in Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations.

1. For the 11:00 a.m. in-person worship service we will continue registering people so that we can do contact tracing if anyone gets sick. Please call or email the church office by Friday to make a reservation for worship.
2. We will continue social distancing.
3. We now require that masks be worn at worship and church meetings. Your mask must cover your nose and mouth at the same time.
4. We will limit our singing at worship to the Hymn of Praise and the Sanctus.

These provisions apply to all in-person gatherings at church, both gatherings of church members and gatherings of groups and individuals that use the building.

I know this is a disappointment and a burden, but it is also a way of showing love for our neighbor, including those who have not been vaccinated, those with medical conditions, and especially those who are children and cannot yet be vaccinated.

God's Peace,  
Pastor Andy



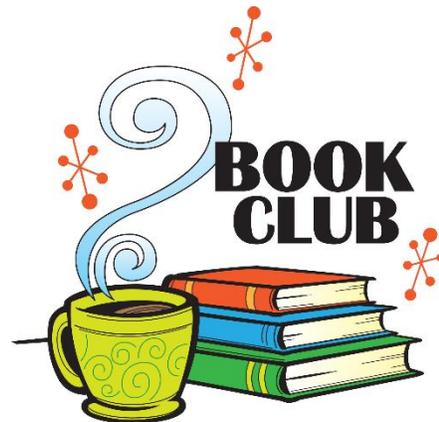
### **Financial Update**

#### Monthly Financial Update

	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21
Income	\$34,137	\$20,922	\$24,161
Expense	\$22,882	\$16,763	\$27,104
Result	\$11,254	\$4,159	-\$2,943

(Income less Expense)

It is not unusual for us to be in the red over the summer, and expectations are we will recover over the next few months. Current YTD Result is \$834 - still positive. No benevolences have been paid thus far in 2021, which is a concern we are addressing. Please continue to mail in your contributions. Feedback welcome and appreciated. Please reach out to Christi Elbert or Jim Kushman if you have questions or concerns. Thank you.



### **Wednesday Book Club**

Book Club resumes Wednesday, September 1, at 4:00 p.m., at our regular worship link. We are beginning a new book at that time: *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, by C.S. Lewis.



**God's work.  
Our hands.**

## “God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday

“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday is Sunday, September 12, 2021. The day is an opportunity for all congregations in the ELCA to celebrate who we are – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. The Evangelism and Social Ministries Committee considered many service options that could involve people of all ages and means and decided to support the Street Reach Ministry of Fern Creek United Methodist Church. Members of this group check on Louisville homeless people living on the streets or on the margins and hand out Snacks in a Sack. Our task is to collect non-perishable snacks during July and August. On Saturday, September 11 we will organize the snacks. On Sunday, September 12 we will sort and assemble the bags for distribution by Street Reach. We will need four (4) or five (5) volunteers each day to help with this process.

Thoughts from the Bishop: It is not our duty to evaluate the need, but to do what we can to show God’s love in this place. A snack pack of Oreos or a pack of cheese and crackers can be the way to show others that someone out there is thinking about them. Not with scorn or pity, but with compassion. Please look for the collection containers at church and consider helping fill them to the brim.

Evangelism and Social Ministries Committee



## Snacks in a Sack Suggestions

Donations must be non-perishable and individually wrapped. Some ideas include:

Vienna sausages, beef jerky, peanut butter cups (think Jif, not Reese’s), Pop Tarts, cereal bars/protein bars, protein drinks (like Boost), applesauce pouches/cups, fruit cups, pudding cups, snack cakes (like Little Debbie’s), Rice Krispy bars, chips, crackers, nuts, trail mix, prepackaged ready to eat meals, raisins, cookies.

Also needed: gallon size Ziplock bags, Gatorade and bottled water, individually wrapped hand sanitizing wipes.



## Parking Lot Yard Sales

**Community Parking Lot Yard Sales Extended to September 4.** Again this year, members of the St. Matthews community are invited to sell things in our parking lot. They (or you, if you wish) pay \$20.00 and sell stuff from one of our parking spaces from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Café and prayer booth will be there. Please come and greet people in the community and look for a good deal. Money will go to Young Adults in Global Mission, which invites young adults, 21-29 into a year of international service. For more information, see <https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Global-Mission/Young-Adults-in-Global-Mission>.





**Please continue  
to wear a  
mask inside.**

**COVID-19 Guidelines**

Recently guidelines have been relaxed regarding wearing masks in public and social distancing. If you have to visit the church, **we ask that you still wear a face mask** while in the building. This includes fully vaccinated individuals. **Your face mask must cover your mouth and nose at the same time.** You must also maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet from others. We love seeing you, but encourage you to stay home and stay safe.



**SEPTEMBER  
BIRTHDAYS**

**September Birthdays**

Laurie Workman	09/01
Judd Johnson	09/03
Ruthann Stemler	09/03
Marshall Sample	09/04
Hilda Davis	09/06
Marisa Newton	09/07
William Ottman	09/09
Barbara Speck	09/11
Hailey Hart	09/12
David Lamar	09/12
Kirk Berglund	09/13

Theresa Hovell	09/13
David Bugg	09/15
Charlotte Gettelfinger	09/15
Tim Gettelfinger	09/15
Deb Janes	09/15
Bradley Lowen	09/15
Dinah High	09/16
Rita Smith	09/17
James Holden	09/18
John Florence	09/19
Barbara Gentry	09/19
Paul Harvey	09/19
Chuck Lind	09/20
Cassidy Adkins	09/21
Stephanie Coffey	09/21
Nathaniel Janes	09/21
Sophie Hann	09/22
Chase Malone	09/22
P.J. Young	09/22
Edward DeVore	09/23
Justin O'Dell	09/23
Hallie Stemler, Jr.	09/23
Karen Kaiser	09/27
Nathan Jackson	09/28
Terri Dallas	09/29
Jim Eaton	09/29
Jennifer Stanfield	09/30
Joanna Stoll	09/30
Chelsea Thornhill	09/30



**SEPTEMBER  
ANNIVERSARIES**

**September Anniversaries**

William & Alison Stemler	09/06
Kirk & Kelly Berglund	09/10
Mike & Renae Barkley	09/16
Matt & Whitney Adkins	09/17
Tom & Nancy Johnson	09/17
Al & Leah Tabler	09/23
Ernie & Annie Worman	09/23

St. John Lutheran Church, Christian Holidays, Holidays in United States

Sep 2021 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
			10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 7pm - OA (ABC) @	Council Reports Due 12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Executive	12pm - Online Daily	8pm - AA (ABC) @
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:45am - Online 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel	Labor Day Office Closed 12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Evangelism & 6:30pm - Property	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Congregation	12pm - Online Daily	6:30am - Via de 8pm - AA (ABC) @
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:45am - Online 10:15am - Online 11am - In-Person & 12:30pm - God's 3pm - Eben-Ezel	12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily	First Day of Hispanic Journal Deadline 10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily 6pm - Worship &	12pm - Online Daily	8pm - AA (ABC) @
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:45am - Online 10am - Friends in 11am - Joint 3pm - Eben-Ezel	12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily 6:30pm - Christian	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily	6:30pm - Trivia 8pm - AA (ABC) @
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
8:45am - Online 11am - In-Person & 3pm - Eben-Ezel	12pm - Online Daily	12pm - Online Daily 6:30pm - Sacred	10am - Sewing 12pm - Online Daily 7pm - OA (ABC) @	12pm - Online Daily		

## SEPTEMBER 2021 WORSHIP TEAM

9/5

9/12

9/19

9/26

### Assisting Minister (same person will serve at both services)

8:45 & 11:00	Cindy L	John N	Diane K	Patti M
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### Crucifer/Communion Asst (not needed until further notice)

11:00

### Lector

8:45	Renae B	Eric H	Margi H	Eric H
11:00	Renae B	Sherley S	Dee L	Patti M

### Cantor (same person will serve at both services)

Cindy L	Laura R	Diane K	Maggie O
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### Computer Technician

### Altar Guild

Dinah H, Brenda P

### Communion Prep (not needed until further notice)

8:45  
11:00

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

Lorraine Beyer  
Betty Eggers  
John Gray  
Vivian Lenberger  
Betty Pauley  
Nancy Robinson  
Skip Stearman  
Shirley Whonsetler

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

Visit us on the web  
[www.stjohnlutheranky.org](http://www.stjohnlutheranky.org)

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## SEPTEMBER 2021

Time Sensitive Content  
Please Expedite+

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



# 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. Online  
11:00 a.m. Online & In-person

#### Monday-Friday

12:00 p.m. Online

### Church Office Hours

#### Monday-Friday

8:30 a.m. - 5:00 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](mailto:stjohn@stjohnlutheranky.org)



Visit us on the web at  
[www.stjohnlutheranky.org](http://www.stjohnlutheranky.org)  
or scan the QR code.



### Staff

Reverend Andy Rutrough

#### **Pastor**

David McNease

#### **Office Administrator**

TBD

#### **Youth Project Coordinator**

Dr. Maggie Owens

#### **Choir Director**

Dr. Denine LeBlanc

#### **Organist**