

## News and Notes

- From the week of September 26-

**Call to Pastor Dennis Harbach**— Last Sunday, September 19, our members voted to extend a divine call to Pastor Dennis Harbach to be our second full-time pastor at St. John's. Pastor Harbach currently serves at St. John's Lutheran in Dakota, MN. He and his wife, Allison have 6 children. Would you please hold Pastor Harbach, his family, and both congregations in your prayers over the next weeks as he deliberates his call. Pastor Harbach welcomes you to contact him in order to provide encouragement and insight into his deliberations. You can reach him either by email: [pastordh@acegroup.cc](mailto:pastordh@acegroup.cc) or by phone, (507)-643-6381 or (507)-643-6840. Below is his letter acknowledging the call.

Dear Pastor Zimpelmann and fellow believers at St. John's,

This letter comes to acknowledge the Divine Call that was issued to me last Sunday, Sept. 19. During the Pentecost season we are all focused not only on our Savior's service to us but also on ours to Him. In the words "Come, Grow, Live" you sum up God's plan for each us as we seek to serve in this world. I will be asking our Lord's guidance on the opportunity to serve among you. I invite your prayers as well.

In Him,  
Pastor Dennis Harbach

### **A God-Lived Life Stewardship Challenge**

Today we continue our God-Lived-Life Series: The God-lived life is **a life lived for others**, a life of generosity. God allows us the opportunity to serve and love one another, especially those who are part of our communities.

Our challenge card this month will focus on being a good neighbor. What makes someone a good neighbor? How can you show God's love to others by being a good neighbor? How can our church be a good neighbor to our community? How can we be present for others? Pick up a personal challenge card today!

May God bless us as we live a God-lived life, serving others! And be sure to check out the **Ministry Fair** displays in the fellowship hall for service opportunities!

### **St. John's Anniversary Celebration – October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021** 150 years of God's Grace - "In Christ Alone"

Please join us in a 150th anniversary celebration of St. John's Lutheran Church Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be no 8am worship that day. The Anniversary Worship Service will be held at 10:30 a.m. with a catered meal will following worship (Chicken & Ham Dinner with Au Gratin Potatoes & sides). There will also be special games and activities for children - even including a Bouncy House!

Please consider volunteering some time to set up and help decorate for the event on Saturday morning (Oct. 2) at 9:30am.

### **“God & Me” Course – Beginning Monday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**

With Autumn quickly approaching, we’re looking forward to some cool, refreshing weather. St. John’s is also offering a wonderfully refreshing course for your faith this Fall – **God & Me**. This class explores the basic truths of the bible as well as briefly explaining some simple differences between religions and various Christian denominations. But most importantly, it answers the deep questions every person needs to know in life...*who am I?... what’s my purpose in life?...how can I get to heaven?...how can I be certain I am loved and forgiven?...how does the bible apply to me today?* This study is a good spiritual refresher and stepping stone in a Christian’s growth and understanding of God and His Word. It also serves as a membership class for those curious or interested. NOTE: there are no strings attached and there is no cost – all the materials are covered. Let us know if childcare can be provided. You can even “Try it before you buy it!” in the sense of, if after 2-3 weeks you decide to step away, you won’t be made to defend your decision to do so. As the kids return to their learning and growing this Fall, you won’t regret pushing yourself to learn either. To Learn more or register please visit our website: [www.StJohnsLutheran.com](http://www.StJohnsLutheran.com)

### **Parenting Seminar and Social at St. John’s – Friday October 8**

Who: All parents of children from birth through high school

When: Friday, October 8 from 6:00-7:00

(appetizers from 5:30-6:00)

Free Child Care Provided

About the seminar: The goal of this seminar is to discuss the family and church’s roles of imprinting the Christian faith on your children and offer some practical tips and approaches for implementing in your homes (as well as resources for all ages). It also aims to offer some support, encouragement and camaraderie among parents of our church family. More info to come!

### **Living Nativity: December 4, 2021**

Planning is underway for our 2021 Living Nativity! The Live Nativity Event will be held on Saturday Dec. 4th from 5pm – 7pm. Performances will be held on a continuous basis, every 20 minutes beginning at 5pm. The last performance will be at 6:40pm.

We have had such a wonderful support from the congregation in the past! Think about where you can help! A full list of opportunities are posted in the fellowship hall as well as available online – just scan the QR code or watch for the link in the upcoming eMessenger!

