



The St John Lutheran Newsletter is a monthly publication of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Volume 4 Issue 8

Weekly Schedule:

- Service 9:00 am
- Adult Bible Study/
Sunday School
10:15am
- Wednesday Coffee
Time 8:30am
- Wednesday Scripture
Study 9 am

Special Activities:

- Elders August 6 @ 6pm

From the Desk of Rev. Samuel Beltz

Work of Jesus and the Holy Spirit

Last week we talked about the identity of God and the identity of Jesus. We asked the questions, “Who is God” and “who is Jesus?” This week we’ll begin talking about the work of Jesus. We’ll answer the question, “what did Jesus come to do?” Or, “what does Jesus accomplish?”

In one sense, we’ve already begun to identify the work of Jesus when we discussed his identity. Who is Jesus? Jesus is the Son of God—the one to reign over God’s creation on God’s behalf. Recall from last week that the one true God is the creator. Everything that exists has come into being because of God, and everything that exists constantly depends on God for its existence. This means that **God is the boss of everything**. God is all-ruling, and everything is subject to him. As the Son of God, Jesus rules and reigns over everything on God’s behalf.

When he was baptized by John in the Jordan River, the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus and God declared, “This is my beloved Son” (Matthew 3:13–17). Then, in the power of the Spirit, Jesus declared that the reign of God was at hand (Matthew 4:17). But Jesus didn’t only declare the arrival of God’s reign and rule, he also brought God’s reign and rule to earth. He cast out demons, he healed the sick, he raised the dead, he forgave sinners their sins and restored them to God. Jesus brought God’s will and reign to earth. In that way, Jesus’ identity as the Son of God is also his work. Jesus has come to rule and reign on God’s behalf. The one true God rules and reigns over his creation *through* Jesus.

The Scriptures draw two major consequences from Jesus’ work as the Son of God.

Everyone who puts his or her trust in Jesus will be saved. Read and discuss the following passages: (John 1:1–5, 9–13; John 5:21–29).

We are justified before God (our relationship with God is restored and right), not by works of the law or any measure of our performance, but only by faith in Jesus. (Romans 10:3–4, 9–13).

The Holy Spirit and Jesus

The work of the Holy Spirit follows directly from the work of Jesus. Jesus came to rule and reign on behalf of God so that all who believe in him will be saved. But, as Paul says in Romans, “How are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?” (Romans 10:14–15). So that we might come to believe that Jesus is the Son of God and trust in him for all things, Jesus commissioned his disciples to proclaim the message about him. And for this purpose he gave them the Holy Spirit to empower them and to guide them (Luke 24:44–49). Therefore, the primary work of the Holy Spirit is to guide the proclamation of the gospel.

Read Luther’s Small Catechism on the Third Article of the Creed.
Sound Bite Theology

The Good: The Holy Spirit gives me Jesus through the Word.

August Duties:**Elder**

Brad Sickels

Altar Guild

Judieth Webb

Karen Westercamp

Acolyte

Jack Rice

Greeter

Fran Katko

Hospitality

8/2 Julie Rice &

Marjorie Roach

8/9 Brooklyn Vanderwilt &

Evie McKain

8/16 Tara Crile & Sue George

8/23 Pickett's

8/30 Sarah Anderson &

Lisa Forschler

Ushers

8/2 Curt Jager & Gabe Hoy

8/9 Marty George &

Toni Karavitis

8/16 Alan Pickett &

Malachi Schauer

8/23 Adam McKain &

Nolan McKain

8/30 Mike Forschler &

Lawrence Smith

A big THANK YOU to all members who served as organists, Hospitality servers, Ushers, Elders and Altar Guild last month. This is just another part of STEWARDSHIP in action at St. John.

LWML NEWS

LWML will not meet in August

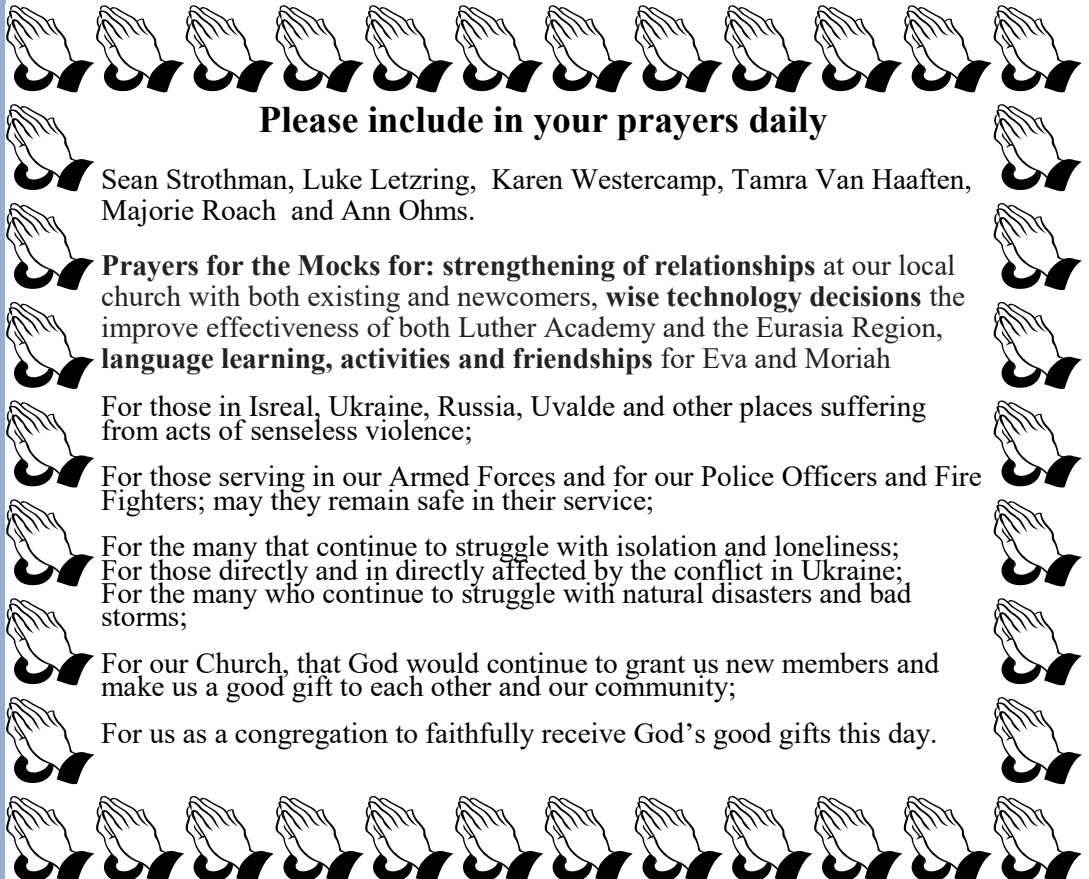
Mite box Sunday is the first Sunday of the Month. Please remember to bring your mites and put in the LWML box.

**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

Caitlin Crile	8-02
Charlotte Beltz	8-04
Benjamin Fenton	8-06
Lorie Jager	8-12
Alan Katko	8-16
Paul Fenton	8-17
James Hoy	8-17
Levi Vander Molen	8-18
Brooklyn Vanderwilt	8-21
Krusor Horn	8-22
Ann Ohms	8-22
Addison McKain	8-24
Donna Reineke	8-29
Ashlyn Fynaardt	8-30
Cody Mock	8-31

AUGUST ANNIVERSARY

Curt & Lorie Jager	8-4-1978
Luke & Melissa Letzring	8-08-09
Alan & Fran Katko	8-19-67



The Bad: I don't have to go to church because I can have my own God experience.

The Ugly: I have to make a decision for Jesus.

Jesus and the Cross

Up to this point, we've discussed Jesus' work without mentioning the key event in Jesus' life—his crucifixion. Jesus came to reign and rule on behalf of God, but when he entered Jerusalem, the royal city of David's throne, the people didn't just hand over the keys to Jesus. They crucified him. What happened here? Why is the crucifixion of Jesus significant? What does Jesus' crucifixion accomplish?

The Scriptures answer this question in several different ways (see, for instance, John 3:14–15; John 10:11–18; Romans 3:25; Acts 3:17–26; Hebrews 9:11–28). We'll focus on one prominent way the Scriptures describe the work of the cross.

Read Galatians 3:10–14. Paul says that Jesus became a curse. Remember from the creation story that the wages of sin are death. Because of Adam and Eve's sin, God cursed human beings; and death is God's curse—God's punishment for sin. Read Romans 5:12–14. Jesus became a curse and suffered the wrath of God in his death. Remember, for instance, that when he was on the cross Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, became a curse. But God raised Jesus from the dead. God redeemed Jesus from the curse of death, and made him a new creation. Therefore, Jesus has passed from the death and curse of sin to new and perfect life. And all who are joined to him also pass from the death and curse of sin to new and (one day) perfect life. Read Romans 6:1–11.

See the way Luther describes Jesus' work in his Small Catechism, Second Article. How does Luther describe the work of the cross?

The Scriptures draw two major consequences from Jesus' work on the cross.

Apart from Jesus, we are enemies of God and are under his wrath (Romans 3:9–20).

The law and good works are not able to accomplish our salvation (Romans 3:20–26) (Galatians 3:10–12).

In conclusion, read Romans 5:1–11.

Sound Bite Theology

The Good: Sin is the skin we're in.

The Bad: We might do bad things, but human beings are good by nature.

The Ugly: I don't do bad things, so I'm not a sinner. (Note: Why is this statement sin itself?)

Pastor Samuel Beltz



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at the Church

NOW AT CHURCH ~ SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST
Starting at 9am

Join us for a day of faith, fun, and fellowship for all ages!

- WORSHIP
- GAMES
- BIBLE STORIES
- CRAFTS
- WATER FUN
- LUNCH TOGETHER

♥ Parents are encouraged to stay and enjoy fellowship. ♥

AFTER LUNCH,
OLDER YOUTH WILL:

- Participate in a Bible study
- Serve together through local service activities
- Finish the day with more food and fun!

♥ We hope you'll join us for this special day of growing in *faith* and *serving* together! ♥



FAMILY FUN UNDER THE SUN

OSKALOOSA FIREWORKS JULY 6
 MEET UP BY THE DISCUS NET AN HOUR BEFORE (9PM) FIREWORKS

JULY 10-11 CAMP VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
 AT CAMP IO-DIS-E-CA IN SOLON, IA

MINI VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AUG 1
 AT EDMUNDSON PARK IN OSKALOOSA 9AM-12PM FOR OUR YOUNGEST KIDDOS. (WILL NEED OLDER YOUTH VOLUNTEERS!) EVERYONE BRING A SWIMSUIT FOR THE POOL!

AUG 16 BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ
 STAY AFTER CHURCH FOR A GRILL OUT, YARD GAMES, AND FUN BEFORE SCHOOL STARTS UP AGAIN! BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE.



You are invited!
 TO **Celebrate ANN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY**

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING

No Gifts JUST A CARD IS WELCOME

AUGUST 22 2-4 PM
EDDYVILLE FIRE STATION



BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ

AUGUST 16

Stay after church for a **grill out, yard games and fun** before school start up again!

BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE!

FOOD! GAMES! FRIENDS!

August 2026

St John' Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Reverend Samuel Beltz
 2370 Merino Ave.
 Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577
 641-673-6546
 office@stjohnnosky.org

www.stjohnnosky.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 9am Divine Service with Communion 10:15am Adult Bible Study	3	4	5 8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Scripture Study Bulletin Items Due	6 Elders 6pm	7	1 VBS in the Church
9 9am Divine Service with Communion 10:15am Adult Bible Study	10	11	12 8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Scripture Study Bulletin Items due	13	14	15
16 9am Divine Service with Communion 10:15am Adult Bible Study Summer BBQ	17	18	19 8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Scripture Study Bulletin items due	20	21	22
23 9am Divine Service with Communion 10:15am Bible Study	24	25	26 8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Scripture Study Bulletin items du	27	28	29
30 9:00am Matins 10:15 Potluck	31	1	2 8:30am Coffee Hour 9:00am Scripture Study Bulletin items due	3	4	5

