



ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS: Week of May 23, 2010

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Weekly News submission deadline: due to tanja@stjohnsbloomington.org by Noon on Wednesdays of that same week

Eagle submission deadline: due to tom@stjohnsbloomington.org every 2nd Wednesday of the month

This Weekend: St. John's welcomes Pastor Denver Bitner, President of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Pastor Bitner will be preaching at all worship services this weekend. (Please see the LSSI news on the inside page.)

Sunday Morning Survey Available at Welcome Centers

Coming Soon!

A Church Alive! Grand Opening

Saturday, June 5, following the 5:00 PM Saturday Evening Service

Sunday, June 6, 8:30 AM - Noon

All St. John's families and friends are invited to come see the fruition of the labors to our church home! Please make a point to join us for the Grand Opening of our new addition. We will recognize the new space with a blessing and dedication at all weekend services, and celebrate with an Open House to allow everyone to leisurely walk through the new addition and view the beautiful end result.

Tours

Games

Music

Refreshments

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands--O prosper the work of our hands!

- Psalms 90:17

Prayers & Blessings

Submit prayer announcements to the church office, fill out a blue Prayer Request card located at Welcome Centers, or visit St. John's web site and click on "Need Prayer?"

Keep in prayer...

Marvin Weisert, Annie Cunningham and baby boy Chase, Gary Brandenburg, Lynn Spaid, Janet Klinzing, Janet Erickson, Lanette Tommerdahl, Curt Fink, Muriel Heit, Bruce Bertsche, Cheryl Kelley, Lorene Anderson, Tim Reedy, Dev Gordon, Ernie Swartz, Beth Henrichs, Anna Wollenschlager

Prayers for those in the Military...

Ben and Drew Mueller, Dave Lehr, Jeff Kaiser, Kelly Jacobs, Erik David Petersen, Andrew Roberts, Shawn Willis, Matthew Ormond, Caleb Ploense

Births...

Andrew Steven Aldeman, born May 13 to Matt and Amy Aldeman.

Brody Stork to Ron and Amy Stork.

Altar Flowers Given...

In memory of Gary Hepner, given by Colleen Hepner and Wendy, Eric, Owen and Caroline Corbly.

In memory of our parents and my brother Jim Denny, given by Bob and Carol Denny.

This Weekend

Saturday Evening Fellowship Group - Saturday, May 22, 6:15 PM, Kep's Country Kitchen. No reservations required.

This Week

St. John's Quilters - Tuesday, May 25, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall. Come any time between 9:30 and 11:30 AM. If you can tie a knot or straight pin the edge of a quilt, we can use your help. Also needed are home sewers to zig zag the pinned edges of the quilts. Contact info: Florence Conway, 663-6058. Next Quilters date: June 1.

Men's Bible Study - Friday mornings, 7:00 AM, Room 421. All men are welcome!

Looking Ahead

Blood Pressure Screening - Saturday, May 22 (every 4th Saturday of the month), 4:30 PM, Atrium. Screenings will continue after the SES service as needed. The next screening will be on Sunday, June 6 (every 1st Sunday of the month) at 9:00 AM on the Balcony.

The offices of St. John's will be closed on Monday, May 31 in observance of Memorial Day. If you would like access to the Columbarium over the Memorial Day weekend, contact Terry Stombaugh in the church office.

Sr. High

Note Change! Senior/Graduate Appreciation

Breakfast on Sunday, June 6, has been changed to 9:00 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. All graduates of high school, college and graduate schools are invited to attend the 10:15 Traditional Worship Service for a special blessing. Please provide all information including school graduating from and future plans (next school and subject or study or job plans) including a photo as soon as possible. Contact info: Steve Terry at the church office or email steve@stjohnsbloomington.org.

Servant Opportunities

Saturday Evening Service Communion Assistants Needed - Contact Julie Williams, 662-3305 to help

Needed: Gently used sheets (any size) for St. John's Quilters. Drop sheets off at the church office.

Ongoing Collections: used eyeglasses/lenses, used cell phones (any condition), batteries, aluminum cans, Campbell's soup can labels and Box Tops for Education. Drop off items to the church office; drop off cans by the church garage.

Mission Ecuador 2010 "Buy a Brick" - Mission Ecuador 2010 "Buy a Brick" - Goal: \$15,000. Total raised to date: \$5,275. On July 10, St. John's 18-member Team Ecuador will travel to Huigra to help finish building the church, lead a Bible School and provide medical assistance. To help, make your check out to St. John's Lutheran Church with the designation "Ecuador Buy a Brick" on the memo line. **Ecuador Supplies Needed:** Please help us provide clothing and school supplies for poor children in Huigra ages 2-12. We are hoping to be able to provide each child in our Bible school with one outfit. Donations can be placed in designated boxes in the Narthex and Atrium. Specifically needed are: T-shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, long pants, gym shoes and other closed-toed shoes. Other needed items: pencils, crayons (24-ct.), glue sticks, scissors, spiral notebooks, Spanish children's books and Bibles.

Study the Gospel of John This Summer!

Sundays, 9:00 AM

Adult Discipleship Rooms (364/365)

The reformer, Martin Luther, once said, "...Should a tyrant succeed in destroying the Holy Scriptures and only a single copy of ... the Gospel according to John escape him, Christianity would be saved....."

Come find out what Luther was talking about! The pastors of St. John's invite you to join us for an in-depth study of the gospel of John this June and July. Using the Book of Faith Bible study series, we'll be taking an in-depth look at eight different passages from this well-loved book of the Bible.

Jun 6 What is Jesus' Relationship with God?
(John 1.1-18)

Jun 13 How is it possible for us to be in relationship with God? (John 3.1-21)

Jun 20 What does it mean that Jesus is 'the bread of life'? (John 6.25-39)

Jun 27 Who can see Jesus? (John 9.1-41)

Jul 4 no class due to holiday

Jul 11 What does it mean that Jesus is 'the resurrection and the life'? (John 11.1-44)

Jul 18 What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus?
(John 13.1-35)

Jul 25 How does Jesus want his disciples to relate to the world? (John 17.1-26)

Aug 1 How does Jesus' relationship with his disciples continue? (John 20.11-31)

Hope you can join us!

Community Event

Vacation Bible School for Children with Autism and their Families - We ask for your support for this ministry through prayer and by passing on the information to anyone who might be interested. For more information see the flyer on the Community Bulletin Board or contact Pastor Mary at Resurrection Lutheran church (663-8252), or Susy Marcum at susymarcum@aol.com.

LSSI News

Advocacy: Responsible Budget Coalition (RBC) - Friends of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) joined with thousands of other concerned citizens across Illinois last week to tell state lawmakers to pass a responsible budget. The RBC, which LSSI helps to lead, produced more than 3,000 phone calls and a stunning 300,000 e-mail messages to lawmakers in a single week! An update from LSSI on the on-going effort to pass a responsible state budget is now posted at www.lutheranadvocacy.org. You can take action now in support of a fair, sufficient and sustainable state budget.

LSSI Receives 'Green' Award for Recycling - LSSI recently received an Environmental Award from Cintas for recycling 42,000 pounds of paper last year. The recycling of paper at several of the agency's offices saved 357 trees; 7,980 gallons of oil; 147,000 gallons of water; and 63 cubic yards of landfill. Plans are to expand the program to all LSSI locations in 2010. The **Rev. Dr. Denver Bitner, LSSI president**, says, "LSSI's Green Initiative is not only good for the earth, it will also help save the agency money. A first look at potential for savings is in the tens of thousands of dollars." "As we care for the people we have been called in our mission to serve, part of that involves caring for the environment," adds Bitner, who hopes that LSSI can be a model for greening efforts at other organizations.

Tell Us Why You Love LSSI - LSSI FY 09 Annual Report will focus on why people connected with LSSI (clients, staff, donors, volunteers, pastors and others) care about our agency. As a volunteer, board member or social justice advocate, perhaps you love LSSI because of its mission of bringing healing, justice and wholeness to people and communities. Perhaps your own family has been touched by LSSI's services. Perhaps your church houses an LSSI program and you know how it's helping people in your community. Or maybe you're a volunteer who loves reaching out to LSSI clients. We will be using some of these reflections in the annual LSSI report. Please send your brief thoughts (a sentence or paragraph) to Jenna.Scimeca@LSSI.org by May 26. Thank you for your participation!

Menu of Services - LSSI seeks to be engaged with congregations in study and action on a host of issues. Many of the resources we offer are adaptable for use in a variety of settings (worship service, adult forum, youth group, midweek Bible Study, etc.) Please review our "menu" of LSSI offerings available for download at www.lssi.org/support/LSSChurchRelationsmenu2008.pdf.

Adult Discipleship at St. John's *Everyone Is Welcome!*

“Missions Bible Study” - Thru June 20 (no class on May 30), 10:15 AM, ADRs. Led by Open Door Missions members, this Bible study focuses on mission, multi-culturalism, and God's compassion.

Needed: Part-time

employee to help in the Nursery. We have been blessed with the help of Jeana Owens over the last few months. She will be leaving us this August to attend college. We are looking for an individual who loves children and is available Sundays during the 9:00 and 10:15 AM services. This person will play with the children, help out the parents and volunteers, assist in cleaning toys, and enjoy many hugs and giggles! If you are interested or know of someone who might be interested in this position, Jane Phillips, Nursery Director, at jane@stjohnsbloomington.org.

Invitation to Members – Potential Council Nominees

The Nominating Committee has started soliciting names for nominees for the Congregation Council. Members interested in being nominated or making a nomination of another member for St. John's Congregation Council should fill out the Recommendation for Consideration Form [Form 1] (available online) and return it to the church office *by June 15, 2010*. There will be a brief Congregation election meeting on Sunday, August 29, immediately following the Festival of Faith Service at the Bloomington Center for Performing Arts for the sole purpose of voting on candidates for the Congregation Council. Packets that include the forms are available at Welcome Centers and the church office.

THIS Weekend

St. John's Storybook Prison Ministry

1 Book + 1 Tape = Keeping One Family Connected

Bundle Days: May 22 & 23

Numerous studies show that family contact is the only factor that has a strong, positive impact on parole success when the parent is released from prison. The storybook program helps keep a connection in between visits.

The parent in prison reads the book, the book is recorded onto a tape and sent, along with the book, to the child. The book and tape is for the child to keep and listen to whenever they wish. Many times, this is the only contact the child has with the parent. St. John's Storybook Prison Ministry volunteers go into the prisons to help with the book selections and recordings.

Laura Veal is the St. John's church member who coordinates all Storybook Prison Ministry activities in our church.

Types of books needed include Dr. Seuss, sports, pop-up books, religious books, Bible stories and Curious George. Paperbacks are preferred since they take up less storage space, are easier to transport to the prisons, and are more easily checked in at the prisons. Shrink-wrapped tapes are always welcome. Thank you for supporting this ministry. For more information, or to help, please contact Laura Veal, 661-7802.

