



ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS: Week of September 4/5, 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

New Worship Schedule Begins THIS Weekend (September 5)

Saturday Evening Service, 5:00 PM, Parish Life Center (no change)

Traditional Worship Service, 8:00 and 9:15 AM, Sanctuary

Community of Joy Worship Service, 9:15 and 10:30 AM, Parish Life Center

Rally Day (September 12) Special Events!

- Regular church programming begins--see the back page of this News for details
- **Grab & Go for Zambia**
Mark your calendars for another Grab & Go fundraiser next weekend (September 11 & 12). Sack lunches consisting of a sub sandwich, chips and a homemade chocolate chip cookie will be available after all services for \$5 each. Proceeds will be used for gifts and in-country expenses for the New Horizons Orphanage and the pastors of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zambia when Pastor Elyse, Jan Pritts and Laurie Helms visit there next month. For more information on Zambia 2010, see page 8 of the September Eagle.
- **Zambia 2010: Vision Zambia 2010 Informational Opportunities**
On Rally Day, September 12, at 9:15 and 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall, Laurie Helms will speak to the Joy Zone parents about her upcoming trip to Zambia, with special emphasis on the New Horizons Orphanage, which has been her passion for the last several years and a special project of the Joy Zone kids. At the 9:15 AM Adult Forum in the Adult Discipleship Room, Pastor Elyse, Laurie Helms and Jan Pritts will share their plans and hopes for their trip to Zambia in September.

“Planning Our Future Together” Church Survey Begins Monday, September 13

We invite you to complete a Church Assessment Tool; a survey that will give you an opportunity to respond to questions that collectively will provide us with important data. You will have the opportunity to go online and give your responses or pick up a hard copy at the Welcome Centers. Just fill out the survey and return it to the church office by *October 4*. This survey will help St. John's leaders gauge the strength, vitality and inclinations of the church. The information gained from this assessment will be valuable in helping the leaders of our church as they think strategically about our future.

Fall Sermon Series: *Surprised by Hope*

Sep 5: “The Hope of the Resurrection” (chapters 3-4)

Sep 12: “The Hope of Heaven” (chapters 5-7)

Sep 19: “The Hope of Jesus’ Second Coming” (chapters 8-9)

Sep 26: “The Hope of Salvation” (chapters 10-12)

For more information about *Surprised by Hope!*, see the back page of this News. For corresponding scripture teachings, visit www.stjohnsbloomington.org/FallSermonSeries.

Receipts Update

Week	Beginning	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	2010 vs 2009
34	8/22/10	\$1,081,118	\$1,127,707	(\$46,589)
35	8/29/10	\$1,112,668	\$1,141,890	(\$29,222)
Full Year Receipts Budget: \$1,730,000				

Prayers & Blessings

Hospitalized this week...

Jake Husarik, Larry Sohn, Fred Peterson, Betty Moore

Keep in prayer...

Janet Klinzing, Janet Erickson, Lanette Tommerdahl, Curt Fink, Muriel Heit, Bruce Bertsche, Cheryl Kelley, Tim Reedy, Carmen Caster

Condolences to...

Ron and Amy Stork and Don and Stephanie Stork as they mourn the death of Ron and Don's father, Don Stork Sr..

Prayers for those in the Military...

Jeff Kaiser, Kelly Jacobs, Erik David Petersen, Andrew Roberts, Shawn Willis, Matthew Ormond, Caleb Ploense, Andrew Black, Chris Busch

Altar Flowers...

In honor of my grandson, Gannon Sturdy, given by Karen Timmerman.

In memory of Rita Schulz, given by husband, Richard and daughter, Jill.

This Weekend

Saturday Evening Fellowship Group - Saturday, September 4, 6:15 PM, Times Past Inn. No sign up required.

Blood Pressure Screening - Sunday, September 5 (every 1st Sunday of the month), 9:00 AM, Balcony. The next screening will be on Saturday, September 25 (every 4th Saturday of the month) at 4:30 PM in the Atrium, with screenings continuing after the Saturday Evening Service as needed.

This Week

Pontiac Tour & Lunch - Thursday, September 9, St. John's bus leaves west parking lot at 10:45 AM (immediately after Seniors' Bible Study) for tour of Route 66 Museum in Pontiac, IL, return by approx. 3:00 PM. Cost: \$3/person for the bus ride; lunch on your own at Bernardis Restaurant and a trolley tour of painted murals on city buildings. Sign up and pay *by Tuesday, September 7* with Gudrun in the church office.

Men's Bible Study - Friday mornings, 7:00 AM, Room 421. All men are welcome--bring a neighbor and join us!

Elizabeth Circle - Tuesday, September 7, 1:00 PM, Luther Oaks. Hostesses: Joan Gentes and Jay Oberman. Lesson: Bible Study in *Lutheran Woman Today's* September issue. Leader:

Rachel Circle - Tuesday, September 7, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall, assemble LWR kits. Hostesses: Cheryl Moore and Linda Patterson.

Abigail Circle - Monday, September 13, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall, assemble LWR kits. Devotions by Doris Robertson. Send regrets to hostesses Vicky Kramer (452-7022) or Doris Robertson (451-3541).

Looking Ahead

Lunch Bunch - Sunday, September 12, 11:30 AM, CJ's Restaurant, 2901 E. Empire, Bloomington, Dutch treat lunch and fellowship. Lunch Bunch meets every second Sunday of the month and is for St. John's singles 60 and over who enjoy meeting new people, making new friends and dining out. *Reservations are due to Irene Niccum (888-4530) by Noon, Saturday, September 11.*

St. John's Quilters - Tuesday, September 14, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall. Come any time between 9:30 and 11:30 AM. Also needed are home sewers to zig zag the pinned edges of the quilts. Contact info: Florence Conway, 663-6058. Next Quilters date: Tuesday, September 28 (no Quilters on September 21, closet work day only).

Telecare - Tuesday, September 14, 6:30 PM (First Team), 7:30 PM (Second Team), Room 421, Linda Patterson, Coordinator.

Kaffehuset begins its new season on Wednesday, September 15 in the Fellowship Hall. Fellowship at 10:00 AM; program begins at 10:30 AM. Opening program: "Tour of the Century" by Pastor Harold Skillrud.

Fire Drill - Sunday, September 19, at the end of the 9:15 and 10:30 worship services. **Attention Parents!** Do NOT try to pick up your kids from Joy Zone. Instead, meet them and sign them out on the northwest lawn.

St. John's Music Series Presents... Anita E. Werling, Organist - Sunday, September 19, 3:00 PM, Sanctuary. Please invite a neighbor or friend and join us for this free concert! See the flyer on the Community Bulletin Board or page 3 of the September Eagle for details.

Acolyte Training and Pizza Party - Wednesday, September 22, 5:30-6:30 PM, Balcony. Become an acolyte for the 9:15 Traditional Worship service: light candles, process the cross, collect the offering, and more. For all interested St. John's 4th through 8th graders. Led by Pastor Elyse. If you have questions, contact her in the church office or email pastorenelsonwinger@stjohnsbloomington.org.

Attention Members

Men's Small Group - We are looking for a few men that would be interested in meeting at most 2 times a month on a Wednesday or Thursday evening at 5:00 or 5:30 PM and whose wish is to focus on spiritual development and grow stronger in faith. To join, please contact Tim Terry via phone at 309-530-7297 or email him at kterry@Hughes.net.

Servant Opportunities

Driver(s) Needed for ISU Students! Help us reach out to college students by bringing a couple of ISU students to 10:30 AM worship this fall! We have two students (who have connections to LOMC) who would love to come to St. John's but lack transportation. Please prayerfully consider helping with this outreach opportunity. To help, contact Rob in the church office or email him at rob@stjohnsbloomington.org.

Lutheran World Relief School/Health Kits Update: Thank you St. John's members for your continued support and generosity! As September kit preparation nears, we continue to need a few items. For the school kits: pencil sharpeners and blunt children's scissors; for health kits: towels and washcloths. Please drop off items into the special bins in the coat area by the church office.

Habitat for Humanity - Volunteers Needed: 15 people are needed for each of St. John's build dates: Sep 11 and Oct 9. We need volunteers to be part of the construction crew, photograph our volunteers in action, and bring snacks and beverages for our volunteers. Email raschml@yahoo.com or call (309) 585-0930 with the dates that you can help from the above listed dates, and how you plan to help.

Volunteers Are Needed for Community of Joy Slide Creation! Several volunteers are needed for approx. 5-8 hours/week, one week per month, to create slides for the COJ worship services. Requirements include: basic computer and PowerPoint skills, and access to email. Basic, introductory training is available. Contact Lee Hulsether in the church office or email lee@stjohnsbloomington.org.

Ongoing Collections at St. John's: used prescription eyeglasses and 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.

Congregation Council Notes August 30, 2010

The Congregation met on August 29, 2010, following the Festival of Faith worship service for the purpose of electing members of the Congregation Council. Lori Laughlin, Bob Fisher, and Susan Temple were elected to a serve three-year term, and Bob Hinshaw and Ray Dostal were elected to serve their second three-year term, all to begin at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, January 30, 2011.

- *Proposed Operating Budget for 2011.* The Council approved the first draft of the proposed 2011 Operating Budget, totaling, \$1,834,000.
- *Annual meeting.* Set for Sunday, January 30, 2011, in the Parish Life Center beginning at 11:45 AM.
- *Financial situation.* For the period ending July 31, receipts were \$974,000 and expenses were \$1,000,000, for a net loss of \$26,000.
- *First refusal.* The agreement with the Unitarian-Universalist Church granting St. John's the right of first refusal for the next three years should the Unitarian Church sell its property has been received and signed.
- *Pastoral succession.* In anticipation of Pastor Wells' retirement on June 30, 2011, succession planning retreats will be held for council, key staff, and members of the Transition Committee on September 10/11 and November 12/13. Carolyn Weese of Holy Cow! Consultants will meet with the Council for an overview on Sunday, September 26, and will be on site for the entire week for individual staff and ministry team consultations.
- *Ordination.* Jim Davis, a son of St John's, will be ordained at 3:00 PM on Sunday, September 26, 2010, in the Sanctuary. Jim has received a call to serve American Evangelical Lutheran Church in Gibson City. All St. John's members are invited to the service of ordination and the reception following.
- *New Sunday schedule.* The revised Sunday morning schedule begins on September 5, with Joy Zone and Youth/Adult discipleship classes beginning on September 12.
- *Sanctuary skylight.* The new Sanctuary skylight has been shipped with installation expected over the next several weeks.
- *Stewardship.* The fall campaign, with the theme "Faithful Living...Faithful Giving" will occur in September and October. Stewardship packets will be mailed in late October. Commitment Weekend is November 13/14.

Moms' Bible Study

Beginning September 9

Thursdays, 9:00 AM, Adult Discipleship Room 364

Mom's Bible Study would like to invite you to join us for fellowship and study on Thursday mornings from 9:00-11:00 AM beginning September 9. We will be starting a Beth Moore video series study on Daniel: Lives of Integrity, Words of Prophecy. Childcare is available. Contact Debi Petrillo 661-3252 with questions.

Seniors' Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

September focus: *Surprised by Hope* by N. T. Wright

Sep 9: "The Hope of Heaven" (chapters 5-7)

Sep 16: "The Hope of Jesus' Second Coming (chapters 8-9)

Sep 23: "The Hope of Salvation (chapters 10-12)

Sep 30: "The Hope of the Church (chapters 13-15)

Rally Day

**Fall programming begins on Rally Day
(September 12)**

Children: Joy Zone (St. John's Sunday Church School for children ages 2-5th grade) - Meets weekly, 9:15 & 10:30 AM. All Joy Zone parents need to come to the Fellowship Hall after dropping off their children in the Joy Zone classrooms for the Parent Rally. Important information will be shared on the new "Orange" initiative, the trip to New Horizon's Orphanage and parent packets will be distributed.

Jr. High: (for more information on all Jr. High Sunday morning opportunities, please visit www.stjohnsjrhigh.org.)

Genesis - Meets weekly, 10:30 AM, Jr. High Room (173); **iWORD** - Meets the 1st and 2nd Sunday/month, 9:15 AM, Jr. High Room (173)

Sr. High: Extreme Faith Bible Study (Sr. High) - See the info at right.

Adults: Sunday Adult Forums - Meet weekly, 9:15 & 10:30 AM, Adult Discipleship Room 365. For the schedule, see page 5 of the September Eagle.

Beginning September 8: Wednesday Night Preacher's Bible Study - Meets the first three Wednesdays of each month (follows the DinnerTime schedule), 6:30-7:15 PM, Adult Discipleship Room 365. Come "Teach the Preacher" on Wednesdays this fall!

Sr. High

Sr. High contact info: Steve in the church office or steve@stjohnsbloomington.org.

CHAOS - Wednesday, 6:45-8:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Sep 8: "Life Lessons: Triumph in Trouble"

Sep 15: "Life Lessons: Standing Firm"

Sep 22: "Life Lessons: All for One"

Sep 29: Special CHAOS in the Senior High Room, 174

Visit www.stjohnsbloomington.org/srhigh for the full schedule.

Extreme Faith Bible Study resumes on Sunday, September 12 at 9:15 AM in the SHYR (Senior High Youth Room, 174). We will be using the FUEL Bible series.

Save the Date - Work Camp Sponsor Appreciation

Dinner: Sunday, September 12, 6:00 PM, Parish Life Center. We want to thank all of our many sponsors with worship and then a nice dinner. We will also see the Work Camp video for the first time that night. All youth need to invite their sponsors for this dinner and worship service. Please join us so we can share our incredible Work Camp experiences with you!

Work Camp 2011 is the week of July 10-16, 2011 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. We will be taking 55 youth and 12 adults. Registration has started, so get your forms in ASAP--spaces fill up fast. The total cost/commitment for participation is a \$200 deposit with registration, participation in fundraisers, attendance to the meetings, and listening to God's call to service! Sign up sheets are available in the Atrium or from Steve in the church office.

Fall Sermon Series: *Surprised by Hope*

Book: *Surprised by Hope: Rethinking Heaven, the Resurrection, and the Mission of the Church* by Anglican theologian, N.T. Wright. Sermon series goes thru September 26. The book is about the resurrection and the hope that we as Christians have because of it. It's a thought-provoking, fascinating, occasionally challenging book, filled with humor and wit. Hardback copies are on sale at the church office for \$15 (a substantial discount off the cover price). Small groups can buy a DVD and study guides for \$15 (DVD) and \$5 (study guide).

Community Event

Faith In Action Training - September 16, 5:30 PM, Faith in Action office, 410 N. Prairie Street, Bloomington. Training lasts approximately 2 hours. For more info or to register call 827-7780. The St. John's liason is Tim Terry, (309) 530-7297, kterry@hughes.net. Next training date: Tuesday, October 19, 9:30 AM.