

St. John Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



JULY 2018 REPORTER

"Sent to Reveal God's Love to the World"

"Glorify God, Serve Others, and Imitate Our Savior"

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: Preschool thru Grade 12 at 9:00 a.m. (Sept.-May)
Adult Bible Class at 9:00 a.m.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

COMMUNION CELEBRATION:

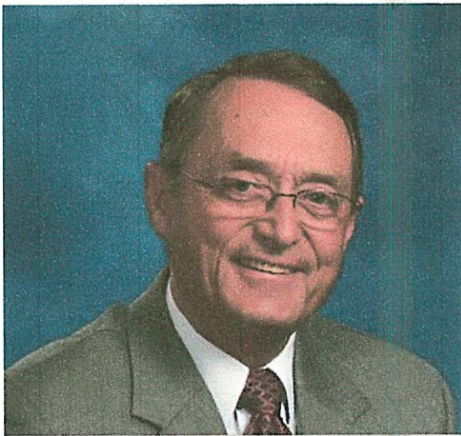
1st & 3rd Sundays of each month and the Saturdays before these Sundays

WEBSITE: www.stjohnclarinda.org

EMAIL: stjohnlcms@mediacombb.net

FACEBOOK: St. John Lutheran Church-Clarinda

YOUTH FACEBOOK: St. John's Lutheran Youth Group



Gary W. Thies, mission development counselor for the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod will give an exciting mission presentation here at St. John Lutheran Church, July 7, 2018 at the 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening service and again at the Sunday morning (10:30 a.m.) service July 8. Gary will present an unusual message of missions and what is taking place in the mission division of our church body. This multi-media presentation will feature artifacts from the various mission fields and a PowerPoint presentation.

Born and raised on a farm near Mapleton, IA,

having spent 33 years in banking, estate and the insurance industry, he brings an entirely new vision as a layman. He has traveled to 76 countries -- from the jungle country of West Africa, to Kazakhstan, Russia and Siberia. He has traveled from Thailand to the jungles of New Guinea and the mountain country of the Tagakaulo people on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines. He has completed a trip to the back countries of Guatemala, Venezuela and Jamaica as well as the jungles of Kenta, Uganda and Tanzania. Gary has just returned from a trip to Russia, Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic.

His miracle stories have been a part of his presentations in more than 1,750 churches throughout the United States. His message will impact the lives of all who attend, in that God does call people even today, from all walks of life, and that God has a plan for each and every person! Currently Gary represents the World Mission Division as well as the Iowa District West and the Nebraska districts. In addition to his full time mission work, Gary has served as chairman

to the Congressional Academic Selection Committee in Western Iowa and as President of the Western Iowa Tech Community College Foundation Board. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the Iowa State Bank in Des Moines and was appointed by the governor to serve on the Judicial Selection Committee in western Iowa. He and his wife, Maxine, live on a farm two miles east of Mapleton, Iowa.

We invite you to join us for Gary's special mission message Saturday, July 7, 6:00 p.m. or Sunday, July 8, 10:30 a.m.

LUNCH WITH GARY

Following the worship service on Sunday, July 8th, the Mission Board is inviting everyone to enjoy "lunch with Gary." We have a room reserved at J's Pizza for members of St. John and guests. You can enjoy the buffet or order off the menu - plus have this special time of one-on-one conversation with Gary. A good chance to have him answer your questions!

Please RSVP to the church office or to lcjhaug@myfmtc.com so we know how many to plan for. See you there!!



Dear friends in Christ,

"Bound Together in Christ's Love."

At the 40th Convention of Iowa District West (June 24-26) at Camp Okoboji, these words will be the front and center. Those in attendance will see them on banners and screens. They will be the topic of our essayist. The devotions and Bible studies will carry this theme. It is my hope and prayer that this theme guides and directs our congregations, pastors and professional church workers as we join together in the common mission of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Bound Together in Christ's Love is based on Colossians 3.

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." **Col. 3:12-17**

Iowa District West is made up of about 170 congregations. Most of these congregations are in rural and small-town settings. It is news to very few that in the last 20 years our rural communities have been undergoing an extensive transformation. In this day of rising insurance costs and shrinking church membership, it is a good time for congregations to consider how they might live and work together.

In the New Testament, the Greek word *kairos* means "the appointed time in the purpose of God." It refers to the time when God acts. I believe the time has come for us to boldly work together because we are stronger together. I believe it is in the past that congregations can work independently of one another. Collaboration with a neighboring congregation should not be viewed as a last act of desperation, but simply the recognition of our identity in Christ, as God's baptized children "Bound Together in Christ's Love."

We are hopeful and optimistic about our time together as brothers and sisters in Christ because this is God's time. This is the time that God has given us to work in His kingdom.

"Bound Together in Christ's Love" means we are bound and determined to develop ways we can work together to sustain and strengthen congregations, pastors and church workers

throughout Iowa West. The leadership of Iowa District West is committed to helping you and your congregation in working through these challenging times.

Always in Grace, Pastor Steve Turner
[reprinted from the Lutheran Witness, June/July 2018]



VBS 2018 ... Splash Canyon Recap!

Vacation Bible School was a great SPLASH this year! We met May 29th–June 1st from 6-8:00 p.m. Our theme this year was “Splash Canyon” and the children learned about how God is always with us, God gives us life, He is faithful, He gives hope, and Jesus is our Savior. On Life’s wild ride, Jesus is always by our side! Making VBS a success were over 60 wonderful volunteers working together to share God’s Word. We had 119 children attend this year.

On June 2nd, we hosted a family night picnic where parents and children met for food and fellowship at the Clarinda City Park. Thank you to all those who helped with the picnic!

Our offering this year went to Madagascar. We raised \$568.19 to help purchase Bibles for the children of Madagascar. Then, the children of Madagascar and their families will have books that help them learn about the amazing love of Jesus! Thanks to all who donated!

A special thanks to St. Paul, Immanuel and St. John members for their continued support towards this VBS mission.

Again thanks to all who participated in VBS 2018!



Reminder to parents with children in Grades 3-12: St. John LWML will provide scholarships to attend any LCMS camp or Jr./Sr. high youth gathering. Please don’t let this money go unused! Check out campokoboji.org to view opportunities for Minneboji Camp, Jr. high week, cub camp, and Sr. high week. Also, check out the Iowa District West website for the Fall youth gatherings. Leave your name at the church office if you want to receive one of these scholarships.



News from Noah's Ark ...

Greetings from Noah's Ark!

June has been busy as we have added 5 families and 9 children. Our summer numbers are up by around 15 children compared to last year, which is great! The kids are enjoying the summer themes, library time and walks. During bug week, we purchased 12 caterpillars for the children to learn about metamorphosis. Currently, most of them have turned into chrysalis. It will be about 2 weeks before they turn into butterflies. This has been fun, and we look forward to doing more of these type of activities with the children.

July themes include: The Sounds of Music, Ooey Goey Science, The Arts, Down on the Farm and All Around the World: Missionaries. This is a slight change from our original plan, as we felt it would be better to have the children enjoy the Page County Fair for “Down on the Farm” week. We want the children to experience Clarinda and all that it has to offer. If you have a special

gift, talent or experience you would like to share with the children, we would love to have you share with them!

As the children and staff focus on summer, I am preparing for fall enrollment. Part of the preparation is assuring that the new motto and logo is where it needs to be. Our mission statement is as follows:

"The mission of Noah's Ark is to provide a safe, nurturing environment for each child, which meets their educational needs with a Christ centered curriculum that encourages and develops their spiritual growth."

The new motto is based of Philippians 1:6
"...being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ:"

"GOOD BEGINNINGS NEVER END"



We are excited about the upcoming school year to begin. Our current enrollment totals 31 children between the two classes. We are blessed and thrilled that many of our 3-day program families are returning for the 5-day program.

A special thank you to all who have donated supplies for the summer program as well as those who have donated brand new plates for the food program and the wonderful library of Books on CD's and tape. Your generosity is truly appreciated!

If you are interested in touring the center to see what's going on, please contact Melinda at 641.344.9351. We would love to have you!

God Bless! Melinda Norton, Director



LWML Highlights for the month ...

- ☆ Summer is here and things have slowed down a bit for the LWML ladies. I hope you are all able to enjoy God's special gifts of time and beauty found in the lazy hazy days of summer! There will be no June board meeting as several will be attending the LWML District convention at Camp Okoboji. July circle meetings will take place in the second week due to 4th of July celebrations. Take time to thank God for the freedoms we enjoy here in the USA!
- ☆ A great group of volunteers and delegates from our zone are taking off on June 27 to assist with preparations for the convention. They will have an abundance of exciting news to share when they return on June 30.
- ☆ Thank you to everyone who donated ingathering items to be received at the convention for Hope Ministries...70 washcloths, 21 men's travel size deodorants, & 24 travel size toothpastes. You are truly God's mission servants!!
- ☆ Any member of St. John congregation is encouraged to correspond with our adopted seminary student and keep him in your prayers. Send cards/letters to:
Mr. Ben Oelschlaeger
Campus Post Office Box
801 Seminary Pl
St. Louis, MO 63105-3196

LWML Upcoming Dates:

- ♦ **Tuesday, July 10, 7:00 p.m.** Joy Circle meets in the church kitchen
- ♦ **Wednesday, July 11, 11:30 a.m.** Hope/Love Circle meets at Robin's Nest

Bible study is in the Summer Quarterly, page 16 "Peace Makers."

For a more detailed report of the LWML activities please see the monthly publication of the *Going Round in Circles* available at a circle meeting or the church office.

Serving the Lord with gladness!
Rosalie Neumeyer



Family Skating Party

Porter's Lake Reminders ...

- Family skating is held the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month from 6-9 p.m. Skating is open to the public and cost is \$4 per skater.
- Volunteers are needed to assist with skating parties. If you are interested or have questions please call Ron Eichhorst at 542.5436.



Joyful Response is a voluntary, electronic offering service. Weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly contributions can be gifted directly to the church. Stop by or call the church office to learn more about this service and/or to pick up an enrollment form. There is no cost for this service.



The gift of stewardship ...

Stewardship is the Christian life and the Christian life is stewardship. [from The Center for Stewardship, Concordia Seminary]

STAY CONNECTED!

We want to know ... did you move?
Change your email?
Disconnect the landline?
Need someone to pray for you?

Keep us updated so we can keep in touch!

712.542.3708
stjohnlcms@mediacombb.net

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES

People Of Christ With The Message Of Hope

The Lutheran Hour is aired every Sunday. Area station listings: 7:00 a.m. KOIL (1290 AM), Omaha, NE; 7:30 a.m. WHO (1040 AM), Des Moines, IA; 7:30 a.m. KMA (960 AM); 8:00 a.m. KCMO (710 AM), Mission, KS; 8:30 a.m. KFEQ (680 AM), St. Joseph, MO; 9:30 a.m. KJAN (1220 AM), Atlantic, IA.



Food Pantry Sunday is the 4th Sunday of each month!

There are baskets in the narthex and the education hallway for donations -- paper products, cleaning supplies, personal care items, and non-perishable food items collected are taken to the Clarinda Community Center.