

The St. John's Messenger

Monthly Newsletter

#### St. John's Lutheran Church & School

221 Walnut St. S.E.
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Church 794-6202 School 794-6200 Pastor 794-4500
www.stjohnsse.com

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NOVEMBER 2007 VOLUME 5 NUMBER 11

#### The End is Near!

The end of the church year is very near. In Old Testament times the Israelites had two calendars – a civil calendar and a religious calendar. Those calendars started at different times of the year.

We also have two calendars (or three if we count our fiscal calendar beginning on July 1<sup>st</sup>). We recognize January 1<sup>st</sup> as the beginning of the year for most purposes in our daily lives. Our church has a different calendar. The church calendar begins with the first Sunday in Advent, on December 2<sup>nd</sup> this year, and ends with the four Sundays of End Time, which we will celebrate in November.

The phrase "end times" brings to mind Christ's second coming and the last judgment, but it really includes much more. It includes all the time since Christ's ascension into heaven. Ever since his ascension, Christ has been preparing the world for his return. The four Sundays of End Time each have their own focus.

- **Reformation** Christ preserves the truth of his Gospel throughout the end times so that sinners continue to hear the promise of forgiveness and salvation. The Reformation at Luther's time is the primary example of this fact.
- Last Judgment Christ will return once more at the end of the end times to judge the earth. Those who believe in him as their Savior will enter into eternal glory and those who do not will suffer in hell.
- Saints Triumphant Saints Triumphant does not only refer to the time after the last judgment but all those who have died in the faith are Saints Triumphant.
- Christ the King Certainly Christ is King in the hearts of Christians, but he also rules the whole world for our good and to prepare the world for the day when he will return. When he returns it will be obvious to all that he is the King of Kings.

After these four Sundays the church year begins again with Advent. In Advent we remember the events that led up to the first time Jesus came into this world. As the church year progresses we focus on the events of Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension – the work of our salvation.

Celebrate with me. The end is near!

Pastor Draper

<u>St. John's Mission statement</u>: The continuing purpose of this congregation is to serve all people in God's world with the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.

# Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid held their monthly meeting on October 3rd at 2:00 p.m. President Marlys Lochner opened the meeting and Pastor Draper read from 1 Timothy, Chapter 6 for our in devotion.

A motion was made and seconded to order and pay for ten copies of the large print Meditations booklet, for the price of \$15.50 a copy.

The Ladies Aid received \$316.68 from the Pie Sale in August. The Youth Group received the other half of the proceeds. Thank you to all who organized, brought pies, and worked at the stand.

The collections for Campbell Products, milk caps, box tops, and Sleepy Eye receipts continues. Collection containers are in the basement. All collections help our school.

Dues for 2008 are payable at this time.

St. John's work day at the Treasure Haus is the first Friday of the month. Volunteers are needed especially to wait on customers. Store hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You may work as many hours as you are able.

Nominated for the position of secretary were Mary Ann Trebesch and Marilyn Deibele. Marilyn was elected for the secretary position and Mary Ann will accept the position of Vice-President. President Marlys Lochner and Treasurer Barb Lux will remain in their positions. A thank you goes to Dorothy Shellum for serving as secretary the past several years.

Marilyn Deibele, Secretary



# **Hosanna Circle**

Sallie Draper lead our group in a Devotion entitled "Blessings from the word."

Thanks to all who helped in any way with the Potluck for Mission Fest. A special thanks to Paula Windschitl for reminding us in words and pictures of our missionaries here and abroad. We would also like to thank Lynn Hacker for her beautiful fall display in the front of the church. The basement looked great with along artwork from the school kids.

Our circle also took care of alter flowers in October, along with September to help out Circle 3. Thank you to all who helped with the flowers.



The funeral committee reported on progress. A survey

will be out in the November newsletter to be completed by members of Saint John's as to how they will be able to assist with funerals and other events that have become increasingly difficult for Ladies Aid to handle on their own. Sallie Draper is also posting the survey on the St John's website, www. stjohnsse.com . It may be more convenient for some to complete on line. The committee will then follow up with phone calls to those who do not respond by a designated date.

The hayride was October 13th. Thank you to Sue Jensen for organizing the event and providing food. Also to Jan and Jerry Dittbenner for hosting the event at their home. Was a fun time and we had perfect weather. About 30 people participated.

Looking ahead Annie Vogel has agreed to make cards for the Christmas shut-in tree. We will also need to purchase items for the Christmas treat bags.

The Advent Dinner will be on December 9th. SuAnn Hinderman is in charge of Hostesses, if any one wants to decorate and host a table let her know. Arlene Hinderman is our coordinator and several people and committees have volunteered to make the event possible. Everyone's help is greatly appreciated. Be watching for tickets to be out soon.

Our next meeting is Nov. 8th at 7PM. Thanks to all for making it all happen.

In Christ,

Connie Trebesch and Pam Dittbenner

## Church Council Minutes – October 15, 2007

Present: Leo Derkowski, Van Tallman, Todd Marotz, Kurk Kramer, Paul Maasz, Dennis Dittbenner, Matt Steffen and Pastor Draper.

Pastor Draper opened the meeting with devotion and a prayer.

#### **Minutes**

Todd Marotz/Leo Derkowski made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 2007 meeting. Motion carried.

#### Pastor's Report

Pastor Draper provided a written report on statistics. The council granted permission to Pastor Draper to solicit donations from the congregation to purchase new videotaping equipment. Todd Marotz/Leo Derkowski made a motion to transfer Walter and Dorothy Shellum to Trinity, Nicollet. Motion carried.

#### Treasurer's Report

Leo Derkowski/Todd Marotz made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

#### **President's Report**

Reminder: quarterly voters meeting is on Sunday, October 21, 2007. Thrivent matching funds are starting to come in and are helping with the budget. Be sure to visit the church web site – www.stjohnsse.com - for the latest activities and more.

#### **Board of Elders**

A verbal report was given by Matt Steffen.

After some discussion the Church Council agreed to accept the original recommendation of the Elders Committee regarding the request of Carol Honeman for her release. The Council had previously approved a motion to grant the release and it will be on the agenda of the quarterly voters' meeting. Pastor Draper reviewed the release letter he has drafted to send to Carol.

#### Principal & Board of Education

Kurk Kramer submitted a formal report.

Kurk received a request from Nikki Nepperman to use the church facilities to hold a benefit and silent auction on Friday, November 16, 2007 for Julie Brown, a member of St. John's diagnosed with cancer. Motion to approve the use was made by Leo Derkowski/Todd Marotz and was

carried.

The City of Sleepy Eye provided an analysis of fluorescent lighting in the church and school. Energy costs can be reduced by converting to more efficient lighting. The letter was referred to Maintenance Committee for further study.

#### **Worship Committee**

Todd Marotz/Dennis Dittbenner made a motion to accept the worship committee's recommendation for this year's Christmas worship schedule. Motion carried.

#### **Maintenance Committee**

No formal report.

Kevin Leopold reprogrammed all of the thermostats and provided an instruction sheet on how to use and program them.

#### Outreach

No report.

#### **Stewardship**

No formal report.

#### **Endowment and Trust Fund Committee**

No report.

#### **MVL/WELS**

MVL – Kurk Kramer provided a brief summary of the recent Board meeting.

**WELS** – no report.

#### Old Business

A financial audit has not been completed in time for the next quarterly congregational meeting.

#### **New Business**

Dennis Dittbenner/Todd Marotz made a motion to approve a poinsettia fundraiser by Hosanna Circle. Motion carried

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 12, 2007 at 7:30 PM in the Church basement.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted Leo Derkowski, Secretary

# St. John's on the Web

St. John's new web site, <u>www.stjohnsse.com</u>, is designed to provide visitors with a connection to God's Word and to inform them of the news and events at St. John's. Visitors to the home page of the web site will quickly see that the site is organized into two main "sub-sites", Church and School.

Visit the Church site to find

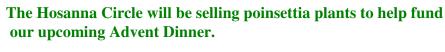
- Sermons and Bible studies
- Daily devotions, prayers, and Bible readings
- Church calendar events
- The St. John's Messenger monthly newsletter
- Weekly bulletin
- Worship volunteer schedule for the upcoming week
- Youth group news
- · Photos of church events
- Member surveys

The School site is home to

- The Warrior Weekly newsletter
- School calendar events
- Hot lunch calendar
- SCRIP order form
- · Class photos, videos and updates
- Class assignments

It is good to make use of the technology that God has blessed us with to further the work of His kingdom. If you have ideas for the web site, please share them with either Pastor or Sallie Draper.

# Poinsettia Fundraiser



The plants will be in 6" pots with 4-5 blossoms and wrapped in foil.

Orders will be taken after the early services in November or by calling Sue Jensen at 794-2536.

There will be a limited number available for sale, so order early! The cost is \$12 each.

If you wish to purchase one for the church or donate one in memory / honor of someone we will place the plant in front of the church for you. What a time saver!

Plants will be available on Sunday Dec. 9th or after the Advent Dinner.



# From the Principal



November 2<sup>nd</sup>, marks the end of the first quarter of the school year. It is hard to believe that nine weeks have already flown by. October was a busy month for St. John's faculty and students. It started with the Terra Nova standardized tests the first week of October. A number of class trips were taken by the different classrooms; the Sod House in Sanborn, Walnut Grove, the Cottonwood River and Orchestra Hall were all visited and the students enjoyed learning experiences at all of these locations.

The faculty spent two days at Bethany College in Mankato attending the State Teacher's Conference. Ms. Zastrow attended the Early Childhood Sectionals which were jam-packed with great ideas for ECE teachers. Included were literacy centers, graphic organizers and class book ideas. She also attended the sectional entitled "Reaching Latino Culture with the Gospel". Information was shared on the Latino culture and how to share the Gospel message with these people. Mrs. Halvorson attended a sectional that was presented by one of the many "Minnesota Players" characters of Minnesota history. *John Beargrease* was an Ojibwe mail carrier and fur trader in the late 1800's who described his job and lifestyle as it was in that time period. She also participated in the Microsoft Office 2007 sectional that explored the applications of this program. Finally, the third sectional she attended was *The Interactive Classroom*. This presentation gave participants some "hands on" work with the Promethean Activeboard. This interactive whiteboard software offers limitless possibilities for effective teaching in the classroom, encouraging student participation in every aspect of the curriculum with which it is used.

Mrs. Evenson attended three sectionals all dealing with characters of the "Minnesota Players". These three characters were Harriet Bishop, the first public school teacher in St. Paul, Maud Hart Lovelace, children's author, and Virginia Mae Hope, Air Force pilot in WW II. All three of these characters shared their experiences and relationships that they have with Minnesota history. Mr. Kramer attended the James Madison Goodhue presentation. Mr. Goodhue was the editor of the first Minnesota newspaper. He also shared some of his experiences as an early pioneer of Minnesota. Mr. Kramer was as impressed with the sectional on the Parmethean Activebaord as was Mrs. Halvorson. This interactive educational tool has great potential for the classrooms at St. John's, and hopefully, funding for them can become available so that they can become a part of the classrooms in the near future. Mr. Kramer also attended a sectional presented by two members of the Minnesota DNR entitled "Minnaqua". This curriculum stresses using water and other natural resources that our state has, to educate our students to promote and preserve the great outdoors. He is making plans to implement this information into his classroom curriculum.

Mr. Kramer spent some time in each of the classrooms at St. John's. He was able to observe every teacher and their students, noting that there are dedicated faculty members, and students, working together in religious, educational, and extracurricular activities throughout the building.

Kurk K. Kramer Principal St. John's LES

# **Pre-School and Kindergarten** News

**By Miss Zastrow** 



As Thanksgiving approaches, I am reminded of the countless blessings that I have received this year! It is so exciting to finally be teaching here at St. John's. All of the wonderful people that surround me make this first year of teaching even more enjoyable for me.

The month of October has brought with it plenty of excitement in the Preschool and

Kindergarten room. The Kindergartners and I took a walking field trip to the Fire Station on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The questions were endless as we learned all about the fire trucks, fire gear, and firemen. On October 12th, grades K-3 enjoyed a visit to the Care Center. We sang songs and recited poems for a large, excited audience! Preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade took a trip to the Minnesota Zoo on October 16<sup>th</sup>. We got a little bit wet, but there was plenty of indoors viewing space for us to check out all the animals up close.

In our Christ-Light lessons for October and November, we are learning the Old Testament stories about Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses. "Do not fear, for I am with you." -Isaiah 41:10 is one of our memory treasures this month. We remember that God is indeed always with us. No matter where we go or what we do, God is always with us.

The Preschoolers just finished learning all about ourselves with the "Letter People". We learned about our names, our bodies, about staying healthy, and all about our fives senses. Coming up soon, we are beginning our unit "Getting Along With Others." Mr. B, Ms. K, Mr. D, Ms. F, and Mr. O will teach us about sharing, kindness, helping each other, similarities and differences, and opposites.

Kindergarten is finishing up the "All Around the Neighborhood" unit. We made a large neighborhood map. Be sure to ask a Kindergartner to see it sometime! We will soon begin learning about "Keeping Fit." We will learn how to keep our bodies healthy by what we do and eat. Our bodies are amazing pieces of God's creation and we will begin to learn a little bit about how they work! Going back to Thanksgiving and the thought of countless blessings... The Preschoolers, Kindergartners, and myself would like to send a great big THANK YOU to the Beussman Family and the PTO for their contributions towards our new classroom carpet! If you haven't yet, be sure to stop by sometime to check it out!

# 1st - 3rd Grade News By Mrs. Halvorson

The brisk days are reminders that winter is just around the corner.

We are learning of Joseph in our Bible lessons this month. We will see how God was with Joseph and turned his troubles into blessings. We will be reminded of the many times He still does the same for us today.

In Math class the first graders will be busy sorting, working on subtraction facts, and counting backwards from 20, while second grade studies bar graphs, weighs objects, and measures to the nearest inch. Grade three will be entering the world of multiplication this month.

At the end of the month we will learn about Light, Heat, and Sound in our Science unit. How do Light and Sound travel. We will be able to tell you soon.

In our reading unit we will read a folktale called "Stone Soup". We will enjoy some of our own delicious Stone Soup too!

November is a time to give thanks for our countless blessings – especially our growing faith and our Savior from sin. We will join with the whole school to sing our praises on Thanksgiving Day this year. May God give you a thankful heart for your blessings too!



Chantel: "I am thankful for my parents and my family."

Charity: "I am thankful for my house and food and clothes."

Ben D. "I am thankful for my brothers and parents."

Colten: "I am thankful for my mom and dad."

Ben B. "I am thankful for God's Word, my sisters, and my bed."

Holly: "I am thankful for my family, food, drink, God's Word, church, school, the world, and all my friends."

Parker: "I am thankful for my mom and dad."

Mary: "I am thankful for family."

Abby "I am thankful for the Bible, Jesus, cats, dogs, mom and dad, and teachers.



# **የ Memorials** ተ

#### In memory of Ruth Meyer

To Choir Dave & Char Zimmerman – \$5.00

#### In memory of Art Seifert

To the Organ Fund
Family & Friends – \$500.00
Eugene & Marlys Lochner – \$5.00
Melania Meyer – \$5.00
Ralph Grundmeyer – \$5.00
Wally & Mary Ann Trebesch – \$5.00
Milda Dey – \$5.00
Harold & Bev Bartz – \$10.00

To the Window Fund Family – \$25.00

#### In memory of Erwin Schwartz

To St. John's School Bob & Jan Steffen of Sanborn

#### In memory of Toots Rono

To Ladies Aid
Family & Friends – \$141.00
Harold & Bev Bartz – \$15.00
Shorty & Mary Jane Haus – \$5.00
Brad & LeAnn Berkner – \$5.00
Delbert & Eunice Sandhoefner – \$10.00

To the Organ Fund
Wally & Mary Ann Trebesch – \$10.00
Ken & Linda Lang – \$10.00
Family & Friends – \$324.00

To the New School Fund Steve & Paula Windschitl – \$20.00

To the Window Fund Family & Friends – \$365.00

To St. John's School Armin & June Grundmeyer – \$5.00

#### In memory of Ervin Lendt

To St. John's School Arno & Orpha Lendt – \$10.00

To Building Fund Family & Friends – \$5.00 In memory of Adeline Ubl

To Organ Fund Wally & Mary Ann Trebesch – \$10.00 Family & Friends – \$70.00

To New School Steve & Paula Windschitl – \$25.00

To St. John's School
Doug & Vicky Kral – \$30.00
Armin & June Grundmeyer – \$5.00
Greg & Mary Bartz – \$20.00
Darlene Kotelinichi & Deloris Kruger – \$20.00
Family & Friends – \$5.00

To Choir Ken & Penny Mathiowetz – \$15.00

St. John's Ladies Aid
Brad & LeAnn Berkner – \$5.00
Delbert & Eunice Sandfoefner – \$10.00
Harold & Bev Bartz – \$10.00

To St. John's Church Bev Wischstadt – \$5.00 Family & Friends – \$65.00

#### In memory of Irene Schiller

To St. John's – \$5.00

#### In memory of Gordon & June Schumacher

Organ Fund – \$150.00 Choir Music – \$150.00 St. John's School Projects – \$200.00



# 7th & 8th Grade News

By the Students

<u>Math:</u> The 7th graders have been reviewing rounding whole numbers and fractions, word problems, least common factors and least common multiples.

The 8th graders have been working with fractions. They have also been reviewing the formulas for the area of shapes and looking at the mode, and median of numbers.

Geography: The students have been studying the U.S. and Canada. They have learned about it's resources such as forests and farms. Also it's landforms like the Rocky Mountains, the Mississippi River and it's history, and it's freedom and how people got there.



**Spelling:** The 7th graders have been learning how to spell words with letters that don't make sounds like; mathematics, audience, tournament, and juvenile.

The 8th graders have just finished a review unit and are now working on words with no sound clues such as; government, consequences, and temperamental. They have also worked with irregular plurals which are plurals that add s or es.

**English:** Nouns, appositives, nouns in possessive, and plural forms are what has kept the students busy in English class this past month. Now they are on to capitalizing proper nouns.

<u>Catechism:</u> In the students past lesson they have studied how God preserves his fallen creation, who Jesus Christ is, that Jesus Christ redeemed them, and that Jesus Christ was exalted for everyone. After the study the students had a review test covering the last four lessons.

American History: The students started off American History by learning about the European Reach of America. This is about the Europeans coming and discovering America. They had help from the Indians, including Pocahontas. They made catalogs to show the furs of the animals and how they used to make pelts. It also included the goods that the French traded with the Indians.

<u>Literature:</u> "Sing Down the Moon" and "Island of the Blue Dolphins" are the books the students in literature class have just completed. They are currently reading "My Brother Sam is Dead." They explain that all the

books are historically accurate but the story and the characters are made up. Like the story "My Brother Sam is Dead" is about a family's struggle during the Revolutionary War.

**<u>Bible History:</u>** The students recently learned about how Saul became a believer in Christ, and how Peter traveled around Samaria and how he saw the vision of all the four footed animals that the Lord said he could eat. Currently they are learning about how King Herod tried to destroy the church.

**Hymnology:** Currently the students are learning "trust" hymns but before that they learned "Abide, O Dearest Jesus", "A Mighty Fortress is Our God". The students comment, "These hymns are very comforting especially in time of need or sadness".

**Science:** The students have just completed their Earth Science books. This study included the ocean and it's motion such as waves, tides, and currents. Recently they finished up on the Mississippi River and its parts.

Art: Have you seen the art in the church basement? 7th & 8th graders have been very busy making projects using lead and geometric cut outs. Using the lead they drew a picture titled "This Old House" and the geometric cut outs were used to create an animal out of construction paper.

Music: Recently the students have been learning about half-notes, quarternotes, whole-notes, and eighth-notes. Now they are learning about hymns and what notes they contain and how the rhythm goes.



<u>Current Events:</u> An article about Benjamin Franklin is what the students are currently reading in Current Events class. They learned he was an apprentice for his brother James' print shop and how he wasn't treated very good. They also did some comparison with jobs in today's newspapers verses Benjamin's job.

**Phy Ed:** The students explain that flag football is when you have two velcro flags attached to your waist and when carrying the ball people can remove them.

# 4th – 6th Grade News

By Mrs. Evenson

# **Youth Group**



Through the lives of the patriarchs, our Christ Light lessons have been teaching us about the power of prayer and to rely on God rather than ourselves for all we need. We've also been learning several hymns to praise Him in these ways, including "What God Ordains Is Always Good" and "With the Lord Begin Your Task."

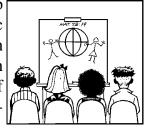
In our Language assignments, we have been reviewing all different types of nouns. For Creative Writing class, we each wrote a descriptive piece and a narrative story, most of which were published as part of computer lab with Mrs. Draper.

Students in grades 3-5 are searching for clues to solve a mystery during Guided Reading time as well as making book report mobiles about some of their silent reading material. In Social Studies, we are learning about the past of people in the SE, including the Underground Railroad, Civil War, and civil rights movements. While studying the circulatory system one day in Science class, we noted how current brain research reveals that blood pools rather than moves well through the brain if we sit still longer than 20 minutes. "Oh, " said one student, "so that's why my mind wasn't able to finish my math!"

If you'd like to see some of our Godgiven artistic talent, stop in the church basement where samples of our room's projects will be on display throughout the month.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

In October, the Youth Group covered the topic "Witnessing Your Faith Among Your Peers" based on a video about the lives of WELS teens who used different ways to witness, e.g.



through their Christian rock band. We will again meet in the computer lab between services on November 11<sup>th</sup>. Our Bible Study will be on a video about addiction. All high school age students are welcome to attend!



Our Bowling activity has been rescheduled for Sunday, November 18 from 2:30-5:30 pm. We will meet at church to drive to Springfield Lanes. The cost of games & shoes is covered,

so just remember to bring extra money for snacks you might want.

Herberger Community Day Sale: MVL juniors are selling booklets in order to raise money for their History Tour this coming summer. If you are interested in supporting them by purchasing a booklet please see Tom Stark. The booklets are \$5 and include a \$10 gift certificate and coupons



# **LWMS Fall Rally Report**

The Fall Rally of the Minnesota Valley Lutheran Women's Missionary Society was held on Saturday, October 13, 2007, at St. Paul's in Arlington. Attendance for the day was 155. St. John's was represented by six ladies, three being first time attendees!

Pastor Bruce Hanneman led our gathering with the opening devotion. Correspondence, Secretary's minutes and Treasurer's reports were addressed during the business meeting. The 2007 Mission Boxes (door offerings) for our circuit totaled \$3,321.74 from the spring and fall contributions. One-quarter of this money is sent to the LWMS Central Office, and the remaining money is split between two home mission projects – Language training and summer student assistants; and also the world mission project of the Asian Lutheran Seminary Theological Library.

A summary of the Annual Convention held in Detroit was given. Next year's Annual Convention will be held in Tucson, AZ June 26 - 29, 2008. Reservations for the convention and hotel accommodations can be made now. There are also two different tour groups from our area going. If you are interested in information on the convention or the tours, please contact me. You may also go to the www.lwms.org site for details and registration information.

We enjoyed a slide presentation by Pastor Rick Tuttle of his recent trip to Israel. After lunch, our speaker of the day, Sally Vallesky, spoke about her time in Africa as a missionary's wife, and also of a return trip she and three other women made a couple of years ago as a show of solidarity between the women of WELS in America and the women in the African congregations.

The spring rally for 2008 will be held at St. Paul's in Jordan, MN. Offering for the day came to \$1,576.40. The closing devotion was led by Pastor Keith Bilitz.

Paula Windschitl Congregational Reporter

# **MLC Food Bank Collection**



St. John's will once again sponsor a food drive for the MLC Food Bank. This annual event helps married MLC students by offering them supplemental groceries to help stretch their budgets. Please watch the bulletin inserts in November for listings of suggested non-perishable products. You may bring your contributions to the church basement anytime during the last two weeks of November, placing them on the counter in the kitchen. Please mark the bag 'MLC Food Bank'.

Matthew 10:42 And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."

# CARE CONNECTOR

## A Word of Thanks

## Funeral Thank You

The family of Adeline Ubl wishes to thank the ladies Aid for doing such a wonderful job in setting up, serving, and clean up for Adeline's funeral lunch.

Family of Adeline Ubl

### Thrivent Thank You

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church would like to thank the local Thrivent board for recently donating \$30 for our coffee fund along with cups, napkins, and placemats.

## A Huge Thank-You

John & Kelly Burden would like to thank everyone who helped out in anyway in putting on the spaghetti dinner benefit, it is greatly appreciated! They would also like to thank everyone who attended the dinner, and to those who were unable to attend but have sent "Get Well Wishes". They also appreciate the many thoughts and prayers everyone has provided for John during his recovery. God's blessings to all of you!

## In Appreciation

Before October 1st we didn't know there was a "Pastor Appreciation Month". It was a won-



derful joy to experience the many cards and gifts you showered us with all throughout the month! Thank you

for the kindness you have shown. It is a privilege to serve St. John's.

Pastor Draper and family

#### **Events**

## Women's Advent Dinner

Welcome to the Women's Advent Dinner to be held Sunday, December 9th, starting at 4:30PM.

Come and join us for an evening of devotion, good food and entertainment. May we celebrate the reason for the season.

There will be a hostess sign up sheet and a guest sign up sheet in the narthex.

The deadline for the hostess is November 21st and the guest sign up is December 2nd.

Contacts include SuAnn Hinderman – 794-4603, Arlene Hinderman – 794-7256, and Paula Windschitl – 794-2310.



## Chocolate Indulgence FESTIVAL

Do you LOVE chocolate? year St. John's School will have a booth with samples of fudge courtesy of the Country Loft. The Festival is Thursday, November 8 from 4-7:30p.m. Need a gift idea for that chocolate lover in your life? There will also be gift certificates of \$10.00 available to purchase. All profits will go to St. John's PTO. Tickets are \$12.00 at the door and \$10.00 in advance. Tickets may be purchased at Sleepy Eye Depot Museum, B.J.'s Salon and Randy's Family Drug in Sleepy Eye. This event is sponsored by Sleepy Eye Area Historical Society.

## **Members in Military**

# **Support for Military Personnel**

Welcome back Sgt. Zachary Hammerschmidt, SPC Stephen M. Kostoff, SPC James L. Piotter, Recruit Luke G. Piotter and Sgt. Todd Hammerschmidt.

SRA Mattes, Jessica [birthday: Dec. 16] PSC 41 Box 5596 APO AE 09464 [England]



#### **Announcements**

#### Newsletter

Is your son or daughter in college receiving the newsletter? If not, please call or email the church office at 794-6200 or lisa. hillmann@stjohnsse.com

#### Wanted

## "QUIET BAG" BOOKS NEEDED

Do you have any children's religious books, cloth or board books at home that are no longer being used?

We would like to update and add to our materials for the Children's "Quiet Bags" that are in the back of the church. If you have anything you would care to donate, please contact Mrs. Halvorson at the school. (507) 794-6200