

# The St. John's Messenger

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](http://www.stjohnsse.com)



SEPTEMBER 2011

VOLUME 3

NUMBER 9

## Fellowship

If you ever had any doubt, pastors do like to get together and talk! September is the month for our annual pastors' conference where WELS pastors from the area gather together. We worship together, study God's Word, talk, share ideas, get to know one another better, and just in general enjoy the fellowship of Christian brothers in the ministry.

But fellowship is more than just getting to know one another. It is more than sitting down with each other over coffee or a meal. When we talk about fellowship in the church we mean we share the same faith in Jesus, our Savior, the same trust in the sacraments, and more. In fact, it means we hold to the same faith in everything the Bible tells us because it is God's Word. This applies to our members as well as pastors.

At pastors' conferences we celebrate and strengthen our fellowship through God's Word. We worship together and we listen as fellow pastors present the knowledge they have gained from the study of God's Word. This would not be possible if we did not share the same faith.

What are some of the other blessings of having the same faith? Here are a few:

- Knowing that when we have sinned and asked for forgiveness, our fellow believer's words of forgiveness are as real as if Christ himself said them.
- Having voters' meetings that focus on how to carry out God's work instead of arguing over God's Word.
- Believing the same thing and enjoying true "communion" at the Lord's Supper.
- Reaching out to others with one truth instead of several "opinions".

One pastor at a previous conference shared a personal experience. He was talking to a pastor of another church body who commented on how his congregation asked him some questions before they would call him to serve – questions like: "Do you believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Do you believe God created the world in six days? Do you believe the whole Bible is God's inerrant Word?" What a blessing it is to not have to ask our called workers these questions. We already know what they believe because they are part of our fellowship.

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1)

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord,  
Pastor Draper

### **St. John's Mission statement:**

*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.*

## Presidents Report to St Johns Church Council & Congregation August 2011

### Proverbs 22:6

**Train a child** in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.

Back to school night is behind us, the students are signed up and our called workers are ready for the new school year! What an opportunity we have at St. Johns to train God's children in his ways. Support to do that, from all of St. Johns members, no matter if you have children in school here or not, is very much appreciated. Whether it is of your time to help in whatever capacity to support the staff or maintain the school building and grounds or monetary support to provide what is needed and most importantly, prayers that we can continue to carry out God's work herein our school, it is all helpful!

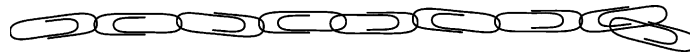
I spoke of the committee that is working on providing the direction we need to take to maintain our building and comply with the code in my last report. This group met on July 29th with Ryan Langemeier of Langemeier Architects to get some ideas ranging from doing what is absolutely necessary to our current building to meet code, to renovation of the current building to a new building. One of the first steps to be taken is to have our called workers meet and discuss what is really needed in terms of space and equipment. Ryan can then put that information to work in his thoughts and ideas and give us plans that will work for us.

Currently, the committee working on the building recommendations are, Dave Zimmerman, Jack Draper, Paul Maasz, Bob Maas, Spencer Hammer, Pastor and myself. If you have interest, ideas or comments, talk to us. If you would like to be on the committee, contact myself or Pastor. Above all, pray that we are able to come up with a workable solution to our school building that allows us to continue to grow God's word to his children here at St Johns.

In Christ,

Steve Windschitl

President, St John's Congregation



### **Church Council Minutes August 15, 2011**

Present: Steve Windschitl, Barry Hillmann, Jim Mielke, Andy Lochner, Jerry Dittbenner, Dan Rick, Dave Zimmerman and Pastor Draper.

Pastor Draper opened the meeting with devotion and a prayer.

#### **Minutes**

Andy Lochner/Jim Mielke made a motion to approve the July 2011 minutes. Motion carried.

#### **Pastor's Report**

A baptism was held for Toni-Ann Weber's daughter. Infant daughter Holley Piotter will take place soon.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Dave Zimmerman/Barry Hillmann made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

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

Steve Windschitl submitted a written report:

#### **Board of Elders**

A birthday celebration will be held for Doc Romberg's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday after the 9 a.m. service on September 4<sup>th</sup>. The annual hog roast is scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup>. Board members are asked to bring a dessert.

#### **Principal & Board of Education**

No new response on visits to neighboring towns. 33 students are enrolled at this time. A new school logo is being looked at.

### **Worship Committee**

On Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> church is scheduled for 8 p.m. due to the parade. An email will be sent to remind members.

### **Maintenance Committee**

No report.

### **Outreach**

No report.

### **Stewardship**

No report.

### **MVL/WELS**

No report

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

Andy Lochner gave update on organ fund.

### **Old Business**

Leo is working on the By-laws.

### **New Business**

No new business.

Andy Lochner/Jim Mielke made a motion to adjourn.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry Hillmann/Acting secretary



### **Ladies Aid**

The Ladies Aid Society met on Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2 p.m. For their regular monthly meeting. President Marlys Lochner presided. Pastor Draper gave the devotion. We continued to look at Jacob's life as he "Wrestled with God", and struggled to keep money in its proper place. These words are found in Genesis 30:25-43.

We received two more memorials to our basement chair fund. As of August 3<sup>rd</sup> the fund has grown to \$150.00.

The full report of the LWMS Annual Convention held in Milwaukee, WI in June may be found in the church's August newsletter. Pastor and Sallie Draper, Judy Maasz and Paula Windschitl attended.

Artificial yellow roses have been donated by Lori Tallman. They may be used for table decorations as needed. Thank you Lori.

Block 3 is up to serve.

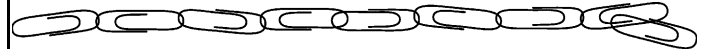
A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$100 to the Church's Scholarship Fund. A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$50.00 to the WELS Kingdom Workers.

The Ladies Aid is sponsoring the pie stand at Sleepy Eye's Corn Days on Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>. The Youth Group will sell the pies and share the profits.



Our next meeting will be a joint meeting with the Hosanna Circle on Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. See you there!

Marilyn Deibele, Secretary



*St. John's*

*Lutheran Church*

*Annual Hog Roast*



Worship services @ 8am & 10:30am

Bible Study & Sunday School @ 9:15am

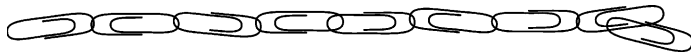
*Sunday, Sept. 18th*

*11:30AM*

*Please join us for a day of faith, food and fellowship!*

## Birthday Celebration

Join Doc  
for a cake reception  
after our 9AM worship service  
on Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>  
In honor of  
Doc Romberg's 100<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday!



## Thank You

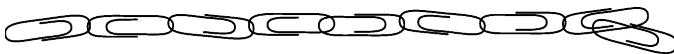
Dear Members of St. John's,

I would like to thank you for your prayers, cards, visits and well wishes for the last month during my illness. The singing of hymns by choir members was greatly appreciated as well as the time you took to visit after the singing. This made for a blessed and relaxing evening for me. Thanks to Pastor Draper for his visits, devotions, prayers and assurance that we are in God's hands.



Sincerely,

Harold Bartz

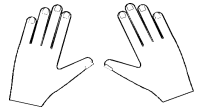
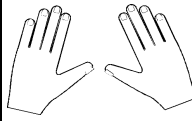


## Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will be at the Eagles Orchid Inn on Tuesday, **September 6th** from 1 – 7 p.m. To make an appointment, call Jane @ 794-7625.



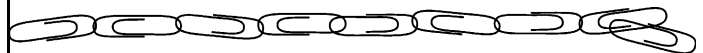
## Thank You



Thank you to the many hands who have helped with church/school summer and workday projects! Check out some of our accomplishments.

- Grass edged all around the property
- Bushes and trees trimmed
- Garage scraped and painted
- Kitchen wall upgrading
- New drinking fountain in school
- Parking lot cleaned and marked
- New bulletin boards in church basement
- Tuck pointing to school building
- Church and school front clean-up
- Playground equipment coated
- School interior walls/windows washed
- Floors refinished
- Storage/organization/shelving improvements in school
- Resurfacing school bench

Praise the Lord for many hands and blessings!



## St. John's Food Service Position

A part-time position is open in food service at St. John's. This position is for about 4 hours per day during the school year. Lori Tallmann is our current cook. Lori is willing to stay and train the next individual in until they feel comfortable. Hours needed are approximately 9 a.m. To 1 p.m. If interested, please contact Pastor Draper @ 794-6200.

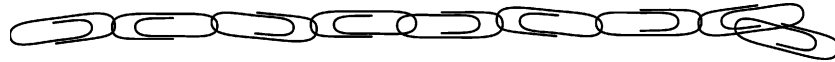


|  
**LWMS News**

The fall rally of the LWMS will be held on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at Trinity Lutheran Church in Nicollet. Mark your calendar now and watch for further details!

Paula Windschitl,

LWMS Reporter



### **Befriend a Mission Connection**

This month our congregation has the opportunity to remember two of our Befriend-a- Mission assignments as they celebrate birthdays! A card, a note, a gift card or small token of appreciation is always an encouragement to these dedicated workers.

September 6 is the birthday of Steve Witte. He is serving at the Asia Lutheran Seminary in Hong Kong. Remember to apply correct postage for international mail! His address:

**Steven Witte**

**Flat B 6/F 3 Humbert St.**

**Mei Foo Sun Chuen Lai Chi Kok**

**Kowloon**

**Hong Kong**

September 8 is the birthday of MacKensie Olson, daughter of Missionary Dan Olson who is serving at Sure Foundation in New York City. MacKensie will be 13 years old! It might be fun to encourage your children to send a note to her as well. Her address:

**MacKensie Olson**

**5021 61<sup>st</sup> St.**

**Woodside, NY 11377**

## **Worship, Music and the Arts Conference Reflections**

Awesome – Edifying - Encouraging

These adjectives help to express experiences personally felt and commonly heard about while attending the 15<sup>th</sup> WELS worship conference. Over 50 workshops were offered with a variety of informative topics for called and lay parish workers. Besides 2 recitals offered, workshops included:

- From Evangelical Praise Band to Liturgy Solutions.com
- Sing and Play the Kodaly Way
- Choral Reading Sessions
- Good Worship Choices Flow From Good Worship Education
- Worship and Outreach in a Midwestern Parish
- Expand Your Service Playing Resourcefulness
- Hymns in the Life of Church, School and Home
- Lutheran Tradition in the Visual Arts
- Beautiful Sound From Average Children
- Freshness and Variety in Proclaiming Law and Gospel

Because this is one of the largest conferences of its kind, there is a sprinkling of non-WELS people in attendance – a great witness opportunity! CA public schools were represented. Many of their schools have resorted to volunteer music instructors and very little instruction time. How blessed WELS is to have schools and congregations that realize the value of music instruction and experience – not only in a child's spiritual life but in all aspects of their growth and development.

Many grade school, high school and adult singers and instrumentalists were involved in the inspiring morning and evening worship services. Many non-conference participants attended these.

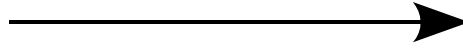
Meeting new and reconnecting with old fellow believers reminds us of the blessings we share connected in Christ. Like ripples in a pond, each attendee can affect the growth of Christ's kingdom in their own “corner of the world” or life situation. What a wonderful opportunity!

# Logo Contest!

We are asking for your help in creating a fresh look for our school logo. Whether you have little artistic talent or lots, give us your ideas. Give us a drawing, sketch, computer image, or written description.



Here is our current logo



Here are some guidelines for a new logo. Include as many of these as you can in your own design:

- Use the "Warriors" name or theme
- Include an appropriate Bible passage (Eph. 6:11 and Eph. 6:16, for example)
- Include biblical symbolism (cross, crown, trinity, sword of the Spirit, shield of faith, and many more)
- Include the school name and city name
- Use the school colors – blue and gold
- Include the year the Church and School were established (1876 & 1880)

Keep in mind that eventually two versions of the logo will be needed – a detailed logo for general use and a simplified logo for use where a smaller logo is needed. Some ideas to get you started can be found at [www.stjohnsse.com/schoollogo](http://www.stjohnsse.com/schoollogo)

Due Date:

- Please submit your ideas by October 31<sup>st</sup>
- The congregation will provide their feedback and a selection will be made by November 30<sup>th</sup>

The winner gets a free t-shirt with the new logo.

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Draper or Dan Rick.