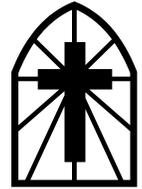


ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

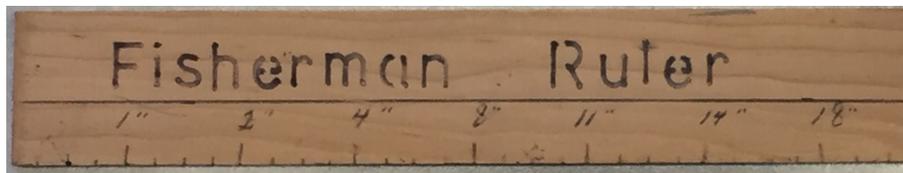
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 33 ISSUE 8 AUGUST 2019

Remember, when we were kids, playing games with other kids? Remember how the rules of our games were set up? Remember how some made up new rules or changed the rules in the middle of the game? We all probably did it or were victims of the new rules or the rule changes. And often someone would quit and walk away mad.

It doesn't seem to have changed in some things of the world. Many people want to set up rules that are to their own liking. People or groups of people seek to set up laws that fit their agenda. But—whether it's a street ball game with kids or members of governing bodies—what seems to get lost are governing rules that are good for ALL.

Perhaps you can see the picture on this page of a fisherman's ruler. By all recognized authority it is really a cheat stick. The inches are marked out nicely but look at the numbers. By each increment it goes, 1", 2", 4", 8", 11", 14", 18". Hmm. Of course, it's meant to be a joke. But the same thing is attempted by people to suit their own selfish needs. People will use their own subjective standard of measurement to suit their own wants and needs.



And yes ... even we do it at times—whether we realize it or not we judge others and use our own subjective measurements by which we judge others.

But the only measurement that is true and accurate and objective is that which God has established. And from His decrees and statutes we see how we are to measure up. "You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy (Leviticus 19:2)." Jesus upholds and repeats this: "You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect (Matthew 5:48)." The standard is high—very high! Holy. Perfect. Be that.

However, we don't measure up to that holiness—not even close. So, some people try to adjust the measuring stick to make it easier for themselves. But if someone changes the measurements, it is no longer from God, and it is nothing but a false measure that won't work anyway, no matter what someone might believe about their own made-up standards. We will still be measured by God's stick.

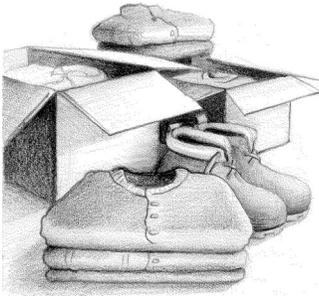
Because God knew that we could not measure up, He Himself provided the means for Someone to measure up to His holiness and perfection ... in our place. And that is what Jesus did for us. He came to live a righteous life and fulfill all holiness and rightness and perfection for us. And He did it!!! Jesus Christ then takes His holiness and perfection and He wraps us in it. Clothed in HIS righteousness, we ARE now holy and perfect in the Father's eyes. It is not our own; we didn't accomplish it. But it becomes our own by gift from Jesus Christ. His clothing of perfection covers you so that you might enter into a holy relationship with the Father.

Yes, the measuring standard of character and behavior is high—really high: perfection and holiness. We had not measured up in ourselves. But in Christ and in God's grace and being covered by Christ Jesus' robe of righteousness ... only then are we holy in God's sight. You are holy in the Father's eyes because of Jesus. God bless you and keep you in Christ. Pastor Toensing

PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO CHRIS HOLLMAN BY 25TH, THANK YOU!

Clothing for Orphan Grain Train: We can once again send used clothing to Orphan Grain Train. When leaving clothes in the drop box outside the church by the back door, please mark them for either OGT or PCM (People's City Mission).

Clothes for those in need



MAIN STREET LIVING:

Main Street Living is unique in several ways. Their motto is: Locally Produced, Regionally Recognized, with a Message for the World.

Locally Produced...At this time there are six different programs, produced in six host cities (of which Lincoln, Nebraska is one). Each program features Pastors from the coverage area.

Regionally Recognized...All six Host Cities use the Main Street Living name and logo. It is a goal for all areas to have the same distinctively Lutheran look of the program.

With a Message for the World...The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is reputed as a Bible based, Word and Sacrament ministry throughout the world. The integrity of the Word is paramount in producing this television ministry.

Funding...Main Street Living receives all funding from individuals wishing to spread the word to their neighbors and friends. The address for the Lincoln office is: Main Street Living – Lincoln, 3825 Wildbriar Ln, Lincoln NE 68516

The August schedule for Lincoln KLN television station Sundays at 10:30 am:

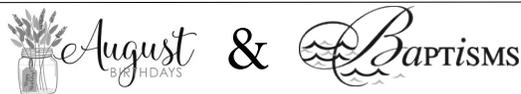
Aug 4 Rev. Adam Archer of St John Lutheran Church in Ord, NE

Aug 11 Rev. Matthew Tassej of St Paul Lutheran Church in Lincoln, NE

Aug 18 Rev. Scott Porath of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Eagle, NE

Aug 25 Rev. Jeff Kudes of Trinity Lutheran Church in Blue Hill, NE

Please share this ministry with those who are home bound or unable to attend any church services.



BIRTHDAYS

2 Jason Jordan
5 Sara Moravek
10 Abbey Reetz, Kade & Stella Eggert
12 Amanda Rezac
13 Ray Bleich, Michael Reiss, Kristi Reitz
14 Todd Hoyer
15 Hannah Rethmeier
17 Eric Ellingson, Mara Hoyer, Madison Persing
18 Sheila Church, Marianne Tesar
19 Shirley Reetz, Darren Weber
20 Diane Gropp
21 Jim Ellingson

22 Terry Meinke, Kristine Muff
23 Jennifer Dohmen
25 Garrett Mehl
26 Mike Langfeldt
28 Brad Kalkwarf, Miriam Weber
31 Donald Rejcha

BAPTISMS

1 Hope Hoyer
2 Leahh Anderson, LaVonne Nitzel
3 Erica Sublett, Briggen Reetz
8 Ashley Walker
10 Wayne Hansmeyer

11 Christopher Ladman, Tyler Stehlik, Easton Brethouwer
13 Alexandra Weber
19 Kyle Ochs, Axel Heusinkvelt
20 Elyana Lee
21 Gloria McDermott
22 Sara Moravek
23 Brad Pomajzl, Kristi Reitz
27 Kira Wohl, Anton Slama
29 Madison Persing
30 Ariana Munro, Amanda Rezac

OUR MISSION Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.



**That All May
Know Him**



Thank you to the children, the VBS staff, the LWML, and the congregation for your contributions for Water4Haiti. Your support goes toward helping people in Haiti to have clean drinking and washing water. Your support means we are able to continue this work in caring for the needs of others in the love of Christ.

Terry Dittmer

Note: Over \$400 was given in offerings and donations. If people still want to give they can go online to give at ... <https://www.water4haiti.com/>

LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid met on July 31, 2019, with Janice Reetz as hostess. The meeting opened by singing "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me". Pastor Toensing led us in the Bible Study on "Follow the Narrow Brick Road". He ended the Bible Study with a prayer.

In the absence of President Diane Kahle, Carol Brinkmeyer led the meeting. Roll call was taken with seven members present. The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved and the treasurers' report was given.

It was brought up that we need to start thinking of ideas if we want to make a cookbook for the 150th anniversary of the church

Birthdays in July were celebrated by Janice Reetz, LaVonne Nitzel and Barb Meinke. The birthday song was sung. A July anniversary was celebrated by Pastor and Carol Brinkmeyer.

Barb Meinke will be the hostess for August. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and common table prayer.

Shirley Reetz, secretary

LCMS NATIONAL OFFERING

A special offering is encouraged today. The 2019 National Offering theme is “Joy to the World.” “Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you” (1 Thess. 5:16–18). This triennium’s National Offering provides Lutherans across the country an opportunity to reflect their joy in the Gospel and their thankfulness to God for His gifts in Christ.

Gifts to the 2019 LCMS National Offering — which can be made at any time — will empower the work God has given us to do in His name to bring joy to the world, as we vigorously make known the Good News of Jesus Christ, that all might rejoice and give thanks to God our heavenly Father.

Today: drop your gift in the indicated container. Anytime, go online: <https://www.lcms.org/givenow/national-offering>. By phone with credit card, call: 888-930-4438. Or you can send a check to: Make check payable to “The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod” and write “2019-21 LCMS National Offering” on the memo line.

Mail to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
2019 LCMS National Offering
P.O. Box 66861

JOY TO THE **WORLD**

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

All women of the congregation are invited and encouraged to join us on the **first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.** in the church basement for fellowship and Bible study. Coffee and bottled water and study books are provided. We are working through the Fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

Taste some fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23) — perfect for summer, and all year round!

- Love: “There is always an ‘again’ with love.” —Unknown
- Joy: “I don’t think of all the misery, but of the beauty that still remains.” —Anne Frank
- Peace: “Peace begins with a smile.” —Mother Teresa
- Patience: “The purposes of God may sometimes seem delayed, but they are never abandoned.” —H.C. Mears
- Kindness: “Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” —Mark Twain
- Goodness: “Goodness means to do things for the glory of God.” —Martyn Lloyd-Jones
- Faithfulness: “Do small things as if they were great because of the majesty of Christ, who does them in us.” —Blaise Pascal
- Gentleness: “There is nothing stronger in the world than gentleness.” —Han Suyin
- Self-control: “God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.” —2 Tim. 1:7 (ESV)



*Women's
Bible Study*

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
CHURCH –LCMS**

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www.stjohnkramer.org
Rev. Maynard Toensing, Jr.
pastortoensing@gmail.com



OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

Schedule at a Glance

Worship Service (Sundays)	9:00 a.m.
No Sunday School or VBS (will resume in September)	
Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study (August 3)	10:00 a.m.
Elder’s Meeting (August 5)	6:30 p.m.
Evangelism Committee Meeting (August 6)	7:00 p.m.
Men’s Bible Study (August 13)	7:00 p.m.
Lutheran Women in Mission (August 20)	7:00 p.m.
Ladies Aid Meeting (August 28)	2:00 p.m.

FROM THE ELDER’S

Thank you to all that helped make the fish boil a success this year for Orphan Grain Train. Also, thank you to James and Deb Walker who have organized St. John’s help with the fish boil the last few years.

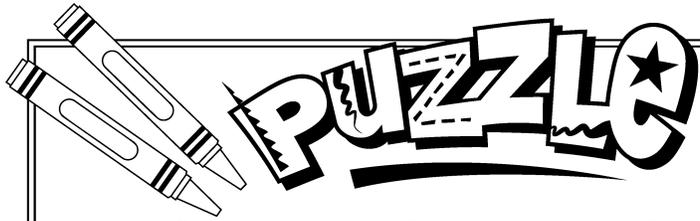
MORE thanks—to the Board of Education and all the volunteers who, along with the children attending Vacation Bible School, have made the Water 4 Haiti challenge a success! Water 4 Haiti has been one of St. John’s mission projects for the past years. Please continue to help with this worthy cause.

With the coming of August also comes the start of school for our youth and young adults. As they continue their education, we should also continue to learn of the gift of salvation our Savior has given us and pass the message on to others who may not know of His live. The responsibility of sharing God’s Word and the gift of a Savior belongs with all of us—young and old! God Bless.

The Elders

THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST

DUTY	AUGUST 4	AUGUST 11	AUGUST 18	AUGUST 25
Organist/Pianist	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen	Jayne VanAsperen	Jayne VanAsperen
Elders	Gary Meinke	Mitch Homolka	James Walker	Todd Hoyer
Greeters	Mr & Mrs Terry Reetz, Marilyn Nelson, Diane Gropp	Mr & Mrs Art Brinkmeyer, Barb Meinke, Fran Sieck	Mr & Mrs Roger Brunelle & Mr & Mrs Roger Koch	Mr & Mrs Terry Dittmer & Mr & Mrs Glen Louch
Acolytes	Katelyn Novak & Hugo Pomajzl	Colton Homolka & Calen Homolka	Jacob Meinke & Cole Novak	Nick Hollman & Skye Hoyer



GOD'S MORNING ROUTINE

Every new day, we wake up to blessings from God.

Directions: Use the clues to fill in the words. Then write the boxed letters in order below to complete Lamentations 3:22-23, NIV.

- Brush these daily _ _ _ _
- Do this to your shoes _ _
- This rises in the east _ _ _
- Cold breakfast food _ _ _ _
- Hot breakfast food _ _ _
- Talk to God _ _ _ _
- Morning meal _ _ _ _ _
- Extend your limbs _ _ _ _
- Fruit drink _ _ _ _
- Waffle machine _ _ _
- Eat these scrambled or fried _ _ _



Because of the LORD's great love...
 never fail. They are
 new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

LAMENTATIONS 3:22-23, NIV

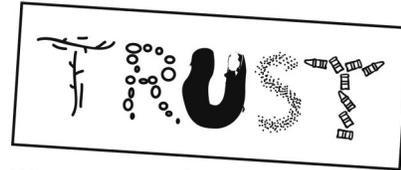
Answers: teeth, tie, sun, cereal, oatmeal, pray, breakfast, stretch, juice, iron, eggs; his compassions

Back To School



TRUST POSTER

No matter what you face, God is with you. Make this poster as a reminder to always trust God.



What you need:

- Cardstock
- Glue
- Twigs (a 3" piece and a 2" piece)
- Pebbles
- Black paint
- Paintbrush
- Sand or glitter
- Broken crayons (2 or 3)

What you do:

1. On the left side of the cardstock, trace a 3"-high letter T with glue. Place twigs on the glue lines.
2. Trace an R of the same size. Place pebbles on that glue.
3. Use black paint to make a U.
4. Trace an S in glue. Pour sand (or glitter) on top.
5. Make another T with glue. Place the crayons on top.
6. After the poster dries, shake off the excess sand (or glitter) into a trash can.