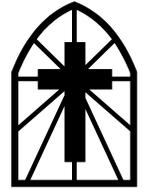


ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



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 36 ISSUE 7 JULY 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In 1801, Jonathan Chapman, age 26, appeared on the shores of Liking Creek, Ohio, planting apple seeds. Five years later he was seen again navigating the Ohio River with two canoes lashed together, carrying his cargo of apple seeds.

Legends began to grow. He was given a new name: Johnny Appleseed. According to W. D. Haley, the writer for *Harper's Monthly Magazine* who recorded the story, the purpose of his life was to plant apple orchards on the farthest verge of the pioneer settlements. In spite of dangers and wars, he kept planting apple seeds. Why did he do it? He evidently was filled with a compulsion.

Paul says that he was commissioned as a servant of Christ for the purpose of planting the seeds of the Gospel. God filled him with compulsion to do his Lord's work.—*Preaching*, July–August 1991, p 30.

This same compulsion should fill you and me too. And when we do share the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ, it can give courage to fellow believers and plant the seed of salvation in those who do not yet know Christ.

Something I learned in the last few months is the value of witnessing to fellow believers. Recently, I stopped to get my hair cut in Lincoln. I did not know the gentleman who cut my hair. But as you know, there are boundaries that are lowered when someone is cutting your hair. The conversation turned to matters of the Christian faith. I talked about being a pastor. It opened him up to talk about his "testimony." Last April, when my father was in the hospital, I saw him give witness of his faith to doctors and interns in front of me and his pastor who was there to visit. How encouraged we are when fellow believers faithfully and courageously talk about their love of Christ and what He did for them on the cross and in His resurrection.

The point is: be under the compulsion of grace to give witness wherever you are—to fellow believers and to strangers. You may find that some stranger is a fellow brother or sister in Christ. And when they see your boldness in the compulsion to plant the seeds of God's Word, they will be emboldened to do the same. And in this way the Word of God grows.

How amazing that we are both compelled and freed to share the blessings of Christ and His Word. May God's Spirit continue to compel us and free us for service and witness in Christ.

Peace in Christ, Pastor



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



Join us July 24-28 from 5:00 pm to 7:45 pm for a fun week filled with lessons, crafts, science experiments, music, games and lots of yummy food! There is a VBS registration form in the Narthex and online. There is also a volunteer sheet for anyone who wishes to help. **We are still looking for volunteers to provide dinners! All volunteers will be much appreciated.**

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).



JULY
BIRTHDAYS

&

BAPTISMS

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Harlow Dewey
- 3 A. J. Ellingson, Lisa Rejcha, Sherry Rezac
- 5 Janice Reetz
- 6 Terry Stehlik
- 9 Hugo Pomajzl
- 10 Les Korte, Linda Lee
- 11 Sandi Karl
- 12 Gary Meinke, Erica Sublett
- 13 Trevor Nitzel
- 15 LaVonne Nitzel
- 16 Lynn Meinke
- 19 Lisa Shore
- 20 Leahh Anderson, Karen Bachman, Ashley Walker
- 21 Alexandra Weber

- 23 Briggen Reetz
- 24 Megan Behrends
- 25 Wayne Hansmeyer, Frank Slama, Bailey Stougard
- 26 Joe Hoesche
- 29 Barb Meinke, Aleece Reetz
- 31 Brad Pomajzl

BAPTISMS

- 1 James Haufle, Jeff Hollman, Heath & Harlow Dewey
- 3 Brian Poole, Jacob Wohl
- 4 Wendie & Austin Haufle, Marvin Nitzel
- 5 Roger Koch, Tessa Petereit
- 8 Devon Reitz, Marlene Wagner
- 9 Ella Jo Hughes
- 10 James Doiel, Cindy Hoyer

- 11 Victoria Rethmeier
- 12 Sherry Rezac
- 14 Eric Dewey, Lydia Lee, Morgan Wohl
- 15 Ethan Sublett
- 16 Trevor Nitzel
- 17 Trevor Wagner
- 18 Elmer Reetz, Garrett Reitz
- 19 Dylan Wagner
- 20 Lisa Rejcha
- 24 Shawna Heusinkvelt
- 25 Les Korte, Janice Reetz
- 27 Gary Meinke
- 28 Sandi Karl
- 29 Olga Weidner

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 from LWML for your donations to the 80 for 80 Campaign of energy and protein bars which will be donated to the People's City Mission. A total of 349 bars were donated---thank you for your generosity!

LWML & Quilters

**Thanks to all of you
so we can continue
our mission out-
reach!**

THANK YOU! The quilters have delivered 24 quilts and 10 blankets to the Orphan Grain Train warehouse in Lincoln. We want to thank everyone who helps with this project, both as active quilters and those who support in various ways behind the scenes. You all are appreciated!

FROM THE ELDERS

God Bless America, Land that I Love. Stand beside her and guide her, even through the corrupt and unethical things that seem to be going on—not only in our nation, but in all the other countries around us. We have mass killings, almost on a daily occurrence. Many of our younger, and older, generations have no moral upbringing. We need to pray, for us to return to a more rational way of life. We need to pray for all the families and friends of those affected by these senseless killings. Most of all, we need to pray that the Gospel of Jesus Christ spreads and that God's good ways have greater influence in our nation.

Thanks to the St. John quilters for all the quilts and blankets they sent to Orphan Grain Train. Another thanks to our Ladies Aid as they put together another St. John Cook Book. Congratulations to the LWML for 80 years of service to mission work.

Remember the church Council meeting as well as the Quarterly Voters' Meeting---you can see the dates on our July calendar. Please plan to go to the Quarterly Voters' Meeting.

We also have an added treat for the youth this month---Vacation Bible School will be July 24 - July 28 5:00 pm to 7:45 pm. Volunteers are needed! Let's do something for our youth to spread the message of God's love.

In Christ's Love, The Elders of St. John

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
CHURCH –LCMS**

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pastortoensing@gmail.com

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

Schedule at a Glance

Worship Service (Sundays)	9:00 a.m.
Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Elders' Meeting (July 11)	6:30 p.m.
Quilters Group (July 12)	9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Evangelism Board (July 18)	8:30 a.m.
Church Council Meeting (July 18)	6:30 p.m.
Lutheran Women in Mission (July 19)	10:00 a.m.
Quarterly Voters' Meeting (July 24)	following Worship
Vacation Bible School (July 24-28)	5 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
Ladies Aid Meeting (July 27)	2:00 p.m.

*Friendly
Reminders*

- ◆ **LADIES AID MEMBERS:** Please come to the front of church following the **July 10th** Worship Service to take a group picture.
- ◆ **BIBLES...**Please bring your old and **not being used** Bibles and Christian books to be sent overseas for mission work. A tote is in the entry way. Thank you for your generosity.
- ◆ **ST. JOHN'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY FUND** has been established. If you would like to give toward this fund, please mark your offering envelopes accordingly.

THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF

DUTY	July 3	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
Organist/Pianist	Ellen Miller	Jay6ne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller
Elders	James Walker	John Reitz	Troy Henning	Dolyn Meinke	Phil Hughes
Greeters					
Acolytes	Amy Hollman		Cheyenne DuBray		VBS theme—No Acolyte needed