

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 38 ISSUE 6 JUNE 2024



St. John Lutheran 150th Anniversary

*"The Lord's faithfulness continues
through all generations." Psalm 100:5*

Recognition of our 40-65 year old generation

Sunday, June 30

Rev. John Heckmann, guest preacher

Rev. Michael Heckmann, guest liturgist

Worship – 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship hour – 10:00 a.m.

Activity for children during the fellowship time

Potluck dinner – 11:00 a.m.

Please bring a main dish and a side dish and/or dessert to share.

Drinks will be provided.

Upcoming events

Sunday, July 28 – Recognition of our 0-13 yr old generation

VBS Sunday

Brunch potluck

Sunday, August 4 – Recognition of our 25-40 yr old generation

Rev. Joshua Hayes as our guest preacher

Sunday, October 13 – Formal Anniversary Celebration

Dr. Rev. Sommerfeld as our guest preacher

Meal following at Hallam Auditorium

Sunday, December 29 – Closing of our Anniversary Year

Church History

Did You Know...

In 1893 the Pastor was paid \$400 a year plus a share in the 40 acres; the organist in 1900 was voted a salary of \$15 a year; the janitor received \$12 a year; and a vacancy Pastor at that time received \$10 for four month's work. In 1880 the first organ was purchased for \$200.



A PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Dear heavenly Father, we come as your children to praise you for putting us in our family — and in our church family. Thank you for the love and nourishment we receive from the people in whose presence you've placed us. We confess our need for your guidance in our families and congregation. Please grant us harmony in our homes and church body. In all situations, help us show love, patience and respect for one another. In your name we pray. Amen.

**BIRTHDAYS**

2 Wendi & Austin Haufle
 3 Terry Dittmer
 4 Emma Hoyer
 6 Susan Tremblay
 7 Greg Kalkwarf, Ella Jo Hughes
 9 Devon Reitz, Dewayne & Henry Slama
 12 Madison Hestermann, Kelli Jordan
 13 Garrett Reitz
 14 Jeff Hollman, Verna Louch
 17 Roger Koch, Hunter Persing
 19 Theodore Muff, Jacob Wohl
 20 Trevor Wagner
 21 Kimberly Scott
 23 Ariana Munro, Morgan Wohl
 24 Kyle Ochs

25 Dave Musil, Elmer Reetz
 28 Cinder Johnson
 29 Steve VanAsperen, Victoria Rethmeier
 30 Patricia Behrens, Cindy Hoyer, Heath Dewey

BAPTISMS

1 Tonya Clark, Rylee Pospichal
 3 Doug Karl
 4 Nick Ellingson, Michael Ellingson, Diane Kahle, Kenneth Kastanek
 5 Irelynn Kirkpatrick, Shirley Vosika
 7 Ken Behrens, Darleen Dittmer
 8 Gwendolyn Dewey, Eric Dewey Jr., Jessie (Dittmer) Graff
 9 Carsyn Ziemann, Samantha Wagner
 11 John Haufle, Lane Wendelin

13 Coen Ziemann
 15 Caleb Markey, Charlie Slama
 19 Andrea Pomajzl, John Reitz
 20 Greg Kalkwarf
 22 Elliott Reitz
 24 Emma Hoyer, Bob Renner
 25 Michael Gropp
 26 Macsen Alexander
 28 Terry Dittmer, Verna Louch



Celebrating You
 on Your
 Special Day

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.

LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid meeting met on May 29th with Diane Kahle serving as hostess. We sang hymn # 763, "When Peace, like a River". Pastor Toensing led us in prayer and Bible study entitled "How God Blesses You through Your Uncertainty".

April minutes were read and approved. Roll call was taken with 10 members present. President Deb Walker reported 70 people were served dinner following the April 28th service with guests Pastor and Colleen Hansen. Strawberry shortcake was served to 22 people following the Ascension Day service on Thursday, May 9th.

Ellie read a letter of thanks from Mission Central for the donations made this last quarter. Marianne suggested that we need to clean out refrigerators monthly. It was decided to clean them following the monthly Ladies Aid meetings. A suggestion was made by Pastor that perhaps food to be saved and used for an event should be marked so there is no confusion. Gwen made the suggestion that we save cool whip containers to send home leftovers after events held at the church.

Discussion concerning the need for volunteers to help with 150th Anniversary dinner on June 30th in recognition of our 40-65 yr. old generation. Also volunteers needed for brunch to celebrate the children of our congregation on July 28th. The VBS will be hosting an ice cream social following the conclusion of Vacation Bible School and would like some help serving on that Thursday.

Birthdays celebrated in May were Ellie Koch, Diane Kahle and Darlene Dittmer. Anniversary celebrated in May was Shelley and Pastor Toensing. We sang the Birthday song and Anniversary song in their honor.

We will meet again June 25th, hostess will be Bonnie Bleich.

We closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer and the common Table Prayer.

Bonnie Bleich, Secretary

VBS PRAYER PALS

As we celebrate all generations during this special anniversary year, we would like to bring together generations during our week of VBS. We are seeking adult members who would serve as VBS Prayer Pals. It's a hard job – pray, eat ice cream, eat a brunch buffet, and have a couple of conversations with an adorable child of God.

As a Prayer Pal you will:

Be assigned one child for the week of VBS;

Pray for the child daily during VBS week;

Join them for an ice cream social on the evening of July 25th

Join them for the brunch following church on Sunday, July 28th



If you will partner to support a VBS student, please put your name on the back of a balloon and add it to the display in the narthex. Or let Shelley know, and she will get you signed up.

Thank you to everyone who is willing to support our youngest generation in this way!

MAIN STREET LIVING updates for June, 2024

“Main Street Living” is a liturgical worship service broadcasting a different local pastor each Sunday morning. It airs along with the classic Lutheran Hour program, “This is the Life”. Both can be viewed on KLNK Channel 8 (Lincoln) & WOWT Channel 6.2 (Omaha) Visit www.mainstreetliving.com/lincoln to view current and past episodes. This month we are excited to be adding pastors from central NE to the broadcast! Zion Lutheran in Kearney, NE hosted a recording for 8 area pastors, who will be airing throughout May and June.

June 2, 10:30 a.m... Rev. Rob Kuefner, pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lexington, presents a message titled “Why the Sabbath?”. This sermon is based on Mark 2:23-3:6.

June 9, 10:30 a.m...Rev. James Moshier, pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church in Arapahoe, presents a message titled “We believe, so we speak!”. This sermon is based on 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1.

June 16, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Brad Rick, pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Culbertson, presents a message titled “The Kingdom of God”. This sermon is based on Mark 4:26.

June 23, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Craig Niemeier, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Worms, presents a message titled “Re-Ordered”. This sermon is based on Job 38:1-11.

June 30, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Daniel Bremer, pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Grand Island, presents a message titled “Jesus Brings Healing”. This sermon is based on Mark 5: 21-43.

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
CHURCH –LCMS**

11400 W. Panama Road
Crete, NE 68333
4 miles East & 2 miles South of Crete
Office: 826-3883
secretarystjohn@hotmail.com
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.
Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Elders' Meeting (tentative June 4)	7:00 p.m.
150th Anniversary Meeting (June 4)	6:30 p.m.
Quilting Group (June 11 and 25)	9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Ladies Aid Meeting (June 26)	2:00 p.m.

FROM THE ELDER'S

Dear Friends in Christ

It's an exciting time of year. Lots of things going on in life that keep us busy! As we go through the summer and all the things we have going on, let's remember to take time for church, our church family and **especially Christ**, who always has time for us! Invite a friend, a family member or someone who is lonely to join us as we take time for Christ!

The Elders



THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE

DUTY	6/2/24	6/9/24	6/16/24	6/23/24	6/30/24
Organist/Pianist	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen
Elders	Phil Hughes	Gary Meinke	Todd Hoyer	John Reitz	Doug Karl
Greeters	James & Deb Walker	Brent & Heidi Wohl	Rev. Art & Carol Brinkmeyer	Roger & Donna Brunelle	Terry & Genie Dittmer
Acolytes	Amy Hollman		Cheyenne DuBray		Paisley Williams



**Vacation Bible School
July 21-25, 2024
5:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.
Includes dinner!**

**Thursday night – water games & ice cream social
Sunday, June 28 – children singing for worship, recognizing our children generation & brunch following worship**

**Join us this year as we Celebrate the Savior
and celebrate St. John's 150th Anniversary
and celebrate our children!**

Register online at: <https://stjohnkramer.org/vbs.html>