

St. John Journal

News & info for the family of St. John
Lutheran Church of Prairie Hill



*A loving and welcoming family of faith,
excited about what God has done
(and continues to do!)*

Volume 16, Number 06

June, 2023



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The most googled verse in 2022 is Isaiah 41:10. It reads, *“fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”*

Does this fact surprise you that Isaiah 41:10 is the most read Bible verse on the internet in 2022?

2022 is clustered with many challenges for all of us. The Russian Ukraine War begins and many lives are lost and devastated. DEA sees the rise of Fentanyl usage among drug addicts up as well as a rise in deaths from this drug. Our country came out of COVID and looked to rebuilding our economy. Inflation rate rises as high as 7.1%. Food prices are 10.4% higher. Regular gas prices rose 49%, while diesel rose to 55%. In the midst of 2022 being loaded with instability, people turned to God. 2022 left many people seeking help in the midst of hardship.

Isaiah offers to us the message to set aside one's fear. Why? The answer is divine and direct – “God is with you!” We do not face the horrors of our world alone. God is on our side. God gives us daily strength to face uncertainties. God's help comes in many forms his Word, the Bible. Through our daily diligence of reading and seeking God's wisdom and guidance, we are given hope and assurance that through our Savior, Jesus, we are blessed from the cross and empty grave. As Jesus makes us right through his death and resurrection, we can live this righteousness with humility by gifting others with the love of Christ. This love can bring light to their tragic and darkened world. Isaiah reminds us our hope is grounded in Jesus and this hope can be shared with those in need of hope.

Please bring the light of our Lord to those you meet each day. Amen.

Soli Deo Gloria - to the Glory of God.
Pastor Norm



Meeting on Sunday, June 4th
at 4:00PM St John's Activity
Center.



Luther League will meet on June 4th at 2:00PM at Horseshoe Junction. All Junior High and High School Students are invited to attend. There will no meeting in July, but activities will resume in August.

Watch for information in upcoming bulletins indicating the next Men in Mission meeting!



Contact Information for Pastor Norm

Pastor Norm can be reached in either of the following ways:
Cell Phone Number (361) 362-9108 Or
Email: pastornorm2003@yahoo.com

2023 St John Council Members

President.....	Herbert Klatte, Jr.	Evangelism	Josh Clay
Vice-President.....	Kenneth Seeker	Financial Secretary	Jeannie Kroll
Treasurer	Sharon Neutzler	Parish Ed.....	Stephanie Koehler
Secretary	Rita Gaskamp	Property	Colton Maass
Community Concerns.....	India Randermann	Worship & Music	Virginia Altman

Readings for June

June		FIRST READING	RESPONSIVE	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
4	Holy Trinity	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	Psalm 8	Acts 2:14a, 22-36	Matthew 28:16-20
11	Pentecost 2	Hosea 5:15 - 6:6	Psalm 119:65-72	Romans 4:13-25	Matthew 9:9-13
18	Pentecost 3	Exodus 19:2-8	Psalm 100	Romans 5:6-15	Matthew 9:36-10:8
25	Pentecost 4	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Psalm 91:1-10	Romans 6:12-23	Matthew 10:5a, 21-33

June	Acolyte	Layreader	Flowers
4	Charlie Schramme	Sandy Ordner	Butch Seeker Family
11	Rhett Schroeder	Laura Sulaica	Dorothy Haevischer in memory of Marvin's Birthday
18	Ainsley Kuecker	Jennifer Anderson	Steve & Donna Skrla in honor of their Wedding Anniversary
25	Harper Huckert	Joseph Ordner	James & Becki Schawe in honor of their Wedding Anniversary

Blood Drive

Mark your calendars for the next blood drive to be held July 30th. Please consider donating the "Gift of Life".

Baptismal Anniversaries

06/01/1946	Virginia Altman	06/18/1988	Anna Finke
06/01/1947	Audrey Steinbach	06/19/1994	Treyton Tillman
06/01/1951	Morris Tisdell	06/20/1981	Brad Sommerfield
06/01/1954	Robert Urbanovsky	06/21/2020	Clay Bednar
06/03/2007	Kinley Antkowiak	06/23/2013	Addison Westerfeld
06/06/1999	Gracie Westerfeld	06/24/2007	Adilynn Lange
06/09/2013	Annie Hernandez	06/25/1985	Trenton Meyer
06/10/2001	Alex Rosenbaum	06/26/1988	Tyler Campbell
06/10/2001	Jeb Hatfield	06/27/1971	Wendy Hagerman
06/16/1935	Emery Schulze	06/27/2021	Finley Koehne
06/16/1984	Ryan Lynch	06/27/1982	Rachel Neutzler
06/17/2012	Charles Schramme	06/28/2009	Irelyn Antkowiak

Wedding Anniversaries

06/04/2003	Jentri & Justin Blake	06/17/2008	Martin & Dale Reisner
06/04/2011	Jennifer & William Anderson	06/18/1966	Milton & Peggy Bosse
06/11/1977	Lloyd & Sharon Neutzler	06/21/2008	Steve & Donna Skrla
06/13/2009	William & Mollie Grote	06/22/1963	Charles & Deanna Giese
06/14/2008	Trenton & Melissa Kuecker	06/25/2005	Brad & Meredith Sommerfield
06/16/1973	James & Joyce Richter	06/28/1975	James & Becki Schawe
06/17/2006	Jennifer & Ryan Schroeder	06/28/1980	Gayle & Donald Bednar
		06/30/1956	Charles & Kay Janner
		06/30/1997	Chuck & Patricia Hess

*May God richly bless you as you
celebrate your special day!*

REACHING YOUR CHURCH OFFICE

Linda Crabtree prairiehillsecretary@gmail.com Church Office Phone: 979-836-8666
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday 8:00am-4:00pm Website: www.stjohnprairiehill.org
Church Council President Herbert Klatte, Jr. (936) 801-8663

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes for May 8, 2023**

The Church Council of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church met for its monthly meeting on May 8, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Council President Herbert Klatte, Jr., called the meeting to order. Pastor Norm Sulaica opened with scripture and prayer. All current members were present, with the exception of Colton Maass, Josh Clay and Rita Gaskamp.

The April minutes were tabled until May. (Not distributed).

Unfinished Business

Photo directory: Pastor Norm reported on United Church directories for October 5 to 7, 2023, contact Mr. Witt. We will need a committee to organize and plan. Pastor has the information packet.
Work on the Activity Center is happening now.
Josh Clay and Colton Maass working on the sagging stain glass window sash in the sanctuary.
Pastor Norm and Colton almost done with the parsonage bathroom repair.
Membership rolls review report given. Drafting a letter for Council's approval next month.
Giving envelopes discussion: print blank envelopes for visitors and place in the pews with attendance cards. Also, need to comply with NALC envelopes for 2024 (currently still using ELCA).
Parish house kitchen door to be repaired.
Electric plugs in the rest rooms to be scheduled.

New Business

New internet discussion: Broadwaves running slow, Pastor Norm will look into using TMobile for \$50/month with unlimited high speed.
BOSE CD player may be donated for use with special music prior to service that will hopefully be loud enough without a sound system.
Pastor Norm bought 2 new \$25 mics for his lapel and they seem to work better.
Spark bibles will be donated and Pastor Norm will look into SOLA publishing for replacements.
Motion to start handing out giving envelopes at confirmation age. **MSC**
Southeast Mission District Gathering in Rosenberg on June 3; Pastor to open to the congregation for lay delegates on May 14.
NALC disaster relief kits - offerings are coming in.
GuideOne Mutual Insurance Company; Neil Schulman is our contact; Herbert Jr will contact and get us in compliance, starting with the fire extinguishers.

For Information

Confirmation will be the 3rd Sunday in May; May 21, 2023
VBS July 31 to August 4
Rally Day August 6 (coincide with VBS closing)
Blood Drive July 30 and December 10, 2023

Committee Reports:

Treasurer Report

Sharon Neutzler

Report as submitted

Financial Secretary Report

Jeannie Kroll

For the month of April, the total Weekly Giving Deposits were \$22,100.00, special envelopes to Food Pantry \$365.00, plus loose offering of \$863.00 and Direct Deposits were \$3847.63 for a total giving of \$27,175.63. (The sum of \$23,150 monthly is needed to meet the 2023 budget approved at the October semi-annual congregational meeting.)

Community Concerns Report**India Randermann**

Food Pantry served 85 families (166 people) at two distributions in April.

Funerals in April: Allene Holtkamp

Blood Drive on April 30 had 12 donors (2 were not able to give).

NALC Disaster Response Team: Flood buckets in June; school kits in July. Goal will be 50 kits each.

Motion to approve Blood Drive dates of July 30 and December 10, 2023. **MSC**

Worship and Music Report**Virginia Altman**

Discover Worship music was purchased.

Parish Education Report**Stephanie Koehler**

Silent auction netted \$1990.00 for \$132.44/child. Total per child, if they participated in all three fundraisers, is \$258.60/each. Camp cost is \$650/full time camper. Families owe the church 1/2 or \$325 for their portion.

May 14 will be the Mother's Day Brunch. Cindy Clay worked hard on the Mother's Day craft.

May 21 Confirmands will be celebrated.

High school and college graduates will be honored in June. Kaden Seeker and Taylor Klatte.

Youth Report**Kenneth Seeker**

No report

Evangelism Report**Josh Clay**

No report

Property Report**Colton Maass**

No report.

Pastor's Report**Pr. Norm Sulaica**

Every member visit - sign up sheets for May and June.

Men's Ministry (MIM): breakfast 8 am, Saturday, May 27, 2023.

Sunday, May 29, 2023, we will honor our veterans.

NALC: Lutheran Week, August 7 to 11, 2023, Church Convocation in OKC, will need 1 to 2 lay members and pastor to attend to vote.

St. Matthew: Marriage counseling complete, Wedding for Justin Dana and Amanda, July 15, 2023. Hospice: Winnie Borrack.

Need help with the parsonage garbage disposal. Herbert Jr to contact Colton Maass.

Vacation on May 22 to 26, 2023. (Monday to Friday)

Motion to approve the 4 confirmands for confirmation. **MSC**. Owen Finke, Robert Spinn, Izzy Sommerfield, Randa Tillman.

Motion to approve all reports as presented. **MSC**

Motion to adjourn. **MSC**. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Koehler for
Rita Gaskamp
Council Secretary

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p><i>June Special Envelope</i> Great Commission Fund of the NALC</p>			
4 Holy Trinity Sunday No Sunday School 9:15AM Worship Service 2:00PM Luther League 4:00PM Young Women's Circle	5 10:00AM Bible Study 6:00PM Executive Meeting	6 9:00AM Music Planning Team 6:30PM Rachel Circle	7 6:30PM Church
11 Pentecost 2 No Sunday School 8:30AM Parent Meeting for Sunday School & LYO Students 9:15AM Worship Service	12 10:00AM Bible Study 6:00PM Council Meeting Newsletter Reminder	13 6:30AM Food Pantry 9:00AM Music Planning Team	14 2:00PM General Conference 6:30PM Church
18 Pentecost 3 Father's Day 8:30AM Donuts with Dad & 2023 Graduates No Sunday School 9:15AM Worship Service	19 10:00AM Bible Study Newsletter Deadline	20 9:00AM Quilting 9:00AM Music Planning Team	21 6:30PM Church
25 Pentecost 4 No Sunday School 9:15AM Worship Service	26 10:00AM Bible Study	27 6:30AM Food Pantry 9:00AM Quilting 9:00AM Music Planning Team	28 6:30PM Church

June

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Office Closed No Naomi Circle	2 Office Closed	3
Worship	8 Office Closed 2:00PM Ladies Aid	9 Office Closed	10 Activity Center Reserved
Memorial Day Worship	15 Office Closed	16 Office Closed	17
Worship	22 Office Closed	23 Office Closed	24
Worship	29 Office Closed	30 Office Closed	

UPCOMING EVENTS



June 11th - Parent Meeting for Sunday School and LYO

June 18th - Donuts with Dads and Graduating Seniors

July 30th - August 4th- Vacation Bible School

July 30th - Blood Drive

August 6th - Rally Day and Vacation Bible School closing



DONUTS
for Dads

Donuts with Dad and 2023 Graduates

*Sunday, June 18th,
from 8:30AM-9:15AM,*

*Dads, Step-Dads,
Uncles, Grandfathers,
Mentors and ALL "DADS"
of St. John Prairie Hill*

*are invited to enjoy donuts and coffee and enjoy
quality time together. 2023 Graduating Seniors
will be recognized.*

The following are sharing their time and talents for the month of June.

COMMUNION BREAD Becky Schulze

ALTAR PREPARATION Audrey Steinbach, Elvera Tisdell

FAMILY AID Karen Rosenbaum, Cookie Engeling, Carol Haarmeyer, Dorothy Haevischer,
Sharon Neutzler, Dolores Seeker

MEMORIAL COMMITTEE Mary Hill, Audrey Steinbach

SANCTUARY PREP Janice Fairlie, Sharon Neutzler

CHURCH TELLERS Gayle Bednar, Sandy Ordner

SCREEN CREW Anna Finke, Jennifer Schroeder

USHERS Gary Schulze, Mary Longhofer

LADIES AID Carolyn Kessel, Myrtle Randermann

NAOMI CIRCLE No Meeting

QUILTERS Janet Wehring

A special thank you to those who volunteer and continue to volunteer within the church, behind the scenes. It truly does take a village. Again, many thanks for your commitment.



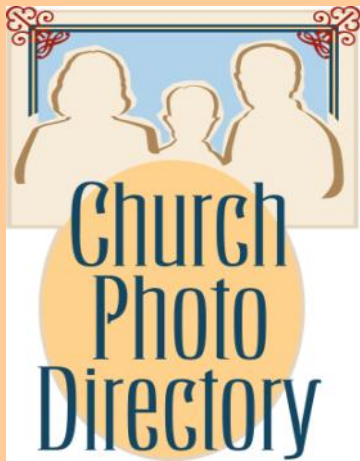


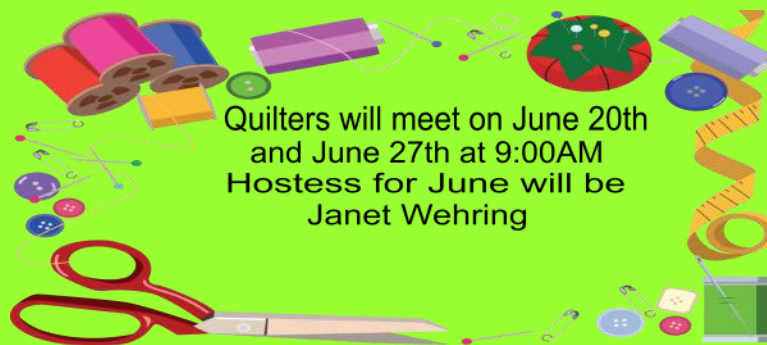
Photo Directory Team

A photo directory team is being formed and volunteers are needed.

If you are interested in participating, please let Pastor Norm or the church secretary know.

Bible Study Series

A weekly Bible study is being held each Monday at 10:00AM. Please join in this learning opportunity and for the fellowship.



Quilters will meet on June 20th and June 27th at 9:00AM
Hostess for June will be Janet Wehring

St John Lutheran Church Prairie Hill

Food Pantry Upcoming Dates:

June 13th and June 27th from 6:30AM-8:00AM.



Game Day

Each 2nd Wednesday of the month, there will be a Game Day at the church from 2:00pm - 5:00pm. The next Game Day is June 14th. Join us for fun, games and fellowship. All ages are welcome.



Attendance Cards

Please remember to complete an attendance card each week. Update any change of address or phone number on the back of the card. We are updating our membership rolls to make sure that the information we have is up to date. Also, please use your offering envelopes provided to insure that your envelopes are counted properly and for future tax purposes. If you forget your envelope for your contribution, envelopes have been placed in the church pews that you may use.

Parent Meeting for Sunday School & LYO Students

A meeting is scheduled for June 11th after the Worship Service to discuss future plans, outings, fundraisers and the funds used for various activities.

Make plans to attend to share your thoughts and ideas.

A very Happy Birthday to all members celebrating theirs in June.





Home Visits

Over the next few months, Pastor Norm will be visiting members of the Church. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex to select a visitation date and time.

Readers Needed

Please let the Church secretary know if you would like to serve as a reader for a worship service.

Readers are scheduled on a rotating basis.

NALC

Disaster Response Kit Packing List

The following items are being collected for the months of June and July to donate to the NALC Disaster Response. We would like to be able to fulfill the need of 50 kits each month. A monetary donation in lieu of the supplies can be made payable to St John Lutheran Church indicating NALC Disaster Response. Items may be left in the Narthex area on right side upon entry.

For the month of June - Flood Buckets

- 1 five gallon bucket w/lid
- 1 jug bleach (1/2 gallon or smaller)
- 1 roll of paper towels
- 2 rags
- Comet or scouring cleanser
- Pine Sol or liquid cleaner
- Scrub brush
- Gloves, 1 pair each, size L preferred
 - *rubber (reusable, i.e. Platex, dishwashing type)
 - *leather
 - *cotton



Choir practice is held each Wednesday at 6:30PM. The choir is looking for both men and women of the congregation to join and share their voices. If you would like to join, we sing on the last Sunday of each month. Come share your talent with us!



Church Library

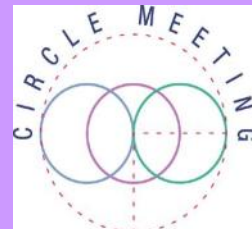
The church library and gift shop is now open!

The library is across from the Pastor's office. Gift items and cards are available for purchase by donation. Come by and see the new library and gift shop for yourself! You may continue to donate any Christian fiction or non-fiction books. The books can be new or used, and may be for adults or children.


Thank you for all the help we have received in getting the library open.

Naomi Circle

The Naomi Circle does not meet in June, July or August. Meetings will resume in September.



**St John Lutheran Church
of Prairie Hill**
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 979-836-8666



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The deadline for the
 July newsletter is:
June 19th
 Submissions received after
 this date will be included if
 time and space allow.
 Thank you!



RETURN SERVICE
 REQUESTED