

## **From Pastor Dan**

Well it has happened again...summer is over. This reality comes as no surprise, of course, for its conclusion is as inevitable as death, taxes, and a roller coaster stock market. We knew it had to end; but it seems this summer blew by much too quickly. All those special projects and exciting adventures that floated around in my winter evening brain have come to naught; not enough time. However, there is no looking back.

So we stride confidently and enthusiastically into a new school year filled with great grades and winning sports teams, and we move into a new church year replete with opportunities for coming to terms with our understanding of God. Those opportunities include Sunday School which kicks off with Rally Sunday on September 20, an intriguing new 7 part adult education series beginning September 13, Confirmation classes which commence on September 9 with meetings for students and parents, and of course worship; worship as always on Sunday morning and worship on Thursday evenings at 6:30 from Sept. 10 through October 29. I invite you to be a part of it.

I also wanted to let you know that we plan on prioritizing the electronic distribution of our monthly newsletter as soon as possible. The newsletters are already on the church website and our plan is to make the website the primary source of newsletter information. This will save the church several hundred dollars per year. Now, we understand that you may not have access to a computer or that you may just like to have paper in your hand. That's okay, we will continue to provide you with the paper edition of the newsletter if you request it; but you must request it. A sign-up sheet for this purpose is on the table in the narthex. If you want to continue to receive the paper version of the newsletter, sign up on that sheet. If you have not signed up for the paper version by Sunday, November 1, then it will be discontinued.

Yes, summer is over, but a beautiful fall will soon be upon us; a season of opportunity to quietly center ourselves in the truth of Jesus amidst the noise of everyday life, an opportunity to live abundantly in the promise of Christ.

Pastor Dan

“The glory of God is the human person fully alive.” Irenaeus

**Council Members.** Here is a list of Council Members. Please contact them with any concerns or issues you may have. Council meets once a month and welcomes input from the congregation.

President: Randy Knapp – 715-581-5558; rknappeoj@gmail.com

Vice President: Sue Cooley – 715-675-8566

Treasurer: Phyllis Seubert – 715-573-9890; grammaphylldogg@gmail.com

Secretary: Sue Rakow – 715-675-7213; suszir@aol.com

Trustees: Laverne Grunenwald – 715-675-6880; mgrunen@yahoo.com

Bob Hoff – 715-675-2442

Evangelism: Heidi Teske – 715-536-6134; heidi.teske2007@gmail.com

Fellowship: Mike Kluetz – 715-218-1357; mdk@airrun.net

Education: Rebecca Voelker – 715-675-0522; voelkerd1@hotmail.com

Worship: Jan Mueller – 715-675-9558; dmjm5455.wau@gmail.com

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**Mission Statement:** “We are called to serve God; serve each other; serve the community; serve the wider church.”

**Serve God** through worship, prayer, and the dedication of our lives to His kingdom.

**Serve Each Other** by mutual care and support to encourage everyone to fulfill their God-given potential. **Serve the Community** by making known the good news about Jesus and the love of God by word and deed. **Serve the Wider Church** through prayer and practical support to help spread the good news about Jesus throughout the world.

***Worship Schedule***

**9:00 a.m. Sunday Mornings**

**6:30 p.m., Wednesday Evenings, May 27 through Sept. 2**

**6:30 p.m. Thursday Evenings, Sept. 10 through Oct. 29**

***Please join us as we worship our Lord!***

**Homebound Parishioners.** The following parishioners are no longer able to consistently attend worship services. I visit them to remind them that they are loved by God and loved by their community of faith, St. John. Sometimes it is helpful to hear those reminders from someone in addition to me.

Betty Tietz 4602 Barbican Ave., Room 106 Weston, WI 54476 715-393-0215	Ann Kieckhafer 1347 Crystal Avenue Room 236-1 Naperville, IL 60563	Orville Anklaam Rennes Health Center 4605 Valdres Springs Ct. #511 Schofield, WI 54476
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**Financial Report for July, 2015**

Income Received	Expenses Paid	Difference	Budget
\$9,989	\$15,539	(\$5,500)	11,684

**Year-to-Date**

Income Received	Expenses Paid	Difference	Budget
\$72,652	\$76,804	(\$4,155)	\$81,788

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**Attendance Report**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Average Weekly/July	99	112
Average Weekly/Year-to-Date	130	126

**Rally Sunday – Church Picnic/Potluck.** Rally Sunday will be on September 20<sup>th</sup>; as always, we will be having a potluck lunch. We will provide hot dogs for the kids and another type of sandwich (t.b.d.) for the adults, along with beverages. I’m looking for help to plan the menu and to set up, prepare the food, and clean-up. If you can help, please contact me. Mike Kluetz, Fellowship

Soon the wheels on the bus will once again go round and round. We invite all children to bring their backpacks to church Rally Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> for a special blessing of the backpack for the new school year.

**Adult Education.** Please gather with us from 10:30-11:15 a.m. after worship on Sunday mornings for adult Christian education. This fall, beginning September 13, we will be engaging in a seven-part series titled “Animate Faith.” Each session will include a video followed by discussion and question and answer. The seven weekly topics are:

1. God, faith is a quest.
2. Religion, spirituality is not enough.
3. Jesus, the revolution of love.
4. Salvation, abundant life now.
5. Cross, where God is.
6. Bible, a book like no other.
7. Church, an imperfect family.

When it comes to understanding God, no one has all the answers; that is why group study is such an important element of our faith development. So join us this fall for a series that just might animate your faith.

**The Sisterhood of St. John.** Our first Sisterhood meeting of the season will be held Tuesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We will have a pot-luck so bring a dish to pass. Pastor Dan will lead us in a Bible study taken from the women’s magazine “Gather,” September issue. You do not have to subscribe to the magazine to attend. All women of the church are invited and welcome. We will also plan what we would like to do at future meetings. If you have any questions, call Marlene at 715-675-2598.

**“Say Cheese!”** Lifetouch Photography will be at our church on these dates to take pictures of everyone for the new directory. On Wednesday, September 16, Thursday, September 17, Tuesday, September 29 and Wednesday, September 30 there will be appointment times from 2:00 p.m. through 9:00 p.m. In the upcoming weeks there will be more information about signing up and options. Please keep one of these days open for getting your picture taken.

**Reminder!** If you are in the hospital and would like Pastor Dan to visit, **PLEASE CALL** and let him know. Because of privacy issues, the hospital will not notify him or the church that you are there.

**Food Pantry.** The food items collected for the food pantry in September will be donated to The Salvation Army. Your donations are appreciated. If you are able to help out with delivering these items to the local organizations, please contact the church office.

**Council Meeting Minutes.** Copies of the minutes from the most recently held Council meeting are by the mailboxes. Please feel free to pick up a copy. If more are needed, please contact the church office.

**Announcements.** If you would like to have an announcement included in our weekly bulletin or newsletter, please submit the information in writing and put it in either Pastor Dan’s mailbox or the administrative assistant’s mailbox located in the narthex. If it is more convenient for you, you can submit your announcements via e-mail to [stjohnwausau@msn.com](mailto:stjohnwausau@msn.com). The deadline for submitting announcements for the Sunday bulletin is the Thursday before by 9:00 a.m. The deadline for the newsletter is indicated on the monthly calendar.