

From Pastor Dan

Did you have a great summer? “Yes, we did!” Are you looking forward to buckling down to another school year? “No, we’re not!” Sorry, don’t have much choice. That being said, I actually think this is going to be a great new season at St. John.

Our young people:

- Will attend a Sunday School program which gives them a chance to learn new things about people, places, and situations in the Bible as they share stories from the Old and New Testaments.
- They can join together in singing in worship services.
- And they will participate in our annual Christmas program.
- Confirmation studies will give our junior high-aged young people a more in depth look at the Bible and Lutheran theology. (More exciting than it might sound.)
- Synod retreats will give young folks a chance to get together with young people from other congregations.
- And social activities like group sledding will be available.

Adults are not left out:

- We will begin a new adult forum series this fall.
- Brotherhood will be meeting on a new day (Tuesdays at 6:30 PM) with a new format.
- Sisterhood will continue to invite women of all ages to social and missional activities.
- Men’s Bible Breakfast at the Village Inn of Marathon will start up again on Saturday, September 8, at 8:00 AM.
- Volunteer opportunities will abound as we renew our time and talent assessment.

Everyone:

- All of course are invited to worship services on Sunday morning and on Thursday evenings through the first week of November.
- We sing, pray, hear God’s word, and are open to the proclamation of God’s love for you in Jesus Christ.

And why do we bother with church? We bother with church because it matters; because God is worth our time and intention. You see, in the course of your average week, you are primarily exposed to a particular slant on life; whether a product of your making or one created for you by the thousands of voices that bombard us daily. Whatever the source of your particular take on life, church provides you with an opportunity to step out of your bias and into a time, a place, and a people who beckon us all to be open to the promises and possibilities of a fuller, richer life.

So, you had a swell time this summer. I'm happy for you. And you may not be totally excited about getting back to school, work, and church. Yeah, well, as my father repeatedly told me, "I feel for you son, but I just can't reach you." Time to get back at it; time to get back involved in church and all that it has to offer. Because if you check us out, you will find that St. John has something to offer for you.

God' peace be with you,

Pastor Dan

"Council Corner"

Randy Trulen, Council President

Greetings! I hope this brief message as summer comes to an end finds you well. The past six months as your Council president has produced in me a variety of mixed emotions; excitement, uncertainty, fulfillment, accomplishment and fear. I have often pondered questions which focused upon my ability to be your Council president. I spent my working career as a high school teacher, yet nothing about my past professional endeavors provided comfort that I could perform the job of Council president well. Yet, I felt if I turned down this opportunity, I would I be merely avoiding that which makes me uncomfortable. Such a walk, I know, would possibly bring forth anxiety, added responsibility and recognition of my own shortcomings, all on display for everyone to see.

However, I thought about the concept of taking risks and straying from my personal area of comfort. Three and a half years ago, I took a part time job as a personal health care worker for a young man with cerebral palsy. What makes me qualified to do this? Did I

really want to be responsible for the personal well-being of someone else? Fear could have prevented me from seizing this opportunity. However, the relationship has blossomed in ways I could have never imagined. It has also given me the green light to not always feel that I had to be perfect.

I would encourage all of us to step out of our comfort zone and take a risk once in a while. One can reflect on our own life to identify where such opportunities may exist. Relationships, career moves, volunteering our time on behalf of our children and others, and rekindling our passion for Christ are just a few examples. The challenge awaits. Be bold!

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 Trulen – 715-675-4091; rtrulen@gmail.com

Vice President: Sue Cooley – 715-675-8566; 715-571-40571 cooley1512@outlook.com

Treasurer: Curt Cooley – 715-675-8566; 715-571-4057; usfcool@gmail.com

Secretary: Tammi Smith – 715-581-3892; tammism79@gmail.com;
tammism@aspirus.org

Trustees: Lee Sillars – 715-218-5041; lsillars@aol.com

Scott Oestreich – 715-675-4360; scottsmachinellc@gmail.com

Evangelism: Erin Randall – 715-212-3720; emrandal@mtu.edu

Fellowship: John Marquardt – 715-675-3300; johnnym54401@gmail.com

Education: Connie Nowak – 715-675-1577; 715-432-3837; bcdenowak@gmail.com

Worship: Heidi Teske – 715-551-4485; heidi.teske2007@gmail.com

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. Thursday Evenings (9/13 - 11/1)

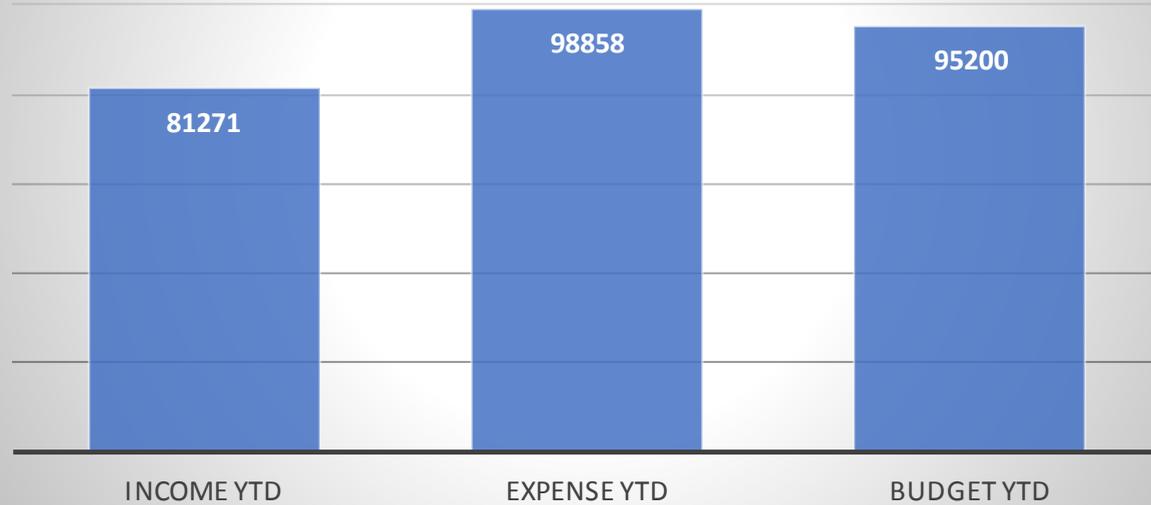
Please join us as we worship our Lord!

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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.

Ann Kieckhafer	Ellen Kruit	Harriet Wanner
1347 Crystal Avenue	1821 N. 4 th Avenue	1240 Merrill Ave.
Room 236-1	Room 215	Apt. 2
Naperville, IL 60563	Wausau, WI 54401	Wausau, WI 54401

Financial Report YTD through July



BROTHERHOOD

The Men's Brotherhood of St. John will be kicking off their fall schedule with a meeting on TUESDAY evening, September 18, at 6:30. The meeting will include a short Bible study with Pastor Dan and then Curt Cooley will share more of his international adventures in China and Russia. All are welcome.

Adult Forum

"In a time when the Bible is used in religious, political, and social debates, it seems increasingly important that those of us who claim a faith rooted in this sacred text have a sense of the challenges the Bible presents." In response to this reality, the authors of our next adult forum series help us look into questions we all may have about scripture:

How did the Bible come to be?

Who chose the books of the Bible?

How should we interpret the Bible?

How do the Old and New Testaments fit together?

Should we read all of the bible the same way?

What's going on in the Gospels?

Is the Bible even relevant?

Join us for seven sessions beginning after worship on Sunday, September 30, as we try to answer these questions together. I know you might have other stuff pulling you away, but haven't you wondered about some of these questions about the Bible? Of course you have, so come and check it out starting on September 30.

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 will be donated to Maine School. Your donations are appreciated. If you are able to help out with delivering these items to the school, 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. 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.

September Birthdays

9-2 Nancy Frostman
9-2 David Guilliom
9-2 Sue Harris
9-2 Sam Young
9-3 Tyler Bunge
9-6 Easton Voigt
9-7 Greg Grunenwald
9-10 Harriet Wanner
9-12 Brian Nowak
9-12 Tre Swenke
9-15 Greg Melander
9-18 Mike Preisig
9-19 Buzz Rosenau
9-20 Eleanor Grueneberg
9-20 Pete Hirn
9-20 Jayne Rowe
9-22 Sue Anklam
9-22 Karla Schuett
9-23 Roger Knight
9-23 Mitch Lubecke
9-23 Fritz Poeske
9-23 Kelsi Seubert
9-24 Doug Doede
9-26 Patricia Guilliom
9-27 Hunter Landrath
9-27 Kathie Reissman
9-29 Dale Nass
9-29 Zachary Voelker
9-30 Sharon Kilinski
9-30 Tyler Tabaka

September Anniversaries

9-5 John & Sue Rakow
9-8 Eugene & Kelly Dehnel
9-8 Mike & Sharon Kilinski
9-8 Keith & Georgia Koenig
9-18 Jerome & Debbie Klug
9-18 Louie & Kathie Reissman
9-19 Josh & Brooke Howe
9-19 Mike & Julie LaVake
9-20 Mike & Tara Pasholk
9-23 Jason & Jodie Wilhelm
9-24 Dale & Kay Knapp
9-28 Roger & Susie Knight
9-29 Brec & Rachel Ohrmundt