



# Mission Messenger!

Living our faith. Enriching lives.



## SEPTEMBER 2022 INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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In August, ELCA Lutheran pastors, deacons, bishops and lay people from across the country met in Columbus Ohio for the Churchwide Assembly. Meeting under the theme "*Embody the Word*," the assembly participated in plenary discussions to make decisions about the work of this church. They also spent time in worship and Bible study. The triennial gathering — the highest legislative body of our denomination — was composed of more than 900 voting members serving on behalf of the 3.3 million members of the ELCA. The ELCA's 65 synods elected voting members to serve at churchwide assemblies.

### **Some Highlights of the Assembly:**

**VICE PRESIDENT ELECTED** - Imran Siddiqui of St. John's Lutheran Church, Atlanta, was elected to a six-year term as vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The position of vice president is the highest a layperson can hold in the ELCA. Carlos Peña most recently served as interim vice president following the death of Bill Horne last August. [More about Mr. Siddiqui >>](#)

**COMMISSION FOR A RENEWED LUTHERAN CHURCH** -The Assembly voted to study church structure and make recommendations to the 2025 Churchwide Assembly for amendments and changes.

**ROE V. WADE** -The Assembly encouraged support and prayer for people affected by the overturning of Roe v. Wade, including rostered ministers and lay staff at congregations and social ministry organizations. It also called for conversation on the church's teaching on abortion and related topics, as well as synodical reviews of the impacts that overturning Roe v. Wade and other related local rulings may have on pastoral counseling and the pastor-client relationship.

**GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION** -The Assembly reaffirmed the church's commitment to engage in creation care and to act in support of 50% reduction in 2005 U.S. levels of greenhouse gas pollution by 2030 and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, including having the churchwide organization meet these goals. The memorial also urges continued work with the Creation Care Network, encourages congregants and rostered ministers to witness to the climate emergency and affirms the Mission Investment Fund's "Green Building" initiative.

**PUBLIC APOLOGY TO IGLESIA LUTERANA SANTA MARIA PEREGRINA** -Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton offered a public apology to Iglesia Luterana Santa María Peregrina and a made a public commitment to be an anti-racist church on behalf of the ELCA. [Watch Video >>](#)

**ASSEMBLY HONORS INDIGENOUS PEOPLE** -The Churchwide Assembly honored and celebrated Indigenous people through presentations and worship during the weeklong event:

*Continued on next page*



- Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton opened the assembly with a land acknowledgment noting that the gathering is taking place on the original and ancestral homelands of the Shawnee, Miami and Kaskaskia peoples.

A resolution was passed by the Churchwide Assembly—which began at our own Synod Assembly, brought by Pastor James West—calling for ELCA ministries and partners to engage in deeper collaboration with Indigenous partners, including incorporating land acknowledgments as part of public gatherings, exploring the creation of restorative justice programs, and studying funding needs and sources for ELCA Indigenous congregations and service ministries. Read the full action >>

- The American Indian and Alaska Native Lutheran Association invited assembly participants to wear red to recognize and publicize the issue of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.
- The assembly recognized the Rev. Marlene Whiterabbit Helgemo, who died July 22. Helgemo was the first Native American woman ordained in the Lutheran church.

The assembly heard the first in-person pronouncement of "A Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to American Indian and Alaska Native People" and received an update on the work of the Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery Task Force.



## Meet the Council

Get to know the members of Council on a more personal level.

This month we are featuring **Ryan Usiak** who is the council vice president.

*How long have you been a member of St. John? What brought you to St. John?*

My family has been members of St. John for 15-years. When my wife Rebecca and I moved back to Wisconsin from Seattle, we wanted to find a Lutheran church for our son Jack to grow up in. St. John was the first we visited, and we have been here ever since.

*What is a favorite book, movie or meal and why is it your favorite?*

My favorite book is *Extreme Ownership* by Jocko Willink and Leif Babin, followed closely by *Team of Teams* by Stanley McCrystal. Both books focus on leadership principles learned on the battlefield during the War on Terrorism. The principles can be easily applied to both life and business. One of the most important principles in each book can be attributed to Christ; as a leaders, serving others comes before serving yourself. My favorite movie(s) are the *Back to the Future* trilogy. I always thought it would be cool to live in a different time period. I love a good ribeye!

*What is a talent no one knows you have?*

It is a hidden talent; so hidden that I am still trying to find it!

*How does your faith inform your stewardship? Or how does what you believe in God motivate you in using your*

*time and talent?* I really shouldn't be here. When I was 15-months old I was backed over by a fuel truck. I had major damage to some of my internal organs and should have died. I believe that God kept me here for a reason, which I am still trying to figure out. While I am on this planet, I want to serve God as a way of saying thanks and giving appreciation for being alive.

*What is keeping you "centered" or "sane" right now?*

Life. I love life and spending time with my wife and son.



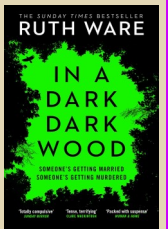
# HOSPITALITY & CELEBRATION

## CHURCH PICNIC - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

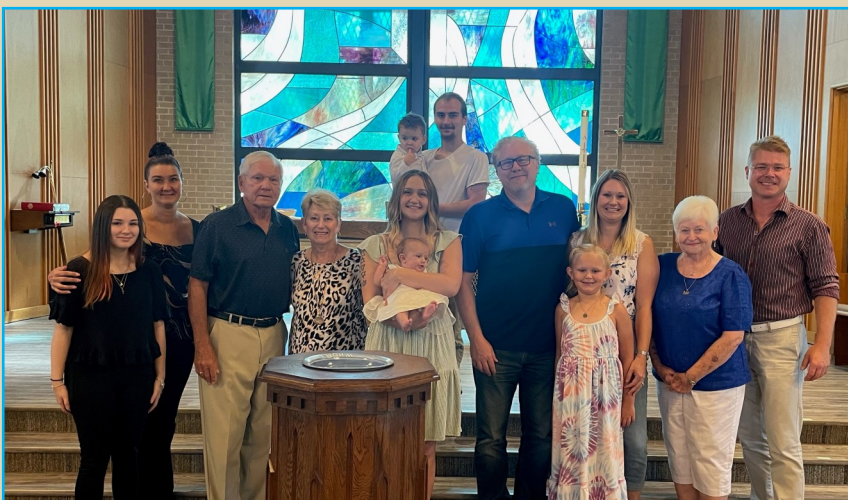
10:00 am Outdoor worship service  
11:00 am Food, music, and Kids games



**St. John's Book Club** will meet on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. We will meet in the Luther Room. We will be discussing In a Dark, Dark Wood by Ruth Ware. What should be a cozy and fun-filled weekend deep in the English countryside takes a sinister turn. Lenora, known to some as Lee and others as Nora, accepts an invitation to spend a weekend away in an eerie glass house deep in the English countryside. If you didn't get a book at the August meeting, they are available for check out in the cloak room. Contact Donna Hjorth (336-5990) or Jan Vanden Heuvel (639-6987) for more information. Everyone is welcome!



For news and information  
within the East Central  
Synod of Wisconsin go to  
[www.ecsw.org](http://www.ecsw.org)



Welcome Lailah Rain Barrett who was baptized on July 31st

## The Thrivent Choice Program allows

Thrivent Financial members to choose where Thrivent distributes its charitable outreach grant dollars. Thank you to all who have listed St. John as a recipient! Remember to contact Thrivent to indicate where you would like your Choice Dollars to go. For questions, more information, or to start designating Choice Dollars, please contact Thrivent directly

1-800-THRIVENT or at  
[www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com).





# WORSHIP AT HOME

**CALL TO WORSHIP** † *Make the sign of the cross.* Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. Amen.

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

God of mercy and forgiveness, we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

## **DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE PSALM 51:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through from my wickedness, and cleanse me from my sin.

<sup>3</sup>For I know my offenses, and my sin is ever before me.

<sup>4</sup>Against you only have sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness, a sinner from my mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me, and would have me know wisdom deep within.

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.

<sup>8</sup>Let me hear joy and gladness; that the body you have broken may rejoice.

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

*Read the appointed lesson for the day. Take time to reflect and discuss its message or journal your reflections.  
Let the Holy Spirit guide you.*

### **†SEPTEMBER 4TH**

#### **13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

##### **Luke 14:25-33**

*Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.*

##### **Prayer of the Day**

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



### **†SEPTEMBER 11TH**

#### **14TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

##### **Luke 15:1-10**

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.*

##### **Prayer of the Day**

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **†SEPTEMBER 18TH**

#### **15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

##### **Luke 16:1-13**

*Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.*

##### **Prayer of the Day**

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



# WORSHIP



## DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE CONTINUED

**†SEPTEMBER 25TH - 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**Luke 16:19-31**

*Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.*

### **Prayer of the Day**

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **PRAYERS**

*Pray for the church, the world, your prayer list, the people in the church directory and anything else that the Holy Spirit places on your heart.*

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **OFFERING**

God calls us to give generously of our hearts and gifts. How will you live and give today?

Visit [www.stjohndepere.org](http://www.stjohndepere.org) to give online.

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever, and ever. Amen.

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## **ADULT CHOIR**

Make a joyful sound! We invite returning and new members who are interested in sharing their gift of song and music to please join the St. John Adult Choir for our first rehearsal on Thursday, September 8th at 7:15 in the choir room.

Please contact Cassie Tingo at 715-965-2220 or [cassie.tingo@snc.edu](mailto:cassie.tingo@snc.edu) if you have any questions.

# WORSHIP



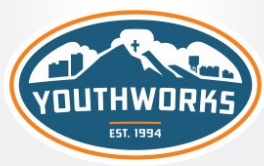
Last worship at the campfire for the summer.



The updated church directory will be available for pick up on Sunday, September 25th.

## THE PRAISE BAND

will be leading worship on  
**SEPTEMBER 11TH,**  
for the church picnic!



**2022 Mission Trip  
Presentation  
Sunday,  
SEPTEMBER 18TH  
at 8:00 & 10:00am**



**Starting Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>**

Worship Times are

Sunday 8am and 10:00am

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Wednesday  
8am-3pm.

# FAITH FORMATION

## Sunday morning Adult Education Opportunities 9:00-9:45am



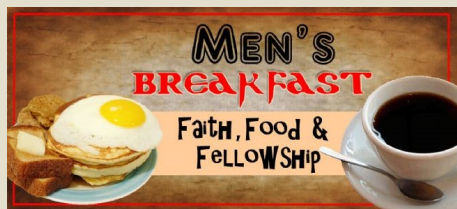
### Adult Learning Opportunities

† **Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Join us in the GREAT room for conversations with students and adults about their experience on this summer's mission trip to Nashville.

† **Sunday, Sept. 25th**  
Kick off to our monthly cross-generation education events, Sunday Blast. Watch for gathering details and plan now to join in!



# FAITH FORMATION



## MEN IN MISSION

Men in Mission meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month @8:30am. On **September 21st** we will be meeting at Julies Restaurant and then back to church for Bible study with Pastor Cindy. If you have any questions call Dick Vanden Heuvel @336-7157.

## **Lutheran Men in Mission Building Men for Christ**

Please to go the link below as a source of information for those involved in congregational men's ministries.

<https://www.lutheranmeninmission.org/>



Our Sunday school year will begin on Sun. Sept. 18th! We are currently looking for teachers for some of our grades. Please contact Tammy Lewis at [sundayschool@stjohndepere.org](mailto:sundayschool@stjohndepere.org) if you are interested in helping. Thank you

## ANXIETY, QUESTIONS, CONCERNS

We are here for you to ask questions, share concerns and celebrate success. PLEASE call myself or Pastor Cindy any time you need a listening ear. We'd LOVE to talk with you, pray for you and support you and your families in any way we can. Prayers make such a difference, and so does asking for help. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Cindy or call/text Kristin at 920-360-6045 or email at [kristin@stjohndepere.org](mailto:kristin@stjohndepere.org). **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!**

## **MISSION TRIP REUNION PARTY WAS A GREAT TIME!**

Teens and adult leaders who attended the mission trip in Nashville gathered again for the end-of-summer reunion at the Bouchard's house! We played volleyball, swam, sat around the campfire and enjoyed each other's company with pizza and laughs! Special guest Courtney, one of the Youthworks leaders in Nashville, joined us and brought her infectious smile and positive energy. It was a perfect end to the summer! Also, be sure to mark your calendar to join us for our mission trip presentation to the congregation and community on **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>** at both 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. services, and the adult education. Be sure to join us!





## CONFIRMATION

### 5TH - 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

#### IMPORTANT DATES

- ★ Be sure your student enrollment form has been filled out and returned to the office.
- ★ October 5th - Regular weekly classes begin for ALL 5th - 8th grade students from 6:30 - 7:30pm.

#### NOTE:

- ⇒ 5th - 6th grade students will meet in the basement, bottom of the stairs in the large gathering space.
- ⇒ 5th - 6th grade students do not need to bring a bible.
- ⇒ 7th - 8th grade students will meet in the GREAT room.
- ⇒ 7th - 8th grade students, please bring your bible to each class.

\*Teachers needed for Confirmation Class.

Teach on rotating basis.

Please let Pastor Cindy how you can help.



### CHRIST CARE

Christ Care meets the 1st and 3rd  
Wednesdays of the month

@**10:00am** in the Luther Room.

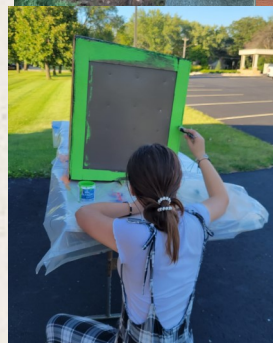
Questions? Please call Carlyn at 929-983-0327

IT IS GOD  
WHO ARMS ME WITH  
**STRENGTH**  
AND KEEPS MY WAY  
SECURE.

PSALM 18:32

## Blast 2022

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to everyone who joined in celebrating God's Good Creation - A Blast was had by all!





# MISSION & SERVICE



St. John Lutheran Church-  
Thank you for your continued support of Sleep in Heavenly Peace! We recently delivered our 500<sup>th</sup> bed since Feb. 2021 and we couldn't do this without support like yours. The smiles on the children's faces when they see their new bed are priceless - and you are part of that. Thank you again,  
Sleep in Heavenly Peace



**NEXT BUILD DATE:  
Saturday, September 10th**

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS MINISTRY.

For more information please go to <https://www.shpbeds.org/chapter/wi-de-pere>



Hi from Mission Sewing,

We hope that everyone has had a great summer. It's that time of year when school is starting, and the children are out of the house. If you find that you don't know what to do with yourself, you could come and join us for mission sewing. We meet on Thursdays from 9am until noon, you don't have to be there the whole time, or you could come and see what we do. If you cannot make it, you could take a bag of squares home and sew them and bring the finished top back to church. We are always looking for gently used sheets, which make a good back for the quilts. Come and join us for laughs and treats. Judy Beerntsen



### East Central Synod of Wisconsin

Fall Retreat on Saturday, September 24th

Imago Dei Village - in the main lodge

Registration: 8:00am

Program: 8:45am - 4:00pm

"Do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

**See the Ministry Bulletin board in the narthex  
for applications.**



**WE PRAY:** "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble". Psalm 46:1

Please hold in healing prayer,  
Larry Armstrong, John Grom, Linda Johanek,  
Shannon Johnson, Jennifer Leonard,  
Sophia Meinel, Charlotte Schink and  
Lee Schley.



If you, a loved one, or a friend would like to have prayers, please call Karen Cota at 920-632-2015 or e-mail Carlyn Cooper at [clpdkcm@twc.com](mailto:clpdkcm@twc.com).

We will get your requests out to  
**our faithful prayer warriors.**

# MISSION & SERVICE

## CELEBRATION AND OUTREACH



*In 2022, St. John is focusing on collecting the following items each month for the DPCO Food Pantry.*

<b>September</b>	<b>Peanut butter</b>
October	Canned spaghetti
November	Thanksgiving Food Drive
December	Reverse Advent Calendar

## Woodside Senior Communities

**A Lutheran heritage. Serving all faiths.**

Woodside Senior Communities offers an in person Alzheimer's Support Group for Family Caregivers the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 5:00 to 6:00 PM.

For more details and to register, call Becky at 920.405.3535, ext. 1005.

### NEW COMMUNITY SHELTER - 301 MATHER ST, WEST GREEN BAY

Volunteers from St. John serve and/or provide deserts for the evening meal on the first Saturday of each month from 4:30 - 6:00pm. Thank you to the "Lucky Pennies" who served and provided deserts the month of August. Please check the ministry board at church for a time that works for you to volunteer or provide deserts. If you have any questions, please contact Marlene Bergum at 920-336-7472.



Listed below is what it takes to fill one complete kit.  
Use this as a shopping list to purchase a few items or a whole kit!

**Please bring items to church by Sunday, Sept. 11th.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Four** 70-sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper, approximately 8x10
- \_\_\_\_\_ **One** 30-centimeter ruler or ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- \_\_\_\_\_ **One** pencil sharpener
- \_\_\_\_\_ **One** pair of blunt scissors
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Five** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Five** black or blue ballpoint pens (No gel ink)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **One** box of 16 or 24 crayons
- \_\_\_\_\_ **One** 2-1/2" eraser





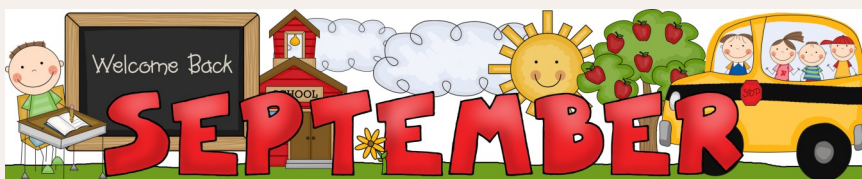
# MISSION & SERVICE

St. John Lutheran Church - De Pere

Sep 2022 (Central Time - Chicago)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1 9am - Mission Sewing	2	3 4:30pm - NEW Comm Shelter
9am - Worship	5	6	7 10am - Christ Care	8 9am - Mission Sewing 7:15pm - Adult Choir	9	10
11 10am - Church Picnic 10am - Worship	12 1pm - Stewardship Mtg	13	14	15 9am - Mission Sewing 1pm - Book Club 7:15pm - Adult Choir	16	17
18 8am - WORSHIP 9am - Sunday School 9:15am - Adult Education 10am - WORSHIP	19	20 7pm - Council Mtg	21 8:30am - Men in Mission 10am - Christ Care	22 9am - Mission Sewing 7:15pm - Adult Choir	23	24
25 8am - WORSHIP 9am - Sunday Blast 10am - WORSHIP	26	27	28	29 9am - Mission Sewing 7:15pm - Adult Choir	30	1

## WORSHIP & CONTACT INFO



Visit us on the web for weekly services!  
[www.stjohndepere.org](http://www.stjohndepere.org) and on  
[facebook.com/StJohnDePere](https://facebook.com/StJohnDePere)  
and visit our YouTube channel for weekly  
worship by following this [link](#)

### **St. John Lutheran Church Council Members**

Contact via: [office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org)  
or office ph (920) 336-1082  
Travis Schreurs - President  
Ryan Usiak - Vice President  
Jim Johaneck - Secretary  
Mike McMullen - Treasurer  
Sean Day - Worship & Music  
Bill Lake - Worship & Music  
Rick Johnson - Celebration & Outreach  
Dick VandenHeuvel - Property  
Karla Roth - Stewardship  
Jen Holtebeck - Faith Formation

### **WORSHIP TIMES**

**Sunday Service**  
**(Starting Sept. 18th)**  
**8am & 10:00am Service**  
**Education - 9:15am**

### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** **FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE**

September 20, 2022  
Send submissions to  
[office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org)

### **OFFICE HOURS**

8:00am – 3:00pm  
Mon-Wed.

Ph. 336-1082

[office@stjohndepere.org](mailto:office@stjohndepere.org)

**Rev. Cindy Warmbier-Meyer**

[pastorcindy@stjohndepere.org](mailto:pastorcindy@stjohndepere.org)  
Office Phone 336-1082 Ext. 103