



Living our faith. Enriching lives.

Is it time, yet?



NOVEMBER 2020 INSIDE THIS ISSUE		
2-8	Hospitality/ Celebration Worship	
9-10	Faith Formation	
11-14	Mission & Service October Calendar	
14	Church Contact Info	



When are we going to get back? That's a question we're all asking a lot these days. When are we going to get back to attending football games? When are we going to get back in the office? When are we going to get back to in-person worship inside the church? The answer to all those questions is often, "we don't know," and, unfortunately, that's the case for us at St. John.

As a council, we talk about it every month. I actually dread that conversation, because it's a bit depressing. Pastor Cindy and every one of us on council can't wait for the day we can say it's time to come back. We miss seeing everybody. We miss worshiping together. We miss having coffee together after the service and so much more. The problem is, when we look at the data and consider the advice of health experts, it's just not time.

As much as I dread the COVID-19 conversation at council, we're going to keep having it every month and one day we're going to be able to tell everybody we're coming back. We won't do that, however, until we feel it's safe. The health and safety of everybody in the congregation is our priority. We'll continue to rely on the advice of health experts and make the best decisions we can based on data and science.

So, what does that mean? It means we can't answer the question, "when are we going to get back" with a specific date. What we can tell you is that we'll continue to bring you the best virtual worship experience we possibly can. Our goal is to give you a sense of being there, help you grow spiritually, maybe bring a smile to your face every once in a while and keep you engaged with our mission at St. John.

Thank you for your continued patience. Stay healthy, stay safe, keep smiling and keep tuning in to our virtual service every week, while living your faith and enriching lives.

Andrew Tobisch Council President

Hospitality & Celebration



Ashlynn Ann Mortenson **Baptized on October 4th** Parents: Jordan & Alyssa and brother Rhett





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.



SPRING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

THANK YOU

are due by December 31st. Go online to www.stjohndepere.org, for an application. Completed forms may be put in the Trust Fund mailbox in the narthex or send to coachlabelle@hotmail.com.



The National Lutheran Choir "Virtual All Saints Program" Nov. 1 at 4 p.m. (Central time)

The National Lutheran Choir brings their annual All Saints program to a virtual world-wide audience on November 1, 2020. "In Memoriam (We Remember)" sees the Choir

sharing music of Remembrance,

Perseverance, and Hope, with memorial names submitted by listeners as backdrop to the music and message. Join from wherever you are.

Click on "online presentation"

to follow link

This online presentation is FREE for all.



Hospitality & Celebration



Worship



Nov 29th is the first Sunday in Advent.

Worship in the Home

Available each week on the ELCA worship blog are materials for "Worship in the Home." Consider ways to pray and sing using this resource at home. In addition to Sunday worship resources, Daily Prayer in the Home is available, providing simplified forms of Morning Prayer, Evening Prayer and Night Prayer, as well as table prayers."

Would you like to receive Holy Communion

Please call the church office 920-336-1082 and let us know that you are unable to attend worship and would like Holy Communion brought to you. Pastor or another volunteer will bring Communion to you. Please know that they cannot enter your residence. You will need to be able to meet them at the door or outside.

Worship

CHOIR AREA STAINED GLASS PROGRESS!





This row of stained glass not yet created

Trinity window in progress













Artist Rendering of Choir area windows.

On October 25th Elise , Elliot, Connor, Lexi, Andrew, Paige, Gabrielle, Trista and Benjamin affirmed their faith through confirmation.

You can view the service on our YouTube channel. https://www.youtube.com/channel/Cli1cjRdeaDr3N5fYKeuRUw

Vorship



Use this resource to worship while we are unable to be together. Know that even though we are apart; we remain connected as the body of Christ.

CALL TO WORSHIP + Make the sign of the cross. Blessed be the holy Trinity, 2 one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS OF SINS

Trusting in the mercy of God, we confess our sin.

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives.

We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Receive this assurance; By the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. We live now in hope.

For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE PSALM 43

¹Give judgment for me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; deliver me from the deceitful and the wicked.

²For you are the God of my strength; why have you rejected me, and why do I wander in such gloom while the enemy oppresses me?

³Send out your light and your truth, that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your sanctuary;

 4 that I may go to the altar of God, to the God of my joy and gladness; and on the harp I will give thanks to you, O God my God.

 5 Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, and why are you so disquieted within me? Put your trust in God, for I will yet give thanks to the one who is my help and my God.

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.

†NOVEMBER 1

†NOVEMBER 8

Matthew 23:1-12

Jesus encourages his disciples to obey the words of Moses they hear from their teachers but to shun the hypocrisy for readiness at all times. and pretension of those who do not practice what they teach.

Prayer of the Day

O God, generous and supreme, your loving Son lived among us, instructing us in the ways of humility and justice. Continue to ease our burdens, and lead us to serve alongside of him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Page 7)

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need

Prayer of the Day

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

5

†NOVEMBER 15

Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

Prayer of the Day

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SING PRAISE

ELW #422 SING PRAISE

(Page 7)

ELW #638 SING PRAISE

ELW #785



Worship

DWELLING IN SCRIPTURE CONTINUED

+NOVEMBER 22

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

Prayer of the Day

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

+NOVEMBER 29 - 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mark 13:24-37

Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

SING PRAISE	ELW #634	SING PRAISE		ELW #239
(Page	7)		(Page 7)	

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 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.

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. Amen



God's work. Our hands.

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Worship	
For All the Saints ELW#422	All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! ELW#634
 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who thee by faith before the world confessed, thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia! 	 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.
2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might; thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight; thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!	2 O seed of Israel's chosen race now ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 Oh, blest communion, fellowship divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia! 	3 Hail him, you heirs of David's line, whom David Lord did call the God incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all. The God Incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all.
 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song, and hearts are brave again and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia! 	4 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget the wormwood and the gall, go spread your trophies at his feet and crown him Lord of all. Go spread your trophies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.
Blessed Assurance ELW#638	Hark, the Glad Sound ELW#239
 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. 	 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long; let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.
Refrain This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior, all the day long: this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.	 He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held. The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.
2 Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. <i>Refrain</i>	3 He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure, and with the treasures of his grace to enrich the humble poor.
3 Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. <i>Refrain</i>	4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace, your welcome shall proclaim, and heav'n's eternal arches ring with your beloved name.
When Peace Like A RiverELW#7851When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll, whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.	
Refrain It is well (it is well) with my soul, (with my soul,) it is well, it is well with my soul.	here is always
2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. <i>Refrain</i>	zomething * to be
3 He livesoh, the bliss of this glorious thought; my sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! <i>Refrain</i>	1 Mankful 1 solo7
4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend; even so it is well with my soul. <i>Refrain</i>	

7

Worship



Fred Schepp has been doing the beautiful floral arrangements for our altar.

Here is the symbolism for this months flowers: As we approach the Lord's Table we see the three beautiful Bird of Paradise flowers that represent the Holy Trinity. The shaft of wheat reminds us that the wheat is ground into flour which is baked into unleavened bread. The grapes are crushed and made into wine. The calla lilies remind us of the fifth verse of Julia Ward Howe's THE BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC: "In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea, With a glory

in his bosom that transfigures you and me: As he died to make men holy, let us die to make men free ('let us live to make men free' is used in the modern-day version), While God is marching on." *(1862)* The green pointed ferns are a symbol of eternal life and point to all directions of the compass which leads to our resurrected Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. "This is the body of Christ broken for you. This is the blood of Christ shed for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."



THANK YOU FRED!



This year, singing and choir looks different. We are excited for the opportunity to share our gift of music through the use of tone chimes! Please join us in the GREAT room on Thursday, November 5th from 7:15-8:00 pm for a socially distanced informational meeting and to try out the tone chimes. Please note we will follow the CDC guidelines.



If you have any questions, feel free to contact Cassie Tingo at 715-965-2220 or at <u>cassie.tingo@snc.edu</u>.





Faith Formation



SUNDAY SCHOOL Family challenge fun! Macy picked apples and then helped bake an apple pie.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Hello Sunday school families! I hope you are all enjoying our virtual Sunday school! Please continue to watch the website for our November lessons. Looking forward to Advent and the Holiday season? We have something special coming for all of you so stay tuned!! If you have any questions about the virtual program please email Tammy Lewis at <u>sundayschool@stjohndepere.org</u>



Faith Formation

Blessed to Serve

The New Community Shelter welcomed eight of us to humbly serve their residents and the community a hot meal on Saturday, October 3rd. Our high school volunteers safely prepared and handed out more than 150 meals, received a tour of the building and enjoyed each others company. In addition, our youth prepared desserts as part of the meal for that evening. Thank you to everyone who gave of their time! We were incredibly grateful to volunteer and share our safely masked smiles to the greater Green Bay community. We hope to be able to serve again soon!









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November Service to New Community Shelter! The Shelter has temporarily suspended their volunteer program (because of rising community Covid numbers) but they still need our help! The youth of St. John have been asked to provide desserts for the Shelter's meal on <u>Saturday, November 7th</u>. Please sign-up here to make a dessert (1-2 dozen bars and cookies are the best) I will pick these up on Saturday morning and deliver them to the Shelter. Once their program is open and available, we will be back.

Thank you!

Anxiety, Questions, Concerns.

All.The.Emotions. At this moment, there are so many questions...and emotions that change from minute-tominute sometimes! PLEASE call myself or Pastor Cindy with your concerns. 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 <u>asking</u> for help. Please don't hesitate to reach out to Pastor Cindy or call/text Kristin at 920–360–6045 or email at <u>kristin@stjohndepere.org</u>. We are here to help!

Faith Formation

Confirmation Class Schedule 5th ~ 8th Grade

Out of an abundance of caution we have developed this schedule for the remainder of 2020. To reduce class size, groups will meet on a rotating schedule. Thank you for your patient understanding as we work together to provide faith formation of the highest quality in the safest of ways.

5th - 6th Grade GROUP A					
Wednesday November 11th	6:30pm	Family Study			
Wednesday, November 18th	6:30pm	At Church - Larger gathering space downstairs* & Zoom			
Tuesday, November 24th	6:30pm	Family Study			
Wednesday, December 2nd	6:30pm	At. Church - Large gathering space downstairs* & Zoom			
5th - 6th Grade GROUP B					
Wednesday November 11th	6:30pm	Family Study			
Wednesday, November 18th	6:30pm	Via Zoom			
Tuesday, November 24th	6:30pm	At Church - Large gathering space downstairs* & Zoom			
Wednesday, December 2nd	6:30pm	Family Study			
7th Grade					
Wednesday, November 4th	6:30pm	At Church - GREAT Room* & Zoom			
Wednesday, November 11th	6:30pm	Via Zoom			
Wednesday, November 18th	6:30pm	Family Study			
Wednesday, December 2nd	6:30pm	At Church - GREAT Room* & Zoom			
Wednesday, December 9th	6:30pm	Via Zoom			
8th Grade					
Wednesday, November 4th	6:30pm	Via Zoom			
Wednesday, November 11th	6:30pm	At Church - GREAT Room* & Zoom			
Wednesday, November 18th	6:30pm	Family Study			
Wednesday, December 2nd	6:30pm	Via Zoom			
Wednesday, December 9th	6:30pm	At Church - GREAT Room* & Zoom			

Mission & Service

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. We will get your requests out to **our faithful prayer warriors**. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29



Mission & Service

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS, THROUGH ADVOCACY



During my recent participation in the group discussion of "Government and Civic Engagement in the United States: Discipleship in a Democracy", I learned to view government as a gift from God. I had not thought of government as that before. I also gained the perspective that as a Christian it is my responsibility to assess government policies by asking:

is the neighbor being served? And advocating for policies that serve neighbors and care for God's creation is also my Christian responsibility.

From the ELCA website (ELCA.org/Advocacy) you can read the following;

Why is advocacy important? Isn't our direct service work enough?

As the ELCA, we believe God is calling us into the world to serve together. Through our direct service, we aid immediate needs before us. Through our advocacy work, we impact systemic, long-lasting change.

The public policies our officials write, amend and ultimately adopt can have ongoing effects on our neighbors who are struggling with hunger and living with poverty, as well as God's creation. By telling our lawmakers how Lutheran ministries help our world and urging them to advance legislation that reflects these commitments, we are helping create opportunities to overcome poverty, promote peace and dignity, and defend God's creation.

Why does the ELCA understand advocacy to be part of its mission?

We are a church that is energized by lively engagement in our faith and public life. We serve in response to God's love to meet human needs and protect creation. When we, as ELCA members, lift our voices together to influence policies that advance the common good, we further God's work in our world.

We are also a church that thinks of governments as helpful ways God is active in our world. This is clear from the very first generation of Lutheran reformers and their actions. When you write your public official, you are uniting with an apostolic community of Lutherans concerned with how public policies work for our neighbors as a matter of faith.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America has advocacy offices at the state and federal level. Lutheran Office for Public Policy (loppw.org) is our state level advocacy office. Its mission statement reads, "In faithful response to God's love, we engage people of faith in the ministry of advocacy for policies that support peace, justice and care for all of God's creation." This website provides resources and tools to support advocacy in a variety of ways on a variety of issues such as; anti human trafficking, hunger, caring for God's creation and others.

If you are interested in learning more about ELCA advocacy and/or opportunities for you to engage in advocacy, please log in to loppw.org or ELCA.org/Advocacy.



Mission & Service



SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

We are excited to again be a part of The DPCO Christmas Store. Although this year due to the pandemic the "store" will look very different. Out of an abundance of care and safety, we have decided to forego the physical store set up with shopping; and instead provide families with gift cards so they can shop for the holidays for themselves.

The past two years DPCO Christmas Store has joyfully provided Christmas gifts for low income/ at risk families of De Pere. These families are referred by school social workers and the DPCO Pantry. The 2019 Christmas store provided 150 families including 436 children with clothing, gifts & basic household items. This was roughly a 45% increase from 2018. With the impact of the pandemic we anticipate this number will grow even more for the 2020 store.

We need your help to continue to serve the nearly 200 families in need in our community.

Here is how you can help:

Purchase gift cards from stores such as Walgreens, Kohl's, Menards or Walmart, fast food places such as Subway, Culver's or McDonalds, or Amazon gift cards. It's most helpful for distribution, if cards are in amounts up to \$25 each. These cards will be divided among the families based on need. The families will then use the cards to purchase gifts on their own. Please bring gift cards to <u>church by Sunday</u>, <u>November 27, 2020</u>.

You may also make a cash donation. Monetary donations will be used to purchase additional gift cards for families.

Thank you for *helping to make the holidays brighter for children and families in the De Pere community.*



It's not too late!

Please join us for <u>WOW on the 2nd Tuesday of each month from</u> <u>6:30-8:00pm</u>. We are reading pages 1-60 for our November meeting of The Book of Longings by Sue Monk Kidd.

Please watch for announcements to whether we are meeting virtually or in person.

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Nov 2020 (Central Time - Chicago)

29 Tst Sunday of Advent WORSHIP ONLINE 9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via	22 WORSHIP ONLINE 10am - Sun School via	9am - Holy Comm pickup 10am - Sun School via	10am - Sun School via	WORSHIP ONLINE 9am - Holy Comm pickup 9am - Return Intent Card 10am - Sun School via
30	23 6; 6;	7		2
-	24 6:30pm - 5/6 Gr A Zoom 6:30pm - 5/6 Gr B @Church	7pm - Council Mtg Zoom	10 6:30pm - Finance Mtg 6:30pm - WOW Zoom	σ
N	25 6:30pm - 7/8 No Class	18 2pm - Faith Form Zoom 6:30pm - 5/6 Gr A @Church 6:30pm - 5/6 Gr B Zoom 6:30pm - 7/8th Family	11 6:30pm - 5/6 Family study 6:30pm - 7th Gr Zoom 6:30pm - 8th Gr at Church	4 6:30pm - 7th Gr @Church 6:30pm - 8th Gr Zoom 7:30pm - Zoom Wor.&Music
	26	- 0	12	7:15pm - Tone Chime
4	27	20	13	5
G	28	21	4 4	Sat

Mission & Service



Hi from Mission Sewing-

We will not be meeting in November due to COVID. I would like to acknowledge the people and groups who have been helping make the quilts. Ruth Aerts, Donna Hjorth, Marsha Kruchten, Betty Marquardt, Elaine Muesbeck, Betty Peters, Sandy Piette, Mary Teofilo, and Carol Tobisch. Syble Hopp students and the West De Pere alternative school students and anyone that I missed naming. Hope everyone is staying healthy and staying safe with masking and keeping your distance during this time. Have a great Thanksgiving and remember to be thankful for what you have. *Judy Beerntsen*

From all of us at St. John, a special thank you to Judy for her dedication to this mission.



Worship & Contact Info

St. John Lutheran Church Council Members Contact via: office@stjohndepere.org or office ph (920) 336-1082

Andrew Tobisch Sean Day Jim Johanek Mike McMullen Jenna Benjamin Gail Ryan Dave Broderick Beth Challe Rick Johnson Kaitlynn Labs President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Worship & Music Worship & Music Property Faith Formation Mutual Ministry Celebration/Outreach

<u>NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:</u> <u>November</u> **15, 2020** Send submissions to **newsletter@stjohndepere.org**

WORSHIP TIMES

JOIN US ONLINE



Visit us on the web for weekly services! www.stjohndepere.org

and on facebook.com/StJohnDePere

and visit our YouTube channel for weekly worship by following this link: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCli1cjRdeaDr3N5fYKeuRUw</u>