

St. John Lutheran Church

Newsletter, September 2018

A word from Pastor Jean...

"Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. He always keeps His word."

~Hebrews 10:23, *The Message*

It seems to me that there have been many in our midst going through some rough patches in their life-journey lately. Several have had joint replacement surgeries, other surgeries from which they are recuperating, test results that haven't been what we hoped for, sudden deaths. And, of course, little Harper Smith continues to battle the infection invading her little body. Life is difficult sometimes and too often we find ourselves questioning God's presence in our lives.

But God's Word urges us to stand strong, to keep a firm grip on God's promises. We are an unfaithful people who continue to question God's will and God's way. However, in Jesus Christ we have a solid rock upon which to plant our feet. We are reminded by the words of Edward Mote:

His oath, his covenant,
His blood sustains me in the raging flood;
When all supports are washed away,
He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

("My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less," ELW #596-597)

You see, gutting it out or trying to fix things all on our own strength leaves us standing in sinking sand, struggling to find a foothold. But when we put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ, we'll find ourselves firmly planted on the solid rock of God's promises to *"never leave us nor forsake us."* We may never know why we are suffering the adversities, but God's presence is always there...that's an absolute promise. We all need to be reminded that God is faithful...even though we pull away, He continues to reach out to us and walk alongside us no matter what. We are called to seek God in both the good times and in the hard times because God is always watching over us.

Living in dependence on God is a glorious adventure. And I don't know about you, but I don't want to miss a single moment of it! One last request, continue to pray for Kyle, Linda, Harper, and Hudson Smith, please.

God's peace, my friends,

Pastor Jean
#harperstrong

† † † † †

COMBINED WORSHIP

Sunday, September 9, 2018

10:00 a.m. at St. John Lutheran Church

Special Music: The Cadillac Community Chorus

Blessing of Backpacks & School Staff

Students and School Staff plan on joining us for worship on September 9 as we pray over you and your backpacks for a safe and wonderful 2018-19 school year.

† † † † †

**Have you changed your address or phone number changed recently?
Please make sure the church office has your correct information!**



We continue to collect money for the twice/monthly cleaning of our church building (\$125/cleaning). Please write "Cleaning" on the notation line of your check. Thank you for your support.

WATER PROJECT



Don't forget our water collection for the people of Flint. The total donation of our last drive was 185 cases of water...Lake City UMC - 94 cases, St. John Lutheran Church - 91 cases! The distribution goes to those who have medical issues and those who are disabled. We are currently working on our second donation drive. Please bring in cases of bottled water and add to our "stash" in the Narthex!



We Need Your Help



at UMC

Lake City United Methodist Church is looking for volunteers to serve as host/hostess at their Soup Suppers on Tuesdays from 4:30-6:00 p.m. beginning in September. You won't need to cook or serve (except maybe coffee), they simply need folks willing to visit with the guests, make them feel welcome, model the love of Jesus Christ, and begin to build relationships with those who come. Please consider volunteering for a Tuesday evening or two and then call Pastor Jean to let her know you're willing give it a try (231.839.7542). You'll be blessed with a wonderful soup dinner!



Sunday School and Confirmation will be starting

October 7th. More information to follow!



St. John will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat event this year on Wednesday, October 31st. So, we are collecting candy for our annual Trunk-or-Treat event.

Please leave your donations in the box in the narthex under the table.

Thanks for your donations!

† † † † †

Church Council

July 24, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Opened with prayer by Pastor Jean

Present: Pastor Jean, Marcia Martinez, Jerry Greenlee, Doug Gensler, Jack Graham

Visitors: Dan Martinez

Excused absence: Laura Bradley

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and motion from Doug Gensler and supported by Jack Graham.

Financial report was presented and approved on motion from Jack and supported by Jerry.

Business:

1. The 2018- 2019 budget was reviewed and approved by all present on a motion from Doug and supported by Jack. It was also decided to pay our benevolence monthly.
2. The 2018- 2019 budget was reviewed and approved by all present on a motion from Doug and supported by Jack. It was also decided to pay our benevolence monthly.
3. The stewardship report was reviewed and used for reference in preparing the budget.

Property:

Roof: will be repaired next week by Holton Builders in the amount of \$450.00.

Meeting adjourned on motion from Marcia and supported by Doug.
Closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Marcia Martinez.



Church Council August 15, 2018

Meeting called to order at 6 pm.

Opened with prayer by Pastor Jean

Present: Pastor Jean, Jerry Greenlee, Doug Gensler, and Laura Bradley – Visitors: Gay Gensler

Excused: Marcia Martinez

Ron Hamel and Phil Jones are no longer Council members.

Business:

4. Gay Gensler discussed being concerned about our young children. We need to get some fun things going to keep them involved in church. The prior 'M&M's' are now the "Planning Committee". Harvest and Auction dinner in the fall will try to include some fun events for kids. It is a work in progress and no date has been set yet.
5. Snow plowing – Clayton Emery will do a full plow for \$75 and half plow for \$40. Four Seasons from McBain has also been asked. Council will have a special meeting Sunday Aug. 19th to decide on final plowing.

Events:

Sept. 9th Combined Service at St. John with "Cadillac Community Chorus"

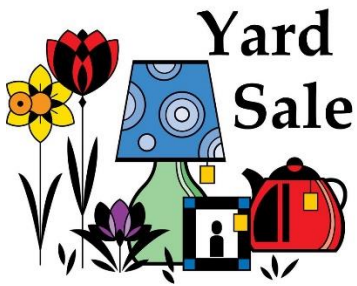
Oct 13th Kick off for Crossroads Farm (Corn Maze at Shetlers Dairy on M-72)

Sept 19th is our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned by Doug Gensler and Jerry Greenlee.

Closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Bradley.



St. John Annual Yard Sale

THE YARD SALE IS ONLY A WEEK AWAY! Items are coming in but we can always use more. You may bring items in thru Wednesday morning, Sept 5th, placing them in the last room on the right in the Sunday School wing.

That week it will be chaos around here, hauling items from that back classroom, getting them placed on the right tables and then pricing every item. **WE CAN USE ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET!** Please see Gay Gensler if you can help Sunday after church, Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. Of course we can also use helpers for the sale days too.

**THE SALE IS: THURSDAY & FRIDAY, SEPT. 6 & 7,
SATURDAY, SEPT 8, EVERYTHING HALF OFF!**

If you have any questions, please call *Gay Gensler* at 775-6735.

We will also have a bake sale as we usually do during the yard sale. Please consider donating your homemade baked goods if you cannot come in to help. They may be dropped off at church Wednesday morning, Thursday or Friday mornings before 9:00 a.m.

FYI:

We are moving our "Famous Bean Soup" sale to St. John this year. It will be available to purchase and will be served during the YARD Sale.



September 2018

St John Lutheran Church

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 H.B. Audrey Raden
2 9:30 am Worship and Communion Yard Sale Table Setup	3 LABOR DAY Yard Sale Setup H.B.Dillan Jones	4 Yard Sale. Setup	5 H.B. Connie David Yard Sale Setup	6 YARD SALE 9 to 4	7 YARD SALE 9 to 4	8 YARD SALE 9 to 4 H.B. Jessica Allen H.B. Phil Jones
9 10:00 am Combined Service here at St. John H.B. Bill Nees	10 H.B. Clay Cole	11 H.B. Dorothy Bartholomew	12	13 10:00 Bible Study H. A. Dave & Brenda Pylkas	14	15
16 9:30 am Worship and Communion H.B. Scott Allen	17	18 5:00 FIT Board Meeting	19 6:00 Church Council	20 10:00 Bible Study	21 H.B. Larry Booms	22 H.B. Tim Greenlee
23 9:30 am Worship of the Word	24	25	26	27 10:00 Bible Study H.B. Amber Cole	28	29 H.B. Dru Metiva
30 9:30 am Worship of the Word H.B. Lisa Dolley H.B James Cox	1	2 H.A. Lanny & Marlene Miller	3	4 H.A. Bob & Sandy Haskin	5 H.B. Traci Ball	6

This page reserved for your news next month.