

The Lord's Week

Sunday, September 13th

9:00am– Worship

10:15am– Voter's Meeting/Sunday School

Monday, September 14th

1:30pm– Activities Room– dominoes

6:00pm- Cherub Chimers rehearsal

6:30pm- Heavenly Ringers rehearsal

Tuesday, September 15th

10:00am- Food Pantry

6:30pm– Guitar Jam

Wednesday, September 16th

10:00am- Women's Bible study

1:30pm– Activities room-dominoes

Thursday, September 17th

11:30am- Ladies Luncheon

1:00pm- LWML meeting

Saturday, September 19th

8:00am- Men's Bible study

9:30am- Choir Rehearsal

3:00pm- Catechism Instruction

5:00pm– Worship w/Communion

Sunday, September 20th

9:00am– Worship w/Communion

10:15am– Bible study/Sunday School/
5/6th grade Confirmation class

2:00pm- Allison Antolik's bridal shower

Karen is turning 89 and aging oh so fine! You are invited to celebrate with her on Saturday, Sept. 19th from 1-3pm at St. Guiseppe's pizza in E. Moline. No gifts necessary, just your smiling faces please!

Serving the Lord this Week:

Organist: Christine Engebrecht

Ushers: (Sat.) Greg Burke, Bill Johnson, Todd Miller & Larry Ripka

(Sun.) Glen McMillin & Stratton Churchill

Altar Guild (Sept.):Jill Schofield & Flo Moore

Bible study opportunities:

Sundays, 10:15am

The Lutheran Confessions: Pope vs. Pastor. Paul Timothy McCain the editor of Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions introduces the “Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope” with these words: How do Christians receive pastors? How is the Church organized, structured, and governed? The Roman Catholic answer is that everything depends on the pope, the “vicar of Christ,” the one who is said to be the immediate successor to the Apostle Peter. Through the pope, so it is thought, flows Christ's authority to His Church on earth. This is not the Bible's answer. In this document Philip Melanchthon provides the Lutheran view of authority in the Church and the basis on which the Church is founded and continued. In this class, we will learn how the sixteenth century reformation returned the office of the pastor back to its Biblical roots using the “Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope.”

Holy Land Geography, Customs & History

Join Clark Stojan in the Keyl room, as he leads us to explore the world of the Bible along with select events recorded in Scripture.

Coffee with Christ– Myth or Faith? Meet in the Yellow room in the Education wing; each week we will discuss 3 common misconceptions about Christianity in today's society. From false rumors to biblical teachings that are heavily distorted from their subject matter, there's no lack of myths to find. Do you know how to respond to them? More importantly, do you know the truth backed up by God's Word and teachings?

Wednesdays, 10am- Women's Bible study

We will be studying the book of Romans.

Saturdays, 8am- Men's Bible study.

We will be studying 1 Corinthians.



St. John's Lutheran Church

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Vacancy Pastor

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(309) 349-0229

Music Director Christine Engebrecht bcengebrecht@att.net

(309) 738-2797

Secretary Annie Churchill office@stjohnsem.org

General Announcements:

Welcome to our guests. We are glad you have joined us in worshipping our Lord and Savior. We trust you will draw strength, peace, and hope as together we hear God's Word spoken here today. So that we may serve you better, we ask that you fill out an attendance card located on the back of the pew, including your address and noting that you are a visitor.

ETERNAL CANDLE The eternal candle glows to the glory of God in honor of those who come early and/or leave late as they prepare for and/or clean up to make our Sunday morning coffee and treats available.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flower bouquet that adorns the Altar is from Brian & Christine Engebrecht.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS *Romans 14:7 – “For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.”* We just don’t belong to ourselves — we belong first to God, and through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocation: as a Christian you serve others in the church, as a neighbor you serve others in society, and as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father or mother, you serve your family.

YOU ARE INVITED The congregation is invited to attend a Bridal Shower for Allison Antolik at St. John’s on Sun., Sept. 20th from 2-4pm in the Janssen rooms. Allison and Ethan are registered at Target and Zola. Please sign-up by the 13th so we can plan accordingly!

FELLOWSHIP SURVEY Please take the short survey that is in the narthex to let us know what you are interested in doing with your St. John's friends. Drop it in the box when completed.

LWML The next LWML meeting is Thurs., Sept. 17th at 1:00pm. We will be making fleece blankets. Hope to see you.

SAVE THE DATE All are welcome on Sat, Oct. 2nd after worship for an Evening in the Courtyard. Hors d’oeuvres and refreshments will be offered with fellowship as we learn about the Biblical elements showcased in this project!

BLOOD DRIVE We are hosting our annual blood drive on Sat., Oct. 10th from 8-11am. Please sign up at the sign-up station, or you can scan the QR code.

GRIEF SHARE An upcoming class is starting on Tues., Oct. 6th at 6:30pm. This class is for church members that have experienced a significant loss in 2025 or 2026. Postcards were sent to this group of members; please contact Annie in the office if you did not receive one but believe you should have, and also to RSVP. Space is limited.

LADIES LUNCHEON All ladies of St. John’s are invited to lunch at Deerfield Family Restaurant on Thurs. Sept. 17th. We meet at 11:30am on the third Thursday of every month. All are welcome!

BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES: Want to be closer to your spouse, children, or grandchildren? Praying as a couple or as a family is one of the most powerful and intimate things you can do together. Start simply by praying for things you’re thankful for, things you need, or things you’re worried about. Pray for people you know who are struggling. If you’re not currently praying aloud together, consider the many positive impacts of doing so. You will be drawn closer to God, and to each other. Find a creative, practical, and free downloadable resource for fun ways to build prayer into you and your family’s daily life, created by our friends at Concordia Center for the Family at <https://www.concordiafamilystore.org/resources/p/family-prayer-handout>. www.LutheranFamilyService.org

FOOD PANTRY/GARDEN BOUNTY We are in dire need for plastic grocery bags to help in food pantry, and for taking home produce that is generously donated by Clark Stojan. We would be very grateful for any extras you could bring in!

SERMON NOTES Pastor Batchelor mentioned Chaplain Henry Gerecke in the sermon today. You can learn more about Chaplain Gerecke from the following resources: From the Internet: <https://www.1517.org/articles/from-hitlers-wolves-to-christs-lambs-the-chaplain-to-nazi-war-criminals>

<http://www.messianicgoodnews.org/henry-gerecke-chaplain-to-nazi-war-criminals>

<http://www.stjohnchester.com/Gerecke/Gerecke.html>

Other Resources:

- Tim Townsend, Mission at Nuremberg: An American Army Chaplain and the Trial of the Nazis, HarperCollins, 2014.
- F. T. Grossmith, The Cross and the Swastika, Henry E. Walter Ltd., Worthing, England, 1984, which tells Gerecke’s story.
- N. M. Railton, “Henry Gerecke and the Saints of Nuremberg,” Kirkliche Zeitgeschichte, Vandenhoeck and Ruprecht, 2000, pp.126-7.

Many of the primary sources about Gerecke, including his own My Assignment with the International Military Tribunal at Nürnberg, Germany, are found at Concordia Historical Institute, St. Louis, MO, the official archive of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

ADULT CHOIR Rehearsals resume Sat., Sept. 12th at 9:30am. Don’t feel like you are a good singer? That’s ok, we will make you stand in the back! (Just Kidding) All are welcome!

VOTERS MEETING There is a quarterly voter’s assembly meeting Sun., Sept. 13th after worship. Please attend if you can.

CHERUB CHIMERS Rehearsals will start on Mon., Sept. 14th at 6:30pm. We would love to see some new faces. Any youths 5th grade and older are welcome! (younger may be ok if they have any musical background)

Sunday, September 13th, 2026
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Matins

Prelude	
“Holy Spirit...”	496
Opening Versicles	219
Psalmody	220-221
Additional Psalm (<i>See Cream Insert</i>)	
“Come Down...”	501
Readings	(<i>See Cream Insert</i>)
Responsory	221
Children’s Message	
“Forgive Our Sins...”	843
Sermon -Pastor Batchelor	
“Forgive as We Forgive”	
Canticle- “Holy God...”	940
Prayer	
Kyrie and Lord’s Prayer	227
Collects	227-228
Benedicamus and	
Benediction	228
“Lord, Dismiss Us...”	924
Postlude	

Psalm- read responsively

- P** ¹Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!
- G** ²Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,
³who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
⁴who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
⁵who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- The Lord works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
- ⁷He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
- ⁹He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- ¹⁰He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- ¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- ¹²as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Readings

P The Old Testament reading is from Genesis, the fiftieth chapter. When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, 'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them. *Gen 50:15-21*

P This is the Word of the Lord **G** Thanks be to God.

P The Epistle reading is from Romans, the fourteenth chapter.
As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over

opinions. One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, "As I live," says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. (*Rom. 14:1-12*)

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

P The Holy Gospel, according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven." Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart." (*Matt. 18:21-35*)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

ST. JOHN'S PRAYER CARD

September 12th and 13th, 2026

Please remember the following in your prayers this week...

Members

Peg Heitzman
Sydney Heller
Karen Hendricks

Anniversaries

Duane & Rhonda
Little(39)
Tom & Loretta
Nielsen(58)

Military Deployment

Elijah Medina- Iran

Ill and Hospitalized

Marsha Boarts- infection
Bev Brokaw- hospice
Peyton Dodge-(Larry's
granddaughter;in Iowa
City for testing)

Missionaries Serving

Rev. Paul & Gena Nelson-
Indonesia

Chaplain Birthdays

CDR Benjamin Schroeder
MAJ Graham Glover
MAJ Brad Boyer

Sister Congregation

Rev. Samuel Smith
Immanuel Lutheran
Church
Charleston, IL

Prolonged Illness & Special Needs

Joan Britton
Chuck Brokaw
Steve Fors
Duane Gosa
Nancy Gosa
Bill Green
Jerry Hill
Dale Johnson
Melinda Loete
Merle Loete
Reid McDonald
RaeJean Murphy
Tom Nielsen
Robin Passman
Brenda Roggendorf
Earl Schaefer
Karen Schmidt
Kathleen Schmidt
David Sountris
Ken Weidenbach
Cora Whipple

Homebound Members

Nancy Bonow
Ann Bowman
Don, Wanda, & Jason
Cass
Darlene Dopson
MaryAnn Eckert
Rick & Sylvia Fauser
Angie Fischer
Peg Heitzman
Chris Higgins
Ingrid Hodshire
Lori Hopkins
Mary McGee
Terry Tipsword
Barbara Veskauf

