



# the Eagle Call

Volume 50, Number 07 | July 2018

## A Slow Unveiling

After seven months the plywood in the Sanctuary is coming down and the Christ window is finally returning! Two weeks ahead of schedule Glass Heritage set up their scaffolding and began the slow and meticulous process of installing the window. Assuming there are no delays the window will be complete and officially unveiled during the first week in our Season of Creation, the appropriately named Sky Sunday.

After the Christ window is done, Glass Heritage has additional work to do and will remain at St. John's throughout the remainder of the summer cleaning and repairing the majority of the stained glass. The entire project is scheduled to end just before Rally Sunday in September.

As the stained glass project is wrapping up, two other Capital Campaign projects are beginning. The team coordinating the Sanctuary Audio Project is researching vendors, and the HVAC Controls Project is expecting to receive bids in July. We hope to break ground on this project in late summer or early fall. If you have any questions on these projects or would like to make a contribution towards the Bless This House Capital Campaign please contact Scott LaBlanc at 515-243-7691 or [scottl@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:scottl@stjohnsdsm.org).

### Worship

#### Saturday

5:00 pm

#### Sunday

8:00 am  
10:00 am

#### Radio Broadcast

Praise 940 AM  
Sunday Mornings  
8:00 am

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The Eagle Call is published monthly by St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA 600 6th Ave, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1606.



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## A Word from Our Pastor

By Pastor Robert Speirs

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God – not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life. Ephesians 2:8-10*

“The best week ever” is the way that Lutheran Lakeside Bible Camp describes what it’s like to spend a week at the camp, especially during the summer. Having just come back from a week at Lutheran Lakeside, where five of our confirmation students and I spent the week at confirmation camp, I can’t disagree. Along with five or six other churches, their pastors and youth directors, and about 42 confirmation students, we had a marvelous week together. We were immersed in Bible study, worship, learning, camp games, boating, swimming, rock-wall climbing, campfires, talent show, meeting new friends and getting reacquainted with old friends.

This year the theme was “A Game Changer.” We focused on all the ways grace changes our hearts and minds, identities, relationships, perspectives, communities and life’s purpose as people of faith. A few Biblical stories that were shared and studied to shine God’s light on this topic were: The Walk to Emmaus, The Conversion of Saul, The Prodigal Son, Jesus healing of the Canaanite woman and several others.

During the pastors’ teaching time each morning, our young people attended classes on the “Habits of Faith.” These classes included sessions on forgiveness, prayer (using a prayer labyrinth), vocation (using the Myers-Briggs personality indicator), and Scripture for Life, which described different methods for reading and studying the Bible. Our students also had Bible studies within their cabin groups each day. It was good to be together and share our insights and experiences of faith and life.

As always, I want to say thank you to all our congregation members, who continue to support our youth in so many ways, not the least of which is prayerfully and financially. It is a vital ministry and one that offers great hope for the present and future of our congregation and church.

Here are some excerpts from the thank-you notes our confirmation students wrote to their friends and families of St. John’s:

*Thank you for letting me go to Lakeside Camp. This past week I have met a lot of people and made new friends. I learned how to cook outdoors and prepare some amazing food. I have had a ton of fun, played lots of games, and this experience has brought me closer to God. Thanks for sending me to camp. - Cooper Michael.*

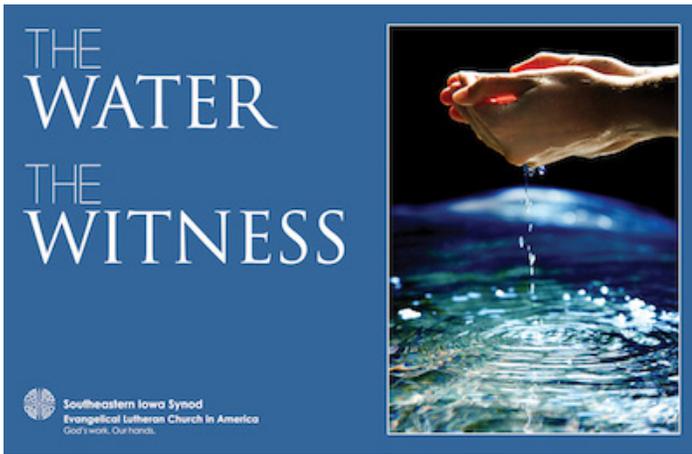
*Thank you for helping us go to camp at Lake Okoboji. I had a great week and made some nice friends. Thanks, St. John’s. - Jake Espeland*

*Thanks for helping me come to Lutheran Lakeside. I have had so much fun and have made many great friends. I love camp so very much that I want to become a counselor when I can. - Bethany Harapat*

*Thank you for your support for our confirmation camp. I have had a great week. I really enjoyed it. The food is amazing. Thank you again. - Lily Kitundu*

*Thank you so much for making it possible for us to go to camp. This week has been so much fun, and this was a great experience. It is really fun to hang out in your cabin with your friends. Bible study was also great. Thank you! - Rachel Hansen*

We have a wonderful, faithful and enthusiastic group of young people. Maggie Evans and I are looking forward to continuing to work with all of them when our confirmation program starts up again in the fall.



*Reflections*

## S.E. Iowa Synod Assembly

*By Sarah Thorn*

On May 18-19, I was honored to be one of St. John's lay representatives to the 2018 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly. Over 400 Lutherans gathered in Coralville for two days of prayer, songs of praise and thanksgiving, and to make decisions on matters before the assembly. The theme of The Water and the Witness threaded together learning, worship and work. Business before the gathering of clergy and lay members included leadership elections, changes to the Synod's governing structure, and resolutions to be forwarded to the 2019 National Assembly.

Following opening worship, Southeastern Iowa Synod Bishop Michael Burk gave his annual report. He spoke about the ways we share in The Water and the Witness. He reminded us that to witness is to share what we know. Just as water is essential to life, baptismal waters are essential to our life in Jesus Christ.

Mikka McCracken from ELCA World Hunger shared stories about people around the world struggling for access to drinkable water and basic sanitary facilities, things we take for granted. More people in the world have access to a cell phone than have access to a latrine, she said. We were reminded that Lutheran World Relief (LWR) assists people in need around the world, including the United States. Five Iowa-based projects were awarded LWR Domestic Hunger Grants this past year. I encourage you to watch the conference videos of McCracken presentations. Her energetic storytelling of faith and witness will inspire you.

Bishop Julian Gordy of the ELCA Southeastern Synod told of the visible role Lutherans have played in hurricane relief and recovery in that four-state synod. He conveyed thanks to us Midwestern Lutherans for coming to the region to help.

Videos from the Assembly are available on the Southeastern Iowa Synod website, <http://seiasynod.org/assembly/>.

The Synod Governance Proposal that was approved is the result of more than a year of discernment and conversations throughout the synod about the best possible changes for the future. Revisions to the Synod Council structure and the

creation of area subdivisions are designed to better reflect membership distribution. Modifications to the roles of Synod Deans and the addition of Conference Chaplains are also part of the changes. Details on the new structure can be found at <http://seiasynod.org/governance/>.

Three resolutions were adopted and will be forwarded to the 2019 National Synod Assembly. Resolutions approved include: 1) Memorializing the 50th anniversary of the Ordination of Women in 2020; 2) Peace Not Walls, which urges changes in U.S. foreign aid to protect children; and 3) Preventing Gun Violence.

Celebrations included the recognition of milestone anniversaries of ministry. This year Pastor Rachel Thorson Mithelman celebrates her 35th anniversary of ordination. Congratulations, Pastor Rachel!

The complete text of resolutions, election results and other information from the assembly are at <http://seiasynod.org/assembly/>.

## St. John's Foundation

*By Jacque Warming*

The St. John's Foundation held their annual meeting on Sunday, June 3.

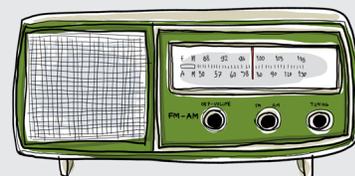
Denise Essman and Robert Miller chose to retire from the Foundation. The board thanks Denise and Robert for their many years of wonderful service to the Foundation. Two new members were elected to the board. We welcome Steve King and Larry Hedlin.

After the annual meeting, the board held a short meeting to elect new officers. They are:

- President - Jacque Warming
- Vice President - Richard Hansen
- Treasurer - Karen Andeweg
- Secretary - Jack Hilmes

The Foundation Board looks forward to working with the congregation and the Church Council for the betterment of St. John's.

St. John's weekly radio broadcast  
is on Praise 940 AM at  
8:00 am every Sunday morning



## Prepare for Worship

By Michael Elsbernd

### July 1 – Time after Pentecost – Lectionary 13

**Readings (semicontinuous):** 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43.

David grieves the deaths of King Saul and his close friend, Jonathan (King Saul's son), despite the numerous attempts Saul made on David's life. In our reading, Paul encourages the Corinthians to participate in the collection his churches are organizing for Christians in Jerusalem. He points to Jesus as an example of selfless stewardship and reminds the Corinthians that Christians have received abundantly so that they can share abundantly. In our gospel lesson from Mark, we witness the tremendous faith Jairus has in Jesus to heal his daughter. Through Jesus, we are made clean and restored to new life.

**Hymns:** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (733); "Healer of Our Every Ill" (612); "Go, My Children, With My Blessing" (543).

### July 8 – Season of Creation – Sky

**Readings:** Jeremiah 4:23-28; Psalm 19:1-6; Philippians 2:14-18; Mark 15:33-39.

We join our voices with the psalmist: "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). Amidst the desolation and despair described in the readings for Jeremiah and the account of Christ's death upon the cross in Mark's gospel, we hold fast to the solid and joyful assurances contained in Psalm 19.

**Hymns:** "Morning Has Broken" (556); "Sing Out, Earth and Skies" (reprinted from *Worship & Praise*); "Oh, Sing to God Above" (555).

### July 15 – Season of Creation – Humanity

**Readings:** Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8; Philippians 2:1-8; Mark 10:41-45.

Our reading from Genesis sets the stage for the theme of humanity. In the passage from Genesis, humankind, made in the image of God, share the task of being stewards of God's creation. Psalm 8 invites us to recognize and praise God, the sovereign ruler over all creation. Our passage from Philippians further suggests how we are to understand our relationship with God, our creator: "Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave ... he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross" (Philippians 2:58). Jesus' words in Mark's gospel make clear the requirements for greatness: "...but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all" (Mark 10:43-44).

Hymns: "God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens" (771); "For the Beauty of the Earth" (879); "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" (659).

### July 22 – Season of Creation – Mountain

**Readings:** Isaiah 65:17-25; Psalm 48:1-11; Romans 8:28-39; Mark 16:14-18.

"They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD" (Isaiah 65:25). This concluding verse from Isaiah appointed for today speaks of God's new creation where all will be at peace. In Romans, we hear the beautiful words of assurance that "...nothing else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 39). In Mark's gospel, Jesus appeared to the disciples and commanded them to "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation." (Mark 16:15).

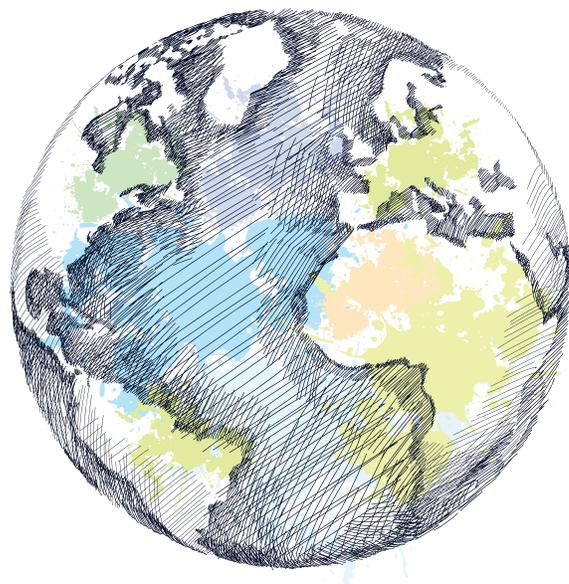
**Hymns:** "God, the Sculptor of the Mountains" (736); "Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil" (721); "You Shall Go Out With Joy" (reprinted from *Worship & Praise*).

### July 29 – Season of Creation – Earth

**Readings:** Genesis 1:1-25; Psalm 33:1-9; Romans 1:18-23; John 1:1-14.

We take a four-week break from the appointed lectionary texts in order to celebrate the Season of Creation: Earth, humanity, mountain and sky. Today, we lift up the theme of Earth. Beginning with the creation account in Genesis, Psalm 33 invites us to sing a hymn to God, our creator. Paul's letter to the Romans speaks about God's judgment upon sin, and in John's gospel we are reminded that God is the sole author of creation.

**Hymns:** "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" (836); "Touch the Earth Lightly" (739); "All Your Works of God, Bless the Lord" (*Music Sourcebook for ELW*).



## Small Groups

By Katie Tippins

**Celebrating Katy** will honor the hospitality of Katharina von Bora, Martin Luther's wife who was a famous home brewer, on Wednesday, July 11, at 7 p.m. at Peace Tree Brewing Co. (313 East Ct., Des Moines). To be added to the mailing list so you can receive regular information, send an email to [celebratingkaty@gmail.com](mailto:celebratingkaty@gmail.com).

**EAGLES** will meet Friday, July 13, at 11:30 a.m. at PerKup Cafe in Governor's Square on University Avenue in West Des Moines. Make Friday the 13th a lucky day! Please contact Margaret Townsend ([mtownsend1@mchsi.com](mailto:mtownsend1@mchsi.com) or 274-0962).

**Lunch Bunch I** will gather Thursday, July 19, at 11:30 a.m. This group meets the third Thursday of each month. The organizer for July is Marge Sexton-Randels; August coordinator is Blanca Hanson; September organizer is Sue Ging, and October coordinator is Mitzie McCloskey. If you have questions or are interested in joining, contact Mary Liechty ([hoganmary2@msn.com](mailto:hoganmary2@msn.com)).

**Lunch Bunch II** will meet Wednesday, July 18, at 12:30 p.m. If you are interested in joining this group, which meets the third Wednesday of each month, please contact Ann Moeller ([akase1957@msn.com](mailto:akase1957@msn.com) or 274-7339).

**Mah Jongg** will play the Mondays of July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 6 p.m. at Smokey Row Coffee. We'll meet on the patio if

weather permits. You will be notified if the site changes. If you have questions, contact Judy Latessa ([jlatesa125@gmail.com](mailto:jlatesa125@gmail.com)).

**Quilting** will not meet during July.

**St. John's Garden Club** will gather Tuesday, July 10, at 11 a.m. at the Des Moines Botanical Center Gardens (909 Robert D. Ray Dr., Des Moines). Our own Dennis Zaabel will guide us on a tour of the botanical center's outdoor garden, and then we will have lunch there at the Trellis Café. The outdoor gardens are constantly changing, so it will be fun to see what is blooming in July. Reservations are needed for lunch by Tuesday, July 3; email Mary Miller ([mmiller588@aol.com](mailto:mmiller588@aol.com)).

**Scrapbooking** is planning to meet Saturday, July 28.

**Recreational Book Club** is meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 22, 4:30 p.m. at Caribou Coffee on Ingersoll to pick the books for 2018-2019. Anyone welcome. With Questions, ontact Carol MacDonald [Caroljomac@gmail.com](mailto:Caroljomac@gmail.com) or 515-255-2656.

**WIRED Retreat Day** will be Sunday, Sept. 30, at Lake Aquabi State Park in Indianola. We will spend the afternoon exploring nature. More details to come.

**WIRED Cooking** is having an event on Aug. 22 at Karen Zaabel's home. More information coming. We would like to have the RSVP's to Carol Lunde [carolmlunde@q.com](mailto:carolmlunde@q.com) so we know how many and what people should bring.

# The Journey Through Grief

Six-Session Educational Grief Group

**Because Life After Loss Can Be Difficult.**

Just us to learn about grief, discover tools for dealing with loss, and develop a new support network.

Third Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm  
March - August 2018  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
600 6th Ave. in Des Moines

For Registration and Questions,  
Contact Anne Alesch  
[anne.alesch@unitypoint.org](mailto:anne.alesch@unitypoint.org)  
(515) 557-3169



**Learn.**



**Connect.**



**Grow.**



UnityPoint Hospice



## Youth Ministries

By Maggie Evans

### Summer Get-Togethers

Attention all 6th through 12th graders! We have a few summer gatherings scheduled!

Join us Monday, July 9, for a visit to the Iowa Historical Building as well as lunch and a leisurely stroll across the Principal River Walk and back to St. John's. We will meet at the Historical Building at 11:30 a.m. and be back at St. John's for pick-up by 3 p.m. Cost is \$6. Please RSVP by Thursday, July 5, to Maggie Evans.

A day at the ballpark is planned for Tuesday, Aug. 7! We will meet at St. John's at 11 a.m. and then walk to Principal Park to watch the I-Cubs take on the Las Vegas 51s. Tickets cost \$6. Please RSVP to Maggie by Wednesday, Aug. 1.

A pool and pizza party at Pastor Bob's house is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 21, from 3 to 6 p.m. RSVP by Wednesday, Aug. 15.

Please send all RSVPs and questions to Maggie Evans ([mevans@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:mevans@stjohnsdsm.org) or 515-822-4490).

## Children's Ministry

By Alicia Karwal

### VBS Day Camp 2018

During the week of July 16, you can expect to see and hear children gleefully running through the halls of St. John's as we host yet another year of anticipated Vacation Bible School (VBS) Day Camp fun! We will welcome three camp counselors from Lutheran Lakeside to lead our exciting week shared with friends new and old. The children will participate in games, songs, crafts, Bible study and more! We are also blessed with our very own St. John's volunteers as they share their gift of time and join in the fun! This summer our theme is "Jesus Is a Game Changer!"

### Host Families Needed!

We are still in need of host families for three VBS camp counselors from Sunday evening, July 15, through Friday morning, July 20. If you would be willing to host a counselor (or two) from Lutheran Lakeside, please contact Alicia Karwal ([akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org)) ASAP.

Also, if you could volunteer as a helper during VBS Day Camp on one or more of the days, contact Alicia ([akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org)). It is great fun!

Thank you for considering these opportunities!

### Important Upcoming Dates

- Sunday, Aug. 26, at 11:30 a.m.: Children's Ministries Volunteer Orientation
- Sunday, Sept. 9, at 8:45 a.m.: Rally Day for Sunday School
- Sunday, Sept. 16, at 8:45 a.m.: First Day of Sunday School

### Youth Service Trip Reminders

Our final Boundary Waters pre-trip meeting is Sunday, July 15, in DDI. The meeting will begin after the 10 a.m. service and will be finished by 1 p.m. We will go over the final schedule and packing tips and do some team-building. This meeting is required.

The Boundary Waters trip dates are Friday through the following Friday, July 20-27. Please arrive at St. John's by 4 p.m. on Friday, July 20.



## The Arts at St. John's

By Beth Ann Edwards

### Fine Arts Patron Party Set for Aug. 26

The annual Fine Arts Patron Party, hosted by the St. John's Arts Visioning Team will be held Sunday, Aug. 26, from 4 to 6 p.m. Mark your calendars for this annual event that celebrates our patrons, artists and musicians. Join us for food, entertainment and a preview of the 2018-19 program year. The event will take place at the Iowa State Bar Association headquarters at 625 East Court Ave. This newly renovated facility, built in 1902 as the Des Moines Western Railway Freight House, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

### Youth Vocal Choir at St. John's

A new vocal choir for Grades 7-12 began rehearsing during the 2017-18 program year. The choir has sung three times in worship and is scheduled to continue this next year. Rehearsals will take place this fall on Wednesdays at 7:40 p.m., and the choir will be directed by Beth Ann Edwards. All youth are welcome to participate. If you have questions, please contact Beth Ann ([bethann@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:bethann@stjohnsdsm.org)).

### Music & Worship Workshop Set for July 14

St. John's has been asked by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians (ALCM) to host a one-day workshop on Saturday, July 14. Local church musicians will register through ALCM and attend sessions on vocal performance, handbells in worship, arts programming and music-reading sessions.



### Gratitude from Des Moines Concert Handbells

The community handbell ensemble, Des Moines Concert Handbells, extends its thanks and gratitude to the St. John's community for its support this past year. The stability of a rehearsal space and equipment to borrow gave this community handbell choir the opportunity to focus on developing its identity and musical momentum. The ringers rehearsed and presented two concerts at St. John's, one in December and one in June. The choir also presented a concert at the Handbell Musicians of America Area 8 conference in June.

Plans have been made for the 2018-19 program year, and the Christmas concert is on the calendar for Friday, Dec. 14, at St. John's. For more information about performances or membership in the Des Moines Concert Handbells, contact Beth Ann Edwards ([bethann@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:bethann@stjohnsdsm.org)).

### Artist of the Month: St. John's Permanent Collection

Artwork from the St. John's permanent collection will be exhibited in Weertz Fellowship Hall during the months of July and August. Look for wildlife prints and other artwork that has been gifted to St. John's throughout the years.

### Thank you for your support and participation in the Bake Sale and Cookbook swap!



## Global Mission

By Phyllis Hanson

### Liberian Missionary to Visit

The Rev. Brian Palmer, our missionary we help support in Liberia, is coming to visit St. John's the weekend of Aug. 4-5. He will be preaching at all three services that weekend. After the 10 a.m. service we will have a potluck lunch with him in Weertz Fellowship Hall. Sloppy Joe sandwiches will be provided, but we are asking you to bring a side dish. Everyone is welcome, but we would like to have a count of how many Sloppy Joe sandwiches to make. So watch for a sign-up table in the Narthex by mid-July.



Did you know Liberia was the first African nation to proclaim its independence and is Africa's first and oldest modern republic? The Liberian constitution and flag are modeled after the U.S. constitution and flag. English is the official language, and 20 indigenous languages are also spoken there.

### Partnering with Zion Lutheran Church

Once again we are teaming up with Sherilyn Rittgers and the refugee program of Zion Lutheran Church in Des Moines to help with one of their summer activities. This summer we will be helping with the event on Friday, July 13, from noon to 2 p.m. at Douglas Terrace Apartments, 3120 Douglas Ave. In addition to providing lunch, Zion will be bringing a bouncy castle, clothes, arts and crafts, and games. This is a great opportunity to meet our neighbors and help Zion with this important outreach program.

They also need volunteers beginning at 10:30 a.m. at Zion, 4300 Beaver Ave., to help cut watermelons and cucumbers, pack up and bring to the site all party supplies. You can stay for all or part of the day. If you can't come but want to contribute an item, please bring it to Zion by 10 a.m. Friday, July 13. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to seeing you at the party.

If you would like to participate, there is a volunteer sign-up sheet at [signupgenius.com/go/9040f4eaaa92aa75-july](https://signupgenius.com/go/9040f4eaaa92aa75-july).

### School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

During June, July and August the St. John's Global Mission Ministry Team will be collecting school supplies to create school kits that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief (LWR). Children around the world are given the opportunity to get an education when they have the supplies needed to go to school.

You may contribute all or part of the school supplies at any time. They are placed in a 14 x17-inch drawstring backpack-style cloth bag with string straps. (These can often be found in Dollar stores.) If anyone would like to make these bags, directions are available on the LWR website or get the pattern from Phyllis Olson ([paolson@mchsi.com](mailto:paolson@mchsi.com)).

The following items are needed for each school kit:

- FOUR 70-sheet 8x10 ½-inch notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper (no loose leaf paper)
- ONE 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE pencil sharpener
- ONE pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE unsharpened No. 2 pencils with erasers
- FIVE black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- ONE 16- or 24-count box of crayons
- ONE 2½-inch eraser
- ONE sturdy drawstring backpack-style 14x17-inch cloth bag with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)

Please place items in the LWR collection boxes available in the Narthex and reception area. Thank you in advance for your contribution. St John's continues to be "In the WORLD for Good."



## LSI Update

by the staff of Lutheran Services in Iowa

As a social ministry organization of the ELCA, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) is so thankful for your partnership in ministry! Thanks to you, we're able to provide education for young parents and empowerment to some of Iowa's most vulnerable children and families. This month, we would like to give special thanks for those of you who have made LSI a focus of your congregation's "God's work. Our hands." project.

This project began in 2013, the 25th anniversary of the ELCA, as a day dedicated to doing service work alongside neighbors in communities across the country. On a chosen day in September, each congregation is encouraged to participate in a project for "God's work. Our hands." This is a perfect opportunity to do special projects and/or to raise money as a church body for a nonprofit like LSI.

We thank you for your witness of God's love and your service! If you are interested in supporting the Iowa children and families served by LSI and would like to know more about our current needs, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org).

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

### Striving Towards Her Highest Peak

Eight-year-old Kendale felt nervous and scared.

For years, she had struggled with lying, manipulating, and acting out violently toward her peers. Her family turned to residential treatment facilities across Iowa for help. But nothing worked. Kendale showed no signs of progress.

Her last hope was LSI's Beloit Residential Treatment Center in Ames, and she was anxious and didn't know anybody.

But as each day passed, Kendale began feeling more comfortable and open to LSI staff, especially Ashley, a Youth Associate at Beloit.

Ashley and the LSI team have been working with Kendale on communicating and building positive relationships, as well as developing healthy decision-making and anger management skills.

Kendale has a caring support system at Beloit. She has developed a routine and is surrounded by a passionate LSI team that makes her feel confident and empowered.

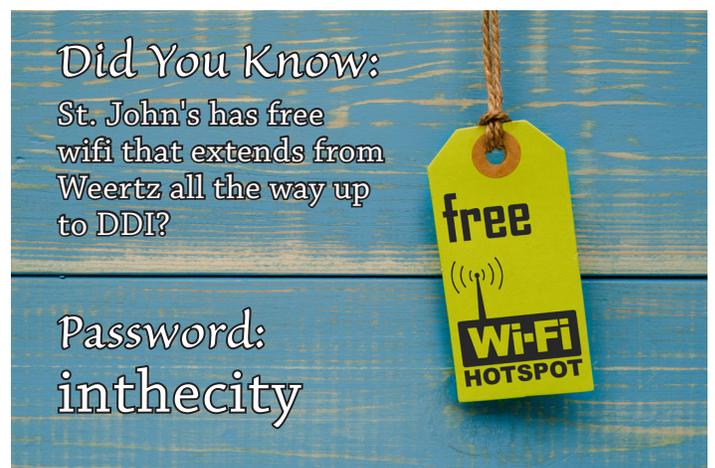
"It's beautiful to see Kendale blossom. She is a lovely little lady with an incredible imagination and a big heart," Ashley says. "I'm so proud of how far she has come and the joy she exudes every day."



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to DDI?

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((( )))  
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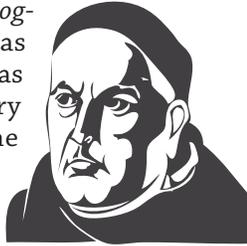
# Hospitality & Outreach

By Katie Tippins

## The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

I hope I'm not going too "Catholic" on you, but the other day while in the Chapel I again noticed the seven flames on the paraments. It jogged my memory back to my catechism days and our memorizing the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. That was many years ago, too many actually, but it started me thinking. Whatever happened to those gifts? Are they still applicable in our 21st century? Let's see what they are all about.

Below is a section from *Summa Theologica* written by Saint Thomas Aquinas from 1265-1274. Thomas Aquinas was definitely one of the good guys and very forward-thinking for his time. (The underlined words are my effort to make the language more acceptable for modern culture.) This was originally written as an instruction for beginners. Remember that few people were literate at that time; the elite ruled. So for Thomas to write this as instruction for the common folk illustrated his incredible heart and



mind. History has shown that all believers can learn from his enriching insight.

*"Human virtues perfect people insofar as we are naturally moved by reason in the things that one does within or without. Higher perfections must therefore be in people, by which we are disposed to be moved by God. And these perfections are called gifts, not only because they are infused by God, but also because by them, people are disposed and made more ready to be moved by the divine inspiration, as is said in Isaiah 50:5: 'The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I turned not backward.'"*

The document is very long and very detailed. Instead of turning it into a Reader's Digest Condensed Book, I plan on addressing each one of the Seven Gifts over the next few months. We'll look deeper into the words and their meanings to see how God is guiding us.

Just to peak your interest, the seven gifts are: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and fear of the Lord.

As coordinator of hospitality and outreach, I am available to discuss joining St. John's, volunteer opportunities and connecting you with like-minded people who have shared interests – whether they be service, social and/or spiritual. Contact Katie ([katiet@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:katiet@stjohnsdsm.org) or 243-7691).

# JULY 2018

## DONATION of the MONTH

## Culturally Appropriate Food



## Fresh Vegetables

onions, potatoes, carrots, zucchini, squash, kohlrabi, kale, beets, sweet potatoes, sweet corn, broccoli, cabbage, tomatoes, bell peppers, brussel sprouts, peas

bitter melon & leaves, chayote, opo squash, pumpkin leaves, taro, bamboo, lemon grass, bok choy, kabocha, ginger root, garlic, cucumbers, green beans





**ELCA Global Church Sponsorship**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 God's work. Our hands.

May 7, 2018

Dear People of St. John's,

We are thrilled to share with you that Amanda Speirs has been appointed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to serve as a volunteer in the ELCA Youth Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program! Amanda will serve in the United Kingdom for one year beginning in August.

The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program, for volunteers ranging in age from 21-29, provides young adults with a life-changing year-long journey in international mission service. Through this program, Amanda and 80 other volunteers will take part in work ranging from serving in companion churches, to teaching, to supporting social service ministries, to health and development projects.

And more significantly, as the volunteers walk alongside our companion churches and their host communities, they are transformed and informed, engaging in relationships of mutuality, interdependence, solidarity and trust. Through this year of service, they become more aware of the ways in which God is active all around the world and join in the work of peace and reconciliation that we have been called to do.

On average, the total annual cost to support one young adult in the program is \$15,000. This includes training and periodic retreats, roundtrip travel to and from the country of service, full room and board, a small monthly living allowance, and basic medical insurance. As part of accepting this invitation to serve as a YAGM volunteer, Amanda is responsible for raising a minimum of \$5,000 toward her year of service. The ELCA will help to offset the remaining amount needed for her support through additional generous gifts from other congregations and individuals. Any funds raised beyond the \$5,000 goal goes to support the future development and expansion of the Young Adults in Global Mission program.

We would like to invite your congregation to support Amanda in this coming year, and to life up this work as a ministry of your congregation! Through Amanda's service alongside our global companions, your congregation is able to extend its ministry to another part of the world and become a part of the mission of this church.

Please prayerfully consider financially supporting Amanda at the full \$5,000 fundraising amount and consider the ways in which you can also provide spiritual and personal support as all of the YAGM embark on this journey of service.

Thank for the ways that your congregation has supported Amanda Speirs thus far, and for the way you'll walk with Amanda in this call to global mission service. Your prayer, support, and encouragement are greatly appreciated.

- To give by check , make payable to St. John's with "Amanda - YAGM" in the memo line.
- To give by credit card online go to <https://community.elca.org/yagm/give>

Together in mission,

The Reverend Rafael Malpica Padilla  
 Executive Director  
 ELCA Global Mission

Andrew Steele  
 Director  
 ELCA Global Church Sponsorship

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## **Serving at Central Iowa Shelter & Services**

On the 18th and 19th of each month St. John's prepares and serves meals at the shelter. If you would like to help prepare, serve or donate to this wonderful ministry located in the heart of downtown Des Moines, please call 243.7691 or e-mail Katie at [katiet@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:katiet@stjohnsdsm.org).



## **EAGLE CALL DEADLINE**

The next deadline for all *Eagle Call* content is **noon on July 16**. Please send articles in digital format to Scott LaBlanc, [scottl@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:scottl@stjohnsdsm.org). If you are unable to send it by e-mail, drop it off at the church office.

Thank you!