



# the Eagle Call

Volume 51, Number 5 | May 2019

## The Easter Season Begins at St. John's

### **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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#### **Business Office Hours:**

Monday – Thursday  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Friday  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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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.



Easter Sunday is not an anniversary of a past event, but the celebration of Jesus' living presence in this world. As we enter the Easter Season here at St. John's we rejoice that we can participate in God's mission through joyful worship and lively witness to the Risen Lord!

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## A Word From Our Pastor

by Pastor Rachel Thorson Mithelman



The American Poet, Wendell Berry, has a poem that ends with the words “practice resurrection.” It’s a poem rich with images, challenging the hearer/reader to consider what really matters in this one, precious life we are given. These are a few lines from that poem, “Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front”:

*So, friends, every day do something  
that won't compute. Love the Lord.  
Love the World. Work for nothing...  
Love someone who does not deserve it...  
Plant sequoias...  
Be joyful though you have considered all the facts...*

### Practice resurrection.

In this Easter season, I invite you to “practice resurrection” in your daily lives; that is, live fearlessly, share all that you are and all that you have, take seriously Jesus’ words to the disciples, “As the Father has sent me, so I send you” by sharing your faith in word and deed. And, as a community of faith, we will “practice resurrection” together:

We will worship with joy and amazement, giving thanks to the Creator who is still at work in this beautiful, broken world, singing the faith in joy and sorrow.

We will pray without ceasing – for this beautiful earth, for the world and its leaders, for those caught up in the immigration and asylum seeking crisis everywhere, for those who struggle with addiction, for children who do not have safe and caring homes, as well as for the sick, the unemployed, the grieving and the lonely.

We will generously share all of our resources out of love for Christ – our time, our passion, our wealth, our unique skills, our creativity - with one another and neighbors of all ages.

We will continue feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and caring for the forgotten - passing a plate of food across the counter to another child of God at the Shelter, making quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief and continuing to support the ministry of DMARC, the Hunger Appeal of the ELCA and the congregation in the Anamosa State Penitentiary.

And we will continue to be a community that welcomes ALL even as those in positions of power demonize and degrade the “other.”

Because we have already been raised with Christ from death to life we are free to live with joyful abandon here and now. We have nothing to fear; so let us “practice resurrection” each and every day.



## Hospitality & Outreach

by Katie Tippins

### Urgent Patience

Sounds like an oxymoron, doesn't it? Wish I could say that I coined the phrase, but I didn't. It was created by Sister Joan Chittister an American Benedictine sister, theologian, author, and speaker.

Recently I read a section from one of her books *The Spirituality of Urgent Patience*. I certainly can't improve upon her thoughts and eloquence, but I can share them with you.

Sr. Joan is spiritually and psychologically connected to people – all people. She is unique. She doesn't judge, scold, nor condemn us for our foibles and failings. Instead, she gently advises and leads us to new ways of approaching and evaluating ourselves and our world.

She begins her reflection by declaring that life, according to Ecclesiastes, is about sowing, not about reaping. In our high-tech, pressure-filled world, in order to accomplish something or prove our worth, we need to effect change. She writes, "The function of each succeeding generation is not to demand change; it is to prepare for it. And therein lie both the struggle and the gift. The function of one generation is to make change possible for the next. The real function of each generation is to sow the seeds that will make a better world possible in the future."

Planting is a wearisome task whose nemesis is the need to succeed and be recognized. Sowing takes a long, long time and stresses the mind and soul. Those who sow must be prepared to never see the result of their efforts. Hope, faith and trust in God provides the strength and endurance to work for a goal entrusted to them by our Creator.

She quotes Rubem Alves, a Brazilian theologian, philosopher, educator, writer and one of the founders of liberation theology, "*Let us plant dates even though those who plant them will never eat them. We must live by the love of what we will never see.*"

There will be no festivals of honor, no global prizes. This is where "urgent patience" comes into play. Sowers work for God and strive for things that others don't even know are needed. They envisioned the end of slavery and equal rights for all before people were even saw the immorality and injustice of those practices. It is necessary that we sow the seeds of compassion, tolerance and acceptance. It is as necessary now as much as it was needed in the past. We don't seem to remember or learn very well.

The spiritual lives of those who toil in God's garden may experience discouragement and disappointment, but are compensated by perpetual hope and calm conviction.

Sr. Joan concludes, "*Sowers live in the mind of God and know it with surety that what is not good for everyone is not the will of God. They stand immersed in a consciousness of the essential frailty of the human condition but committed nevertheless to the*

*divine dream of humankind, knowing that if God wills it, then human beings are capable of it.*"

"Whoever is patient has great understanding ..." (Proverbs 14:29)

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up ..." (Galatians 6:9)

*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 or 243-7691).*

*The following letter is in response to the gift given to Free Indeed from the Bless This House Capital Campaign.*

### Thank you from Free Indeed

Dear Members and Friends of St. John's Lutheran Church:

You are amazing people! Your generous gift of \$10,000 to Free Indeed congregation within the Anamosa State Penitentiary is a gift of hope to people who live behind bars and often feel they are forgotten. Your gift is a gift of love that reminds them, they belong and are part of God's family. Your gift is a gift of grace that lets them know they are forgiven.

Especially at this time of year when we read the Passion Stories both from St. Luke's and St. John's Gospel we realize we all need forgiveness and live out of the reality of God's grace. Your gift of financial support to the congregation of Free Indeed makes it possible to proclaim that message to people who live within the reality of public shame because of their past. Your make it possible for them to hear the promise of new life in the words Jesus spoke from the cross, "*Today you shall be with me in Paradise.*"

We are coming upon two years since Pastor Jerry Collell was called as the pastor to Free Indeed. He is doing amazing things through the power of God's Spirit. He has so many stories of faith and hope to share.

Thank you for your support and your prayers. You are making a difference!

Respectfully Yours in God's Grace,  
Kathryn Franzenburg,  
Member of the Outside Council  
Free Indeed Congregation

# Prepare for Worship

By Michael Elsbernd

## May 5 – Third Sunday of Easter

**Readings:** Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19

The good news for us in today's gospel reading is that we can confidently run to Jesus despite our own unworthiness. Seeing Jesus at the shore, Peter runs eagerly to meet the risen savior. Having denied knowing Jesus during the events of Good Friday, Jesus still opens his grace-filled arms to Peter – and us. God's grace and love transforms each of us through the gifts of Baptism and Holy Communion. Strengthened by these gifts, Jesus calls us to share the good news and to "feed my lambs."

**Hymns:** "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing!" (389); "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore" (817); "Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen" (548)

**Cathedral Choir:** "Sing Unto God" from Judas Maccabaeus, G.F. Handel, accompanied by St. John's String Scholars

## May 12 – Fourth Sunday of Easter

**Readings:** Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30

Eternal life is the gift of the risen Christ. In the reading from Acts, we hear the story of the raising of Dorcas through the power of Peter's prayer. This same gift of eternal life is true for all baptized believers. With this assurance, we boldly acknowledge the psalmists words, "Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever" (Psalm 23).

**Hymns:** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!" (385); "Have No Fear, Little Flock" (764); "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" (789)

**Cathedral Choir:** "The Lord is My Shepherd" arr. Marian Dolan

## May 19 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

**Readings:** Acts 11:1-18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35

The glory of God is revealed to us through the lens of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. Having conquered death, the risen Christ makes all things new. This powerful act of love changes how we think of God's glory. John's gospel invites us to take a closer look at how the glory of God is revealed to humankind. Jesus' deep and abiding love for us shown by the washing of the disciples' feet illustrates to us the glory of God's kingdom. The glory of God is not revealed in a display of earthly power of nature. Rather, it is revealed in sacrificial love, even death on a cross for the sake of our redemption.

**Hymns:** "Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!" (377); "I Come With Joy" (482); "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" (656)

**Cathedral Choir:** "Blessed Be the God and Father," Samuel Sebastian Wesley

## May 26 – Sixth Sunday of Easter

**Readings:** Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5; John 14:23-29; John 5:1-9

The readings for the sixth Sunday of Easter include visions revealed to Peter and John. In the reading from Acts, Paul receives a vision that compels him to begin his ministry in Greece. John receives a vision, recorded in Revelation, that revealed a New Jerusalem, coming out of heaven. In this New Jerusalem, God's presence replaces the temple. In John's gospel, Jesus prepares his followers for the time of his departure, promising to send an Advocate – the Holy Spirit – who will strengthen and support them for their ministry.

**Hymns:** "God of Grace and God of Glory" (705); "Come Down, O Love Divine" (804); "Holy God, We Praise Your Name" (414)

**Cathedral Choir:** "The Earth Adorned," Waldemar Ahlén

MAY 2019

**DONATION**  
of the **MONTH**



**Beans**  
dried or canned

*Culturally  
Appropriate Food*



**Fava & Mung Beans**  
dried or canned

**DMARC**  
FOOD PANTRY NETWORK



Insert Picture

Every person connected to St. John's has a unique perspective and experience. As you find yourself at St. John's events or when you're with other members of St. John's consider sharing your perspective and your experience. Take a picture, capture the moment and send the image to [photos@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:photos@stjohnsdsm.org).

## Small Groups

By Amanda Landers-Each

**Mah Jongg:** Mah Jongg will be played Mondays, May 6, 13, and 20. Play begins in Neumann at 6 p.m. every Monday.

**Quilting:** All are welcome on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 308.

**Celebrating Katy:** May 2, Court Avenue Brewing Co.; June, Barn Town Brewing; July, Fox Brewing; and August, Iowa State Fair! This group celebrates Katharina von Bora, wife of Martin Luther and a home brewer herself. All dates are Thursdays at local breweries; all times are 7 p.m. If you have questions, contact Rod Snavelly ([celebratingkaty@gmail.com](mailto:celebratingkaty@gmail.com) or 515-494-3178). It's okay to text.

**Lunch Bunch II:** Wednesday, May 15 at 12:30 p.m. Lunch Bunch II meets the third Wednesday of each month. If you are interested in this group or require additional information please contact Ann Moeller ([akase1957@msn.com](mailto:akase1957@msn.com) or 515-277-7339). All are welcome!

**Lunch Bunch I:** Thursday, May 16th at 11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch I meets the third Thursday of each month. The coordinators are: May-Mary Liechty; June-Blanca Hanson; July-Barb Hyler; August-Mary Liechty; September-Sue Ging; October-Mitzie McCloskey. If you have questions regarding this group please contact Mary Liechty ([hoganmary2@msn.com](mailto:hoganmary2@msn.com)). All are welcome.

**EAGLES:** Thursday, May 9, Kansas City WWI Museum Trip. We will leave at 8 a.m., have an early lunch in Kansas City followed by the Museum tour. A dinner will be planned and a hotel stay in the Power and Light area that same evening.

On May 10, we'll visit the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art prior to heading home. For information regarding this group please contact Amanda at [alanderseach@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:alanderseach@stjohnsdsm.org) and/or 515-243-7691 ext. 335.

**Photography:** We will meet Sunday, May 19, following the 10 a.m. service. The topic will be "Big Look Small." Check your bulletins for additional details. With questions, contact Paul Meyer at [paulmeyer1954@gmail.com](mailto:paulmeyer1954@gmail.com).

**Recreational Book Club:** Will meet Wednesday, May 22 and discuss *Educated* by Tara Westover. All meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month and meet in Rose Holm at 4:30 unless other plans are made.

**Scrapbooking / Card Making:** Saturday, May, 25, 10-2, Room 8. All are welcome to join a fun working group for whatever time they like on the fourth Saturday of the month. Bring your project, supplies, and ideas to share with the group. Contact Delaine Marker with any questions at [gramsmkr@hotmail.com](mailto:gramsmkr@hotmail.com) or 515-238-0094.

**WIRED Yoga:** Thursdays through May. 30 from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. Cost is \$10 per class or \$60 for seven sessions. There are some yoga mats available, as well as chairs for those who don't want to use a mat. Those who have not attended a class may try it once at no cost. Scholarships are available. If you can attend or have questions, contact Corrine Lambert at [callingwisdom1@hotmail.com](mailto:callingwisdom1@hotmail.com). Not meeting on May 2.

*As Christian Involvement Coordinator, I am available to discuss all our small group opportunities and look forward to connecting and hearing your ideas! Contact Amanda ([alanderseach@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:alanderseach@stjohnsdsm.org) or 243-7691.*

Come One, Come All to the All Congregational Picnic!

Sunday, June 30th, 5:00 pm: Potluck, picnic and games!

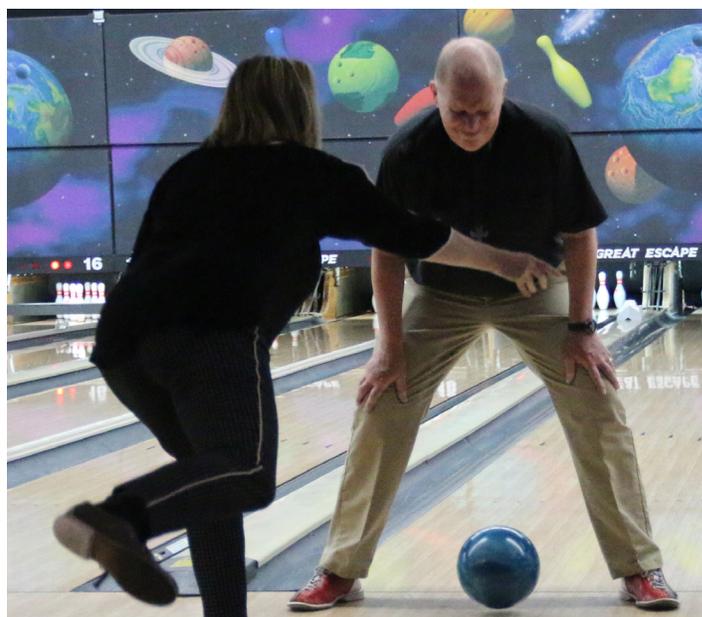
Location: Raccoon River Park on Grand Ave. (shelter B and C) in WDM. The Christian Involvement Team will provide pulled pork sandwiches, beverages and table service. We need a count to have enough food.

Please go to the St. John's website ([www.stjohnsdsm.org](http://www.stjohnsdsm.org)) to Event Registration. There is no charge, but goodwill donations are appreciated. Please bring a side dish to share. Games are being planned. Bring a lawn chair if you would like to watch the games and visit outside the picnic table area.

# Holy Week at St. John's



# Congregational Bowling Event





## Feasting in Mexico

by Terri Speirs

*Recently, our family enjoyed the good fortune of a vacation to Mexico City and another city two hours west, Puebla, where our daughter Amanda serves in the ELCA's Young Adult in Global Mission Program. The reason we share a brief travel log here is because St. John's has generously sponsored Amanda's service, in addition to two other previous YAGM volunteers, Christina Andeweg (Palestine) and Kelly Moeller (United Kingdom). Thank you.*

They spoke no English. We spoke no Spanish. Yet we together, a houseful of jolly fast talkers spent a solid six hours together eating, drinking, and laughing.

They were the host family. We were the visitors. Amanda was the translator, working tirelessly to translate bad jokes from both her dads (host and biological), yet in my estimation we probably caught 50 percent of one another's points. Somehow it didn't matter. Kindness is a language all its own. Add full bellies plus big hearts and actual words seemed even less important.

Tomatillos roasted on the stovetop. Charcoal grill fired on the patio. Beer chilled in the cooler. A ginormous bowl of fresh guacamole was prepared in front of our eyes by Adriana, the host mom. We were told that Mexicans don't usually eat avocados in this form as it is more of an American thing. We tried our level best to not instantly devour. "Honey, I think they're expecting more guests so we shouldn't eat all of it ourselves," Bob whispered to me. We wished you were there with us.

Yet in a big way you were absolutely there. You were there because you support youth ministry and, as a result, so many of our youth have incorporated service into their adult life. And you have now sent three daughters of the congregation into YAGM (Young Adults in Global Mission), a program of the ELCA that invites young adults ages 21-29 into "a transformative, year-long journey in international service. As they offer themselves in service, ELCA young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors." (More info here: [www.elca.org/yagm](http://www.elca.org/yagm))

With tremendous support from you, Amanda is one of 100 (or so) YAGMs worldwide, and 10 (or so) in Mexico. Annual assignments and host homes vary.

Amanda's host home is a middle class townhouse in Puebla, a city about the size of Minneapolis/St. Paul. The city is back-dropped by a glorious, snow-capped active volcano Popocatepetl, an Aztec word for "smoking mountain." It's called Popo for short and has been acting up lately. Google for photos and videos.

Host mother Adriana is a baker and host father Ramon is a hospital administrator. They are funny and warm people. We also met extended family and neighbors, who all tried to make us feel welcome even though we spoke barely a lick of Spanish.

Amanda's volunteer assignment is working as a teaching assistant in a lovely school for people with intellectual disabilities. We were grateful to visit the school – and again wished that you could have all been there with us. Other YAGMs are placed in other areas in Mexico – ranging from inner city Mexico City to remote rural highlands. YAGMs work with migrants, children, farmers, students and a broad cross section of ordinary people in Mexico. (You might be interested in seeing the YAGM Mexico Facebook page for more pictures about the program.)

If I wrote an alphabetical travel log for this trip, "A" would be for "altogether." It felt so good to simply be together. Even with volcanos, markets, pyramids, parks, museums, cafes, and architecture galore – the very best part was being together. There was one time when Aidan (our 19 year old son) had to take a separate Uber car, and it occurred to me how horrible it would be to become separated. It wasn't lost on me the irony of us flying to Mexico City for a glorious family time, welcomed with rich hospitality and goodness. I thought often of the US-Mexico border and all the people asking for help and the trauma of family separation.

Amanda's ease in shopping, cooking, talking, relating, and blending into the fabric of local life made Bob and I so proud and grateful. Her presence to us felt like a tiny but mighty bridge built over a metaphorical wall of tragic news stories.

Even with the glories of the country awaiting our discovery, we took a pretty chill approach to our trip. The monetary

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exchange rate worked in our favor so we could rent apartments big enough for all of us to be comfortable. Apartments also afforded us opportunities to cook, and cook for us Amanda did. We also found fun cafes and discovered that Uber Eats food delivery is common and thus ordered in as well. We mostly ate authentic Mexican food, with much help from our tour guide and private cook (aka Amanda). It was delicious and surprisingly light. There was one funny incident where Aidan ordered a pizza and it came topped with blueberries and whipped cream. We took a picture. Amanda said when you order pizza in Mexico you're never quite sure what you might get. She also said that she now easily chews a mouth full of meat and bones. "It's funny how you get used to things," she said. (I leaned into my vegetarian side.)

Gosh, there's so much more but I'll stop for here. Mostly, we wanted to extend our sincere gratitude for this community of St. John's who raises up children with love, so they may go forth in love into the world.

"*Mi casa es su casa,*" exclaimed Ramon, the host dad the day we feasted at their home in Puebla. That was the extent of Spanish we understood without translation. Our house is your house. It truly felt that way. You were there with us, dear St. John's friends.

## Youth Ministry

By Maggie Evans

### Graduate Recognition and Reception, Sunday, May 19

On Sunday, May 19, at the 10 a.m. service, we will recognize and celebrate our graduating seniors! In many ways you have all helped teach these students what it means to live a life of faith. Please share your continued support, prayers and good wishes by joining us for the graduation recognition service and cake reception.

### High School Night

Take a break from studying and join us for our last High School Night of the year on Sunday, May 19. We will be mini-golfing! We will depart from St. John's at 6 p.m. and return to St. John's at 8 p.m. Please RSVP to Maggie by Sunday, May 12.

### Save the Date!

End of Year Youth Ministry Celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5. All students in Grades 6-12, and their families, are invited to Pastor Bob's house on Wednesday, June 5, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. for an end-of-year celebration. We will have dinner, lawn games and a chance to simply sit around and socialize. If the weather allows, the pool will be open for business. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. RSVP is appreciated.

## LSI Update

by the Staff at Lutheran Service in Iowa

### Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate the strong, loving women in your life. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we see thousands of Iowa moms through their journey to build the brightest future for their children.



We see moms turning to LSI's Mental Health or Behavioral Health Intervention Services to ensure their child is receiving the coping skills and behavioral supports they need to thrive. In our Early Childhood Services, we see first-time moms who are eager to join our parenting education classes and support groups. In 2018, LSI's Early Childhood programs provided support to 1,158 parents of young children. We are so inspired to hear their stories and see their hard work pay off as they raise our next generation.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember how many Iowa moms are being empowered because of your support. If you are looking for a way to honor your mother this year, please consider giving a gift in her name at [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org).

Thank you for standing alongside Iowa families.

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 [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### It's Worth Every Second

Nova and Brian always knew they wanted to become foster parents. With their two oldest daughters growing up and entering high school, they decided to take the leap and open up their home to more children in need. Over the course of four years, they have successfully fostered 16 children and adopted four into their forever family.

Through LSI Foster Care and Adoption, the couple has wrapped their arms around sibling groups in need of a home where they can stay together, and the family is also a Cherokee Nation foster home, keeping children connected to their culture and heritage.

Nova encourages more Iowa families to consider foster care, as every child deserves and needs a safe space, regardless of how long that child may stay in your home.

"Foster care in Iowa is such a needed thing, and it's important to extend grace to parents of children in foster care and give them a chance to grow and heal," she says. "There aren't a whole lot of accolades for foster parenting, but it's worth it. It's worth the heartache, and it's worth the love and the smiles you see from these kids."

# The Arts at St. John's

By Beth Ann Edwards

## Peggy Leonardo - Artist of the Month

Peggy's quilts express her love of fabrics found at estate sales and antique stores. Thoughtful friends have also gifted her with fabric treasures. She enjoys the challenge of making do with what she has on hand when she conceives a project. Twentieth century art and memories from her childhood inspire her color choices. When she quilts a piece she chooses the irregularities of hand-quilting. Her goal is to combine objects of the past with the aesthetic of the present.



Peggy came to Des Moines to attend Drake University and never left. At Drake she earned a BFA in art education and an MFA in printmaking. She taught at the Des Moines Art Center from 1976 to 1988, then joined the Education staff, retiring in 2012 as Studio Programs Director.

Her love of fabrics is a life-long passion, beginning as a child with making clothes for her doll.

In retirement, she has time to devote to her art practice on a regular basis.

## Heirloom Vegetables and Herbs for Sale

Seed saver vegetables and herbs have been grown from seed and are a new addition to the Plant Sale Fund-Raiser! High school youth gathered in April to help Mike Elsbernd sow seeds and transplant seedlings. Plants have been sprouting in Mike's office for the past few weeks and will be ready to transplant in your garden. The sale starts in the north parking lot on Saturday, May 4, at 8:30 a.m. (when bedding plant orders will be ready for pick-up). When you pick up your bedding plants, plan to purchase your garden veggies at St. John's. Plant lists are available throughout the narthex and office area. Please pay for vegetables and herbs when you pick them up. All veggie and herb plants are \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.



### Vegetables

Japanese Climbing Cucumber, Listada de Gandia Eggplant, Spicy Greens Lettuce Mix, Arugula, Jalapeno (Traveler Strain), Ralph Thompson's Squash, King of the North Sweet

Pepper, America Spinach, Black Beauty Zucchini, Igleheart Yellow Cherry Tomato, Martino's Roma Tomato, Brandywine Sudduth's Strain Tomato

### Herbs & Flowers

Genovese Basil, Cilantro, Rosemary, Parsley, Greek Oregano, Green Culinary Sage, Starfire Signet Marigold, Benary's Giant Zinnia, Red Milkweed

## Bedding Plant Flowers Available for Pick-up May 4

Pre-ordered bedding plants will be delivered and available for pick-up on Saturday, May 4, from 8:30 a.m. until noon, in the north parking lot. Extra plants have been ordered and may be purchased on Saturday and Sunday, May 4 and 5.

## Sunday, May 5, String Scholars Pop-Up Concert and Reception

The String Scholars will close out their 2018-19 Season with a pop-up concert at 11:15 a.m., following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The quartet will perform "Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us;" "The Gift of Love;" and "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" all arranged by Steve Dunn. They will accompany Cathedral Choir at the 10:00 a.m. service on an arrangement of a chorus from Handel's "Judas Maccabeus" called "Sing Unto God."

The four string musicians, Adrienne Stratton (violin), Katlyn Schulz (violin), Vaughn Hommerding (viola), and David Ryu (cello) are seniors at Drake University, and will graduate in May. A reception in the Fireside Lounge will follow the performance.

## Save the Dates!

### Friday, June 7, 7:00 p.m., Des Moines Concert Handbells in concert at St. John's

The DMCH ringers will present a concert of "Suites and Fantasies" at their second annual spring concert. Included are Gustav Holst's Second Suite in F, Sondra Tucker's arrangement of English Folk Song Suite, and original and transcribed fantasies arranged for handbells and additional instruments. There is no charge for this concert. A reception will follow the concert, and a free-will offering will be gathered. For more information about DMCH and this concert, please contact Beth Ann Edwards ([bethann@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:bethann@stjohnsdsm.org)).

### Sunday, August 18, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Arts Patron Party

Please join the Arts Visioning Team as we show our appreciation of the St. John's Arts patrons, supporters, and musicians and artists. More details to follow!

## Midweek Music Series

The Midweek Music Series showcases three performances in May. The final Midweek Music Series performance on Wednesday, May 15, features the Foxtrot Hotshots with John Benoit. The Hotshots were scheduled earlier in the year

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but had to cancel because of extreme weather conditions. Please join us as they close the program year in true New Orleans jazz style! All concerts begin at 12:05 p.m. in the Sanctuary and are free and open to the public. A light lunch, priced at \$6 per person, is served at 12:35 p.m. following the performance. Thank you for your patronage and support of this series. The 2019-20 Midweek Music Series schedule will be announced this summer.

- **May 1** - Amadeus Trio (Joyce Wheeler, clarinet; Janean Schaefer Denhart, bassoon; Sue Odem, oboe)
- **May 8** - Cristina Deeds, French horn; Michael Elsbernd, piano
- **May 15** - John Benoit and the Foxtrot Hotshots



### Summer Midweek Music Series Announced

In coordination with Simpson College's graduate program in choral conducting, St. John's Arts is offering three Midweek Music Series performances this summer: June 26, July 10, and July 24. Performances will be led by graduate choral conducting students. Each 30-minute recital will begin at 12:05 .pm., and a light lunch, priced at \$6 per person, will be served following the performance. There is no charge and all are welcome.

## Children's Ministry

*By Alicia Karwal*

### THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers that make our Wednesday and Sunday programming what it is! The continual love and guidance that you provide our children is a timeless gift. I share my gratitude for the families that have made faith education a priority for their children. It is through YOU that our children begin their faith journey. Thank you for your ongoing support!

### Service Project

Children are invited to continue bring in donations for our service project Uniforms for Tanzania through the end of May! We are greatly appreciative of your continued support in providing uniforms so that our brothers and sisters in Tanzania can receive the greater gift of an education. Additionally, an anonymous donor has agreed to match donations

that the children bring in throughout the coming weeks! We are so grateful!

### VBS at St. John's

A Lutheran Lakeside VBS Day Camp will be held at St. John's Monday, July 29-Thursday, Aug. 1 from 8:30-2:30 for all children entering kindergarten through sixth grade. Registration is now open! Please feel free to invite friends as well, and be sure to have them register. Registration forms have been emailed and continue to be available through Alicia Karwal ([akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org)). There will be a \$15 registration fee per child, not to exceed \$30 per family. You may pay your registration fee online via the St. John's website at any time. Scholarships are also available.

### Volunteers and Host Families Needed!

We are in need of volunteers for Vacation Bible School at St. John's this summer! Volunteer hours each day would be from approximately 8:15-2:30. It promises to be a fun-filled adventure in faith and fellowship! A volunteer orientation will be held on Sunday, July 28 at 5:30 p.m.

We are also in need of families to graciously host one or more of the camp counselors from Lutheran Lakeside Sunday evening, July 28 through Friday morning, August 2. We will likely welcome three camp counselors to St. John's for our day camp. For more information on hosting a camp counselor, please contact Alicia at [akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org](mailto:akarwal@stjohnsdsm.org).



*photos from VBS 2018 by Jacque Warming*

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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 May 20**. 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!