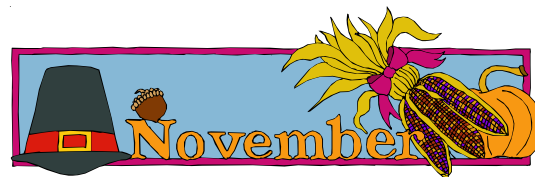


ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2881 DIVISION ROAD  
JACKSON, WI 53037  
262-677-3176  
e-mail: officestjohns@nconnect.net



Dear Friends and Fellow Members of St. John's:

*God is good, all the time!* is a claim we make on the basis of trust (faith) and experience. We find God to be reliable and good. The bible shows that to be true time and time again. Yet this truth needs to be told over and over. Why? Many folks don't believe it, because no one has shared that truth with them in a credible way. Some doubt it because life is difficult. They figure, "If God is so good, why am I so miserable?" And sometimes people like us simply forget. When we seem to be managing things ourselves, we tend to forget. When life is good, we tend to forget. A verse from Romans 8:28 that both reassures and challenges us is: "We know that God works for good in all things, for those who love God." Believe it! Imagine it! Depend on it! And invite others to know this, too: *God is good, all the time!* -Pastor Paul

#### THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP 9:00AM

We, who have SO much to be thankful for, can do nothing better on that day than to start with prayer, praise, and thanksgiving! You'll still have time to get to those family gatherings. As always invite a friend, neighbor, or relative.



#### CORE VALUES...WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

You said in our Renewal conversations that our core values at St. John's are: 1. *Worship and praise of God* 2. *Everyone matters* 3. *Christian Education* 4. *Stewardship*. How will we keep those things the main things? Under *Stewardship* and *Everyone Matters*, council is exploring the idea of becoming a host congregation for "Family Promise", a new faith initiative in Washington County to house homeless families in our church building for a week at a time. Twelve area churches are already on board. If you'd like to volunteer, speak with Laura Bartelt or Pastor.

#### NEW MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

On the first Sunday in December we'll welcome new members into the life of this congregation. If you are new, or have been hanging around for awhile, and choose to take this step, come to an *Orientation for New Members* on Tuesday, Dec. 1 or Thursday, Dec. 3 at 7:00. You're also welcome before then at our Thursday evening Adult Inquirers' Class which meets through November.

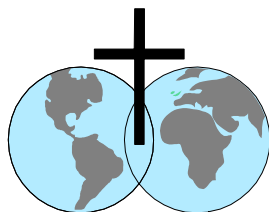


#### A SINCERE WORD OF THANKS FROM TANZANIA

"Many greetings from Meru in the name of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Thank you so much for sending us the relief funds to purchase more food for our people. Kindly help us to thank all the congregations that day and night are thinking of us and are sharing their bread with us. If it was not because of the love of the people of God in Milwaukee, Meru could have been a very difficult place. We thank God for making the Love of Christ a reality in feeding the needy and the hungry. We have nothing to give you in return but to pray for you. Peace of Christ be with you."

Rev. Abdiel Ndosoi, General Secretary - Meru Diocese

We'll designate our Thanksgiving Day offering for continued Hunger Relief in the Meru Diocese, since the next hoped-for harvest is still 8 months away!



#### THE FOOD DRIVE STARTS NOV. 1!

Bring your non-perishable food items between now and November 23, and we'll help others thrive, and not just survive! Suggested donations: canned vegetables, fruits, soups, pasta, rice, baby food and baby items, cake mixes, cereal, etc. There's a contest between the congregation and the Sunday School! Who will be the big winners? Watch for weekly totals and a final tally November 29!



#### NOVEMBER 7-8 IS THANKOFFERING WEEKEND

What is a Thankoffering? These are the offerings that the women (and men) of the church have been collecting during the year. Many women use their Thankoffering boxes for daily offerings for the many blessings God has given them! Envelopes are also available for your offering as you reflect back on the year and what God has done for you! Bring your Thankofferings to any service on November 7-8. Extra Thankoffering boxes and envelopes are available in the Gathering Space.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Come, see our Christmas Program on Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2:00pm with refreshments following. Parts will be handed out in Sunday School classes. Please check with your teacher if you want a part. Individual instrumental or vocal performances are welcome. Contact Carey Cameron (677-9604) or Keri Kraus (677-8958) to sign up or volunteer to help out!



**UPDATES:** General Fund had decent income in September but still came up \$4,000 short because of some larger expenses. We have November and December to catch up! ELCA Benevolence gifts came to \$791. Building Fund received \$7233 towards our monthly loan payment of \$7382. Thanks for doing your part with what you have!

#### NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW!

- + 'NEW KITCHEN' COMMITTEE forming. Want to be a part of it? Talk to Laura Bartelt!
- + MT. MERU COFFEE PROJECT AMBASSADOR needed! Talk to Laura Bartelt!
- + The 'GIVING TREE' is coming soon! Watch for it in the Gathering Space!
- + Fill our 'WINTER WARMTH' TREE with hats, scarves, mittens & gloves!
- + CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE, Sat./Sun., Dec. 12-13. Donations of baked goods welcome!
- + SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM, Sun. Dec. 13, 2:00pm;
- + CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, Thursday, Dec. 24, 3:00, 5:00 & 7:00pm
- + CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES, Friday, Dec. 25, 9:45am