

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

August 2026

“God’s Love in Action”

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
200 South Main Street
Charles City, IA 50616-2751
Phone: 641-228-3397

Website: www.stjohncharlescity.org



Find & like us on Facebook!

Subscribe to the E-Skinny by
emailing
office@stjohncharlescity.com

Worship service broadcasted on
KCHA FM 95.9 at
9:00 a.m. on Sunday

Office Secretary:

Tara Dean

office@stjohncharlescity.com

Office Hours: M-Th 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
& 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Fridays 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 1:00
p.m.-3:00 p.m.

Business Manager:

Tonia Olsen

businessmanager@stjohncharlescity.com

Music Director:

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Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:

Whitney Howe

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Custodian:

Jamie Carolan

jcarolan@stjohncharlescity.com

A Message from the Church Council President

As we enter August, we also get ready to enter a new transition as a congregation. The members of the Call Committee are finalized and have been presented to the congregation for approval. They will then begin their job of finding a good fit for our congregation. Even if you are not on the Call Committee, there will be tasks for congregation members to assist with. Everyone's input is important during the process of calling a new pastor. In order to help represent our mission and congregational goals, it has been advised to create a video to showcase and represent our congregation. We will be reaching out to interested members to help with this project as well. The Call Committee includes Al Brandau, Brent Hinz, Lisa Kreger, Brandi Lantz, Devony O'Brien, Katherine Ortmyer, and Kim Watkins.

The Transition Team is also actively scheduling pastors, lay pastors, and other events to fill the weekly service requirements. It is the goal to continue to have communion twice a month, but that will be dependent on the availability of supply pastors. We currently have almost all Sundays through the end of December covered. The Transition Team has a variety of sources at their disposal and will be working hard to meet the needs of the congregation during our time without a pastor. If you have any ideas for events or messages during the sermon times, please reach out to the Transition Team members: Tara Dean, Alison Petit, Whitney Howe, Melanie Johanningmeier, Kathy Crooks, Monte Waldorf, Becky Meyer, and Michelle Sweet.

Call Process in the Northeastern Iowa Synod

To many it feels like an uncertain time.

To others it is a source of anxiety.

Fear not! The synod staff is walking with you.

Here is what you can expect in this transition

- The synod staff will work with church council(s) to find supply pastors to serve your ministry needs. When available, an interim pastor may be recommended to the council to help in the transition.
- A call committee will be established according to the guidelines of your constitution.
- The call committee will compile a Ministry Site Profile with the help of the congregation and submit it through the ELCA system.
- The call committee will meet with a member of the synod staff and receive coaching on how to develop an effective interview process.
- The call committee will receive the names of pastors interested in your call from synod staff.
- The call committee will choose who to interview, will check references, and try to view sermons and worship services of candidates.
- After the call committee has voted to recommend a candidate to the congregation council(s), it will meet with the council(s) to share information about the recommended pastor.
- The executive committee or full council(s) will meet and speak with the candidate and will discuss compensation and benefits with the nominee.
- If the council votes to recommend the candidate to the congregation, the council will call a congregational meeting for the purpose of issuing a call.
- The congregation council will formally recommend that the congregation call the candidate to be your pastor.
- Members of the congregation will be given information about the nominee ahead of time, as appropriate.
- A congregational call vote takes place according to your constitution. Two secret ballot votes are held: one to approve the call of the pastor, and one to approve the compensation package.
- If the congregation approves the call and compensation by the necessary margins, a Letter of Call and Compensation Sheet are signed by the council president(s) and secretary(s) and forwarded to the bishop for signature. These forms are then sent on to the pastor.
- The candidate for call has 30 days to accept or decline the call.
- If the nominee accepts the call, an installation date is set. If the candidate declines the call, the call committee goes back to work with the synod staff to receive additional candidates.
- The call process officially ends after the pastor is installed.

Of Note...

THANK YOU TO THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS BOARD AS WELL AS THE SAVE THE BELL COMMITTEE FOR AN EXCELLENT JOB OF COMPLETING THE SAVE THE BELL PROJECT! NOW ALL WHO VISIT ST. JOHN CAN ENJOY SEEING THIS AMAZING PIECE OF ST. JOHN HISTORY AND LEARN ABOUT IT.



**STEPHEN
MINISTRY**

Life can be difficult, but you don't have to go through it alone. Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who provide one-on-one, confidential, Christ-centered support during life's challenges. Whether you're experiencing grief, illness, or another hardship, a Stephen Minister can walk alongside you with care and prayer. If you or someone you know could use a listening ear and spiritual encouragement, contact Linda Johnson.

Blessing of the Backpacks

August 23rd

Bring your backpack to church
for a blessing during worship



CARD MINISTRY

CARING MINISTRIES IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO WRITE OUT CARDS FOR THE CARD MINISTRY. ALL SUPPLIES AND POSTAGE ARE PROVIDED. CONTACT JODI REETZ AT 641-330-4119.

Are you a Thrivent Member?

If so, there are several ways your membership can benefit St. John. Whether it is designating Thrivent Choice Dollars, signing up for an Action Team Event, or making Thrivent Cause Kits, you can make a difference. For more information, contact Diane Sande at 319-389-2981 or Becky Meyer at 641-330-3948.



The flyer has a dark background with several red chrysanthemum flowers and green leaves. In the center is a piece of light-colored, textured paper with a torn edge. On this paper, the text "Wine & Word" is written in a large, dark brown, cursive font. Below it, "Women's Bible Study" is written in a smaller, dark brown, cursive font. In the center of the paper is a small illustration of an open book with a yellow ribbon bookmark. Below the book, the text "Next Meeting: August 11th @ 5:30pm" is written in a dark brown, cursive font. Below that, "Join us as we work through the Abide Bible Course" is written in a smaller, dark brown, cursive font. At the bottom of the paper, "Meeting at Brenda Bailey's House" is written in a dark brown, cursive font. Below this, in a smaller, dark brown, sans-serif font, is the text "Questions? Need Brenda's address? Contact Whitney Howe by emailing yfcoordinator@stjohncharlescity.com". To the right of the paper, there is a white silhouette of a woman's head and shoulders, facing left.

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

August 2026

Youth Summer Activities

After School Program

Starting August 3rd you can register online for the After School Program this fall. There will also be paper forms in the office. This program is for those entering Kindergarten-5th grade.

Confirmation

On August 3rd, registration will open online and paper forms will be available in the office. Our Confirmation program is for those entering 7th-9th grade.

High School Youth Group

Registration for High School Youth Group will open on August 3rd. We are looking forward to another great year!



Blessing of the Backpacks

Blessing of the Backpacks will take place on August 23rd. We invite kids, teachers, and anyone else who would like their backpacks blessed to bring their bags to the Worship service.

Volunteers

There are many opportunities to help serve our youth programs this fall. You can sign up online starting August 3rd or contact Whitney Howe for more details.

Orientations

We have two orientations coming up:

September 20th

Sunday School Teacher Orientation

September 23rd

Confirmation Orientation

Youth Information

2027 ELCA
YOUTH GATHERING

**IMAGINE
more**

MYLE, THE TABLE,
& YOUNG ADULTS

Youth & Parents Meeting

8TH-12TH GRADE

Following Worship on August 16th

A chance to learn about the
2027 ELCA Youth Gathering.

Sunday School Registration



After School Program Registration

Confirmation Registration



High School Youth Group Registration

People's Page...

August anniversaries of our members who have been married 50 years or more!

Lynn and Jane Thronson 8/4/1973
Stanley and Karmen Mehmen 8/13/1976
Bruce and Carol Hovden 8/17/1974
John and Jean Rima 8/23/1969
William and Kathy Jacobs 8/30/1974
Dennis and Diane Niezwaag 8/30/1975

Memorials were given in memory of...

Margaret "Maggie" Schultz: Russell & Betty Ball, Sharon Aringdale



August birthdays of our members who are 80 & older!

8/15 Gary Girkin
8/18 William Hollar
8/19 Doris Lovejoy
8/21 Lenis Buseman
Dianne Cross
8/27 Shirley Regel
Harlan Reints
8/28 Rosalie Pieper
8/29 Arlene Hollar
8/30 John Marth
8/31 Helen Hagen
Diann Jacobson



Celebration of Baptism!

Reed Hunter Ortmayer	July 5, 2026
Bellamy Kenneth Howe	July 12, 2026
Simon Ray Page	July 19, 2026



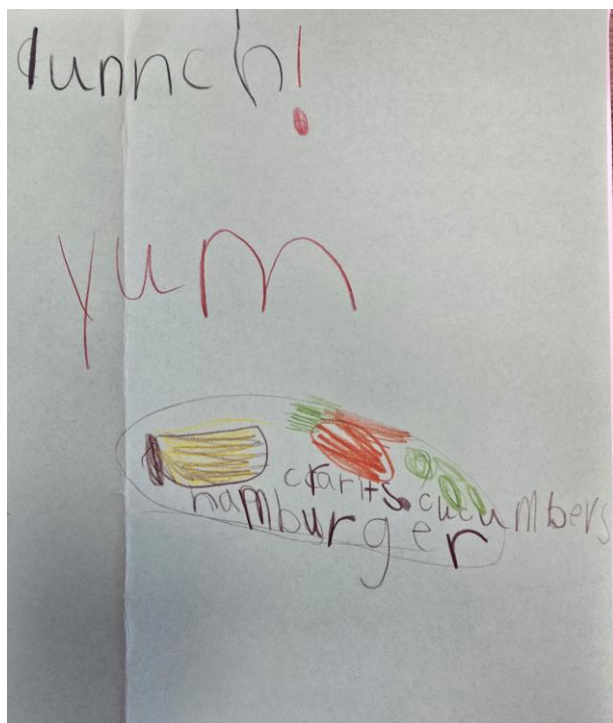
Kathy Crooks & Kitchen Staff.

Thank you for a wonderful "Picnic" for my grandpa, Jack Tynan. There were many compliments! We are very grateful for you all taking the lead and taking a huge weight off of our shoulders.

Thank you for the support & many prayers. Our family greatly appreciate it.

many Blessings
Chris & Jessica Hoeft
and
Tynan Family

Thank you
for the
Cooks for
the delicious
meal for
VBS
LOVE



St. John Family,

Thank you all for your prayers
and thoughts while my grandpa,
Jack Tynan, was on the prayer
list. This has been a very
difficult time but it has been
very comforting knowing prayers
were being sent.

Thank you +
+ God Bless +
Chris & Jessica Hoeft
+
Tynan Family

AUGUST 2026 AT A GLANCE

Event Schedule

8/2/2026	9:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Communion
8/5/2026	9:00 a.m.	Do-Day Quilters
8/9/2026	9:00 a.m.	Worship
8/11/2026	5:30 p.m.	Wine and Word
8/16/2026	9:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Communion
	10:15 a.m.	2027 Youth Gathering Parent/Youth Meeting
8/19/2026	9:00 a.m.	Do-Day Quilters
	4:00 p.m.	Newsletter Deadline
	6:00 p.m.	Safety Committee
8/23/2026	9:00 a.m.	Worship
		Blessing of the Backpacks
8/30/2026	9:00 a.m.	Worship



Board Meetings

Parish Ed.	8/2/2026	10:15 a.m.
Building & Grounds	8/4/2026	5:00 p.m.
Deacons	8/9/2026	10:15 a.m.
Finance	8/11/2026	5:00 p.m.
Church Council	8/11/2026	6:00 p.m.
Stewardship	7/21/2026	5:30 p.m.
Caring Ministries	8/19/2026	4:30 p.m.
Youth & Family		

August Acolytes

8/2/2026	
8/9/2026	Graham Hansen Charley Sweet
8/16/2026	Graham Hansen Charley Sweet
8/23/2026	Graham Hansen Hazel Hansen
8/30/2026	Graham Hansen Hazel Hansen



August 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2 Worship w/Communion Parish Ed Board 10:15AM	3	4 Building & Grounds Board 5:00PM	5 Do-Day Quilters 9:00 AM	6	7	8
9 Worship Deacon Board 10:15AM	10	11 Finance Board 5:00PM Wine & Word 5:30PM Council Meeting 6PM	12	13	14	15
16 Worship w/Communion 2027 Youth Gathering Parent/Youth Meeting 10:15AM	17	18 Stewardship Board 5:30PM	19 Do-Day Quilters 9:00 AM Newsletter Deadline Caring Ministries Board 4:30PM Safety Committee 6:00PM	20	21	22
23 Worship Blessing of the Backpacks	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Notes				

August 2026 Birthdays & Anniversaries...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Khloe Kubik
2 Elijah Lumley Anniversary: Kent and Lorie Hoefft	3 Anniversary: Lynn and Jane Thronson	4 Alesia Garden Alvyia Vance Anniversaries: Rod and Mary Norland Scott and Jeanna Hansen	5 Laila Northrop	6 Vicki Hoffman Linda Klamesrud Anniversary: Kurt and Kathy Hoefft	7 Ali Blickenderfer Barbara Fuls Ann Pritchard Anniversary: Dennis and Gloria Carr	8
9 Anniversary: Dennis and Becky Kregar	10 Gloria Frerichs Anniversary: Dave and Lorna Scrimger Rod and Angie Tudor	11 Katie Hammond	12 Daniel Caffrey Janet Petefish Laura Walker Anniversary: Stanley and Karmen Mehmen	13 Karen Hagarty Anniversary: Terry and Becky Meyer	14 Gary Girklin	15
16 Tim LaBarge	17 Katherine Pritchard Anniversary: Bruce and Carol Hovden	18 William Hollar Anniversary: Devon and Sarah Murray	19 Kyle LaBarge Mary Mooberry	20 Anniversaries: Josh and Amanda Keyes Bruce and Viva Boerschel Sandra Hicks Anniversary: Marcus and Jody Faldet	21 Lenis Buseman Diane Cross Chris Garden Anniversary: Marcos and Jody Faldet	22
23 Karol Carpenter Whitney Howe Jennifer Van Ausdall Anniversary: John and Jean Rima	24 Anniversary: Michael and Lisa Kregar	25 Anniversary: Bryan and Brenda Stone	26 Cooper Vance	27 Julie Corbett Erin Gassman David Lindaman Shirley Regel Harlan Reints	28 Julie DeBower Stephanie Hanson Quincy Johnson Rosalie Pieper Ripp Nordmeyer	29 Arlene Hollar Jennifer Lessin Lukas Vance Anniversary: Ed and Shirley Platte
30 Parker McDonald John Marth Luka Jacobs Anniversaries: Dennis and Diane Niezwaag William and Kathy Jacobs	31 Helen Hagen Diann Jacobson Jim Kregar					