



Building the family of God by spreading
the Word of God to all people.

July 2019

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Address:

9193 Cleveland Avenue
P.O. Box 67
Baroda, MI 49101

Phone: 269-422-1449
Website: stjohsbaroda.com
E-mail: stjohsbaroda@hotmail.com
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday,
9AM-12PM

Sunday Schedule:
Worship 9AM
Refreshments 10AM
Sunday School 10:30AM

Pastor – Nanette Dehnke
Ministers.....All People
Council President.....Paul Kasten
Administrative Assistant.....Amy Semenak
Accountant.....Bonnie Hodge
Webmaster.....Alan Anderson



Find us on **Facebook!**

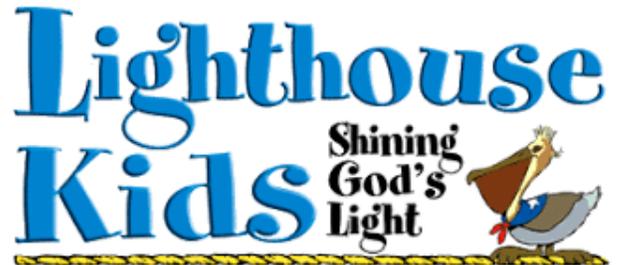
Page: **St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

Grapevine



July 8 – July 11
6 pm – 8 pm

**CHRISTMAS IN JULY
WORSHIP
JULY 21, 2019**

Wear your red and green



**Guest from:
One Girl, One Bike**



Need a Ride?

Transportation is available for all our worship services and events throughout the week. If you would prefer not driving yourself, especially amid weather conditions and darkness, we still want you to come and join us at St. John's!

Transportation is available on an individual basis. So please call the church office 269-422-1449 for details or to schedule a ride. Don't let anything stop you! Come, share, and celebrate God's love!



Our Homebound Members:

Elaine Lochner
Woodland Terrace
8850 Red Arrow Hwy
Apt. 29
Bridgman, MI 49106

Chet & Val Nitz
3017 Johnson Rd.
Lot 88
Stevensville, MI 49127

Dorothy Spitzke
8948 2nd Street
Baroda, MI 49101

Sandy Spitzke
9935 Red Arrow Highway
Bridgman, MI 49106

Carmen Hora
2700 Lake Pine Path, Apt. 104
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Ruth Heimbuch
15977 W. Clear Lake Road
Buchanan, MI 49107

Ileen Tollas
8850 Red Arrow Highway
Lilac Bldg Room 13
Bridgman, MI 49106

Barb Reynolds
3355 S. Lakeshore Drive #203
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Ray Mak
1123 W. Marquette Woods Rd
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Memorial Funds

Memorial funds may be designated to:

Altar/Worship Enhancement Fund
Confirmation Camp Memorial Fund
General Memorial Fund
Harold Hafer Memorial Fund,
Sound for Sanctuary
Kitchen Improvement Fund
Parsonage Renovations

Our Church Leaders:

Rev. Elizabeth Eaton
Presiding Bishop, ELCA

Rev. Craig Satterlee
Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA

Our Companion Synods:

Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

1	Jean Jasper	15	Fran Konya
2	Barb Reynolds	16	Nancy Koebel
4	Karen Zielke	21	Kayla Fleisher
5	Julia Taylor	29	Margie Nitz
9	Tyler Stout		
13	Mick Klug		



If a birthday, anniversary and/or baptism is listed incorrectly, please call the church office so that we can correct our records.

7/4 Chuck and Jane Krueger
7/10 Paul and Nancy Kasten
7/10 Mick and Cindy Klug.



2	Barb Reynolds	18	Tina Cramton
6	Kasie Hicks	26	Drake Tilly
13	Lexi Wall	28	Alexis Tober
17	Lilly Tollas		

Celebrate your **Baptismal Anniversary!**

“Remember and rejoice,
Renewed by floods of grace.
We bear the sign of Jesus Christ,
That time cannot erase.”
(ELW 454)



dates
to
Remember

Sunday, October 27
Sunday, November 3
Sunday, December 1
Tuesday, December 24
Wednesday, December 25

Reformation Sunday
All Saints Sunday
First Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day

PASTOR'S LETTER

Dear People of God,

Greetings as June comes to a close and July begins dear people. I believe that God calls us into relationship with God, with others, and with ourselves. God calls into faithful relationships to remain strong and grow so I practice spiritual disciplines.

Usually, when we hear the word "discipline", it is attached to judgment, fear, and yikes! I must be in trouble. My use of the word "discipline" here could be exchanged with the word "practice". That is, each of us is called by God to "practice", often, to engaging with the Word, in prayer, with one another, and to self-care.

As your pastor, this call to practice is a daily tug...not just once a day, but as many times as are possible. I begin the day with prayer, more listening than talking. Read a devotion or two to stew on through the day, and many other ways of being with others or in nature to stay tuned to God. It can happen in alone times, while reading, driving, in conversation, alone, or with others.

Below, is a devotion that arrived in my email this past week. It is written by Henri Nouwen who is a faithful contemplative person; he knows how to listen well to God and articulate the listening into words.

Inviting Closeness with the Other

To care means first of all to empty our own cup and to allow the other to come close to us.

It means to take away the many barriers that prevent us from entering into communion with the other.

When we dare to care, then we discover that nothing human is foreign to us, but that all the hatred and love, cruelty and compassion, fear and joy can be found in our own hearts.

When we dare to care, we have to confess that when others kill, I could have killed, too.

When others torture, I could have done the same.

When others heal, I could have healed, too.

And when others give life, I could have done the same.

Then we experience that we can be present to the soldier who kills, to the guard who pesters, to the young man who plays as if life has no end, and to the old man who stopped playing out of fear for death.

By the honest recognition and confession of our human sameness we can participate in the care of God who came, not to the powerful but powerless, not to be different but the same, not to take our pain away but to share it. Through this participation we can open our hearts to each other and form a new community.



How will you open your heart today?

If not now, tell me when.

Pastor Nan



DISCIPLESHIP IN ACTION

+Many thanks to all the hands and hearts who prepared, planned and carried out our celebrations: Confirmation Sunday, Graduation Sunday!

+Gratefulness to our property team for continuing to wheedle away items on the list

+VBS planning team – looks like many things and many hands will make light work for this time of sharing Jesus with our kids – the Word for the future

+Way to go: HIGH ACCOLADES for the ELCA Southwestern lunch planners and communion baker!

+The kitchen cleanup crew dutifully and joyfully cleaning our fellowship kitchen well in preparation for lunches, dinners, and food to be shared

+Many thanks to our guest pastor and guest organists from our family who shared their gifts



Christmas in July

July 21

******Wear your red and green******

***Come joyfully to hear the Story of the Birth of Jesus!
Special preacher:***

***Ms. Rahel Mwitula Williams
ELCA Global Church Leader from Chicago***

***Advocate for One Girl One Bike
and friend of Pastor Nan***



You have to be one ugly Grinch not to just love little babies. Even the most hardened among us will find ourselves oozing forth some gooey emotions around these cuties. That's basically how the Gospel of Luke opens, with a whole lot of hubbub over two babies—John and Jesus—who are cousins.

In this case, the excitement is higher than usual because of some cool and supernatural circumstances surrounding their conceptions and births. An otherworldly messenger named Gabriel announces to Zechariah that his wife Elizabeth will bear a son in spite of her old age and barrenness. Then, just to outdo himself, Gabriel tells Mary that she'll become the mother of the Son of God, whose "power" will "overshadow" her (1:35). Yowza.

Both before and after the babies are born, Elizabeth, Mary, and Zechariah, and some shepherds, Simeon and Anna, make highly poetic forecasts about the futures of these baby boys (1:42-43, 46-55, 68-79; 2:10-17, 28-38). It turns out that they're both destined to become major figures in Israel's history. Actually, they'll be helping God fulfill Israel's hopes for redemption.

So yeah, God is visiting earth, and these two babies, who are still spitting up and wearing diapers, are about to lead history into a completely different era. This takes cooing over newborns to a whole new level. (The Gospel according to Schmoop).

We will be singing a lot of Christmas carols during worship, so warm your voice up before you come. We will have some decorations.

CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY

June 9, 2019



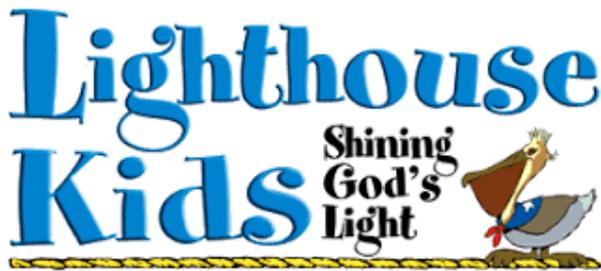
**WE CELEBRATED OUR GRADUATES
JUNE 16, 2019**

KAYLA FLEISHER and ALLISON SEMENAK





St. John's needs Sunday School teachers for the 2019/2020 school year; please contact Jean Jasper 465-3038 or the church office 422-1449 if you are interested.



VBS

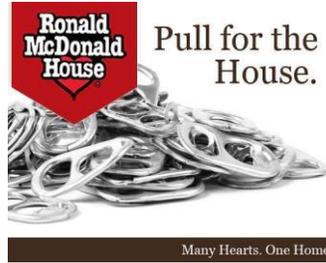
**July 8 – 11th
6PM - 8PM**

This will be a fun filled week learning about how God's light guides us! Bible Story, crafts, music, and a light snack will be provided. Ages preschool through 5th grade are welcome.

Items listed below are needed, please start collecting today!

Supplies still needed for VBS crafts;

- White tape
- Black construction paper
- Red plastic cups (the large ones)
- Clear plastic cups
- Clear contact paper



We are collecting pull tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. A collection jar is located on the table in the Narthex. Please contact Amy in the church office if you have any questions 422-1449.



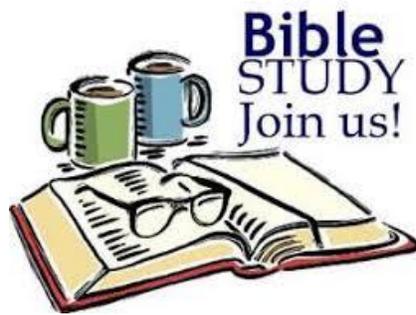
If you need emergency pastoral care, for situations such as hospital admissions or a death in the family, you may contact:

Pastor Nanette Dehnke – 317-464-9434

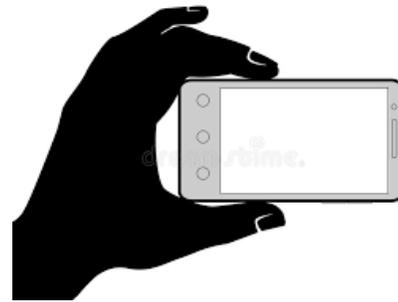


Help the Homebound with the Caring Card Program!

Please remember our homebound. Either by prayer, visits, or just a card to say “Yes! We remember you”. Haven’t seen that person in church lately? Wonder why so and so hasn’t been there? Remember: these were once very active members of our church and just a phone call, card, or a visit from you lets them know they are still loved and thought of by our St. John’s family. Please contact the church office at 269-422-1449 if you know of anyone needing a visit, card dropped off, or a prayer said. There are preprinted labels on the bulletin board in the Narthex for ease of addressing.



Bible Study – July 8th at 1 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Jean Jasper if you have any questions. This bible study is held the second Monday of every month and is open to all members of the congregation.



FACEBOOK AND ST. JOHN'S WEBSITE

We love to share pictures of St. John's ministry on our Facebook page and website and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures. **If you do not want your picture shown, please submit a dated letter to the church office specifying so.**



Finance Meeting – July 9th at 7PM in the Fireplace Room.

Council Meeting – July 18th at 7PM in the Fireplace Room.