

# St. John's Journal

Volume 47, Issue 10

## GOD PRESERVES HIS CHURCH

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Reformation Day is October 31, which falls on a Sunday this year. So we will be observing the Festival of the Reformation in the divine services on the actual festival day. We take time to remember the Reformation of the church every year, because God did so much good for His people through the Reformation.

Genuinely evangelical Christians rejoice in how God restored His Word to its place of rightful authority among those who were willing to listen to Him. More specifically, we thank God for bringing back to His people the clear teaching of Christ – that He alone is our Savior, and that He saved us by divine grace alone, without any merit on our part, and that we receive this salvation through faith alone.

At the same time, evangelical Christians rejoice in how God preserved His church by means of the Reformation. God saved His believers from the great peril of pervasive falsehood that was being promoted in the Roman Church, as well as from the persecution of the Roman Church, and He preserved them as His own dear little flock of faithful Christians. This is a great blessing of the Reformation for which we give thanks still today, for God still preserves His church!

Our Lord promised to preserve His church, even against the powers of death and hell. Right after Simon had confessed Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God, our Savior said to him, “You are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, *and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.*” (Matthew 16:19) Not even the realm of the dead can overpower Christ's church! Rather, God will raise all the dead on the last day, and the whole church – all who trust in Jesus Christ – will come forth “to the resurrection of life.” (John 5:29)

The Lord also indicates His intention to preserve His church for everlasting glory in Ephesians 5:25-27. “Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water with the word, that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that it should be holy and without blemish.” Christ's deep love for the church, His self-sacrifice for the church, His cleansing of the church through Holy Baptism, and His purposeful sanctification of the church – these all assure us that He will in fact present the church to Himself in glory. His death on the cross was not in vain, for Jesus Christ will have His beloved church with Himself for endless ages!

God's preservation of the church is a great comfort for us Christians in all times of trouble for the church. In these present times our society commonly ridicules the church, and in some cases is openly hostile toward the church. Many within the visible church – those who claim to be followers of Jesus Christ – have become utterly apathetic. Many have fallen away from central truths of Christ's teaching. In some places, Muslim nations especially, the church faces violent persecution. As always, the church here on earth is enduring weakness and suffering.

What a joyous and reassuring message it is, then, that our Lord preserves His church! Christians will never be completely wiped out. We may be few in proportion to the unbelievers of the world. We might even dwindle to fewer still here on earth, just as there were only eight believers (at the most) on the ark in Noah's day, and only seven thousand faithful Israelites in the time of Elijah. Even so, Christ's church will prevail! He will preserve a remnant on earth at all times, and finally bring that little band together with the great glorious band of saints whose souls are already in heaven. And the whole church will live with the Savior in complete security and bliss for time that will never end!

What God did to preserve His church in and through the Reformation is a great example and reminder of what He promises to do for the church at all times. So give thanks to the Lord, praise His name, and rest in His preserving power and grace!

- Pastor Bishop

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

## Christian Education Sunday School

Perfect Attendance  
August 2021

None

### OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



#### Oct 01

Brayden Hoover

#### Oct 02

Elizabeth Niemann Beaman  
Joyce Fornoff  
Trevor Reese

#### Oct 04

Norah Abatie  
John Adkins  
Melissa Hoyle  
Vincent Tennell

#### Oct 05

Wesley Bussey  
Hanna Hicks  
Aaron Miller

#### Oct 06

Pastor Daniel Bishop  
Addison Decker  
Silas Gould  
Madelyn Hicks  
Macy Hicks

#### Oct 07

Richard Becker  
Paul Driskell  
Sean Kelley

#### Oct 08

Benjamin Gould  
Zachary Stoehr  
Linda Wagner  
Katherine Wright

#### Oct 09

Brayden Bounds  
Griffin Glass  
Brian Williamson

#### Oct 10

Robert Oliverius

#### Oct 11

Lucas Woith

#### Oct 12

Joyce Long

#### Oct 13

Douglas King

#### Oct 14

Wilmaean Habberfield  
Tricia Thomason  
Diane Wagle

#### Oct 15

Denise Adkins  
Michael Wiseman

#### Oct 16

Shelley Gee  
Becky Hacker

#### Oct 17

Nicole DeBoer  
Garret Kesselmayr  
Laura Nelson

#### Oct 20

Eric Dupont  
Kelsy Stoehr

#### Oct 21

James Bohannon  
Dianne Bolen  
Michele Deiss  
Mackenzie Hoyle

#### Oct 22

Lidia Bishop  
Julie Noble

#### Oct 23

Gregory Becker  
Laura Shadle

#### Oct 24

Brian Fuelberth  
Adam Miller  
Dawson Reese

#### Oct 25

Brian Ford

#### Oct 26

Delmar Deiss, Jr.  
Nicholas Nafziger  
Daniel Sego

#### Oct 27

Ryan Engelbright

#### Oct 28

Jamie Bohannon  
John Durdle  
Thomas Ivey

#### Oct 29

Alecia Blakeslee  
Shane Decker  
Beth Ruder

#### Oct 30

Olivia Driskell

#### Oct 31

Bonnie Guengerich  
Robert Whitlatch



## OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES



**Oct 01**  
Ross & Diane Gould

**Oct 03**  
Jonathan & Shantel Becker  
Eric & Amanda Ferguson

**Oct 05**  
Troy & Susan Keefer  
Mickey & Debee Pitchford

**Oct 07**  
Brian & Molly Hicks

**Oct 10**  
Brian & Tracy Lundeen

**Oct. 13**  
Del & Laura Beideck

**Oct 15**  
Mark & Tomi Pfan

**Oct 17**  
Mike & Stefanie Wilson

**Oct 18**  
Matthew & Monica Lappie

**Oct 20**  
Mike & Jackie Nauth  
Joseph & Lori Schiavone

**Oct 21**  
David & Nancy Drockelman  
Brian & Ann Fuelberth

**Oct. 23**  
Philip & Janelle Hopping

**Oct 25**  
Terry & Nancy Swearingen

**Oct 29**  
Daniel & Michelle Watson

**Oct 31**  
Horst & Waltraud Hupke

***No daily meal is complete  
without the "Bread of Life."***

## PARISH NOTES



### Church Attendance

Aug 2021	470	15
Aug 2020	406	15
Aug 2019	607	12

### Sunday School Attendance

Aug 2021	992
Aug 2020	426
Aug 2019	1,419

### ACOLYTES



#### Oct 03

8:00	Carter Miller
10:30	Briella Hoover

#### Oct 10

8:00	Madison Sego
10:30	Cole Miller

#### Oct 17

8:00	Briella Hoover
10:30	Carter Miller

#### Oct 24

8:00	Cole Miller
10:30	Madison Sego

#### Oct 31

8:00	Carter Miller
10:30	Briella Hoover

### Elders Communion Assistance

<b>Oct 03</b>	8:00	Aaron Miller
	10:30	Del Beideck

<b>Oct 17</b>	8:00	Tom Ivey
	10:30	Brian Umbach

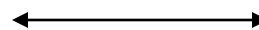
<b>Oct 31</b>	8:00	Joe Szdkowski
	10:30	Jon Bolt

### Videographers

Brayden/Bradley Hoover

### Worship

John Neumann



### Ushers

#### 8:00

James Lonergan  
James Widby  
Merle Wiseman

#### 10:30

Brian Ford  
Nate Ford  
Trent Hoover  
Brian Umbach

### USHERS

Ushers are needed at both services. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact John Neumann @ 346-1922.

**The Flower Chart for 2022** has been ordered and will be posted in the Narthex soon. Please sign-up for the Sunday(s) that you would like to provide flowers for the altar and **call the office, 347-2136**, and let us know what you would like in the bulletin.

If you want special flowers for the Altar you need to call Artistic Flowers—347-0022 or they will do seasonal flowers.

Remember you can pick up your flowers after the 7:00 p.m. service (please leave the green liners) or Mon. to Fri. from 8:00 a.m. to 12 Noon.

Flowers are \$40.00 (unless you order special flowers then there could be an additional charge) with a \$5.00 delivery charge. Checks should be made payable to St. John's. We can contact you when we receive invoice from Artistic.



# **TREASURER'S REPORT** **AUGUST, 2021**



# **HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S VOTERS ASSEMBLY**

September 13, 2021

	<u><b>AUGUST</b></u>	<u><b>Y-T-D</b></u>
<b>INCOME</b>	163,328.23	496,158.70
<b>EXPENSES</b>	153,169.97	411,377.82
<b>INCOME-EXPENSES</b>	<u><b>\$ 10,158.26</b></u>	<u><b>\$ 84,780.88</b></u>
<b>General Fund Accounts</b>		
General Fund		<u>9,493.04</u>
<b>General Fund Total</b>		<u><b>9,493.04</b></u>
<b>Educational Fund Accounts</b>		
Educational Grant Fund Checking		4,727.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21		51,928.87
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22		51,928.86
Educational Grant Fund #2-Vanguard		<u>71,137.63</u>
<b>Educational Fund Total</b>		<u><b>179,772.92</b></u>
<b>East Bluff Property</b>		
East Bluff Property—Vanguard		43,332.30
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21		53,837.70
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22		53,837.70
Cat Stock at FMV		<u>77,812.03</u>
<b>East Bluff Property</b>		<u><b>228,819.73</b></u>
Building Fund Checking		22,759.19
Sunday School Fund Checking		11,413.60
Memorial Fund Checking		<u>142,205.42</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u><b>\$594,413.90</b></u>
<b>Checking Account Balance</b>		
Checking Account Balance		<u>190,598.81</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<u><b>190,598.81</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Payroll Liabilities		2,156.27
Misc. LCMS Orgs Fund		<u>(15.00)</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u><b>2,141.27</b></u>
<b>Fund Balance</b>		
Net Income (Loss)		84,780.88
Capital Accounts		<u>507,491.75</u>
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b>		<u><b>592,272.63</b></u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>		<u><b>\$594,413.90</b></u>



Mike Nauth called the meeting to order. A quorum was not present so all motions from the June and September meetings will be carried over to the October meeting. Del Beideck opened with devotions.

The June, July and August Parish reports were provided for review.

The June Assembly meeting minutes, along with the meeting minutes from the Special Voters Assembly meetings from July 11 and August 15, were provided for review.

Treasurer's Report – Nancy Drockelman presented the treasurer's reports for May, June, July and August. Included in income for July was the annual lease payment from Comcast. Also received in July were the proceeds from the sale of the parsonage, which were deposited into the Memorial Fund. Income and expenses for August reflect the donation of money for the purchase of the former Trophy House building. Ross Gould noted that we seem to have a large amount of money sitting in our checking account and inquired as to whether we were thinking of moving some of the money to an account that might give us a better return. Nancy indicated that she would need to talk to Darryl Dagit regarding the matter.

Board of Trustees – Gary Pool reported that the closing of the sale of the parsonage, located at 500 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street, was finalized on July 16, 2021. Gary also noted that the Trustees wanted to extend a special thanks to Dave Kesselmayner and John Neumann for work they did on painting the exterior of the parsonage to prepare it for the sale.

Gary also extended thanks to the anonymous donors for their gift of \$127,500 to cover the cost of the purchase of the former Trophy House building located at 403 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street. The closing on this property was completed on August 17, 2021.

The board for Ewe's Treasures, at their next meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, will consider the use of the building at 403 S. 8<sup>th</sup> Street to allow for additional space. Gary indicated that hopefully he will hear from them shortly.

Gary noted that the painting of the exterior stone details around the main sanctuary of the church is scheduled to begin at the end of this month.

In addition, it was noted that the Trustees approved a request by Comcast to install a security fence and pave the access to the property off of Veterans Drive. Comcast wants to store a dumpster there and are concerned with people getting into the dumpster.

<p>Gary mentioned that the Trustees would like to complete part of the re-model plans for the basement classroom this fall/winter. The cost to install new lighting, new drop ceiling tiles and complete some of the painting is estimated not to exceed \$10,000.00. Since there wasn't a quorum at tonight's meeting, he will bring this up at the October meeting. Gary also indicated that there has been some work done on the bathrooms (removing old pipes and replacing with plastic). In addition, at some point, the ceilings will be replaced.</p> <p><u>Board of Elders</u> – Del Beideck reported that the Elders are trying to implement a new system to keep track of inactive members. Pastor Bishop and Tracy Glass have put together a plan that the Elders feel will work now, and into the future.</p> <p><u>Board of Finance</u> – Nancy Drockelman reported that the board did meet in late August. Nancy also reiterated information from the May meeting regarding the subject of employer matching funds for donations given to Good Shepherd School. At the beginning of this year, private schools who meet certain criteria are eligible for matching funds donated by employers. Good Shepherd School does qualify. To review, if a member gave a donation of \$500 to the school, an employer would match those funds. Good Shepherd would then reduce the church's obligation to the school by what the member donated. Anything over \$25 will be matched. It was indicated that Caterpillar is one employer that participates in this plan but it is unclear what other local employers participate in the program. Julie Wagner indicated that she would check with Pekin Insurance to see if they do anything of this nature.</p> <p><u>Board of Christian Education</u> – No report. Ross Gould did give an update for Good Shepherd School, indicating that things were going well. The school did lose 5 students due to the state masking mandate.</p> <p><u>Board of Worship</u> – Valerie Ferguson reported that the committee did meet earlier this month. Val indicated that John Neuman will be removing the sign outside, by the front doors of the church, and will be restoring it (sandblasting and adding new lighting). It is hoped that we can display banners in the sign for the different seasons. Hopefully this will be ready by January.</p> <p>Val indicated that Mary Ashbaker has resigned as the director of the bell choir. Allison Harley is interested in the position and is checking her work schedule to see when the choir might be able to resume. A notice will be placed in the bulletin seeking members for the choir. It was noted that beginners are welcome and encouraged to participate.</p> <p>Allison has also reached out to the members of the Brass Quartet about playing for the October 31<sup>st</sup> Reformation Service. She is awaiting a response. Val indicated that the Worship Committee was going to make a motion to reallocate \$600 from the choir director budget to use as payment for special music. Val indicated that the committee</p>	<p>did not have funds for this allocated in their 2021 budget but will include funds in their 2022 budget. Dave Drockelman indicated that he had talked to members of the brass quartet and they indicated that they are happy to play for us.</p> <p>Jim Lonergan is investigating replacing the audio recording equipment that is used for the weekly podcast as the CD's are no longer working. Jim will also investigate a mic stand for the grand piano and a new wireless mic for Pastor Bishop.</p> <p>More banners have been ordered and will be displayed soon.</p> <p><u>Board of Evangelism</u> – No report.</p> <p><u>Board of Stewardship</u> – No report.</p> <p><u>Long Range Planning Committee</u> – No report.</p> <p><u>Educational Grant Fund Committee</u> – No report</p> <p><u>East Bluff Property Committee</u> – No report.</p> <p><u>Constitution By-laws Committee</u> – No report.</p> <p><u>Unfinished business</u> –</p> <p>Dave Drockelman indicated that here has been work done by the Constitution By-laws committee that will need to be resumed at some point. It was noted that any changes will have to go through the district.</p> <p><u>New business</u> – Valerie Ferguson discussed the possibility of our church participating in the "Connect to Disciple" evangelism congregation revitalization program. There is funding that the CID would provide so it wouldn't cost the church anything to do. When Pastor is back, we can pursue getting details.</p> <p>Bob Oliverius inquired about a discussion that previously took place regarding the use of funds in the Educational Fund that could be used to provide scholarships to students at Good Shepherd School to cover tuition. Ross Gould indicated that he has not heard back from Mickey Pitchford on this but will follow up. Mike Nauth indicated that Mickey is looking at the constitution to see how it was set up and whether funds can be used for this purpose. It was noted that Sand Prairie is doing something similar. Also, the Catholic church is subsidizing tuition at the Catholic school which is contributing to a reduction in the enrollment at Good Shepherd.</p> <p>Dave Kesselmayer indicated that whoever was involved in picking Pastor Bishop's replacement for the past 2 weeks did a very good job!!</p> <p>The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.</p> <p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Linda Wagner Secretary</p>
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## LIBRARY CORNER

By Eileen Tiona



*"What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, but forfeit his soul." Mark 8:36*

I haven't any new books to report on this month, but you are welcome to come into the library and check out all the other wonderful books that are available for your enjoyment.

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### Transferred To The Church Triumphant

Karen S. Hall  
10-6-46  
9-1-21

Mary L. Depew  
3-1-42  
9-19-21

### In Our Prayers

*If you know of anyone who needs to be added,  
please let the church office know.*

All our shut-ins

Adam Jackson—member of Armed Services (grand-nephew of Lila Lisenbee)

Pastor Niemann

Robert Scott

Sandy Morgan

Flo McClure

Rick Jarvis

Larry Turner

Robert Gregory

Michelle Watson

Jerry Guengerich

Robert Rilea

Leia Stewart

Rhonda Lappie

Peggy Farlin

Marlana Montgomery

Anna Knussman

Donna Corso

Debbie Miller

Pastor Kesselmayer

Stacie Kendall

Billie Jackson

Joe Goodin

Peggy Patten

Rosetta Turner

Joyce Long

Brittany Allen

Mary Mantovoni

Keith Gleason

Stanley Ehmke

Jill Jennings

Caralee Bohannon

Pat Flatley

Mary Beck

Mae Houge

Jeff Ferree

## YOUTH GROUP

We are looking forward to our October activity, which will be a mini-retreat to Camp CILCA for some volunteer work, picnic lunch, devotion, and challenge course activities and/or hiking. This will be an all-day event Saturday, Oct. 16. Meet here at the church at 8:00 a.m., and wear clothing suitable for outdoor work and recreation.

Next month is our Fall cleanup and other helpful for senior church members.

## LADIES GUILD By Leslie Hawk

The St. John's Ladies Guild will meet Thursday, October 28, at 6:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in finding out more about Guild.

Phil's Friends, an organization that supports cancer patients through care packages, is in desperate need of fleece blankets. **The Ladies Guild** has decided, with your help, to purchase fabric and make as many blankets as they can at their next meeting on October 28th. To do so they are asking for monetary donations to purchase the fabric. Offering plates will be placed in the narthex after both services on October 3rd, 10th, and 17th, or you can give your donations to Sandy in the office, Deanna Bishop or Pastor Bishop. Donations will be accepted no later than October 18th. Thank you for your help.

The Lutheran Women of Greater Peoria (LWGP) are once again selling the Dining Tour Books as a fundraiser for the Lutheran Hillside Village and Lutheran Social Services.

The cost is \$30 each.

If you would like to purchase one, please contact Marilyn Liescheidt at 346-0396.

## GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

October 8 - No School - Teacher Conference/Meetings

October 11 - No School - Columbus Day

October 19 - School Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

October 21-28 - Book Fair

October 22 - End of the 1st Grading Period

October 24 - Sing at St. John's - Sand Prairie at 8:00 am

October 29 - Report Card Day - Awards Assembly at 2:45 & Reformation / Harvest Parties, Trunk or Treat @ 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church  
711 Court St.  
Pekin, IL 61554

Non-Profit Organization  
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## Bible Wordsearch



Wordsearch 256

Matt. 11:18-30

K	N	O	W	S	D	E	L	T	H	G	I	L	S	I
V	B	U	R	D	E	N	D	E	N	I	A	M	E	R
D	N	E	I	R	F	I	E	N	S	N	R	D	S	E
R	E	H	T	I	E	N	T	U	E	O	S	E	O	P
J	U	D	G	M	E	N	T	I	L	D	S	T	O	E
A	S	D	E	V	O	R	P	C	C	I	D	F	H	N
N	K	B	T	R	A	E	H	D	A	S	R	I	C	T
D	I	F	E	G	U	I	O	R	R	H	I	L	H	R
R	E	V	E	A	L	S	P	G	I	T	N	J	E	H
E	S	N	H	D	R	U	A	I	M	R	K	E	X	U
H	V	E	R	E	S	A	T	E	O	A	I	S	C	M
T	U	E	N	A	A	O	B	T	L	E	N	U	E	B
A	N	N	R	S	E	V	D	L	O	P	G	S	P	L
F	I	G	E	N	T	L	E	O	E	N	I	N	T	E
S	S	D	E	P	T	H	S	N	M	S	E	H	S	A

### Jesus the Teacher 2

ASHES	BEARABLE
CITIES	BURDEN
DEPTHS	CHILDREN
EARTH	CHOOSES
EXCEPT	GLUTTON
FATHER	HEAVEN
FRIEND	HIDDEN
GENTLE	HUMBLE
HEART	JUDGMENT
JESUS	LEARNED
KNOWS	MIRACLES
LIFTED	NEITHER
LIGHT	PLEASURE
PRAISE	REMAINED
REVEAL	PROVED
SIDON	REPENT
SKIES	SINNERS
SODOM	DRINKING

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a  
Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

MORE PUZZLES AT:  
<http://biblewordgames.com>

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