

October 2021 Calendar News

God's Love, God's grace — Our 125th Anniversary Year

From our Lutheran Elementary School

Principal: We began the year with 39 students in K-8. With illness rampant, we are being careful of all while maintaining in person school. Pray for God's blessing on our work, our families, and our community.

Preschool: Children are learning routines and how to interact. Look for ways to engage the parents personally, as many are not connected with a Christian church. Who can you talk to this week?

Athletic Director: Volleyball and cross country and soccer are underway. Pray for good health and healthy competition.

Music Director: Thanks to all who sang for the Anniversary service. We hope to sing in worship regularly.

Hot Lunch Director: We could use one or two more lunch helpers. Ms. Wilson will train and arrange schedules.

From the Board of Education

Sunday Bible Class is at 9:15. We will record it and post it online. We will read through Luther's Large Catechism, beginning with the Ten Commandments. Our discussion will draw out the timelessness of God's Law and Gospel. A *Ladies Bible Class* will begin October 4 at 6:30pm. Ladies will lead the group after consulting with Pastor. The first four week section will examine time management. Come to dig into God's Word and to build the fellowship with others. Pastor is teaching two *Bible Information Classes*. *Sunday School* meets weekly. *Confirmation Classes* for both the Lutheran Elementary School and Public School 6th-8th graders has begun. Pray that God blesses us to grow in the Word.

Advent by Candlelight will be held on Sunday, November 28th at 1 p.m. You won't want to miss this opportunity to prepare your heart for the Advent Season. Reservations will be available around the middle of October. If you are interested in helping out with this event, please contact Jane Kohlwey at 608-697-7233 or jane57kohlwey@gmail.com.

From the Church Council

Anniversary Gift: As we finish this calendar year, the Church Council wants to encourage each member to consider making a special gift to reduce our debt. God has been generous to us in giving us a Savior. And a place to hear and learn his Word. And a school to teach the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord. It has been 125 years of God's love and God's grace at St. John's! What if together we could take \$125,000 off the mortgage principle? Could you make a one time gift? Or set aside an amount each week or month till the end of the year to add to the total? We can all participate in this! All gifts are welcome and whatever the Lord provides, we will be thankful. You can put your special gift in the offering plate, marked as "Anniversary Gift."

Stewardship: This Fall our stewardship encouragement is "A God-lived Life." We hope to do more than just talk about managing God's gifts wisely, but actually to do it. On October 24 the service will feature a short Bible Class. Challenge Cards will be handed out to give us examples for pointed application of the truths that we have learned. May this tool help us be wise and faithful managers of all the gifts God has given to us – Time, Treasure, Talents, and Truth!

New Hymnal: After the congregation tried out a sample service from the new hymnal in September, the Council proposes that we move slowly. We will learn new things as they become available to us. Sign up sheets will eventually be put out for you to order books for home and for church, in honor of in memory of loved ones.

From the Board of Elders

Picture Directory: Is your picture in the directory yet? A sample hard copy is in the church entry if you want to see what it looks like printed. We can easily add your picture!

From the **Ladies Aid Society:** We are still updating and revising our constitution. We look forward to simpler planning for funeral meals and a return to potlucks at church. The Anniversary meal will be organized through the Ladies Aid. We have missed the opportunity for fellowship together!

Lutheran Women's Missionary Society: The Fall rally is on October 16 in Princeton. Talk with Laurene Lueck if you want to attend. We are excited to have our first rally in two years! Thank you to all who donated for the mission box.

From the Board of Property and Maintenance

Projects: The roof – contractors are done now. Signs – We are moving forward on the digital insert for the bell sign. The road signs are up in the village, and a the larger one south of Wyocena is awaiting installation. A new sign for the corner of Oak and LaFollette will be delayed. Lighting The North side of church is taking shape, with outside fixtures and a new pole. Pastor's office – walls are completed, flooring is next. Maintenance – Thank you to all those who helped over a busy summer!

Pastor: The Anniversary year is completed, and we are truly blessed. God has poured out his grace on us in a Savior from sin. And in so much more. We are eager to thank and praise, serve and obey him!

At Home: The daily Meditations booklet is available at the ushers table, as is the monthly Forward in Christ magazine. You can purchase cards in the Fellowship Room to send to your loved ones. Bulletins and announcements are online, as are the worship services at www.stjohnspardeeville.org. If you desire a copy of the Evangelical Heritage Version of the Bible, speak with Krista in the office. God blesses us as we gather our families around his Word in our homes!

From the **Treasurer:** We currently stand without operating debt. The mortgage is down to about \$550,000. We will refinance in July, so we want it as small as possible by then. As the Lord has blessed you, may he move you to support our work together at St. John's and in the WELS. You can use your financial institution's "bill pay" option and have your gift sent automatically if you desire.