

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

November 2024

Mission Statement: We are called by God to be the light of the world. We are to go forth and show Jesus' love and forgiveness through loving care for all God's creation.

Newsletter Deadline

The December newsletter deadline is November 20th. Thank you!

Scrip Corner

Thank you everyone that has been purchasing scrip. We have had some great sales recently. Please keep up the good work to help St John Lutheran Church.

Out of Office

I will be out of the office from November 5th-November 14th. I will be back in the office on November 18th. If you have any questions or concerns don't hesitate to reach out! Thank you-Cassidy

Thank You

Saturday morning, October 26th was the date for the Annual Fall Harvest and Bake Sale. At 9am when the doors opened, the waiting shoppers were greeted with a wide variety of homemade bakery and top-quality crafts, plus a great selection of home-canned goods and homegrown produce! All these items were accompanied by the raffle tickets for the amazing baskets.

Shoppers were invited to the homemade Bar-B-Que luncheon, complete with homemade potato salad and topped off with many choices of homemade pies.

The Lutheran Women in Mission who organize this church-wide Fall Harvest and Bake Sale extend a "Thanks!" to all the congregation and community members who donated in any way to make this tradition a huge success!

The money raised at this event will be used in many ways to enhance the Lord's work in the congregation, community, and the world!

Thank you again, whether you donated items, purchased goods, placed the information on a bulletin board, marquee or sponsored an advertisement in the newspaper, your support is greatly appreciated!

What is your (our) purpose?

Twenty years ago, when I first started the Seminary, there was a book that seemed to be everywhere in the Church and in the culture, Rick Warren's *A Purpose Driven Life*. The author, a Baptist pastor of one of the largest churches in America, was on Oprah and many other daytime and night time talk shows. While the book itself teaches several serious false doctrines, it did bring the question "What on earth am I here for" to the forefront, and that was a very good thing.

The question of purpose is a very important one for us to consider in our lives. There is the "What" question but also the "Why." When we consider both of these questions, especially in light of holy scripture, we will find great insight, freedom, and peace that is in Christ Jesus.

The Bible gives us our purpose directly, we are to trust in God and love our neighbor (Matthew 22:37-39). This is the summary of the law. The question of purpose also gives us a perspective with a goal in mind, our eternal goal: which is to worship the Lord. This is because when Christ returns and raises us from the dead, worship will remain. All the other things that we do in our life are secondary.

With this perspective, we now see that all that we do is ordered so that we and other believers would worship the Lord. We evangelize those who do not believe in Jesus so that they may worship the Lord. We love and serve our neighbor in our vocations and in acts of charity in order that they may worship the Lord. We raise our children so that they may worship the Lord.

Why? We love because God first loved us (1 John 4:19).

We are going to spend some time flushing this out in our Bible study, "Serving in God's Mission," **starting November 10** after the Sunday Service. We will look at what this means to live with a purpose individually as God's people and together as a congregation. Again, this Bible study will also lay the foundation for our Strategic Planning as we then turn to the "How?" How do we as a congregation Serve in God's Mission?

In Christ,

Pastor Lorfeld

Lutheran Hour Broadcast

The Lutheran Hour can be heard on the following radio stations on Sunday Morning:
WAXX 104.5 FM at 6:30 a.m.; WDLB 1450 AM at 8 a.m.; WDUX 92.7 FM at 8 a.m.;
WSAU 99.9 FM at 8:30 a.m.; and WRVM 91.3 FM, 94.3 FM or 101.3 FM at 10 a.m.

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November 3

"Working the System"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

God's Law--a "system" that keeps the world from flying apart while it also shows us we need the Savior Who came to live, suffer, and rise for us.

(Genesis 33:8)

November 10

"My Name Is Now Yours"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

God comes to renew us with His forgiving love, rename us in Baptism, and remain with us through His Word.

(Genesis 35:10-11)

November 17

"Album-Worthy"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler](#)

If everything you've ever thought or done was captured in a photo, how many of them would you save for all to see? Hear how God redeems all our snapshots--even those that don't seem "album-worthy."

(Genesis 35:3)

November 24

"Jesus Sees What's in the Heart"

Guest Speaker: [Rev. Dr. Hector Hoppe](#)

Jesus sees what's in our hearts. What's in His heart? God saw that we needed a Savior.

(Mark 12:41-44)