

St JOHN'S EAGLE

<p>ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH</p>	<p>Rev. Joseph E. McInnis, <i>Lead Pastor</i> Eric Schaefer, <i>Vicar</i> Robert McConnell, <i>Music Director and Organist</i> Janis B. Wendel, <i>Administrative Assistant</i> Efren Frausto, <i>Custodian</i></p>	<p>1235 Wilmette Avenue Wilmette, Illinois 60091 phone 847 251 1730</p> <p>web stjohnswilmette.com e-mail churchoffice@stjohnswilmette.com Facebook St. John's Lutheran Church Wilmette, IL</p>
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AUGUST, 2017

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

*“Jesus said, I give you a new commandment, that you love one another.
Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.
By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
If you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-35)*

Love one another. That's the message we leave you with. More than anything else, love one another. And let your “one another” include everyone in your church family, your church staff that works so hard for you, and above all, your new pastor.

More than anything else, including being a welcoming and inviting church, you need to be a loving church. You need to be a church that reaches out in love.

*“If we love one another, God lives in us,
and his love is perfected in us.” (1 John 4:12)*

More than anything else, you need to love one another and do the things that love does for one another and for God, no matter how difficult or inconvenient it may be.

*“Love bears all things,
believes all things,
hopes all things,
endures all things.”
(1 Corinthians 13:7)*

More than anything else, including faith itself, you need to be a church that loves. You need to be a church that loves all people, including the stranger sitting in the back pew.

*“If I have all faith, so as to move mountains,
but do not have love,
I am nothing.” (1 Corinthians 13:2c)*

As Jane and I leave you, more than anything else, we wish you a life of loving others, just as God has loved you and always will.

*“Jesus said to his disciples, there is no greater love,
than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (John 15:13)*

Lay down your life in love for one another and you will be blessed beyond your wildest dreams!

God be with you ‘til we meet again,

Pr. Joe and Jane McInnis

From Our Vicar

Good-byes are never easy, so I’ll say thank you instead. Thank you for taking a risk on moving from a Ministry in Context site to an Internship site. This came with many uncertainties. What would the internship look like, what would the intern do, would the intern change everything, would the intern make things worse, and the list goes on. This would also mean that a lay committee would be needed to support the intern and meet at least once a month as well as filling out long evaluation forms and helping out as needed. Those who would sign up were taking on a big responsibility. Then there was the supervisor role which the pastor would need to take on. The pastor would need to spend time mentoring and training, answering questions and challenging the intern. This would add to the daily responsibilities the pastor already had. There was seminary and synod paper work to complete as well. Then when the intern showed up, the individual would need a lot of help getting settled in. This list could go on and I think you get the point. You all took a risk and I want to thank you all who were a part of the planning and execution process for taking the risk and the time you all put into making this a reality.

Since I arrived, you have all welcomed me and my family and shared ministry and memories together. I’ve had the pleasure of getting to know you and I have learned so much about who St. John’s is, and seen what you are doing in this community. You all have been a blessing to me and this community. I will carry these memories and stories with me into my ministry. I have learned so much about ministry in the time I have been here. I am thankful for the opportunity to learn in such a rich and vibrant community that is passionate about God’s mission in the world. St. John’s has a lot to offer Wilmette and the world. I hope that you see all the great ministries this community is providing and continue to keep that passion in serving in these ministries. Empowered by the Holy Spirit to continue to live out the mission of this congregation. To show everyone that St. John’s is a caring place where everyone can live, learn, and grow together in Christ.

From the whole Schaefer family, we will miss you all dearly and thank you again for everything. We will continue to keep you in our prayers and may you continue to proclaim the good news in Wilmette with boldness!

Vicar Eric

Building Project Updates

We're continuing to see great progress, and are pleased to report that the project remains on schedule. The "behind the scenes" (or, walls) work - electrical and plumbing - is completed, and has been inspected by the Village. The Building Committee remains engaged through the project, both considering where small adjustments are needed, and any opportunities to reduce costs while still fulfilling the vision we set out with.

There were, unfortunately, two small setbacks in the past month to report on. The first is that we had planned to install a changing table and sink with running water in the closet next to the council meeting room off of where the new nursery will be. Upon inspection, the piping that it needs to be connected to is packed in asbestos. It would significantly increase the cost to include asbestos abatement, and so the decision was made to proceed with the changing table but not the sink. In addition, when working to connect our new bathrooms to the main sewer drain leaving the church, we discovered that the pipe itself is not entirely stable, and may need replacement.

While these two unexpected events are not ideal, we are optimistic that our project plan (which includes some funding for contingencies such as these) will not be affected. We're grateful to have a very active Building Committee that has been working hard with Shales McNutt, our general contractor, to keep the project proceeding.

It's also exciting to report that we have received \$730,193 of our pledged funds towards the project! Thank you everyone who has fulfilled their pledge, and those who have gone above and beyond to support this project.

We are already looking forward to the near future when the work is complete, and the chance to welcome our members and new friends from the community to enjoy the space.

Luke Rasmussen
Communications and Outreach Committee

Council Highlights

Here are highlights from the July 11, 2017 Council meeting:

- We oriented our new Council members on their roles and responsibilities. Welcome to Alan Beutelspacher and Buck Crist!
- The Council continues its work on the Ministry Site Profile, which we will share with the Synod to help identify new pastoral candidates.
- As of the end of June, revenue is \$126,707 (89% of budget), and expenses are at \$160,272 (94% of budget).
- It was our last Council meeting with Pr. Joe and Vicar Eric. Vicar Eric provided a final report on many of his projects, and plans for transition. Pr. Joe provided the Council with a detailed Outreach Strategy for engaging our members and the community. Thank you Pr. Joe and Vicar Eric, you will be missed!

Women of St. John's

ALL women in the congregation are included in the Women of St. John's group. There are no dues, meetings or other requirements for membership. Our primary goal is fellowship.

Quilting

Summer doldrums? Try something new!

Join Us-----Thursdays 8/10 & 8/24

We begin at 10 a.m. and usually wrap up at 2 p.m.

Come for an hour or bring a lunch & stay the day

Lunch in the Garden...

Hackney's Garden...on Harms. Join us at this always popular spot for lunch on Wednesday, August 16 at 12:30. Let us know if we can expect you—RSVP to Nancy Anderson: 847-446-6135 or jganra@sbcglobal.net

Book Club

Have a suggestion for our next selection? We would love to hear from you.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthday and anniversary blessings to the following members who are celebrating special days during the month of August:

Happy Birthday to:

Cindi Rachowicz (8/2)	Ann Retzinger (8/23)
Rachel Cordts (8/5)	Carl Freedlund (8/24)
Mark Knobel (8/13)	Andrew Hauser (8/26)
Katherine Swanson (8/15)	Bob Anderson (8/27)
Ed Woltman (8/15)	David Brunn (8/27)
Pastor Joe McInnis (8/20)	Peter Robert Knobel (8/27)
Kira Noe (8/21)	Emily Knobel (8/28)
Silas Noe (8/21)	R. J. Witt (8/28)
Sydney Johnson (8/23)	

Happy Anniversary to:

Richard and Alla Ruzs (8/2)
Ken & Diane Kastman (8/19)

ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

Sunday, August 13th

5:00 – 8:00 pm

**Join us on the church's side yard for the annual
St. John's Ice Cream Social.**

\$3 for all you can eat ice cream sundaes!

**Burgers, dogs, & more
will available for purchase.**

Bounce house for the kids!

The Bishops are Coming! The Bishops are Coming!

I am very pleased to announce that on October 15th, 2017 Bishop Wayne Miller of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod will be the guest homilist for our next installment of our ongoing series of Bach Cantata Vespers services. This service will mark the climax of our year-long celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and will feature Bach's Cantata No. 80, *Ein Feste Burg ist Unser Gott*, performed by a professional chamber orchestra and vocal soloists. It is the desire of the Worship and Music Committee that this service become a major event in our North Shore community, an opportunity to showcase our church, its mission, the legacy of the Reformation, and (cross your fingers!) our newly renovated building. We ask that you please mark your calendars for 4 p.m. on Sunday, October 15th and consider inviting your friends and neighbors to what will be sure to be a moving and uplifting service. If you feel moved to help in additional ways, you are always welcome to volunteer as a worship assistant, usher, server at the post-service reception, or to make a donation to the Aylesworth Music Fund in support of this ministry. To whet your appetite, here is a link to a video of the cantata: www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNZvQbv5gA.

See you soon in Church!

Robert McConnell
Music Director and Organist

Treasurer's Alcove as of June 2017

INCOME

Revenues through June are running about 89% of the budget with envelope offerings lagging behind at 83% and benevolence fund-raising at 67%. I'm happy to report that our cash balance has been partially replenished with generous donations by two members and the sale of the upright piano, but remains down by \$19,278 since the beginning of the year. I wanted to revisit all the things that you can do to enhance your stewardship of St. John's.

- First and foremost make an extra contribution or gift now.
- Second, pray. Pray for God's help to put His church back on a more solid financial ground moving forward. God knows no shortage of financial resources.
- Third, continue keeping up with your estimates of giving and payments to the capital campaign. This helps keep our cash flow where it needs to be.
- Fourth, reconsider moving toward tithing. Take a closer look at what God has blessed you with and return a 10th in support of God's work in the world.
- Fifth, adopt a ministry item that you might be passionate about.
- Sixth, support any and all benevolence fund-raisers or champion a new one.
- Last, but not least, attend worship more regularly and encourage our families and fellow members to attend more regularly. There is a direct correlation between worship attendance and the financial health of a church.

EXPENSES

Our general operating expenses are running behind budget at 94%. At the end of June, we had a deficit of (\$19,327) compared to a surplus last year of \$2,188 from our combined general operations and apartment rental.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Collections for our capital campaign are at \$723,003. Now that construction has begun and we can envision what a beautiful space this will become, perhaps you will consider an additional gift or accelerate payments on your pledge. They will earn 1% at the Mission Investment Fund until we need to draw down on the loan.

We are all wondering what's next in the life of St. John's. With Joe, Jane and Eric gone, we will be missing them, their leadership and friendship, but the work here continues and our stewardship must not falter as we find ourselves heading into a future that we know will have great and wondrous things in store for us.

Cindi Rachowicz

Treasurer

WHO'S SERVING IN AUGUST, 2017

AUGUST 6, 2017, 9:30 A.M.

Assisting Minister: Chad Johnson
Communion Minister: Bill Kaspar
Minister of the Word: Alla Rusz
Ushers: Buck Crist, Tom Morrison, Larry Wood
Greeter: Nancy Wood, Jan Wendel
Carillon: Peter Knobel

AUGUST 13, 2017 - 9:30 A.M.

Assisting Minister: Jan Wendel
Communion Minister: Bill Kaspar
Minister of the Word: Millie Braun
Ushers: Buck Crist, Tom Morrison, Larry Wood
Greeters: Peter Knobel, Dave Brunn
Carillon: Susan Crist

AUGUST 20, 2017 - 9:30 A.M.

Assisting Minister: Cindi Rachowicz
Communion Minister: Ken Kastman
Minister of the Word: Robert McConnell
Ushers: Tim Witt, Luke Rasmussen, Chad Johnson
Greeters: Margye Smith, Susan Crist
Carillon: Rachel Cordts

AUGUST 27, 2017 - 9:30 A.M.

Assisting Minister: Dave Brunn
Communion Minister: Alan Swanson
Minister of the Word: Jim Dossa
Ushers: Tim Witt, Luke Rasmussen, Chad Johnson
Greeters: The Hiebl Family
Carillon: Tina Ziegler

Altar Guild: Janet Kiernicki