

St. John Monthly Reminders

November 2017

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
Seward, Nebraska | www.stjohnseward.org

When the Need Arises for Pastoral Care

Please call the church office at any time you or your loved one is in need of pastoral care. Deaconess Juanita and Pastors Bruick and Ratcliffe work to make sure that there is spiritual care available throughout the week. It is also important for you to call the church office when you or a loved one has been admitted to the hospital. Due to the privacy law (HIPPA), hospitals do not notify the church. If it is after office hours, you may use the phone numbers that are listed on the front of the news bulletin to reach Deaconess or one of the Pastors in times of emergencies.

"Helps" During Your Time in Worship (sponsored by the Parish Health Ministry)

Please ask the ushers for locations and instructions for all of these "helps"

For your comfort and convenience, St. John Church has many "helps" for those who might need them. Wheelchair spaces are available—these spaces are also useful for those using walkers. Easy to use hearing devices are available. Large print bulletins are offered, and seat cushions are obtainable for your comfort. First aid kits are located at the Information Center in the narthex and also downstairs in the fellowship hall. An AED for electronic resuscitation is located in the school hallway right outside of the narthex.

Sharing the Peace

If you are uncomfortable shaking hands during the "Sharing of the Peace" portion of the service, please feel free to abstain. You are still encouraged to verbally offer your brothers and sisters in Christ this message of unity and peace. Please respect those who choose to refrain from handshaking due to colds, flu or suppressed immunity.



Audio Tapes and DVDs (videos) of St. John Weekend Worship Available

Call the church office (402-643-2983) and the Tape/DVD Ministry volunteers will be notified of your request.

Worship for Shut-Ins

Sundays at 7:30am and Thursdays at 4pm in the Lincoln, Crete and Seward Areas.

Worship for Shut-ins, an award winning traditional Lutheran worship service, is being aired on Spectrum Cable Channel 1302 (TV must be hooked to a cable box to get this channel). It is also available on DirecTV Channel 377 at 10:30am on Sunday mornings. The program is closed captioned for the hearing impaired. [This program is brought to this area by our Evangelism Board and others. The program originates from Wolf Chapel on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft. Wayne, IN.]

The Lutheran Hour [The Lutheran Hour can be heard every Sunday on: Omaha's KFAB 1110 (AM) at 6:30am; XM's Family Talk Radio 170 at 1pm; KOIL/1290 (AM) at 7am; Columbus-KZEN 100.3 (FM), 9am; Norfolk-WJAG 780 AM, 7:30am & 12:30pm; Norfolk-KPNO 90.9 (FM), 2:30pm; West Point-KWPN 107.9 (FM), 11am; Grand Island-KMMJ 750 (AM), 7am; Lexington-KRVN 880 (AM), 10am; KAWL 1370(AM), 6:30am; Lincoln's Bott Radio-KLVC 88.5 (FM), 8am.]

This Month:

November 5

Blessed Are the Pure in Heart (Guest Speaker: Dr. Dale A. Meyer)—This weekend many churches observe All Saints Sunday, remembering those who have died in the Christian faith. That prompts us to ask, what does it take to get to heaven? Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:8, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." What that means is this week's Lutheran Hour message. (Matthew 5:8)

November 12

More Than a Wish (Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus)—Not so long ago over 370 million tickets were sold for a Powerball drawing. Each person who made a purchase had hope that they might become rich. Most were disappointed. In 1 Thessalonians 4, St. Paul explains how the resurrection hope of Christians is better than the hopelessness of the world and far more solid than groundless wishful thinking. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14)

November 19

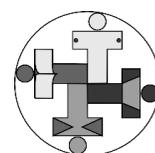
The Reckoning (Guest Speaker: Dr. Dale A. Meyer)—You hear little talk about the "Fear of God" anymore, but if you don't in some way fear your Creator who judges you down to your inmost being, why would you love your only Savior whom He sends you? A message about fearing and loving God. (Matthew 25:14-30)

November 26

Show Me (Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus)—In Lerner and Loewe's musical, *My Fair Lady*, Eliza is being wooed with words by weak and wimpy suitor. She comments: "Don't talk of stars, burning above If you're in love, show me Tell me not dreams, filled with desire If you're on fire, show me." In Jesus' description of Judgment Day, the Savior goes on record: true love needs to show itself in action. (Matthew 25:31-46)

"Companions"

The Disability Ministry Committee would like to remind you that we have trained Companions who are ready and willing to assist any member with disabilities, of any age, as needed. These Companions are willing to assist during worship services, Bible study, or Sunday school, help with transportation to church or other places as needed, assist with errands or chores, or to serve as a prayer partner. Please let Deaconess Juanita (402-643-2983) or Amanda Geidel (402-641-5054) know of any needs you are aware of and we will find the Companion for the job.



Rides Available for Shut-ins

Call Dolores Mielke weekdays from 12-1pm or 5-7pm **two days in advance** of needed service (402-643-3262)

St. John has a list of drivers willing to take shut-ins to medical appointments, church or special events.

There is no specific charge, but donations are acceptable. In the event that Dolores is not available, you may call the church office (402-643-2983).



Frozen Meal Assistance Ministry

If you need a quick meal for you or your family when facing an illness or difficult situation, the St. John Human Care Board has frozen meals ready and available for you to heat and use. The Frozen Meal Assistance Ministry is called "Feed My Sheep" and is intended for times when meals are needed quickly such as when dealing with an illness, recovering from surgery or a birth, or facing a difficult situation. The Human Care Board hopes that these meals will serve as a way to express caring to both members of St. John and to the Seward community at large. If you know of someone who would benefit from a prepared meal, please contact Human Care Board members Jennifer Bockelman at 402-646-5536 or Laurie Sherman at 402-643-0502.

Helping Hands 2.0

Got a small repair you don't know how to fix? Feeling a little shaky to get up on a ladder or even a chair to change a light bulb? Can't afford a professional for a small job around the house? There are people from St. John who want to help! The Helping Hands program has been available at St. John to help people who may need a helping hand for small jobs. It has recently been dusted off, revised and fine-tuned. Meet the new and improved *Helping Hands 2.0*! If you have light yard work, leaky faucet, burned out light bulb, some small auto repairs or house work call the church office at 402-643-2983. You will be connected to someone who would like to help you.

Fall Clean Up Help Available (sponsored by the Student Ministry Board)

If you need help with yard work, washing windows, etc., please let us know: call Bill Preuss at 402-643-3115. If no one is home, leave a message. We will contact Concordia student leaders who will make arrangements with you based on their availability.

Because We Care About the "Whole" You

Support groups open to the public held monthly at Brookdale (Seward Heartland Park); professionals lead the groups and refreshments and snacks are provided; groups usually meet in the private dining room: •Alzheimer's Support Group – every 2nd Tues. of the month, 7pm; •Parkinson's Support Group – every 4th Thurs., 10am; •Stroke Support Group (for victims and caregivers/family members) – every 4th Tues., 6pm.

Christ-centered Counseling Is Available for You

For information on counselors, please contact the church office (402-643-2983).

If you or a loved one is in need of Christ-centered counseling, there are qualified counselors available for you. The Pastoral Team can refer you to qualified mental health therapists locally or in Lincoln who can assist you with the issues of life you are dealing with.

Collection Box for Orphan Grain Train Items (Sponsored by the LWL)

2nd weekend of month, west entrance

Please place used clothes, linens, shoes, socks, etc. to be donated to the Orphan Grain Train and taken to the Lincoln distribution center. Thank you for your gifts for missions.

Orphan Grain Train Lincoln Collection Site Needs Volunteers

Adults and youth are encouraged to volunteer at the collection site at 2316 Kimara PL, Lincoln, to sort and pack donated items. Contact Dick Waechter (402-450-4368; jwaechter@windstream.net) to set up a time for a group to come once or twice a month for 2-3 hours at a time.

Orphan Grain Train Collection Site in Lincoln

Every 3rd Thursday, 9am-12pm, 2316 Kimarra PL, Lincoln, NE

Drop offs accepted as well as donations of your time to help with sorting and packing. Questions – contact Dick Waechter 402-450-4368.

Women Interested in Making Comfort Crosses

Every Monday, 6:30-8pm, Crossmakers of Seward, 331 Jackson AVE

If you are a female and would like to give of your time and talents to create hand crafted wood crosses—comfort/palm crosses—which are distributed to people who are in crisis, hurting, hospitalized, etc, Crossmakers of Seward invites you to join them on "ladies night"—bring a friend!

Ways to Shop On-line and Earn Money for Our Ministry

Information sheets on this program are available in the school & church offices.

Go to these websites:

- GoodSearch.com and GoodShop.com;
- Amazonsmile.com (use your current Amazon account login information at this site)

Church Art Work Booklet

A full-color booklet describing the art work at St. John is available in the church office. Because of cost, there is a limit of one free booklet per family (additional booklets cost \$2).

"Like" St. John Church, School and CDC on Facebook

Facebook users: "Like" St. John Church, St. John School and St. John Child Development Center. Updates, announcements and discussions are some of the items that are available.



"Embrace" Adoption

last Monday of the month, 7pm, The Rock Lutheran Church, Seward

Anyone who has a heart for adoption or foster care is invited to attend the "Embrace" adoption support group. Whether you are seasoned parents who have grown adopted children or just contemplating the process you are encourage to join this newly forming group as they develop their vision for supporting one another. Contact Michelle Mueller (402-643-6947) or Lori Bruns (402-641-5580) with questions. Also check out the Facebook page: Embrace adoption support group-Seward.

Heartfelt Connections - Grief Support Group for Parents

2nd Thursday of the month, 7pm, Seward Civic Center, 616 Bradford

For additional information or questions contact Sharon Dickinson at 402-643-8145 or Diane Krieser at 402-588-2687.