



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

PROCLAIM AND PRACTICE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Worship

[This Week's Worship](#)

[Livestream](#)

Church-Wide News

Meet Our New DCE Practicum Students from CUNE

They will be participating and leading in various DCE-related ministries. Keep an eye out for Operation Christmas Child which they will be getting going soon!

My name is **Braedon Thompson**, and I am a senior at Concordia University, Nebraska. I am majoring in Psychology and Christian Education Leadership - this has me on the path to become a Director of Christian Education. I am involved in praise bands, as well as involved in many choirs. I have a passion for sports, mainly basketball. I coach and officiate basketball. My ultimate dream would be to use basketball as a tool for evangelism.



I am **Esther Langness**, and I am a senior from Englewood, Colorado, majoring in Christian Educational Leadership and Theology. I love people, and I love digging into theological discussions.



Pulling Out All the Stops!

This phrase usually means "play the organ loud," but in the next few weeks Dobson Organ Company of Lake City, Iowa, will be physically pulling out parts of the organ for refurbishment and renewal. The piano, handbells, and instruments will lead our singing in the weeks to come. The organ should be fully playable again by the first week of November.

Walk Thru the Bible New Testament for Families

Oct. 8, 9am-12pm, Harvest Hall,
Seward Co. Fairgrounds.

[Click here](#) for more details
and registration link.

[Click here](#) for a short video.

Announcements

First Communion Training Is Coming

Mark Oct. 30, Nov. 6, and 13, in your calendar for First Communion Training for 5th-8th graders. This is a new option offered at St. John for kids and their parents. This is a combination of classroom training on three consecutive Sundays at 10am in the Centennial Room taught by our pastors and DCE and at-home lessons designed to be facilitated by parents/guardians. At the end of the three weeks, the parents, child, and pastor will discuss the readiness of a child to receive Holy Communion. This is optional and in addition to St. John Lutheran's traditional Confirmation training which is still available in 7th and 8th grade. You can register for First Communion by [clicking here](#).

Adopt a Concordia Student

Many new Concordia students will be eager to have a St. John family adopt them and welcome them into their home and to keep in touch throughout the school year. Many of these relationships last during the student's years at Concordia and even beyond graduation. If interested in serving as a host family, a sign-up sheet is available in the narthex and west entry (or contact Donna Hendrickson donnajoy@neb.rr.com or 402-641-6158). Roommates and friends often ask to be assigned together, so we will likely ask you to shepherd (adopt) more than one student.



Join Others in Sharing the Love of Jesus in Alaska in 2023

This is the time for you to share the love of Jesus through a Work & Witness Mission Team or a Bible & Sports Camp Team serving in Alaska in 2023. Team members must be 16 years of age or older. Concordia Students are welcome to serve on the teams.

Informational meetings for the 2023 teams:
September 25, 3pm, Heritage Room;
October 23, 3pm, Heritage Room

For additional information, please contact Pastor Bruick: alaska.mission@stjohnseward.org.

LWML Weekend and Dedication of the Quilts - Oct. 1 & 2

In worship October 1 & 2 we will highlight the Lutheran Women's Missionary League and dedicate quilts made by the "St. John Comforters." The "Comforters" is a mission project of the LWML. The group meets every Tuesday at 10am in the CDC lower level. Typically, 6-8 women gather to work on hand tying quilts that are ultimately given to the Orphan Grain Train. Some of the women also cut and sew fabric at home; the material for the quilts is donated. Also on display this year will be some girls pillowcase dresses sewn by members of the "Comforters." Some of the quilts and dresses have been given locally this year as well as to the refugee family assisted by St. John. If you'd like to participate, join the women in the CDC lower level. To learn more about or join our LWML groups (LWML or Hands of Mercy) contact the church office. To learn more about the national LWML organization, [click here](#).

Women's Retreat - New Date: October 1

If you were interested in going with us to Branched Oak, the event has been rescheduled for 10/1; 8am-4pm. There will be a sign up table in the narthex this weekend. If the new date means you are now unable to attend, you can let us know that as well. This will help us greatly as we plan for lunch and supplies. Prepare for a great day with the Lord and your sisters in Christ as we hike, kayak, study His Word and fellowship with one another. Contact [Deaconess Jeri](#) if you have any questions and she will

make sure the planning committee is aware.

Grieving with Hope - Sunday AM Fellowship Hall Bible Study

10-16 through 11-27, leader Deaconess Jeri

"We do not grieve as those who have no hope" (1 Thessalonians 4:13). This verse was the basis for my Master's Capstone Project. One of the authors I cited proposed that due to the limited availability of laments in certain hymnals this means that the use of laments in worship is limited. Based on this he stated "we are losing the language of lament." Have you noticed our culture's aversion to grief? The increasing use of euphemisms? There is a drastic difference between a birth (lots of support from family and friends) and the death of a loved one (tends to be private, isolated). This study will take a close look at some of the psalms of lament and the variety of reasons for lament. We will also learn to use the words of Scripture when we don't have our own words to express our lament. The weeks of this class surround All Saint's Day (11/1 - celebrated in worship on 11/5 & 6) - a bittersweet day for many who grieve... with HOPE.



October Is Church Worker Appreciation Month

During the month of October don't forget to celebrate our ministry staff (Pastors, Deaconess, DCE and Cantor) and their families, both those who are serving and those who have retired. Figure out what you can do personally to recognize and honor these leaders. A simple card, an invitation to lunch, a promise to pray for them or an offer to wash a car or mow a lawn make wonderful statements.

Looking for Worship Board Members

Would you like to help with church services? The Worship Board has a member at each service to communicate with the pastors, assist with lighting candles, helping those attending find seating, and making sure the services go smoothly. We locate and set up the Christmas trees and line up decorating. We meet quarterly to discuss any items that may need attention. If you are interested in helping out with this, please email Clark Koehler at koehlerequipment@gmail.com

Youth Music Tour

St. John's 7th-12th grade on-the-road hymn festival will be heading to Colorado and Kansas, from October 20-23. Visit SingBoldly.org/tour to see the full itinerary! High school students wishing to go on the tour should email paul.soulek@stjohnseward.org for more information.

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 or email Kristy Jurchen at 402-643-9491 or Kristy.jurchen@cune.edu. Leave a message with your name and contact information. We will contact Concordia student leaders who will make arrangements with you based on their availability.

Dare2B (7th & 8th Gr. Youth)
Wed., Oct 5, 6:30-8pm, fellowship hall

Trivia?
NIGHT?

**Save the Date -
Friday, February 3**

Service Opportunities!

Are You Interested in Being a Greeter for St. John Worship Services?

The Evangelism Board is re-starting the Greeters ministry for our worship services. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, we'd like you to fill out [this survey](#) on your availability/preferences. If you need more information, please contact [Sharon Mailand](#) or call 402-646-2277; or see the sign-up table in the narthex. Please respond by Sep. 30.

Caring Adults to Provide Child Care

St. John is seeking caring adults (including college students!) for child care on Sunday mornings during the Christian Nurture hour (9:45-11am). Contact [DCE Tim](#) or call 402-643-2983.

Communion Set-up & Clean-up and Linen Laundering

Help is needed in all three of these areas. If you would like to assist with these "altar guild" duties, please contact the church office (402-643-2983).

Coordinator or Co-Coordinators for Godparent Program

St. John is currently seeking a coordinator (or possibly 2 co-coordinators) for the Godparent Program. This is the premier high school ministry and has been a blessing to youth for generations. Has the Lord blessed you to be a blessing to St. John teens in this way? Contact DCE [Tim Rippstein](#).

Drivers for Out-of-Town Appointments

St. John provides rides to medical appointments, church and special events. We currently need more volunteers who can drive to Lincoln. Call Sue Wickersham at 402-643-6287 if you would like to serve in this way.

LWML Fall Rally - All Women Invited!

Sun., Oct 16, 1pm Registration; 1:30pm Rally, Our Redeemer Ministry Center, 145 S 4TH, Staplehurst

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League Seward Zone invites St. John women of to their Fall Rally. There will be a devotion, a mission speaker, short business meeting, ingathering for Seward County Foster Friends and CASA, refreshments and always smiles and chatter.

Life Chain (Pro-Life Event)

Sun., Oct. 2, 2-3pm, Seward Co. Court House - west side

The National Life Chain is the largest peaceful, prayerful, pro-life, public witness in the world. More than 1000 cities across the US and Canada are expected to participate. St. John will be participating in the Seward County Life Chain. Please join your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in standing up for life. We will meet on the west side of the Seward County Courthouse a few minutes before 2pm to receive our life posters, and then we will stand with a quiet witness along the downtown streets until 3pm. Let us all do our part to defend life—the very handiwork of God!

Third Quarter Giving Statements

If you would like to receive a third quarter giving statement **after the end of September**, please contact the church office by Oct. 15 and leave your request with Brenda (402-643-2983; brenda.rief@stjohnseward.org). All requests for statements will be accumulated and honored through batch processing following the Oct. 15 cutoff date.

A Diamond in the Rough!

There is another library in the fellowship hall behind closed doors with the words "Church Library" above it. It is an honor system check out. The black folder is where you sign out and in for two weeks of reading. Topics covered are: Family Life, Novels, Lutheranism, Devotions, Youth, Disability Ministry, Human Care. Many group Bible Studies are available from Beth Moore, Christ Care, Men's Bible Studies, other women's studies, Lifelight, That the World Should Know, and God's World for Today both Old and New Testament. Enjoy!

Lutherans for Life Informational Meeting

Tues., Sep. 27, 7pm, St. John, Seward, Heritage Room

This is an opportunity to learn more about Lutherans for Life and how you can have an impact on Life issues in the Seward area. There is no obligation. Please feel welcome to come and share your perspective if you like. Contacting Rev. Jeffrey Duncan at jduncan@lutheransforlife.org or at 316-708-0791 prior to the meeting is optional.

Produce Table

every weekend through early fall, outside by west entrance

Please bring your surplus produce so that others may enjoy your bounty.

Child Development Center "Natural Playground" Helpers Needed!

The Child Development Center is participating in a program that helps with natural playgrounds called ECHO. We need people who can be involved with some planning, recruiting some help and giving some expert advice. If you have experience with outdoor environments, playgrounds, or have an interest with helping with this, please email Lisa Aring, director, at lisa.aring@stjohnseward.org

Child Development Center Now Hiring

St. John Child Development Center is looking for part-time workers (20-30 hours per week), a full-time toddler teacher, full-time sub for a maternity leave, and student workers aged 16 and older before and after school. Apply by [clicking here](#).

"A Life Called" Church Work Visit Event at CUNE

Is there a sophomore, junior, or senior in your youth group that you believe would make a great DCE, Lutheran teacher, pastor, deaconess, or director of parish music? Concordia University, Nebraska, would love for you to bring them to explore their church work programs at "A Life Called," their church work visit event on Fri., Nov. 4 & Sat., Nov. 5. While attending "A Life Called," students will be able to: learn about their five church work programs; sit in on church work classes and learn alongside current students; engage with their church work faculty; tour campus and see the residence halls; learn about the church worker call process and financial aid opportunities; join the campus community for home basketball games. It is optional to stay overnight, but all students will be invited to stay overnight in the dorms. All housing, meals, and activities are FREE for students. For more information please email olivia.johnson@cune.edu To register, please visit [THIS LINK](#).

LERT Basic Training, Christ Lincoln Church

October 22, 9am - 3pm, 4325 Sumner ST, Lincoln

Participants will be introduced to the LCMS Disaster Response program and learn the basic nature of disasters, the opportunities to respond to personal needs in such disasters and how as Christians, can support families, congregations and the public, as the hands and feet of Jesus, during these trying times. If interested in being certified to respond to disasters, please register at www.lcms-lert.org and sign up for this training event. The cost of \$30 will cover training materials, lunch, and snacks. Questions? Contact Mick Onnen at DisasterResponse@ndlcms.org 402-364-3370. To learn more, [click here](#).

Church Office Hours

The church office is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm.

St. John Is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

If you need someone to help you through a difficult time, call any of the following:

- church office (402-643-2983)
- Deanna Dowding (402-643-3148)
- Mary Ann Steinbeck (402-643-2677)
- Lana Urban (402-643-3964)



Sunday Bible Study Options

Worship Options

Recurring Events/Monthly Reminders

Please send Prayer Requests to sjcstaff@stjohnseward.org

If you know someone who is not getting emails from St. John, please contact brenda.rief@stjohnseward.org.

Newsletters of Interest



[St. John Lutheran Church](#)
[St. John Lutheran School "Parent Bulletin"](#)
[St. John Child Development Center](#)
[Nebraska District Lutheran Reporter](#)
[LFL Life News](#)

[Church Website](#)
[Church Calendar \(public events only\)](#)
[St. John Lutheran School](#)
[St. John Child Development Center](#)
[St. John Faith Formation Website](#)
[CUNE Events Link on Website](#)
[St. John's Christ's Cupboard](#)
[Food Bank of Lincoln Food Distribution Schedule](#)
[Orphan Grain Train Lincoln Collection Center](#)

Give Now

[\[402-643-2983\]](tel:402-643-2983) [\[sjcstaff@stjohnseward.org\]](mailto:sjcstaff@stjohnseward.org) [\[stjohnseward.org\]](http://stjohnseward.org)

