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REMOTE WORSHIP – CONNECTING

Today we are continuing to worship remotely via the church’s Facebook page. Direct your web browser to www.facebook.com/stjohnluthfw/ at 10:00 a.m. Then look for a notice indicating that we are Livestreaming. Click on that notice and you should be able to watch—and worship—together. You can even click ‘likes’ and add comments that others will see. God bless and keep us all in this “new normal” in which we find ourselves!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Those affected by the Coronavirus Britney (healing/car accident) Suzie (Boerger) James (health/Steve’s sister) Linda Johnson (healing/Bev Murphy’s sister) Sue Kienzle (healing) Dan & Frankie Peifer Jackson Reed (3 yr old w/lymphoma) Barb Page Sablic (healing) Ron Stabler (health) Daniel David Williams CONTINUING CONCERNS: Dave Burget Clarence Bush (health/Vickie Brown’s father) David Drake Esther Helmke Alma Kable (health) Rose Ellen Marquart Jermarcus Jones THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY: Aaron (relative of the Cobb/Johnson

family) Anthony Cutino (Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, GA/nephew of Fran Gull) Nicolas Cutino (Fort Benning, GA/nephew of Fran Gull) Vince Cutino (Ft. Bragg, NC/nephew of Fran Gull) Cody Gull (Army/Fort Benning, GA) Lucas Kirkwood (Hawaii/Mike & Sherry Mommer’s grandson) Matt McGahey (Scott Air Force Base, IL) Warren Rockett, (McConnell AFB, Wichita, KS/nephew of Fran Gull) Jonathon Strait (nephew of Linda McGahey/ Fort Huachuca, AZ) Carter Vanworth USAF-Washington DC/ Julia Rieck’s nephew) CHURCH OF THE WEEK Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 535 South 14th Street New Castle, IN 47362 Rev. Matt Masko



We invite you to share your prayer concerns by calling the church office, 426.5751, or by filling out a green Prayer Request Card (found in the pew-card holder) and giving it to an usher, placing it in the offering plate or by placing it on the desk in the church office. Please indicate what you would like listed for prayers if you would like it to be listed. If you or a family member goes into the hospital, please call the church office so we are made aware of it as the privacy laws for hospitals do not always allow them to notify us thanks.

DID YOU KNOW YOU COULD CONNECT TO ZOOM WITH JUST YOUR PHONE?

That’s right, there is a dial in option for folk who have a phone but no mobile device. This can be a mobile phone or even a good old fashioned landline. For our Fellowship Time after worship, simply dial 1-312-626-6799, then, when prompted to enter the meeting #, enter 878 097 321. The instead of entering a participant ID, just hit the # key. A voice should tell you you are now in the meeting, which is to say, you will be in St. John’s Fellowship Time—again, minus the donuts. Hope you can make it!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS NEXT SUNDAY!

Hey kids! Sunday, August 9 is “Bring Your Backpacks to Church” Sunday at St. John! Parents, we are pleased to announce a blessing of the backpacks (and the children who use them, of course!) on Sunday, August 9th during the Kids’ Talk time during worship. Due to the pandemic, we will ALSO be inviting children worshipping remotely to hold up their backpacks at home to be blessed. In addition, we will be praying for any in the congregation who work in the schools as well as Concordia Lutheran High School, SAFE and Washington Elementary staff and students. So see you—and your backpacks!—in worship!

CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY DEEPER INTO REST WITH A TRIAD BOOK STUDY

Brenda Jank, the face on the videos we have been showing on Sunday mornings and presenter at our retreat later this month, has written a book entitled, Vantage Point: A New View of Rest, Rhythm, and the Work of God. Starting as early as August 16, you could participate in a six week triad with two others to read and reflect on this book and the four rhythms it describes: sleep, Sabbath keeping, stillness and solitude. More details can be found in the August newsletter or by emailing pastorpaul@stjohnluth.com. May God bless our congregation’s journey deeper into these four key elements of rest!



YOU’RE INVITED

On Sunday, August 9, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m., Smith Academy for Excellence (SAFE) has invited the community to join them for a time of prayer for students, staff and the upcoming school year. Regardless of whether or not you can make it (meet in the gym), please do add your prayers to those of others for SAFE to have a safe and productive year of good learning and deepening relationships. Note: this will be via Zoom, not in person. The Meeting ID # is ????. In fact, a couple prayers are offered below for your consideration, if you’d like some ideas on how / what to pray. God bless and keep staff, students and families of Smith Academy in the coming year!

SERMON SERIES – “A REST THAT WORKS”

We are now in the midst of a five week sermon series on Sunday mornings entitled, “A Rest That Works.” This is meant to complement the short video reflections that will continue during the series. Here are the remaining topics and dates:

- August 2 – Sleep
• August 9 – Stillness
• August 16 – Solitude

OUR DAILY BREAD

Free copies of the daily devotionals for June, July & August are now available at the Welcome Center, be sure to stop and pick up one today before they run out or if you would like one mailed to you, call the office and we can do that for you! (426-5751)

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

The flowers on the altar today are given in loving memory of Carol Bosserman by Bob Bosserman.



OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Name
Address
Best Contact Phone
Email
Service Attended

Would you like to volunteer or respond to an announcement? How about requesting a favorite hymn? Let us know by emailing the church at sjluth@stjohnluth.com or calling 426-5751 and leaving a voicemail.

WANNA TALK?

In these days of increased physical isolation, Pastor Paul is willing to connect with anyone who wishes, on any topic, either related to COVID-19, the George Floyd protests, or whatever. He can talk on the phone, in person while socially distancing, or via Zoom or FaceTime (yes he's an iPhone user). And he's ALWAYS willing to pray with you! Just drop him an email (pastorpaul@stjohnluth.com), text or call (260-348-6357) to set something up!

RETREAT OPPORTUNITY – SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH

On Saturday, August 29th, we will be offering a half day congregational retreat to dive deeper into the four core rhythms of “A Rest That Works” – Sabbath Rest, Sleep, Stillness, and Solitude. Our presenter will be Brenda Jank, founder of “Run Hard. Rest Well.” Gathering and check-in starts at 8:30 a.m., while the retreat itself will run 9:00 a.m. until noon. This is open to members of St. John and members of the community. Cost is only \$10—a small price to pay for your own physical and spiritual health. All participants will be given a book Brenda has written entitled, “Vantage Point.” You may sign up via the tear off portion of the Weekly if you are in public worship, or by mailing a check to the office made out to St. John.

We look forward to what God is going to do among us as we slow down together to reflect more fully on the importance of rest in our lives. May God’s Spirit richly bless our time together!

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY ON SUMMER BREAK

The Thursday Brown Bag Bible Study is now on break for the summer. We will resume on **Thursday, August 27th**. See the August newsletter for more info, including whether or not it will be in person or via Zoom. During the break members are encouraged to continue reading Brian McLaren’s weekly chapters in *We Make the Road by Walking*. Here’s that schedule: ch 47, 7/16; ch 48, 7/23; ch 49, 7/30; ch 50, 8/6; ch 51, 8/13; ch 52, 8/20.

Contact Pastor Paul (pastorpaul@stjohnluth.com / 260-348-6357 text/phone) for more details.

WEST CENTRAL COFFEE IS NOW OPEN!

We are open for business—and community! Indiana has moved to Stage 4.5 of re-opening. This means 75% capacity for dining areas as long as social distancing is observed, wearing of face coverings recommended, and social distancing for all Hoosiers 65 and older or who are considered high risk are still in place. The coffee house will follow and comply with these and all CDC guidelines for restaurants.

The hours of operation are currently 7 a.m. until 3 p.m., 7 days per week. Jay Heare is the interim manager, while Bruce Robinson has shifted to a Creative Arts role for the coffee house.

So what can YOU do, as a member or friend of St. John, to help West Central Coffee succeed? Here are some suggestions:

1. **Pray!** Ask God’s Holy Spirit to flow through the staff and facility, creating a welcoming space for ALL people. Pray for wisdom and perseverance for the West Central Coffee Advisory Board. Pray for a successful shop, so we can welcome and love our neighbors through it for years to come!
2. **Join our Hospitality Team!** We are assembling a team of folk who will offer hospitality and the love of Jesus to WCC guests and encourage the WCC staff—think of those friendly, welcoming and helpful Wal-Mart greeters and you’ve got a good picture of what we’re seeking to accomplish. They will also wipe down tables, pick up trash, sweep, etc. to help keep the coffee shop tidy. Email wcchospitality@stjohnluth.com to let us know of your interest OR search for the sign up sheet online at www.SignUpGenius.com and sign up for one or more two hour time slots.
3. **Fill our “Grace Jar” with wooden nickels!** Each “Grace Coin” costs \$2 and is good for a free 12 oz. cup of coffee to be given to someone who can’t afford a cup of their own. Even a simple \$20 donation will add 10 wooden nickels. Be sure to indicate “Grace Jar” on any donations you wish to be used for this purpose. And may grace abound! (. . . *but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more.* + Romans 5:20)
4. **Come buy our coffee!** Seriously, once we are open, stop by often to enjoy our coffee, supplied by Utopian Coffee, or one of our many specialty drinks, from espresso to a wide variety of other choices. Thanks!

OUR LIFE TOGETHER AT ST. JOHN

August 2 - August 9

SUN 2	9 th Sunday after Pentecost	
	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
	10 am	Worship Service w/Holy Communion
	1 pm	NA Mtg. (BH)
MON 3	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
TUE 4	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
	6 pm	WCC Board Mtg. (Remote)
WED 5	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
	6:20 pm	Casual Gathering (Remote)
THU 6	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
FRI 7	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
SAT 8	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
SUN 9	10 th Sunday after Pentecost	
	7 am-3 pm	West Central Coffee Hours
	10 am	Worship Service w/Holy Communion
	1 pm	NA Mtg. (BH)

NOISY OFFERINGS

August’s Noisy Offering will be collected for St. John Well-spring Children’s Outreach Ministry. If you are worshipping remotely, you may mail a check to the office with “August Noisy Offering” in the memo line.

COVID-19 RESOURCES FOR ELCA CONGREGATIONS AND MEMBERS

With the outbreaks of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the United States and around the world, our church and its leaders continue to minister to its members, to those who are hurting and searching for peace, and to those in need. Resources are available to help congregations and members stay connected and resilient during this crisis. Visit ELCA.org/publichealth for online worship best practices, FAQs regarding government assistance programs, video messages from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and resources to help you practice your faith at home.



VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO SERVE AT THE WEST CENTRAL HOME & GARDEN TOUR AND ARTSFEST SEPT 12/13

Once again we will be seeking sign ups to serve at the West Central Home and Garden Tour and Artsfest the first weekend after Labor Day. This year’s goal is 20 sign ups. This is half of last year’s goal, due to (1) the pandemic that has limited people’s willingness and ability to get out and about, (2) a reduced number of volunteers needed due to the changes in how the Tour is operating this year (see elsewhere in the newsletter for more details). Keep watching the Weekly as details on how to volunteer will be printed here when they become available. THANK YOU (in advance) for signing up to love and serve your West Central (and wider Fort Wayne) neighbors!