

The Epistle

AUGUST 2019

**St. John's Lutheran
Red Bud, Illinois**

**Church: 508 Bloom Street
618/282-2394**

**School: 808 South Main Street
618/282-3873**

618-282-4087 (fax)

office@stjohnsredbud.org

www.stjohnsredbud.org

Worship: Saturdays at 5 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education Hour:

Sundays from 9:30-10:15 a.m.

We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
administer the sacraments and provide
Christian education in service to all people.

Rev. Mark A. Nebel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Russell E. Koen, Pastor

Mrs. Lindsey Hudak, Director of Parish Music

Mrs. Deitt Schneider, Principal

From Lutheran Church Charities

Where to Go for Help

Psalm 25:1 "To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul"

When you need help, turn to Psalms chapter 25 and note what David did. 1) He knew where to go. *'Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.'* Recently a reader called me to ask for prayer for a family member who had just been diagnosed with stage four cancer. How quickly our lives can change! Where can we turn in such moments? To God. He's known by many names in Scripture, and one of them is Jehovah-Rapha – the Lord who heals you. How wonderful! His Word says, *'He heals your diseases – every one'* (Psalm 103:3). With God no sickness is incurable, which means you can go to Him today with confidence. 2) He knew Whom to trust. *'O my God, I trust in thee'* (Psalm 25:2). A man or woman without God has to fill the role of God in his or her own life. That may be okay in good times, but what about malignant cells, faulty heartbeats, redundancies at work, home repossessions, and phone calls that bring bad news in the wee hours of the morning? To whom do you turn then? *'Unto thee, O Lord!'* 3) He knew how to

pray: *'Show me, teach me, lead me.'* *'Show me thy ways...teach me thy paths...Lead me in thy truth...for thou art the God of my salvation'* (vv. 4-5).

Theologian Richard Foster says, *'To pray is to change. It's the central avenue God uses to transform us. If we're not willing to change we will soon abandon prayer.'* So have you prayed about it? If not, get into God's presence right away. That's where you'll find the help you need. Remember – ultimate healing from God for ALL of our sickness and plight is eternity with Him!

PRAYER- Heavenly Father, thank You for being a God that hears our prayer and always answers with what is best for us. In Jesus' Name, Amen

Your Pastors' Ponderings

I included the above devotion because it follows up nicely with my sermon from last weekend on the proper place of prayer in our daily Christian lives. I hope that you find this devotion helpful.

Over my 12 years here at St. John's one of my constant concerns is the perceived disconnect that exists in people's minds between church and school in our congregation, as if they were independent entities. Worship attendance for many seems to revolve around the school year calendar, even though we still have the same schedule of services over the summer months. Unfortunately, many of our families are scarce or completely absent from worship once their last child has graduated from our day school, thereby not assisting with the education of other people's children as others previously had assisted with their children's education. Even many who currently do enjoy the blessing of Christian education for their children from our congregation through our school are not in worship with us very often, which I feel would be a basic show of their thanks and support. We could use that same show of support from our member grandparents whose grandchildren are benefiting from a quality Christian education in our school.

The following is a portion of the letter that I wrote to our member school families which they received at registration this year:

The theme for this school year will be "Life in Christ" based on 2nd Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." This new school year provides us a new opportunity to live as the new creation Christ has made us to be.

We have a Christian day school that provides a quality education for your children because we have a Christian

congregation that gathers regularly around God's Word and Sacraments in worship. Without our congregation, there is no school. Without you in worship, our congregation suffers. With you in worship, not only are you strengthened in spirit by God's Word, the fellow members of your family of faith are encouraged by your presence and together we grow stronger.

Your worship attendance at St. John's is a response to the gift this congregation provides your family in making our education tuition-free. Your worship attendance at St. John's is a reflection of your gratitude for and appreciation of that gift which our congregation gives to you. As parents, we teach our children to say, "thank you" for a gift given to them.

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Mark Nebel

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August is a month of blessings for our family. On August 1, 1981 Lauri and I made a promise to God and each other in our marriage vows. It was the beginning of a wonderful life together, blessed by God.

Before I met Lauri doctors told me I would never be able to father children due to injuries I experienced from my horse jockey years. Even before Lauri met me her gynecologist told her it would be very difficult to become pregnant and if she did, she would not carry her child to term. But God had other plans! He tells us in Jeremiah 29:11: "*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.*"

God blessed us with four sons within four years! God blessed our marriage with precious gifts and joy. Each pregnancy was a high risk pregnancy. Each delivery was an emergency c-section, two were premature babies, one pregnancy was twins but God chose to take the one twin to be with Him during the first five weeks of the pregnancy. God was with us guiding us, protecting us, and blessing us with these pregnancies and babies. In 2 Samuel 22:2 David reminds us; "*The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer.*" Jesus promises us in Matthew 28:20 "*I am with you always, to the end of the age.*"

On August 26, 1983 God blessed us with Nathan. Nathan was two weeks late and breach. He was our first emergency c-section. His name Nathanael means "Gift of God" because he was our special gift from God since we did not think we could have children.

Eleven and a half months later on August 14, 1984 God blessed us with Jacob, eight weeks premature. His lungs were not yet developed. God was with us,

blessing us as He provided strength and wisdom to take care of this tiny three pound baby and another baby who was not even walking yet! Jacob's name means "Chosen of God." God chose Jacob for a special purpose and gave him to us so early and helped him grow and develop into the young man he is today - Chosen of God.

On August 14, 1984 God blessed Jacob with the gift of becoming a member of His family through Holy Baptism. These are just a few ways that God has blessed during the month of August. There are many more that can be listed, but I will save that for another month.

Your brother in Christ, Pastor Russell Koen

Welcome to Our Family of Faith

July 7 Baptism of Dawson Edward Lee Nichols

We Bid a Fond Farewell

July 1 Death of Eunice Stumpf

July 8 Transfer out of Kyle Liefer to Peace Lutheran Church in Lemay, Missouri

The Offering as Ceremony

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion – the bread and the wine – were brought forward with the offerings. The offerings and elements were lifted toward the Lord and placed upon the altar. The altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord's Supper.

Gifts brought to the altar come from the sweat of His people's brow. They are the bread and wine, the fruits of His people's labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people are to bring a generous proportion for the Lord's work. Gifts set upon the altar are offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into service for His gracious work.

For what is offered to the Lord from the sweat of His people's brow – the bread of anxious toil – comes back to us as the bread of life. The bread comes down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup will receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

The Prayer Chain

Our Prayer Chain Coordinator is Vickie Heller. We thank her for agreeing to this service. If you would like to serve as part of the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please call Vickie at 618/521-7417. Please call the church office if you would like to add someone to our worship prayers. *Pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective* (James 5:16).

From the Principal's Pen

There are just a few short weeks left for summer vacation and then we will be back in school. I hope you have had some time to relax and get away for some summer fun and if not, that you will have a chance soon!! I am looking forward to the new school year. The theme chosen for this year is "Life in Christ..." The theme verse is 2nd Corinthians 5:17, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." Each month we will have a new emphasis such as "Life in Christ... is a life created by God!" I will try to keep you updated as the months go by and share with you our Bible verses.

Our enrollment figures are not yet complete as we still have a few families that need to register. I will give you a complete list in our September newsletter. We will welcome several new students to our school as transfer students so they will be listed also.

Stephanie Valleroy has completed her Colloquy courses and has accepted the Call from our congregation to serve as the third grade teacher. Installation will take place in August as the new school year begins.

The teachers and staff will be attending the Day of Spiritual Renewal on August 1 at Zion Lutheran in Litchfield. This event is a great time to spend time together in fellowship and worship.

We have compiled a calendar of major school events which was handed out at registration. A copy is included here as a handy reference.

Our school day will begin at 8:05 a.m. and conclude at 2:46 p.m. The doors will open at 7:45 a.m. and need to be picked up by 3:00 p.m. As in the past, before and after school care will be available. Please contact Mrs. Nebel with any questions as she supervises this program.

During the summer we always have faithful volunteers who help us get ready for the new school year with new additions and projects. This year is no exception! Thank you for your service to our teachers, students, school and church. We could not get so many things accomplished without you!!! Projects included repairing the sign, adjusting new desks, installing new cabinets in the science lab, preparations for the shed, electricity for the new basketball goals in the gym, painting, posting mirrors in the hallways for visibility, ordering chrome books and getting them ready for the start of school, new projectors installed and many other smaller projects. This list may continue to grow as we continue to prepare for the 2019-2020 school year! Heartfelt thanks for our faithful servant volunteers!

God's blessings to you, Mrs. Deitt Schneider

School Registration Requirements

Registration fee- \$450 per student (\$50 of this is the tech fee). For families of 3 or more children the fee will be \$375 per student.

Tuition- \$2500 for sister congregation & non-members.

Preschool- \$90 per month for 3 year-old class and \$110 for the 4 year-old class.

Athletics- \$30, with a maximum fee of \$60 for two or more sports per student.

Lunches- \$2.40 for K-2, \$2.50 for 3-8 and \$2.90 for adult lunches. Milk will be \$0.45.

Health Record Requirements

Physical- Kindergarten and 6th grade

Vision- Kindergarten or enrolling for the 1st time in school.

Dental- Kindergarten, 2nd and 6th grade

A sports physical is also needed for students participating in all sports.

***A copy of the birth certificate, current physical/health records and social security number are required for students who are entering our school.*

Thank You Received From School Chapel Offerings

"On behalf of Human Service Center, I thank you for your generous donation of \$192.77 to our food pantry! We are so appreciative of your contribution as this will continue to support the impact our agency has on our community and we couldn't do it without you!"

Shea Haury, Executive Director

"Please accept our most sincere 'Thank you' for your financial support of the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces. Our ministry and existence is completely dependent on gracious donors like you who support us. Your sincere support for our service members and their families is greatly appreciated. Your generous act of love through your donation to the LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces will ensure that we can continue to provide Gospel-centered materials and support to our service members and their families. Thank you!"

Rev. Craig G. Muehler, Chaplain (retired)

Director, LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces

Kindergarten Orientation

Parent orientation will be on Monday, August 5 from 7-8 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Childcare is available. Please call the school office at 282-3873.

Ushers Needed

We welcome anyone to assist with our worship services as an usher. You will be part of a team that serves three months at a time and then is off for a year. See Head Usher Scot Heller or Pastor Nebel if you are interested.

Evening Guild News

Our quilting chairman is Judy Guebert. If you have a quilt you would like to have quilted contact her at 618-979-2206. The group that quilts is always looking for more help. The times are listed below. You are welcome to join in at your convenience.

Quilting schedule for August is Tuesdays from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The quilting room is a great place for fellowship! There are many orders waiting. All help is appreciated!

Baldwin Sight Center: Volunteer your time to help make large print books at the Baldwin Center on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of each month. In August that is the 8th and 22nd. Call Mary Ann Wegener (282-2893) or come to the church parking lot at 1 p.m.

Men's Club

Our Men's Club will meet on Thursday, August 15. This is one week later than we normally would meet. We will gather at 6:30 p.m. at the Lion's Club Park for a BBQ meal and meeting.

Sunday School News

We are taking a break from classes this summer. We will begin a new year of Christian Education in our Sunday School with Rally Day activities on Sunday, August 18. We will introduce a new curriculum from Concordia Publishing House called "Enduring Faith." Our teachers will meet on Tuesday, August 6, at 7 pm. in the school library. Our Intergenerational class will be on Sunday, Sept. 1, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

ELDER ZONES FOR 2019: (Chairman, Kevin Liefer)

- Zone 1: Deborah Adams thru Rodie Collins-
Elder Ron Kunkelmann
- Zone 2: Susan Conboy thru Dennis/Kathy Grohmann-
Elder Stuart Langrehr
- Zone 3: Nick/Emily Grohmann thru Roger/Kim
Herriman- Elder Jacob Arbeiter
- Zone 4: Ryan Herriman to Travis/Erin Krick-
Elder Adam Guebert
- Zone 5: Wil/Martha Krick to Janel Maes-
Elder Kevin Liefer
- Zone 6: Pat Malik to Lanie Pensoneau-
Elder Quentin Stenzel
- Zone 7: Alan/Amber Piel to Don Schrader-
Elder Garon Schnepel
- Zone 8: Jeff/Dawn Schrader to Bob/Carol Turner-
Elder Stanley Langrehr
- Zone 9: Derek/Katelin Uffelmann to Doug Zschiegner-
Elder Bill Becker

Bible Class Opportunities in the Fellowship Hall

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. "Acts" (Pastors)

Check our website under the Media tab for Bible studies topics that you can do on your own! There are many interesting topics available and more to come.

Cougar Ball Games

On Monday, August 12 the St. John's Lutheran Cougars will play the Red Bud Royals at the Gateway Grizzlies Stadium. The softball game will begin at 5 p.m. with the baseball game to follow at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$4 and will get you into both games. Join in the fun and watch your Cougars play like the pros! Tickets can be purchased at St. John's Lutheran School Office.

Cardinals Baseball

Once again our students have the opportunity to sing at the Cardinals game on August 25th. The game is at 1:15 p.m. The Cardinals will play the Colorado Rockies. Our students will sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" on the field during the 7th inning stretch. Tickets are \$25 and include a voucher for a free hot dog and soda. Forms are available in school office. Any questions please call Tammy Moll @ 618-806-4026. All proceeds go to the class of 2023.

Senior Youth Activities

Our next meeting is Sunday, August 4 at noon in the church basement. We welcome all new members to attend this meeting.

We still have boxes of all-occasion greeting cards for sale. There are 30 embellished cards in every sturdy and pretty storage box for \$30.

*God's blessings, Terry & Susie Harms
Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men
stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will
renew their strength. Isaiah 40:30*



St. John's Senior Youth and adult guests gather for a picture in the new gym lobby before boarding their midnight bus for a trip to the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis on July 11-15.

Thank You

“Dear SJL teachers, staff, and students, What you have done for Meilyn and our family by raising money with a hat fundraiser is absolutely amazing. You should all take great pride in your kind and generous hearts. Jesus’ love shines through the St. John’s Lutheran family...from the daycare all the way through the Senior Youth group. We feel truly blessed and grateful to everyone who has taken part in our journey to our daughter.” *Many blessings, Drew and Jenna Schneider, Nolan, Griffin, and Hudson.*

Event Reminders On Your Cell Phones

Remind Me.com is a free system that will allow us to send text messages to you reminding you of what is happening in our family of faith here at St. John’s. However, it does not allow for group discussions so that there will not be continued unwanted messages from anyone in the group receiving the text. To join this remind system for St. John’s, text the message @8243ad2 (new code) to the number 81010. Please contact our office at 282-2394 with your questions.

No Addresses or Phone Numbers

We still need contact information for the following members: Dock and Laura Hamilton and sons John and Alex; Robert Fricke; Barbara Junge and children Rebecca, Leah and Angela; Pamela Kessel and daughter Emma; Kevin and Kelly Mehring; Marcy Rahn; Kimberly Whetstine and children Blake and Haley. Without an ability to be in contact with them, we cannot provide Christian ministry to them. Thank you for your help in reconnecting with these members.

Set Up Direct Payments Thru ACH

Routine payments to St. John’s now can be made by direct electronic withdrawal for offerings, school lunches, preschool tuition, and daycare securely from the bank account you designate at either bi-weekly or monthly intervals. Simply fill out a form in the school office and select each payment account you would like to have automatically withdrawn. It is free to set up. You can make changes or cancel at any time. If there are insufficient funds in the specified account at the time of payment, no funds will be withdrawn and the user will be notified. We hope that this option offers convenience to users and will result in a greater level of efficiency for our funding. This is completely optional. If you feel more comfortable continuing to make payments via cash or check, please do so!

Pictorial Directories Available

Copies of our latest pictorial directory are available for purchase from our office for \$50. This money goes for our congregation’s debt relief.

Worship Greeter Schedule

I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the Lord!” Psalm 122:1

Sat. Aug. 3	5 p.m. Harold and Deb Siegfried
Sun. Aug. 4	8 a.m. Wil and Martha Krick; Cindy Steele & Olivia Schmitz 10:30 a.m. Ken and Karen Wetzel; Ron and Diane Kunkelmann
Sat. Aug. 10	5 p.m. Virginia and Mark Moeller
Sun. Aug. 11	8 a.m. John and Norma Preston; Loren Harms & Lois Mesnarich 10:30 a.m. Jim and Judy Guebert; Carl and Flo Zschiegner
Sat. Aug. 17	5 p.m. Harold and Deb Siegfried
Sun. Aug. 18	8 a.m. Ken and Joan Voges, Lisa Quinn 10:30 a.m. Cindy Ebers; Vernon and Evelyn Muench
Sat. Aug. 24	5 p.m. Virginia and Mark Moeller
Sun. Aug. 25	8 a.m. Kalin and Kathy Liefer; Gerald and Jill Hanebutt 10:30 a.m. Bob and Arlene Pratt; Omer and Neva Liefer
Sat. Aug. 31	5 p.m. Miriam Poston
Sun. Sept. 1	8 a.m. Roger and Peggy Hanebutt; Ken and Joan Ruwald 10:30 a.m. Ron and Donna Burgdorf

There is an opening in our 10:30 a.m. schedule for a couple or for two individuals to serve as greeters. Please call the church office if you are willing to help!

August Assistants from the Altar Guild

Flower Servers: Jill Hanebutt and Martha Krick
Chancel Paraments: Virginia Moeller
Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

Paper Recycling

A new company is picking up the paper from the containers in the school parking lot. Once again, we are being paid for our recycled paper. They have reimbursed us \$471 (going back to 2015)!

Acolyte Schedule

Sat. August 3	5 p.m. Ashlynn Crafton*
Sun. August 4	8 a.m. Christine Liefer 10:30 a.m. Abbey Vallett
Sat. August 10	5 p.m. Kane Trost*
Sun. August 11	8 a.m. Noah Tepe* 10:30 a.m. Mitchell Fleming*
Sat. August 17	5 p.m. Jeremy Collins*
Sun. August 18	8 a.m. Aubrey Piel* 10:30 a.m. Hailey Proctor
Sat. August 24	5 p.m. Olivia Gerald
Sun. August 25	8 a.m. Bruce Quinn 10:30 a.m. Jenna Spanley
Sat. Aug. 31	5 p.m. Claire Diewald
Sun. Sept. 1	8 a.m. Connor Jordan 10:30 a.m. Karson Liefer

*denotes last time to serve as acolyte

If you are not able to serve when scheduled, please switch with another acolyte and contact the office with the change.

August Church and School Calendar

Thursday, August 1- Softball and Baseball practices begin
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. SID Day of Spiritual Renewal, Litchfield
Saturday, August 3-
5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
SUNDAY, August 4-
8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Adult and Youth Bible class
10:30 a.m. Divine Service
Noon Senior Youth meeting in the church basement
Monday, August 5-
7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meeting in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Kindergarten orientation in school cafeteria
Tuesday, August 6-
8:00 a.m. Faculty meeting
12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Sunday School teachers meeting in school library
Wednesday, August 7-
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Office staff meeting
Thursday, August 8-
1:00 p.m. Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin
Friday, August 9-
3:00 p.m. Brundage-Drinnon wedding rehearsal
Saturday, August 10-
1:00 p.m. Katrina Brundage/Roger Drinnon wedding
5:00 p.m. Divine Service
SUNDAY, August 11-
8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:30 a.m. Adult and Youth Bible class
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

Monday, August 12- Cougar games at Grizzlies' stadium

5:00 p.m. Girls' Softball game vs. Red Bud Royals
7:00 p.m. Boys' Baseball vs. Red Bud Royals
Tuesday, August 13-
8:00 a.m. Faculty meeting
9:30 a.m. Holy Communion at Red Bud Care Center
12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
1:30 p.m. Holy Communion service at Garden Place
6:00 p.m. Board of Parish Education meeting
Wednesday, August 14-
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Office Staff meeting
Thursday, August 15-
2:30 p.m. Baseball & Softball at New Athens HS
6:30 p.m. Men's Club gathering & BBQ at Lions Club Park
Saturday, August 17-
5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
SUNDAY, August 18-
8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Sunday School Rally Day
9:30 a.m. Adult and Youth Bible class
10:30 a.m. Divine Service (Alternative)
Monday, August 19-
8:00 a.m. Faculty meeting
4:15 p.m. Baseball and Softball at Evansville
7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting in the school library
Tuesday, August 20- *First Day of School!*
8:30 a.m. Opening School Service at church
12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, August 21-
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Quilting at church
11:00 a.m. Office Staff meeting
Thursday, August 22-
1:00 p.m. Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin
4:15 p.m. Baseball at St. Mary's, Chester
Friday, August 23-
4:15 p.m. Baseball & Softball at Valmeyer
Saturday, August 24-
5:00 p.m. Divine Service
SUNDAY, Aug. 25- *School children sing at Cardinals' game*
8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:30 a.m. Sunday School; Adult and Youth Bible class
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
Tuesday, August 27-
12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
4:15 p.m. Baseball & Softball home vs. Coulterville
Wednesday, August 28-
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Quilting at church
11:00 a.m. Office Staff meeting
3:30 p.m. Public School Junior Confirmation classes
Thursday, August 29-
4:15 p.m. Boys' baseball home vs. Rocher/Red Bud Catholic
4:15 p.m. Girls' softball home vs. Rocher
Friday, August 30- *No School! LESA Workshop*
Saturday, August 31- *Cross Country meet at Edwardsville*
5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
SUNDAY, September 1-
8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Intergenerational Bible class in the Fellowship Hall
10:30 a.m. Divine Service