



# THE VINE

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School Newsletter

*October 2020*

"Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, His followers, and His world."

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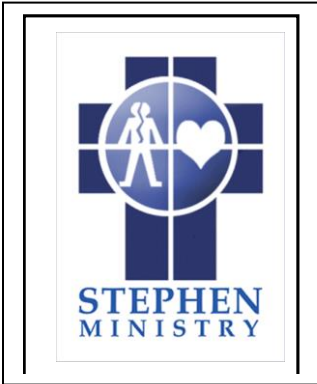
Join us for online worship or in-person worship each Sunday at 9:30 AM. We also have online worship on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM.

Please go to our website for the link for online worship as well as the guidelines for in-person worship.

[www.stjohnslutheran.net](http://www.stjohnslutheran.net)

Also, if you have not already subscribed to our weekly E-Vine, we highly encourage you to, as this is our main source of communication. You can subscribe on our website as well.

Please call the church office if you have any questions.



## ***New Stephen Minister Training Class Begins October 26***

Stephen Minister Training will begin October 26. Each training session will be on Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:30pm via Zoom, and will be conducted in 4 blocks of 5 weeks each. The anticipated dates will be October 26 - November 23, January 4 - February 1, February 22 to March 22, and April 19 – May 17. We are asking all members of St. John's Lutheran Church to consider participating in this training. Please contact Pastor Mark at the church office to sign up.

At the completion of training, the new Stephen Ministers will be commissioned to provide one-to-one care to individuals experiencing difficulties in life, joining the existing seven Stephen Ministers in this caring ministry.

The skills that Stephen Ministers learn and practice will prepare them to provide a very high level of Christian caregiving. The training explores some serious life issues, and is a growth-producing and enjoyable experience. Among the training topics are:

- Feelings: Yours, Mine, and Ours
- The Art of Listening
- Distinctively Christian Caring
- Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly
- Maintaining Boundaries in Caregiving
- Confidentiality
- Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief
- Caring for People before, during, and after Hospitalization

Stephen Minister training provides knowledge about caregiving and gives the opportunity for one's own personal and spiritual growth. A close Christian community forms among the trainees by the end of the classes. Stephen Ministers all feel nurtured, inspired, encouraged, and blessed by the training and their classmates.

More than 600,000 people have gone through Stephen Ministry training in more than 13,000 churches worldwide since the ministry began in 1975.

Please lift up your own participation in this training opportunity, as well as the training class, in your prayers over the coming months and watch for regular training class updates in the weekly E-Vine. Contact Pastor Mark for more information.

## Daily Bible Readings for October

	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>Old Testament</b>	<b>New Testament</b>
1	Psalm 115:1-8	1 Samuel 21:10-22:23	John 4:43-54
2	Psalm 115:9-18	1 Samuel 23	John 5:1-15
3	Psalm 116:1-7	1 Samuel 24:1-25:17	John 5:16-30
4	Psalm 80:7-15	Isaiah 5:1-7	Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46
5	Psalm 116:8-14	1 Samuel 22:5:18-44	John 5:31-47
6	Psalm 116:15-19	1 Samuel 26, 27	John 6:1-15
7	Psalm 117	1 Samuel 28, 29	John 6:16-24
8	Psalm 118:1-9	1 Samuel 30, 31	John 6:25-42
9	Psalm 118:10-14	2 Samuel 1	John 6:43-51
10	Psalm 118:15-21	2 Samuel 2	John 6:52-59
11	Psalm 23	Isaiah 25:1-9	Philippians 4:1-9, Matthew 22:1-14
12	Psalm 118:22-29	2 Samuel 3:1-34	John 6:60-71
13	Psalm 119:1-8	2 Samuel 3:35-5:16	John 7:1-13
14	Psalm 119:9-16	2 Samuel 5:17-6:23	John 7:14-24
15	Psalm 119:17-24	2 Samuel 7	John 7:25-44
16	Psalm 119:25-32	2 Samuel 8, 9	John 7:45-52
17	Psalm 119:33-40	2 Samuel 10, 11	John 8:1-11
18	Psalm 96:1-9,(10-13)	Isaiah 45:1-7	1 Thess. 1:1-10, Matthew 22:15-22
19	Psalm 119:41-48	2 Samuel 12	John 8:12-30
20	Psalm 119:49-56	2 Samuel 13:1-33	John 8:31-41
21	Psalm 119:57-64	2 Samuel 13:34-14:33	John 8:42-59
22	Psalm 119:65-72	2 Samuel 15:1-29	John 9:1-12
23	Psalm 119:73-80	2 Samuel 15:30-16:23	John 9:13-34
24	Psalm 119:81-88	2 Samuel 17	John 9:35-41
25	Psalm 1	Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18	1 Thess. 2:1-8, Matthew 22:34-46
26	Psalm 119:89-96	2 Samuel 18:1-30	John 10:1-10
27	Psalm 119:97-104	2 Samuel 18:31-19:30	John 10:11-21
28	Psalm 119:105-112	2 Samuel 19:31-20:26	John 10:22-33
29	Psalm 119:113-120	2 Samuel 21	John 10:34-42
30	Psalm 119:121-128	2 Samuel 22:1-25	John 11:1-16
31	Psalm 119:129-136	2 Samuel 22:26-23:17	John 11:17-30

Whether things are normalizing or we are getting more used to the everyday routines, it has been nice to see kids back on campus at St. John's. We are still doing distance Youth Ministry at this time with events on Zoom for Surge, Confirmation, & High School. We are anxiously awaiting the time to go back to meeting safely together, but will continue to do our part in staying healthy!



Surge is meeting nearly every Tuesday this month on Zoom from 6-7pm. 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, & 27<sup>th</sup>. If you have not received the Zoom information for that please reach out to Kevin Mathison.

High School Zooms are taking place every Thursday at 7pm. Please reach out to Kevin Mathison if you would like to get plugged in with that.

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**by Christy Wood**

School is beginning to re-open with our hybrid model of learning. We began on Wednesday, September 16 with Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2, and Grades 3-8 on Monday, September 21. Although we have many new restrictions to abide by, it is exciting to have students back on campus.

Our hybrid model of learning allows students to attend school on either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday with Friday at home to attend Chapel, attend distance learning classes, and to complete assigned work. Our new routines include a daily temperature check when arriving at school, maintaining a distance from others at all times, wearing a face mask, staying within a stable cohort of students, and washing hands/ using hand sanitizer throughout the day.

Although we do not know how long we will be in this hybrid learning model, we are confident that God is leading us safely through this season. Our theme of “Look up!” is our constant reminder that God is with us in all things!

Blessings to you and your family!

# St. John's Lutheran School

*On October 1, 2020....*

## ...Enrollment Opens for the 2021-2022 School Year!

Beginning Thursday, October 1, applications will be accepted for Preschool through Eighth Grade.

Download an enrollment application today at [www.stjohnsnapa.org](http://www.stjohnsnapa.org), visit the school office or contact Kristin Goller, Admissions Counselor, at 707-226-7970, Ext. 125; [kgoller@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:kgoller@stjohnsnapa.org).

Many classes fill quickly, so we encourage people to take advantage of this opportunity. Please share this information with anyone who may be interested in St. John's Lutheran School.

Please note, re-enrollment for current St. John's families begins in February 2021.

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### AT ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Monday, November 2

or

Thursday, November 5

6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

Meetings will be via Zoom



Meet the Kindergarten teacher and learn more about:

- Kindergarten curriculum
- benefits of an SJL K-8 education
- what makes SJL a special place for families

All interested families are invited to attend, and will receive

**\$25 OFF the Kindergarten Enrollment Fee**

after attending the meeting!

Please share this information with anyone who might be interested.

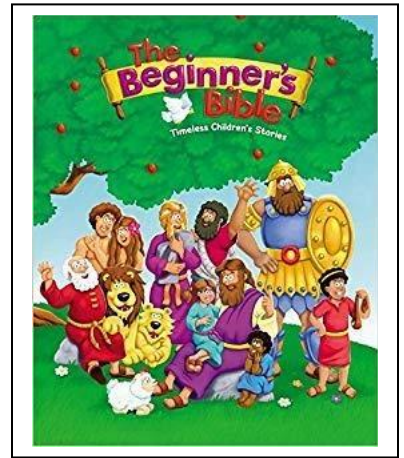
**RSVP required to:** Kristin Goller, Admissions Counselor  
226-7970, Ext. 125; [kgoller@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:kgoller@stjohnsnapa.org). Thank you!

# GIVE THE GIFT OF A BIBLE

Last year was such a success with **Giving the Gift of a Bible** that we would like to continue with the tradition this year! Members of SJL Church are a blessing to our school families in many ways!

We would like to make our new families feel welcomed and special again this year!

If you attended church as a child you may have received your first Bible from your church family. How old were you? Do you still have that Bible? Because St. John's Lutheran Preschool is a ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church, we would like to foster a relationship between congregational members and preschool families.



Many of the preschool children do not have their own Bible, so we would like to gift each child and their families with ***The Beginner's Bible***. We have 28 children in the Preschool this year that are new to the preschool. If you would like to be a blessing to one of the children and their families this year, we would like to connect you to the child and their parents. It is our hope that every child will receive a Bible and connect with one of our church families.

**In order to give many others the opportunity to sponsor a Bible for the kids, we ask you to purchase only one Bible this year.**

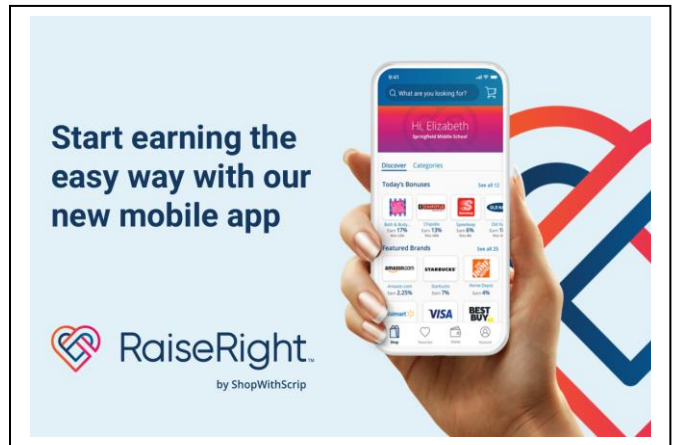
We will have a table set up on the patio on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup> after the 9:30 service. Here's what you need to do to get involved:

1. **Purchase "*The Beginner's Bible*"** for one child. (\$10 each) Please make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran.
2. **If you are unable to be present on October 4<sup>th</sup>** you can email or call Janis King and she will help coordinate the giving of the Bible process. Email Janis; [jking@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:jking@stjohnsnapa.org) or call her at the preschool (707) 226-7970 ext. 107.
3. Pick a child's name out of the box and write a special note in the front of the Bible addressed to that child. Some ideas might include: welcome to SJL, I'm praying for you, I'm praying for your family, Jesus loves you, etc. etc.
4. Place the Bible in the box so that the Preschool Staff can deliver the Bibles to the children.
5. Continue to pray for your child/children and their family throughout the school year.

**Thank you so much for helping us teach and show the love of Jesus! If you have any questions, please email Janis King [jking@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:jking@stjohnsnapa.org)**

**SJLS Scrip Program:** Many of the school's fundraisers have been greatly affected by Covid-19. Main Event, Get On Track and Country Fair have all been either postponed or cancelled. Fundraising is what keeps our A.P.T. (Association of Parents and Teachers) going. A.P.T. helps our students with funding for Technology and classroom assistance. They also support many requests from our teachers for items needed in their classrooms as well as provide money for Financial Aid. Students and families all benefit when A.P.T. is able to raise money.

Scrip is one fundraiser that is always available, now more than ever. Purchasing Scrip has always been relatively easy but now all you need to do is download the RaiseRight app. Remember, Scrip is always available in the school office during regular school hours.



## Simply the Right Way to Fundraise

The new RaiseRight™ mobile app makes fundraising easier. There's no need for selling, event planning, or door knocking. No extra time wasted. No extra money spent.

Shop more than 750 top brands using gift cards—right from your phone. Whether you're at home or at the store.

**Download and use the app for free**  
**Enrollment Code: 912E7L6F9161**



## So What's New at the Farm?

Submitted by Ted Zimmerman

The other day I was asked why I keep reporting in our articles the poundage of fruits and vegetables we have raised for the Napa Valley Food Bank.

For many reasons:

- We believe the members would be interested in knowing how much difference the Mission Farm is making in addressing hunger and nutrition security in the Valley.
- We know that the volunteers are interested in knowing the same, and derive some sense of satisfaction in knowing that their labors have indeed been fruitful.
- The Farm leaders also use the information (broken down for each kind of produce we raise) for analysis purposes and aide in future planning.
- We do NOT do it to boast in our accomplishments. The Lord keeps us very humble out there with constant reminders that while we are partnering with Him in this ministry, we are but planters and nourishers. It is the Lord who gives the harvest (1 Cor. 3)!

Having said all that, let me share with you where we are at this point in time. Given the cumulative total for the first 8 months of this year, plus what we have harvested thus far in September, we are around the 16,000 lbs. mark. Folks, that's 8 tons of food for hungry people!

We will exceed any annual total we have reached since keeping records the last 8 years! Some of this is due to the fact that we currently have all the available acreage under production for the first time. We took a leap of faith that we could handle that given our volunteer situation. And the Lord has provided more (and younger) volunteers – a lot of members of the Napa Valley Young Farmers and Ranchers Association who glean on Thursday evenings and on Saturdays. He has also given us great production in spite of the extremes of this year's weather. The orchards are maturing as well, which by God's design also results in increased production.

Still the need the Mission Farm is designed to address continues to be on the increase, especially in light of the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The number of families served by the local Food Bank has increased many times over! So keep us in your prayers, join us to help glean when you can, and remember us with special gifts earmarked for "The SJ Mission Farm".



## OFFERING UPDATE

Actual Offering Income for Aug:

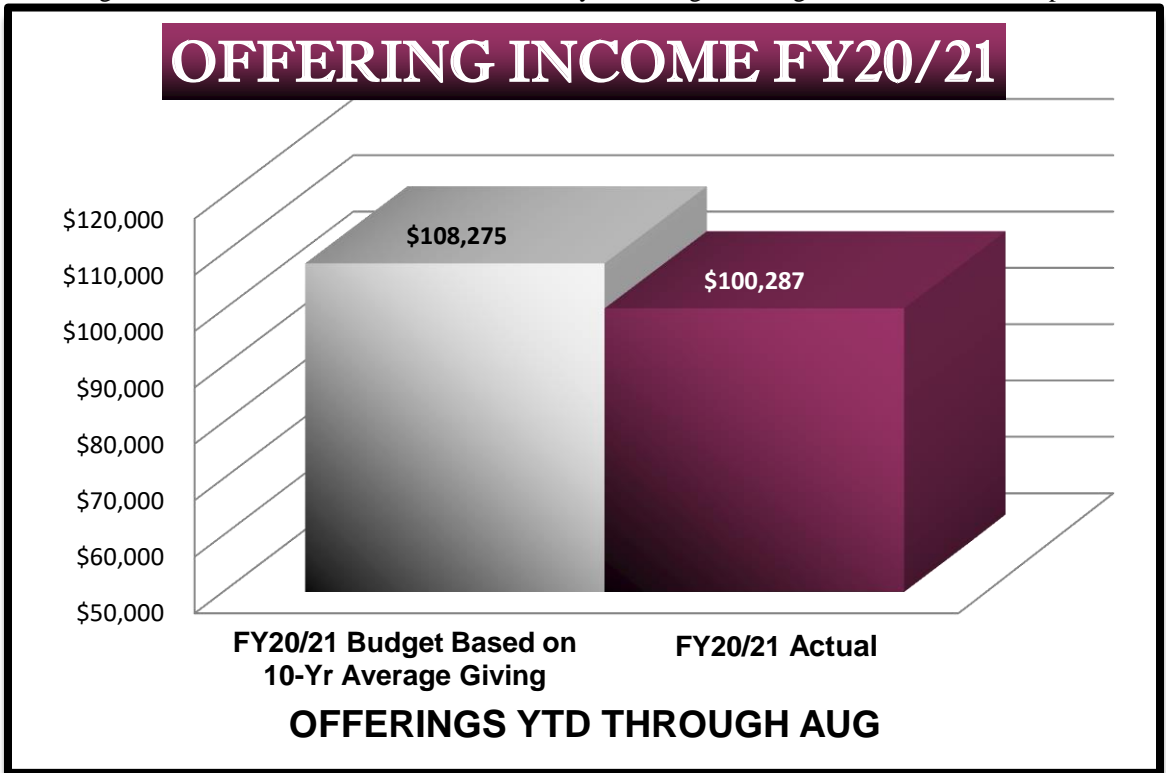
**\$47,355.**

Total Offerings for FY20/21 (as of 31 Aug 20):

**\$100,287** which is **7.38%** or **\$7,988**  
below our budgeted offering income.

Total expenses remain in line with our budget and we have paid all bills received thus far.

\*The budget amount shown below is based on the ten-year average offering received for that time period.



### Meditation:

*“And He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’” (Matthew 22:37)(ESV)*

## Stewardship I a Matter of the Heart

God gives us the privilege and opportunity to be His stewards. Even though God gives us all things, He still allows us the freedom to choose whom or what we will serve. Whether we are stewards for the Lord, for ourselves, or for some other master depends on what controls our hearts. What or whom we love, serve, and follow is dictated by what our hearts value as most important. The choices we make reflect what is in our hearts.

Satan is doing everything possible to take the love, compassion, and peace from our hearts that only Jesus can place there.

In Matthew 6:21 Jesus said, “*Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*” We can paraphrase this by saying, “Show me your treasure, and I will show you your heart.” What we treasure the most receives our time, energy, money, and heart. Each of us determines where his treasures lie. What do you love and treasure the most? Unfortunately, some of us may find treasures in our homes, careers, cars, hobbies, or investments. God continually invites us to make Him our treasure. If our hearts are right, our treasures will be right.

Jesus spoke about the relationship between the condition of a tree and the fruit that it bears. “*Make a tree good and the fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.*” (Matthew 12:33). In the same way that the condition of the tree determines its fruit, so will the thoughts of our hearts dictate our words and actions (vss. 34-35). When our hearts are filled with God’s presence, we reflect God’s love, goodness, and kindness. When our hearts are right with God, our eyes are opened to the opportunities to serve and help others. When God controls our hearts, we willingly use our time, talents, and money in ways that glorify Him. Good hearts produce good fruit. Through time spent in God’s Word and through participation in the Sacraments, God changes our hearts, making us into faithful disciples and stewards for Christ. As Solomon wrote, “*Above all else guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life*” (Proverbs 4:23).

**Prayer:** Lord, I thank You that You give me the privilege and the opportunity to be Your steward. Grant me the faith that I need to be a God-pleasing steward. Help me to see stewardship as a free and joyous activity in using my life and resources for Your purposes. In Christ’s name I pray. Amen.

Adapted from “*Maturing as Stewards through Faith, Love, and Hope*” by Ronald J. and Phyllis J. Chewning, Stewardship Advisors, Inc., 2007.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, New International Version*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1984.

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# LCC K-9 COMFORT DOG MINISTRY UPDATE

To God be the Glory!

As firefighters continue to battle dozens of fires in California, I have been busy the past few weeks visiting Cal Fire and PG&E base camps, offering comfort to these brave heroes. I spent several days at the Cal Fire camp in Calistoga and was joined by Micah and Reuben Comfort Dogs at the Cal Fire Santa Clara (SCU) camp in Pleasanton. Recently I deployed to the Cal Fire and PG&E base camps in Tollhouse, CA, near Fresno, along with Lois Comfort Dog (Las Vegas, NV), to spend time with those fighting the Creek Fire.



Many of those we visit have not seen their families or pets for several weeks. What a privilege it is to be invited to greet them as they return from their shifts! We continue to meet people who remember us from visits in previous years. Some of them still carry our business cards and one even had a picture she'd taken with an LCC Comfort Dog that she carries with her on deployments.

I am so grateful to continue this ministry. While we are there to thank and support them, these workers are so humble and appreciative that we have come to see them. Even though they return from the line exhausted, most of them are quick to offer us a quick hug or scratch behind the ears. Please continue to keep these brave individuals in your prayers.

Thanks for your support and prayers! Please check out Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and my website for all the latest news. [napavalleycomfortdogs.org](http://napavalleycomfortdogs.org)



Aaron  
Comfort Dog



# OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Scott Zimmerman, Charles Fitzpatrick
- 2 Ramona Kaufmann, Kaleb Anderson, Tim Huss
- 3 Jessica Koen, Otto Wagner, Jacob Bartelt
- 5 James Regan, Lori Hunt
- 7 Derek Irwin, Sharon Mitchell, Trenton Bresee
- 8 Cal Watkins, David Goller
- 9 Betsy Gewirz
- 10 Sharon Tews, Elise Commander, Victoria Christie
- 11 Laura Peterson
- 15 Judith Irwin, Andrew King  
Richard Bruechert, Marlen Virkus, Daniel Newton, Kristen Lawrence,
- 16 Rachel Thomas
- 17 Charles Vaziri
- 18 Wyatt Newman, Jill Reimler, Ken Wilson, Shirley Knight, Elaine Scott
- 19 Kyleigh Greely, Dawn Wahlers, Leslie Nicholson
- 20 Abrielle Caceres Reed, Madelyn Caceres Reed
- 21 Tim Kramer, Cullen Mooers
- 22 Rachael Fitzgerald, Michael Fitzgerald, Bonnie Thompson
- 23 Shau Ching Han
- 24 Kathy Fitzgerald, Jonathan Han
- 25 Eric Fitzgerald
- 26 Andrea Clark, Lindsey Albrecht
- 28 William Hjerpe, Tanner Jones, Samuel Craft
- 29 Gary Hartwig, Easton Bresee
- 30 Nancy Zaia



*Happy Birthday!*

# OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

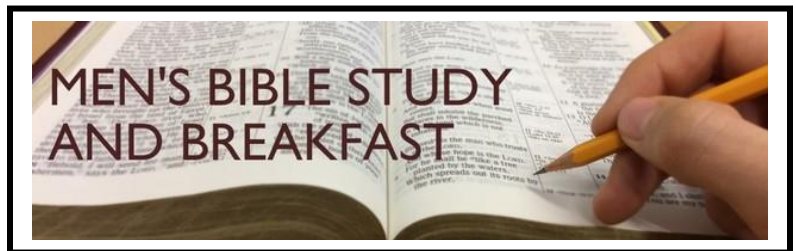
**DATE                  COUPLE                  YEARS**

5	Paul & Shau Ching Han	29
5	Ryan & Katie Chagonjian	8
5	Catherine & Mike Enfield	18
5	Jay & Elaine Adams	57
6	Laura & John Kostelac	30
6	Sarah & Peter Santora	36
10	Chelsey & Jeffrey Squibb	6
12	Timothy & Natalie Bouchet	24
20	Zachary & Kerrie Diviak	30
24	Clint & Bev Holdsworth	39

**HAPPY  
ANNIVERSARY**

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MEN, JOIN US EVERY  
SATURDAY MORNING FOR  
FELLOWSHIP AT 7:30 AM  
AND BIBLE STUDY  
AT 8:00 - 9:00 AM  
CALL RON JOHNSON  
FOR INFORMATION.  
(Meeting virtually)





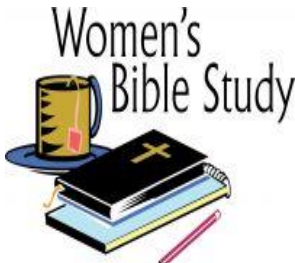
## New mobile phone application makes supporting ministry even more convenient.

Go to the App Store or Google Play and search for “GivePlus Church” to download for free. Then enter St. John’s Lutheran Church or tap “Find Churches Near Me” to start your search. Enter your desired contribution amount, card or bank information, review and select “Complete Donation.” It’s that easy! Please call the church office if you have questions.

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## SHOPPING ON AMAZON?

Please consider using “Amazon Smile” when placing your orders, designating St. John’s Lutheran Church fund. (There is no additional cost to you!) Just go directly to: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-6001864>



## *WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY*

(Temporarily postponed)

Women's Thursday afternoon Bible Study meets in the Sanctuary on Thursdays at 1:00 PM. Looking forward to seeing you all!

Contact [Womensministry@stjohnslutheran.net](mailto:Womensministry@stjohnslutheran.net)!



## Did You Know That St. John's is on Social Media?

St. John's and its ministries stay in contact with the community in many ways, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and our own websites. It takes a lot of effort to keep the websites up to date and to keep the communication current and flowing on social media.

The social media team is all volunteer and we could use a few more tech-savvy people to help us out. If you are a fan of social media and would like to help us communicate to our members, parents, students, and community, we could use your help.

Contact us by email: [sjlcsocialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcsocialmedia@gmail.com)

Also, if you have something you'd like to see us talk about or promote on social media, please use the same contact info.



@sjlcnapa



@sjlcnapa



@stjohnsnapa



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Our weekly sermons are available on the St. John's website at: [www.stjohnslutheran.net](http://www.stjohnslutheran.net).

Visit our school website at: [www.stjohnsnapa.org](http://www.stjohnsnapa.org)

Facilities Calendar Link: <https://teamup.com/ks059311afd6a21c57>



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<https://www.instagram.com/explore/locations/248942728988437/st-johns-lutheran-church/>

#### **Church**

Phone: (707) 255-0119

Fax: (707) 255-3041

Email: [churchoffice@stjohnslutheran.net](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnslutheran.net)

Rev. Michael A. Schmid, Lead Pastor (ext. 122)

Rev. Mark G. Heine, Director of Care Ministries (ext. 124)

Mr. Tim Kramer, Business Administrator (ext. 121)

Mrs. Christy Kramer, Church Office Manager, (ext. 120)

Mr. Kevin Mathison, Dir. of Youth Ministry (ext. 106) or 255-7451

#### **School**

Phone: (707) 226-7970

Fax: (707) 226-7974

Email: [czeller@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:czeller@stjohnsnapa.org)

Mrs. Christy Wood, Principal (ext. 103)

Mrs. Cindy Zeller, School Office Manager (ext. 101)

Mrs. Janis King, Director of Preschool and Children's Ministry (107)