

THE VINE

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School Newsletter June 2021

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

Congregational Meeting

There will be a Congregational Meeting on June 13 at 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary (after the 9:30 service). The purpose of this meeting is to consider and adopt a Ministry Plan and Budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. At this meeting we will also be electing to fill four positions on the Board of Directors.

The proposed Ministry Plan and Budget was approved by the Board of Directors at its May 20 meeting. It may be found on the website at https://stjohnslutheran.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Proposed-Ministry-Plan-and-Budget-2021-2022.pdf You may also pick up a printed copy in the church office or in the sanctuary. The information sheet regarding the candidates for the Board of Directors will be available in the same locations.

June 15 and the Lifting of Worship Restrictions

Many of the COVID-related restriction on worship will be going away on June 15. There are still some questions yet to be answered, but we are beginning to prepare for these changes. Please watch for an announcement after June 15 regarding what will be different beginning with the June 20^{th} service.

Farewell and Godspeed to Jennie Lovie

As part of our service on June 6, we will give thanks to God for the ministry of Jennie Lovie among us. Jennie will be leaving the teaching ministry at St. John's at the end of this school year. She and Jon will be moving to Arizona.

We do indeed thank God for all that He has done through Jennie as a Kindergarten and 2nd Grade Teacher, as well as serving in other ways (reader, Comfort Dog team, etc.) We pray God's richest blessings on her as she and Jon make this transition.



"Strength in our Weakness"

Encouragement from 2 Corinthians

COVID has been exhausting on many levels. Even as it appears that in some ways we are coming out of the pandemic, in many ways the disruption is far from over. So many changes, upheavals, and canceled plans have left many exhausted,

discouraged, and stressed – sometimes beyond what we even realize.

We need strength. We need encouragement. God provides this in abundance through His grace.

This summer, we will focus on encouraging words from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians. Rather than going verse by verse through the entire book (as we normally do!), we're just going to hit some of the highlights, as we seek "strength in our weakness." in God's Word.

Here are upcoming themes for the month of June:

June 6	2 Cor. 1:3-11	Comforted to Comfort	The God of Comfort comforts us in our troubles so that we might comfort others with His comfort.	
June 13	2 Cor. 2:5-11	Forgiveness for the Weak	God answers our weakness with mercy, so we also turn away from revenge-seeking, and instead show mercy.	
June 20	2 Cor. 2:12- 3:6	Competent in Christ	We are too weak in ourselves for the ministry to which we are called. But our competency comes from Christ	
June 27	2 Cor. 4:1- 111	Jars of Clay	Our weakness serves to heighten the power and glory of God who is at work in us.	

Asking for Care from a Stephen Minister



When Do We Need God's Love Most? Of course, we need that love every second of our lives. But at times God's love is especially precious to us, such as when: we lose a loved one life becomes so confusing that we do not know where to turn we are dealing with an illness, or caring for a loved one who is ill or life just becomes meaningless, and depression sets in At times like

these, it is especially important to have someone who cares. Our congregation has trained twelve Stephen Ministers who offer a ministry of Christian caring for those in need.

Suffering on our own is not God's intent for us. Jesus promises, "Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). We can receive this promised rest when we turn to one another for comfort and help. God did not create us to be independent. We were created to be interdependent. God's Word is clear: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him" (Genesis 2:18). The New Testament underscores this theme with more than 50 verses that contain the words "one another" with admonitions such as "love one another," encourage one another," build up one another," and "pray for one another." We are to allow other people to love, encourage, build up, and pray for us.

Our Stephen Ministers know about receiving care. Many of them have received care themselves at some point in their lives – something that has motivated them to give care now. They know how difficult it is to ask for help, but they also know the great personal and spiritual growth and healing that follow. They know how to respond in a loving, caring, and nonjudgmental manner. They are equipped, ready, and waiting to provide the comfort and care God very much desires you to have.

If you find yourself now or in the future facing difficulties in life, do not suffer alone. Take the courageous step of seeking help. Open your heart to receiving God's love and grace through another person. Our Stephen Ministry offers the opportunity for a very confidential relationship with someone who will listen to you and provide you with the care and encouragement you need, helping Christ to bring rest to your weary, burdened heart.

To request the care of a Stephen Minister, call the church office at 707-255-0119, or contact Penni Cremen at percentage: percentage of a Stephen Minister, call the church office at 707-255-0119, or contact Penni Cremen at percentage: percentage of a Stephen Minister, call the church office at 707-255-0119, or contact Penni Cremen at percentage: percentage of a Stephen Minister, call the church office at 707-255-0119, or contact Penni Cremen at percentage: percentage of a Stephen Minister, call the church office at 707-255-0119, or contact Penni Cremen at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage: percentage; at percentage; at pe

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is always such an amazing and fun week for the kids! It is also a great opportunity for our members to volunteer and help out! (Did you know we typically have over 75 volunteers who serve over 125 children at VBS?) Vacation Bible School can also provide the chance for us to reach some un-churched people in the Napa community!



Understandably, because of covid-19, we just don't have the commitment this year for our typical strong base of volunteers. The decision has been made to cancel VBS for this summer. We will come back strong in the summer of 2022! Thank you for understanding!

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We are now looking for Children's Church volunteers! SJL is going to start up Children's Church again in September 2021. Children's Church is for children in Preschool up to 4th grade. I would like to hear back from all of our former CC teachers as well as some new volunteers! The commitment is typically one Sunday per month if we receive at least 8 volunteers! One class meets in the preschool building at that is for kids Preschool-1st Grade. The other class meets in the school library and that is for kids 2nd-4th grade. Please help us make this a reality for our kids to return to Children's Church! If you have any questions or would like more information don't hesitate to reach out to Janis King.

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

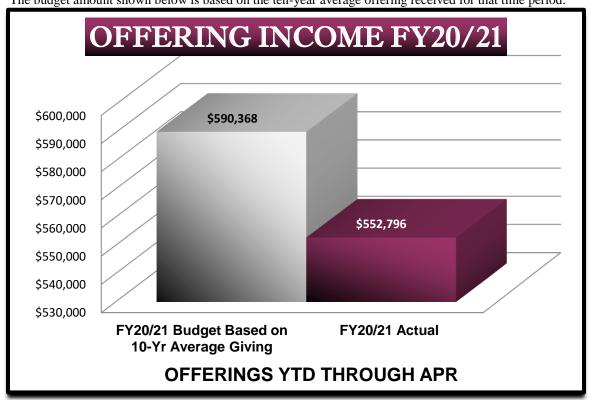


OFFERING UPDATE

Actual Offering Income for Apr: Total Offerings for FY20/21 (as of 30 Apr 21): \$55,778. \$552,796 which is 6.36% or \$37,572 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:

"Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed...the dead will be raised imperishable...and this mortal body must put on immortality...The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Corinthians 15:51-57)(ESV)

We've Won!

We've all been stung by death. Children die. People in peak physical condition die. Sickness or age or accident creeps up on us, and we all die. Sounds morbid, doesn't it? But death is a final and painful reality. When death comes to one we love, no matter the age of the person, we are stung. For some the sting remains, even though it may be eased

by passing time. When death comes to a Christian, however, the sting of death is momentary. We who mourn do not mourn without hope, for we know that death is not the end.

The disciples who watched their Savior hang on the cross were stung by His death. They mourned without hope, for they didn't know His death was not permanent. That hopelessness turned to great joy, though, when Christ appeared to them alive! Because He rose from the dead, we, too, shall rise. Death could not triumph over Christ and it cannot triumph over us. Through Christ, we've won! Death is defeated. Eternal life begins at our Baptism and carries us into Heaven. Jesus comforted His disciples with these words of hope: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in Me. In My Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with Me that you also may be where I am" (John 14:1-3). What a profound mystery this is! Our only response is to cry, "Thanks be to God!" The sting of death is removed because, in Christ, we've won!

Prayer: Dear Lord, You have taken away the sting of death through Your death and resurrection. You have given me a new victorious life to live in You each day. Keep me steadfast in faith until the end and use me to spread the Good News of victory in Jesus. In His 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!

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:3

I am so excited to share the news that I will have another LCC K9 Comfort Dog to do ministry with here in Napa. My St. John's partner pup has recently arrived in Napa, and after completing the additional six-week training period will become official!



I would like to introduce you to the team of handlers that will be working with our long-awaited second St. John's LCC K9 Comfort Dog. Sharon Quick, DeDe Messner, Ben & Amy Wilson, Ken Arnold and Tim & Christy Kramer recently traveled to Lutheran Church Charities headquarters in Northbrook, IL for three intense days of handler instruction with LCC's K9 trainers. Once they accomplish their continued training goals with our new dog for the next six weeks, they will have their final evaluation by an LCC trainer who will then officially certify them. That is when they can all begin ministry here in Napa and beyond! Please mark your calendars for **July 11**th which will be the commissioning of our new dog as well as the entire St. John's LCC K9 Comfort Dog team during the church service that day.

I am happy to report that I have been able to return to some of my pre-COVID locations. Boy have I missed my friends all over Napa. It was so difficult to visit with a window between us. I really missed the feel of their hands petting me. I also have returned to working with the DA's office in Napa helping victims testify in court. I look forward to hopefully returning to all of my regular visit spots very soon.

May was a month to celebrate and honor our Law Enforcement Heroes as well as our military personnel who lost their lives fighting for our country. May 16-19 our team once again celebrated National Law Enforcement Week. We put ribbons and posters on our trees in front of campus and delivered posters and cards from the St. John's students as well as containers of "grab and go" treats and drinks for our law enforcement heroes in the Napa Valley. We are so thankful for these brave and tireless folks who keep us safe! Please pray for them and their families!

Joined by the other California LCC Comfort Dogs, Reuben, Micah, and Rahab, I also attended the CNH District Youth Gathering in Brentwood as well as the annual Memorial Day ceremony in Yuba City, CA called "A Grateful Nation Remembers". If you haven't ever gone to this event, I highly recommend it!

Stay tuned for more details to follow. Have a blessed summer!

Thanks for your support and prayers! Please check out Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and my website for all the latest news. napavalleycomfortdogs.org





For JUNE

	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament	
1	Psalm 71:1-8	Proverbs 24	2 Corinthians 6:3-18	
2	Psalm 71:9-18a	Proverbs 25	2 Corinthians 7:1-13a	
3	Psalm 71:18b-24	Proverbs 26	2 Corinthians 7:13b-8:9	
4	Psalm 72:1-11	Proverbs 27	2 Corinthians 8:10-21	
5	Psalm 72:12-20	Proverbs 28	2 Corinthians 8:22-9:9	
6	Psalm 130	Genesis 3:8-15	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1, Mark 3:20-35	
7	Psalm 73:1-12	Proverbs 29	2 Corinthians 9:10-10:6	
8	Psalm 73:13-20	Proverbs 30	2 Corinthians 10:7-18	
9	Psalm 73:21-28	Proverbs 31	2 Corinthians 11:1-11	
10	Psalm 74:1-9	Ecclesiastes 1:1-3:8	2 Corinthians 11:12-15	
11	Psalm 74:10-17	Ecclesiastes 3:9-5:20	2 Corinthians 11:16-33	
12	Psalm 74:18-23	Ecclesiastes 6:1-7:14	2 Corinthians 12:1-13	
13	Psalm 92:1-4,12-15	Ezekiel 17:22-24	2 Corinthians 5:6-10,14-17,	
13			Mark 4:26-34	
14	Psalm 75	Ecclesiastes 7:15-9:18	2 Corinthians 12:14-13:4	
15	Psalm 76	Ecclesiastes 10:1-12:14	2 Corinthians 13:5-13	
16	Psalm 77:1-9	Song of Solomon 1:1-2:7	Galatians 1:1-12	
17	Psalm 77:10-15	Song of Solomon 2:8-4:16	Galatians 1:13-24	
18	Psalm 77:16-20	Song of Solomon 5, 6	Galatians 2:1-14	
19	Psalm 78:1-8	Song of Solomon 7, 8	Galatians 2:15-3:5	
20	Psalm 107:1-3,23-32	Job 38:1-11	2 Corinthians 6:1-13, Mark 4:35-41	
21	Psalm 78:9-16	Isaiah 1	Galatians 3:6-18	
22	Psalm 78:17-31	Isaiah 2:1-4:1	Galatians 3:19-29	
23	Psalm 78:32-39	Isaiah 4:2-5:30	Galatians 4:1-16	
24	Psalm 78:40-55	Isaiah 6, 7	Galatians 4:17-27	
25	Psalm 78:56-64	Isaiah 8:1-9:7	Galatians 4:28-5:6	
26	Psalm 78:65-72	Isaiah 9:8-10:11	Galatians 5:7-18	
27	Psalm 30	Lamentations 3:22-33	2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Mark 5:21-43	
28	Psalm 79:1-8	Isaiah 10:12-11:9	Galatians 5:19-6:5	
29	Psalm 79:9-13	Isaiah 11:10-13:22	Galatians 6:6-18	
30	Psalm 80:1-7	Isaiah 40	Ephesians 1:1-10	

St. John's Lutheran School Scrip Program:

The new RaiseRight mobile app makes fundraising easier. Shop more than 750 top brands using gift cards, right from your phone. Whether you're at home or at the store, get started with on-the-go fundraising that creates opportunities for the people that matter most to you. No extra time wasted. No extra money spent.

Start earning with the RaiseRightTM mobile app today. Concentrate on Groceries and Gas for the rest of the month to see how easy and convenient Scrip can be. Then get ready to shop for the holidays. Black Friday will be different this year. When you find something on Amazon, QVC or another location, check RaiseRight and see if they are part of the program. Large appliances need replacing? Home Depot and Lowe's are both part of RaiseRight.

Join the program

- First, download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet.
- Then, enter the enrollment code to join: 912E7L6F9161

Buy gift cards and earn for your organization

- Browse bonuses, search for a specific brand, shop categories, and more.
- When you're ready to check out, sign up for secure online payments. You can link a bank account, add a credit card, or both.**
- The brand gives back to your organization the moment you buy a gift card—at no extra cost to you.

Get and use your gift cards

- eGift cards are delivered to the app within minutes—view them in your Wallet.
- Physical gift cards are mailed to your coordinator. Many are reloadable so you can keep earning with the ones you have.
- Use both types in-store and online.

^{** 15} cent charge per order for checking/debit purchase or 2.6% for credit card purchase.



St. John's Facebook Group

Are you on Facebook? Have you joined the St. John's Facebook Family Group? Please click here to join and participate in Facebook Live events, discussion and more. https://www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsfamilynapa

Why join our Facebook Group? We are planning Live devotional events, prayer times, as well as other interactive events. Our group is a great place to encourage one another and walk together as a family of God. In this time when gathering in person is so difficult, this is an option to fellowship together.

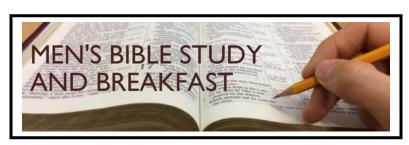
Also, if you have something you'd like to see us talk about or promote on social media, please use the same contact info.



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.

Our 2021 High School and College Graduates

COLLEGE

DOCTORATE DEGREE

Dr. Melissa Rose Barker Virginia Commonwealth University, School of Pharmacy

Master's Degree

Rev. Philip Bartelt, Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne, IN

Bachelor's Degree

Samuel Jacob Craft Cameron Vaziri Sami B. Zaia (2020) Northern Arizona University, Business Management University of Pennsylvania, Economics University of San Diego, Economics/Political Science

HIGH SCHOOL

Nicolas D'Angelo Bennett Goller Elena Irwin Megan Schweiger (college attending)

Golden West College Colby College, Maine Northern Idaho College Hanover College



So, What's New at the Farm?

Submitted by Ted Zimmerman

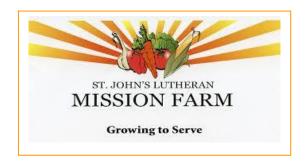
There has been a whole lot of planting going on at the Mission Farm. Watching some of our volunteers on their hands and knees planting onions, I thought to myself, "Of all the things I've loved and lost, I miss my flexibility the most!"



A lot of the work by the volunteers does require the ability to kneel and stoop: planting, weeding, and some gleaning. Perhaps you are thinking, "I appreciate the Farm's mission. I'd like to help. But of all the things I've loved and lost..." However, not all that the volunteers do requires bending and stooping. A good deal is done while standing up straight or slightly bending: harvesting green beans, fruit from the trees, tomatoes, eggplant, onions, cucumbers, peppers, etc. Add to that list prepping the produce to send into the Food Bank: washing, wiping, sorting, trimming off the greens or roots, packing, weighing, etc. In fact we are getting quickly to that time of year when prepping the produce takes as much of the labor force's time as the planting and weeding!

Nor does the volunteer have to be out there every work day (Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday morning). Perhaps you can only come one day a week. Great! It all helps. Or you might be willing to come out on a special work day when an appeal goes out for many helping hands! That's great too. Just let me know, and I'll add you to out email list and we'll send you "All Hands on Deck" notices.

We are harvesting a lot of cool weather crops even as we are just about finished planting the summer crops. So we are sending produce into the Food Bank several times each week. As of the end of April we have sent in 1,816.75 lbs. of produce. That poundage (I can almost already say "tonnage") will begin adding up quickly. This year, the entire field available to us for farming is being put into production.



1 **Brent Koen** 2 Matthew Seiter, Stephanie Diviak 3 Kelsey Rodriguez, Rebecca Newman 4 Barbara Miller Joel Wahlers 5 6 John Van Hofwegen 7 **Auguste Streich** 9 Kristin Goller, Dean Ehlen **Bennett Goller** 10 11 Abigail Zimmerman, Ken Tews 12 **David Reimler** 13 Haley Cremen, Doug Braddock Tyler Lamb 14 Abriana Helfrich, Darlene Elia 14 17 Tyler Koen **Bailey Loban** 18 19 Jaxson Uffmann 20 Jessica Lovie, Ezekiel Anderson, William Smith 21 Pam Foottit, Elaine Hoff 22 Ellen Burmester, Douglas Braddock, Tyler Morgenlaender 23 **George Clark** 24 Amy Smith, Brian Bresee, Lenora Balsiger 25 Brian Youngblood, Grace Bouchet, Carolyn Fruchtenicht 26 **Thomas Commander** 27 Dustin Messner, Lisa Walter, Rudy Gutierrez

Gunnar De Young, Aaron Eisberg

Jon Lovie, Jeffery McFarland-Johnson

Tracy Cushing

28

29

30

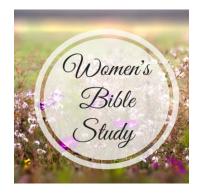
DATE	COUPLE	YEARS
2	Ben & Amy Wilson	31
2	Craig & Karol Underhill	37
5	Robert & Doris Klein	50
5	Robert & Kari Perna	27
7	David & Jenece Como	13
9	Christopher & Beth Vecera	9
10	Philip & Jaclyn Bartelt	4
12	Tim & Christy Kramer	39
13	Cliff & Ellen Burmester	29
13	Carl & Linda Hammond	57
14	Bill & Susan Clark	52
15	Jerry & Karen Zachry	36
15	Chandler & Jennifer Alexander	19
16	Lucy & David Franklin	30
18	Richard & Karol Bruechert	61
18	Katie & Brett Wedding	10
18	Gerald & Midge Schneider	56
18	David & Rebecca Hudgins	51
20	Herbert & Nancy Heil	56
23	Daniel & Cathy Bunnell	42
24	Martin & Eva Meissenhalter	21
25	Dana & Christine Zanone	49
25	Jacob & Sarah Bartelt	5
26	Scott & Autumn Zimmerman	28
26	Rev. Ted & Elaine Zimmerman	56
27	Brent & Jessica Koen	6
28	Pastor Mike & Teresa Schmid	36
28	Gary & Marlen Virkus	53
28	Joel & Dawn Wahlers	24
29	Christopher & Heidi Newman	8
29	Erika & Andrew Boudreaux	7
30	Michael & Janelle Newton	42
30	Michael & Patte Quinn	20





Surge & High School all summer.

Welcome Summer! We had quite an odd school year & an even weirder year in youth ministry. It has been a challenge to connect at times, but God has been with us through it all. The summer Calendar is not yet finalized so stay tuned in to the weekly evine & social media for the upcoming events throughout the summer! We will have events for



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 Womensminsitry@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.

eam 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: silcsocialmedia@gmail.com



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Our weekly sermons are available on the St. John's website at: www.stjohnslutheran.net.

Visit our school website at: www.stjohnsnapa.org

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

(@sjlcnapa

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

Phone: (707) 255-0119 Rev. Mark G. Heine, Director of Care Ministries (ext. 124)

Fax: (707) 255-3041 Mr. Tim Kramer, Business Administrator (ext. 121) Email: churchoffice@stjohnslutheran.net 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 Mrs. Christy Wood, Principal (ext. 103)

Mrs. Cindy Zeller, School Office Manager (ext. 101) Email: czeller@stjohnsnapa.org

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