



# THE VINE

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School Newsletter  
*JULY 2022*

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

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The Letter to the Hebrews

## Jesus is Better

We continue our study of the letter to the Hebrews. This letter is a written sermon to believers who were struggling with their faith. They were being tempted to go back to a life without Jesus, a life rooted in the unfulfilled promises and pictures of the Old Testament. The writer of this letter seeks to show them in many ways that Jesus is better, not only better than what they had before, but better than everything.

July 3	Heb. 2:1-4	The Danger of Drifting Away	Preacher: Pastor Mike
July 10	Heb. 2:5-13	Not Ashamed to Call Us His Brothers	Preacher: Pastor Ted Zimmerman
July 17	Heb. 2:14-18	Help for Those Who Are Tempted	Preacher: Pastor Mark Heine
July 24	Matthew 6:9-13	The Lord's Prayer	Preacher: Seminarian Justin Woods
July 31	Heb. 3:1-6	Greater Than Moses	Preacher: Pastor Mike

## Congregational Meeting on June 12

At the annual budget and election meeting on Sunday, June 12, the proposed "Ministry Plan and Budget" for the 2022-2023 fiscal year was adopted by the congregation with no alterations.

Please click here for the adopted ["Ministry Plan and Budget for 2022-2023."](#)

The congregation also elected five members of the Board of Directors for 2022-2023. John Van Hofwegen and Todd Yoder were re-elected to the Board and will begin their third terms. Newly elected to the board were Bob DeYoung, Lauren Huss, and Martin Meissenhalter.

We give thanks to God for our Board of Directors for their work. We especially give thanks to God for Michele Arnold, Lori Gutierrez and Clare King, who are completing their terms and will be going off the board.

## **Joining Jesus**

### **Navigation Zoom with Rev. Greg Finke on July 14**

The second “Navigation Zoom” with Pastor Greg Finke is on Thursday, July 14, at 6:30 PM. Watch the E-Vine for the link to join the zoom discussion.

As Pastor Finke mentioned at the workshop and on Sunday May 15, the follow up Navigation Zooms are designed to help us receive the encouragement, coaching, and accountability we need to help us "navigate" the process of joining Jesus throughout the next six months. The Zoom session will last between 40-45 minutes.

At our first Navigation Zoom, in addition to being encouraged by Rev. Finke in our joining Jesus’ mission, several people shared stories about how they are “seeking the kingdom” and seeing where Jesus is already at work. The zoom session was recorded and is available to watch at this link: <https://youtu.be/pbLhrEqNn7A>

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## **Board of Directors Update**

Dean Bledsoe has resigned from the Board of Directors. We thank God for Dean’s service on the Board and pray God’s blessing on him as he continues to serve in other ways, especially with the Boy Scout troop.

Because this took place after the congregational meeting on June 12, it is the responsibility of the Board of Directors to appoint someone to complete the year remaining of Dean’s terms. Taking into consideration the results of the voting at the congregational meeting, the Board has invited Tyler Roberts to complete the term. May the Lord bless Tyler as he joins the Board.



We would like to invite you to join us for a summer-time BBQ on [July 17th at 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm.](#)

There will be food, games, and music to enjoy. We will have a sign-up sheet at the back of the church on the white board so you can let us know if you will be attending and if you'd be willing to bring a side dish and/or dessert to share.

In order to make this possible we will need the support of the congregation and ask if someone would be willing to bring their grill to the church for us to use. If you'd like to help with this, please email Josh W. at [SJLCSocialmedia@gmail.com](mailto:SJLCSocialmedia@gmail.com). Please also indicate if you'd prefer to cook or if you're open to letting someone else do the cooking. Thank you."



## ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Many prospective school families don't even inquire about enrolling at St. John's Lutheran because they assume there are no openings and long waiting lists. This is true for some classes, but currently we do have openings in select grades, *including middle school*, for the 2022-2023 school year.

If you know anyone who might be interested, please encourage them to call SJL Admissions for additional information at 707-226-7970, Ext. 125.



# LCC K-9 COMFORT DOG MINISTRY UPDATE

To God be the Glory!



***“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are My friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from My Father I have made known to you.” John 15:13-15***

Friendship is a blessing and I am truly grateful for the many friends I have met during my time at St. John's. This past month I celebrated graduations with some of my old friends. I also had a blast meeting and spending time with some new friends at Vacation Bible School at St. John's and the CNH Jr. High Youth Gathering in Rocklin, CA.

Later this month will mark the one-year anniversary of the commissioning of another dear friend of mine, my “co-worker”, Gomer Comfort Dog. I am so grateful to have another paw partner on my team and it has been a great pleasure to work alongside her, showing her the ropes. In the past year, she has gotten to meet some of my friends while visiting Vintage High School, Brookdale Senior Living, and Collabria Adult Day Services. (At Collabria, Gomer made a new friend with an old friend from St. John's who acted as translator during her visits with Spanish speaking participants.) Gomer and I have also been able to work together at many of the fire base camps, as well as visits to Las Vegas, 9/11 commemorations in Napa and Yountville, the Coast Guard Training Center, and the PUC elementary school. We have deployed together to a Yellow Ribbon event in Boise, ID and worked alongside each other at the Best Practices in Ministry in Phoenix, AZ. During her time here, Gomer has worked with all the other comfort dogs in our region, spending time at Nellis Air Force base in Las Vegas, NV, attending the services of a fallen police officer in Elk Grove, CA and attending regional gatherings and special training for working in court. Additionally, she has made some friends at the St. John's Mission Farm and Men's Bible Study, as well as friends from around the country via Zoom virtual visits. We praise God for all the work He is doing with us and through us.

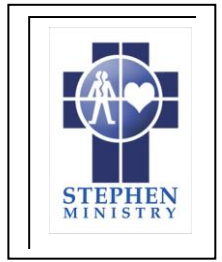
Stay safe, my friends. I hope to see you soon!

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

Aaron and Gomer Comfort Dogs



## *Stephen Ministry – Did you know...*



*77 percent of people experience stress that affects their physical health. Regardless of age, sex, ethnicity, and religion, no one is immune to the burdens of stress.*

*An estimated 31.1% of U.S. adults experience anxiety at some time in their lives.*

*Depression affects approximately 17.3 million American adults, or about 7.1% of the U.S. population age 18 and older, each year.*

*There are common causes of grief, including: Death of a loved one, Divorce, Loss of a Job, or Death of a pet.*

*More than one-third of adults aged 45 and older feel lonely, and nearly one-fourth of adults aged 65 and older are considered to be socially isolated.*

*In the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic, global prevalence of anxiety and depression increased by a massive 25%, according to a scientific brief released by the World Health Organization (WHO).*

God never intended for us to go through these experiences alone. That's why God has brought us together as a congregation, and why we have Stephen Ministry.

Stephen Ministers are members of our congregation who are trained caregivers, to minister to people experiencing a crisis, facing a challenge, or simply going through a tough time. They are prayerfully matched with people who are going through a stressful time or life difficulty.

A Stephen Minister will meet with you on a weekly basis to listen, care, encourage, provide emotional and spiritual support, and remind you of Christ's presence in your life. The care you'll receive is confidential, free, and very helpful.

If you, or someone you know, would like to learn more about connecting with a Stephen Minister, please contact Penni Cremen (707-483-9321) or Pastor Mike in the church office (707-255-0119).

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Prayer and Praise  
July 10 & 24 @5:30 PM in the Sanctuary

Prayer and praise is an informal worship opportunity including a time for reflection, music, and fellowship. Join us as we continue our message series on "The Christian Life." We will see you there!

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Submitted by "Farmer Ted"

Oh, dear me! "Farmer Ted" has been AWOL for nearly six months. Partly because other responsibilities kept me away from the Farm, and I had lost touch with what was going on. But I am trading in my saw and hammer and paint brushes to take up my word processor again.



Wow! What a difference a few weeks makes. When I returned to the Farm, the soil had been prepared, and the seed plants had been started. But now they are in the ground: cucumbers, bell peppers, jalapeno peppers, eggplant, tomatoes, melons, zucchini squash, etc. Now corn has been planted from seed, and winter squash as well. Already some harvest is underway as we are picking the first of the zucchini, peppers, and cucumbers, and have dug up the onions and garlic we planted during the cool season. So things are getting very busy now on our three acres!

Volunteer farmers are in high demand. We have the core workers out there every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday mornings, 8:30 to 12 noon. If you have a day to spare, a love of gardening, or a compassion for families facing grocery insecurity, we would be happy to have you join us. Even if you don't know a cucumber from a zucchini, or a hula hoe from a garden fork, or a weed from a valuable food crop (hint, weeds don't grow in a straight line!), we will teach.

Hope to see you. Even if you can't volunteer, please pray for the workers and the crops. A supporting gift would be welcome too!



Budget your monthly expenses; purchase your gift cards to use for your shopping. Whenever you shop you have a visual of what you have left and you can shop accordingly. If you have not yet used Scrip, please read below on how easy it is.

**Join the program online or Scrip is always available in the school office...We love seeing you!**

- Download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet.
  - 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**
    - e-cards are delivered to the app within minutes—view them in your Wallet.
  - Physical gift cards are mailed to your coordinator or now to you directly. 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.

**Scrip is sold in the school office M-F during regular school hours.**

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## **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.



# Daily Bible Readings



	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
1	Psalm 80:8-11	Deuteronomy 8:1-9:6	Luke 6:12-26
2	Psalm 80:12-19	Deuteronomy 9:7-10:22	Luke 6:27-38
3	Psalm 66:1-9	Isaiah 66:10-14	Galatians 6:1-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
4	Psalm 81:1-5	Deuteronomy 11	Luke 6:39-49
5	Psalm 81:6-10	Deuteronomy 12	Luke 7:1-17
6	Psalm 81:11-16	Deuteronomy 13:1-14:21	Luke 7:18-30
7	Psalm 82:1-4	Deut. 14:22-15:18	Luke 7:31-38
8	Psalm 82:5-8	Deut. 15:19-17:7	Luke 7:39-50
9	Psalm 83:1-8	Deut. 17:8-18:22	Luke 8:1-15
10	Psalm 25:1-10	Deuteronomy 30:9-14	Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37
11	Psalm 83:9-12	Deuteronomy 19:1-20:9	Luke 8:16-25
12	Psalm 83:13-18	Deut. 20:10-21:23	Luke 8:26-39
13	Psalm 84:1-7	Deuteronomy 22	Luke 8:40-56
14	Psalm 84:8-12	Deut. 23:1-24:13	Luke 9:1-11
15	Psalm 85:1-7	Deut. 24:14-25:19	Luke 9:12-27
16	Psalm 85:8-13	Deut. 26:1-27:13	Luke 9:28-36
17	Psalm 15	Genesis 18:1-10a	Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42
18	Psalm 86:1-10	Deut. 27:14-28:24	Luke 9:37-50
19	Psalm 86:11-17	Deuteronomy 28:25-57	Luke 9:51-62
20	Psalm 87	Deut. 28:58-29:21	Luke 10:1-16
21	Psalm 88:1-5	Deut. 29:22-31:8	Luke 10:17-24
22	Psalm 88:6-12	Deuteronomy 31:9-32:9	Luke 10:25-42
23	Psalm 88:13-18	Deuteronomy 32:10-43	Luke 11:1-13
24	Psalm 138	Genesis 18:20-32	Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13
25	Psalm 89:1-8	Deut. 32:44-33:17	Luke 11:14-28
26	Psalm 89:9-18	Deut. 33:18-34:12	Luke 11:29-36
27	Psalm 89:19-29	Joshua 1,2	Luke 11:37-54
28	Psalm 89:30-37	Joshua 3,4	Luke 12:1-12
29	Psalm 89:38-45	Joshua 5,6	Luke 12:13-21
30	Psalm 89:46-52	Joshua 7	Luke 12:22-34
31	Psalm 49:1-12	Eccl. 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23	Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21



# JULY BIRTHDAYS

1	Byron Fitzpatrick
2	Laura Kostelac, Gabriel Gutierrez, Abigail Munoz
3	Craig Underhill
4	Nancy Henry, Jeron Chaudhary
5	Liam Alexander, Graham Albrecht
6	Katie Chagonjian, Roxana Castro
7	Karen Dalen, Christine Zanone
10	Cynthia McFarland-Johnson
11	Noah Helfrich, Andy Schweiger
12	Natalie Bouchet, Alexander Winkler
14	Michael Quinn
15	Pastor Mark Heine, Landon Abraham
16	Riann Engelbracht, Melinda Herrera, Teri Mitchell
17	Matthew Commander
18	Tatum Chagonjian, James Henry
19	Amali Svien
20	Samuel Hoff
21	Robert Ehlen, Todd Mitchell
23	Alexander Christie
24	Mary Kosanke
25	Sara Zaia, Shanna Caceres
26	Karol Underhill
27	Dennis Arnett
28	Nathan Kaufmann
29	Rodney Skillings
30	Judith Rock, Gary Virkus, Susan Clark, Todd Yoder, Jennie Lovie
31	Katie Wedding



DATE	COUPLE	YEARS
1	Thomas & Christine Commander	27
3	Todd & Teri Mitchell	40
4	Justine & Alex Rollin	7
6	Jonah & Amelia Laws	3
7	Todd & Natalie Yoder	22
9	Rodney & Marie Skillings	4
10	Ken & Michelle Arnold	29
14	Joseph & Amali Svien	10
14	Bret & Debbie Skillings	43
15	Jeffery & Cynthia McFarland-Johnson	38
21	Timothy & Lauren Huss	32
21	George & Andrea Clark	48
27	Kevin & Megan Mathison	3
31	Mark & Lindsey Albrecht	12
31	Kevin & Lezlee Cootey	40



## Check us out 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)

Thank you!

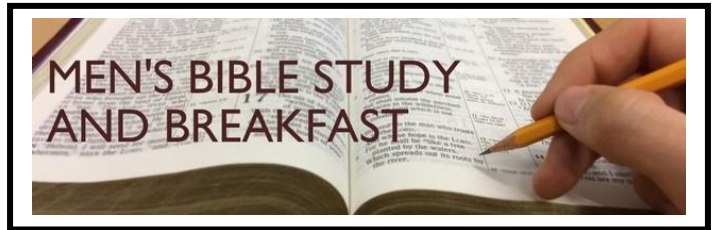


The Give+ Mobile App from VANCO shut down 1 Oct 21 and will no longer be available for download as a mobile app. The new app is called **VANCO Mobile**.

Giving through Vanco Mobile is easy! Just download the new app and create a new user profile in VANCO Mobile.

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.



## 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>

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3521 Linda Vista Ave.  
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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)

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: [kbroyles@stjohnsnapa.org](mailto:kbroyles@stjohnsnapa.org)

Dr. Christy Wood, Principal (ext. 103)

Mrs. Kristal Broyles, School Office Manager (ext. 101)

Mrs. Joy Dahl, Director of Preschool (107)