

# Mini Messenger

7-12-2024

St. John's Lutheran Church - The Lutheran Church of I-90,  
just off Exit 189

65033 220th Street, Elkton, MN 55933

Secretary: Jade Shulze - [adassist.stjohnselkton@gmail.com](mailto:adassist.stjohnselkton@gmail.com)

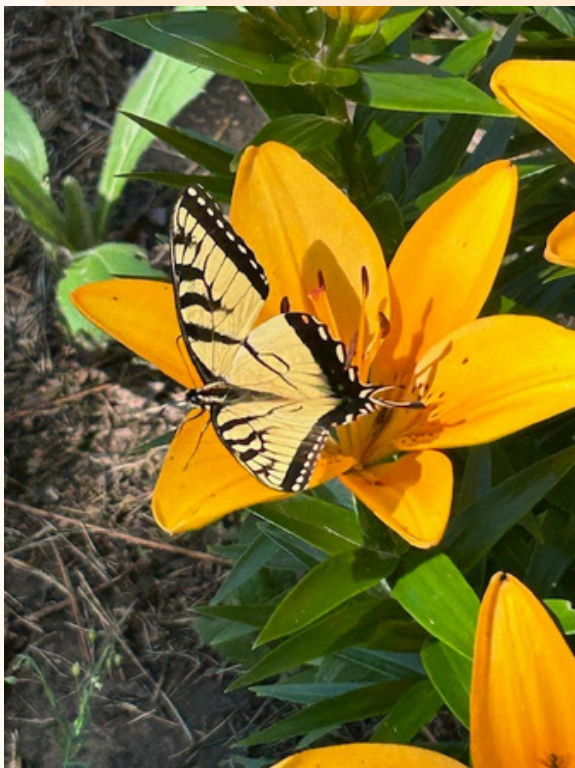
## **St. John's Lutheran Church has begun the project at the cemetery!**

If you have any questions about the project feel free to reach out to Randy, Jon, Jack, or Vance.

If you would like to help donate to the project. You can give any donations to Randy, Jon, Jack, or Vance. Otherwise feel free to put it in the offering plate on Sunday mornings. You can put a note on the envelope that it is for the cemetery project.

The estimated total cost for this project is \$7,000

**Cemetery  
Project  
Underway!**



**God's  
beautiful  
creations**



# Meet St. John's New Pastor!

Hello, St. John's!!!

I'm Pastor Matt, and I am so very excited to meet all of you and perform the role of pastor at St. John's. I am so honored to do this and so appreciative of this opportunity. This is exactly where I want to be. Before I begin to talk about myself, let me give a heartfelt thank you.

So, about me: I was born in Indiana and moved away when I was 33. My wife is from Minnesota, but oddly, it was my idea to move here. Because I am still an Indiana boy in many ways, I love basketball and went to Indiana University when legendary basketball coach Bobby Knight was there. Unlike him, I don't throw chairs when I get angry, so fear not! I also love pizza and hiking the Superior Hiking Trail. I'm not very impressive with tools, but I sure do love to read. I love, love, love to study theology, especially Lutheran theology. This is my third career with stops as a criminal attorney and an English professor. The Holy Spirit has been leading to this job the whole time.

As for the picture: I'm the bald one. My wife is the one with the long hair. Her name is Mandy, and she is the nicest, kindest person you'll ever meet. You'll love her. I know I do! She cuts my hair, you know, what's left of it, and says the same joke each time: "Want me to take a little off top?" As for her vocation, she started her career as an art teacher, but quickly transitioned into the interior design field. She's the visual display manager for Schneiderman's Furniture and bops around from store to store in the Twin Cities.

We have two sons—ages 26 (Wesley) and 28 (Silas). We have no grandchildren, but do have four grand kittens: Sammy, Leo, Jack, and Mabel. We just sold our house and are in the process of moving to Owatonna. I'll head south to you; Mandy will head north to furniture.

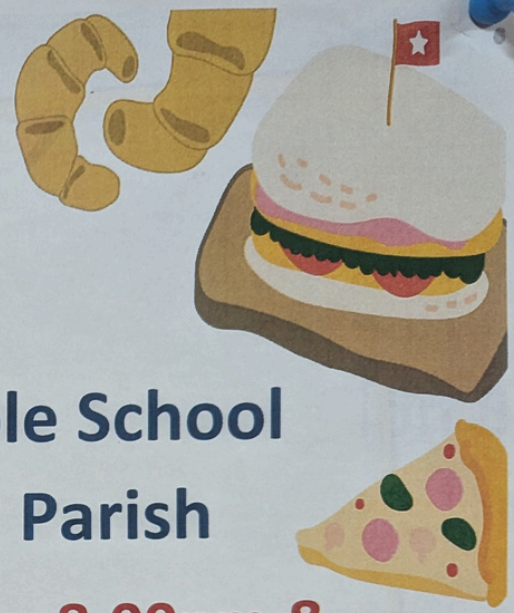
My first day is Monday, August 5. I'm very outgoing, so feel free to drop by and introduce yourself. I seriously cannot wait to begin.

In Christ,

Pastor Matt







## Vacation Bible School with Prairieland Parish

Friday, August 16 from 5:00pm – 8:00pm &  
Saturday, August 17 from 9:00am – 12:00pm

Ages: 3 years to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Dexter United Methodist Church

230 Pleasant Street

Contact: Kelli Popenhagen: 507-606-5556



## Spread the Word! Upcoming Vacation Bible School!

Dexter United Methodist Church will be hosting Vacation Bible School with Prairieland Parish! Children ages 3 years to 5th grade are welcome! Please Contact Kelli Popenhagen is anyone you know is interested.

They are also looking for volunteers! If you or anyone you know would like to help volunteer for the vacation bible school, please contact Kelli!

### **We pray especially for...**

Rande and Cleone Hemingway, Ron Whipple, the family of Kristina Hogan, Carol Lantow, Vickie Mead, Sally and Jim Vietor, Jewel Andree, Sharon Dietrich, Norma Hoffman, Margaret Hoffman, Norma Klaehn, Doloris Sorensen, Mary Jo Sheely, Bill Buckley

### **We pray for the ministries of these congregations:**

Grace Lutheran Church, Waseca  
First Lutheran Church, Albert Lea  
Central Freeborn Lutheran, Albert Lea  
Mansfield Lutheran Church, Alden  
Ngimu Lutheran Church, Tanzania  
Igengu Lutheran Church, Tanzania

### **Mission Day Wed, August 7th**

It will be held in the parish hall. Come anytime after 9. We'll thread, layer, tie, and pin quilts for missions. We'll also be putting together some of the personal care kits for which items have been collected lately. We'll break for coffee and treats mid-morning and then share a pizza at Patriot Plaza about noon. All are welcome... **lots of hands are needed.**

Bible Study will be held next Wednesday, July 17th at Mary Jo Sheely's house at 9:30 am!

### **Readings for this week:**

#### **FIRST READING:**

Amos 7:7-15

**PSALM:** Psalm 85:8-13

#### **SECOND READING:**

Ephesians 1:3-14

**GOSPEL:** Mark 6:14-29

### **St. John's would love more Volunteers! Here's how you can help!**

- Sign up to Usher
- Sign up for serving
- Read Scripture
- Run the PowerPoint
- Set up the cameras for our live stream

**VOLUNTEERS  
NEEDED**