

Gidings

St. John's Lutheran Church Newsletter
August 2019 Edition

Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



One of the many outreach ideas our Evangelism Team is currently working on is that of a mid-week, lunchtime Word and Prayer gathering, led by me, for those who work downtown. Participants will be encouraged to bring a sack lunch. Tea and water will be provided. The real key to its success, however, will be in getting the word out to as many downtown businesses, office complexes, and apartment locations as possible. Obviously, this gathering should be filled with St. John's members, as well. This is the other key component to its success. And, if it goes well, we could also add some Bible study for those who have the time to stay a bit longer.

Those of you who have participated in the various meetings of our Council, Executive Team, Finance Committee, and other such groups are already familiar with the Word and Prayer format that I have created for our use here at St. John's. But the one thing that will make this slightly-expanded version of Word and Prayer different from those other venues will be the inclusion of 14 minutes of "Centering Prayer". (I had offered both a morning and evening version of this type of gathering in my previous congregation with over two dozen people participating.)

"Centering Prayer" is a type of contemplative prayer, an intentional and prayerful silence. You see, back in the 16th century, St John of the Cross wrote: "*God's first language is silence.*" Both silence and stillness, however, are difficult for us these days. We live in a time and place full of noise and movement and full accessibility. We find ourselves continually on-line, plugged-in, and constantly-connected. And when any or all those things are turned off or "down", we usually fidget or even become immobilized.

Yet, since both Scripture and Church tradition tell us that God's voice and presence are often found in stillness and silence, wouldn't it be to our benefit to re-learn these things? Truly, for our own well-being (physically, emotionally, and spiritually), wouldn't we want to re-introduce this practice into our modern daily living?

But it's important to understand that both the Biblical and traditional understanding of silence is not about simply sitting out on the porch with a cup of coffee and enjoying the quiet. Nor is it merely a leisurely walk through the woods, delighting in God's creation, as pleasant as such things may be.

Rather, it is an intentional silence, a focused silence. The Greek word is "*hesychia*", which can be translated as "*sacred stillness*". It is the practice of entering into the very presence of God. Or, more correctly, it is the prayerful consenting to the presence and action of God's Holy Spirit already within and around us.

Tracing its roots to the practice and teachings of the Desert Fathers and Mothers (as early as the 3rd century), the use of contemplative prayer, particularly, that of Centering Prayer, the Jesus Prayer, and Lectio Divina (which I will write more about on other occasions) are faithful exercises in entering into such sacred space. They are life-giving, soul-breathing means of cultivating the gifts of grace, peace, balance, and wholeness in one's life in God and a life shared with others.

There is so much more depth and blessing to the regular practice of contemplative prayer than what I can offer in this very limited space. I encourage you to look for the cream-colored brochures which I have written and placed in our first floor hallway which contain just a little bit more information and instruction.

We are hoping to launch this new ministry venture in the fall. For now... let me invite your interest, energy, and support in helping to make it the real blessing it can be for folks both within our church and among our community.

Pastor Jim Dew



"Thank you for your contribution to Habitat for Humanity of San Antonio. This kind gift will enable us to continue building decent and affordable homes in partnership with hard working families in need."

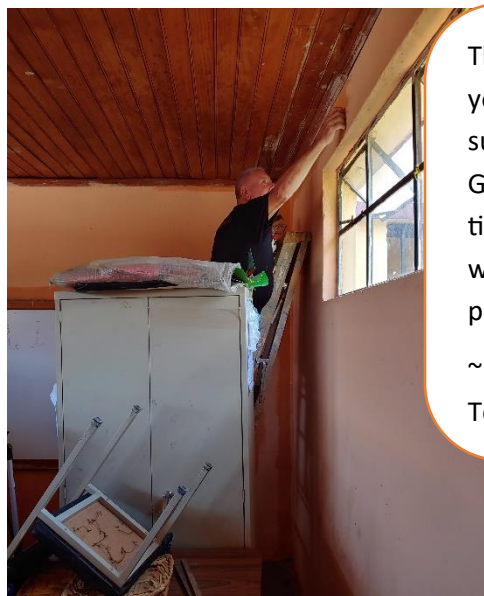
"On behalf of Cross Trails Ministry, I would like to take this opportunity to thank your congregation for the generous expression of support. Your gift will help us to minister to thousands of people in our summer camp, retreat and expedition programs."



Cross Trails Ministry



"Thank you for your generous gift supporting the Lutheran Advantage Scholarship. Your loyalty and support bring forth possibilities for TLU students to be successful in going after their dreams. Thank you for making this possible."



Thank you, St. John's members, for your support and prayers surrounding our mission trip to Guatemala. It was another successful time this year. With your help, we were able to buy enough paint to paint all of the classrooms!

~Bea Imken and the Mission Ministry Team

thank
you



If you have ever thought about being in the San Antonio Lutheran Coronation here's your chance. Applications are being accepted for Duchess and Court Page. Duchess requirements are entering 9th grade or 15 years of age or older. Court Pages (boys and girls) must be between the ages of eight to thirteen years at the time of coronation and can be nominated by anyone who submits their name to the Association. Please let me know if you are interested.

For an application please contact Mary Boehme at mboehme04@icloud.com or 210.288.5054. ↓

Dear members of St. John's,

Since July 26 is my last day here at St. John's, this means this is my last issue of Tidings. It has been a blessing to work for you all and visit with you for the last two years, whether by phone, email, or finally in person. I have enjoyed my time here and appreciate you allowing me to serve you. I wish you all a blessed journey forward.

Ms. Becky



As we bid farewell to Ms. Becky Klauer and the closure of the current Administrative Assistant position, we thank her for her time and work among us here at St. John's. We send her with our prayers and blessings.

Pastor Dew

From the Stewardship Team

The first two stewardship articles in Tidings highlighted two biblical truths from Charles R. Lane's book *Ask, Thank, Tell*. This article will look at the word *steward*. This word most likely comes from the two old English words that named the person who cared for the pigs of another. This person was called the sty-warden. The original use of this word tells us two things. First, the sty-warden didn't own the pigs. Second, the sty-warden cared for the pigs.

As we read in Genesis 1:27-28, we learn that God created humankind in his image and that he gave us dominion over every living thing that moves upon the earth. And from Psalm 8 we know that God made humans a little lower than God and gave them dominion over the works of his hands and have put all things under their feet.

Humanity has the highest place in the created order but we are still part of the created order. We are accountable to God for how we exercise our dominion. God made us stewards to care for his creation. A steward cares for the possessions of the owner, both for the benefit of the owner and for the benefit of other people who depend on the owner for their well-being. This is the point of the parable of the three slaves who were given talents to manage while the master was gone (Matthew 25:14-25). The expectation was that the slaves would so manage the money that it would grow.

As stewards, we should understand that everything, all 100 percent, belongs to God, and our faith influences how we make use of all that God has entrusted to us. The question we ask should not be "How much of my money should I give to God?" It should be "How much of God's money do I dare keep for myself?"

Rather than taking credit for my possessions, these possessions should cause me to ponder why God has chosen to so bless me. And then focus my life on using the wealth that God has entrusted to me to help those who have less.

We should celebrate the fact that God has named us stewards. To be a steward is to be in a place of high esteem and responsibility. To be God's steward is a privilege like few others.

"SHOWER THE PEOPLE WITH LOVE"

St. John's will be participating in the Shower the People with Love ministry, along with our friends at CAM and the City of San Antonio.

This ministry program begins this month with Janet Grun, Norma & Lynn Case, and Bea & Cliff Imken attending training on Saturday, July 20th. They will also volunteer in August in order to bring back the "how to's" to the St. John's community.

St. John's designated day is the 3rd Saturday of each month, so volunteers will be needed beginning Saturday, Sept 22nd from 9:30AM-12:30PM.

If you desire to help, please contact Janet Grun at 210-834-8052, or janetgrun@gmail.com. Thank you!



Congratulations

to Karl and Lucienne Traeger who celebrated 55 years of marriage on July 20th. Blessings!

~Mary & Ken Boehme

Keep an eye out for the:

Blessing of Students and Educators

Sunday, August 18th.



August Calendar

Mon 5th ~ Executive Committee Meeting, 6PM

Mon 12th ~ Congregational Council Meeting, 7PM

19th – 25th ~ Pastor Jim on Vacation

Please see the church online calendar for regularly occurring church events.

E-Mail information for the Sunday Bulletin and *Tidings* to info@StJohnsSA.org

General E-mail: info@StJohnsSA.org Church Office Hours M-F 8am - 5pm

St. John's Lutheran Church
Statement of Activities - General Operating
June 30, 2019

	June 30, 2019 Actual	June 30, 2019 Budget	Jan 1 -Jun 30, 2019 Actual	2019 Annual Budget	Actual vs. Annual Budget Over(Under)
GENERAL OPERATING					
Revenues					
INCOME					
GENERAL INCOME	\$ 15,613	22,075	\$ 112,618	\$ 264,900	\$ (152,282)
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	-	-	-	-	-
EXTRA OFFERINGS	1,200	-	4,402	-	4,402
BEQUEST & ESTATES	-	-	-	-	-
PARKING LOT INCOME	35,532	45,833	191,435	550,000	(358,565)
CEMETERY OPERATING INCOME	-	100	525	1,200	(675)
CHURCH GROUP/PROGRAM INCOME	540	208	4,724	2,500	2,224
FUNDRAISING, NET	-	-	23	-	23
MISC - INCOME	3,000	-	3,478	-	3,478
Total Revenues	55,885	68,217	317,205	818,600	(501,395)
TRANSFER OF FUNDS					
Investment income - Transferred	-	7,500	90,000	90,000	-
Transfer from Endowment Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Total TRANSFER OF FUNDS	-	7,500	90,000	90,000	-
Total Revenues	\$ 55,885	75,717	\$ 407,205	\$ 908,600	\$ (501,395)
Expenses					
SALARIES & EXPENSES					
PASTORAL SALARIES & EXPENSES	10,419	11,124	67,359	133,490	(66,131)
LAY STAFF SALARIES & EXPENSES	28,064	20,632	129,180	247,580	(118,400)
CEMETERY SALARIES & EXPENSES	-	-	-	-	-
Total SALARIES & EXPENSES	\$ 38,483	\$ 31,756	\$ 196,540	\$ 381,070	\$ (184,530)
EXPENSES - GENERAL					
GENERAL EXPENSES	6,073	8,613	39,332	103,355	(64,023)
PARKING LOT EXPENSES	4,983	2,554	16,711	30,650	(13,939)
CEMETERY OPERATING EXPENSES	2,157	2,958	17,180	35,500	(18,320)
Total EXPENSES - GENERAL	\$ 13,214	14,125	\$ 73,223	169,505	(96,282)
COMMITTEES EXPENSES					
FAMILY MINISTRIES	378	583	6,622	7,000	(378)
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL & COMMS	-	900	5,015	10,800	(5,785)
EVANGELISM	-	667	546	8,000	(7,454)
HOSPITALITY	403	833	2,712	10,000	(7,288)
PROPERTY & GROUNDS	13,042	17,792	97,985	213,500	(115,515)
STEWARDSHIP	53	250	515	3,000	(2,485)
WORSHIP/MUSIC/ARTS	849	2,602	17,170	31,225	(14,055)
MISSION MINISTRIES	-	250	-	3,000	(3,000)
VISITATION	-	500	-	6,000	(6,000)
MEMBERS SUPPORT	-	417	-	5,000	(5,000)
SOCIAL MEDIA MINISTRY TEAM	710	1,667	4,737	20,000	(15,263)
Total COMMITTEES EXPENSES	\$ 15,435	\$ 26,460	\$ 135,301	\$ 317,525	\$ (182,224)
BENEVOLENCE					
GENERAL FUND BENEVOLENCE	9,125	2,958	21,250	40,500	(19,250)
Total BENEVOLENCE	\$ 9,125	2,958	\$ 21,250	40,500	\$ (19,250)
Total Expenses	\$ 76,256	75,300	\$ 426,313	\$ 908,600	\$ (482,287)
Change in unrestricted net assets	\$ (20,371)	\$ 417	\$ (19,108)	\$ -	\$ (19,108)

St. John's Lutheran Church
Statement of Activities - Special Purpose, Restricted & Endowment Funds
June 30, 2019

	June 30, 2019 Actual	June 30, 2019 Budget	Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2019 Actual	Annual Budget	Actual vs. Annual Budget Over(Under)
ENDOWMENT FUND					
Revenues					
INCOME					
DONOR RESTRICTED INCOME	3,901	-	66,099	-	66,099
Total INCOME	3,901	-	66,099	-	66,099
ENDOWMENT - INCOME					
Interest-Dividends	10,980	-	27,407	-	27,407
REALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	12,530	-	32,271	-	32,271
UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES)	100,822	-	252,649	-	252,649
MEMORIALS & OTHER INCOME	-	-	-	-	-
Total ENDOWMENT - INCOME	124,332	-	312,327	-	312,327
Total Revenues	128,232	-	378,426	-	378,426
TRANSFER OF FUNDS					
Transfer to/from General Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer to/from Endowment Fund	-	-	(90,000)	(90,000)	-
Total TRANSFER OF FUNDS	-	-	(90,000)	(90,000)	-
Total Revenues	\$ 128,232	\$ -	\$ 288,426	\$ (90,000)	\$ 378,426
Expenses					
RESTRICTED EXPENSES					
MANAGEMENT FEES-ENDOWMENT	1,651	-	9,986	-	9,986
RESTRICTED EXPENSES-OTHER	2,583	-	122,318	-	122,318
Total RESTRICTED EXPENSES	4,234	-	132,304	-	132,304
Change in restricted net assets	\$ 123,998	\$ -	\$ 156,122	\$ (90,000)	\$ 246,122

Reminder Message from the Finance Office

The Finance Office requests:

1) That all reimbursement requests be submitted to the Finance Office by the 5th of the following month of the purchase date. The Church closes its books each month and no reimbursement can be made for any month that has been closed.

2) That if you use a Church credit card, all receipts be turned in the week of the purchase. You can place these receipts in the box outside of the Accounting office. These receipts must be entered into accounts payable before the Church receives the credit card statement at the end of each month.

Thank you for your assistance. God's blessings.

Carolyn Myers, Bookkeeper

Parish Staff

Rev. James Dew *Senior Pastor*

prjimdew@outlook.com ext. 2613

Eric Ryniker *Business Manager*

eric.ryniker@StJohnsSA.org ext. 1075

Carolyn Myers *Bookkeeper*

carolyn.myers@StJohnsSA.org ext. 1077

Michael Bade *Director of Music*

michael.bade@StJohnsSA.org ext. 3019

Robert Jenkins *Organist*

rob.jenkins@StJohnsSA.org ext. 3019

Juan Diaz *Church Sexton*

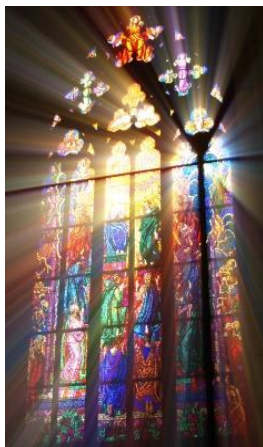
Christine Hazelton *Sunday Church Sexton*

Roger Steckly *Cemetery Sexton*

roger.steckly@StJohnsSA.org

St. John's Lutheran Church
Special Purpose Funds
June 30, 2019

	12/31/2018	2019 Total Deposits	2019 Disburse- ments	Bal
<u>Church - Unrestricted and Board Designated</u>				
Rilling Estate	34,775.00	-	-	34,775.00
	34,775.00	-	-	34,775.00
<u>Church - Board Designated</u>				
Bus Sales/Transportation	8,131.64	-	(340.77)	7,790.87
Capital Reserve	60,957.53	20,000.00	(52,712.00)	28,245.53
Loan Repayment	-	10,000.00	-	10,000.00
Cemetery Trust Earnings Distributions	13,000.00	-	(13,000.00)	-
Insurance Reimbursement	19,584.98	-	(13,982.00)	5,602.98
	101,674.15	30,000.00	(80,034.77)	51,639.38
<u>Church -Temporarily Restricted</u>				
Archives	110.13	-	-	110.13
Bricks for courtyard	3,809.77	-	-	3,809.77
Building/Restoration Fund.	15,313.02	4,430.00	(150.00)	19,593.02
CAM & Easter Sunrise Service	500.00	1,213.07	(587.51)	1,125.56
Campus Ministries	-	1,290.27	-	1,290.27
Candlebras	3,099.34	-	-	3,099.34
Choir & Choir Music	2,660.47	60.00	-	2,720.47
Columbarium	12,499.78	-	(5.30)	12,494.48
ELCA World Hunger	10.00	300.00	-	310.00
E.Minasian Scholarship	2,126.06	-	-	2,126.06
Family Retreat	360.00	-	-	360.00
Fiesta Nueva	821.83	10,487.50	(6,695.47)	4,613.86
Finance Peace	4,014.23	-	-	4,014.23
Habitat for Humanity	-	10.00	-	10.00
History Wall Fund	9,254.86	-	-	9,254.86
Meals on Wheels	120.00	20.00	-	140.00
Mem-Marian Brewer	2,432.37	-	-	2,432.37
Mission Trip-Guatemala 2018	2,279.93	16,865.74	(16,670.87)	2,474.80
Organ Fund	4,532.53	170.00	-	4,702.53
Railing and Door Restoratin	1,910.00	-	(1,910.00)	-
Rynning Memorial	2,839.23	-	-	2,839.23
Sanctuary-Art Carving	10,482.52	-	(6,000.00)	4,482.52
School Ministry	4,007.00	-	-	4,007.00
Sound Level Study	3,932.09	-	-	3,932.09
Sunday School	6.65	41.22	-	47.87
Youth Activity	1,472.51	581.00	-	2,053.51
Women's Retreat	5,223.80	530.00	(2,763.89)	2,989.91
Total Church Temporarily Restricted	93,818.12	35,998.80	(34,783.04)	95,033.88
Total Special Funds	230,267.27	65,998.80	(114,817.81)	181,448.26



Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of Artis Bowles
by Curtis & Frances Franz
In Memory of Kevni Haiduk
by Curtis & Frances Franz
In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by
Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl
In Memory of Ted Bowles by
Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl
In Memory of Walter Melynk by
Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl
In Memory of Raymond Reynolds
by Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl
In Memory of Ted Bowles by Kathy Cobb
In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Kathy Cobb
In Memory of Ted Bowles by Viola Caraway
In Memory of Mike Murray by Ralph Detwiler
In Memory of Kevin Haiduk by Viola Caraway
In Memory of Lindsay Brewer by Belinda & Ron Schmidt
In Memory of Eudell Odam by Dwayne, Denise & Emma Stahl



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Nov 2nd – Third annual CAM Queso Meltdown

Oct 13th – St. John's Queso Meltdown

More details TBA in Sept and Oct Tidings

For information contact Ron or Ann Olson,
or Bea Imken.



Special Birthday
wishes
to all our
August Birthdays!

Allen Adams, Alwin Schaefer, Amelia Carmines, Andrew Martini, Austin Lang, Austin Schenk, Barbara Reed, Barrett Walker, Belinda Schmidt, Brendan Warren, Carole Jandt, Cheryl Goode, Claudine Michalek, Cody Acosta, Daniel Carmines IV, David Lowther, Dorothy Galle, Dorothy Knox, Douglas Bornemann, Edward Zastawny, Lt. Col., Elizabeth Ressmann, Emilia Williamson, Eric Hutchinson, Estella Eckhardt, Gail Zoll, George Autobee, Geraldine Nichols, Janet Grun, Jeremy Tietze, Jessie Cooper, Joshua Wellman, Judith Zipp, Julie Mason, Junius Wehe, Kaiden Dorsey, Kassidee Ferdin, Kathleen Schwab, Kathy Cobb, Ken Taggart, Ken Turner, Kermit Crenwelge, Kevin Baker, Kimberly McDaniel, Leslie Rendeiro, Liam Neal, Lisa Mason, Lori Darchicourt, Lukas Fabianke, Marie Hollinger, Marjorie Sanderson, Martha Schultz, Mary Ann Spreen, Melissa Nedbalek, Morgan Goode, Patrick Neal, Pearl Alvarez, Reese Bailey, Renay Jandt, Richard Collier, Jr., Riley Deaver, Robert Hartman, Ronald Ressmann, Samuel Villanueva, Schalean Wilson, Selah Hollinger, Slade Herb, Stephen Wendel, Steven Garza, Susannah Saathoff, Terri Abernathy, William Park, William Rickrim, Zoe Vanderwaall

ATTENTION FIESTA NUEVA POSTER ARTISTS!

Be the next artist to be chosen for our poster for **2020**. Your art will be displayed on our t-shirts and pins/medals! Ask your friends as well.

You **do not** need to be a member of St. John's to submit a poster. You **do** need to include a rooster, the color red, and something to tie it to St. John's Church.

Please include a space for the date (to be determined) and the name St. John's Lutheran Evangelical Church. This all should be displayed on a poster 18" x 24". Please put your name on the back of the poster. We will have you sign the winning poster before we make the t-shirts. Please **submit** your poster to the office by **August 25, 2019**. VIVA FIESTA!!

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
502 East Nueva, San Antonio, Texas 78205
Ph: 210-223-2611 Fax: 210-223-5667
General E-mail: info@StJohnsSA.org

Address Service Requested

The heart of Christ...
In the heart of the City
St. John's Lutheran Church



A Stephen Ministry
Congregation

Church Council

President~ **Ron Stinson**

Vice President~ **Rosemary Petry**

Secretary~ **Caroline Nentwich**

Treasurer ~ **Kent Rooen**

Members at Large:

Mary Boehme * Ed Case * Susan Dickson

Bonnie Eckhardt * Bea Imken * Brad Richie

Dan Robison * Belinda Schmidt * Julie Shadrock

Pat Conroy

Our Mission Statement: *Remembering our heritage and reaching for the future by
living in faith and growing through worship, study and service*