



St. John's Lutheran Church

“EVER LOVING, CARING ALWAYS”

• **June 2025 Newsletter** •

Sunday Worship and Children's Church (K-6): 9am

229 S. First St, PO Box 234
Pearl City, IL 61062
815-443-2215

Pastor Len Hoffmann
Email: prshadmin@gmail.com
www.stjohnspearlcity.org

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It's June and we anticipate the welcome change of season. We pray for ample rain and sun benefiting the growing crops and we ask our Lord for an abundant harvest.

This June (June 8) we celebrate the Festival of Pentecost. It calls to remembrance the gift of the Holy Spirit as tongues of fire rained down on the disciples (followers) and as the winds of change blew and the Spirit created apostles (sent by God).

We receive the Holy Spirit in baptism so that we might become both disciples and apostles. We are called to follow and to learn. We are also sent to share the love of Jesus to all – locally and globally through words and actions.

One of the things I have noticed about the people of this congregation is how you not only care for each other, but also how you care for members of the wider community. Moved by the Spirit you extend Christian compassion to those in need and you keep them in prayer, as well.

On that first Pentecost the disciples were given the language of those who were gathered from all parts of the world for the Jewish celebration of Pentecost, so that they could hear in their language what God had done for them in Jesus Christ. They were given the language of love to offer this gift to all, regardless of who they were or where they were from in the world.

We too have been given the language of love to offer everyone no matter who they are or where they are from. We offer the love of Jesus which has been given to us despite our own frailties, faults, shortcomings, and brokenness.

We are forgiven and made new. We are empowered to be disciples and apostles. We are followers and sent ones.

Pastor Len Hoffmann

PS, Please remember your on-going financial support of our ministry, if you are away this summer. You may use the mail or set up your offerings through our website on-line.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS!!

Sunday School will be on hiatus through the summer months but will meet up again on Sunday, September 14th which is Rally Sunday. If you have any questions, please contact Morgan Scharping or Theresa Snetcher.



The Stephenson County Veterans Pantry in Lena is in need of dish soap, laundry soap, paper towels, toilet tissue, and Kleenex. Donations can be brought to Lena American Legion Home on Saturdays from 10-11 AM. It is located at 316 W. Main Street in Lena. All donations are welcome!

The Grace Meal committee is always looking for people to help prepare and serve the monthly meals! If you think that this is something you could commit to, find the sign-up sheet in Luther Hall and put yourself down for the month(s) you think you can help out! You don't have to know any recipes—just be able to help prepare and serve. Thanks.



Don't forget that everyone is welcome to come to dominoes on the first Tuesday of every month from 9AM to Noon. The next one will be June 3rd. Invite others! Cards and dominoes are played on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 1:00-3:30 PM as well. The next dates are June 12th and 26th!

Giving envelopes have been ordered and they should arrive by June 16th. If you received them last year, a box will arrive for you at the church unless you asked to have them stopped. Please pick up your box or ask someone to pick them up for you. The new envelopes begin July 6th!

WEEKLY OFFERING ENVELOPE	
CHURCH OFFERING	
NAME _____	AMOUNT _____
DATE _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Tithe <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Church School	
Other _____	
<small>Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7) A.M.</small>	

There has been a change of address for Janis Kampmeier. If you are sending her anything or planning on visiting her at Liberty Village, her new room number is 101B. I'm sure she would appreciate a card or a visit!

The Healthy Wolves committee would like to thank the people of St. John's for their generous support of this ministry. Without you and the support from the community, we would not be able to provide weekend meals for school children who are less fortunate. The committee works to make sure no child goes hungry. May you be held in God's hands and may you continue to receive God's blessings.

Thank you to the members of the Chancel Choir for their faithful singing this year! Also, a BIG thank you to Sandy Scott for being our accompanist this year! I hope we have more singers join us next Fall. I appreciate your willingness to use your talent to praise the Lord!

Kathy Hillmer



Call Committee Update

The monthly Northern Illinois Synod zoom meeting for all call committees in the synod was held May 19, 2025. Pastor Jen Beamsley opened with prayer. She had great news for our synod. Six congregations will be voting on new pastors by the end of June.

10 congregations are interviewing candidates. 5 are fulltime pastor calls, 4 are part time calls and one is maybe part time, maybe fulltime. This tells us there is a lot of interest by candidates in coming to our synod.

There are five new congregations just starting the call process. They are just putting together their call committees.

More pastors with nineteen years or more of experience are submitting paperwork for a new call. This limits the number of congregations who can afford to call these pastors.

Please keep all candidates, congregations in the call process and seminarians in your prayers.

Confirmation News. . .

Confirmation will have an informational meeting on Sunday, September 14, 2025 right after the church service. We will meet on Sunday, June 22nd to clean, dry, weigh and package the cap project so that we can finally get our bench. We will begin our quest right after the church service and hopefully get it all done and ready to be transported to Indiana. I will be serving pizza for lunch and we will have a snack for the afternoon. I encourage anyone to join us as the more the merrier. You will begin to see signs at church and announcements throughout the next six weeks so that we can get the job done. Many hands make light work!!!!

As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Shawn Kuhlemeier.



Date	Acolytes	Tech Support
June 1	Hudson Voss	Kolton Kampmeier
June 8	Cara Brinkmeier	Hudson Voss
June 15	Kooper Kampmeier	Marlee McPeek Hudson Voss
June 22	Welden Snetcher	Hudson Voss
June 29	Jonah Schubert	Marlee McPeek Hudson Voss

If you can not help when you are scheduled, please email the church office of who your replacement is. Thank you!
(prshadmin@gmail.com)

Duties of the Church for June 2025

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector	Worship Assistant
June 1	Bonnie Dittmar	Doris Kness	Andrew Gronewold	Lori Kempel
June 8	Kathy Williams	Jane Boop	Linda Albrecht	Kim Williams
June 15	April Eberle	Joel & Lori Kempel	Chad Bremmer	DJ Scott
June 22	Jane Boop	Theresa Snetcher family	DJ Scott	Shawn Kuhlemeier
June 29	Aaron Woker	Jenaro Ramos & Jean Lutz family	Kris Eden	Kris Eden

Organist: Karen Bremmer/Kathy Hillmer

Counters: Mike Palmer and Joan Klatt

Men's Breakfast. . .

The Men's Breakfast is on the first Wednesday of the month, The next two are June 4th and July 2nd! They are meeting at The Beltline Cafe in Freeport at 7:30 AM. See you there!



Grace Meal News. . .

A special Thank You!! to everyone who helped with the May Grace Meal!! Bonnie Dittmar, Dennis Downs, Kris & Marion Eden, Randy & Sandy Faust, Lois Hunsaker, Judy & Rollin Nelson, Angie & Wayne Niehaus, DJ Scott, Theresa Snetcher, Kathy Williams, Marge Roiland. and Jim Heimerdinger.

We served a total of 240 meals, 34 deliveries, and 206 curbside pickups.

The June meal will be on June 15th. To reserve your meals for that day, contact St. John's Lutheran Church by Thursday June 12th (815-443-2215). Meals can be picked up between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the 15th. The menu for the June Grace Meal will be pork chop, baked potato, green beans, applesauce, and chocolate cake.

The Grace Meal committee would like to thank the congregation for stepping up and making financial donations to help this great ministry continue serving meals each month.



Have you ever wondered what goes on at the Church Council meetings each month? All the papers and forms discussed at each month's meeting are posted on the bulletin board right outside of Luther Hall! Check it out and ask questions if you have them.

Since Federal HIPAA Laws require hospitals to keep patient information private, pastors no longer have access to patient information. So if you would like a pastoral visit while hospitalized, please contact Pastor Len directly at 815-975-4740 by phone or text, or email at prlen.hoffmann@yahoo.com.



Worship Services. . .

Worship services will continue to be held at St. John's in our sanctuary and live on Facebook. You are welcome to stop at the church on Friday or Saturday before worship and pick up a bulletin. The worship service online will be a complete service. The upcoming bulletin and the past three weeks of bulletins and announcements are now online at <http://www.stjohnspearlcity.org/bulletins-sermons>.

If you have a Facebook Account: You will be accessing the church's Facebook at St. John's Lutheran Church. (You will see the 125th Anniversary Quilt.) **If you Don't have a Facebook Account:** You may access the livestream via the St. John's website at www.StJohnsPearlCity.org. On the top right of the website has our Facebook page icon and you may click on it there.

Church Giving. . .

The church's ability to do ministry is dependent upon your regular gifts. St. John's is able to continue in the mission of the Church because of your faithfulness and financial commitment. While you may be joining us from worship at home, you can give online here: <http://www.stjohnspearlcity.org/giving> Other easy ways to give can also be found on our website by clicking on the GIVING tab.



"We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Financial Committee Report . . .

As we go through the rest of the year, be aware that even though we may still only have an interim pastor, our expenses will probably be going up due to the extra time our new interim pastor will be putting in with us.

Income vs Expense Comparison by Month

Current Fund	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	15,326	10,190	9,429	12,583									47,528
Expense	9,514	11,273	12,712	11,745									45,244
Difference	5,812	-1,083	-3,283	838	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,284

Improvement Fund	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	3,685	2,790	1,380	990									8,845
Expense	0	550	591	0									1,141
Difference	3,685	2,240	789	990	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,704

Thank you to Carla Personette, Nancy Boop, Nancy Trampel, Joan Klatt, Doris Kness and Kathy Albrecht who helped with the Food Pantry the month of February. Also a big thank you to all who help by donating food and/or funds to keep this ministry available for others. Forty-four bags of groceries went to help sixteen families feed their families this month. The next month we will be staffing the Pantry will be July. If anyone could spend a couple of hours on a Saturday morning please contact Doris Kness or Janet Ferguson. July 12th and July 26th are the days that the patrons come to get their groceries. More help is needed on those two dates. Thank You.



Our Friends at Home . .

No one likes to be inside all the time. However we have many friends and members who are unable to attend services or activities with us. Please take a few moments to remember them by sending a small note, or a phone call. Let them know we are thinking of them. It only takes a few moments to brighten up someone's day. Contact the office at 815-443-2215 or email at prshadmin@gmail.com for address info.

Richard Brinkmeier	Ron Fluegel	Connie Melville	Mary Ellen Aurand	Ron Melville
Janis Kampmeier	Lori Miller	Carol Garnhart	Shirley Goldsmith	Verda Werkheiser
Louise Cuccico	Carol Byers	Gina Boop		

Congratulations to family members of St. John's members on their graduations:

*Kennah Block (granddaughter of Ken and Kathy Hillmer) graduated from Bettendorf High School on May 31st. She will be entering the nursing program at the University of Iowa.

*Jenna Robinson (daughter of Jim and Judy Robinson) graduated from Northern Illinois University with a Masters degree in accounting. She will be working for Wipfli Accounting in Chicago starting in June.

*Ella Williams (daughter of Jayson and Kim Williams) graduated from Bradley University on May 17th with a Bachelor's Degree in elementary education. She will be teaching first grade at Stark County Elementary in Wyoming, Illinois in the fall.

*Addison Bremmer (granddaughter of Ron and Karen Bremmer) graduated from Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida with a Bachelors of Science in Applied Professional Studies with a concentration in Biology. Next, she is going to Parkland College's dental hygiene program.

*Alex Brinkmeier (daughter of Scott & Marlyse Johnson) will graduate with a PhD in International Business and Marketing from St. Louis University after defending her dissertation in July. She plans to head to Coastal Carolina University to be a professor in Entrepreneurship.

*Sam Kempel (grandson of Joyce and Terry Kempel) graduated last August from Texas A&M with a PhD in Chemistry. He currently resides in Pennsylvania with his wife where he is currently employed.

*Zach VanHorn (grandson of Joan Stewart) graduated from Highland Community College with an associates degree in science on May 17th. He will continue his education at Highland pursuing another degree in music. He will also continue his singing in the Royal Scots and playing the keyboard.



Women's Gathering Ministries . .

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard – bring BABY WIPES

Food Pantry donations: paper towels, toilet paper, foil, cleaning supplies and laundry detergent and dish soap.

Starting the EMAIL Prayer Chain: To start the email prayer chain, contact Karen Bremmer at ([815 443 2478](tel:8154432478) or [815 821 4698](tel:8158214698)) or email at rkbremmer@gmail.com You may also contact the church office at [815 443-2215](tel:8154432215) (please leave a message as they are checked after hours, etc.) or email at prshadmin@gmail.com. . If you are not receiving the Prayer Chain email and would like to be included, please contact the church office.

*Women's Gathering has dish cloths for sale. They are \$1.50 each. Contact the church office or Lynda Palmer if you are interested.

*Prayer Shawl Outreach on Sunday, June 1st at 10 AM in Luther Hall. Start a shawl/quilt or work on one already started. Someone will be available to help.

*The next meeting is a summer bible study/breakfast on Tuesday, July 15th. It will be at Karen Bremmer's home (313 Walgren Rd. in Pearl City) beginning at 9:30 AM The bible study will begin at 10:00 and will be led by Karen Bremmer. There will be a sign up sheet in the lobby for those interested in attending.

*There will be Sit N' Sew on Tuesday, June 17th from 9AM to Noon in Luther Hall.

*Thank you...

...To Doris Kness, Janet Ferguson and Theresa Albers for providing cookies and Women's Gathering for punch for the Baccalaureate service and D.J. for doing the bulletins at St. John's on May 4th.

...to Kathy Hillmer, Lois Hunsaker, Janet Ferguson, Doris Kness, Theresa Albers and Karen Bremmer for setting up and serving the Baccalaureate reception.

...to the Women's Gathering for providing and serving the graduation reception (3 cakes and punch) on May 18th for our four high school graduates.

...to the Women's Gathering Prayer Shawl Committee for making and presenting the graduates four beautiful quilts during worship on May 18th. We especially thank Lynda Palmer.

Council Corner: The Congregational Council met on Wednesday, May 21st. Here are a few highlights from the meeting:

April's offerings exceeded expenses—thank you for your continued generosity!

Average worship attendance was 100.

The council approved our Synod Assembly voting members: Grace Heimerdinger-Baake and Gertrude Heimerdinger.

We also discussed the possibility of offering Bible studies and conversations this summer focused on the ELCA's social statements. A brief survey will be shared soon—we'd love to hear what topics interest you and what days and times work best for you to participate.

Additionally, we are forming a Youth and Young Adult Ad Hoc Committee to explore ministry opportunities for children, youth, and young adults. If you're passionate about supporting the next generation, we invite you to consider joining this important effort! If interested, please contact Grace Heimerdinger-Baake at 815-764-1194 or graceheimerdingerbaake@gmail.com.

Looking for help navigating Medicare, home care, or other services for yourself or a loved one? Come to the **Jo Daviess County Senior Expo on Wednesday, June 4th, from 9:00 AM to Noon at Galena Elementary & Middle School**, located at 1230 Franklin Street.

This **free event**, hosted by the **Senior Resource Center**, connects older adults and caregivers with trusted information and local service providers. Get answers to your questions, explore options for assisted and independent living, mobility and medical equipment, in-home care, long term care, travel, financial planning, Medicare, home improvements, and much more.

Enjoy **free health screenings** and lots of giveaways—all in a welcoming, informative environment.

No registration required—just come and explore the many resources available in northwest Illinois to support aging with dignity and independence.

For more information, call **815-235-9777**.

This year, we're excited to partner with Zion Community Church and invite your child or grandchild to participate in Zion's Vacation Bible School in the evenings from July 13–17. More details will be shared soon!





A HUGE thank you to Amy Groezinger for stepping into Joan's accounting duties at the church while Joan recovered from her surgery. I'm not sure what we would have done without Amy's help! Thank you again, so much! Joan will be starting again on June 1st!

The social ministry committee will be having a collection for the ELCA Good Gifts project from April 27th through June 1st. Their goals for this project are:

- (1) Herd of goats: \$300
- (2) groups of 10 chicks: \$10 each for a total of \$20
- (1) Rooster for chicks: \$15
- (7) Honeybee hives: \$20 each for a total of \$140
- (4) Food for vulnerable & orphaned children for one month: \$25 each for a total of \$100
- (10) Vaccinations for a child: \$30 each for a total of \$300
- (10) Water filters: \$30 each for a total of \$300
- (2) Piglets: \$30 each for a total of \$60
- (1) Mosquito net: \$10

Total goals for the ELCA Good Gifts Project: \$1245

**ELCA
GOOD
GIFTS**

We will have collection bins at the front of the church for all the items that are listed. Please consider giving to this important ministry to improve lives throughout the world.

June 2025

See an updated and complete calendar throughout the month at www.stjohnspearlcity.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9a Worship 10a Property Meeting 10a Prayer Shawl Outreach 10a Grace Meal meeting	2	3 9a Dominoes	4 7:30a Men's Breakfast	5	6	7
8 9a Worship 10a Stewardship/Outreach Meeting 10a Memorial/Finance Meeting 10a Helping Hands meeting 12p Luther Hall rented 6p 4-H Meeting	9 6p American Legion Auxiliary meeting	10	11	12 1p Cards & Dominoes	13	14 8a Grace Meal prep
15 9a Worship 10:30a Grace Meal	16	17 9a Sit N' Sew 9a Women's Gathering Board meeting	18 7p Church Council meeting	19	20	21
22 9a Worship 10a Confirmation Class Cap Cleaning	23	24	25 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	26 1p Cards & Dominoes	27	28
29 9a Worship	30	July 1 9a Dominoes	2 7:30a Men's Breakfast	3	4	5

June Birthdays

1	Delilah Kloften	13	Kevin Heimerdinger	23	Amanda (Erbsen) Kloften
3	Bryant Smargiassi		Morgan Scharping	24	Jacqueline Smith
4	Collins Kempel	14	Kris Eden	24	Gwen Scott
6	Kayla (Schneider) Sellers		Diem Gronewold	25	Michelle Earlenbaugh
8	Kim Boyle	16	DeAnne Voss	26	Ainsley Sorgi
9	Braden Smargiassi	17	Hayden Heimerdinger	29	Deb Winning
	Brock Smargiassi	19	Jim Westaby		Sandy Faust
	Willa McWorthy		Randy Potter	30	Brianna Stager
10	Fred Domberger		George Snetcher		Avery Scharping
11	Shane Kempel		Heath LaVanway		
	Karly (Schneider) McWorthy	20	Rhonda Brudi		
	Paul Handsaker		Nyah Block		
12	Kade Knoup	22	Megan (Lawler) Marroquin		