



St. John's Lutheran Church

“EVER LOVING, CARING ALWAYS”

• June 2026 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



Time After Pentecost Ordinary Time

It’s the growing season. A season when we see everything turning green and shoots begin to sprout from the earth.

The growing season is a time of hope and anticipation. It is a time of waiting and watching. We see flowers blooming, and gardens and fields growing.

It is the green season in the church year, also. It’s called Time After Pentecost or Ordinary Time. It’s the time in the church year when we also focus on growth and hope.

Ordinary Time occurs twice during the church year. The first time is after the season of Christmas during the Sundays after Epiphany. During this time we live in the hope of Jesus ministry and the growth in discipleship as we await the beginning of Lent.

The second green seasons occurs after Pentecost when the focus becomes one of growth in discipleship as we hear the teachings of Jesus and we grow in living out our Christian lives in the world day to day.

This Ordinary Time concludes with Christ the King Sunday as we move into a new church year with Advent.

This season of growth and renewal coincides with a time of renewal and growth; in nature and in our daily lives as we vacation or take a break from some ordinary routines. We begin to enjoy the fruits of our gardens and the beauty of our flowers and trees.

Ordinary Time is also a great time to grow in faith, to reconnect with others in the community of faith, to hear God’s word and receive the Lord’s Supper. Hopefully, you will take some time with Jesus this summer.

Blessed Season of Growth!

Pastor Len

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS!!

Sunday School: Summer is here and we are on break until Rally Sunday, September 13, 2026. We are always looking for volunteers to help teach. The curriculum is written for you and is easy to follow. If you feel that you would like to volunteer, please speak with Shawn, Morgan, Theresa, or Grace. Have a wonderful summer.



The Stephenson County Veterans Pantry in Lena is in need of paper towels, shampoo, conditioner, mouthwash, cans of fruit, cans of chicken, tuna, and ham. 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, talk to Marge Roiland, Lois Hunsaker, or Kris Eden! We meet the first Sunday of the month to discuss the upcoming meals! 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 two will be June 2nd and July 7th. 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 for that will be June 11th and 25th.

Jean Koch will celebrate her 100th birthday on June 17th. There will be an open house on Saturday, June 27th, at St. John U.C.C., 1010 S. Park Blvd., Freeport, IL, from 1-4 P.M. Please shower Jean with cards. If you are unable to attend, please send a card to Jean Koch, 1234 S. Park Blvd., Room 110, Freeport, IL 61032.



If you would like to give to St. John's using a debit or credit card, use this QR code to make a donation. This is a one-time donation, but if you would like to set up a reoccurring donation to St. John's from your checking or saving account, there is a form for this in the office that you can fill out to do that. Thank you for supporting the ministries of St. John's!

St. John's Giving page QR code

We will be joining Zion Church again this year which will be July 12th – 16th from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. More information to follow. If you have any questions, please contact Grace Heimerdinger-Baake or DJ in the church office.

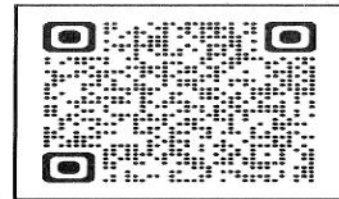


Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

REMINDER

The 2026 Northern IL Synod Assembly is on June 12th with In-Kind donations benefitting LSSI this year. You can support by:

1. Donating \$25 giftcards (for your congregation representative to bring to the Synod Assembly) OR
2. By purchasing items from LSSI's online wish-list via the QR code or link listed.



GIFTLIST.LSSI.ORG

Confirmation News. . .

Confirmation: We have finished our study of the Apostle's Creed and The Twelve which means we are off for the summer. The informational meeting will be held on Rally Sunday, September 13, 2026 after the church service in the Youth Room. If you have any questions, please contact Shawn Kuhlemeier.



Date	Acolytes	Tech Support
June 7	Jonah Schubert	
June 14	Cara Brinkmeier	Arianna Schoenhard
June 21	Diem Gronewold	Jonah Schubert
June 28	Welden Snetcher	George Snetcher
July 5	Kolton Kampmeier	Carlito Ramos

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 2026

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Lector	Worship Assistant
June 7	April Eberle	Doris Kness	Andrew Gronewold	Lori Kempel
June 14	Jane Boop	Rollin & Judy Nelson	Linda Albright	Tracy Downs
June 21	Chad & Deb Bremmer family	Andrew & Ashley Gronewold family	Chad Bremmer	Carlito Ramos
June 28	Stuart & Shawn Kuhlemeier	Jane Boop		Shawn Kuhlemeier
July 5	Randy & Sandy Faust	Jenaro Ramos & Jean Lutz family	Kris Eden	Ethan Bremmer

Organist: Karen Bremmer/Kathy Hillmer

Counters: Mike Palmer, Joan Klatt, and Judy Nelson

Men's Breakfast. . .

The Men's Breakfast is on the first Wednesday of the month, The next two are June 3rd and July 1st. 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, Kris & Marion Eden, Randy & Sandy Faust, Hendrix Feld, Juma and Junior, Cindy & Earl Heimerdinger, Grace Heimerdinger-Baake, Jim Heimerdinger, Cathy Hoffmann, Lois Hunsaker, Joan Klatt, Craig Lindquist, Judy & Rollin Nelson, Angie & Wayne Niehaus, Marge Roiland, and DJ Scott. We served a total of 260 meals, 32 deliveries, and 228 curbside pickups.

The June Grace Meal will be on June 21st. To reserve your meals for that day, contact St. John's Lutheran Church by Thursday June 18th (815-443-2215). Meals can be picked up between 11:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. on the 21st. The menu for the June Grace Meal will be a pork chop, corn casserole, applesauce and chocolate pudding.

The Grace Meal Committee would like to thank the congregation for stepping up and making financial donations to help the great ministry continue serving meals each month. If you think you can help prepare or serve a meal talk to Kris Eden, Marge Roiland, or Lois Hunsaker!



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.

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 . . .

Both the Current Fund and the Improvement Fund finished 2025 on a positive note with income exceeding expenses, and both funds are in good status heading into 2026. Thank you to the congregation for your generous giving and your continued support of St. John's

Income vs Expense Comparison by Month

Current Fund	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	11,858.77	12,461.76	9,888.77	10,341.92									44,551.22
Expense	12,131.75	11,259.97	11,751.12	11,842.02									46,984.86
Difference	-272.98	1,201.79	-1,862.35	-1,500.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2,433.64

Improvement	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	3,281.00	820.00	820.00	710.00									5,631.00
Expense	747.50	399.18	88.99	455.00									1,690.67
Difference	2,533.50	420.82	731.01	255.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,940.33

Grace Meal	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	265.00	165.55	932.41	576.13									1,939.09
Expense	953.99	969.52	121.45	0.83									2,045.79
Difference	-688.99	-803.97	810.96	575.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-106.70

Healthy Wolves	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Income	330.00	430.00	730.00	400.00									1,890.00
Expense	784.08	1,018.83	485.79	588.49									2,877.19
Difference	-454.08	-588.83	244.21	-188.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-987.19

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

Carol Byers

Janis Kampmeier

Lori Miller

Verda Werkheiser

Louise Cuccio

Gina Boop

Donna Freedlund

The May 2026 zoom call committee meeting was held May 18th. Pastor Jana led a discussion between attending members on strategies used by committees for keeping congregations informed during the call process. What ideas worked and what ideas didn't work were presented. Discussion concerning how to get through the lulls in the process was also part of the meeting.



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"God Loves a cheerful giver"
1 Corinthians 9:7

Giving online or by text is easy! Visit calvarychapelbrook.com/giving to get started today

If you decided to continue to use envelopes for your giving to St. John's, the next box of envelopes are on the table in the Narthex. This box of envelopes runs from July 2026 through June 2027. Please pick up your envelopes whenever you get a chance. If you see a box of envelopes for someone you will see soon, please take them their box as well. If you don't see a box with you name on it and want one, let DJ know.

Women's Gathering Ministries . .

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard – bring BABY WIPES

Food Pantry donations: any item

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 will meet on Sunday, **June 7th**. Start a shawl/quilt or work on one already started. Someone will be available to help.

*Women's Gathering Summer Brunch & Bible Study will be on Wednesday, **July 22nd** at 9AM. at Karen Bremmer's home (313 Walgren Rd., P.C.) A sign-up sheet will be on the lobby bulletin board. Please sign-up by July 19th. The food will be furnished by the Women's Gathering Board. All women are welcome.

*The 13th Triennial Women of the ELCA Convention at Des Moines, IA will be on **July 16-19**. Registration is \$525 plus lodging. The deadline to register is June 21st. St. John's has a scholarship available if you are interested.

*The Women's Gathering hosted a reception in Luther Hall for the Pearl City High School graduates/members, Brandon Hille and Kameron Downs on **May 17th**. Quilts were given to them during the service that were made by the Prayer Shawl committee. Thank you to Lynda Palmer, Lee Frey and Kathy Hillmer for their help.

*Women's Gathering will have a Sit N Sew in Luther Hall on Tuesday **June 23rd** at 9AM. Projects will be worked on (not all sewing). Please bring a sack lunch. Coffee and drink will be provided.

*The Women's Gathering will lead the Outdoor Worship Service on Sunday, **August 2nd** at the Pearl City Park District shelter house at 9AM. (Pastor will be on vacation). There will be special music. Donuts, rolls, juice and coffee will be available by the Women's Gathering from 8:30 - 8:50AM. We will also lead the worship on Sunday, November 22nd when Pastor is on vacation.

*The Women's Gathering Annual meeting and dinner will be on Tuesday, **August 11th** at 6PM. More information coming in July!

*We have been asked to host the NW Conference Women of the ELCA Retreat. The Board decided to host the Spring Retreat on Tuesday, **April 20, 2027** at 9AM. (replace our monthly bible study.) Program to be decided.

*Eating Out will not meet during the summer months.

*Thank you to Kathy Hillmer for the red geraniums and to Kris Eden for the potted plants used during the Pentecost service.



The Healthy Wolves backpack ministry is very thankful for your continuing financial support. Without you, we would not be able to supply weekend meals for those in need. The number of students needing help is twice the amount of last school year. You are indeed a blessing to our community.

The social ministry committee would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to the ELCA Good Gifts project. We collected \$1826.69 which was \$271.69 over our goal of \$1555.00. We will be purchasing additional items with the extra funds that were raised. Below is a list of all items that will be purchased and we will be using the additional funds for the last three items on the list. Thanks once again for all your support of this ministry.

Family Farm-\$715.00
(7) Honeybee colonies-\$140.00
(10) Water filters- \$300.00
(10) Vaccinations- \$300.00
(4) Food for 4 orphaned children for a month-\$100.00
(1) Feed 50 people at a soup kitchen- \$100.00
(2) Goats- \$100.00
Give where most needed: \$71.69



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR GRADUATES

*Kamdon Block graduated from Arizona State University on May 13th. He majored in Industrial design and is the grandson of Ken & Kathy Hillmer.

*Cheyenne Handsaker graduated from Kansas State University on May 16th. She majored in Agriculture Business. She is staying in South Central Kansas to begin her career at Equity Bank (Wichita) in Ag Lending as a Agriculture Credit Analyst. Cheyenne is the daughter of Paul and Dianne Handsaker.

*Brandon Hille graduated from Pearl City High School on May 17th. He will be attending Wisconsin Lutheran College to study accounting and pitching for the baseball team. Brandon is the son of Josh & Alison Hille.

*Aidan Finn graduated from Rosemount High School in Rosemount, MN on May 29th. He is getting his pilot's license and attending college to become a commercial pilot. He is the grandson of Keith and Theresa Albers.

*Kameron Downs graduated from Pearl City High School on May 17th. She will be attending Iowa State University in the fall and majoring in Kinesiology. She is the daughter of Dennis Downs and Tracy Downs.

*Ava Bremmer graduated from Highland Community College on Saturday, May 16th. She graduated Magna Cum Laude and Phi Theta Kappa with an Associates of Arts degree. She plans on attending Illinois State University in the fall. She is the granddaughter of Ron and Karen Bremmer.

Thank you to Doris Kness, Nancy Trampel, Nancy Boop, Joan Klatt, and Deb Mather for donating their time to the Pearl City Food Pantry in May. Also thanks to all who donate food items and money to keep this community service project available. There is a need as 14 families were able to take 35 bags of groceries to help feed their families. Our church will be working at the Food Pantry in October so will be needing volunteers again at that time. Thank you all!



June 2026

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 31 9a Worship	June 1	2 9a Dominoes	3 7:30a Men's Breakfast	4	5	6
7 9a Worship 10a Grace Meal meeting 10a Property meeting 10a Prayer Shawl ministry	8 6p American Legion Auxiliary meeting	9	10	11 1p Cards & Dominoes	12	13
14 9a Worship 10a Stewardship/Outreach meeting 10a Memorial/Finance meeting 10a Helping Hands meeting 6p 4-H Meeting	15	16	17 7p Council meeting	18	19	20 8a Grace Meal prep
21 9a Worship 10:30a Grace Meal	22	23 9a Sit N Sew	24 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	25 1p Cards & Dominoes	26	27
28 9a Worship	29	30	July 1 7:30a Men's Breakfast	2	3	4

June Birthdays

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