



St. John's

Ev. Lutheran Church

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AUGUST 2021

DOES CHRIST'S CHURCH MATTER ANYMORE?

It's difficult for me to get my head around having arrived at a moment in history when that could even be a question. But the fact of the matter is, we have arrived—maybe a lot earlier than you or I would think.

Karl Marx called Christianity the opiate of the masses. What he meant was that Christianity provided some sort of hope in the face of the destitute poverty of newly-industrialized Europe. In his day, the poor, even young children, worked 14-hour days just to return to the misery of a bowl full of slop in an overcrowded, rat-, lice-, and bed-bug-infested tenement without running water. Christianity, so Marx, numbed people to the harsh reality they inhabited. That's why Christ's Church mattered back then—at least according to Marx.

Of course, life has improved, particularly in the West. The opioid function of Christianity has disappeared. What misery is there to escape if on any given night I have my choice of beef or pork tenderloin? Of Chinese, Italian, Mexican, or Thai? As for running water—I have so many outlets in the house that the problem is keeping them all in good repair, not in hoofing it down and up 10 flights of tenement stairs for a bucket of [polluted] water.

But let's go back to Marx. His view of Christianity has two problems. The first is misidentification of the real problem. Marx identifies the problem as this life.

The second stems from the first. Because he misidentifies this life as the problem, Christianity for him is merely “palliative”: it makes this life easier to bear.

All of this should sound very familiar to you, because even if Marx's communism hasn't gained a footing in the U.S. this is how most Americans think of Christ and Christianity: Christ and Christianity solve the problem of life by making life easier to bear.

Problem is, today life is pretty darn good—even without Christ and His Church. When I picture “my best life now” it's not me being told by some kindly avuncular figure that everything's going to turn out just fine, or me surrounding my misery in Church with what misery loves best—the company of the miserable. No, “my best life now” is the one I already got. It's me waking up on the northwestern shores of Lake Superior in August to see the sun rise. It's me in my comfortable house in the dead of winter with a fire crackling in the fireplace. It's me taking my statins paid for by my insurance from my great job to ensure I can continue to eat the rich foods I prefer and still prolong my life. Today it's not so much that Christ and His Church are the opiate for a miserable life; it's that a great life is itself the opium.

But the problem Christ and Christianity deal with isn't life, it's death. The Bible verse isn't, "Life, where is your sting? O comfy bed, where is your victory?" but "Death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?" (1 Cor 15:55). Indeed, Paul writes, "If in Christ we have hoped in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied" (1 Cor 15:19). And Christ and Christianity aren't palliative. They don't just "make it easier to deal with life." In fact, sometimes just the opposite. "For Your [Christ's] sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered," writes the psalmist (44:22; picked up by Paul in Rom 8:36). No. Christ and Christianity aren't palliative, but curative. You can hear Paul practically shouting off the pages of Scripture when he writes, "The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the Law. Thanks be to God, who us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" (1 Cor 15:56). Because Christ fulfilled the Law He robbed sin of its power, removed the sting of death, and made death in Him nothing but a sleep.

So let's get back to the original question: Do Christ and His Church matter anymore?

Well, just answer me this: do you know anyone who's not going to die? If not, then you have your answer. (By the way, if you do know someone who's not going to die, please give me a ring.)

As for you, see Christ for who He is—the Savior from death. Jesus isn't about your best life now. You've already got it. He's about your eternal life.

As for your witness to others—don't let people wallow in their misconception that Christianity is an opiate for this life. It simply isn't. Instead, teach them that it is the antidote to death and that the Lord Jesus Christ is the Victor over death and grave.

That is and has always been the message of the Church. You can't find it anywhere else. Buddhists can't give you Jesus. No one's going to find Jesus skipping across the waves on an innertube. And as glorious as a Lake Superior sunrise is, it's certainly not the glory of Christ Himself. You can't find Him there, either. But you can find Him in church. And that—that alone—is why Christ's Church does in fact matter. Even today.



Senior Pastor - Rev. J. S. Bruss, ext. 104

Associate Pastor – Rev. D. M. Kerns, ext. 101

Kantor - Bethany M. Johnson

TLS Teachers – Kathy Bartels, Pamela Landon, Joshua Grass, Erin Grass, Andrea Kosmicki

ADULT CATECHISM STARTING THIS FALL

Plans are underway for our next Adult Catechesis class, beginning in September, and running through early May, with a few weeks off in between. Taking place Wednesday evenings from 7:00 (Evening Prayer) till 8:40, with a small break between Evening Prayer and classroom, catechesis introduces those interested in membership at St. John's—or those just interested—to the basics of our Scriptural, Evangelical-Lutheran faith, and provides a wonderful review for those who are long-time Lutherans. If you'd like to join the class or have questions, please contact Pr. Bruss (jbruss@stjlcms.org).

SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 2021-2022

Thank the good Lord that Sound Words Academy (SWA) returns in full force this Fall after a too-long hiatus! SWA, centered on the Office of Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m., will meet Wednesday evenings starting 8 September. While we are still working on some specifics, we can at this point share the evening schedule. *(continued on next page)*

SWA ct'd

5:15 p.m. till 5:50 p.m.	Dinner for everyone
5:55 p.m. till 6:50 p.m.	Adult Bible Class (Courtyard) Youth Catechesis I (6 th grade) Youth Catechesis II (7 th and 8 th grade) Jr. Lutherans (age 4 through 5 th grade) followed by Rhythm of Faith (age 4 through 5 th grade)
7:00 p.m. till 7:35 p.m.	Evening Prayer (regular time) Vespers (Advent) Compline (Lent)
7:40 p.m. till 8:35 p.m.	Adult Catechesis (Rm 202) Young Adults and College Students (Fireside Room)

Some new things are coming down the pike.

- Each week sign up yourself and your family for the dinner on SignUpGenius—this will help us not over- or under-prepare
- Instead of a “freewill” donation to cover the meal, we’ll recommend \$4/plate, with any proceeds after covering the cost of the meal going to either Crisis Pregnancy Counseling or Orphan Grain Train
- We seek volunteer groups of four to six people to prepare, serve, and clean up after one or two meals—this to ease the burden of meal prep, service, and clean-up. The office staff will prepare the first meal on 8 September, and groups from the church council and boards will be claiming their slots. Find a group of people to work with and let us know!

More details coming in the September newsletter.

We look forward to the camaraderie, teaching, and learning at Sound Words Academy this coming year, and pray that through it our congregation will continue to grow in the knowledge and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. Keep our youth and adult catechumens in your prayers, that the Lord would richly bless their catechesis and graft them ever more firmly into Christ.

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS...

Do you desire to use your musical talent in service to the Church?

Do you want to join other musicians making music together?

Do you love to sing, play bells, or play an instrument?

If you said “yes” to any of these questions, please consider the following:

- Kantorei (vocal choir), rehearses every Thursday, 7:15-8:15 p.m. (beginning September 9)
- Ecclesia Bells (handbell choir), rehearses every Thursday, 6:15-7:00 p.m. (beginning September 9)
- Playing a musical instrument during a service
- Singing or chanting during a service

Contact Bethany Johnson (bjohnson@stjlcms.org) if you are interested.

We are pleased to introduce...

ST. JOHN'S MUSIC ACADEMY

St. John's Music Academy (SJMA) provides music education through studio lessons using appropriate curriculum and methodology within a Christian atmosphere and in accordance with the rich heritage of classical, Lutheran sacred music that serves the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We believe that "next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world" (Martin Luther). Thus, we strive to preserve this treasure of our Church within our private music lessons, church services, communities, and homes. By doing so, we hope to **enrich** the lives of those who learn this noble art, **preserve** both God's Word and our rich heritage of Lutheran hymnody that carries it, **serve** those within the Church and community with music, and **raise up** the next generation of church musicians who will continue to serve the Church in various capacities.

FAQ on St. John's Music Academy

For which instruments do you provide music instruction? When and where does this take place?

We provide music instruction for piano, organ, trumpet, and violin. The times available are determined by the teacher, and all lessons are held at St. John's (901 SW Fillmore) with the pianos and organ available in our various rooms and spaces.

How does the relationship work between SJMA and SJELC?

St. John's Music Academy operates under the auspices of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, teaches according to the standards set in the SJELC Constitution, and supports the mission and outreach of the Gospel through music. However, SJMA operates differently on a financial basis regarding the exchange of fees between the independent contractors (music teachers) and the students taking lessons. A portion of each lesson fee goes to SJMA.

SJMA is governed by its own Executive Board, whose members are faithful communicants at SJELC and appointed by the Church Council. The Director of SJMA, who exercises oversight over SJMA, is appointed by the Church Council and approved by the Board of Elders and Voters. The Director must be a called staff member of SJELC.

What makes this music academy different from any local music conservatory/school/academy?

This is a parish-based music academy, meaning that the music instruction for a certain instrument is supplemented with instruction on church music that supports the teaching of God's Word according to our Lutheran confession. Thus, it serves as a mission and outreach and encourages students to serve the Church and community through music.

What can I do to support this ministry?

First, encourage the musicians (of all ages and levels) within the church as they learn this wonderful art and use it to serve God's Word through music. Second, pray for the present and future generations of church musicians that the Church's song would continue for years to come. Third, if you are so inclined and able, donate to St. John's Music Academy to support the work being done there.

Whom do I contact for further questions, lesson fees and other information?

Contact Bethany Johnson, the SJMA Director and Administrator, at bjohnson@sjlcms.org or 469-400-4382 Information including the teachers and the parent/student handbook is found on our website: <https://www.stjohnlcmstopeka.org/learning/sjma/> Details on lesson fees and more information on program descriptions are found in the parent/student handbook on the website.

2021 FLOWER CALENDAR

There are available dates to provide flowers for a service. To sign up, locate the flower chart in the church office above the printer and sign your name next to the date of your choice. You may take the flowers home after the 11:00 service or by Thursday of that week. Upcoming dates available: August 22 and 29, September 26 and October 3. Questions on delivery or ordering flowers, contact the church office.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN BRAILLE WORK CENTER #31

The St. John's Lutheran Braille Work Center #31 invite all who would like to be a part of our group to join us as we begin our mission work again after the COVID shut down. We have not met since 2019 but will be starting again soon. Our mission has changed somewhat, and we are still in the change mode. We were strictly tasked with distributing large print Spanish Version Bibles all over the world. But now we will also be printing and binding English Version Large Print Bibles and devotionals. Many hands make light work and good fellowship. We have short meetings with coffee and treats on our workdays. The frequency of our workdays, which typically last 4 hours or less, is uncertain and guided by the demand for the large print bibles. We anticipate a workday no more than about once every 5-6 weeks. If you are interested, contact Eileen Klumpp. **Note:** We do not need any more toilet rolls or paper towels rolls at this time.

STIMULUS FUNDS

For those individuals who have received a stimulus fund check and are in a good financial position, please consider donating a portion of the funds to charity. If you would like to donate some of your stimulus money to St. John's, the following funds (in no specific order) would be excellent choices; International Missions, Eagle Foundation (Building and Enhancement Fund), Eagle Foundation (No Specific Fund), St. John's Music Academy, Sound Words Academy, Welfare (assistance for members), Human Care (assistance for non-members) or The TLS Foundation. - The Board of Stewardship

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP: BUDGET AND RECEIPTS REPORT

In an effort to keep our congregation informed about our financial situation, the Board of Stewardship has agreed to publish monthly budget reports. These reports are designed to give you a snapshot of our congregational support of the budget adopted by the voter's assembly for 2021. We hope that you will find this information useful. Several annual pledges have already been received in full – giving a very good financial picture to date.

YTD Projected Budget Receipts through June 2021	\$366,682
<u>Actual Receipts through June 2021</u>	<u>\$412,256</u>
Year to Date Receipts Over (Under) Budget	\$ 45,574

SUPPORT OF THE EAGLE FOUNDATION

Support of the Eagle Foundation "Building Maintenance and Enhancement Fund" that was established to address large, specific, and known future building maintenance, repairs and Capital Enhancements to the church are always welcome. Use your Building Maintenance and Enhancement, "Eagle Foundation" envelope or write BM&E on the memo line of your check. Donations directed toward this fund are highly beneficial to the longevity of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church. Thanks in advance for your support.

LUTHERAN WITNESS

It is time to renew your Lutheran Witness subscription for the 2021-2022 year. To renew or initiate a new subscription, send in your \$18 payment by August 23 to the St. John's office. Make your check out to St. John's Lutheran Church, and write Lutheran Witness in the memo line. Contact Pam Harms for questions.

2021 SJELC WORSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, August 21, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

“History and Theology of Lutheran Liturgy”

Dr. Christopher Boyd Brown, keynote speaker

Schedule, registration, and other details on our website:

<https://stjohnlcmstopeka.org/learning/worshipconf/>

This conference is for lay people, musicians, and pastors, so we encourage you to attend!

Questions? Contact Bethany Johnson (bjohnson@stjlcms.org)

HYMN FESTIVAL AT ST. JOHN'S

“Cross and Comfort” Saturday, August 21, 3:00 p.m.

Featuring hymns and choral pieces accompanied by organ, choir, trumpets, strings and timpani

Join us in singing together and proclaiming God's Word through song!

ST. JOHN'S WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Thank you to everyone who helped The Women's league clean the kitchen July 7. It's much appreciated! There are a few dishes and pans that have been found from previous meals. Please check the table in Luther Hall to see if any are yours. Any items still there after the August breakfast will be put in the bargain sale.

Questions have been asked about donations for quilts. The fabric needs to be cotton and embroidery floss. Thank you in advance to anyone who would like to donate. If you prefer to donate monetarily, please send to the church office. Make checks payable to LWML.

The Women's League continues to collect **Best Choice labels**. Best Choice products may be purchased at Apple Market in Topeka. Ask your friends and family to save them for you. Place them in the box labeled stamps **along with any stamps you collect**. Please do not leave stamps in the church office. Also, Campbell's Soup labels are no longer accepted. Please do not bring them to church. Money received from the Best Choice labels is used for our special projects.

Join us at the Lutheran Women in Mission Christian Life Retreat Featuring *Patti Ross, past LWML President 2015-2019* as the speaker. **“Keeping the focus on Jesus” Let us fix our eyes on Jesus... Hebrews 12:2.** The date is November 12-13, 2021, Double Tree by Hilton, 2098 Airport Road Wichita Kansas. Registration forms are now available. This is open to all women of the congregation and friends. Early registration ends September 28. The registration form is attached to this newsletter.

The Annual Bargain and Bake sale will take place Thursday, August 19, 7:30-5 p.m. and Friday, August 20, 8-1 p.m. Our project this year has been chosen for half toward St. John's Women's League funds for projects and missions, and the other half sent to Topeka Lutheran School general fund. You may bring your items starting Monday, August 16, 6-8 p.m., Tuesday, August 17, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Wednesday, August 18, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. You may bring baked items on Wednesday or early Thursday morning. We ask that you do not bring any electronic items, and all donations be clean and gently used items. Volunteers are greatly accepted and welcome to come to any of the above times to help.



The Women's League, Caring Mission committee, (LWML), is collecting the following items for personal care kits that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. We are collecting: Light weight dark colored bath towels (sizes 52" x 27" or 20" x 40")

2-3 bath size bars of soap, (4-5 ounces, and any brand in original wrappers) totaling 8-9 ounces, sturdy large combs, metal nail clippers, adult size toothbrushes in original wrappers.



Caring Mission Committee, (LWML) is collecting items for school kits: 40-70 page spiral note books (4 for each kit), plastic rulers, #2 lead pencils, blue or black ink pens (no gel), 24 box crayons, pink erasers, small pencil sharpeners and blunt end scissors. Bags for these items have been provided. We will collect these items through September.

The LWR truck will arrive October 8 to pick up the items. This is our last year we will be giving to LWR.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League organized (1942) - July 8

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is an official auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. For over 77 years, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions. Mission Statement: As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Vision Statement: The LWML is the leading group for LCMS women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness. Serve the LORD with gladness! (Psalm 100:2)

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN PROJECT

Have you ever wondered if there was some way that you could serve the hungry children of the world? Here's your chance to make a difference and have fun at the same time! October 22 – 23, the congregations of several local churches are invited to participate in a Feed My Starving Children project right here at St. John's in Luther Hall. Some of you may remember helping out in the 2018 FMSC event and the fun and camaraderie that was had at that gathering. About 450 volunteers, aged 5 – 100+, are needed to sign up for two-hour shifts. We will gather in Luther Hall to package bags of nutritious food to be distributed to the poorest nations of the world. For those who are unable to stand for two hours, there are sit-down jobs available. Look for further details in later newsletters and bulletins. Contact Linda Kinnett if you have any questions at 785-817-5920.

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Save the date! This year's tournament will be October 23 at Forbes Field. Stay tuned for more details coming in the next newsletter. This tournament supports our St. John's Lutheran Youth Fellowship.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST IN AUGUST

Join members on Sunday August 8 for breakfast served by the Kantorei and Ecclesia Bell members between services. During the breakfast, we will also hold St. John's Sunday School Promotion and Teacher Installation. This is a great opportunity to meet with other SJELC members, welcoming each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

THANK YOU'S

Our family wishes to express our sincere thanks for your prayers, cards, meals, the brotherly and sisterly Christian love shared in many ways, and all of the support shown to our family during our time of grieving. We also give thanks to the Lord for granting eternal life to Paul Lines; husband, father and grandpa. – *Verna Lines, Bob Berry family, Chase Briggs family and James Landry family*

I would like to express my sincere thanks for all of the cards, support and prayers during my recent illness. They all are very appreciated. – *Bev Rogers*

A fond farewell to the pastors, staff and members of St. John's. You are special people, and I'm going to miss all of you. I especially want to thank Pastors Bruss and Kerns for tirelessly sharing God's gifts with me over the years. I certainly treasure time God gave me to be a part of this congregation. Thanks for the cards, well wishes and for all who came to the Ellis' for the surprise farewell party they hosted. May God continue to bless this congregation with the pure teaching of His Word. – *Denise Bitter*

DOORSTEP NEWS

Doorstep offers many services to help our neighbors in need every day. There are two programs they really have been at the heart of. Here are more details on those programs, and how the community can help.

Impact Avenues is a program through the city of Topeka, which helps homeless families with at least one school aged child. The families attend a series of classes, and once completed are then placed in a home. Doorstep has helped at times with rent assistance, gas vouchers, utility assistance, car repairs, food, clothing and more. The piece that most do not know about, is Doorstep helps provide household and kitchen items, bedding, towels, lamps and other items when the families are placed into their new home. You can help provide for these families with (gently used, not new) items such as: Queen & Twin comforters and blankets, pillows (prefer new), small household appliances (toasters, mixers, coffee pots, etc.) curtains, silverware, and lamps.

MAP (Mobile Access Partnership) is another program and is truly a community effort. In partnership between Valeo and Topeka Rescue Mission, there will be a food trailer from TRM, health trailer from Stormont Vail, and currently the Shower & Laundry trailer. The trailer(s) move to different locations within the city each week to allow the homeless or those in need of a shower, laundry services or bathrooms the opportunity to use the trailer. Doorstep has been providing clothing for men and women in a variety of sizes to the program. All these items come from donations brought to Doorstep by our member congregation members and the community at large. We also continue to stock our clothing room for clients who need that service while providing clothing to the MAP shower trailer. Items (gently used) currently needed to help MAP are: Men's jeans (waist 30,32,40 and 42), men's and women's shorts of all sizes, women's sun/summer slip-on dresses (size L, XL and XXL).

Lastly, Doorstep Basic Needs include: Hygiene Kit Items (shampoo, conditioner, razors, body lotion, hair brushes), baby wipes, food (Vegetable soup, egg noodles, jelly, canned fruit, ramen noodles, pancake mix and syrup). **Donations can be brought to 1119 SW 10th Ave (10th & Buchanan) at the South Door on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am – 2pm.**

TLS NEWS

TLS Job Openings After school care workers are needed each weekday beginning Tuesday, August 17. Necessary qualifications include a love of children and the ability to follow safety protocols. Applicants must be at least 16 years old.

Substitute teachers are needed at all age levels. Applicants must meet the qualification for an emergency substitute license of a minimum of 60 college credits as well as a love of children and the ability to follow safety protocols regarding the coronavirus and best child supervision practices. For more information about these job opportunities, contact Chris Francik at 785-357-0382 or email francik@topekalutheran.org.



Growing God's Children
for generations to come
Topeka Lutheran School

PRAYER

Holy Lord, we come to you with empty hands and sorrowful hearts in deep need of the forgiveness that You richly shower on us each and every day. As we continue working on our Capital Campaign, we are mindful of your mercies. We pray that You would continue to watch over Topeka Lutheran School, the staff and the children you have given us as we teach them about You and Your saving work on the cross. All this we ask in Your Name. Amen.

SUPPORT TOPEKA LUTHERAN TODAY! CLICK TO DONATE.

<https://www.topekalutheran.org/pledge-tracker>

TOTAL COMMITMENTS

Growing God's Children for Generations to Come

Total Amount Committed: \$834,743

Total Pledged Gifts Received: \$661,123

Total # of Pledges Received: 124

SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all the golfers, hole sponsors, and volunteers for making the 7th annual Luke Savage Memorial Golf Tournament a huge success! We raised over \$21,000 with all proceeds going to Topeka Lutheran School. Thanks for sharing your love and support with us!

Darrel and Kim Savage and The Luke Squad



TLS IS FULLY STAFFED!

We are so excited to announce that Topeka Lutheran School is fully staffed for the 2021-2022 school year! Mrs. Brenda Schwartz (1st grade) and Mrs. Kathy Bartels (middle school) will be joining the staff. And covering Mrs. Grass' maternity leave are Mrs. LaJean Rinker, physical education classes, and Ms. Alexandra Kovatch, music and band classes. Covering Mrs. Banion's maternity leave is Mrs. Pamela Landon. Thanks to God for answering our prayers for the students, families, and staff of Topeka Lutheran School.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- TLS Back-to-School Bash, August 13, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Main Campus
- First Day of School, August 17
- Save-the-Date! School Carnival Saturday, Sept 25, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Main Campus

THANK YOU

Thank you to the donors who made a gift for new microscopes for the Middle School Science classes! And to the 50 TLS alumni who have made a gift to the capital campaign since Spring 2019! Some of you have completed your pledge to this important campaign along with your gift - thank you! And also, this year's total of unpledged gifts (includes match gifts, memorial gifts, and the 5K and walk-a-thon events) is over \$47,000!

Since, then, we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.
—Hebrews 12:1

Giusto de' Manabuo (ca. 1320-1391), Paradise; ca. 1378. Dome fresco, Padua Baptistery, Padua, Italy



August 2021

St. John's Lutheran Church - Topeka, Kansas



St. John's
Ev. Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8am - DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am - COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am - BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am - DIVINE SERVICE	2	3	4	5	6	7 PRIMARCY ELECTION
8 8am - DIVINE SERVICE 9:15am - MONTHLY BRKFEST 9:15am - SS PROMOTION & TEACHER INSTALLATION 9:45am - SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am - DIVINE SERVICE	9	10 ST. LAURENCE, MARTIN	11	12	13	14
15 SAC. WIFE, MOBERT OF OUR LOR 8am - DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am - COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am - BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am - DIVINE SERVICE	16	17 TOPEKA LUTHERAN SCHOOL 4:45pm - PARISH ED 5:30pm - STEWARDSHIP 6:15pm - MISSIONS/SEVANG 6:30pm - TRUSTEES	18	19 EVENING BRKFEST 6:30pm - ELDER CALLING 7pm - BOARD OF ELDERS	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21 9am - WORSHIP CONFERENCE 3pm - HYMN FESTIVAL
22 8am - DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am - COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am - BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am - DIVINE SERVICE	23	24 9:30am - MATINS 6:30pm - COUNCIL	25	26	27	28
29 WESTYBORN ST. JOHN'S BRKFEST 8am - DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am - COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am - BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am - DIVINE SERVICE	30	31	1	2	3	4



THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.” (Matthew 28:19–20a)
So that we may obtain faith in Christ, God instituted the ministry of teaching the gospel and administering the sacraments. Through the gospel and sacraments, as through means, God gives the Holy Spirit who produces faith, where and when He wills, in those who hear the gospel. (*Augsburg Confession*, Article 5)