



St. John's

Ev. Lutheran Church

VOL. 166 NO. 7 MONTHLY

JULY 2022

GREETINGS FROM VICAR JOHN KASTNER



Thank you for the warm welcome as our family has moved to Topeka. I am excited for this year of work and of serving St. John's. Beatrice and I desire to become part of your church family (even if it is only for this year) as we enjoy this new adventure.

Our life has been one of constant changes and new experiences over these past few years. Beatrice and I met while attending Concordia Nebraska – she was studying to be a DCE and I was completing the pre-seminary program. We met in 2018 during her last academic year and had to spend the year apart, as she completed her DCE internship and I finished my studies. We got engaged in the fall of 2019 and planned to be married on June 27, 2020. In the midst of all the craziness of 2020 we accomplished three life changing events: were married, moved to Indiana, and graduated college. Later that summer we were thrilled to learn of our new family member, Anastasia. She was born on April 30, 2021 and baptized May 15, 2021. As we previously introduced ourselves after learning of the vicarage assignment, we are also now expecting a new baby to the Kastner family – a baby boy due in early December. God has richly blessed

our family during these past few years, and we must constantly give Him the thanks and praise for His manifold blessings.

These past two years of pastoral training and studies have passed by quickly. I have had wonderful experiences studying the Word of God and learning to serve God's people. On top of the daily school environment enriched by daily chapel, I have learned what it means to be a pastor by serving at a fielded congregation and by serving at a summer vicarage last year. These have been good primers for life as a pastor within both the church and at home. At the same time, it is something completely different to be dedicated and devoted for a whole year to learning what it means to be pastor. I beseech God to bless the beginning, middle, and end of my work and learning here. I also ask for your patience and love for both my work here and as our family adjusts to living in Topeka and being members of St. John's church family.

In Christ,

John Kastner

GREETINGS FROM PASTOR DAN GALCHUTT

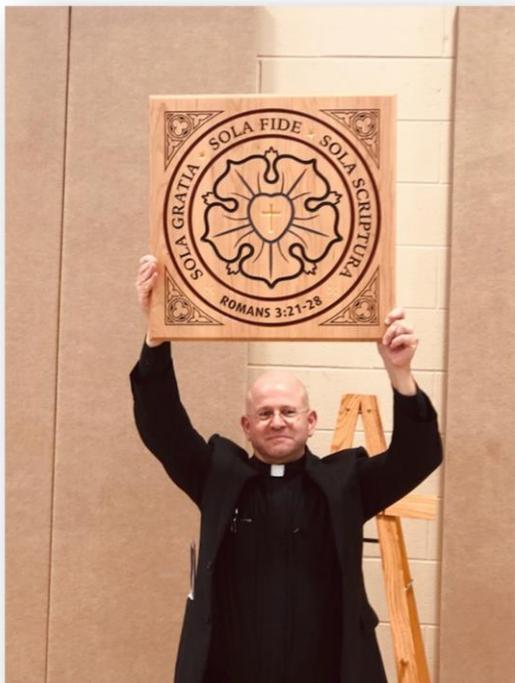


Greetings in Christ! I'm Pr. Dan Galchutt and am serving as your vacancy pastor. I grew up in Minnesota, the youngest of five children. My dad was an LCMS pastor and my mom was a Lutheran school teacher. After finishing college at Concordia, St. Paul in 2000, I attended Concordia seminary in St. Louis. I really became familiar with Kansas when I was assigned to serve as vicar at Ascension Lutheran Church in Wichita. After my fourth year of seminary, I returned to Kansas when I received a Divine Call to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School in Haven. It was a blessing to serve there for five years. The Lord then called me to come to Topeka in 2009 to serve as pastor at

Calvary Lutheran Church. In 2016, the Lord called me to serve as Executive Assistant at the Kansas District where I have been since. My wife, Melissa, and I have been married for over 21 years, during which time the Lord has blessed us with children: Alison, Benjamin, Isaac, Andrew, and Grace. I look forward to meeting more of you and getting to know you better in the days ahead (even if we're hoping that there won't be too many of these days and that the Lord will fill our vacancy at St. John's soon).

Grace and Peace to you in Jesus, Pr. Galchutt

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR BRUSS



Dear saints at St. John's,
This note will be unable to express the depth of gratitude to all of you for the wonderful Farewell and Godspeed celebration on 12 June (but we hope you'll accept it as such!). All of us Brusses were completely overwhelmed. Many thanks to those who worked tirelessly to plan and execute the event: smoking, cooking, serving, decorating, set-up, take-down, invitations, program, coordination. What did you leave unthought of? What a gift! Speaking of gifts, what a treasure the Luther's Rose is. I will cherish it and proudly display it in my office. I only wish I could show both sides of it simultaneously. But amazingly that only scratches the surface, since so many of you added additional gifts to your many cards to our family. What generosity! We also want to thank Bethany, the Kantorei, and the many musicians who made the Divine Service a high celebration of our Triune God, and Pr. Galchutt, who has now for many weeks generously given of his time, and will for many more, as he shepherds St. John's through your transition. The tears shed that day we shed with you, and those coming from us may be the greatest mark of how dear all of you have been and continue to be to us and of our great admiration of St. John's and our huge gratitude to all of you.

May the good and gracious Lord keep all of you firm and steadfast in His Word and faith!
With deepest gratitude and in thanksgiving for all of you in Christ our dear Lord!

-- Pastor Bruss, Kris and Ingrid

JULY VOTER'S MEETING

The July Voter's meeting will be held 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 31.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VOTING MEMBER?

Our constitution defines "voting member" as a communicant member who has reached the age of 18 years and been received as a voting member upon application for such privilege and approval of the voters of the assembly. **We encourage all eligible St. John's members to join the voters assembly.** If you would like to become a voting member of our congregation, you can contact the office, pastor, or your elders to get instructions on how you can become a voter.

JOSHUA BRANDMAHL INSTALLATION ANNOUNCEMENT AND INVITATION



Dear members of St. John's, we are excited to announce that after these last four wonderful years in Fort Wayne, we will now be moving to Brillion, Wisconsin. I will be serving as head pastor of St. Bartholomew's Lutheran Church. St. John's has been such a blessing to us since before we moved here to Fort Wayne, and especially since we started Seminary. My ordination will be on Saturday, July 9 at 2:00 p.m. with a reception following. Anyone who wishes to come are very welcome!

— Joshua and Ashley Brandmahl

HYMN OF THE MONTH "ONE THING'S NEEDFUL" (LSB 536)

There is one thing needful for salvation: Jesus Christ crucified for us. Our sinful nature wants to cling to our own works and to the world's wisdom, but those don't save us; neither do they give us true knowledge and wisdom from above. Only God has the power to give life through the blood of Jesus. Only God's Word can impart the knowledge of salvation through faith. And only God can bring true, lasting joy that the world can never give: eternal life.

The hymn "One Thing's Needful" (LSB 536) was written by Johann Heinrich Schroder (1666-1699), who was a pastor in Moseburg, Germany. Following his wife's death in childbirth, Johann died three years later after writing this hymn. It is touching to know that this hymn was one of the last messages for his child, and such an important one too!

Stanza 2 is particularly reflective of the story from Luke 10:38-42 when Mary and Martha learn from Jesus how to find "contentment in hearing His Word" (stanza 2). Mary's thoughts were devoted to Jesus' words as she reclined at His feet, while Martha's anxious and troubled nature caused her to look to her earthly concerns above the truth of God's Word that Jesus was revealing. Her "needful" thing at that time was her work, but what was *really* needful was to sit and receive God's Word. This is also a true model of our worship as God's children: to receive.

Stanza 3 regards Jesus as "Wisdom's highest, noblest treasure" that is revealed in Him. An earlier translation of this phrase was "Jesu! Lies conceal'd in Thee." The knowledge and wisdom of God is in Jesus, so that as we receive Him through His Word, we also receive the true heavenly wisdom that leads

us on the right path as we walk in faith. The “crimson-colored blood” in stanza 4 cleanses us from our sins, and, as Hebrews 9:14 puts it, “purifies our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.” On the cross Jesus completed our righteousness, giving us “salvation’s white raiments” that were made white with His blood.

The final stanza of this hymn is a plea to God that He would “root out all hypocrisy” in our lives as we rely on God to help us in our weakness and sustain us in the faith. When we sin and rely on the commandments of men to govern our life, Jesus wraps us in his loving forgiveness and continues to “guard and uphold” us throughout our pilgrimage here on earth. The hymn ends with “I count all but loss that I Christ may obtain!” which references Philippians 3:7-8, “I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus as my Lord.” He is the one thing needful!

Bethany M Johnson



Thank you for your support for St. John's Music Academy
Check us out on Facebook!

Interested in private lessons for piano, organ, trumpet, violin or flute? Contact Bethany Johnson
(bjohnson@stjlcms.org)

2022 SJELC WORSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, August 13, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. “Lutheran Worship and Spiritual Care of Church Music” Rev. Sean Deanzer, LCMS Worship Director, is the keynote speaker. This conference is for lay people, musicians, and pastors, so we encourage you to attend. Registration is FREE for St. John's members, but please fill out your registration at <https://stjohnlcmstopeka.org/worship/worship-conference/> so we can provide lunch for you.

2022 FLOWER CALENDAR

There are a few available dates to provide flowers for a service. To sign up, locate the flower chart in the church office above the printer, sign your name next to the date of your choice. You may take the flowers home after the 11:00 service. Upcoming dates available: July 17 & 24; September 18. Questions, contact Erika in the church office.



ST. JOHN'S YOUTH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Join us as we "Dive into the Ten Commandments." July 11-15 from 9:00-12:00 each day. Students will go on an under sea adventure as we discover the meaning behind the Ten Commandments and learn that they are good gifts from God. VBS is for children age 3 to those entering 6th grade.

Volunteers are still needed. Registration for both students and volunteers can be found at vbsmate.com/stjohnstopeka.

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 2022. We hope that you will find this information useful.

YTD Projected Budget Receipts through May 2022	\$309,635.00
Actual Receipts through May 2022	<u>\$ 302,816.14</u>
Year to Date Receipts Over (Under) Budget	\$ (6,818.86)

BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP – PLANNED GIVING SUNDAY SPEAKERS

The Board of Stewardship is happy to host the following speakers during our monthly breakfasts this summer. In July, Thad Sullivan will speak at our monthly congregational breakfast. Later this summer, we will be hosting Heather Williams who is the planned giving advocate for the LCMS District Office. These guests are coming to help our members better understand what stewardship looks like and give ideas of ways we provide ongoing support for the ministry of the Word and Sacraments at St. John's. We hope you consider attending the Sunday breakfasts and learning what is possible and how we can help.

MONTHLY BREAKFAST IN JULY

Our next monthly breakfast will be potluck on Sunday, July 10. We look forward to hearing from Thad Sullivan during our meal together. All are welcome to attend and enjoy food and fellowship after the early service in Luther Hall.

FUNDING FOR CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Funding for our monthly breakfasts, coffee and donuts is running low. If you've been enjoying the fellowship with our coffee and donuts on Sunday mornings, consider supporting by donating to the "FIT" fund, using cash or check and place it in the offering. There is also a donation jar on the table with the donuts.

PORTALS OF PRAYER BOOKLETS

New *Portals of Prayer* devotion booklets are now available in the narthex and breezeway. These are available to the entire congregation free of charge; however, donations are welcome and appreciated. Pick

one up and put it with your Bible in a place at home to remind you to have daily devotions. Consider taking an extra copy to give to a friend.

SAVE THE DATE FOR ST. JOHN’S SCRAMBLE

Our 2022 St. John’s Scramble will be held October 15, 2022. It will be moved this year to Village Greens, just north of Meriden. Village Greens is a great location and has us scheduled for a 1:00 p.m. shotgun start on Saturday, October 15. More information will be coming in future newsletters.

ST. JOHN’S WOMEN’S LEAGUE

The following is a note from Pastor Bruss to the St. John’s LWML:

Dearest sisters in Christ,

Well, who’d’a thunk? The last thing I ever thought would land on my plate at St. John’s was women’s Bible study and LWML meetings. But the Bible studies were such a delight! All of you know that at any given time there were something like 9 or 10 Bible studies at St. John’s, and that I had half of them (I don’t even want to count meetings/week. Really. I don’t!).

But every single Bible study at St. John’s I loved. Which I say by way of saying that women’s Bible study came to be--within our first time together--very special for me. I’ve told you that I was nervous about it. I didn’t want to interrupt the wonderful chemistry you had when Deaconess was leading it. But you allowed me to interact with all of you in a way that I hadn’t been able to before. Thank you. Your concern for one another, your openness, your challenges (which I love!), your sincere devotion to the Word of God--peerless.

Equally (?) even (?) more (?) just as much (?) thank you, dearly, for the beautiful, well-constructed (to a perfection), tasteful, SJELC-LWML-emblazoned quilt! You heard what I said on Sunday the 12th: we were gifted such a quilt by the good women of Norseland Evangelical Lutheran Parish at the end of my vicarage--way back in 1994 (we think that’s the year; probably is; time flies). That poor quilt has been used and used and used (particularly in our Northern years). So what a blessing to have another that will take us the next 28! By that time I’ll be 82! And we’ll be remembering all of you, as we have the faithful Lutheran women in Norseland, every time we pull it up under our chins of a cold winter’s night (that one is the “Norseland blanket”; we look forward to having and using the “St. John’s blanket”).

Thank you so much. You have all been an amazing blessing to me and my family. May the Lord grant all of you His peace, keep you in the faith, and bring you to the everlasting home He has promised in His Son Jesus Christ.

Pastor Bruss

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Sarah circle meets the 2nd Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. for bible study, a short meeting and fellowship. Meetings will resume September 12, 2022.

Dorcas circle meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 1:00 p.m. for bible study, a short meeting and fellowship. Meetings will resume September 14, 2022.

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The Caring Mission Committee will be doing health and school kits again this year. We will collect these items through the end of August. 100 school bags were donated from a church in Wichita, for which we are very grateful.



What's in a Hygiene Kit?

1 bath towel, 1 washcloth, 1 bath-size bar of soap, 1 plastic soap box holder
1 toothbrush, 1 sturdy comb, 6 Band-Aids (½" or ¾"), secured together
1 small package facial tissues, 1 nail clipper, 1 piece of strong ribbon or cord

What Goes into a School Kit?

1 Backpack, 2 Spiral Spiral Notebooks (wide rule), 2 Pencils, 2 Pens, 10 sheets of construction paper, 1 Box of Crayons (24 count), 1 Ruler, 2 Glue sticks, 1 Scissors
1 Eraser, 1 pkg Colored Pencils (12 count), 1 Pencil Sharpener.



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The Annual Bargain and Bake Sale will take place Thursday, August 18, 7:30-5 p.m. and Friday, August 19, 8-1 p.m. Our project this year will include the St. John's Welfare Fund, the International Missions of St. John's, the Lutheran Hour and Topeka Lutheran School Operation Fund.

You may bring your items starting Monday, August 15, 6-8 p.m., Tuesday, August 16, 10-5 p.m. and on Wednesday, August 17, 10-2 p.m. Baked items may be brought on Wednesday or early Thursday morning. We ask that you do not bring any electronic items or large furniture. All donations need to be clean and gently used items. Volunteers are greatly accepted and welcome to come during any of the above times to help.

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St. John's Women League continues to collect **Best Choice labels**. Best Choice labels 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. Money received from the Best Choice labels is used for our special projects.

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Donations for quilt projects continue to be accepted. Items needed at this time are bed sheets of any size or color and embroidery floss. Thank you in advance to anyone who donates. If you would like to give a monetary donation, send it to the church office and Erika will see it gets to the Women's League.

If you enjoy working with your hands and like to do quilts, the group is meeting the first and third Thursdays of the month in the undercroft of church beginning at 9:00 a.m. and work until they are tired. Come join and enjoy sister fellowship.

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Mission Statement *Empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Lutheran Women's, Missionary League Kansas District will nurture, motivate, and prepare The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod women to serve the Lord with gladness.*

THANK YOU

Blessings to all of you at St. John's. Thank you for all of your cards and prayers. May God Bless you always. – *Helen Holt*

Today I am praising God big time. Last week I had a CT scan and saw my oncology chemo doctor. All of my numbers were good, and everything is just about back to normal. And the most important thing is – **I am cancer free**. Praise God and thanks be to God! On July 7, I will have a sigmoid just to make sure all locations are clear. But all bloodwork shows no cancer in my body. I praise God again and I'm thankful for all prayers and all acts of kindness. There have been so many! I'm so humbled by each and every one of you with your kindness you have shown to me. My love to each and everyone. – *Nancy Taylor*

Thank you for all of the wonderful cards and calls for my birthday. I feel very loved and appreciate your kindness. – *Joyce Lohmann*

DOORSTEP NEWS

This July, Doorstep is taking all its summer events and rolling them into one month! They have Christmas in July collections for their adopted families this December, and their 3rd Summer Cash Bash to earn matching funds. You can bring your Christmas donations to St. John's in July, or to Doorstep anytime Monday – Friday from 8am to 3 pm.

Each year, Doorstep celebrates “Christmas in July” to get a jump start on collecting new items for its annual Christmas adoption. Their goal is to help alleviate some of the strain during the holidays by also collecting items mid-year. Doorstep plans to adopt 260 households with 800+ individuals this December through the Christmas Bureau. They have created a more specific list of items this year, based on the requested items our families listed last Christmas. The collections focus for July is non-seasonal items that should be easily available this time of year.

Each school-aged child Doorstep adopts receives school supplies and a backpack, and each household receives a blanket, health kit filled with hygiene products wrapped in a new bath towel, hand towel and wash cloth. Each child receives one bigger toy as their gift, and other smaller items are available along with games, books, stuffed animals and stocking stuffers.

Doorstep's 3rd Summer Cash Bash has its generous anonymous donor offering up to \$15,000 in match money if/when they receive donations of \$20,000 or more during the month of July! Please be sure to note “Summer Cash Bash” on your donations so Doorstep applies it to the matching total.

Save the date! Doorstep's 5th annual neighbor helping neighbor walk/5K run is Sunday, October 2 at 2:00 p.m. at Lake Shawnee. Plan to join others in getting exercise around the lake and raise funds for Doorstep this October.

Doorstep's 3rd

Summer Cash Bash



Donate to Doorstep during the month of July, and help us earn 'match money' from an anonymous donor!

If we receive \$10,000 - We earn \$5,000!

If we receive \$15,000 - We earn \$10,000!

If we receive \$20,000 - We earn \$15,000!



Ways to Donate:

- Mail it to Doorstep
- Bring it to our office
- Online DoorstepTopeka.org

Please note on your donation if you belong to one of our member congregations...

And that you are donating towards our Cash Bash Match!

This is Doorstep's 3rd Summer Cash Bash Event! We started this event in 2019 as a way to help us during the summer months when donations typically slow down!

We have been blessed many times over throughout the pandemic, and in the past year with HVAC donations, and matching funds to help us meet our goal!

Please consider donating in July to help us earn more matching funds for Doorstep!

Doorstep, Inc. 1119 SW 10th Ave
Topeka, Ks 66604
Online: www.DoorstepTopeka.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8am - 3pm



DOORSTEP

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Doorstep's Christmas in July

Donations Needed for this Christmas!



For our Christmas distribution in 2022 we are collecting more specific items based on what families requested last year.

Craft and Art Sets

Canvases (3pk/6pk) + Brushes & Paints (Teens/Adults)
Adult Coloring Books with Markers or Colored Pencils
Jewelry & Craft Making Kits



Kitchen Items

Bakeware Sets - Skillet Sets
Dish Sets - Utensil Sets - Pots & Pans

Toys

Football & Basketballs - Lego Sets - Pop-Its - LOL Dolls - Dinosaurs
Paw Patrol - Peppa Pig - Star Wars - Educational Toys (all ages)
Toys for Ages 5 - 12 - Family Board Games - Puzzles
Teen Girls - Make-Up & Nail Kits



Men's & Women's Gifts

Women's Bath & Lotion Sets
Men's Body Wash Sets
Men's & Women's Cologne Sets

Other Items

Towel Sets - (Bath, Hand & Washcloth) - Blankets - Full/Queen & King Sizes
Hygiene Items - Shampoo + Conditioner - Bar Soap - Combs - Hair Brushes -
Toothpaste - Toothbrushes. (Full Size Items)

Bathroom Sets - (Rugs, Trash Can, Shower Curtain, Toothbrush & Soap Holders)



School Supplies

Notebook Paper - Spiral Notebooks - Folders - Pens - Pencils - Glue
Erasers - Backpacks - Rulers - Crayons - Markers - Scissors

Bring your donations to worship during the month of July, or deliver to Doorstep at 1119 SW 10th (10th & Buchanan). Thank you for making the holiday brighter for your neighbors in need!

TLS NEWS

2022-2023 Enrollment Still Available: Have you considered enrolling your child at Topeka Lutheran? At TLS, students receive instruction from God’s Word and see a Christian lifestyle modeled every school day in smaller class sizes. Enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year is ongoing at TLS for students entering K – 8th grade. Please communicate with Mr. Johnson, TLS principal, at (785)357-0382 or visit topekalutheran.org for more information about Topeka Lutheran School and how to enroll.



Congratulations to our new Topeka Lutheran School staff – Principal Kyle Johnson and Kindergarten teacher Cristy Balch. They were installed at Faith Lutheran Church June 5 with Pastors Micheel, Bruss and Heine officiating.

Mr. Johnson and his family are members of St. John’s Lutheran and Mrs. Balch and her family are members of Christ Lutheran.

We give thanks to God for His blessings!

Meet and Greet with Principal Johnson at St. John’s: Mr. Johnson will be holding a meet and greet at St. John’s on July 17 during our Bible Study in Luther Hall. We welcome you to attend to get to know him and his goals for Topeka Lutheran School.

The letter below is from the LSAT Board on the progress of the CYC Gage transition to the Roosevelt campus. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your LSAT Board members or you can email the board. You may also begin to reach out to Principal Kyle Johnson by emailing him at johnson@topekalutheran.org.



Lutheran School Association of Topeka

TLS, 701 Roosevelt, Topeka, KS 66606, 785-357-0382, Fax 785-357-7338, Kyle Johnson, Executive Director/Principal

TLS Center for Young Children Roosevelt, 785-272-1704, Fax 785-273-2079
Corrie Fitzgerald and Valerie Arbaiza, Program Directors

"Let the children come to me..."

June 17, 2022

What an exciting time we are witnessing with the Lutheran School Association of Topeka (LSAT) as we march into the summer. On Sunday June 5, 2022 Kyle Johnson, our new Executive Director/Principal, and Cristy Balch, our new Kindergarten teacher, were installed at Faith. Then on Saturday June 11, 2022 many volunteers came out to our school to do some much needed work as we continue to prepare to welcome our Junior Wildcats (CYC Gage children) to the Roosevelt campus. A nine cubic foot dumpster trailer was filled up as classrooms and some storage areas were cleaned out, brave volunteers walked the roof to clean out debris from the gutters and drains and almost everyone who came out spent time chipping away on a coating in the bathrooms that could not be patched. A lot of great work was accomplished but there will be more that needs to be done so please be on the lookout for the next opportunity to spend some time helping our school prepare for the 2022-2023 school year.

As necessary upgrades to the TLS building have occurred in order to welcome children from CYC Gage, there were some concerns discovered that will require immediate attention. One of the future Junior Wildcat rooms was experiencing some significant water intrusion. This led to the discovery of mold in three of the rooms in the building. The LSAT Board and staff acted quickly to secure a mold specialist to inspect the areas of concern. The specialist confirmed our suspicions and has been contracted to mitigate the mold. We are also working to ensure the cause of the water and mold is fully identified and corrective measures are put into place to protect our children and the integrity of the building. This has caused the transition of our Junior Wildcats from CYC Gage to be delayed from our July 1, 2022 goal. While we do not have a firm date as of the writing of this letter, we are still pushing towards our 'as soon as possible' goal, and we will send out the official date as soon as it is determined.

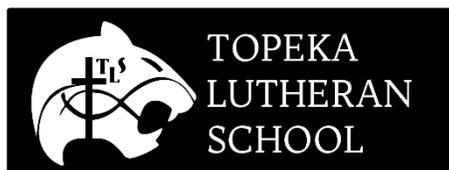
The LSAT is grateful for the generous donations for the boiler that were received earlier this year. The remaining funds were put into a building reserve account. This reserve account has allowed us to cover the costs of the needed repairs and updates to the building without taking on debt. Below is a current breakdown of the estimated costs to make the building safe, the costs associated with the needed updates to bring our CYC Gage children into the Roosevelt campus, and a needed update in the elementary wing. While we have received some donations and grants for specific items below, we are still tapping into our building reserve account to get these items completed. Donations can always be sent directly to the school or through the Topeka Lutheran School Foundation if you are moved to help specifically with these recent expenses.

Item/Task	Estimated Costs
Sinks added to two classrooms in Junior Wildcat wing.	\$9,880.00
Smoke detector upgrades in Junior Wildcat wing.	\$1,132.42
Fencing installation for toddler playground.	\$1,900.00
Mold mitigation in three rooms.	\$5,000.00
New carpet in parts of Junior Wildcat wing (additional needed because of mold).	\$10,445.03
New carpet in two elementary classrooms (\$4,500 donation received).	\$6,773.75
Total	\$35,131.20

Just think, with these updates, our children will have the opportunity to spend the first 13 or 14 years of their lives hearing the saving words of Christ as so many before them at 701 SW Roosevelt!

We thank you for your continued prayers and support for our school. Please reach out to your LSAT board members if you ever have questions or are looking for updates about TLS.

LSAT Board of Directors
schoolboard@topek Lutheran.org



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

PRAYER

Dear Father in Heaven, as we enjoy our summer vacation and time away from school, may we always be mindful that You never sleep nor forget about us and are always watching over us. At this time, we ask a special blessing on our new Principal Mr. Kyle Johnson and our new Kindergarten teacher Mrs. Cristy Balch as they join the staff at TLS for the coming 2022-2023 school year. Guide and direct them, along with the remaining staff and workers, as they prepare for the upcoming school year to teach them about You and the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ and His coming to earth to save us from our sins. All this we ask in Christ's Holy Name, Amen.

SUPPORT TOPEKA LUTHERAN TODAY! CLICK TO DONATE.

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

TOTAL COMMITMENTS

Total Amount Committed: \$846,943

Total Pledged and Extended Gifts Received: \$834,644

Total # of Pledges Received: 125

TLS UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 9, 8:00am:** Luke Savage Memorial Golf Benefit, Great Life Shawnee Country Club, 913 SE 29th Street. All proceeds will go to TLS - thank you to the Savage family and friends for their generous support! If you would like to make a donation, please contact Darrel or Kim Savage at dkmsavage@yahoo.com
- **Save-the-Date! August 11:** Enrollment Night
- **August 16:** First Day of School!

TLS BUILDING UPGRADE COMMITTEE

The committee met on June 14 to begin planning for needed facility upgrades to the school and playground, to improve the aesthetics of the east entrance and strengthen entrance and playground security. You'll recall that this committee was created to address the Facility Goal of the Growing God's Children for Generations to Come Capital Campaign, as recommended by the TLS Board and the Capital Campaign leadership. Next meeting will be held in July where information gathering on accessibility and security requirements will be reported. Updates on the committee's work will be made in upcoming newsletters.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who came out for the June 11 TLS Workday to help with cleaning and maintenance tasks as we prepare for the new school year and the transition of the CYC children and staff. Thank you to Mrs. Claire Banion, Mrs. Andrea Kosmicki, Mrs. Theresa Heine, and additional teaching staff who helped make "Camp Invention" a success! This event was held June 13-17 with creative learning opportunities and activities focused on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math), attended by approximately 40 young campers.

TLS PRINCIPAL UPDATE

- **Transition of Preschool/Toddlers to TLS Main Campus:** Work continues on the transition of staff and young children from 17th and Gage site, and we look forward to having the Junior Wildcats as part of the K-8 campus! Updates on the transition will be shared as work progresses.
- **Enrollment Update:** Enrollment is on-going and is estimated at 60-65 K-8 students for 2022-23 school year. Additional outreach is planned during July to those families of the TLS Association Churches whose young children currently are not attending TLS.
- **LSAT Appeal:** Please see separate attachment from the TLS LSAT Board, providing information on TLS building repairs and an appeal for funds needed for this critical work.

INDOOR WILDCAT LAB

- At TLS, we strive for excellence in all parts of a child's education and we're taking it up a notch! STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) teaches critical thinking skills and innovation. With the support of amazing donors and the dedicated staff, TLS is working on a new science lab, the Indoor Wildcat Lab. This project is still in process so look for more details coming soon!
- **Do you want to help?** Contact Marlene Shellenberger to see how you can help, donate funds or donate your time to make the Indoor Wildcat Lab possible.
 - **Contact** foundation@topekalutheran.org

SUPPORT OUR MISSIONS

PRAY FOR Rev. Vance and Linda Becker Theological Educator *Serving the Lord in Kenya*



The Rev. Vance and Linda Becker serve the Lord as missionaries through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) in Kenya. Vance teaches at Matongo Lutheran Theological College in western Kenya, where pastors, evangelists and teachers are trained for service in 11 countries in East Africa. At the school, Linda works with music and deaconess students.

Vance graduated from St. John's Junior College, Winfield, Kan.; Concordia Senior College, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and Concordia

Seminary, St. Louis (1982). Before becoming a missionary, Vance was a pastor at three LCMS parishes in South Dakota and Minnesota. Vance's other interests include building design and hymn writing. His current duties, in addition to teaching various classes, include serving as chair of the Department of Practical Theology and as Dean of Chapel.

Linda graduated from Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minn., and the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa. She was later colloquized into the LCMS at Concordia University, St. Paul, St. Paul, Minn. Linda taught first through seventh grades in Lutheran and public schools in Virginia, South Dakota and Minnesota before serving in Kenya. Her hobbies include reading, playing piano and organ, and quilting. The Beckers both enjoy camping, hiking and bicycling.

Pray for Vance and Linda as they serve in Kenya, and ask God to help them fit in well in the culture of this rural area. Pray for Vance, that he would be effective in his role as a college teacher. Ask God to make Linda's music and mentorship work a blessing to all the students. Pray also for the students they teach, that they would grow in faith, wisdom and abilities that will enable them to serve the growing church in eastern Africa. Pray for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya and Matongo's students, that they would have the resources necessary to allow dedicated Christians to be trained for church work. Let us give thanks to God that the Beckers are serving His people in this part of the world.

BIRTHDAYS: Vance – Sept. 20, Linda – Dec. 9

ANNIVERSARY: July 10

HOME DISTRICT: Minnesota South



Pray daily for Vance and Linda – and how you can support and tell others about their ministry. Visit lcms.org/becker

Learn about LCMS international work at international.lcms.org

Support an international worker. Call 888-930-4438



Rev. Vance Becker will be visiting us here at St. John's on Sunday, July 31.

He will be preaching during both of our Divine Services and give a special presentation during our Bible Study. We look forward to hearing how it is going in Kenya!

To sign up to receive their newsletter:



July 2022 St. John's Lutheran Church - Topeka, Kansas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & CAKE GIFT CARD RECEPTION 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28 9:30am MATINS 6:30pm COUNCIL	29 ST. PAUL, APOSTLE	30 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS	1	2 FEAST OF THE VISITATION
3 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5	6	7	8	9
10 8am MATINS SERVICE 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST with PLANNED GIVING PRESENTATION 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am MATINS SERVICE	11 9am VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	12 9am VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	13 9am VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	14 9am VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS	15 9am VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	16
17 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	18	19 4:45pm PARISH ED 5:30pm STEWARDSHIP 6:15pm MISSIONS/EVANG 6:30pm TRUSTEES	20	21	22	23
24 HIGHER THINGS 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	25 HIGHER THINGS	26 HIGHER THINGS 6:30pm COUNCIL	27 HIGHER THINGS	28 HIGHER THINGS	29 HIGHER THINGS	30 HIGHER THINGS
31 MISSION FESTIVAL with Guest Pastor Becker 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & DONUTS 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 12:30pm VOTERS MTG	1	2	3	4	5	6



901 SW Fillmore, Topeka, KS 66606-1445



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)