

**Faith Lutheran Church**  
PO Box 349, 508 Water  
St. Edward, NE 68660



**St. John Lutheran Church**  
PO Box 361, 111 S. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Cedar Rapids, NE 68627

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September 2018

## ***From the pastor:***

Grace and peace to you!  
Thus St. Paul began most of his letters to the churches to encourage unity to a people who often felt divided. The Jewish people had been set apart by God all through the time of the Old Testament.

When Christ came He makes it quite clear that He is the Savior of both Jew and Gentile (all who weren't Jews). When most people (Gentiles) would meet one another their way of saying hello was to say "Grace!" The Jews would greet each other with "Peace!". St. Paul saying "grace and peace" unites them both as one people, one Church, the one Body of Christ.

Division comes naturally to us. The easiest thing to do is to find people that are like minded to ourselves and gravitate together into a group. We consider that unity but it sets us at odds with those who aren't part

of the group. Men and women. Children and grown-ups. Political perspectives. Organic vs. GMO. Role of sports and education. When and where and how we worship. There's an unending list of what divides. We're tempted to believe that our perspective is always right and that others really need to come to our way of thinking. It needs to be "my way". That's human nature: being curved in on ourselves.

This is why Jesus teaches us to pray "Thy will be done". We pray that God's will be done and we ask God to change our will that it would be made like His will. In the Small Catechism Luther teaches us what God's will is, very simply. The good and gracious will of God is done when He breaks and hinders the plans of our enemies and when He strengthens and keeps us in His Word and faith until we die. He describes our enemies as ones who don't want God's name to be holy among us nor do they want God's kingdom to come. He

even names the three-fold enemy: the devil, the world and our sinful nature. When we curve in on ourselves we're looking to an enemy to give us focus.

We have a Savior who unites us in His blood and draws our focus from within, from the things that consume us, and draws our eyes to Him, to the one in whom true unity is found. All of us have been washed by the blood of Christ, constantly dripping with the blood of the one who forgives us. Wet with His forgiveness, He gives us a new perspective to see one another as dearly beloved family members, united as brothers and sisters in the Body of Christ. Christ Jesus gives us patience to converse and endure with one another to overcome divisions. By the grace of God, the undeserved favor of our Lord, peace with God is made because of the blood of our Savior. Yes, grace and peace to you!

***Pastor Ketelsen***

## CHURCH CALENDAR



### Worship

*Saturdays* – 7:00pm Service @ St. John  
(spoken liturgy, recorded hymns)

*Sundays* – 8:30am Divine Service @ St. John

*Sundays* – 10:30am Service @ Faith  
(1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> offer the Lord's Supper)

### Parish Education

*Sundays* – 9:15am Sunday School @ Faith

*Sundays* – 9:30am Sunday School @ St. John

*Tuesdays* – 6:00am Bible Study @ Faith  
(7:00am if school is not in session)

*Wednesdays* – 4:00-5:30pm Catechism @ Faith

*Thursdays* – 10:00am Bible Study @ Faith

If you are interested in a Bible Study at St. John or at another time, please talk to Pastor.

### Other Meetings & Opportunities

*Tuesdays* – 9:00am Quilting @ St. John

*First Wednesday* – 1:30pm LWML @ St. John

*First Wednesday* – 8:00pm Council @ St. John

*Second Tuesday* – 8:00pm Council @ Faith

### Nursing Homes

*1<sup>st</sup> Sunday* – 2:00pm service @ Genoa Home

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday* – 2:00pm service @ Cloverlodge

*Sunday, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>* – 2:00pm service @ Good Samaritan in Albion

*2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays* – 2:30pm Bible Study @ Cloverlodge

*Tuesday, Sept 4<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>* – 9:30am Bible Study @ Harmony Homes in Albion

## MILESTONES

### Faith Birthdays

Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> Renata Ketelsen

Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> Janice Lightner

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> Tamra Buettner

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> Trisha Spath

Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> Noah Ketelsen

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> Justin Homolka

### Faith Baptismal Birthdays

Sept 2 Ethan Case

Sept 7 Clara Ketelsen

Sept 11 Pastor Ketelsen

Sept 18 Renata Ketelsen

Sept 20 Tamra Buettner

Sept 20 Trina Buettner

Sept 20 Trisha Spath

Sept 28 Noah Ketelsen

Sept 28 Nichole Niemann

### Anniversaries

Sept 5<sup>th</sup>

Robin & Renee

Ostrander

### St. John Birthdays

Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> Chris Kolm

Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> Brielle Rutten

Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> Mary Hellbusch

Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> Crystal Hohn

Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> Jay Rutten

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> Fina Choat

Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> Butch Kolm

Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> Jeremy Imus

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> Michael Hohn

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> Bryce Schilousky

Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Chase

Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> Tony Hellbusch

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Schuele

Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> Lynn Belitz

### St. John Baptismal Birthdays

Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> Keith Mogensen

Sept 11<sup>th</sup> Samantha Rutten

Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Hannah Albert

Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Kaden Albert

Sept 13<sup>th</sup> Renee Ostrander

Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Chris Kolm

Sept 19<sup>th</sup> Shelley Towey

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> Bonnie Chase

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> Toni Chase

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> Samantha Ellicot

Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> Aleczander Rutten

Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> Dustin Schilousky

Sept 27<sup>th</sup> Gracyn Koch

### INFORMATION REQUEST

If there's an omission or correction please let Pastor know. We don't have all birthdays, baptismal birthdays, anniversaries, addresses, phone numbers, etc. If someone you know would like to receive this please let us know!

### THANK YOU

Thank you to the gracious individual who sent the print and the movie! – Pastor

## AUGUST ATTENDANCE

|                | <u>Saturday</u> | <u>St. John</u> | <u>Faith</u> |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Aug. 5</b>  | 4               | 15              | 34           |
| <b>Aug. 12</b> | 5               | 15              | 30           |
| <b>Aug. 19</b> | none            | ?               | ?            |
| <b>Aug. 26</b> | 15              | 19              | 34           |



- September 9<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival at St. John
- September 16-18<sup>th</sup> Pastor at Continuing Education class at Zion Lutheran church in Ainsworth, NE