

GOOD NEWS

St. John Lutheran Church ELCA
120500 County Hwy N
Edgar, WI 54426

We're on the Web
www.stjohnelcaedgar.org

June/July 2024

Happy
Father's
Day

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- Page 4 Pastor Gail's Upcoming Celebration
"Conversations"
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Brat Fries/ Gazebo Restoration
Still to Come!

Please remember to check your bulletin for updates. If you would like to have us e-mail the Newsletter to you, please let us know.

Deadline for August 2024 News



July 21st

St. John/St. Stephen Lutheran Parish, ELCA Joint Mission Statement:

"Saints united to be the body of Christ in the world, freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully."

GOOD NEWS FROM ST JOHN



June/July
2024

SUMMER

Sunday Worship
8:30 am

Sunday School
9:15am—10:00am
(during the school year)

Holy Communion
1st & 3rd Sunday

PASTOR

Gail Sowell
Office Hours: 9am-1pm
Tuesday-Friday
(And by appointment)

SECRETARY'S HOURS

Monday-Friday
9:00-1:00

ADDRESS

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www.stjohnelcaedgar.org

Items for print MUST be submitted by the 20th of the preceding month.

A Spotlight on our Graduates

It was our delight to honor our 2024 Graduates during the service on May 26. They were each presented with a specially designed quilt from the Quilters of St. John. We celebrated with a cake reception after the service.



Blake Bargender graduated Valedictorian of his class from Abbotsford High School. He will be attending UW River Falls for Civil Engineering and will play baseball for the Falcons. He shared that his most memorable Sunday School experience is performing in Christmas Plays. Blake sees God active in his life through school & sports, and has the faith that "all my hard work will pay off and everything will turn out for the best."

Blake's parents are Ryan & Brooke.



Ashley Hollatz graduated Valedictorian of her class from Stratford High School. She will be attending UW Eau Claire. She shared that she really enjoyed participating in the Christmas Programs as her most memorable Sunday School experience. Ashley sees God actively involved in her life by being the place she can turn to when she needs him.

Ashley's parents are Dan & Michelle.



Corey Schilling is a graduate of Edgar High School. His plan after graduation is to work for Staab Construction. Getting confirmed was very memorable for him because "it was nice to see everyone from my family supporting me by being there to watch me get confirmed". In response to where he sees God involved in his life, Corey goes on to say "I feel I see God while I'm out in the woods or out fishing. I think this because he has blessed us with all the beautiful sights and sounds of nature. It is also nice to be at peace out in the woods, feeling the presence of God, and praying.

Corey's parents are Amanda Weiland & Joe Schilling

Confirmation Sunday

In view of Pastor Gail's upcoming retirement, our next class of Confirmands was confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, a few months earlier than usual. 86 were in attendance as we witnessed Paxton Mueller, Addyson Nowak, and Paige Strasser affirm the vows made on their behalf at their baptisms.

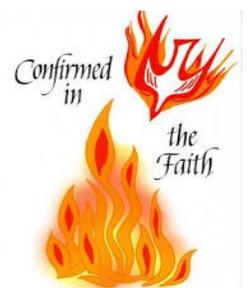


L to R—Paige Strasser, Paxton Mueller, and Addyson Nowak.

God's blessing on these young people as they continue to follow Jesus on their faith journey!

Many thanks to those who have been instrumental in their faith development. *Special thanks to Marianne Mueller, Confirmation instructor, and Pastor Gail.*

(Thanks to Morgan Mueller for sharing her photo capture.)



Chosen Confirmation Verses

Paige—Parents: Chris & Lana Strasser

Confirmation Verse: Deuteronomy 31:6

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you."

Paxton—Parents: Mitchell & Morgan Mueller.

Confirmation Verse: John 3:12

If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

Addyson Nowak—Parents: James & (Jolene)

Nowak. Confirmation Verse: Psalm 30:5

"God's anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime; weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning."

Celebration of Holy Baptism

We celebrated the Baptism of *Darcie Sandra Marcis* on April 14, 2024. Her parents are Andrew & Carrie. Her sponsors are Megan Stroetz, Elissa Hastreiter and Steve Hastreiter. Darcie was born on January 14, 2024 and she has a big brother, Benjie. Congratulations and God's blessings to you all!

(Thanks to Dan Rosien for the photo!)



Pastor Gail's Upcoming Celebration!



June 23, 2024



Worship: 10:00 am, Led by Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson

Marriage ceremony immediately following Worship
Luncheon to follow the ceremony in the fellowship hall downstairs

We are looking forward with much joyful anticipation (*and a touch of sadness*) as Pastor Gail prepares to celebrate her **retirement** after 25 years of ordained ministry. Fifteen years of her ministry have been here at St. John.

On this same day, she will marry her best friend Michael Blank. (*This is where the great joy comes in!*)

Announcements/invitations have been sent, and RSVP's should all be in. We look forward to celebrating these wonderful life experiences with our dear Pastor Gail!

Pastor Gail has requested . . .

Please NO gifts! The gift of your presence is what's most desired., but donations to Lutheran World Relief would be welcome. A card with a note saying how Pastor Gail has touched your life would be a joy!

In View of Pastor Gail's Retirement . . .

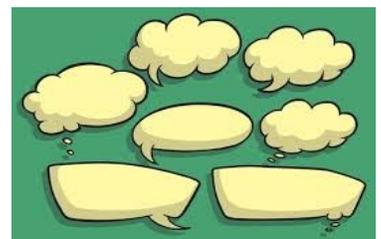
The Council and Transition/Call Committee , in counsel with the NW Synod of Wisconsin has chosen to utilize a congregation wide assessment survey called "**Conversations**" that will help us plan for the future.

The survey has LAUNCHED! It just takes a handful of minutes to complete. Each confirmed household member may complete the survey one time. All of your answers are confidential and are tabulated by the company "Holy Cow". Just simply click on the link.

Paper Surveys can be filled out and returned to the BIG brown envelope in Rose's mailbox, and will need to be entered into the system by a Call Committee member. Remember NO NAMES need to be on them.

A HELP session has been set up at the church for Tuesday, June 11, 9-11am to assist anyone interested.

Your Call Committee,
Cindy Manecke, Marianne Mueller, Shirley Rosien, Jayne Tackes, and
Mary Jo Werner





St. John's 2023-24 Sunday School term has come to a close. We want to express our appreciation for our Sunday School teachers. *We thank God for these dedicated individuals who give of their time and energy to help our children grow in their understanding of God and teach them how to live out the truth of his "Good News" in their every day lives.*

Much Appreciation

Those who served this Sunday School term are:

- (4-K, 5-K) Lana Strasser, Morgan Mueller,
- (Grades 1-4) Bonnie Bargender, Carlie Stahel
- (Grades 5-8) Marianne Mueller
- (Music Director) Lana Strasser
- (Helper/Substitute) Pam Stahel

May God bless each of you with good health & much refreshing during the summer break!



Great Team Work!

The BRAT FRIES in Stratford (5/31 and 6/7) are now in the history books! Thanks to all who helped gather supplies, set up, cooked, and served. There was a lot of delicious food and friendly smiles! **Well Done!**



Speaking of teamwork...HUGE thanks to ALL who donated funds to help restore the Gazebo, and to all who WORKED to help clean up and RE-erect this beautiful and useful structure after the recent storm. It's so much appreciated by those who come to visit our Cemetery.



Still to Come...

BREAKFAST IN THE PARK, June 15, at Oak Street Park, serving 7am—11:30am. Many thanks to those who have already signed up to bring supplies and to serve! Thanks also to those who have created baskets for the RAFFLE! **Fliers have been printed...take some along and put them up to help SPREAD THE WORD!**

THE Antique Steam & Gas Engine Show is August 23, 24, 25 this year. The YARD SALE at St. John will take place that same weekend!



Save the Dates!



We are seeking VOLUNTEERS for MOWING the Church and Parsonage property. *PLEASE figure in some time this summer that you would be able to help out with this important ministry.*

A sign up sheet is posted

