

FEBRUARY CHURCHLETTER



Greetings to you all!!!
As we continue to move through our cold and snowy winter months, we look forward to spring, which we know is right around the corner. Hold tight...it's coming!!!

February is that month when we are reminded about love. Valentine's Day is a day full of love, flowers, cards, candy, and other gifts that are given to show that special someone how much we care about them. It's a very important day!

As we do our very best to show others how much they mean to us, our gracious God also shows us how much He loves us. He blesses us with many things including this very world we live in. He shows us love in the beauty that surrounds us. He shows us love in the people that surround us. Most importantly, God showed us true love by sending His Son to us..."For God so loved the world that He send His one and only Son...". God did not have to send His Son to us. Jesus did not have to come and live with us on this earth. Yet God did send Him...to be born as an infant, to grow up into adulthood, to preach and heal and live among us, to be crucified, to die on that horrible cross, and rise 3 days later.

Tell me that there isn't love in all that! Our Lord and Savior gave His life for us!

How many of us would lay down our life for someone else? How many of us could show that kind of love? Thank you, Lord, for our salvation and for Your forgiveness. Above all else, thank You for your everlasting love!!!

Happy February and Happy Valentine's Day!!!
May the love of our Savior continue to surround us all!!!
Pastor Gary

The office phone number is 651-280-0150 You can also reach the churches by email at: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com or NerstrandUMC@gmail.com

Please send **bulletin (deadline-9am Thurs)** and **newsletter (deadline-20th of month)** information to: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com (Lynn Hirschey will be monitoring this email). Phone number 507-330-1831. Notes in the mail are also welcome if you prefer.

Prayer Chain



Please direct all prayer chain requests to **Becky Tatge (507) 210-1214** or **Mary Kindseth 507-789-6879**. Messages can be left on either of the phones. If you want to make any changes on how you are contacted or add your name to the list, you can be on the email or phone list. Let's keep this available to our community.

Prayer chain and worship service link emails:

Becky Tatge has been regularly sending emails with the worship service link and/or prayer chain requests. If you have not been receiving them and would like to, please contact Becky at (507) 210-1214

Loving Thoughts and Prayers Surround:

New Perspective

Joan Schwake

Pleasant View Estates

Shirley Bauer

Lois Bauer

Judy Smith

Milestone

Marjean Smith

Traditions I- Owatonna

Jean Pederson

At Home

Doris Hildebrandt

Arlene Shaske

Arlene Bultman

Kaye Spike

Dorothy Lang



Coffee and Conversation with Pastor Gary!

Join the pastor for a nice visit at Boots & Lu's at 10:00 am on Feb. 1 and Feb. 15



Joys and Concerns

Our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Marion Bailey. Marion, age 93, passed away at home on January 11. Funeral services were held January 16 at the Nerstrand United Methodist Church. Burial was at the Methodist Memorial Knoll Cemetery.



Our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Margaret Ellingson. Margaret, age 84, passed away in Northfield on December 30. Funeral services were held January 21 in Kenyon. Margaret played the piano at Nerstrand United Methodist Church while she and Pete were members there.

Choir Practice continues at St. John's at 9: 50am until Feb. 19th which will be the last practice.

The Nerstrand Community Male Chorus will once again be providing Special Music at our combined Mid-week Lenten services. First rehearsal session will be held Mon. Feb. 27 at a place to be determined. At this printing, a schedule has not been set up, but plans are that the Lutheran churches will each have their own Ash Wednesday service.

Wednesday Wear at Nerstrand UMC

Hours: Wed. 1-5 pm Sat. 9-noon
Remember that donations are welcome!

WW Report 2022

1538 shoppers

We took in \$3380.00

Paid out \$3044.00 giving to Nerstrand United Methodist church, food shelf, Emma Norton, Camp Karonis ministries, Nerstrand School, Lowell and Ruth Gess Eye hospital, CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ).

We also purchased \$100.00 in gift certificates. It was another busy but great year. Thanks to everyone who helped make it possible: shoppers and those who donate both items and/or money. Special thanks to our volunteers: Janet, Marlene, Verna, Hazel, Jennifer, Jackie, Rolf and some days we get Gary involved.

Couldn't do it without this group of people giving of their time 2 days a week.

Because of all the snow we have, we decided that if there is NO school, there will be NO Wednesday wear! If NO school on Friday, because of weather, we will be closed on Saturday.

Any questions about being open or on donating, Call-Linda 507-789-5376
Or Marlene 507-334-2143
Church phone 507-332-4089



St. John's UCC and Nerstrand UMC are doing an outreach program to help the Nerstrand Elementary school. Using the Food Shelf collection bins at our churches, your help is needed to donate the following paper and cleaning supplies:

- Chlorox wipes
- Copy paper
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Floor cleaner
- Sink cleaner

Cash donations are also welcome. Donations can be left at each of the churches over the next several months. Let's help support the Nerstrand Charter Elementary School.

The Nerstrand Elementary School is so appreciative of the items that have been donated by both churches. This mission project will continue over the next several months. Items can be left at each of the churches.

Food Shelf donations can also be left in each of the church's bins.

St. John's UCC Cleaning Committee

The St. John's UCC cleaning committee for the months of Jan./Feb. is: Sarah Miles and Linda St. Martin



Sunday School at St. John's

St. John's Sunday School meets each week from 9:30-10:20am. Students PreK through grade 8 are welcome, as are any adults interested in being a teacher or substitute. Please contact Carrie Hess with any questions: 651-775-5594 or littlehesshouse@gmail.com.



St John's UCC council

January 10th 2023

The January meeting of St. John's Council was called to order at 7:30 PM by Moderator Gloria Karl. Pastor Gary led council in a devotion and prayer. Secretary and Treasure's reports were read and approved.

Trustees reported that they are looking at finding replacement lights on the north side of the church. It was brought to our attention by Xcel energy that our electric supply wire from the transformer to the church is in need of replacement. They will do the work, but we will need to pay for the wire. The council members agreed that this should be done. The 2023 budget was reviewed and will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting.

Trustees have a sign-up sheet available for cleaning the parish hall, narthex and Sunday school rooms.

Please sign up for a two-month block and clean once each of those months. It would be appreciated if we could get all the months covered.

The next meeting date will be determined after the annual meeting so the new members can help set the date.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:50

Council closed with Lord's Prayer.

Keith Keller Secretary

Elders:, Todd Lein, Barb Kleve, Gloria Karl

Deacons: Gordie Wiegrefe, Keith Keller, Joan Schwake

Trustees: Paul Meyer, Dennis Tatge, Al Meyer

Cemetery Board: Al Meyer, Kyle Keller, Brian Bauer

Nerstrand UMC council

Chairman-Duane Bailey

Secretary -Debbie Kerr

Second Saturday Quilters

Second Saturday Quilters



The Quilters will be meeting on Saturday, February 11th at St. John's from

9:00 - Noon. Barb will be teaching The Star wall hanging. Bring a Mini Charm Pack (2 1/2" squares), a contrasting background fabric, and sewing machine with all the general sewing supplies.

We will break for lunch, then continue through the afternoon working on our individual projects.

Marie will bring snack.

History Bits and Tool of the Month are open.

SSQ is open to people of all churches and their friends. For more info contact Deb Wille 507-323-4813 or debwille123@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 1 Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Gary- 10:00 am Boots & Lu's

Feb. 6 SJ Council 7:30 pm

Feb. 11 SSQ 9-noon

Feb. 20 newsletter deadline

Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday-N 7PM

Support these Organizations:

Ruth's House

When you're out doing your holiday shopping, consider picking up a gift card to donate to Ruth's House. Your support gives us the opportunity to buy needed supplies for our shelter and offer hope to our residents. We appreciate giftcards from:

Ace Hardware

Aldi

Amazon

Cub foods

Fareway

Hyvee

Kwik trip

Menards

Target

Walmart

Mail to: PO Box 593, Faribault, MN 55021

Habitat For Humanity

Your gift to Rice county Habitat for Humanity will go directly to support home ownership opportunities for local families who are vital to our community. They are factory workers, day care providers, care givers to our seniors. They want what we all want, a place to call home. A place where dreams can be inspired and lives can be transformed. Donations can be mailed to: 204 7th Street West, PMB 128, Northfield, MN 55057

Need Help Paying Your Energy Bills?

Greater Minnesota Gas, Inc. would like to remind residential homeowners or renters of the Energy Assistance Program. This federally funded program helps pay for home heating costs, may assist with furnace repairs and could offer energy efficiency home upgrades for income qualified customers. Please call 1-800-657-3710 for assistance.

Service Schedule for 2023: Sundays

(Communion on first Sunday of month)

9:00 AM WORSHIP AT NERSTRAND

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

12 Maple Street, Nerstrand, MN 55053

E-mail: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com

Website: <https://nerstrandumc.org>

Phone: 507.332.4089



10:30 AM WORSHIP AT ST JOHN'S

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

19086 Jacobs Ave, Faribault, MN 55021

E-mail: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com

Website: <https://stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info>


Phone: (507) 330-0025 alternate... 651-280-0150 (Pastor Gary-personal).



Pastor- Gary Liker



St. Valentine's Day Word Search



F	N	K	T	T	T	G	K	I	E
G	O	T	K	N	R	T	M	N	L
L	L	R	R	I	M	U	I	G	D
Y	O	U	R	A	L	T	S	F	H
P	R	A	Y	S	N	T	S	T	E
T	B	N	G	E	R	E	I	E	V
R	C	O	L	U	M	W	R	V	O
A	D	A	E	O	L	Q	U	O	B
E	V	T	C	W	B	N	S	L	A
H	C	T	F	R	O	M	A	L	L

Trust
in
God
with
All
Your
Heart

Saint Valentine, Pray for Us.

True
Love
Comes
from
Above

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