



APRIL CHURCHLETTER

*From the
Pastor*

Greetings to you all!!!

In April, we wind down the season of Lent and celebrate Easter. April 2nd is Palm Sunday. The Last Supper Drama will be held at St. John's Church on Sunday, April 2nd, at

8pm. On Maundy Thursday, April 6th, we have a combined service held at St. John's Church at 7pm. On Good Friday, April 7th, we have a combined service held at the Nerstrand United Methodist Church at 7pm. Finally, Easter Sunday is on April 9th! The Nerstrand United Methodist Church will have their Easter breakfast from 8am to 9am followed by their Easter Worship Service at 9am. The St. John's Church will celebrate their Easter Worship Service at 10:30am. What a wonderful and glorious time in the life of the church as we enter into the month of April!

It is during the last week of Lent, Holy Week, that we are reminded that as Jesus taught, preached, healed, and lived among the believers and non-believers of His time, others were planning a way to get rid of Him. He was a threat to those who did not understand. Also, whether we want to admit it or not, Jesus' torture, death, and resurrection were part of God's plan for the world. We are reminded that as Jesus was whipped, as He was made to carry His cross, as He was crucified, and as He died it was necessary for the salvation of the world...for our salvation.

How can that not truly change your heart? And then, of course, there is the great joy in the risen Christ...that truth that cements our faith forever!

We are reminded of all that Jesus went through because of His love for us and forgiveness of our sins...the whip, the crown of thorns, the nails, the spear in His side, and His death. We are reminded that we are forever cleansed of our sins by the flowing of His blood! We are reminded of His rising three days later as a fulfillment of His promise! And we are also reminded of the promise that we who believe shall have a place in heaven with Jesus as well! What a loving and forgiving Savior we serve!

Welcome to April, the end of the season of Lent, and the beginning of the new life of this Easter season! Alleluia...He is risen!!!

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

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 on



Sunday, April 16th - Pastor Gary will be on vacation.

We are planning a combined worship service at NUMC (10am). The Gideons will be providing the message.

Please join us for a time of community gathering.

There will be no Sunday School at St. John's on Sun, April 16. Families are encouraged to attend worship service at 10am at NUMC.

The last week of Sunday School for the 22-23 school year will be May 7, 2023.

Joys and Concerns

Our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Steven Scherer. Steven, age 78, passed away March 16. Burial is March 28th at the Fort Snelling National Cemetery with a Celebration of Life planned at a later date. Steven was a

brother-in-law to Kevin and Jackie Wille.



Thanks to the Nerstrand Community Male Chorus for providing special music at our mid-week Lenten services. In place of our traditional Good Friday presentations at area nursing homes, we, again, have produced a

video of our music-which can be used at any assisted living facility or by anyone interested. You can access the video on YouTube by going to

<https://stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info>

and clicking on the tab for the community Men's Choir. Thank you to Becky Tatge for recording the music and putting the video together. You are welcome to spread the word-especially to area nursing homes and assisted living facilities so our shut-ins can enjoy the music. The video will be available after April 2nd.

Cookies are needed for the coffee hour following the Lord's Supper Drama at St. John's on April 2nd. Sign-up is in the narthex. Thank you.



Mark Your Calendars:

Vacation Bible School at St. John's will be held June 12-16, 8:30-noon.

Watch for details and Registration form in May newsletter. Start making plans to enroll your students & invite neighbors and friends.

Are You Ready to Run?

There will be a Big Woods Run organizational meeting on April 16th after the combined service at NUMC (approximately 11:30) New Ideas? New Plans? Norma Monroe-chair 507-273-0322



Wednesday Wear at Nerstrand UMC

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

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.

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

St. John's UCC Cleaning Committee

The St. John's UCC cleaning committee for the months of March /April is Gloria K. & John C., Mark & Mary Kindseth, and Jay & Trudy Kindseth



Sunday School at St. John's

Children age 4 through 8th grade are welcome to join us for Sunday School each week, 9:30-10:20am. If you know of a child or family who may be interested, please feel free to invite them!

Questions can be addressed to Carrie Hess (littlehesshouse@gmail.com or 651-775-5594).



St John's UCC council

St. John's U.C.C. council meeting was brought to order by Todd Lein on Sun. March 12 at 11:30 a.m. Pastor Liker opened with thoughts of the season. Reminding us, that even with all out busy schedules, to remember to take time with gratitude and thanks.

Reports:

S.P.R.C. no report.

Secretary report read and approved.

Treasurer report read and approved.

Trustee report.

Repair work to the support beams in the basement of the church have been done.

Small plumbing issues at the parsonage and in the men's restroom at church have been done. The sink in the men's room yet to be completed.

Trustees are still receiving quotes and information on how to repair the outdoor lights north of the church. The contract for mowing was reviewed and approved for 2023. Chad Walker will again be doing the yard care. Trustees report accepted and approved.

Old Business.

Progress is coming along regarding the sound/video system for the church.

Plans are all set for the upcoming Chili/Soup dinner for Wed. March 22.

Mano-e-Mano update. Gloria Karl has found a spot for storage of items, more information coming regarding donation times and location.

It was decided by council to post pone having the singing group 29:11 to perform this year.

Explanation of the Benevolent funds was discussed again, and ideas of ways to do so. This will be worked on through the year.

New Business.

Holy week service and schedule were reviewed.

Palm Sunday service will have altar communion.

The Last Supper Drama will take place that evening.

Next council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 11th at 7:30 p.m.

No further business.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30

Closing with The Lord's Prayer.

(report subject to approval)

Joan L. Schwake 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 Administrative Board

The next Administrative Board meeting at the Nerstrand UMC will be on Wednesday, April 5th, at 5pm.

Chairman-Duane Bailey

Secretary -Debbie Kerr

Second Saturday Quilters

We will meet at St. John's on the 3rd Saturday, April 15th at 9:00 - 3:30.



Deb will be teaching the Rocky Road Block using a Layer Cake and the most efficient way of cutting your pieces. You will need a Layer Cake OR a 10" square for the main and a 10" square for the background for each block. Bring your sewing machine, cutting tools and general sewing supplies.

Snack will be from Annette and lunch by Barb & Deb.

SSQ is open to people from all churches and their friends. Contact Deb Wille for more info 507-323-4813 or 83159deb@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 30 Annual Meeting of the Methodist Memorial Knoll Cemetery will be held at 6:30- NUMC

April 2nd, The Last Supper Drama—Palm Sunday, at 8pm at St. John's Church.

April 5 NUMC Board meeting-5:00pm

April 6th Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm-SJ

April 7th Good Friday Service at 7pm-NUMC

April 9 Easter Sunday Breakfast at 8am followed by their Easter Sunday Worship Service at 9am

April 9 St. John's Church will have their Easter Sunday Worship Service at 10:30am.

April 11 SJ Council-7:30pm

April 16 Big Woods Organizational meeting - NUMC-after service

Pastor Gary will be on vacation.

We are planning a combined worship service at NUMC (10am). The Gideons will be providing the message. There will be no Sunday School at St. John's on Sun, April 16. Families are encouraged to attend worship service at 10am at NUMC.

The last week of Sunday School for the 22-23 school year will be May 7, 2023.

April 19 Coffee & Conversation with Pastor Gary-10:00 am Boots & Lu's

June 12-16 Vacation Bible School 8:30-noon

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

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



Like us on
Facebook

**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).



Like us on
Facebook

Pastor- Gary Liker

