



Established 1900

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

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Established 1893

VOLUME 1 AUGUST 2025 ISSUE 81

We're in that weird stretch of the year where everything's both too fast and too slow. Summer's not quite over, but stores are already screaming about back to school. Vacations have been taken, lots of grass has been cut, and the calendar is pointing towards fall.

Since August is a transitional month, it allows for a pivot and questions. Are we getting better or just busier? Because they're not the same thing. And a lot of us, especially me, like to pretend that they are. Busyness feels great at first. It makes us feel alive, important, and in demand. You can look at your schedule and say, "Look at all I've got going on. Look how full my life is." It looks like momentum. It looks like it has meaning. It can be a status symbol for some.

Activity is not the same as transformation and business can sometimes delay transformation. God never once asked us to be frantic. Jesus never said, "Go into all the world and hustle until you burn out." There's this scene in the Gospel of Luke that always calls me out and recently came up in the lectionary. Martha and Mary. You know it. Martha's cooking, prepping, being the responsible one. Mary is just sitting there—doing nothing by Martha's standards. She's listening. She's still. And here's what Jesus says when Martha finally snaps and tries to drag Him into the mess: "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

(Luke 10:41–42). Read that again slowly. Anxious and troubled about many things/ Jesus doesn't rebuke Martha for being busy/ He rebukes her for being distracted by tasks. For thinking that all her doing was more important than her being. For believing that spiritual productivity trumps spiritual presence.

So I ask this as we move into the back half of 2025: Are you becoming more Christlike? Is your soul softening? Are you less anxious than you were last year? More generous? More patient? Are you more rooted in the truth, more comfortable in your skin, more confident in God's grace?

Or are you just... more scheduled? The good news is this. If the answer isn't what you'd like it to be then August is a grace filled month to recalibrate. You don't have to wait for January. You don't need a program to tell you what to do. You just need to pause, breathe, and re-evaluate.

Here's something practical: take 30 minutes this week, no phone, no agenda. Grab a notebook. Sit with God and ask: What have I been doing just to feel productive? What's actually growing me? What can I say no to? What do I need to say yes to again? It could be prayer. It could be silence. It could be therapy. It could be Sabbath. The world will always tell you that you're falling behind. Jesus never will.

Jesus often calls us to slow down. Sit with me. Stop measuring your worth by your output. Choose the better thing, the one that cannot be taken away. August isn't the filler between fireworks and football. It's a sacred chance to decide who you're becoming before the season shifts. So don't just fill your life. Form it.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Jeremy Wolfe

FARMERSBURG

CHURCH COUNCIL

Pres: Bill Scherf III. (25)
V. Pres: Bruce Glawe (25)
Sec: Loretta Weipert (26)
Treas: Linda Schoulte (26)
Council Members: Ken Erickson (27),
 Crystal Goltz (27) & Dave Hageman (25)

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

Kelly Shaw

OUTSIDE JANITOR:

Loren Scherf

INSIDE JANITOR:

Mary Beth Tielbar

WELCA:

Pres: Shirley Marmann
V. Pres: Velma Kuehl
Sec: Nancy Moon
Treas: Becky Fuelling
Mission Action: Bev Moon,
 Nancy Moon, Marlene Glawe

MEN'S GROUP:

Pres: Ryan Moon
V. Pres: Brad Hoth
Sec/Treas: Dan Moon

ALTAR GUILD:

Directress: Cheryl Bossard
Sec: Heather Crogan
Treas: Velma Kuehl

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26)
Secretary: Vicki Baade (27)
Members: Janelle Smith (25)
 Becky Fuelling (25)
 Aaron Smith (26)
 Amanda Goltz (27)

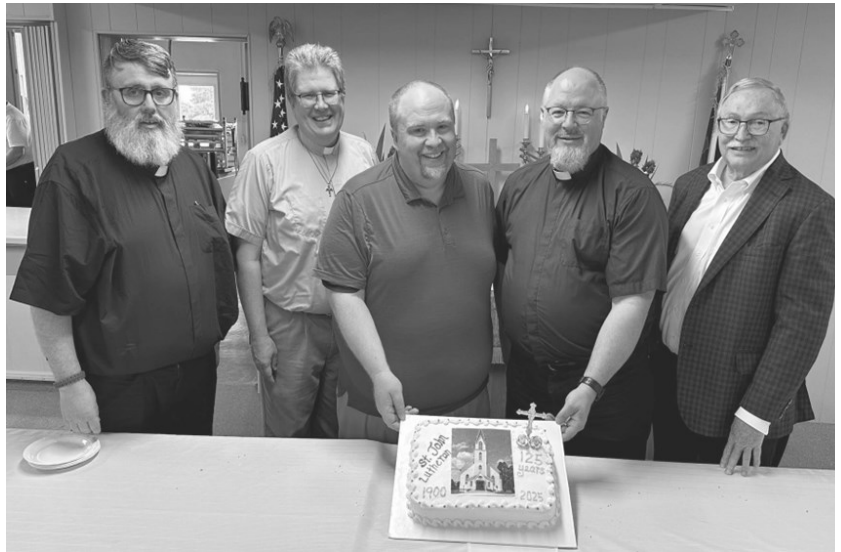
NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

Church Website:

<http://www.stjohn-farmersburg.org>

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.



St. John's Farmersburg 125th Anniversary
 Pictured left to right are Pastor David Tielbar, Pastor Mike Erickson, Pastor Jeremy Wolfe, Bishop Kevin Jones, & Pastor Bob Edwards

Thank you to everyone who made the 125th anniversary celebration a success. Special thanks to Bishop Jones, Pastor Edwards, Pastor Wolfe, Pastor Erickson, and Pastor Tielbar for leading the worship service. Thank you to Theresa, Ryan, Darci, Judy, Lisa, and Laurel for the special music. Thank you to Theresa for preparing the booklets of the history of the church. Thank you to Tootie for making the cakes. Thank you to all who prepared the church both inside and outside for our Celebration. Also, a BIG round of applause for the planning Committee who worked diligently to pull this all together!

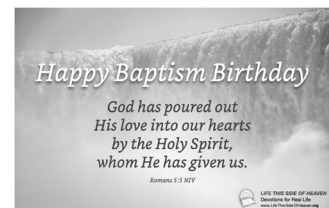


Thank you to all who provided garden flowers for our worship services. Thank you to Nancy and Ethel for arranging the bouquets.



August Known Baptisms

4 - Shirley Marmann
 14 - Brian Rodas
 15 - John Fuelling
 20 - Madelyn Lnenicka
 21 - Scarlett Scherf



August Anniversaries

19 Clark & Kris Wikner
 28 Wyatt & Olivia Glawe

FARMERSBURG NEWS

USHERS

August 3 9:00 am (Froelich Barn) & August 10 10:00 am
 Captain Ken Erickson Jeff Klinge
 Doug Glawe Brad Hoth

August 17 & August 24
 Captain Lyn Tielbar Brian Glawe
 Jeremy Howard John Fuelling
 (August 31 Combined @ Luana 8:30 am)

ACOLYTES

August
 3 9:00 AM Joint Service at Froelich Barn
 10 10:00 AM volunteer
 17 10:00 AM Connor Kirby
 24 10:00 AM volunteer
 31 8:30 AM Joint Service at Luana

GREETERS

AUGUST

3 9:00 am (Froelich Barn) Melissa Wolfe & Becky Fuelling
 10 Kenny & Velma Kuehl
 17 Jeff Klinge & Deb Tidwell
 24 Larry & Linda Friedlein
 31 8:30 am Combined @ Luana

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

August 3 9:00 am Worship @ Froelich Barn Ken Erickson
 August 17 Bruce Glawe

ALTAR GUILD COMMITTEE

Loretta Weipert
 Marlene Glawe

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

August: Julie Kurth



August 1 Mindy (Erickson) Clubb
 Wyatt Glawe
 2 Renee Storkson
 Nathan Thornton
 5 Karish Kluth
 7 Julie Fuelling
 9 Darcy (Fuelling) Gerndt
 10 Jameson Palmersheim
 Beverly Wagner
 Christine Walleser
 11 Karen Feldmann
 13 Nolan Walby
 Mateo William Moran
 14 Joel Scherf
 Ben Wikner
 15 Blake Brainard
 Austyn Isaacs
 Landry Ann Rodas
 17 Kaleb Richard
 18 Kathy Erickson
 Harry Gerndt
 Dennis Leuchtenmacher
 19 Dan Moon
 20 Declan Wolfe
 21 Theresa Rodas
 23 Kim Scherf
 McCoy Rodas
 24 Wm Scherf IV
 25 Lendall Schievelbein
 26 Sophie Byroade
 28 Jeanette Krambeer
 Kelly (Hoth) Shaw
 29 Becky Fuelling
 30 Dan Wikner

The Men's Pork Dinner is **August 10**. A donation sheet is on the desk in the narthex. Please check it out and sign up to donate. Please bring **donations** to the church before **Saturday August 9th**.
All men of the church are asked to help either on Saturday to prepare or Sunday to serve

" " " "

**THIS MORNING, THE SUN
 ENDURES PAST DAWN. I
 REALIZE THAT IT IS AUGUST:
 THE SUMMER'S LAST STAND.**

- SARA BAUME

FARMERSBURG NEWS

ST. JOHN FARMERSBURG COUNCIL MINUTES Date: July 13, 2025

Present: Bill Scherf, Loretta Weipert, Ken Erickson, Bruce Glawe, Crystal Goltz and Jeremy Wolfe.

Meeting called to order by President Bill at 1048.

Opening devotions given by Jeremy.

Crystal moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bruce. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of June 22, 2025 meeting after update to add CD through Edward Jones made by Bruce. Second by Ken. Motion carried.

Crystal moved to approve the treasurer's report, second by Bruce. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

*Plans to start doing video clips and logging when he visits members.

*Thanked everyone for helping with the Anniversary meal.

*He is in his last internship for becoming a licensed counselor. Church members can get counseling at no cost. Eventually he can take on new clients.

*The upcoming month will be doing shut-in visits and home visits in Luana to get word out about the PEEPS program and the confirmation class.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Committee Reports:

Evangelism - No report

Parish Education - Start planning for the start of Sunday school and confirmation, will send out letters to students in August.

Property - No report

Stewardship - No report

Worship - 125th Anniversary celebration went well.

Memorial - No report

Men's Group - Meet in the upcoming month to discuss Men's meal

Women's Group - No report.

Motion to adjourn by Ken, second by Loretta. Motion carried.

Next meeting August 10 after worship.

Respectively submitted by Loretta Weipert, secretary



June Worship Attendance

1-	53
8-	25
15-	31
22-	31
29-	134

June 2025 – Treasurer's Report

Income:

1050.00	
1305.00	
640.00	
990.00	
2330.00	
1235.00	(ELCA Hunger) (Anniversary Offering)
191.56	(CD Interest)
397.45	(PayPal Offering)



Missions:

NE Iowa Synod:	270.00
SOTH:	232.00
Food Shelf:	122.00
St. Pt. Home:	35.00
LSI:	50.00
EWALU:	35.00

Staff Compensation:

Pastor:	2636.37 + 430.44 + 351.38 (Portico)
	(Housing from different Account: 707.58)
Inside Cust.:	215.48
Outside Cust.:	126.98
Organists:	193.92

Expenses:

Black Hills (gas):	94.41
Alliant (elec):	165.33
NEIT:	121.43
Church Mutual	773.00
Freedom Bank	19.26 (Debit Card Annual Fee)
Augsburg Fortress	200.00 (Communion Supplies & Devotionals)
Fisk Farm & Home	47.70 (Paint)
Marco	195.39 (Copier Contract)
Synod	410.00 (Synod Assembly)

Total Income: 6904.01

Total Expenses: 6725.09

General Checking Balance – June 1, 2025: 351.15
June 30, 2025: 665.82

Kelly Shaw, Treasurer

LUANA

CHURCH SECRETARY & FINANCIAL TREAS.:

Karla Schrader

CHURCH COUNCIL:

President: Jerry Schroeder (26)

V. Pres: Aaron Smith (25)

Sec: Vicky Baade (27)

Cur. Treas: Diane Kraus (25)

Bene. Treas: Stan Dull (26)

Financial Counters: Council

DEACONS:

Jerry Schroeder (26)

Tim Donlon (26)

Loren Lenth (27)

TRUSTEES:

Diane Kraus (25)

Aaron Smith (25)

Heath Landt (26)

Vicky Baade (27)

Luke Steege (27)

WELCA:

Leaders:

January—March: Karla Schrader

April—June: Mel Lenth

July—September: Lisa Meyer

Oct.—December: Vicky Baade

ALTAR GUILD:

Pres: Sherri Johnson (26)

Sec: Darci Engelhardt (26)

Banners/Linens/Candles:

Lisa Meyer (25)

Mary Schroeder (27)

Special Services/Flowers:

Diane Kraus (25)

Betty Handke (27)

Bapt./Comm.:

Sherri Johnson

Darci Engelhardt

Seasonal Banners:

Mary Schroeder

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26)

Secretary: Vicki Baade (27)

Members: Janelle Smith (25)

Becky Fuelling (25)

Aaron Smith (26)

Amanda Goltz (27)

St. John's Luana website

www.stjohn-luana.org

LUANA NEWS

AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Jim and Lisa Meyer

Read Lessons & Prayers:

Aug. 3	Froelich Barn Service
Aug. 10	Vicky Baade
Aug. 17	Duaine Davis
Aug. 24	Jerry Schroeder
Aug. 31	Keith Johnson

Acolyte:

Aug. 3	Froelich Barn Service
Aug. 10	Tyce Wikner
Aug. 17	Karsten Steege
Aug. 24	Dayne Anderson
Aug. 31	Josh Schierholz

Communion Servers: Aug. 3 – Froelich Barn Service
Aug. 17 – Loren Lenth & Diane Davis

Altar Guild: Sherri Johnson

Flowers: Carol Goettler

KNOWN BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

August

4 - Layton Pape

5 - Sheri Landt

11 - Brent Pape

27 - Sharon Landt

31 - Brian Bugenhagen



AUGUST

8 - Chad & Melissa Moeller

22 - Keith & Sherri Johnson

27 - Charlie & Cheryl Wagner



LUANA NEWS



August

2 – Dawn Dull
 Gracelyn Brink
 3 – Kelsey McHaney
 12 - Brooklyn Landt
 19 – Kim Steege
 20 - Eugene Mueller
 21 – Doug Schrader
 24 – Mary Russett
 30 – Stan Dull

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	Att.	Comm
June 22	27	
June 29	Joint @ Farmersburg	
July 6	34	34
July 13	30	
July 20	<u>36</u>	<u>32</u>
	127	66



St. John Luana Council Minutes July 6, 2025

A brief meeting was held after church. Present were: Pastor Jeremy, Jerry Schroeder, Diane Kraus, Loren Lenth, Luke Steege, Aaron Smith, Stan Dull, and Vicky Baade.

Church secretary, Karla Schrader was also present. Tim Donlon and Heath Landt were absent.

Meeting was called to order by President, Jerry Schroeder.

Jeremy mentioned that the music to almost all of the hymns in our green book and blue book are available as computer files for \$99 for each hymnal. The system we now use is very dated, using small floppy disks. All agreed that Jeremy should order these.

Church insurance – Church Mutual is working on a re-quote and the company that insures Beulahland is also working on a quote.

Jerry contacted Benzing from Waukon to do the survey. We are on the list. The survey needs to be done to get the correct legal description of the parsonage property. The next step will be to get an abstract – there never has been one, after that an appraisal needs to be done. After these are completed, the council will have the information needed to present to the congregation at a special meeting to decide if the parsonage should be sold or not.

Jerry talked to Mark Bries about black dirt for the spot on the south side of the church where landscaping was removed. The dirt he has is not suitable. Jerry will talk to a couple of other sources.

Parsonage – the renter doesn't re-attach the downspout after mowing, so rain water seeps down the basement wall. Jerry will attach downspouts with screws.

Jerry adjourned the meeting.

There will be no meeting July 13. Next meeting will be August 10 at 7:30am.

Respectfully submitted by Vicky Baade, Council Secretary

Both Churches News



Combined Worship
9:00 am August 3rd
@ Froelich barn
Worship/Comm.
Please join us!



August 27 th 4:00 pm PEEPS and
 Confirmation at Beulahland Christian Camp

St. John Farmersburg Pork Dinner

August 10 11:00 AM-1:00 PM

Put on by the men's group



Serving Grilled Pork Loin
 Potato Salad
 Baked Beans

Watermelon and Muskmelon

Bars and Ice Cream

Milk Water Lemonade Coffee

Free will Donation



****All men of the church are asked to help either on
 Saturday to prepare or Sunday to serve**
 (Saturday we will start around 10AM)**



There are two birth flowers in
 August—**gladiolus and poppy**—
 to provide variety and options
 for individuals to associate with
 their birth month.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: McCoy Eberling, Roger Landt, Kelly Staley, Dennis Hanson, Stacy
 DeSotel, Tom Meuleman, Julie Mohs, Charlie Post, Joy David, *Dallas Tielbar, Shelby Preston, Bram*
Byroade, Melody Pate, Jim Fuelling, Mike Reardon, Ron Tayek, Cheryl Bossard, Beth Bries,
Alan Feldmann

MILITARY: Avrey Smith, Andrew Rodas & Beth Rodas, Will Schrandt

ELKADER CARE CENTER: Grace Doerring, Lee Klinkenberg,

GARDEN VIEW PLACE: Juanita Mohs, Darlene Moon, Harold & Jeanette Vogt

TOWER LIVING CENTER: Lendall Schievelbein

SAMARITAN BETHANY ROCHESTER, MN 55901: Dorothy Kluth

KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Russett

WAUKON GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER: Rita Pritchard

HOMEBOUND: Glenda Henkes, Jim Fuelling, Shirley Wagner, Jeanette Krambeer in Des Moines



St. Paul Lutheran Church Garnavillo invites
 The River Cluster of Churches,
 (First Lutheran, St. Peter's, & Peace)
 and the Community
 To

"Back to School Q Fundraiser"

August 16, 2025, Saturday, **5PM-8PM**

A Free will offering will be taken and all proceeds will
 go to Shepherd of the Hills
 To purchase school supplies.

Come and enjoy mouth watering smoked meats and
 famous "Fair Stand Pickles!"

Enjoy your meal inside or outside
 (picnic table will be available)

There will be a watermelon seed spitting contest for
 kids and adults, and other games.

National Food Holidays

August

1: Braham Pie Day and National Raspberry
 Cream Pie Day.

3: National Watermelon Day.

5: National Oyster Day.

8: National Frozen Custard Day.

11: National Panini Day.

16: National Rum Day.

19: National Hot and Spicy Day
 and National Potato Day.

27: National Burger Day.



Shepherd of the Hills Ministries

NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2025



It's that time of year... our Back to School event is in full swing. We are in need of school supplies. Some supplies like backpacks, are ALWAYS in need...all year long. If you are out and about and see supplies on sale, please think of us. (Even if it is after our event, we will put them in storage.) This is a great way to help the children in need.

Our Dollar General event was held on July 12. Thank you to all who donated those school supplies and monetary donations. We are expecting 350 children at our event, which will take A LOT of supplies. Any and all help is appreciated!

Clothing Center Updates:

We sure have had some warm days lately, but thanks to all the generous donations, it is cool in here. Our central air is installed and feeling great!

There will be a few additional projects at the clothing center that will require us to be closed to the public for a couple days. I will post on Facebook and on our answering machine when I know those dates.

We will be accepting summer clothing through August. September we will be doing our change over to fall and winter. Please continue to schedule a day to drop your donations off so I can staff accordingly.

If you have any "grandma handkerchiefs" that you are not using, I have a customer who is looking for a bunch for a craft project. Let me know if you have any to donate.

Shepherd Conference News:

*Please help me congratulate Pastor Adam Starrett,
(Elgin Lutheran and Highland Lutheran) on his anniversary of his ordination
on 08/08/2010.*

I was able to attend the 2025 Synod Assembly on June 7th in Cedar Falls. If you have not attended, I urge you to go. The presentations were uplifting and interesting. It is always nice to see familiar faces and meet new people. The new "tech" way of voting was very helpful once everyone got registered. Over-all, it was a great event.

The **Operating Fund** pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care.

The **Crisis Fund** is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year

Please utilize the **MEMO LINE** on your check to specify Crisis or Operating Fund!

Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

Back to School Event
August 6th from 9am-5pm
(Referral required to participate)

Hog Rost Fundraiser
October 5th, 4pm-7pm
St. Olaf Auditorium
(Take-outs available)

*Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills:

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Business Hours: Monday-Friday
9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm