

THE JOURNAL

Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church

601 Washington Avenue
Carnegie, PA 15106



Phone:	412.279.2952
Email:	sjelc@saintjohncarnegie.com
On-Line:	www.saintjohncarnegie.com
Pastor:	<i>The Rev. Bruce P. Nordeen</i>
Cell Phone:	412.654.4685
Email:	pastorbruce@saintjohncarnegie.com
Director of Music:	<i>Jeffrey H. Gray</i>
Parish Secretary:	<i>Bessie M. Kwasniewski</i>
Journal Editors:	<i>Tom & Pam Elia</i>

Vol. 25, No.6

July and August 2010

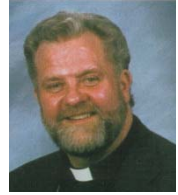
Worship and Christian Education Opportunities

Saturday at 6:00 PM – Contemporary Communion Service

Sunday at 8:15 AM – An abbreviated Service of Holy Communion
(the liturgy is the same as Saturday night, using more “traditional” music)

Sunday at 10:00 AM – Our traditional “summer” service of Holy Communion

There is no Sunday School during the Summer months.



It's About Time

"As we work together with Him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!" • II Corinthians 6:1-2

"What's the time?" "I don't have the time." "Time out!" "It's about time!" - All phrases we use in daily conversation. Our times are governed by calendars and clocks. Sometimes we become slaves to time, unable to pause and relax. We rush from this to that, burning up our time as quickly as we get it. But what we need to remember is that it's not our time! Time is a gift from God, to be used wisely, or frittered away. God allows us to choose how to use His gift.

"What's the time?" It's God's time, God's gift to us! For many of us this will be a gift of 80 or 90 years. How will we use them? And how would we use God's time if we knew that He would only give us another 24 hours?

"I don't have the time." Of course, God has never said that to us! Don't have the time for what? Not enough time for worship, for Bible Study, for loving and caring deeds? Somehow, we can always seem to find the time for the things we really want to do. Do we really believe that that God is worth giving the time of day? Do our actions show it?

"Time out!" It's so tempting to take time out, especially in the "lazy, hazy days of summer." Those who take time out from Christian study or worship are surely the poorer for it. Time out to lose out?

"It's about time!" The Scriptures make it clear – today is the day of salvation. Not yesterday, or tomorrow, but today. Maybe it's about time we all take the time God has given us seriously.

*Blessings,
Pastor Bruce*

Table Talk With Miss Ekklesia

Dear Gentle People of St. John,

My goodness, your congregation is blessed with an abundance of little ones! And I am so pleased that they are made welcome at St. John. But they can be a spirited bunch, can't they? Spirited or not, children are one of God's best gifts to us, and are far and above worth everything it takes to include them in worship. They saying is an old one, but still true today: "They are the future of the church!"

Here are a few tips on how to welcome children and their families.

- Extend a smile and spirit of welcome to families of small ones.
- Learn the names of children and their families.
- Offer a helping hand if you see that a family might need assistance.
- Make sure children can see what's going on.
- Teach children to participate in the liturgy with a hearty "Amen," "And also with you," or "Thanks be to God." Kid's are excited about God, and they need to learn appropriate ways to express their excitement.
- Help children to hold hymnals or prayer books at the appropriate times.
- Encourage children, as they draw, to illustrate what they experience in church.

Parents who choose to bring their children to worship should encourage them to participate in the Children's Sermon, and to bring them forward for Holy Communion to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

One of the most essential gifts we can give, as we minister together to children at Saint John, is to listen to our Lord – to receive children in His name as we worship, and as we nurture Jesus' little ones and their families.

Toodles!

Miss Ekklesia

Benevolence – St. John’s Offering To The Work Of The Church

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We continue to monitor the devastating oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and pray fervently for all those who have been affected. Indeed, while the long-term effects of this tragedy will be felt by all of us, for those whose lives and livelihoods have been directly impacted, the needs for help are acute and overwhelming.

Earlier this week, Jessica Vermilyea, disaster coordinator with Lutheran Social Services of the South, took part in an ecumenical listening tour into the bayou marsh areas of Plaquemines Parish in southeastern Louisiana. As part of this group, Jessica heard from fishermen, business owners, and other local leaders about how the oil spill is affecting them, even as many of them continue to struggle with recovery from Hurricane Katrina.

At this time, BP has pledged that it is their responsibility to pay for all costs related to clean-up as well as to reimburse those who have experienced a loss of income as a result of the spill, and anyone seeking to file a claim can do so directly through the BP Web site. Given the unique nature of this situation, we will not be seeking funding for this response.

In the mean time, we will continue to listen for emerging unmet needs along the Gulf Coast and for meaningful ways that we might engage there. As we do, I ask for your continued prayers for the beautiful land and people of the Gulf Coast as they struggle to overcome this continuing tragedy.

In service,

Rev. Kevin A. Massey, Director
Lutheran Disaster Response

Help the ELCA stay ready to respond to disasters like this one. Prayerfully consider your Benevolence gift when preparing your offering envelopes each week.

Pastor Bruce

GREETINGS TO THE WOMEN OF ST. JOHN

UPCOMING SUMMER EVENTS: The Annual Family Game Night has been scheduled for Sunday, July 25 at 4:30PM. A spaghetti dinner will be served. Don't forget to bring your favorite games to party. We will meet in the Scheel Friendship Room which is air conditioned. Hope to see you there.

BIBLE STUDY will be held on Tuesday, August 3 at Susan Holzer's home, 106 Sunset Drive, McKees Rocks, PA. We will carpool from the church at 6PM. Please let Bessie or Joanne know if you need a ride. Please join us for Bible Study, Fellowship and dessert.

Help is always needed for nursery, which begins back up in the fall, flower delivery which continues all summer and Altar set up and clean up after each service.

Health Kits will be sent in the fall and will be assembled at the end of summer. Please continue to bring your articles throughout the summer.

Have a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Peace, Love and Joy
Joanne Henigman



Worship Highlights for the Summer

A reminder that Saint John is OPEN FOR BUSINESS during these lazy, hazy crazy days of summer! Here are our worship hours from now thru (and including) Labor Day weekend:

Saturdays @ 6:00 PM

Contemporary Holy Communion

Sundays @ 8:15 AM

An abbreviated service of Holy Communion, using a liturgy that is similar to Saturday night's, using more traditional music. These services last just about 45 minutes.

Sundays @ 10:00 AM

Our summer service of Holy Communion, using a hymn-based setting of the liturgy.

We hope you remember that God doesn't take a vacation from you, so you shouldn't take a vacation from Him! And if you attend services at another church this summer, please bring back a bulletin and share it with Pastor and Jeff. We like to see what other churches do during their worship services.

May God grant you a relaxing summer!

Summer Music Notes



Miscellaneous notes found on my desk while filing the choir's spring music...

- We had a fairly "short" – but very good – adult choir year, ending on Trinity Sunday, May 30th. If you see the choir members sitting near you this summer, thank them for their hard work!
- Next year will see one of the longest choir years, as Easter Sunday falls on April 24, which means Trinity Sunday will be June 19th.
- I know this because I have already begun the process of reviewing the liturgical calendar and lectionary and selecting music for the 2010/11 choir year, which will start on September 12th.
- We are looking for a few good men to come and join us this fall. We really are in need of tenors and basses!
- We will not turn down any women that want to sing with us, either!
- Men and women, high-school age and above, are welcome to come and sing with us. Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, September 12th at 9:45 AM in Burry Chapel. (We will hold a brief rehearsal on Sunday, September 5th at 9:15 AM to review the anthem for 9/12).
- We had a nice turnout of kids sing with The Choristers for Easter, so I plan to re-start the group in October with regularly scheduled Saturday rehearsals. Keep your eyes peeled to The Journal and the church website for more details.

Enjoy your summer! See you in church!

Jeff Gray



The Saint John Duffers

Well, the weather dudes got it wrong, and we cancelled our June outing due to a forecast of rain and thundershowers. It turned out that it was warm, but no rain fell...oh well. That being said...

Our next outing for 2010 will be on **Sunday, July 18th at Hickory Heights Golf Club** in nearby South Fayette. It's about a 20-minute drive from the church. We're planning a first tee time of 2:00 PM, and the cost will be \$40.00 per person, including cart. All refreshments are on you! If you are interested in joining us, please get your reservations in to [Jeff Gray](#) or the [Church Office](#) by Sunday, July 11th. Everyone will be responsible to pay on their own at the course. For this outing, we're going to again reserve enough tee-times to cover 12 golfers (3 foursomes). Once they're filled, we will take "standby" reservations.

And because this is a combined "Summer" issue of *The Journal*, we going to tell you about our August outing this month as well. Mark your calendars for **Sunday, August 15th**, when we make a return trip to **The Links at Firestone Farms** in Columbiana, Ohio. It's only about a one-hour drive from the church, so don't let that state abbreviation fool you! This was the site of our very first Saint John Duffers outing last year, and got rave reviews. Deadline for this event is Sunday, August 8th. The cost should again be in the \$35 – \$40 range.

Come and join us!

Jeff Gray

www.saintjohncarnegie.com

One of the things I like to do is to surf the web...not always going to sites that most people go to, but quite often to check out websites of other churches. Some are our neighboring churches of all denominations. Others are ELCA churches within our synod. And still others are the "big churches", both local and national. One thing that I notice quite often is that the sites are not current. One church site I visited recently still had their September 2008 calendar on their home page, with information about their congregation's fall "Corn Roast" for that year!

I try to keep our website current, so that visitors to www.saintjohncarnegie.com see information about our church which is accurate and timely. For example, the "Calendar" page is updated weekly, and new "weeks" are added monthly when *The Journal* calendar comes out. But I could use your help to keep posting accurate information.

If you are involved in a group that is featured on our website, please email me @ jeffhgray@verizon.net with "stuff" you'd like to see on your group's page. For example, in the Christian Education section, the Sunday School page has accurate information, but has not been updated for a while, and this summer would be a great time to update that page and post more information about the upcoming year, including a calendar of events for the Sunday School. The VBS page, on the other hand, was just updated in May with information about *Baobab Blast* – our VBS for 2010 – including a downloadable registration form. And at the end of VBS, I'm pretty sure "Miss Vicki" will be sending me pictures to add to the Photo Album section of the site!

Another thing you can help me with is to go to the site and use it! It's the quickest way to get current information about our church and our activities. And if you see something that is wrong, or out of date, or there is a link that doesn't "link", let me know (again, via email is best).

And tell your friends and neighbors about the site, too. There just may be something on there that sparks an interest in our church!

Jeff Gray
Unofficial Webmaster
Email: jeffhgray@verizon.net

Saint John Fellowship: 'S Wonderful

A group of about 16 Saint John members and friends had a wonderful time at the CLO Cabaret performance of *Nunsense* back in the spring. So much so that we're making plans to go see the new CLO Cabaret's World Premiere presentation of *'S Wonderful*. Set aside **Sunday, August 8th** and join us for the 2:00 PM matinee performance in Pittsburgh's Cultural District at one of the most intimate theatres in the area. The cost will be \$25.50 per ticket, and reservations are due by Sunday, July 11th.

'S Wonderful: The New Gershwin Musical is an all-singing, all-dancing celebration of the brilliant music and lyrics of brothers George and Ira Gershwin. Five mini-musicals take audiences on a ride to the different places, times and styles that made the Gershwin brothers the most successful songwriting team in musical history. First it's New York City in 1916 and Paris in the 1930s, followed by Hollywood in the '40s, New Orleans in the '50s and today. *'S Wonderful* pays a nostalgic tribute to the incomparable songbook of George and Ira Gershwin, featuring over 40 classic hits such as *Let's Call the Whole Thing Off*, *Shall We Dance*, *Someone to Watch Over Me* and *Rhapsody in Blue*.

Come and join us for a delightful afternoon of song and dance!

Jeff Gray

PS – Not sure of the date yet, but next up will be a good ol' fashioned family Hay Ride and Bon Fire, complete with a weenie roast and 'smores, sometime in October. Keep tuned to *The Journal* and the church website at www.saintjohncarnegie.com for more information!



2010 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL...is HERE!

We are all ready for the 2010 Vacation Bible School, Baobab Blast, scheduled for June 27th through July 1st! Set under the Baobab tree in the African Savannah, kids will have the opportunity to hear the Word, be amazed at God's wildlife creations, and will be learning how to build communities and work together as God's children.

We have a week full of fun planned with crafts, science, music, storytelling, games and of course learning stories of the Bible. We are planning for 50 kids (but always pray for more) and have 31 volunteers signed up.

This year's mission is Hekima Place Boarding School in Kenya, East Africa. This school is for girls who have been orphaned because of HIV/AIDS, but do not have HIV/AIDS themselves, although they are treated as if they do. The donations received during VBS will help give a girl a chance for a place to live and a proper education. Jackie Bell, niece of Bobbie Danziger, is an elementary school teacher whom is traveling to Kenya on June 26th and will be volunteering there for one month, tutoring the girls and helping them with homework. We hope to be able to collect a generous donation for Hekima Place, and we wish Jackie the best on her mission.

Many thanks go out to the volunteers who take time out of their busy schedule to help these kids have a wonderful week. All of the children and volunteers would like to thank the Henigman family and Sami's Screen House

for their generous donation of the VBS T-shirts, they always do such a fabulous job! This year we also have had many craft supplies donated by the Tarbert Family, which are going to be enjoyed during craft time. We give them many thanks for their generous donation and time and help getting them to the Church.

There will be pictures of the 2010 VBS posted on the board in the side Narthex shortly following the last day, so lookout for those. **There will be a post VBS celebration at the 10am service on July 11th, where the kids will do their favorite song and dance. Everyone is invited to join us for a luncheon in Dittmer Hall following, we hope to see you all there!**

Blessings,

Vicki Rathbun

NOTES OF THANKS

Some powerful weeding, planting and watering went on the days before our Memorial Day picnic at the St. John Cemetery. A big thank you to those who delivered the mulch and to the hearty souls who worked diligently to make the Prayer Garden beautiful for that special day.

Our thanks also to Stewart's Flowers for the generous donation of the flowers that adorn our gardens around the church. Be sure to stop over and tell them how much we appreciate their generosity.

And yet another thanks to those who weeded, planted and will continue to water those flowers so that we can enjoy them throughout the summer.

We are always looking for people to help lead our congregation in worship, and to serve as Greeters and Ushers – our *Ministers of Hospitality*. If you are willing to serve the Lord at Saint John in any of these capacities, please contact the following people:

Worship Assistants: Joanne Henigman – 412-257-1822
(*Readers, Assisting Ministers, Communion Assistants*)

Greeters: Charlotte Lange – 412-279-3397

Ushers: Bill Henigman – 412-257-1822

*Serving
the
Assembly*

Serving in July & August

10:00 AM July

4th - Karen Galehan
11th - Ruth Schrieber
18th - Jayme Gardner
25th - Jan Schade

10:00 AM August

1st - Jackie Beck

Lectors/Assisting

*Communion Assistants**

11th - Lanie Hiles
18th - Donna Guido
25th - Pat Naujelis

**The "Communion Assistant" is the second wine pourer when communion is distributed in procession*

Ushers

10:00 AM July: Herb Brant, Ed Wikert, Rob Windhorst

10:00 AM August: Steve Lucarini, Adam Lucarini, Andrew Lucarini

USHERS NEEDED

Anyone wishing to help at either the early or late service, please contact Bill or Joanne Henigman. Ushering is necessary during our church service, and right now we have a shortage of those committed to the job! We are praying that you who are able, will respond to the call!

Thank you and Blessings!

Bill and Joanne

412-721-1994

Note: The deadline for September is August 20th.



The following members of Saint John are known to have been sick or hospitalized since the last issue of *The Journal*. Please continue to keep them in your prayers:

Harry Eltschlager and Jack Schreiber

Marriages

Rick Weismantle & Emily Tomalewski - married May 22

Rob Windhorst & Erin Calik - married May 29

Graham McDonough & Kristin DeBar - married June 5

David Moehring & Julie Jones - married June 18 (not at St. John)

Christopher Perry & Misty Jackson - married June 19

David Marr & Susan McGrogan - married June 26

+++++

In Memorium

Joyce Marinacci - died June 10

Mary Keil - died June 15

Helen Uriah - died June 19

Alexander Bailey(Elaine Schnedier's brother) died June 19

May God comfort all whom mourn.

+++++

The Church Staff

The Rev. Bruce P. Nordeen
Jeffrey H. Gray
Bessie M. Kwasniewski
Donna Petrell
John B. Mikus

Pastor
Director of Music and Liturgy
Parish Secretary
Financial Secretary
Church Administrator

Officers of the Congregation

Mark Martin
Donna Guido
Jeffrey Gray
Karen Galehan

President
Vice President
Recording Secretary
Treasurer

Members of the Congregation Council

Representing the SJWELCA

Joanne Henigman, *SJELW President*

Class of 2010

Jayne Gardner (*Cemetery*)
Lanie Hiles (*Hospitality*)
Lorraine Mlinarich (*Membership*)

Class of 2011

Buddy Galehan (*Property*)
Cami Himme (*At-Large*)
Vicki Rathbun (*Parish Education*)
Bill Reed (*Worship*)
Ruth Schreiber (*Evangelism*)

Statement of Our Mission

*Confident in the Good News of Jesus Christ, Son of God,
We of Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church:*

Proclaim this Gospel boldly in Word and Sacrament according to the confessions of the Lutheran Church and its traditions of Theology and Liturgy;

Model a Community of love and stability in which the Holy Spirit gives life to this gospel today, and within coming generations;

Invite and welcome our neighbors to join with us in worship, learning, witness and service as we joyously proclaim our Risen Savior;

Accept the challenge to be transformed into a new people of God as we minister in the diverse and changing population in our community.