

# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, CORDOVA, NEBRASKA

## September, 2026 Newsletter

Rev. Shawn Kitzing  
Interim Pastor



“Serving Christ in  
our Communities,  
Nation and World”



Join us for Worship  
Services Sundays at  
9:00 a.m. or on  
Facebook.

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## Note from the Elders

### 2 Timothy 3:16-17

“All Scripture is inspired by God and useful for instruction, correction, and training, so that God's servants are fully prepared for every good work.”

The original Greek word *Theopneustos* — “God-breathed” — means that the writings come directly from the breath, or Spirit, of God.

This passage was written by the Apostle Paul to his missionary partner and young believer Timothy to help him grow in faith as a man and a missionary Pastor.

Third Commandment – Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy. What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it.

### Matthew 4:4

“Jesus answered, ‘It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Towards the goal of growing in faith and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ – we encourage you to consider and mark your calendars with the following in mind...

- Sunday mornings at 10:25 a.m., Sunday School classes for children in K-2, 3-4, and 5-8 grades in school.
- Sunday School Kick-off will be August 30th with Sunday School Teacher Installation.
- Also, Sunday mornings at 10:25 a.m., Adult Bible Study led by the Guest Pastor we have that day. The format involves attendees interacting with each other and then giving feedback to the Pastor as we dig deeper into the sermon's Bible verses.
- Confirmation classes begin on September 9th at 4:00 p.m. for students in grades 5-8. We welcome all children who want to grow their faith as they start to become adults in the church.
- Youth Group Kick-Off for 5th-12th grade. See the article about this on page 2.

### More information:

**Small Group** will meet on September 9th at 1:30 p.m. We're reading chapters 3 & 4 in our book “The Case for Christ.”

**Men's Bible Study Group** will continue to meet on the 1st Saturday morning of each month beginning at 7:30 a.m. The men will begin a series of study on Paul's letter to the Galatians.

**The Well Bible Study Group** will meet Wednesday, September 16th, at 1:30 p.m. The group meets on the third Wednesday afternoon of each month at the church. There is much room and water at the well for everyone! The group is beginning a study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. Everyone is welcome.

If you have any questions about any of these classes, please talk to Bruce, Tim, or Norm.



## Hymn Sing Sunday September 6th

Hymn Sing Sunday is every first Sunday of the month. Come early at 8:50 a.m. and pick out your favorite hymn and sing with us!

## Men's Bible Study

**Saturday, Sept. 5, 2026**  
beginning at 7:30 a.m.

The Men's Group Bible Study is scheduled to meet next on Saturday, September 5th. The meeting will begin at 7:30 a.m. The guys will begin centering attention on a series of lessons devoted to St. Paul's letter to the Galatians. This is a great opportunity to open, research, and share God's Word being encouraged and strengthened by His promises. Contact any of the Elders for any additional information.

## Elders Meeting

The next scheduled meeting for the Board of Elders will be Thursday, September 3, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

## Board of Education Meeting

There will be a Board of Education Meeting on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m.



**Visit St. John's  
Lutheran  
Church on the  
web!**

[https://  
stjohnscordova.com](https://stjohnscordova.com)

## Confirmation Classes Begin

**Wednesday, September 9th from 4:00—5:45 p.m.**

Confirmation Classes for 5th—8th graders will begin on Wednesday, September 9th from 4:00—5:45 p.m. All kids (members and non-members) are invited to attend.



## Confirmation Parents' Meeting

A Confirmation Parent Meeting will also be held on September 9th, at 5:00 p.m. On this first night, classes will end when the Parent Meeting concludes, at approximately 5:30 p.m.

## Youth Group Kick-Off



The youth group kickoff for 5th - 12th grade students (invite a friend!) will be Sunday, September 13th at 5:30 p.m. at the Smith Creek Recreation Area. Please sign up on the youth bulletin board if attending and consider bringing a needed item. We will have a campfire meal and discuss the year's activities.

## Youth Parents' Meeting

A parent meeting will be held Sunday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We will plan and set the youth group calendar events and dates for the 2026—27 year. All youth parents are encouraged to attend.

## Our 2026 Vacation Bible School



Thanks to all the volunteers for a great VBS!

## Our Shut Ins

Please remember our shut-in members with visits, "thinking of you" cards and prayers:

**Charles & Lavonne Evans**  
Heritage Crossings  
1320 J Street  
Geneva, NE 68361

**Jane Lutz**  
Legacy Square  
1621 Front St.  
Henderson, NE 68371

**Joyce Schmidt**  
2830 S 51<sup>st</sup> Street Ct.,  
Unit 3  
Lincoln, NE 68506

**Pat Schwisow**  
The Gardens  
1405 Hickory Ave., Unit 32  
Crete, NE 68333

**Carol Sternberg**  
Hillcrest Shadow Lake  
1507 East Gold Coast Road  
Papillion, NE 68046

## September Birthdays and Baptism Birthdays

| September Birthdays |              | September Birthdays Continued      |              | September Baptism Birthdays Continued |              |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Ken Krasser         | September 1  | Lovelyn Whittington                | September 29 | Byron Brackhan                        | September 16 |
| Chloe Martinez      | September 3  |                                    |              | Joel Gifford                          | September 19 |
| Paul MacDonald      | September 5  |                                    |              | Ivy Casper                            | September 23 |
| Linda Eastin        | September 7  | <b>September Baptism Birthdays</b> |              | Anthony Nun                           | September 23 |
| Joel Gifford        | September 8  |                                    |              | Crystal Hankel                        | September 23 |
| Bethany Theis       | September 9  | Darrell Eastin                     | September 1  | Matthew Nun                           | September 23 |
| Jordan Ludke        | September 10 | Abbie Gilmer                       | September 4  | Misty Casper                          | September 23 |
| Elowen Hester       | September 12 | Judy Hulse                         | September 5  | Trenton Vossler                       | September 25 |
| Carol Sternberg     | September 13 | Laura Pulliam                      | September 6  | Gehrig Weber                          | September 26 |
| Tim McDermott       | September 15 | Jordyn Brandt                      | September 7  | Noah Stoll                            | September 27 |
| Lee Krasser         | September 16 | Nathan Klenke                      | September 7  | Kendra Oldehoeft                      | September 28 |
| Nina Bartu          | September 19 | Arnold Krasser                     | September 8  | Bob Bartu                             | September 29 |
| Emmett Beckler      | September 20 | Ken Krasser                        | September 8  | Linda Eastin                          | September 29 |
| Dane Anderson       | September 22 | Larry Krasser                      | September 8  | Lynn Jurgensen                        | September 30 |
| Rodney Brejcha      | September 24 | Beatrice Ludke                     | September 8  |                                       |              |
| Thad Weber          | September 28 | Jordan Ludke                       | September 13 |                                       |              |

PLEASE NOTE: If we have missed someone's name and birthdate, or if we missed listing your baptism birthday, please accept our sincere apologies and let the church office know. Thank You!

## Camp Luther Sunday & Annual Meeting

**Sunday, September 13th, 2026**

Join us for Camp Luther Sunday as we pray for camp, celebrate God's work through its ministry, and collect a special offering to support the mission of Creating and Renewing Disciples of Jesus Christ.

That afternoon, congregations are invited to send two voting delegates to the Annual Meeting at Gerwick Lodge. The new Welcome Center will be dedicated. The gathering will include ministry reports, elections, a look at the future of Camp Luther, and an opportunity for questions, followed by a meal and fellowship. Learn more and register: [www.camluther.org/annual-meeting](http://www.camluther.org/annual-meeting)

## Camp Luther's 2026 Annual Golf Tournament

**September 20, 2026**

Join us for Camp Luther's Annual Golf Tournament at Quail Run Golf Course in Columbus, Nebraska. Come enjoy a day of fellowship, fun, and golf while supporting Camp Luther. Golfers & Sponsors Needed! We welcome men, women, and high school golfers to participate. Teams and sponsors are also needed to help make this fundraiser a success. Register and learn more at: [www.camluther.org/golf](http://www.camluther.org/golf)

## Serving in God's House in September

### September Acolytes

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Devin Anderson  | September 6th  |
| Jorge Hernandez | September 13th |
| Teddy Weber     | September 20th |
| Reed Pulliam    | September 27th |

### September Lectors

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| Chris Effken | September 6th  |
| Dwight Henke | September 13th |
| Dwight Henke | September 20th |
| Lee Krasser  | September 27th |

### September Ushers

|                         |                                           |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| September 6th —         | Chris Effken & Bob Bartu                  |
| September 13th & 20th — | Don Kranz, Stan Krause and Tyler Brandt   |
| September 27th —        | Eldon Eklund Jr., Bob Hester, Lee Krasser |

### Communion Assistants:

|                  |                           |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| September 6th -  | Bruce Rogers & Tom Stuhr  |
| September 20th - | Tim McDermott & Tom Stuhr |

## Lutheran Hour Radio Sermons

September 6, 2026  
**"Come and See"** with Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. The Book of Nature can open your mind to the possibility that God is real. The Book of Scripture, the Bible, goes further, like a friend who's been there. John 1:46

September 13, 2026  
**"Forgiveness Is a Non-Negotiable"** Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. In God's family, forgiveness is non-negotiable. It's not up for debate because forgiveness is what makes us who we are. Matthew 6:12

September 20, 2026  
**"High Bar to Clay Jar"** with Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. In Jesus, we don't need to compare ourselves to anyone else. Instead, we are free to better appreciate them. Matthew 20:16

September 27, 2026  
**"Teachable"** with Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. To be a disciple is to be a learner. Jesus loves you enough to make you teachable. Matthew 21:31

The Lutheran Hour can be heard every Sunday on:

- Omaha KFAB 1110 AM at 6:30 am
- York-KAWL 1370 AM at 7:30 am
- York-KAWL 103.5 FM at 7:30 am
- Lincoln KLCV 88.5 FM at 8:00 a.m.





## Bible Walk

Our All Saints Bible Walk is being planned at St. John's on **Sunday, October 25, 2026,** from 5:00–7:00 p.m.

This is a community outreach event that is designed to bring kids of all ages through our doors to “take a tour back in time” to meet various Bible characters.

Each Biblical character shares a short script of who they are in God's story and hands out candy pertaining to their character. This is a fun way of bringing the Bible to life and an easy way of inviting friends to visit our church.

Many volunteers are needed! We need 44 people for role playing, items for props, and monetary donations for candy.

There will be a sign-up list around September 13th on the table by the west door to sign up to be a volunteer.

If you have any questions, please see Norman Lutz.

We ask that everyone tell their family and friends to come visit us for this fun event!

## Bulletin Deadlines

are now Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

**Newsletter Deadline** for the October newsletter: September 18th

## Lydia LWML

The Lydia LWML group met August 3 with six members present. Linda led devotions and prayer. Members reviewed upcoming assignments, treasury balances, and the Activities Assessment list. They were also reminded to pray for their Dorcas and Confirmation Prayer Pals and Young Mothers.

Andrea is coordinating framing and supplies for the 52 Chrismons stitched by Wilma, with expenses covered by Thrivent funds. The August 30 potluck will be held with the Sunday School Kickoff.

Christmas card sales will run September through October 25. Gail and Linda plan to attend the South District Convention in Kearney September 18–19, and others are encouraged to attend.

Lydia will host a consultation with Deb Jurchen on August 16 following Bible Study/Sunday School, along with a salad luncheon. Lydia will also participate in the Concordia Church Fair on August 21 with Andrea, Bev, and Linda. A card and outreach package will be sent to Josh and Steph Brandt following the birth of their daughter, Rowan Brielle, on August 1.

The next Lydia LWML meeting will be Monday, September 14, at 6:00 p.m.

## “The Well” Monthly Bible Study

Wednesday, September 16, 2026,  
at 1:30 p.m.

All are invited to take part in a newly formed Bible Study group held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. here at the church. If you are of interest in taking part in this opportunity, please contact either Tim McDermott or Margaret Witte for questions or additional information. Thirsty to study God's Word together in an informal group? There is room at the Well and plenty to discuss as we currently take nourishment with the words of St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians.

## Dorcas LWML

The Dorcas LWML met on August 5, with seven members and Pastor Kitzing present. Margaret led the opening devotions re. working in the vineyards. Serving the Lord is a privilege.

Pastor Kitzing led our Bible Study from Genesis 9 about Noah, and the rainbow. We recited the pledge. Minutes were read, treasurer's report given, and Jayne reported on cards sent.

The Lydia group has asked Deb Jurchen to speak on August 16. We are invited to stay for a salad luncheon and to hear her speak.

We decided to purchase \$100 worth of diapers and wipes for the convention ingathering. We will ask Jeana if she will purchase them. Motion was made by Jayne, seconded by Deb, and passed.

We closed with prayers. Lunch was served by Margaret.

## Thank You!

SUCCESS....that describes our project to collect backpacks and school supplies for the Orphan Grain Train. With your generous donations of school supplies and cash, an Action Team Card, and the offerings from VBS, we are able to send 131 complete kits and \$250 for shipping to the OGT warehouses at Lincoln and Grand Island.

Thank you very much for your help with this project.



## Small Group Study

Our next small group study will be diving into Lee Strobel's *The Case for Christ*. We will be investigating the historical and logical evidence for Jesus.

Please read Chapters 3 & 4 in the book, as we will be discussing this at our meeting.

Please join us Wednesday, September 9th at 1:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

We would love to have you join us for this book!

# September, 2026

| Sun                                                                                                                                                                  | Mon                           | Tue                                      | Wed                                                                                                                    | Thu                              | Fri                                  | Sat                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                      |                               | 1                                        | 2<br>Dorcas LWML<br>2:00 p.m.                                                                                          | 3<br>Elders Meeting<br>6:00 p.m. | 4                                    | 5<br>Men's Bible<br>Study<br>7:30 a.m. |
| 6<br><i>Communion</i><br>Hymn Sing 8:50<br>Church 9:00 a.m.<br>Sunday School<br>and Bible Class<br>10:30 a.m.                                                        | 7<br><i>Labor Day</i>         | 8                                        | 9<br>Small Group<br>Study 1:30 p.m.<br>Confirmation<br>4:00-5:45 p.m.<br>Confirmation<br>Parents' Meeting<br>5:00 p.m. | 10                               | 11                                   | 12                                     |
| 13<br>Church 9:00 a.m.<br>Sunday School &<br>Bible Class 10:30<br>Trustees meeting<br><br>Youth Group Kick<br>-Off 5:30 p. m. at<br>Smith Creek Rec-<br>reation Area | 14<br>Lydia LWML<br>6:00 p.m. | 15<br>Board of<br>Education<br>7:00 p.m. | 16<br>The Well<br>Monthly Bible<br>Study 1:30 p.m.<br><br>Confirmation<br>4:00-5:45 p.m.                               | 17                               | 18<br><i>Newsletter<br/>Deadline</i> | 19                                     |
| 20<br><i>Communion</i><br>Church 9:00 a.m.<br>Sunday School<br>and Bible Class<br>10:30 a.m.<br>Youth Parents'<br>Meeting 6:30 p.m.                                  | 21                            | 22                                       | 23<br>Confirmation<br>4:00-5:45 p.m.                                                                                   | 24                               | 25                                   | 26                                     |
| 27<br>Church 9:00 a.m.<br>Sunday School &<br>Bible Class 10:30                                                                                                       | 28                            | 29                                       | 30<br>Confirmation<br>4:00-5:45 p.m.                                                                                   |                                  |                                      |                                        |

# St. John's Lutheran Church, Cordova, Nebraska

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## St. John's Lutheran Church, Cordova, Nebraska

200 Paris Street  
Cordova, Nebraska 68330  
Phone: (402) 576-3211

### Our Website:

<https://stjohnscordova.com>

### St. John's Worship Service Time

9:00 a.m. Church Worship  
Service

10:25 a.m. Sunday School  
and Adult Bible Class



Visit our facebook page.



Address Service Requested

## Growing Together: Faith at Every Age



One of the most beautiful things about our church family is that we get to walk our faith journeys together. It is a reminder that Christian education isn't a classroom we graduate from—it is a life-long pursuit for all of us. No matter how long we have been reading the Bible, there is always more to learn, and God's Word continues to shape and strengthen us at every stage of life.

It can be a challenge to keep faith formation a priority amidst busy family schedules, but the rewards are so worth it. Whether it is lingering a few minutes after service to join a Bible study, reading a devotion with our kids, or simply talking about Sunday's readings over lunch, these small habits shape our homes. Let's encourage one another to keep diving into the Word, growing side by side as lifelong learners of Christ.

