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OCTOBER 2022

From Our Pastor

VOLUME LXII

My Dear Family in Christ,

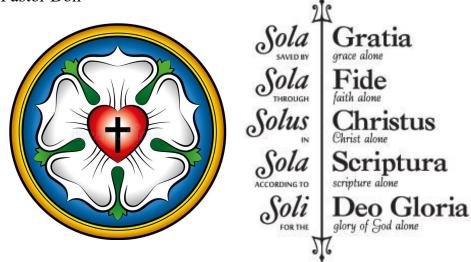
The old saying goes, ask a Lutheran "Are you Catholic or Protestant?" and the answer will be "Yes". Luther viewed the movement he spearheaded as THE Catholic Church, Reformed (and I might add continually reforming).

We are truly Catholic insofar as we are a liturgical, sacramental entity (and if we follow the faith as articulated in the *Augsburg Confession*, *Book of Concord*, *Luther's Large* and *Small Catechisms* and the historic creeds, an orthodox reality, hopefully a generous orthodox reality and most of all, Holy Scripture (Sola Scriptura).

Sola Scriptura along with Sola Fide (faith alone), Sola Gratia (grace alone), Sola Christus (Christ alone) and Soli Des Gloria (to the Glory of God alone) are the essentials for doing theology and articulating our faith which is the theology of the Cross (the theology of grace). It is a faith not of our own works or effort. This is a distinctive Protestant or Reformed identity. These earmarks of our faith we'll once again celebrate on Reformation Sunday, October 30th this year.

So, are we Catholic Protestant? The answer is both, the best of both worlds.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Don





SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Issue Nº 9

10:30 am Worship Service

Our Mission

We are a family
of Christ,
committed to serving,
teaching, welcoming
and loving
all God's people.

Celebrating
69 Years
of Ministry
in Ocean View
1953-2022



From Our Council President

We have completed projects and begun new ones! Gerard Gebler, William Krumm and Robert Sutton have been registered with the court in Norfolk as our elected Trustees. Thanks to Gerard, Ellen Wilson and Deb Midgett for their efforts to complete this task.

The old refrigerator has been removed from the building. The kitchen upgrade committee led by Ellen Wilson has obtained bids to replace lights in the kitchen. A letter has been sent to the City about telling us what we need to be approved as a commercial kitchen.

The contract with the new lawn service has begun. Trimming bushes is included.

A Nominating Committee for our 2023 Council has been appointed. Gerard Gebler, Karen Sutton and Ellen Wilson agreed to serve. We have four slots to fill. If interested, please see one of the Nominating Committee members. The congregation will vote on the slate at our ANNUAL meeting December 11th. Jackie Byers, Deb Midgett and Tara Taffe are eligible for re-election.

We have begun planning for our 70th birthday Celebration in September 2023. I will be asking for volunteers.

The revised Constitution should be ready to be voted on at our October 30th Congregational Meeting.

The AC in St. Matthias Hall is in need of parts that are proving difficult to find. The entire HVAC system is in need of replacement.

Council discussed having once a month pot lucks after service. Stay tuned for more on this!

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Davidson

Diakonia is so happy to report that the Church's 69th Anniversary Potluck Luncheon on September 11, 2022 was a success. Deborah McLaughlin, Margie Gish and Regina Starlingworked very hard to get things cleaned up and ready for the potluck. Because things had not been used in the kitchen in quite some time, there was a lot of cleaning and shopping to do. I would like to give a special thanks to Jim Ripley and Ellen Wilson for setting up all the tables and chairs. Everything worked well, even though we were a little rusty at getting things together. We had a wonderful selection of food and drink. Anniversary Cake too. Thank you to all who provided the delicious food.

I am very grateful for all who helped with set up, clean up and helping some of our people get plates of food and drink. We had approximately 70 people to join us, which made the work worthwhile.

Peace and Blessings to all,

Regina Starling Deborah Mclaughlin Margie Gish

> Worship Attendance

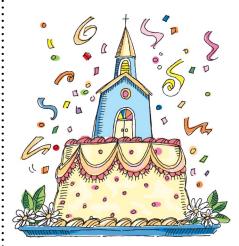
Date	Congregation	Choir/Assistants	Nursery	Total
August 7, 2022	21	10	0	31
August 14, 2022	21	7	0	28
August 21, 2022	25	8	0	33
August 28, 2022	20	8	0	28

Fall is in the air!! Kids are back to school and Autumn activities are happening. The Altar Guild and Communion Assistants welcome new people. Questions on what is involved? Training walk-throughs are available. Karen Sutton compiles the monthly schedule. Anyone on the committees would be happy to explain the how to!



Choir meets at church on Wednesday afternoons at 4:00 pm to rehearse. All are welcome to make a joyful noise as we sing praises to God.

Yours in Christ, Gail Davidson, Worship and Music Chair



It was heartwarming to see the attendees, past and present members, at our Worship service and potluck on September 11th. Emily Kircheval reviewed the First 20 years of St. John's history interspersed with Emily's own reflections and a bit of humor- a fireside chat of sorts. The Choir music fit the occasion. A list of charter members was included in the worship booklet. A copy of this presentation has been placed in our Archives. Maybe we can convince Emily to present a sequel at our 70th - "the second 20 years"!!

A special thanks to all who worked to make this event happen and to those who attended, brought food, set up and cleaned up. Diakonia spent time and effort including supplying the ham and chicken for our meal. Our parish secretary created a beautiful worship booklet cover. Gods work/our hands was evident at the celebration.



We will meet on October 19th in St. Matthias Social Hall at 11:30 am Please bring a bag lunch for yourself. Drinks and dessert will be provided. All Retirees and Seniors are welcome. For further information please contact Emily Kircheval.



October Birthdays

01 ~ Elizabeth Ball

04 ~ Donald Meyer

04 ~ Carolyn Moran

10 ~ Jeffrey Gulley



12 ~ Stacia Frazier

16 ~ Norma McNellis

18 ~ Roxiee Dollar

October Anniversaries

05 ~ Anthonette ♥ James Jasco 20 years

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH 1953 & 1978 SCHOOL

Celebrating 68 years of Ministry!

8918 Tidewater Drive Norfolk VA 23503

757/ 588-7381 Church 757/ 588-8227 School Email: churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org Website: www.stjohnnorfolk.org

CHURCH LEADER SHIP

President: Gail Davidson Vice President: Deborah Midgett Council Secretary: Ellen Wilson Financial Secretary: Karen Sutton Director of Music: W. Lee Hendricks School Director: Sheila Sanchez Parish Bookkeeper: Carolyn Moran Parish Secretary: Anne Combes

A Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 30, 2022 following the worship service. If you are an active voting member of St. John, please plan to attend. This notice serves to inform you of this meeting in lieu of a separate mailing.



Join us for Worship on October 30th at 10:30 am.

Following Worship we will have a Potluck Luncheon and a Congregational Meeting in St. Matthias Hall.