



# The Herald

## August 2018

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church~Helena, Montana

*"Growing in grace, walking in faith, serving in love"*

### St. John's Hosts a Community Blood Drive with United Blood Services

**August 14, 2018 - St. John's Lutheran - Fellowship Hall - 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

St. John's agreed to host a community blood drive in partnership with United Blood Services. United Blood Services is a nonprofit community blood center providing blood and blood products for local area hospitals throughout the United States. Founded in 1943, today United Blood Services provides blood, blood components and special services for patients in more than 500 hospitals in 18 states with three locations in Montana. The national Blood Systems headquarters is located in Scottsdale, Arizona. Blood Systems is a well-respected leader in the blood banking industry, a founding member of AABB and creator of America's Blood Centers.



Giving blood is a life saving event. Currently, blood donations drop by 40% in the summer months. Giving blood can be done three times a year and people say they haven't ever donated because they never been asked. Donors as young as 16 can donate with certain restrictions.

St. John's is asking members and friends to sign up to donate on August 14th. Now is the time to sign up for an optimal time slot. Time slots are available for both Whole Blood (500ml of blood is collected from a donor, then separated into components (such as red cells, plasma and platelets) and Double Red Blood Cells (also called a Power Red or 2RBC donation, it occurs when a donor gives two units of red blood cells approximately 350 ml-twice as many red cells as in a whole blood donation. This is done during a process called apheresis that returns other components-platelets and plasma-to the donor.)

#### Steps to sign up:

Web Link: [www.unitedbloodservices.org](http://www.unitedbloodservices.org)

Step 1: Select log in, select locate a Blood Drive, search by zip code, enter 59601, enter search

Step 2: Select a Blood Drive, St Johns Lutheran Church

Step 3: Select a Time, note the tabs either for Whole Blood or Double Red Cells-select your time

Step 4: Select either Returning donor or First Time Donor, enter Continue

Step 5: Complete Form

Step 6: Receive your email confirmation

Contact Mary Crosby at 406-439-8160 or [bingcroz@yahoo.com](mailto:bingcroz@yahoo.com) with questions, or sign up on August 12th during the fellowship time. Each donor will be entered into a drawing for \$300 Fuel Gift Card and a Mountain Bike. Every donor qualifies for the Fast Track Health History which is the part of the medical screening process that donors can complete by themselves, in private, using their own computer or mobile device. On the day of the blood drive, an email will be sent requesting your completion of the Fast Track Health History, as this must be completed on the same day as the donation. Thank you for considering and participating in this life saving service project. In doing so we live our our Mission Motto, *"Growing in Grace, Walking by Faith, Serving in Love"*.

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## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRAD

### SIX NEWLY ELECTED FEMALE BISHOPS IN THE ELCA

On Facebook I received the following posts from the Religious News Service:

*“She is loose’: A historic group of female Lutheran bishops on #MeToo and the Holy Spirit.*



*The six new female synod bishops-elect of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America sit for a roundtable discussion July 13, 2018, at the Lutheran Center in Chicago. From left to right: the Rev. Deborah Hutterer of the Grand Canyon Synod, the Rev. Patricia Davenport of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, the Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, the Rev. Susan Briner of the Southwestern Texas Synod, the Rev. Idalia Negron-Caamano of the Caribbean Synod and the Rev. Bishop Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld of the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin.*

When six synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America elected female bishops in May, they set a record for the most women chosen in one year to lead the mainline Protestant denomination’s geographical subdivisions. Among the six were the denomination’s first African-American female bishops: the Rev. Patricia A. Davenport, elected May 5 to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, and the Rev. Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld, elected the next day to the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin.

They bring the number of female ELCA bishops from 12 to 16 — 17 counting Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, who became the denomination’s first female presiding bishop when she was elected in 2013. The ELCA is the largest Lutheran denomination in the U.S., with about 3.5 million members in 9,300 congregations, grouped into 65 synods.

I am so proud that one of the new Bishops, Bishop Elect Rev. Laurie Skow-Anderson of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, is one of my classmates. Together we labored through an intensive eight week summer Greek course that was suppose to replace one year of regular Greek classes. She is a bright, wise, kind and excellent Pastor and soon to be Bishop.

Pastor Skow-Anderson said in an interview: “I have the northwest corner of the state of Wisconsin, and we are Lutheran-dense. Our congregations were formed by immigrants from Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Germany in the 1850s, and when they came across, they formed these wonderful language-specific congregations. They’ve kind of forgotten their immigrant roots and become really comfortable in their churches. Some are almost more like museums than they are churches. Some are more like theaters, where they come and perform a beautiful worship service with beautiful music. Some of the congregations that I serve are more like political action committees. While all those things are OK, it’s not the purpose of the church. The real problem is that they think they are a social club, and they get together to be with their friends on Sunday morning and to drink coffee. They don’t know how to be the church in the world on Monday. That’s really what I believe the purpose of the synod is — to help congregations and people in the pews know why they’re there on Monday. It’s not so much about going to church, it’s about being the church.”

In another RNS article entitled, “It’s good for girls to have clergywomen, study shows” the author says, “In our new book, *She Preached the Word: Women’s Ordination in Modern America* (Oxford University Press), we ask whether the presence of prominent female religious congregational leaders in the lives of girls and young women affects their self-worth and empowerment later in life.

According to the General Social Survey, nine out of ten Americans report attending religious services at least occasionally in their youth. This means that places of worship are a key setting in which children and young people have the opportunity to observe leadership in action.

One of our most striking findings is that women who had female congregational leaders in their youth enjoyed higher levels of self-esteem as adults.

Women who said they never had a female religious leader growing up are 10% less likely to agree that they “have high self-esteem” now as adults, and 30% less likely to “strongly” agree, compared to women who had female clergy at least “some of the time.” (In contrast, the same is *not* true for men. Men who had female congregational leaders frequently growing up have levels of self-esteem that are just as high as those who never had a female pastor or priest.)

This is important because low self-esteem has been linked to higher levels of depression and anxiety as well as lower levels of relationship success, job satisfaction, and motivation for personal improvement.” One woman said, “*I was ordained to the priesthood in the Episcopal Church [in 2003]. When the service concluded I was greeting people in the shaking hands line and a family of four (mom, dad and two little girls) came up and the mom said, “I know we don’t know each other. I hope it’s okay that we came. We wanted our girls to see this and know that they can do anything.”* — Reverend Kedron Nicholson, an ordained Episcopal priest

Role models matter.

Research has consistently shown that positive adult role models can contribute to the health, education, and overall well-being of young people. Albert Bandura has argued that children learn how to “perform” adult roles by observing the behavior of prominent adults in their lives and trying to imitate it.”

I am proud to be part of a church, The Evangelical Lutheran Church Of America ” where women are accepted as Pastors and chosen to be leaders and bishops. I am thankful for the Montana Synod, for our outstanding bishop, Bishop Jessica Crist, and for the gifted women who are called by God to be Lay Pastoral Associates, Church College Presidents, council members and committee members, Sunday school teachers, and countless others who use their gifts in our churches and community.

Like Deborah, the judge, and Lydia, the seller of purple and leader in the church in acts, like Mary, Mary the mother of James, Martha, Joanna, and other women who financially supported Jesus’ ministry and were the first evangelists of our resurrected Lord, women continue to step up to lead and serve. So, how are each of you using God’s gifts for sake of God’s kingdom?

Thank you to all of you women who faithfully lead and serve in the church. We couldn’t be the church without you! Now, which of you girls and women will be the next one to step up to be a Lay Pastoral Associate or Pastor or leader in the church? Who knows, God may be calling you to be the next Bishop! “Behold I make all things new!” II Corinthians 5:17

Thankful for all in the body of Christ, women and men, who serve and lead.

Pastor Brad Ulgenes

## NEWS FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

Through June, year-to-date General Fund contributions are approximately \$9,000 (7.6%) less than last year. General Fund expenditures to-date are just under 50% of the 2018 budget and are similar to 2017 at this time. As a result, Saint John’s Lutheran Church currently has an operating deficit of approximately \$6,500, compared to an operating surplus of approximately \$3,300 at this time last year.

	2018 (through June)	2017 (through June)
General Fund Contributions	\$109,192	\$118,220
General Fund Expenses	\$115,683	\$114,885

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

A copy of the most current, approved meeting minutes from church council are available for you to review and they are hanging on the bulletin board in the narthex.

## **AUGUST NEWS AROUND ST. JOHN'S AND THE SYNOD**

### **BRUNCH ON THE LAWN**

Sunday, August 12th at 10:30 am we will have our 8th annual fundraiser for Bob's Pantry. Brunch on the Lawn will benefit the children at Helena Middle School with food supplies and hygiene products. Bring your favorite brunch item and a friend to church for this fundraiser that helps kick off the school year for these great kids.

### **ST. JOHN'S BOOK CLUB**

The Book Club will meet in the small conference room at the library on Wednesday, August 15th at 1:30 to discuss "Work Like Any Other" by Virginia Reeves, who is from Helena. There is no book bag so you will need to buy or borrow a copy for yourself.

### **SCHOOL SUPPLY WISH LIST**

Thank you for your school supply donations so far! We still need the following items (the most needed are underlined) for each school kit that is sent to Lutheran World Relief:

4-70 page lined notebooks (we need 1000 and currently only have 400)

1-ruler with inches and centimeters

1-pencil sharpener

1-BLUNT scissors

5-black or blue ballpoint pens

1-box 24 crayons

### **FALL FEST KICK-OFF**

August 12 (The Brunch On The Lawn) is our "Kick-Off" for preparations for the FALL FEST which will be held this year on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 from 3-7pm. GET IT ON YOUR CALENDARS!!! The Fall Fest committee will be setting up tables with baskets, theme cards, items etc. for you to take home to begin making gift baskets for the Silent Auction, We hope you will come by and get some creative ideas!! Single Items such as paintings, quilts, home décor etc. are also welcome as auction items. If you have a large picnic basket that is in good condition you no longer want please give it to Laura Nachtsheim for the Evangelism Committee's gift basket. FALL FEST is our church's celebration of the beauties of the harvest season!! There are games and crafts for adults and children. There will be once again a fabulous Bake Sale and we encourage our gardeners to share their extra produce with us to take home. A Soup/Chili dinner will finish off our celebration together!! All proceeds from the FALL FEST go toward our Building and Restoration Fund for the church.

FALL FEST COMMITTEE--Janice Larison, Ela Shields, Miki Wilde

### **SOCIAL MINSITRY OUTREACH SPECIAL OFFERING FOR AUGUST**

August Social Ministry special offerings will be going to Bob's Pantry at Helena Middle School. Help to restock the snack pantry for hungry kids in need. Please place your offerings in the pew envelopes and mark Social Ministry Outreach or join us on August 12th for Brunch on the Lawn and make your donation that Sunday!

**Report on June Social Ministry donations for Helena Habitat for Humanity:** Our congregation raised \$315 to help build homes for families in the Helena community. Thank you for reaching out and making a difference!

### **ST. JOHN'S BASEBALL NIGHT AT THE BREWER'S**

Join us Wednesday night, August 22nd at 7:00 pm for an evening of baseball and food. Tickets are \$15/adults and \$12/kids. We will be eating in the shaded picnic area this year and then will go to the seats under the bleachers to watch the game. Sign up in the narthex today or contact the church office. This is the last year The Brewer's will be in Helena and you won't want to miss this fun event!

### **ST. JOHN'S EDUCATION MEETING-ALL WELCOME!**

You are invited to a special meeting on Wednesday, August 15th at 6:15 pm to discuss "spiritual renewal and recharge" aka our educational programs here at St. John's. Our church community has wondering things happening with our Sunday School programs, Adult Forums, Pie with the Pastor, and Midweek Connection. YOU have been a key part of that We would like to continue to shape and grow these vital programs and welcome your input for our upcoming 'school year'. We will meet in the Guild Room for conversation and ice-cream.

## MISSION TRIP TO NICARAGUA

*Breanna Humphrey, one of our high school youth who graduated from Jefferson High school this year, recently completed a mission trip to Nicaragua and we thought it would be fun to hear more about her life changing trip!*

Managua, the capital city of Nicaragua sits on the western coast of Nicaragua. Nicaragua itself is surrounded by the Caribbean Sea on the East, the Pacific on the West, Costa Rica to the South and Honduras to the North. In recent years, it has become a popular travel destination due to its tropical climate and numerous beaches. For twelve days in March, I had the opportunity to visit Managua, not as a tourist but as a missionary with Helena First Assembly of God Church. I, along with 32 other congregants (10 of them fellow Jefferson High School students) raised over \$2500 to be able to bring the Gospel to the many individuals who have yet to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

Our home while in Managua was the King's Castle, which is literally a castle run by a missionary program with the focus of bringing the Word of God to Nicaragua and El Salvador. We had a lot to get used to in Nicaragua. Weirdly the one thing that was like home was the time zone. The food was very different. I did not want to see a grain of rice or another bean for at least 3 months once I got home. We had to be very careful to stay hydrated because of the heat but we also had to be very aware of not letting street water splash onto our water bottles because it is essentially raw sewage. The poverty was another thing that many of us had no concept of. There are people literally living in shacks with no running water and dirt floors. Sometimes using the bathroom meant using a hole in a floor. Also, we girls were required to wear skirts, every day, out of respect.

While we were there, we visited private homes, a school and an orphanage. We walked through the streets spreading the good news. We had skits and songs teaching about Jesus and we prayed with anyone who needed or asked for prayer. Witchcraft is very common in Nicaragua and we have several weird experiences where we really felt a darkness trying to stop us from spreading the love and healing of God. Several of my friends were so overcome by this darkness, they were taken to the hospital. It was scary, but we knew that we were doing the right thing.

All in all, we reached 1654 people during our stay. We held 21 programs, saw 155 healings, and 598 people chose to follow Jesus. While some people don't think miracles happen today, we felt we saw 5 miracles in Nicaragua as well. This was an experience that changed me in so many ways. I try not to take the wealth we experience for granted and my personal relationship to God has become deeper and more meaningful. I plan to continue my missionary and outreach work through Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship at Montana State. I recommend everyone experience at least one mission trip.  
Breanna Humphrey



# August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 9:30 am- Worship 10:30 am- Fellowship	6 6:00 pm- Venture Scouts	7 10:30 am- Staff Meeting	8	9	10 3:00 pm- Communion at Masonic Home	11
12 <u>BRUNCH ON THE LAWN</u> 9:30 am- Worship 10:30 am- Brunch outside	13 6:00 pm- Venture Scouts	14 10:30 am- Staff Meeting 3:00 pm- Blood Drive	15 1:30 pm- Book Club 6:15 pm- Educational Program Meeting	16	17	18 8:30 am- Therapy Dog Testing in Fellowship Hall
19 9:30 am- Worship 10:30 am- Fellowship	20 6:00 pm- Venture Scouts	21 10:30 am- Staff Meeting	22 7:00 pm- St. John's night at the Brewer's	23	24	25
26 9:30 am- Worship 10:30 am- Fellowship	27 6:00 pm- Venture Scouts	28 10:30 am- Staff Meeting	29	30	31	

## In Our Prayers This Week

### For Healing:

For those suffering devastation from flooding, peace and comfort for Steve Tielking, Maury Knutson, Helen Moze, Dodie Walsh, Joe Munzenrider, Hailey Dunk, Jean Buckingham, Esther Fuehrer, Violet Kerr, Randy Holmes, The Bernstein Family, Debbie (Barb Muir's daughter), Dave Hanson (Mildred Twingley's Son-in-Law), Zoe B., Barb Knutson, Kris Olson, Lester Anderson, Luke Almas, the children at Intermountain, for those who are alone, for those who suffer from depression, and for all who seek health and wholeness



### For The Family And Friends Of Those Who Mourn:

Jim Moe, Charles Gunstone, Sandra Copenhauer, Jim Kembel, The family of Glenda Thiel (non-member), Dr. Bob Whitesitt, Beccki Watkins, Marie Hanson, John Bakke, Mary Jo Ronshaugen

### For Those In Residential Living Centers, Extended Care Or Homebound:

Pat Tyanich, Esther Fuehrer, Bob Hanson, Evelyn Whitesitt, Ken Bolland, Sally Miller, Annie Stegmann, Jean E. Munding, Ada Harlen, Maury Knutson, Marge Mihelish, Audrey Anderson, Irene Crawford, Dan Brosten (in Columbia Falls), Phillip Kerr, Doris Crider

**Missionaries:** Willie, Anne, and Micah Langdji in Cameroon;  
Mark and Marina Dotson in Russia

*Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.  
(Romans 12:12)*

## August Birthdays

1 Emily Ulgenes  
3 Janet Lieberg  
Dawn Lopach  
4 Tayson Barnes  
7 Joseph Livers  
8 Kyle Blessinger  
Ivan Ulberg  
9 Dylan Branscum  
Jeannette Mattfeldt  
10 Jay Erickson  
12 Jordan Barrows  
Susan Timmer  
16 Izabella Slocum  
17 Karen Berry  
Makayla Pinson  
18 Georgia Bradley  
Caralyn Holmquist  
Breanna Humphrey  
19 Shirley Hanson  
20 Elizabeth Slocum  
23 Jane McGlynn  
24 Ethan Bebich



26 Linda Almas  
Jens Jensen  
Brett Valle  
27 Patricia Harant  
Hanna Kroll  
Eric Ulberg  
30 Vicki Christianson  
Alta Mae Jensen  
31 Maurice Knutson  
Justin Raymond



## August Anniversaries

5 Onder Adsay & Gretchen Munding  
16 Les & Susan Timmer  
19 Dave & Jolene Bebich  
Pat & Connie Ford  
Bill & Patricia Harant  
23 Gary & Karen Johnson  
Cliff & Linda Roessner  
24 Steven & Christina Tielking



**The Herald-August 2018**  
**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
1000 Helena Avenue  
Helena, MT 59601

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**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*"Growing in grace, walking in faith, serving in love"*

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www.helenastjohns.org  
email: saintjohns@helenastjohns.org  
Pastor email: pastor@helenastjohns.org  
Like us on Facebook!

**Worship Services**

**Sunday**

9:30 am-Worship with Holy Communion  
10:30 am-Adult Forum and Fellowship

**Office Hours**

9:00 am-1:00 pm  
Monday-Friday

**Ministering at**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

<b>Witness to the Gospel</b>	Members of SJLC
<b>Pastor</b>	Brad Ulgenes
<b>Organist</b>	Dodie Walsh
<b>Choir Director</b>	Connie Conley
<b>Bell Choir Directors</b>	Renee Slocum Christina Tielking
<b>Director of Youth &amp; Family Ministries</b>	
<b>Office Manager</b>	Gretchen Munding
<b>Treasurer</b>	Karen Hicks
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Randy Rake
<b>Missionaries</b>	Anne & Willie Langdji, Cameroon Mark & Marina Dotson, Russia
<b>Sexton</b>	Pat Gober

*St. John's Social Ministry Outreach Offering  
for August is Bob's Pantry.*