



Building the family of God by spreading  
the Word of God to all people.

**October 2021**

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

Address:

9193 Cleveland Avenue  
P.O. Box 67  
Baroda, MI 49101

Phone: 269-422-1449

Website: stjohnsbaroda.com

E-mail: stjohnsbaroda@hotmail.com

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday  
9AM-12PM

Sunday Schedule:  
Worship 9AM

James Morgan, Interim Pastor  
Ministers - All People  
Council President – Bruce Nitz  
Administrative Assistant- Amy Semenak  
Accountant - Bonnie Hodge  
Webmaster - Alan Anderson



Find us on Facebook!

Page: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in Baroda



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

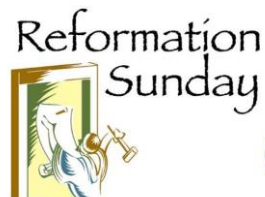
# Grapevine



**To Commemorate St. Francis  
of Assisi  
October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1PM**



**Blood Drive  
Tuesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>  
2PM – 6:30PM**



**Reformation Sunday  
October 31<sup>st</sup>**



***Our Homebound Members:***

Elaine Lochner  
Woodland Terrace  
8850 Red Arrow Hwy  
Apt. 29  
Bridgman, MI 49106

Ray Mak  
1123 W. Marquette Woods Rd  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Carmen Hora  
Pine Ridge Senior Living  
4368 Cleveland Avenue  
Stevensville, MI 49127

Ken Mattner  
8821 Cleveland Avenue  
Baroda, MI 49101

Val Nitz  
Petronas Country Home  
PO Box 283  
Baroda, MI 49101

Jim Jasper  
10370 Gast Road  
Bridgman, MI 49106

***Need a Ride?*** Transportation is available for all our worship services and events throughout the week. If you would prefer not driving yourself, especially amid weather conditions and darkness, we still want you to come and join us at St. John's! Transportation is available on an individual basis. So please call the church office 269-422-1449 for details or to schedule a ride.

Unsure about coming in, you can join us on YouTube by clicking the website tab at [www.stjohnsbaroda.com](http://www.stjohnsbaroda.com) or subscribe to the St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Baroda Facebook page for the weekly worship service.

***Memorial Funds***

Memorial funds may be designated to:

Altar/Worship Enhancement Fund  
General Memorial Fund  
Sound for Sanctuary  
Kitchen Improvement Fund  
Church Roof Fund



***Our Church Leaders:***

Rev. Elizabeth Eaton  
Presiding Bishop, ELCA

Rev. Craig Satterlee  
Bishop of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA

***Our Companion Synods:***

Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras  
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea  
Lutheran Church of Latvia

# October Celebrations

- 4 Aiden Nitz
- 6 Emma Stout
- 7 Judy Nitz
- 9 Remington Tilly
- 13 Laura Waeyaert
- 14 Betty Elsass
- 15 Holton Bladecki
- 19 Abby Schilling
- 23 Michael Tapia
- 24 Tyler Hicks
- 26 Scott Fleisher
- 27 Greg Boos
- 27 Larry Klug
- 27 Bob Schroeder
- 29 Ashlee Tilly



*If a birthday, anniversary and/or baptism is listed incorrectly, please call the church office so that we can correct our records.*



No anniversaries in October

- 7 Pat Mattner
- 10 Guy Tollas
- 27 Lori Davis



If you need emergency pastoral care, for situations such as hospital admissions or a death in the family, you may contact:

Pastor Jim Morgan – 269-365-0571 or cell 269-779-5358



Blood Drive - October 5<sup>th</sup> from 2PM-6:30PM  
Urgent need for blood, please donate if you are able.



#### Pastor Morgan's Farewell Page

This will be my last note to you since next month you will have a new interim pastor.

I want to leave you with a couple of my favorite quotes concerning what it is we are about as a fellowship and family. What is it we are supposed to be doing? What is our mission and task?

Some churches think their task is to save souls, or to make political changes, or to reshape the world. Those are all good things, but I don't think they are primary.

As a church family and as members and friends here is your first quote:

**Your job is not to judge. Your job is not to figure out if someone deserves something. Your job is to lift the fallen, restore the broken, and to heal the hurting.**  
(Source unknown)

I like that. It describes what it is we are about quite well. Here is the second quote:

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Christianity is a lifestyle – a way of being in the world that is simple, non-violent, shared and loving.

*However, we made it into an established “religion” (and all that goes with that) and avoided the lifestyle change itself. One could be warlike, greedy, racist, selfish, and vain in most of Christian history, and still believe that Jesus is one’s “personal Lord and Savior”. . . The world has no time for such silliness anymore. The suffering on Earth is too great.*

-Richard Rohr

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I leave you with these two thoughts. May you flourish and serve faithfully the God whom we have come to know in Jesus. May the Word and Table nourish you for your task and journey. I will be watching from afar and praying for your ministries that they may be successful and life changing. I will be with you until Halloween, until then we serve together. In Jesus’ precious name. Amen.

Pastor Jim Morgan, Interim Pastor



Do you have an inspiring thought or message you would like to see on our front sign to share with the community? The sign committee is taking suggestions for new messages. Submit your idea to [karenjzielke@gmail.com](mailto:karenjzielke@gmail.com) or text to 269-325-5680.

Remember to keep the messages short and positive. The sign committee will vote and the winning messages could be displayed on the sign!





## HELP

**Power Point/Video  
Camera Operator  
Needed**

**October 3 and 17<sup>th</sup>**

## ST JOHN'S CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Goals include new roof, outdoor sign update, curb accesibilty, and parking lot improvements. Our goal is to raise \$70,000 of which we have \$35,616 already donated. We are over the halfway mark. \$34,384 left to reach our goal. St. John's would like to thank Dody Hafer, in regards to Julia Taylor's final wishes, for the generous donation to finance the handicap accessibility improvements for the main entrance to the church.

For those who electronically give through VANCO, Capital Campaign Fund has recently been set up for your convenience.



We are collecting beans, rice, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, and shampoo for Celebration of the Harvest.



Interfaith Action  
SW Michigan Peace & Justice Collaborative

*Celebration*  
*of the*  
**Harvest**  
*and*  
**Harvesters**

.....  
Donation items needed  
.....

DROP OFF IN LABELED BOX HERE

beans  
rice  
toothpaste  
toothbrushes  
soap  
shampoo

[www.swmichinterfaith.org](http://www.swmichinterfaith.org)

Made with PosterMyWall.com



***Celebration of the Harvest and Harvesters*** October 10 from 3-4pm at Tabor Hill Vineyards, 185 Mount Tabor Road, Buchanan. This will be a powerful interfaith event filled with prayer and music.



Sunday, October 31  
 Sunday, November 7  
 Sunday, November 21  
 Sunday, November 28  
 Friday, December 24  
 Saturday, December 25

Reformation Sunday  
 All Saints Sunday  
 Christ the King  
 First Sunday of Advent  
 Christmas Eve  
 Christmas Day





**To Commemorate St. Francis of Assisi,  
Renewer of the Church**

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching "using words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.

**Our pets are a blessing to us.  
Let's thank God for them!**

Bring your pet (or a photo of your pet) to a Blessings of the Animals Service at St. John's Lutheran Church.

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1PM  
St. John's Church Parking Lot outside the main entrance**



**Sunday School Packets Resuming in October**  
**Be sure to check your home mailboxes!!!**  
**Mark 10 – Jesus Loves the Children**



**VancoPayments.com/eGiving**  
**Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving!**

St. John's wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

**Direct Debit Giving** is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

**Online Giving** lets you go to **stjohnsbaroda.com** at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

Vanco is trusted by more than 22,000 churches to provide eGiving solutions that allow members and visitors to give how and when they want. Our suite of eGiving tools include online, mobile, text, card reader and kiosk options. Vanco also maintains the highest level of PCI-compliance to ensure the security of donations and payments processed through any of our eGiving tools.



**Don't forget to direct  
Choice Dollars®**

**Please consider directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John's.**

Any unused Choice Dollars expire at the end of the year.

<b>Financials</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
August financials not available at time of printing	
	September 5: 33
	September 12: 26
	September 19: 34
	September 26: 28



**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting Minutes  
August 26, 2021**

**Meeting called to order** at 7:00 p.m.

**Council Present:** Pastor James Morgan, Bruce Nitz, Karen Zielke, Tina Cramton, Bill Frantz, Steve Nitz. **Absent:** Jill Resendiz, Tim Hicks, Sandy Anderson, Mike Semenak. **Also present:** Judy Nitz

**Pastor** opened with prayer

**Meeting Minutes:** Accepted July minutes as presented

**Finance/Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented financials for review and discussion. Our current bank changed to Huntington; Baroda branch is closing in October. We will stick with them for now, using the Stevensville Branch, unless issues arise.

**Pastor's Report:** Excited for baptism Labor Day Sunday.  
Blessing of the animals planned for Sunday October 3rd.

**Committee Reports:**

**Christian Education:** Tina is still gathering info on how many kids would do in person Sunday School. There are not many yet. Looking ahead to possibly do the lesson mailings again. **Steve motion, Bill 2nd** to increase the Christian Ed budget amount not to exceed \$1500 for the 2021/2022 school year to cover material and postage.

Confirmation: discussed looking at Saron, Trinity Niles or Zion to group with. Will discuss in Sept.

**Community Life:** Rally Day Sunday, short service with communion, then moving outside to sack lunch picnic, games, singing with Cindy.

**Building & Grounds:**

**Capital Campaign:** Sign estimate for new faces, tracks, lights. \$7700. Does not include hydraulics to lift cover, will look into that. Also, Steve will look into refurbishing brickwork or other base structure options.

**Call Committee:** One potential candidate has taken a position with another congregation. We've not heard anything new from the Bishop's office.

**New Business:**

**Synod Benevolence Payment:** **Steve motion, Bill 2nd** that we send the budgeted amount of \$2000 for ELCA Synod Benevolence.

**Girls on the Run:** Mission Endowment gifted St. John's \$3000 in 2020 and \$1000 in 2021 on behalf of GOTR. Other than storage or small meetings, they have not used our facilities. **Steve motion Tina 2nd** to send \$2000 to Girls on the Run.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2021\*.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Zielke, Council Secretary

**Committee Liaisons:**

Altar Committee:	Karen
Christian Ed:	Tina
Community Life:	Sandy
Finance:	Steve/Mike
Mission Endowment:	Bruce
Property & Grounds:	Bruce/Tim/Bill

\*September Council has been postponed until October 21