

St. John's Lutheran Church, Grinnell, IA

# LOVE LETTER

JULY 2008

St. John's Lutheran Church  
ELCA  
1224 East Street  
Grinnell, IA 50112  
(641) 236-4946  
stjohngr@iowatelecom.net  
www.stjohngrinnell.org

The Rev. Kathryn Roys, pastor  
pastorkathy@iowatelecom.net

## WORSHIP

Saturday at 5:30 p.m.  
Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

During the school year

## OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
8 a.m. to noon  
At other times, leave a message  
at the office, 236-4946, or call Jo  
Olson, 641-990-0618

## COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

Bob Falck, president  
Nancy Heineman, vice president  
Bev Cook, secretary  
Gary Cook, treasurer  
Dan Huebner, Properties  
Donna Beck, Stewardship  
Kelly Rose, Education  
Lisa Henderson, Worship,  
Music, Arts  
Bobbie Kahler, Fellowship  
Mike Schaeffer, Service  
Sue McDonough, Evangelism  
Amy Anderson, Youth

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

### Making Room for Holiness

*I want to make room for holiness, God. For the holiness in you, for the holiness I recognize in the people I am meeting, in the holiness that startles me in strangers. Help me make room for holiness, O God. Amen*

This is my prayer today as I write my first newsletter greeting. In the midst of living out of a suitcase, moving through boxes, conducting funerals and experiencing natural disasters:

*Help me make room for holiness.*

This is my prayer for my home, and for yours.

*Help us together recognize your Spirit, O God, moving in and through us. Help us make room for you in the midst of life's busyness and details. You, O Lord, are our source of life. You, Jesus, are why we are here. Let us not lose track of what has brought us together in ministry, and will hold us through out our days: Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord.*

The gospel for last Sunday speaks of accepting hospitality (Matthew 10:40-42). St John's gracious welcome and generous gestures have not gone unnoticed. St John's is a church filled with disciples of depth.

It is good, Lord, to be here. You have already made me feel welcome as your pastor. I pray that together we may work into a rhythm of worship, study and service that draws our living into whatever God's vision for us together may be. I look forward to the journey!

*Your partner in ministry,  
Pastor Kathy*

### How to contact Pastor Kathy.....

Pastor Kathy can be reached by leaving a message at church, 236-4946. In the case of a pastoral emergency, her home number is 236-0355.

Her email, [pastorkathy@iowatelecom.net](mailto:pastorkathy@iowatelecom.net) is checked regularly. St John's is working on a telephone system that will allow her to check messages remotely as well. In addition to Saturdays and Sundays, Pr Kathy will be in the office most Tuesday through Thursday mornings and evenings, as well as other times by appointment. Currently, Monday is her day off until a routine is established.



# AROUND the CONGREGATION

## Serving in July

Youth members serving coffee and sweets after worship on July 20 are Joe Nowasell, Barrett Anderson, Zach Osland, Jena Sanders, Breanna Sanders. Parent helpers that day are Paul and Linda Nowasell and Keith and Rose Osland.

## Installation planned

The service installing Michael Burk as bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod of the ELCA will be held at noon, Saturday, September 6, at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Cedar Rapids. As we all know, he grew up in Grinnell and in St. John's. (We were pleased to have him at worship on Sunday, June 29.)

## www.stjohngrinnell.org

For those of you with Internet access, the St. John's website is a handy way to keep track of church activities and schedules. Did you lose your most recent Love Letter and don't know when you are slated to greet on Saturday night or read on Sunday morning? The website contains the current issue of the Love Letter – as well as an archive of past issues.

## Aid sent

In response to the tornado in Parkersburg, the church Council of Ministers voted to send \$1,000 from the Emergency/Disaster portion of the 2008

## Comparison of church finances through May

	2008	2007
Offerings	\$70,412	\$71,011
Budget	\$106,306	\$88,029
Expenses	\$78,683	\$74,259

## In sympathy

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of two members of our congregation who died in June.

Ruth Rohr died June 18. Her funeral was held June 23 at St. John's. Burial was in Hazelwood Cemetery.

Earl Rohrssen died June 23. A memorial service was held June 26 at St. John's. Burial will be at St. John's Lutheran Church in Sumner.

## Goodies for graduates

Help send our **nine** 2008 high school graduates off to college or jobs with a reminder that their church family cares for them and supports them. We will once again

be assembling "Care Bags"



filled with personal care products, towels, snacks, quarters for the laundry, etc. Bring the items to the church office by

July 20. The bags will be presented at the outdoor worship service on Saturday, July 26.

## Bag it

Because we are no longer using a dumpster in the alley behind the church, garbage bags in the kitchen are to be tied and placed in the City of Grinnell trash bags located in the trash cans in the furnace room across from the kitchen.

## After-worship gathering

A fellowship event is planned for after worship on Saturday, July 12. Join others for supper at the West Side Diner. Advance reservations are not needed.

## Help with planning

Plans are in the works for a benefit ice cream social at St. John's sometime this summer. Proceeds will benefit flood victims in Iowa. If you are willing to help with the planning, contact Mike Schaeffer at 236-7467 or [mschaeffer@gmrc.com](mailto:mschaeffer@gmrc.com) or call the church office.



Ice Cream Social

## Of interest on stage

Lutherans especially are sure to find humor in an upcoming production at Hoyt Sherman Place in Des Moines. A musical comedy, "Church Basement Ladies," featuring William Christopher of M\*A\*S\*H fame, will run September 30 through October 5. Tickets are \$30 to \$35. Nancy Locker is hoping to get together a group from St. John's to attend. A special discount for members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is available through July 18. Contact Nancy for more information.

ANNUAL

# Worship and potluck in the Park

Gazebo in  
Central Park

Saturday,  
July 26  
5:30 p.m.

*Music will be led by  
Ryan Dahlby Albright  
and the Celebration  
Singers*

A potluck at the park will follow the service. Bring a lawn chair, a dish to share, and your own table service.

*Invite a friend or a neighbor — or both*

In case of rain, service and potluck will be held at the church.

No worship service on Sunday

## SEMIANNUAL MEETING

## Position created, officers elected

Starting August 1, St. John's will have a new partner in ministry — officially. Congregation members attending the semiannual meeting on June 29 approved a proposal to create a half-time staff position to be filled by Muriel Johannessen, Associate in Ministry. Muriel is well known to most St. John's members. She has served as a worship leader at St. John's during our interim period. She has also taught Bible studies, assisted with the homebound visitation program and helped with hospital calling and emergency needs.

As envisioned by the Council of Ministers, Pastor Kathy and Muriel will work as a team to carry out and expand the ministry of St. John's. Their respective duties will evolve as they work together. Tentatively Muriel will work in such areas as youth ministry, homebound visitation, outreach to Grinnell College students, developing small groups within the congregation, and sharing worship leadership with Pastor Kathy.

A half-time position, according to synod guidelines, involves an average of 20 to 25 hours per week. Muriel's annual compensation will be \$30,674 (including a yearly salary of \$24,000). Because the 2008 budget for pastoral expenses was an estimate and somewhat high, this year's budget will not need to be increased to cover the cost of the new position. (But we need to make sure our offerings cover the budget. See monthly financial statement on p. 2.)

Also at the meeting, officers and new members of the Council of Ministers were elected. They are:

**Bob Falck**, president  
**Nancy Heineman**, vice president  
**Gary Cook**, treasurer  
**Kelly Rose**, education  
**Donna Beck**, stewardship  
**Bobbie Kahler**, fellowship  
**Lisa Henderson**, worship music and the arts

Continuing as council members are **Bev Cook**, secretary; **Mike Schaeffer**, service; **Sue McDonough**, evangelism; and **Amy Anderson**, youth. All council members serve two-year terms, except for president and vice president, who serve for one year.

Also at the meeting, members voted to require that the proposed slate of officers be included in future semiannual reports that are available before the meeting. Concern was also expressed over the slow delivery of the bulk mailing that informed members about the proposal for the additional staffing that was voted on at the meeting.


Approximately 60 members attended the meeting.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### Assist with flood relief

Work crews are forming to assist in the flood-ravaged parts of the state. Right now, the work is mainly strenuous physical labor — removing sandbags, pulling down drywall, etc. At some point, there will be jobs for all skill levels. Please talk to Pastor Kathy or Mike Schaeffer if you want to help.

### Lend a helping hand

We need more people to prepare and deliver a meal to members who are ill, recently hospitalized, have new babies, or otherwise would benefit from a home-cooked meal delivered to their door. The effort, coordinated by Nancy Heine-  

 man, is an important way to support each other in time of need. (Several of the volunteers are those who have themselves received meals in the past.) Nancy has a list of willing people but could use a few more so that the job does not become burdensome for anybody. Call Nancy (236-4131) if you can help.

### Be a liaison with Scouts

The Boy Scout troop sponsored by St. John's needs a member of the congregation to serve as a liaison between the church and the troop. Fred Hagemeister has served in this role. Because he and his family are moving to Virginia in August \*where Fred will take a new job at the University of Richmond), he is looking for someone to take his place. The position is a requirement of the troop's charter. Please contact Fred for more information.

### Nursery coordinator needed

With the Hagemiesters' move (see above), we are also losing the coordinator of the Sunday morning nursery. If this is a job you can do, please contact Pastor Kathy.

## Wishing you a Happy Birthday!

*Our baptized members who have birthdays in July are:*

#### July 1

Alyssa Bosse  
Rick Stepanek

#### July 2

Sue Bailey

#### July 3

Tami Lai

#### July 5

Tammie Van Hamme

#### July 6

Shirle Huth

#### July 7

Lauren Hagemeister  
Lindsay Peter

#### July 8

Ryan Ness  
Darla Pearce

#### July 9

Ken Dalldorf  
Elaine Hamman

#### July 10

Curtis Smith

#### July 11

Kim Clark  
Fred Hagemeister

#### July 12

Peggy Kolpin  
Kimberly Youngdale

#### July 13

Sydney Anderson

#### July 15

Philip Arendt

Susan Mikel

#### July 16

Luke Longman

#### July 17

Karen Billman  
Virginia Billman

#### July 19

Connor Morrison

#### July 21

Lu Ahrens

#### July 22

Tami Ditzler  
Darla Simpson

#### July 23

Doug Longman  
Dan Nisley  
Sonya Nisley  
Heather Urfer

#### July 24

Leora Jones  
Chad Weigel

#### July 25

Jo Olson

#### July 27

Ryan Barger  
Fiona Urfer

#### July 28

Megan Brown

#### July 29

Laura Ness

#### July 31

Terry Cline  
Judy Lebeck

## Church Council Highlights

Council members voted to present at the semiannual meeting on June 29 the proposal to create a half-time position for Muriel Johannessen. .

**PROPERTIES:** The elevator is working but continues to be monitored. A storm-damaged tree was removed from the church grounds. No decision has been made on replanting. Youth and others cleaned sand and grit from the parking lot.



**STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE**

**SATURDAY, JULY 5**

**Acolyte:** Scott Bosse  
**Greeter:** Natalie Pavey  
**Reader:** Nancy Heineman

**SUNDAY, JULY 6**

**Acolyte:** Katelin Dunne  
**Greeters:** Brenda, Brandon, Ashley, Mariah Mikel  
**Reader:** Sara Hagemeister  
**Communion Assistants:** J. and D. Martinek  
**Coffee Servers:** Tom, Anita and Nathan Ford  
 Larry and Dorothy Wade  
**Nursery:** Nicole Behrens

**SATURDAY, JULY 12**

**Acolyte:** Joe Reitz  
**Greeters:** Bob and Deloris Kinseth  
**Reader:** Shirle Huth  
**CommuniAssistant:** Charlene Knight

**SUNDAY, JULY 13**

**Acolyte:** Breanna Sanders  
**Greeters:** Bob and Pam Ashing  
**Reader:** Sara Hegg-Dunne  
**Coffee Servers:** Doris and Don Sundell  
 Gene and Shirley Broders  
**Nursery:** Sarah Dahlby Albright

**SATURDAY, JULY 19**

**Acolyte:** Jarren Ford  
**Greeters:** Gordon and Karen Ashby  
**Reader:** Gladys Booth

**SUNDAY, JULY 20**

**Acolyte:** Caprisse Honsbruch  
**Greeters:** Addy Hanson, Virginia Deppe  
**Reader:** Dave Huth  
**Communion Assistants:** Terry and Lynn Cline  
**Coffee Servers:** Junior Youth  
**Nursery:** Shirley Broders

**SATURDAY, JULY 26**

**Outdoor worship at Central Park**  
**Acolyte:** Ashley Mikel  
**Greeter:** Gladys Booth  
**Reader:** Sandy Falck  
**Communion Assistant:** Celebration Singers

*No Sunday service on July 27*

**JULY CALENDAR**

<b>Tue</b>	<b>1</b>	7 am	Men's Breakfast, Westside Dine
		1 pm	LWR Quilters, Room 9
<b>Wed</b>	<b>2</b>	7 pm	Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<b>Sat</b>	<b>5</b>	5:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sun</b>	<b>6</b>	9:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion
		10:30 am	Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
		6:15 pm	Vacation Bible School, United Methodist Church
<b>Mon</b>	<b>7</b>	6:15 pm	Vacation Bible School, United Methodist Church
<b>Tue</b>	<b>8</b>	7 am	Men's Breakfast, Westside Diner
		1 pm	LWR Quilters, Room 9
		6:15 pm	Vacation Bible School, United Methodist Church
<b>Wed</b>	<b>9</b>	1:30 pm	Mary Martha Circle, Doris Sundell, hostess
		6:15 pm	Vacation Bible School, United Methodist Church
		7 pm	Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>10</b>	6:15 pm	Vacation Bible School, United Methodist Church
<b>Sat</b>	<b>12</b>	5:30 pm	Worship with Holy Communion
		6:30 pm	After-worship supper at West Side Diner
<b>Sun</b>	<b>13</b>	9:30 am	Worship
		10:30 am	Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
<b>Tue</b>	<b>15</b>	7 am	Men's Breakfast, Westside Diner
		1 pm	LWR Quilters, Room 9
		6:30 pm	Church Council, Meeting Room
<b>Wed</b>	<b>16</b>	Noon	Autumn Leaves, Fellowship Hall
		7 pm	Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>17</b>	9:30 am	Lydia Circle. Margaret Amo, hostess
<b>Sat</b>	<b>19</b>	5:30 pm	Worship
<b>Sun</b>	<b>20</b>	9:30 am	Worship with Holy Communion
		10:30 am	Coffee Fellowship, Fellowship Hall
<b>Tue</b>	<b>21</b>	7 am	Men's Breakfast, Westside Diner
		1 pm	LWR Quilters, Room 9
<b>Wed</b>	<b>23</b>	7 pm	Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Sanctuary
<b>Sat</b>	<b>26</b>	5:30 pm	<b>OUTDOOR WORSHIP</b> , Central Park
<b>Sun</b>	<b>27</b>		<b>No worship service</b>
<b>Tue</b>	<b>28</b>	7 am	Men's Breakfast, Westside Diner
		1 pm	LWR Quilters, Room 9
<b>Wed</b>	<b>30</b>	7 pm	Celebration Singers Rehearsal, Sanctuary

**USHERS ON SATURDAY:** (July 5) Natalie and Malynn Pavey (12) Deloris and Bob Kinseth (19) Karen and Gordon Ashby (26) Gladys Booth and Virginia Billman

**USHERS ON SUNDAY:** Ted Clausen, Mike Anderson, Todd Nelson, Scott, Julie and Renee Beach

**OFFERING COUNTERS:** Ted Urfer, Eric Pavey

**ALTAR GUILD**

June 10-July 8 — Mitzi Dufoe  
 Month of July — Pam Ashing  
 July 8-August 12 — Nicole Behrens

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**Return Service Requested**



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## GRACE MATTERS

Radio Ministry of the ELCA, hosted by the Rev. Peter Marty  
Heard locally at 7:30 a.m. Sundays on KGRN, AM1410

### JULY 6

**Andrea Jaeger – Holy Laughter (2007 Encore)**

*Genesis 18:12-15*

Those who follow the tennis world closely know the name [Andrea Jaeger](#). In the mid-1980s she was playing number two in the world on the women's pro circuit. That was young Andrea. Following a career-ending injury as a teenager, she engaged in a serious refocus of her life. Today she is an Anglican Dominican sister who devotes everything she is to kids who live with life-threatening diseases. It's quite a life mixing tears, laughter, and a whole lot of fulfillment.

### JULY 13

**Terrence Rynne – Nonviolence as A Way of Life**

*Matthew 5:38-44*

If anything takes our breath away in this world full of events we cannot control, it is violence. Nothing cuts to the core of our peace of mind and joy for life like violence. So what can we learn from Jesus that might direct us to a better way? And what about the place of Gandhi's life and teachings? **Terry Rynne**, founder of the Marquette University Center for Peacemaking, has studied Gandhi for a long time. He walks us into the difference between active and passive nonviolence.

### JULY 20

**Charles Osgood – Blessed Deadlines**

*Luke 16:19-31*

The voice of **Charles Osgood** is as familiar as any in broadcast journalism. Radio host of the "Osgood File," and anchor of CBS "Sunday Morning," Osgood is a veteran in the industry. Juggling long hours and balancing radio and TV, he knows the importance of keeping a deadline. We all have deadlines that permeate our lives. Some of them are even spiritual in character. Our challenge is to see these deadlines more as a blessing than a curse.

### JULY 27

**J. Brent Bill – Gaining Clarity and Insight**

*Philippians 1:9-10*

Spiritual discernment is a big deal. It is the practice of wisdom. It is that capacity for detecting an insight into the character of another person and into the preferred ways of God. Discernment is the hard work that comes for those who aim to love with a discriminating eye and who seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit to see reality for what it is. **J. Brent Bill**, a retreat leader who has authored the book, *Sacred Compass*, shares with us the importance of living with discernment.