



August, 2025 News

## HOW DO YOU SAY 'THANK YOU'?

I remember when I was a kid, my mother made me write 'Thank You' notes for any and every gift I ever received: birthdays, confirmation, graduation, etc. It always seemed like such a chore that I'd procrastinate until mom had to sit over me and watch as I wrote them.

At the seminary we were instructed that we **WOULD** send 'Thank You' letters to all of our supporters. Any time a gift arrived we were expected to write a letter to the donor and inform the financial aid office when it had been sent. Gifts were and are the lifeblood of the seminary, and acknowledging the generosity of others was the least we could do. By now saying 'Thank You' was less of a chore and now done out of a thankful heart.

But there are some gifts that are so generous that a simple 'Thank You' note or letter seems inadequate; and that is the situation I am in today. On August 18<sup>th</sup> I will begin my 3-month sabbatical and I'm unsure how to say 'Thank You'. That you as a congregation would see the need for the time away, agree to give me the time off, support my travel and explorations, and then fully and generously fund my time away. Complicating matters is that all the gifts to the sabbatical fund were anonymous. So I'm not even sure who to say Thank You to, except to the whole congregation.

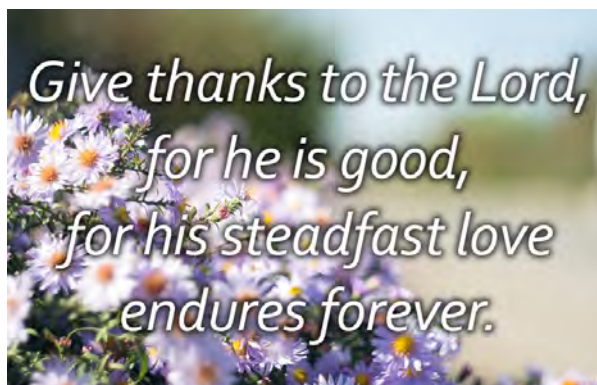
In Psalm 136, the psalmist is thankful to the Lord for everything He's done; from creation, to the Exodus, to the gift of the Promised Land, to rescue from their enemies, and finally for daily bread. Over and over again the psalmist declares what the Lord has done and then he gives thanks "for His steadfast love endures forever". I imagine that even with such a beautiful psalm, the psalmist felt that his 'Thank You' to the Lord was inadequate for all the generous blessings he had received. There is no way to repay the Lord, except to simply say 'Thank You'. I feel that I can relate.

So, although I know it is completely inadequate: **THANK YOU!** Thank you to the elders for proposing and following through on the idea of a sabbatical. Thank You to the members of the council who agreed that this would be a good thing. Thank you to the voters who approved such a generous gift. Thank You to everyone who cooked, served and donated at the Advent and Lenten soup suppers. Thank you to those who contributed to my Christmas gift that went towards the sabbatical. Thank You to everyone who donated directly to the sabbatical fund. Thank you to Pastor Lyle, Pastor Bolt and the elders who will cover my duties while I am away; and Thank You - to all the members of St. John - as you have continually and faithfully supported and encouraged me in the ministry here at St. John. I am incredibly humbled and grateful. And ultimately, both first and last, "*Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever*" (Ps 136:1).

## THANK YOU!

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan





## SABBATICAL SCHEDULE

Many have asked what I'll be doing and where I'm going on my sabbatical - especially seeing as though this is meant to be a time of rest and spiritual renewal. Over half of the time will be spent at our family's cabin in Poncha Springs praying, reading, hiking and relaxing. I am very excited about this!

But I am also someone who can't sit still for too long (undiagnosed ADHD?); so two trips have been planned. The first is to Southeast Asia to visit seminary classmates who are now missionaries: JP Cima & Paul Nelson. This will be a time to reconnect with old friends and learn about their ministries. This is something I have wanted to do for over 15 years! Perhaps, hopefully, I will discover a few new ideas for ministry and maybe even ways that we can partner with them. The second trip will be a 10-day tour of the early Christian church sites throughout Greece and Turkey with Tricia. Much like my trips to Israel, I am looking forward to learning more about the early church and St. Paul's travels through the region. No doubt there will be a lot to share from both trips; and I can imagine months of Sunday School and Bible Study material.

Here is an outline of where I'll be when.

### August 18-September 3 - Decompress/Reading/Hiking @ Family Cabin

#### September 4-29 - Trip to SE Asia

Sept. 4 – Leave DIA for Cambodia  
 Sept. 5 – Land in Phnom Penh  
 Sept. 6-11 – Explore Cambodia w/ Cimas  
 Sept. 12 – Fly w/JP Cima to Hong Kong and then Manilla  
 Sept. 13 – Fly to Bohol, Philippines  
 Sept. 14-17 – Attend the ILC Conference in Bohol  
 Sept. 18 – Fly to Baguio, Philippines  
 Sept. 19 – Teach Homiletics @ Lutheran Seminary  
 Sept. 21 – Preach @ Baguio Lutheran Church  
 Sept. 22 – Fly to Medan, Indonesia  
 Sept. 23-26 – Explore Indonesia w/ Nelsons  
 Sept. 27 – Fly to Singapore  
 Sept. 28 – Preach @ Singapore Lutheran Church  
 Sept. 29 – Fly Home



#### September 30-October 31 - More time @ Cabin

Sept. 30-Oct. 4 – Hosting Ferry Family @ Cabin

#### November 1 - 15 - Trip to Greece & Turkey

Nov. 1 – Fly to Chicago  
 Nov. 3 – Fly to Istanbul  
 Nov. 4 – Fly to Izmir & Visit Pergamum  
 Nov. 5 – Explore Smyrna, Sardis & Philadelphia  
 Nov. 6 – Explore Ephesus, and fly back to Istanbul  
 Nov. 7 – Explore Athens  
 Nov. 8 – Explore Corinth & Athens  
 Nov. 9 – Explore Delphi  
 Nov. 10 – Explore Meteora & Thessaloniki  
 Nov. 11 – Explore Philippi & Thessaloniki  
 Nov. 12 – Explore Veria, Vergina, Thessaloniki  
 Nov. 13 – Fly to Chicago  
 Nov. 15 – Fly to Home



#### November 17 - Back in Office







# ST. JOHN

## News From Alana Holt

August, 2025 News

St. John Lutheran Church  
790 Greystone Avenue  
Cañon City, CO 81212  
Web: [stjohncanoncity.org](http://stjohncanoncity.org)  
Phone: (719) 275-0111

Much love and greetings to all of you at St. John!

It has been a long while since I have been able to see you all, and I do miss each of you. Things have been going well up here in Monument, including dodging the worst of the storms that keep trying to roll through. We have gotten hail several times, but only pea sized pieces, thank God.

I am excited to share that I will be wrapping up my internship on Sunday August 3<sup>rd</sup>, just in time to help St. John with Vacation Bible School. I can't wait to see everyone! It will certainly be a different experience from 300 kids and 100+ volunteers that we put on this June, but I am looking forward to the unique calm chaos that we always seem to have at St. John's VBS.

I had the opportunity to write and edit a pilot curriculum for ages Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, develop my own game to teach 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders the books of the bible, and experience some of the behind-the-scenes chaos that putting on a massive VBS entails. I run the weekly Children's Church, the Sunday School program that takes place during the middle service, as well as the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade class Sunday nights. I've given several Children's Messages and had the opportunity to sing on stage to lead the music for the Traditional Service.

The other intern, Megan, and I joint run a Young Adult bible study that meets weekly off campus, studying the book of James, and I often help Megan with her Wild Wednesday youth events for 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders. We have done crazy scavenger hunts throughout the church building, gone to the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, and movie nights among other adventures.

My host family held a joint birthday dinner for Megan whose birthday was the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, mine on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June, and their daughter Abby whose birthday was the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June. And I've had the opportunity to explore some of Colorado Springs that I haven't experienced before such as Eleven Mile Reservoir, Gold Camp Road, the back way to Rampart Reservoir through Garden of the Gods, and the drive up Phantom Canyon Road to Victor.

I am looking forward to heading back to school at Concordia St. Paul at the end of August. I have one more year of schooling and then I will be placed on my year-long internship. I find out where I am being sent sometime in March. And then walking for Graduation in May! This time at school these last two years have flown by, and I spend every late night and weekend still excited to make this passion of mine a full-time career.

I thank you all for your continued support, your prayers, and your love. Mom and Dad pass along all your messages. I look forward to seeing you all again soon!

Alana



My installation at Family of Christ Lutheran Church in Monument, Colorado



Shopping for VBS Supplies  
Left to Right: Katie Morgan, DCE - Director of Student Ministry,  
Me, Sonja Genke - Director of Children & Family Ministry,  
Megan - Student Ministry Intern





Joint Birthday Party with my Host Family  
Me, Abby, Megan



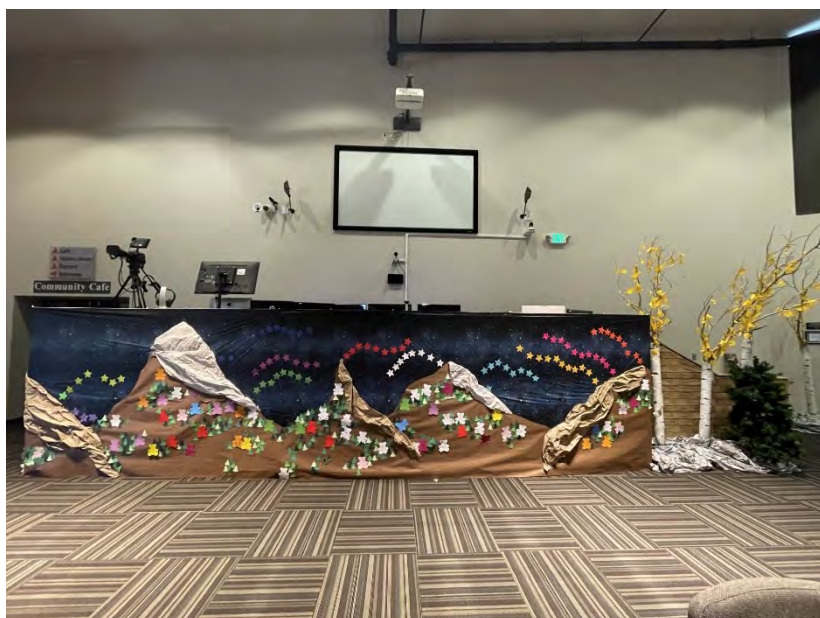
Wild Wednesday at Cheyenne  
Mountain Zoo, and 15 Middle  
and High School Students

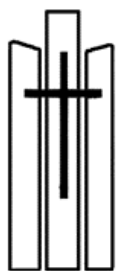


Above: The front entrance to True North VBS, a sign and  
space I created and decorated.  
Below: Our God-Sightings wall at VBS where the kids shared  
where they saw God in their lives that day.



Above: The stage is getting set for VBS! Even  
the Northern Lights are showing up and  
hanging from the rafters!  
Below: Experiencing the tongues of fire during  
Pentecost with the VBS kids!





# ST. JOHN

## News & Notes

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**Food Bank Sunday:** AUGUST 3<sup>RD</sup> is Food Bank Sunday. Please remember to bring a can or two of food or some kitchen staples such as flour or spaghetti sauce, etc. for the hungry and needy in our community.

### Attendance:

Sunday, June 29:74    Sunday, July 6:68    Sunday, July 13:57    Sunday, July 20:63

**The first LWML meeting** for the 2025-2026 season will be August 16, 2025 at 9 am. We will meet at Angela Bellantoni's home at 448 Greenhorn Drive. This will be the planning meeting for our fall activities and missions. We will be discussing how LWML will assist with the car show, Veteran's Day Sunday, Thanksgiving baskets for shut-ins and brainstorming the mission focus for the Christmas Brunch. All ladies of St. John are welcome to attend.



Blessings to All,  
Angela Bellantoni

**Phone # Change:** Jerry & Donna Heldt cancelled their land line. Their only phone number now is 719-371-8424.

**Member News:** Please notify newsletter editor Gail Kirkegaard of member activities and accomplishments so we can celebrate them in our monthly publication. **E-mail** [office@stjohncanoncity.org](mailto:office@stjohncanoncity.org), **Attention Gail**. You can also put information and photos in her church mailbox. Please add your name so she knows can return photos.

### Answers to Prayer

- George Yeatts - shoulder surgery was successful and he is recovering well
- Cody Atkinson - (Dawn's son) pancreatic tumor was benign.

### IN OUR PRAYERS

**Special Prayers:** Please contact Pastor Dan prior to Sunday to include any special prayers during the service.

**Sick & Recovering:** Ted Schmidt, Debbie Ledbetter, Gordon Holt (Kris' brother), Janet (Lynn Wetters' sister) Ron Smith, Lucy Brown, Zoey (Tangkawarow's family member) Ken Davidson, Rod Willard, Linda Kirkegaard (Bob's sister) Deb Taft, Elaine Emery (Snyders' friend) Jeff Snyder, Sharon Snyder, Jerrico Leason, Grant Holdorf (Gail's brother) and Don Kirkegaard (Bob's brother).

**Prayer Chain:** For prayer concerns please contact one of the following:

Phone prayer chain: Mary Richardson, (719) 269-1426

E-mail prayer chain: Sue Poehlein, [cspoehlein@gmail.com](mailto:cspoehlein@gmail.com)

**Member Shut-Ins:** Orgene Reimers

**Military Service Members:** Ryan Lehmpuhl and Jake Langley.

**Missionaries:** JP and Aimee Cima, the LCMS missionaries in Cambodia that our congregation has adopted.





## Cañon City Police Chief praises kids who discovered, turned in cash found at Rouse Park

By Carie Canterbury PUBLISHED: July 22, 2025 at 8:47 AM MDT

When two 11-year-old boys found a wad of cash at a local park, they could have used it to buy a ton of new Legos or some jazzy new kicks, or even to clean out an entire ice cream truck.

Instead, **Collin Leason** and Callum Sack turned the money into a parent, and then ultimately to the Cañon City Police Department.

"That could have been gas money, or it could have been money they just got from work," **Collin** said in response to why they felt it was important to do the right thing and turn it in.

"They could have really needed it, and we just wanted it, but they really needed it," Callum said.

**Collin** said he was hanging out at Callum's house July 5 when they got bored and decided to go to Rouse Park. They were playing on a tall climbing structure when they discovered a pile of cash totaling \$900. "We first thought it was a setup by a YouTuber or something," Callum said. "That's what I was thinking." The soon-to-be sixth graders examined the park, looking for cameras, but when none were found, they realized it was no setup.



"We took it to my mom, and then we took it to the police department," Callum said.

Cañon City Police Chief John Schick recognized the young men for their integrity and high character with a citizen commendation during Monday's city council meeting. They said they were surprised to have been honored.

**Collin** shared a message to other kids or adults who may find themselves in the same situation one day.

"You should always give money back and not keep it for yourself," he said.

"They could really need it or have worked really hard for it."

Callum chimed in, too.

"Return money at all costs," he said.

Schick said the day after the money was turned in, a couple called the CCPD to ask if anyone had turned in the cash they had lost. The money belonged to a family who was on vacation and had stopped for a break at the park when the cash was dropped.

"This would not have been possible without the act of character and kindness that was illustrated by these young men," Schick said. "In light of their impeccable character and an act of responsible citizenship, the rightful owners and our community at large are greatly appreciative."

Schick presented Callum and **Collin** each with a certificate of good citizenship recognition, a challenge coin and a thank you card.

"This really just makes your day, your week, your year to hear that, that's so wonderful," Mayor Preston Troutman said. "We look forward to openings on city council for you. The applications are in the mail."



**VBS Registration Form**  
**August 4-7, 2025 9 a.m. - Noon**

St. John Lutheran Church  
790 Greydene Avenue  
Cañon City, CO 81212  
(719) 275-0111

1. Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in September 2025 (must have completed JK to attend VBC) \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions \_\_\_\_\_

2. Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in September 2025 (must have completed JK to attend VBC) \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions \_\_\_\_\_

3. Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Grade in September 2025 (must have completed JK to attend VBC) \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian name \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

All reasonable precautions for the safety and health of the participant will be taken. He/she will be properly supervised in activities. In the event of accident or sickness, St. John Lutheran Church, its staff and volunteers are released from any liability. In the event of injury requiring medical attention, I authorize treatment for the participant and understand that reasonable attempts will be made to contact me, should such a situation occur.

Participant's Health card number: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's Family Physician: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

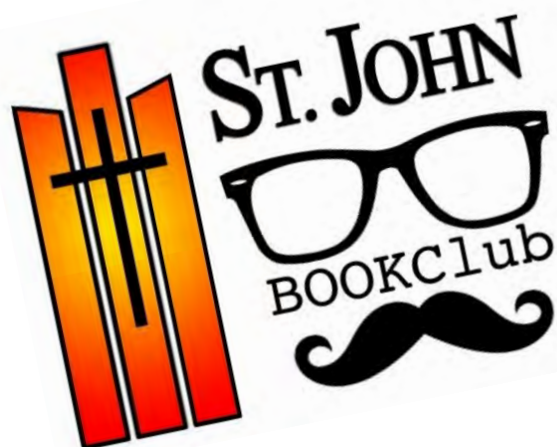
In case of emergency, contact \_\_\_\_\_

Name of home church, if any \_\_\_\_\_

Staff or associated volunteers of St. John Lutheran Church might use photography to document events like VBS. Images may be used for documentary or promotional purposes relating to events connected to St. John Lutheran Church. I hereby grant permission for St. John Lutheran Church to photograph my child(ren) and use such images on official digital or printed publications without further consideration.

☐ Check to Consent

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_



## July / August 2025

For July & August, our next book selection will follow on the heels of our recent readings from C.S. Lewis. Our new book is *A Severe Mercy* (ISBN 978-0060688240) by Sheldon Vanauken. The description reads:

The profoundly moving and heart-rendering classic for anyone who has experienced the depths of love and loss. Reflecting on faith, vitality, and grief, this "spiritual autobiography of a love rather than of the lovers" opens our hearts and eyes to the true meaning of life, and death. In *A Severe Mercy*, Sheldon Vanauken stunningly chronicles his marriage to his beloved wife, Davy, his faith-forming friendship with C.S. Lewis and the tragedy that altered his soul and spirit completely.

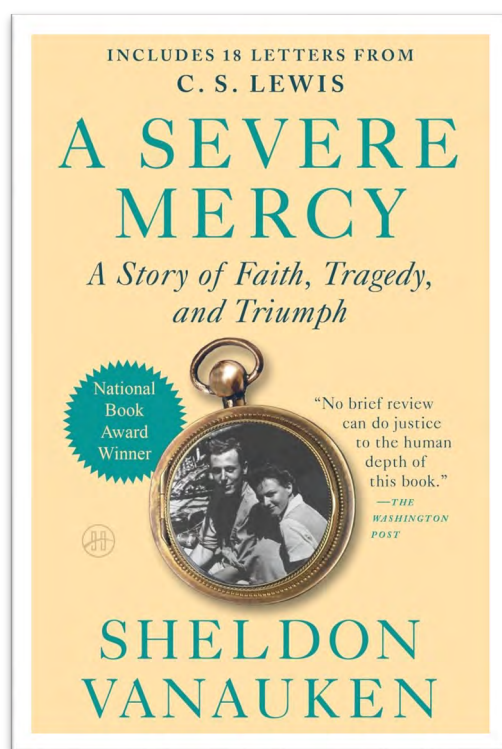
With heavy passion, "Van" unravels a love story formed by intense romance and commitment, and a bond he refers to as "the Shining Barrier." A bond that is unaltered by the outside world and its influences until he meets C.S. Lewis while studying at Oxford. Lewis introduces Davy and Van to Christianity, and their devotion to God quickly becomes as strong as their devotion to one another.

In rapid succession, Davy succumbs to a fatal illness and a grief-stricken Van is left to process this unspeakable loss, and subsequently discover the meaning of "a mercy as severe as death, a severity as merciful as love."

This impactful masterpiece allows readers of all beliefs to envision life after loss, and the spiritual strength that ultimately leads us forward after unspeakable tragedy. Weaving in 18 original letters from C.S. Lewis himself, *A Severe Mercy* poetically addresses some of the universal questions that surround faith, and its remarkable role during times of both radiant joy and immense suffering.

A few copies have been ordered for the church. Used copies are available on Amazon for about \$6. There is an Audible version available for \$7 and a Kindle version for \$14.

We will meet to discuss the book on Tuesday August 12<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30p at a location yet to be decided (maybe my back yard!!).



**Pick up a book & join us at the BOOKClub!**





# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH



## 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit Car Show

Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025

790 Greydene Ave., Cañon City, CO 719-275-0111

Display Cars Park on Grass  
9:00am to 2:00pm

Food & Drink Available  
One Free Lunch for Car Owners

Dash Plaques for Registered Cars  
Registration / Donation--\$20.00/Car

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*All Makes and Models Welcome!*

Vehicle Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail registrations to Dawn Atkinson / 1461 Stone Pl. / Cañon City, CO / 81212  
For more information call Dawn @ 505-377-4776



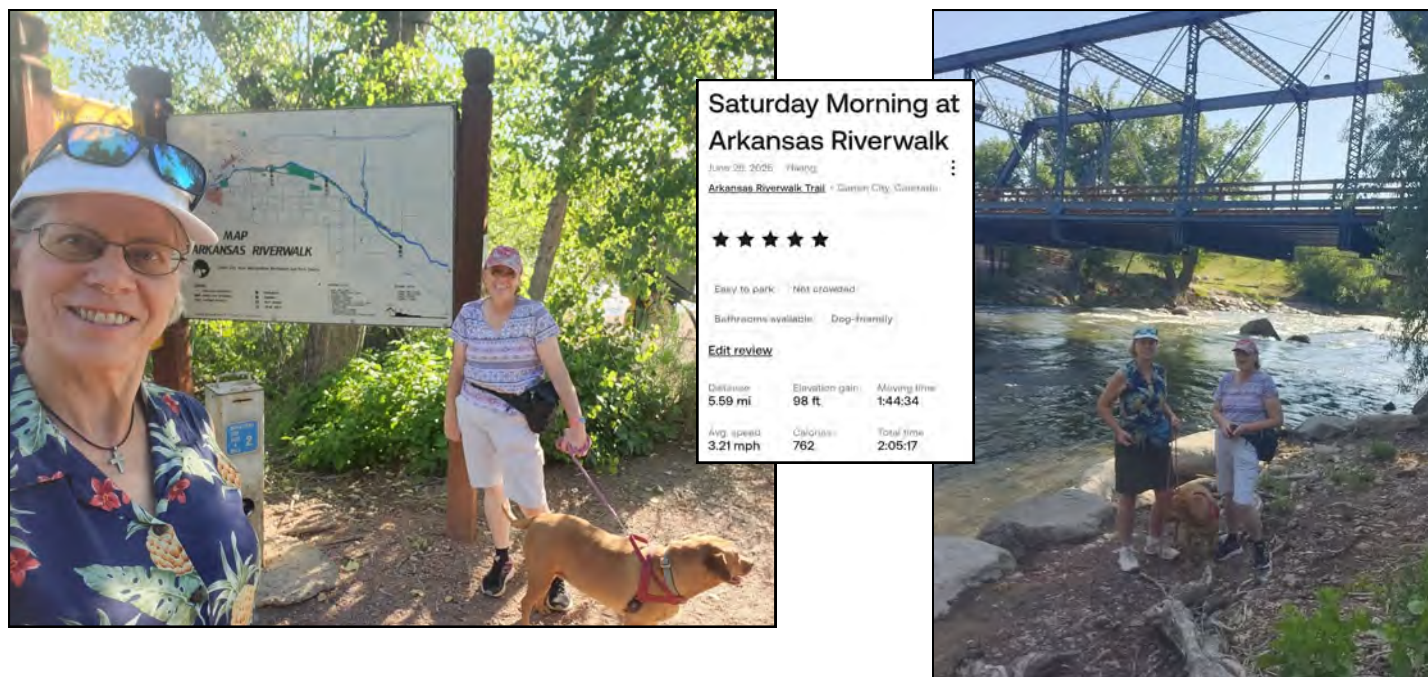
# ST. JOHN

## St. John Trail Mix

August, 2025 News

St. John Lutheran Church  
790 Greystone Avenue  
Cañon City, CO 81212  
Web: stjohncanoncny.org  
Phone: (719) 275-0111

June 28: Dawn Atkinson and Gail Kirkegaard and Gail's dog walked several miles on the Arkansas Riverwalk.



### Hikes in July and August



**Thursday, July 24th Fourteeners:** The only planned hike has not yet taken place as of the publication of the August parish paper. Six Trail Mix hikers plan to reach the summit of a few of our state's magnificent 14ers, all situated close enough to each other that they can be hiked in one day. Gail has done these 14ers twice. The four peaks are Mt. Democrat, Mt. Cameron, Mt. Lincoln, and Mt. Bross. They are located in the Mosquito Range at Kite Lake, near Alma, Colorado. All four can be reached by clearly marked trails in a loop of about 7.5 total miles. Some of our group plan to summit three and some want to summit all four. Check for our photo report after the hike. Hopefully it will be posted on the bulletin board by Sunday, July 27th.

These suggested hikes are not scheduled but can take place if Gail receives calls from interested hikers:

- |                      |                     |                               |                            |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| • The Crags Trail    | 5 miles roundtrip   | scenic, moderate level        | south of Divide, CO        |
| • Pancake Rocks      | 6 miles roundtrip   | scenic, intermediate level    | north of Cripple Creek, CO |
| • Newlin Creek       | 6 miles roundtrip   | waterfalls, creeks, difficult | south of Florence, CO      |
| • Mt. Rosa           | 7 miles roundtrip   | scenic 11er, difficult        | near Colo. Springs         |
| • Mosca Pass Trail   | 6.5 miles roundtrip | intermediate, all day         | at Great Sand Dunes        |
| • Arkansas Riverwalk | as far as you want  | easy                          | in Cañon City              |

If there is a trail you would like to hike with St John Trail Mix, please call Gail Kirkegaard at (720) 201 - 8743.

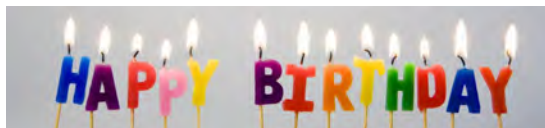




# ST. JOHN Special Days

August, 2025 News

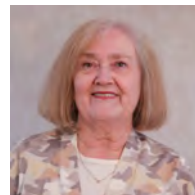
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August 1 - Dave Lehmpuhl



August 26 - Sharon Martinson



August 3 - Kerrie Leason



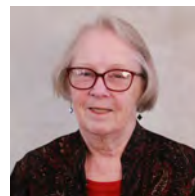
August 29 - Curtis Eulert



August 7 - Liv Booth



August 30 - Sue Willard



August 9 - Brianna Jones



*Happy Anniversary!*

August 4 - Brandon & Liv Booth

August 6 - Rod & Sue Willard

August 7 - Dan & Tricia Kletke

August 7 - George & Sandi Yeatts

August 9 - Bob & Gail Kirkegaard

August 12 - Lynn Wetters & Angela Bellantoni

August 15 - Justin & Brianna Jones

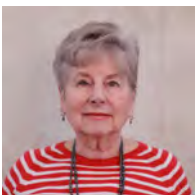
August 17 - Bob & Sherie Huebner

August 28 - Ron & Sandy Smith

August 18 - Heather Pegors



August 21 - Lynn Dreger





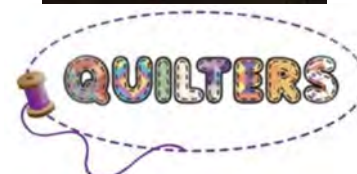
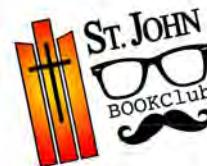
# ST. JOHN To-Do List

August, 2025 News

St. John Lutheran Church  
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## ACTIVITIES AT ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

- Acolyte** - Altar candle duty for boys and girls at worship services.
- Adult Bible Class** - Sunday mornings at 10:30am after our time of fellowship.
- Adult Choir** - Join your voice with others on special festivals.
- Altar Guild** - Prepare vestments, candles, banners, etc. for worship.
- Audio-Visual** - Operate the slides and video production during worship service.
- Book Club** - Discuss books about once a month in member homes or at church.
- Bulletin Help** - Print worship bulletins a few times per year as needed.
- Car Show** - Annual fundraiser on the church grounds that needs many helpers.
- Christmas Program** - Help or take a part in the Sunday School program.
- Church Council** - Serve on a church board, or as church president, etc.
- Communications** - Publish events on the Website, newsletter, Facebook, etc.
- Confirmation Class** - Teens meet with Pastor for Christian instruction.
- Door Keeper** - Open the door and welcome people arriving at church.
- Driver** - Provide transportation for those who cannot drive to church.
- Elders** - Men who assist the Pastor with the spiritual life of the congregation.
- Evangelism** - Carry out evangelism programs in the church and community.
- Fellowship** - Serve refreshments after worship, and assist with special events.
- Garage Sale** - Annual fundraiser at St. John that needs many helpers.
- Gardener** - Keep the flower beds in neat and weed-free condition.
- Greeter** - Meet and offer Sunday bulletin and visitor packet to worshippers.
- LWML** - Women's Auxiliary of the LCMS supports LCMS missions.
- Men's Breakfast** - Men of St. John have breakfast about twice a month.
- Missions** - Direct monetary resources for LCMS missionaries and missions.
- Morning Prayer** - Almost every weekday at 7:30am in the sanctuary.
- Nursery** - Volunteers assist parents who need help in the nursery.
- Prayer Chain** - Receive notice of prayer requests and pray for those in need.
- Quilters** - Construct quilts almost weekly for charities and individuals.
- Readers** - Read assigned Scripture passages at the lectern during services.
- Shut-In Visitation** - Spend time with members who cannot attend church.
- Sunday School** - Classes for kids at 10:30am after worship and refreshments.
- Teach** - Help children learn about their Savior, Preschool through High School.
- Trail Mix** - Hike on local and other Colorado trails with members and friends.
- Trustees** - Oversee maintenance, repair, cleaning of buildings and grounds.
- Ushers** - Assist people with special needs, direct worshipers for communion.
- Vacation Bible School** - A children's short-term summer educational activity.
- Wednesday Bible Class** - Study at 10:00am Wednesdays with Pastor Dan.
- Youth Group** - High schoolers discuss their faith as it applies to everyday challenges.







LUTHERANS  
FOR LIFE

# 2025 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

GREAT WOLF LODGE,  
COLORADO SPRINGS  
**SPEAKERS**

Fearfully  
and  
Wonderfully  
Made



le



Jim Daly •  
Jack Phillips •  
Judge Ruth Neely •  
Joy Pullman •  
and many more •

SEPT 24-26, 2025

REGISTER TODAY

Learn More  
[lutheransforlife.org](https://lutheransforlife.org)



Contact Us  
888-364-LIFE  
(5433)





The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end.

Lam 3:22

a



On May 14-16, 2025, 24 deaconesses (or those in training) from all over Cambodia gathered in Phnom Penh for the Cambodia Lutheran Church's (CLC) first deaconess conference. These women, supported by the [Lutheran Church—Canada](#) and trained through the [Luther Institute of Southeast Asia](#), rarely have the opportunity to intentionally gather as a deaconess community. The LCMS was excited to facilitate this precious opportunity for fellowship, worship, sharing, and learning, fulfilling the longstanding desire of the leader of the Cambodia deaconesses, Dcs. Neak Mao (a).



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The conference began with opening worship, led by Pastor Bun Phanna (head of Garuna Foundation in Cambodia, who also helped translate), with Pastor Bun Sopheap (head of the CLC) preaching a sermon on Ruth and Naomi (b). Dcs. Jillene Houser, President of the [Concordia Deaconess Conference](#) (c), facilitated discussion around the high calling of deaconesses to serve, highlighting the robust theology of mercy found in Scripture. Those who have received mercy in

Christ demonstrate it to others.

Lessons were planned to encourage participation and application so it would be practical and beneficial.

In addition, Aimee facilitated a [Community Health Evangelism \(CHE\)](#) lesson on identifying and addressing community needs. This information will help to inform further collaboration and identify opportunities for mercy

work. Nurse-educator (and daughter of Dcs. Neak Mao), Davy also gave presentations on common women's health issues.

**Praises:** for the deaconess conference; for safe arrival to the United States for home service. **Prayers:** for CLC deaconesses, who continue to serve tirelessly; for [recent tensions](#) between Cambodia and Thailand; for our safe travel as we [visit churches](#) throughout June and July; for Celeste as she prepares for university studies.



Your mercies are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.


Lam. 3:23

**Wanna help us impact the people of Cambodia?** Give [here](#) or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166 (payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia."

Praise God for such a successful deaconess conference!



# AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3 8<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Adult Bible Class <b>11:30</b> Elder's Meeting	4	5	6	7	1 <b>7:30</b> Morning Prayer <hr/> 8	2
	<b>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</b> 8am till Noon					<hr/> 9
<b>10 9<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Adult Bible Class <b>11:30</b> Council Meeting	11 <b>7:30</b> Morning Prayer	12 <b>7:30</b> Morning Prayer  <b>6:30p BOOKClub</b>	13 <b>7:30</b> Morning Prayer	14 <b>7:00</b> Men's Breakfast	15 <b>7:30</b> Morning Prayer	16 <b>9:00</b> LWML Meeting @ Angela's Home
	Sarah Out of the Office					
<b>17 10<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service <b>10:30</b> Adult Bible Class	18  <b>Pastor Dan begins 3-month Sabbatical</b>	19	20	21	22	23
<b>24 11<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Adult Bible Class	25	26	27	28 <b>7:00</b> Men's Breakfast	29	30
<b>31 12<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Adult Bible Class	<div>  <div> <b>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>            CAÑON CITY, COLORADO            790 Greydene Ave., Cañon City, CO, 81212  <a href="http://www.StJohnCanonCity.org">http://www.StJohnCanonCity.org</a> 719-275-0111         </div> </div>					