ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

Thanksgiving

By Pastor Dan

November 26th is our Thanksgiving Holiday in America. The holiday has moved around a bit. In 1789 Pres. George Washington declared the first national Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 26th. Seventy-four years later Pres. Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a regular national holiday, traditionally set for the last Thursday of November. Another seventy-six years later Pres. Franklin Roosevelt moved the holiday earlier to lengthen the Christmas shopping season. During this time, it was often called "Franksgiving". Finally, in 1941 Congress passed a federal law, signed by FDR, settling the date permanently on the fourth Thursday of November.

Whatever the date was, the focus has remained the same: to thank the Lord for His gracious and abundant provisions, primarily for the harvest but also for everything else we need to support this body and life.

As we come to the close of October and "Pastor Appreciation Month", I'd like to start this season of Thanksgiving by saying THANK YOU to you – everyone at St. John. As you are aware, it has been a trying year for me and my family, and yet you have stood by us the whole time, culminating in an overly generous gift so I can spend more time with my boys. I also know that most of you did not have the chance to read the card and poem that was included with the gift. That poem is reprinted on page 3 and will remain on my office wall. So, once again, THANK YOU!

I would also like to say THANK YOU to everyone who volunteers at St. John and helps keep this place going. We are not a large congregation, but that doesn't diminish the work that needs to be done. Although certainly not complete, the list includes: Toni, Sue T. & the Altar/Flower Guild; Bob & the Trustees; Kris, Ann & everyone on Council; David & all our Elders; Connie & all helpers with Fellowship (Yum!); Sunday School, VBS & Youth Group Leaders; Lori, Angela and all our Musicians; Kerrie our Custodian (an often overlooked and thankless job); Gail for social media, pictures and publications; and, of course, Sarah and the Office Volunteers. THANK YOU!!

(Continued on page 2)

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

Thanksgiving, Continued

By Pastor Dan

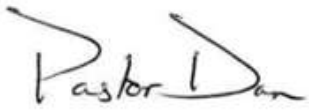
(Continued from page 1)

But, of course, it wouldn't be Thanksgiving without giving thanks to the Lord from whom all blessings flow. As we all work in our various vocations and positions in life, it is God working through us for the benefit of others. We are "masks" of God for our neighbor's good. So, with the psalmist:

> Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.
> Give thanks to the God of gods, for His steadfast love endures forever.
> Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for His steadfast love endures forever. (Ps 136:1-3)

At the risk of sounding redundant, let me say once more: THANK YOU!!

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,



Pastor Dan



(Fremont Peak seen from the Arkansas Riverwalk, Oct. 26, 2026)

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

Thanksgiving, Continued

By Pastor Dan

PASTOR APPRECIATION CARD & POEM

Dear Pastor Dan:

It is with humble and utmost respect and love for you that we give you a token of our appreciation for being our Shepherd, Teacher, Counselor, Friend and Brother. We thank you for the many, many things you do to keep us focused on Jesus and His promises.

St. John has an Incredible Pastor.

Pastor Dan Kletke, you keep your Flock
Guided, taught and solid on the Rock

You preach God's Word every Sunday
From Law and Gospel you do not sway

Your Children's lessons on the first and third
Sundays are interesting and come from the Word

You support one and all
Whenever we fall

You show Christ's love and compassion
In your easy going, caring fashion

We are blessed to the fullest
And are thankful from the youngest to the oldest

May God continue to keep you here
With us, close and so very dear

Please enjoy this token of our appreciation, and get a subscription to Altitude Athletics, and perhaps a pizza.

Peace, love and blessings to you, as you are to us.
members of St. John Lutheran Church



NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

In Our Prayers

Shut-Ins: Lucy Brown, Dale Kletke, June Maw, Joan Foster

Sick and / or Recovering: Debbie Ledbetter, Zoey (Tangkawarow Family Member), Pastor Dan Kletke, Tessa Sandoval, Sue Poehlein, Julie Barrett, Mary Richardson, Carolyn Westlund, Steve Tabb, Bob Kirkegaard, Sarah Bedford's daughter, Hope, and baby.

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

If you would like to join either prayer chain, please contact Mary or Sue respectively. If you would like a Christian greeting card from St. John sent to your loved one listed on the above prayer list, please contact Mary Richardson, with the address where it should be sent.

Service Members: Jake Langley (U.S. Navy), Jerrico Leason (U.S. Customs and Border Protection), April Collins (Albuquerque Police Dept.), Dietrich Kletke (Hartsel Fire Dept.).

Missionaries: JP & Aimee Cima - missionaries in Cambodia that St. John has adopted.

Special Prayers: Please talk to the Pastor prior to the Sunday service for special prayers

News and Notes

November 1st Is Food Bank Sunday:

The first Sunday of the month is Food Bank Sunday at St. John for the hungry and needy in our community. The shelter needs food for the kitchen, such as flour, sugar, other cooking ingredients, and non-perishable foods, such as soup and other canned food.

Snapshots Around St. John:

All activity leaders please feel free to send Gail K. photos for church newsletters, such as youth group, Sunday School, LWML, men's breakfast, altar guild, fellowship, quilters, and so on. Email her at office@stjohncanoncity.org, attention: Gail. Thank you!

Worship Attendance:

Sunday, September 27: 94
Sunday, October 4: 79
Sunday, October 11: 77
Sunday, October 18: 86
Sunday, October 25: 82

St. John LWML November Report

The Red Sock Mission project is in the final months; November ($1.10) and December ($1.20). Thank you to everyone who has contributed. A generous member will match the total contributions. St. John has an opportunity to make a substantial donation to a mission. Thank you, again. Mission recipient suggestions include the Orphan Grain Train Christmas boxes, Mission of Utah at St. John's Lutheran Church in Salt Lake City, Phil's Friends and the Bridge Youth Ministry. The mission recipient will be decided at the Ladies Christmas Brunch. Please submit your mission recipient suggestions to Angela Bellantoni or Toni Davidson.

For many years Mary Richardson has tended the greeting cards rack in the fellowship hall. The card rack contains holiday, celebration and get-well cards sharing personal messages and Jesus with recipients. We are looking for someone to take on this task. Gift cards are purchased by the ladies' society with proceeds used by the ladies to respond to mission outreach projects. Please contact Angela Bellantoni or Toni Davidson if you'd like to take on this task and need more details.

To allow for a more leisurely Saturday morning on meeting days, the ladies decided to change meeting time from 9 am to 10 am. Meetings typically last one hour. All ladies of the congregation are welcome. **The next meeting will be November 14th @ 10 am.** The project will be preparing the food gifts for our shut-ins and scheduling visits.

The Ladies Christmas Brunch will be Saturday, December 12th at 10:00 a.m. All ladies of the congregation are invited. Save the date and come, relax, and enjoy fellowship; take a break from the Christmas bustle. Consider sharing the morning with a friend or family member outside the St. John family.

Blessings to All
Angela Bellantoni

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

Godspeed and Farewell to the Booths and the Willards

On Sunday, September 27th, we bid Godspeed and farewell to the Booth family: Brandon, Liv, Soren, Solveig, Lily, Torben, and Leif, who moved to Charlottesville, Virginia.



On Sunday, October 11th, we bid Godspeed and farewell to Rod and Sue Willard, who moved to Greenville, South Carolina.



These families have both been very involved in St. John worship ministry and other activities for many years. We will sorely miss their participation, service, support, and fellowship. We pray that the Lord will bless them in their new homes and congregations.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

LWML Sunday, October 4, 2026



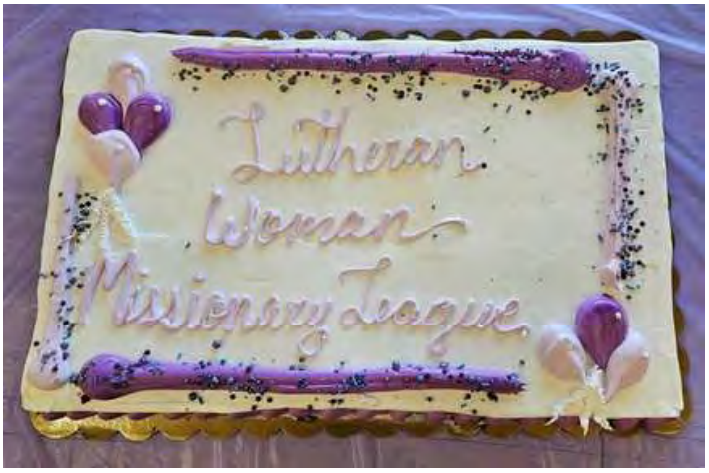
Sue Willard and Kathy Walker served as acolytes on LWML Sunday.

Opening Hymn: Serve the Lord with Gladness

1. "Serve the Lord with gladness!" It is He alone
Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own
To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace,
Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!
2. "Serve the Lord with gladness!" He gave us command
To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land
So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest.
Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!
3. "Serve the Lord with gladness!" There's no greater joy
Than to serve the master, work in His employ.
As we build His kingdom Angels, too, rejoice
Over every sinner Brought to hear His voice.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
"Serve the Lord with gladness!" Glorify His name!



Susan Smiley read the Old Testament Lesson and the Epistle on LWML Sunday.



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

Children Hear God's Word



The Childrens' message with Miss Alana on October 4, 2026



The Childrens' message with Pastor Dan on October 18, 2026

Snapshots Around St. John



Our Elders met on Sunday, October 4, 2026. Clockwise:
Dave Lehmpuhl, Allan Tormohlen, George Yeatts, Curtis Eulert, Pastor Dan.



Brothers Elias and Ethan Urban served as acolytes on September 27, 2026.

More Snapshots Around St. John



The Congregational Retreat on Saturday, September 26, 2026.

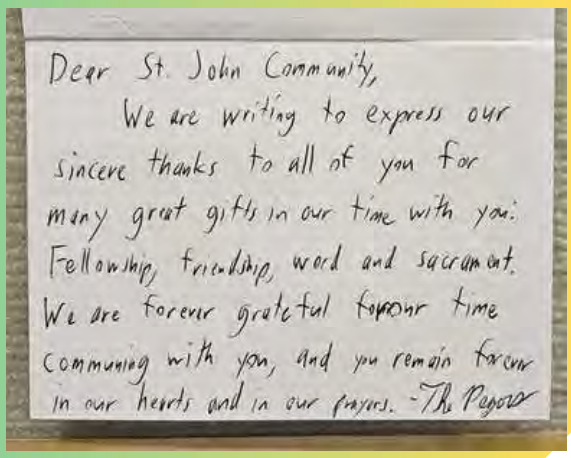
Hearing the sermon on LWML Sunday, October 4, 2026.



More Snapshots Around St. John



We appreciate our custodian, Kerrie Leason. Thank you Kerrie!



We received a nice thank you card from former members, the Pegors family.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

St. John Weeding Crew Cleaned Up the North Garden

On Saturday, October 10th, fifteen members were able and available to pitch in and clear away the tall weeds within a couple of hours, and enjoyed donuts when they were done. A few days earlier, Pastor Dan got a good head start on pulling out a lot of the weeds.





Nate Harms, Robert Tangkawarow, Maddie Leason, Sue Tangkawarow, Mathias Thorne, Chuck Tappe, Chuck Poehlein, Nancy Mowers, Gail Kirkegaard, Richard Mowers, Sandi Yeatts, George Yeatts, Carol Skoda, Bob Kirkegaard, John Trujillo.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

Weeding the North Garden on October 10th











Reformation Sunday - October 25, 2026







Martha Kletke served as acolyte on Reformation Sunday.



Pastor Dan emphasized the unique points of being a Lutheran.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO

NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

Reformation Potluck









NOVEMBER, 2026 PARISH NEWS

St. John To-Do List

Ways to be involved 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.
BookClub - 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, and Facebook.
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 - Welcome 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.
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.
Tidy the Pews - Pick up trash and re-rack service books after worship services.
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 Holy 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 - Our youth discuss their faith as it applies to life's challenges.





















St. John November Birthdays



Nov 1 - Harriet Stevenson



Nov 1 - Connie Willyard



Nov 6 - Gail Kirkegaard



Nov 11 - Alison Steven



Nov 16 - Nichole Harms



Nov 16 - Allan Tormohlen



Nov 17 - Mona Appel



Nov 20 - John Trujillo



Nov 28- Ryan Thom

St. John November Anniversaries



Nov 17 - Gene & Joan Foster



Nov 28 - Danny & Kathy Walker



Pastor Nhoung Sokea and his wife received new fans for Light of Life Lutheran Church, in Prey Veng. They also received a cabinet and chairs.



Pastor Bun Sopheap, chairman of the Cambodia Lutheran Church, admires the new chairs received by an ethnic Jarai congregation in Ratanakiri province.

As J.P. has traveled around Cambodia, he has noted that congregations often lack basic materials and equipment needed for public worship and congregational life. Therefore, J.P. and CLC leaders devised a grant project to address some of these needs. Cambodia Lutheran Church (CLC) congregations were given the opportunity to apply for a small grant for whatever equipment needs they might have. These grants were funded by LCMS but administered by the CLC. Some limitations were put in place, including a $400 cap for each congregation. Futher, small grants should only cover one time needs rather than ongoing costs (e.g., they could not ask for a grant to cover a salary). Moreover, they should benefit the whole community rather than one person (e.g., a motorbike for the pastor was not an option). Meanwhile, another challenge in Cambodia is a lack of tithing to the church by its members. This challenge arises from a variety of factors, including a lack of financial resources among church members, but also a long history of dependence on outside resources and a lack of teaching on Christian stewardship. J.P. and the CLC saw the small grant project as a feasible step to encourage congregational giving. Therefore, one requirement of the project was for the congregation to cover 20% of the costs. That is, if a congregation asked for equipment with a total cost of $400, they were responsible for $80, while the grant covered the remaining $320. The 20% must be sent to the CLC before the grant was distributed. Some items were bought locally, but many were delivered by the CLC during the visitations. Congregations asked for fans (above left), chairs, (above right; no pews in Cambodia!), tables, curtains, speakers, bookcases, and even communion sets so that the congregation could celebrate the Lord's Supper for the first time!

SQUARE TWO
Cima Family Newsletter
Vol. 20, No. 9, Sept. 2026

John.Cima@lcms.org
Aimee.Cima@lcms.org

PRAISE: for recent visits to four congregations; for the completion of the small grant and visitation projects; for a great visit to Hanoi, Vietnam for a Board meeting at Concordia International School.
PRAYER: for the Pchum Ben holiday, which is hard for Christians due to family expectations of their participation in non-Christian rituals.

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."

NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY **9:00** Divine Service w/ Holy Communion **10:30** Sunday School & Adult Bible Class **11:30** Elder's Meeting ***DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS***	2 **6:30p** Confirmation	3 ***Circuit Pastors' Meeting – Pastor Out of Office***	4 **10:00** Bible Study **6:30p** Jr. High Youth Group	5 **7:00** Men's Breakfast	6	7
8 24TH SUNDAY AFT PENTECOST **9:00** Divine Service w/ Holy Communion **10:30** Sunday School & Adult Bible Class **11:30** Council Meeting	9 **6:30p** Confirmation	10	11 **10:00** Bible Study ***VETERANS' DAY***	12	13	14 **9:00** Royal Gorge Quilt Council
15 25TH SUNDAY AFT PENTECOST **9:00** Divine Service **10:30** Congregational Meeting	16 **6:30p** Confirmation	17	18 **10:00** Bible Study **6:30p** Sr. High Youth Group	19 **7:00** Men's Breakfast	20	21
22 LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR **9:00** Divine Service w/ Holy Communion **10:30** Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	23	24	25 **7:00p** Thanksgiving Eve Service	26 ***THANKSGIVING***	27	28
29 1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT **9:00** Divine Service w/ Holy Communion **10:30** Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	30 **6:30p** Confirmation					

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
CAÑON CITY, COLORADO
790 Greydene Ave., Cañon City, CO, 81212
http://www.StJohnCanonCity.org 719-275-0111

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Nov. 1 – All Saints' Sunday
Nov. 15 – Congregational Meeting
Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving Eve Service
Nov. 29 – First Sunday of Advent
Dec. 2 – Midweek Adv Soup Supper & Services Begin
Dec. 20 – Childrens' Christmas Program
Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service
Dec. 25 – Christmas Day Service