

The Visitor

October 2017

St. John's Lutheran Church ELCA • 2190 Jackson Hwy Chehalis, WA 98532
360/748-4741 • office@stjohnschehalis.net

The Vision



Acts 9:10-15 *Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." (NRSV)*

Just before this scene from Acts, Saul was on his way to arrest and probably kill any Christians he could find. He had arrest papers in hand and the full authority of the religious leaders on his side. On the road he has a vision of Jesus and loses his sight.

So Jesus calls the disciple Ananias to go and heal Saul of his blindness. Of course, Ananias knows all about Saul and what he had done to that point. Ananias, not wanting to die and all, questions the sanity of Jesus instruction. But the call of Jesus cannot be denied and Ananias must go; and he does.

Jesus doesn't call us to the easy road of life. He has always been upfront about how the road he calls us to travel is narrow and difficult. Ananias was called to minister to one who just days before

wanted to kill him. We too are called by Jesus to do things that in our limited vision may seem downright insane.

We are called as the people of God to love the unloveable and heal the unhealable. We are called to the difficult task of discipleship in a difficult world. We attempt the impossible and the improbable because that is what Jesus calls us to do.

At the end of October we mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation started by the posting of Martin Luther's 95 Theses. His intent was not to split the Church, but to start a conversation about what he saw as abuses within the institution.

One of the legacies is the split between denominations that we have today. Even today, Christians can be more brutal with their words and actions toward other Christians than the threats from outside the faith. We look with suspicion on those who don't believe like us or worship like us.

Ananias had to take the risk and welcome Saul into his home. We must take the risk and welcome those who don't think, act, talk, look like us. Our call to discipleship means we risk the comfortable in order to get closer to seeing the Kingdom of God fully here on earth.

Instead of division, my prayer is that the next 500 years after the reformation will be marked by cooperation and unity. That we will put down the theological insults and suspicions and live together as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pastor Matt

St. John's Lutheran Church Statement of Mission:

Rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ, we exist to:

- **PROCLAIM** God's unconditional love as an invitation to all,
- **GROW** in discipleship as we follow in Jesus' steps, and
- **SERVE** others as instruments of God's Holy Spirit.

St. John's
Lutheran Church, ELCA
2190 Jackson Hwy
360/748-4741

office@stjohnschehalis.net
www.stjohnschehalis.net

Pastor Matthew March
pastor@stjohnschehalis.net

Follow Pastor Matt @revlurch
on Twitter/Facebook/
Instagram

Youth Minister:
Pat Soderquist
Cell: 219-7162

Minister of Music:
Joan Jahnsen
748-3901
jahnsen71@msn.com

Secretary:
Linda Lowery
office@stjohnschehalis.net

Custodian/Facility
Coordinator:
Bernie Schreck:
748-6302
Cell: 360-623-0418

Office Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Editor:
Linda Lowery

Worship Schedule:

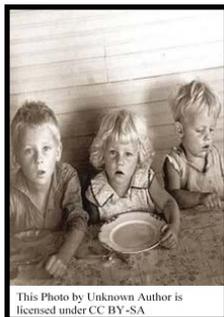
- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Class
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

Summer Worship Schedule:

- One Worship Service at 9:45 a.m.

Mobile Meals Ministry at Gather Atrium in Centralia

Saturday, September 16, was our debut serving a meal for people without homes and/or below the poverty line. We served shepherd's pie, cole slaw, jello, rolls and butter, and cookies and ice cream. All was well received by about 65 guests with several saying they were "stuffed." We distributed sack lunches with meat/cheese or PBJ sandwiches, chips, cookies, fruit or pudding cups, hard-boiled eggs, fresh-picked blackberries and water. Guests were also offered a new pair of socks, shampoo, soap and dental hygiene products.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

Preparation of the meal was done at *Wednesdays Together* on September 13. Since some guests have dental issues, we could not serve the barbecue and corn on the cob enjoyed by the congregation. Donna Moir

and Sue Edwards were there to cook for 80 until unsuspecting Chuck & Diane Rudorfer showed up and were enlisted.

Our next serving date is Saturday, October 28 with prep planned for Wednesday, October 25. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex for helping with cooking on Wednesday and/or serving on Saturday. We can use more helpers for both dates.

Thank you to Carolyn Schoenborn, Donna Moir, Rachel March and Sue Edwards for serving food on the 16th. You can participate by donating food, money or your time to prep, serve or visit with our guests. One aspect of St. John's Mission Statement is "*to serve others as instruments of God's Holy Spirit.*" Our guests impact us just as much as we impact them so it is a blessing to fellowship with them and get to know them as individuals.

Giving to Support St. John's

As a church we encourage those who are part of the St. John's family to be giving to the work of our congregation. We believe you should not feel burdened by the issue of giving but in fact, find it a joy! We are pleased to provide e-giving options as an alternative to giving cash and checks in the offering plate (your cash and checks are always welcome!).

Mobile Phone: Scan the QR code provided here to access our mobile giving site and follow the prompts.



- **Our Website** – on your computer, go to www.stjohnschehalis.net and click on the "donate" button
- **Online Banking** – Arrange to give through bill-pay at your own bank's website. You will be asked for the following information:
St. John's Lutheran Church
2190 Jackson Hwy
Chehalis, WA 98532
360-748-4741

St. John's Women's Ministries

Women's Brunch and Bible Study will meet in the conference room on Saturday, October 21 at 10:00 a.m. Women are asked to bring a brunch item to share as we continue using the study "*God is in the Laundry Room.*" Last month we compared the spots on our laundry to the sins in our lives. Session 2 looks a little more closely at what caused the stains of sin in the first place so it doesn't cause further division or hurt.

The **Women's Book Guild** will meet at 7:00 p.m. on October 24 at the home of Cori Jo Duncan. Katie Jahnsen will lead the discussion on the book, *Big Little Lies* by Liane Moriarty.

The **Annual Pie Social and Talent Show** will be held on Sunday, November 5 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center. Each family is asked to bring a pie to share. Get your talent ready now to share!

To learn more about any of the St. John's Women's Ministries, contact Joan Jahnsen at 360-748-3901 or e-mail jahnsen71@msn.com.



Book Guild Book Sale...Request!

Oktoberfest is soon upon us and the Book Guild will be holding its annual book sale. So ... we are requesting donations. If you have fiction hard back as well as paperback books in good condition, we'd love to have them! Cook books, DIY books with garden and household ideas, biographies

autobiographies or books about currently popular subjects usually sell well.

Please though, **no** text books, high school, college, medical or otherwise, OR encyclopedia's or encyclopedia year books. We aren't trying to be picky but they just don't sell and we are left

to pack them up and try to find someone who will accept them. Believe it or not, it isn't always easy to find someone accepting books!

A good guide line would be: "Would you buy it?" Thank you much!

Young Adults in Global Mission

The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program invites ELCA young adults ages 21-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. As they offer themselves in service, ELCA young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors. They share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world.

A year of service through the Young Adults in Global Mission program invites young adults to become the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, providing critical support to ministries and projects in communities of need. It also invites

volunteers into a journey of self-reflection, providing space to consider their sense of identity, God's work in the world, and their place within it all.

Young adults serve in the spirit of accompaniment, walking alongside global companions in a manner that practices mutuality, interdependence and solidarity. Areas of service include, but are not limited to, health and development, congregational ministry, human rights, education, homelessness, addiction recovery, women's issues and children and youth. All site placements provide opportunities for young adults to confront issues of wealth and poverty, racial privilege,

economic disparity and globalization, all through the lens of faith.

Candidates for Young Adults in Global Mission apply to the program at-large rather than to a specific country. Applicant preferences are taken into account but the final decision about where volunteers serve is made by Global Mission staff and YAGM country coordinators in mid-April. Current YAGM country programs include: Argentina/Uruguay, Australia, Cambodia, Central Europe, Jerusalem/West Bank, Madagascar, Mexico, Rwanda, Senegal, Southern Africa and United Kingdom

(continued on page 4)

Young Adults . . .

(continued from page 3)

Applications for the program open on December 1, and are due February 15 each year, for service beginning that same August.

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world – together. Come, imagine yourself in the world!

To learn how you can support Young Adults in Global Mission, visit their sponsorship

page at www.elca.org/Our-Work/Global-Church/Global-Mission/Young-Adults-in-Global-Mission.

For further information contact YAGM at 1-800-638-3522.

October Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 Eric Moir
- 3 Logan Lee
- 4 Heidi Meier
- 6 Myrna Brossard
Katie Meier
Nathan Suhrbier
Matt Unzelman
- 8 Caitlin Phillips
- 9 Grace Bauer
Jerry Carlson
- 15 Christopher Grill
- 16 Jackson Humphrey
Ron Kuxhausen
Molly Russell
Ben Suhrbier
- 18 Francis Allbritton
- 19 Dave Fenn
- 20 Dave Cosser

- 22 Stephen Grill
- 23 Drew Brown
- 24 Matthew Gage
- 27 Wyatt Dean
Donna Moir
- 28 Pat Soderquist
- 30 Martina Munz
Jamison Scott
- 31 Michael Grega

Anniversaries

- 1 Christine and Tom Larsen
- 7 Michael and Krista Thomas
- 12 Billie and Eric Melin
- 13 Barb and David Stanfield
- 15 Travis and Kristine Newman
- 25 Bert and Grace Bauer
Katie and Troy Meier

Baptism Anniversaries

- 1 Austin Carlson
- 2 Jennifer Grega
- 8 Erin Brown
- 9 Grace Bauer
Joan Jahnsen
- 15 Jason Humphrey
- 19 Hans Meier
- 23 Vicki Graham
Sara Lunders
- 26 Allen Unzelman
- 31 Matthew Unzelman

If we missed your birthday or anniversary, let us know! Call the church office at 748-4741 or e-mail: office@stjohnschehalis.net.

Bits and Pieces

Thank You . . .

Thank you St. John's Church Family for providing the luncheon for Deane's memorial service. As usual the hospitality and food was wonderful.

The service was so special for us and family and guests gave St. John's many compliments on how well everything went.

Our Servant Teams do such a great job.

Many thanks to our St. John's family.

*Lorna Johnson
Doug and Patti Johnson
and family
Cheryl and Kerry Vance
and family*

To the Members of St. John's I so sincerely and gratefully thank y'all from the bottom of my heart. The recliner has been a God-send for me. It's perfect and I spend a good part of my day in it! I also like the heat and massage part of it. Especially going through physical therapy.

I am truly humbled and thankful.

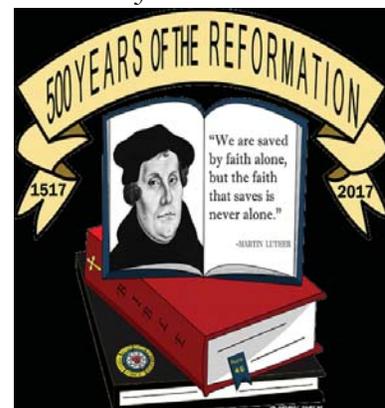
Thank you, thank you — with much love,
Maggie Crihfield

Updated directories are available in the church office. Please note these updates:

Rachel Barber's e-mail address is rbarber1889@gmail.com

New address for Ann Salzer:
1911 S. Sheridan Avenue
Tacoma, WA 98405

Please take a moment and check the worship sponsor sign-up sheet in the narthex. There are many opportunities to help enhance the worship experience here at St. John's!



October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship	2 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 11:00 a.m. Altar Guild 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Social Ministry 7:00 p.m. Youth and Family	3 5:30 p.m. Property 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 7:00 p.m. Church Growth	4 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study and Coffee 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 8:00 a.m. Life Line Screening 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Agate Children's Hospital Auxiliary 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	5 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center	6 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	7
8 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship	9 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study	10 11:30 a.m. Women's Lunch Bunch at Denny's 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 6:00 p.m. Mutual Ministry 6:30 p.m. Church Council	11 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	12 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 5:30 p.m. Staff Meeting at Ribeye	13 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	14
15 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship	16 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study	17 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 6:30 p.m. Lewis County Genealogical Society	18 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	19 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 12:00 p.m. Young At Heart Luncheon and Program 7:00 p.m. Men's Group at Brad Meagher's	20 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	21 9:00 a.m. Oktoberfest 10:00 a.m. Women's Brunch and Bible Study
22 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship	23 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Habitat for Humanity	24 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center 7:00 p.m. Book Guild at Cori Jo Duncan's home	25 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 4:15 p.m. <i>Wednesday's Together</i> (see schedule)	26 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center	27 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group Pastor Matt's Day Off Office Closed	28
29 8:30 a.m. Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School and Adult Study Class 11:00 a.m. Worship	30 7:30 a.m. Women's Exercise Group 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Worship and Music	31 5:30 p.m. Taekwondo in Community Center	Wednesday's Together! 4:15 p.m. Kids of the Kingdom 4:30 p.m. St. John's Knitting Ministry 5:00 p.m. Children's Chime Choir 5:30 p.m. Dinner is Served – All are welcome! 6:00 p.m. High School Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir Practice 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Class 7:00 p.m. Adult Choir Practice			

★For up to date calendar information, visit our website, www.stjohnschehalis.net and click on the "News" tab ★

Oktoberfest!

A highlight for St. John's and our community is the annual **Oktoberfest**. This year Oktoberfest will be held on **Saturday, October 21**, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Lunch offerings include:

- Brat combo (with or without sauerkraut), drink and pie: \$5.00
- Brat: \$2.50
- Chili Dog: \$3.00
- Chili Dog Combo w/drink and pie: \$5.00

- Chips: 50¢
- Piece of pie: \$2.50
- Cinnamon rolls: \$1.50
- Coffee/tea/raw cider/soft drink: 50¢
- All-day coffee (refills as many times as you like): \$1.00

(Please note: prices are subject to change depending on donated items.)

This is a great time to get a jump start on Christmas shopping or pick up interesting and unusual gifts. And don't forget

about the brat and sauerkraut lunch – and delicious home-made pies! **Volunteers are needed to help set up, serving food and clean up at the end of the day.** Sign-up sheets will be posted in the narthex. Questions regarding vendors, to donate food items or to help with food service, please contact Sara Blair at 748-6878.



St. John's Lutheran Church
2190 Jackson Highway
Chehalis, WA 98532
360/748-4741