



JANUARY CHURCHLETTER



Christ Is Our Foundation

"See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ." **Colossians 2:8**

What are your family traditions? Often someone in the family assumes the duty of keeping traditions, memories, and reunions intact. Sociologists call these people "Kin keepers". We value our family kin keepers and the extraordinary effort she or he puts into maintaining the family heritage.

In Jesus' time the religious traditions were often too difficult. God had a plan for the Jewish nation, and eventually the whole world, but the people allowed the traditions of the elders replace the law of the Lord.

A press release in a midwestern city told of a hospital where officials discovered that the firefighting equipment had never been connected. For 35 years it had been relied upon for safety in case of emergency, but it had never been attached to the city's water main. The pipe that led from the building extended four feet underground and then just stopped. The medical staff and the patients had felt complete confidence in the system, but this was a sense of false security. Although the costly equipment with its polished valves and well-placed outlets was more than adequate for the building, it lacked the most important thing...water!!!

Let us remember that it is the word of God, not strictly traditions, that links us to the heavenly Father!!

Loving Father, forgive our shortsightedness when we rely on things of this world to guide us instead of Your holy word! Amen!

Blessings...Pastor Gary

The office phone number is 651-280-0150
You can also reach the churches by email
at: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com
or NerstrandUMC@gmail.com

Prayer Chain



Please direct all prayer chain requests to **Becky Tatge (507) 210-1214** or **Mary Kindseth 507-789-6879**. Messages can be left on either of the phones. If you want to make any changes on how you are contacted or add your name to the list, you can be on the email or phone list. Let's keep this available to our community.

Prayer chain and worship service link emails:

Becky Tatge has been regularly sending emails with the worship service link and/or prayer chain requests. If you have not been receiving them and would like to, please contact Becky at (507) 210-1214

Please send bulletin (deadline-9am Thurs) and newsletter (deadline-20th of month) information to: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com (Lynn Hirshey will be monitoring this email). Phone number 507-330-1831. Notes in the mail are also welcome if you prefer.

Loving Thoughts and Prayers Surround:

Faribault Senior Living

Gerry Erickson

Pleasant View Estates

Shirley Bauer

Norma Meyer

Judy Smith

At Home

Doris Hildebrandt

Arlene Shaske

Arlene Bultman

Mill City Senior Living

Richard Hanson

Kaye Spike



Joys and Concerns

Thank you to Kyle Keller for sanding/salting the St. John's church parking lot, etc. when it was so horribly icy. Your kindness was greatly appreciated!

A big Thank You to All who participated in the Christmas Day service: instrumentalists, readers, and the choir. It made for a very meaningful service celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

Christmas Memorials

In memory of:
Elmer & Lorna Budde
Bill & Gladys Anderson
Richard Budde
Paul Budde
Phyllis Budde
Butch St. Martin
from: Linda St. Martin and family



Two white poinsettias are in memory of :

Delbert & Delores Bultman
Nancy Wesely
Agnes & Melvin Deike
And other Bultman/Deike relatives
Given by Mary & Chris Bultman

In loving memory of our families:

Harold & Lois Homeier
Gordie Homeier
Wayne Homeier
Terry Homeier
LeRoy & Shirley Foss
Bill Foss
Paul Foss
Mari (Foss) McDonald
Ted Fioss
Eric Foss

With Love,
From their families

Poinsettias in memory of:

Joan & Gerry Schwake
Colin Johnson, Kent & Sharlet Johnson
By Terry & Joan Schwake and family

St. John's Choir Rehearsals will continue
on Sunday mornings at 9:50 am.

Sunday School at St. John's

St. John's Sunday School meets weekly from 9:30-10:20am. Students PreK through grade 8 are welcome, as are any adults interested in being a teacher or substitute. Please contact Carrie Hess with any questions: 651-775-5594 or littlehesshouse@gmail.com.

Wednesday Wear

Hours: Wed. 1-5 pm Sat. 9-noon
Remember that donations are welcome!
Any questions about being open or on donating,
Call-Linda 507-789-5376
Or Marlene 507-334-2143
Church phone 507-332-4089

Notice of Replacements for SJ Council for 2026

Elder, Deacon, Trustee and S.P.R.C. Anyone interested, please contact Gloria Karl.



St. John's U.C.C. Council Dec. 8, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Gloria Karl at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Liker opened with a reading from Today's Devotional. From Luke 1 The God that does mighty things.

Reports:

S.P.R.C. No report

Secretary: Approved as read.

Treasurer: Approved as read.

Trustee: New Christmas tree is up. Thank you to Mark and Mary Kindseth and Jay and Trudy Kindseth for such a lovely gift. The parsonage bathroom is nearing completion. Trustees are working on the plug for the T.V. in the auditorium.

Old Business:

Annual meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18th /snow date 25th. Motion was made and passed to accept the 2026 budget with the exception of discussion at the annual meeting regarding the property insurance costs. The door bells for the north and south doors have been purchased and will be installed soon.

New Business: Openings for board replacement are still available for anyone interested. Please contact

Gloria Karl or any board member. Thank you. Reminder to all, the audit committee will be ready for review soon. Have your books ready. Annual meeting pot luck, there are enough left overs from our German dinner to serve all. All that is needed for dishes to pass would be salad, vegetables, jell-o salad or fruit. Motion was made and passed to give \$10.00 per member to the U.C.C. conference for dues. Motion was made and passed to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.

Closing with The Lord's Prayer

Joan L. Schwake Secretary

Subject to approval

Elders: Gloria Karl, Brian Bauer, Michelle Otte
Deacons: Joan Schwake, Gordie Wiegrefe, Sarah Miles
Trustees: Al Meyer, Zach Hertle, Jay Kindseth
Cemetery Board: Brian Bauer, Al Meyer, Kyle Keller

St. John's ANNUAL MEETING AND POTLUCK
Annual meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18th /snow date 25th

St. John's UCC Cleaning Committee

 The St. John's UCC cleaning committee for the months of Jan./ Feb. is: St. John's Council.

Nerstrand UMC Administrative Board

Chairman-Duane Bailey
Secretary -Debbie Kerr



Second Saturday Quilters

Second Saturday Quilters
We will meet at St. John's on Saturday January 10th from 9:00 - 3:00. Lesson to be determined. Bring your own project to work on & lunch if you plan to stay the day.

Linda J. will bring a snack.

Tool of the Month and History Bits are open. Sargent's Nursery in Red Wing Quilt Show - January 9 - 11 from 9:00 - 4:00 daily for anyone wanting to go.

SSQ is open to people from all churches and their friends. Contact Deb Wille 507-323-4813 or 83159deb@gmail.com

Wood Carving!

Carving will be January 17th at 10:00. I will have a project for all. See you then



Steven Wille
507-323-481

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 4th -Keller baptism-SJ

Wednesday, January 7th -Nerstrand UMC Ad Board Meeting, at 11am

Wednesday, January 14th -Coffee and Conversation at the Nerstrand UMC, at 10am

Sunday, January 18th - St. John's Annual Meeting and Lunch, following worship. Snow day will be Sunday, January 25th

Sunday, January 25- Big Woods Run Planning

Meeting: 11:30am - Anyone interested in working on the plans, promotions, and/or assisting with the Big Woods Run next fall is encouraged to attend the January kick-off meeting.

Sunday Church Service Schedule for 2025:

(Communion on first Sunday of month)

9:00 AM WORSHIP AT NERSTRAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

12 Maple Street, Nerstrand, MN 55053

E-mail: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com

Website: <https://nerstrandumc.org>

Phone: 507.332.4089



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10:30 AM WORSHIP AT ST JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

19086 Jacobs Ave, Faribault, MN 55021

E-mail: st.johnsuccwheeling@gmail.com

Website: <https://stjohnsunitedchurchofchrist.info>

Phone: 651-280-0150 (Pastor Gary-personal).



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Pastor- Gary Liker