



Jesus is calling you! What a joy to be so honored! The more you realize the ultimate personal gift of His undeserved grace and selfless love in your life, the clearer that call becomes! And with that clear calling comes a clarifying desire to respond by using the gifts you've been given to serve the One who served you first and opened eternity to reality.

Whatever you do, don't let those gifts go to waste!

Let me encourage you to take the time to read through these *Serving Opportunities* to gain a sense of the many ways that God might use you and your unique, God-given talents and abilities to accomplish His mission and vision for His people at St. John Lutheran Church & School. I truly believe there is an area of ministry at St. John that is tailor-made to fit you. It might require taking the risk of getting involved. But I must warn you, as you step forward to change lives through serving...you too just might be changed.

Looking forward to seeing you out there!

In Jesus I am Yours,

Pastor Marc Schwichtenberg

## **ELECTED/APPOINTED LEADERSHIP**

***If God has blessed you with a gift of leadership or strategic thinking, or a shepherd's heart consider the possibilities of serving on one of our leadership teams...***

**Vestry** – The Vestry is comprised of men and women who serve as our St. John Lutheran Church & School governing board. As prayerful, servant-hearted leaders, their duties include working with our Senior Pastor to establish vision and strategic direction for the ministry as a whole. They also work with and provide accountability to our Senior Pastor through established policies. In essence, the Vestry is concerned with continuing to seek the Lord for the “what” of our ministry together, enabling our Senior Pastor and his staff to engage in the “how” of ministry in equipping God's people to carry out the vision.

The time commitment is generally a 2-3 hour strategic progress meeting each month, and an additional 2-3 hours per month in outside preparation or involvement.

**Elders** – The Elders humbly serve as support and counsel to our pastors by assisting in caring for the spiritual needs of the entire St. John family. As men of prayer, they are deeply involved in the worship

life and overall spiritual health of our congregation. In addition, they also provide caring support for the physical, spiritual and emotional needs of the pastors, staff and their families.

The time commitment is generally a two hour meeting each month that includes Bible study, prayer and discussion, and an additional 2-4 hours per month serving as Elder on duty at 1-2 worship services per month.

**Foundation Governors** - The men and women who serve on the St. John Lutheran Church & School Foundation Board of Governors have the responsibility to raise awareness and prudently invest endowment funds in order to provide a source of ongoing and future financial support for our church and school ministry and outreach. Beyond the ongoing evaluation of investments, a key role for the Foundation Governors is to prayerfully consider grant applications toward disbursement of funds on a yearly basis.

The time commitment is generally a two hour meeting each month, and possible extra projects.

## **SERVING OPPORTUNITIES: WORSHIP**

*The most important thing that happens each week centers on the time our church family gathers in the presence of Christ in worship. As you will see below that time together does not happen without the teamwork of many different people serving in many different ways...*

**Altar Team** - Prepare and clean the Altar for all worship services. Training is available. Usual time commitment is four times per year.

**Communion Assistants** - Help the Pastors distribute the Lord's Supper to the congregation. Rotating schedule, training provided.

**Count Team** - Group of individuals who serve by counting the offerings received in worship. Once a month schedule and weekday opportunities available.

**Data Entry** - Entering church attendance from the welcome sheets filled out by members and guests. Approximate time is 2-3 hours one Monday a month.

**Decorations** - Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas decoration set-up and take down.

**Greeters Ministry** - Help welcome people as they arrive for worship. If God has blessed you with a great smile what a great way to serve!

### **Music Ministry**

Please consider joining one or more of these groups as an excellent opportunity for fun and fellowship. *Attendance at rehearsals and worship services will be flexible with any personal commitments or obligations.*

**Instrumentalists** - Do you play an instrument? Please let us know. Your gifts could glorify God through worship.

**Jubilate Bells** - The Jubilate Bell Choir is a 6 octave bell choir that welcomes ringers that are high school age and older. Some prior experience is encouraged.

**Men's Chorus** - The Men's Chorus is a 3-4 part men's chorus that welcomes male singers high school age and older. No experience needed.

**Modern Praise Team** - Become part of the praise band that provides the contemporary music for our Modern Praise worship services. Vocal and instrumental tryouts occur throughout the year.

**Senior Chancel Choir** - The Senior Chancel Choir is a mixed ensemble, welcoming singers high school age and older. No experience needed.

**St. John Brass** - The St. John Brass is always looking for new brass players or those who might be willing to substitute. High school level reading and playing skills are highly encouraged.

**St. John Festival Orchestra** - The St. John Orchestra is a group that is formed to provide special music at Festival Worship Services. Strings, winds, and percussionists are always welcome. Solo or other small group opportunities may also arise. High school level reading and playing skills are highly encouraged.

**Women's Chorus** - The Women's Chorus is a 2-3 part women's ensemble that welcomes singers high school age and older. No experience needed.

**Nursery Caregivers** - Volunteers are needed to staff the church nursery during service times, congregation meetings and the ONE Class.

**Readers** - Reading Scripture lessons during worship services. Rotating schedule and you can chose the service time you normally attend.

**Audio/Visual Technology Ministry** - Operates and maintains sophisticated audio, visual and computer technology for Traditional and Modern Praise services. Commitment consists of attending training sessions and a rotating schedule. Adults and mature young adults.

**Sunday Fellowship Food** – Purchase food for Sunday morning refreshments served in Luther Hall.

**Ushers** - Make people feel comfortable at all of our services. Schedule rotates on a monthly basis. A great way for whole families to serve together.

**Weekly Worship Set Up/Take Down** - Setting up and taking down the school gym with chairs, altar, sound, etc. for worship on a weekly basis. Many hands make for a quick job. Come when you can or sign up to serve on a regular basis. Set up occurs on Saturdays and take down occurs Sundays immediately following the 11:00am worship celebration. A great way for families to serve together.

**Worship CD/DVD Duplication** - Reproduce Sunday worship CD/DVDs. Maintaining the materials needed. Some computer skills necessary.

## **OTHER SERVANT MINISTRIES**

**Archives Ministry** - Preserve, organize, file and maintain the history of St. John Church & School.

**Christian Growth Ministry** - Provides opportunities for growth in the Word of God for children, youth and adults.

**Library Resources** - Volunteers needed to research materials for our church library, keep inventory, file and maintain materials.

**Men's Ministry** - With heart toward reaching out to equip men to rediscover their unique calling in Christ.

**Vacation Bible School** - Be a part of a team to increase children's knowledge and love for Jesus. For many years St. John has offered vacation bible school to children Pre-K through 4<sup>th</sup> grade for 1 week in the summer. Planning and preparing begins March-June and much help is needed.

**Women's Ministry** - Provides events and opportunities for all women, within their unique roles, to grow in their personal relationship with Christ and to cultivate trusting Christian friendships.

**Family Ministry** - Provides appropriate activities, events and materials for families with young children.

**Children's Bags** - Help supply and maintain the activity bags used during church services for the children.

**Nursery Caregivers** - Help care for children in the nursery for bible studies, MOPS meetings and other events.

## **Fellowship Ministries**

**OWLS** - Older Wiser Lutherans in Service - Fellowship program designed for the over 50 age group. Occasional programs, presentations and luncheons.

**Family Praise and Picnic in the Park** - Help plan the yearly church family picnic in August at Rochester Municipal Park

**Hospitality Crew** - Help plan, purchase and organize celebration events for the church.

**Missions Ministry** - Educate the congregation of worldwide and community mission possibilities and promote participation. Also stewards the direction of Mission Tithe Fund donations on behalf of the congregation.

**Domestic/Worldwide Mission Trips** - Follow God's call wherever He may lead you to provide emotional and spiritual support to those in much need.

**Food Collections** - Help organize food collections at the church. Coordinate the storage and delivery of food items.

**Gleaners** - Women gather every other week on Monday mornings to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

**Outreach Ministry** - Encourage the congregation in its mission of reaching out to people in the community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**Prayer Ministry** - Encourage members of St. John to grow in their relationship with God through prayer.

**Properties Ministry**- Painting, repairs, and building projects to maintain and enhance our church and school.

**NEEDED:** Painters, roofers, electricians, plumbers, carpenters, decorators, woodworkers, HVAC, large appliance and small appliance repairs, concrete finisher, exterminator, hardware,

landscaper, architect, lock smith, engineer, etc.—you get the idea! Use your skills to bless your church.

**Garden** - Plant and maintain the perennials and annuals on the grounds of the school and church.

**Stephen Ministry** - Terminally ill, shut ins, loss of a loved one or difficult times, hospital visits and more...the Stephen Ministers are specially trained to give aid and comfort on an ongoing basis.

**Youth Ministry** -

**7/8 Grade Lighthouse** - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders meets once a month for fun, fellowship and service.

**High School Youth** - Meet every Sunday evening at 6pm for worship, fun, and fellowship. This group has opportunities to attend Lutheran Youth Gatherings and mission events to provide an experience of a lifetime!

## **SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH (grade 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)**

**Acolyte** - Serve as a processional person for festival services. Carry either cross or candles to the Altar. Training is mandatory.

**Music** - Using your gifts and talents in music during worship services.

**Nursery Helper** - Help in the nursery, watching children during the Sunday worship services and at congregational meetings. Training is mandatory.

**Set Up/Take Down** - Chairs and table for events such as worship services in the gym and other events as scheduled.

**Special Projects** - Help with any special events or special projects. For example: cleaning day at the church or school, shovel a sidewalk for an elderly neighbor, clean out the nursery etc.

**Ushering** - Serve on an ushering team at church. On- the-job training available.

**Vacation Bible School (VBS)**- Be a small group leader, serve in one of the learning centers, or help with set-up night. Training required for small group leaders.

## **SERVANT OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. JOHN SCHOOL**

**Athletics** - Scorers, concession stands, clock-watchers, coaches and fans needed at all athletic events.

**Auction** – Planning a bi-annual Church & School event that includes a dinner and auction off-site to raise funds for the school.

**Book Fair** – One week of selling books to raise money for the school.

**Christmas Bazaar** – Help organize a shopping day for students to shop for Christmas gifts for their loved ones.

**Classroom Coordinators** – Help with organizing class parties and events.

**Computer Aide** - Help students for approximately 30 minutes per week with their computer skills.

**Gifts for All God's Children** - Help coordinate the classroom collections of gifts to sponsor a child for Christmas.

**Hospitality Committee** - Purchase and set up refreshments for special events.

**Library Help** - Duties and time can be arranged to suit your schedule. Books and other materials need to be shelved, cards typed, and students assisted finding books.

**Light Maintenance Helper** - If you have expertise and/or a desire to help keep the school in tip-top shape, we'd appreciate your help. "On-call" basis.

**Parent Teacher League** - PTL sponsors a number of fundraising and fellowship activities. All of these activities are dependent on volunteers.