



## Liturgical Colors Continued: When Black is used



Black is very seldom seen during the year. The calendar calls for its use only twice: on Good Friday and Ash Wednesday. There is no mistaking the message that this solemn color gives. Black is the absence of light. Good Friday, or Black Friday in combination with Ash Wednesday, calls for sober reflection on the cost of our redemption. Without Christ's sacrifice on the day the sky turned dark and hid the light of the sun, there would be no bright Light of Christ to live in, nor new life in Christ to enjoy.

Ash Wednesday – officially known as the Day of Ashes – is a day of repentance when we confess our sins and profess our devotion to God. Ashes are used for the black cross inscribed upon our foreheads. This cross is meant to show that we belong to Jesus Christ. It also represents our grief and mourning for our sins – the same sins that we believe Jesus gave his life for when he died on the cross. Worshipers will often wear black, which also represents mourning.

## Spiritual Tools: Lost? Wandering? Wondering? Troubled? Use Your GPS

**God's Perpetual Support • God's Perfect Savior • God Provides Solutions  
God Provides Strength • God's Protective Staff • God's Passionate Spirit  
God's Providence Stands • God Provides Salvation • God's Path Saves  
God Proves Steadfast • God Provides Shelter • God's Peace Sustains**

*And when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left, your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way; walk in it."—Isaiah 30:21*

*Believe ~*

Christina Keiper  
Altar Guild Chair

*Come Holy Spirit*



Blessings to you, your family, and those in your life that you love. This month I want to pick up where we left off last month, looking at the mission of us as disciples, and by extension the mission of our church.

The mission of the church is to know and love Christ so much, so completely, as to represent Him and His values accurately and clearly to the world and serve people's deepest needs in the way Christ Himself would meet them. You could insert here the motto of St. John for many years, Love Like Jesus. Quoting a Line from a religious dictionary, "Our Lord Jesus Christ is the sun about which the whole mission the church revolves. Public worship is the encounter of the risen Redeemer with His people; evangelism is calling men to the Savior; publishing the law of God is the proclaiming His lordship; Christian nurture is feeding His lambs and disciplining His flock; ministering to the needs of men is continuing the work of the Great Physician." The church's mission is to present Jesus Christ to the world, while He presents to the same world His rescuing work in and through His church.

Most churches-most Christians-have outsourced the mission of God! "We do church." Someone else can do "The Mission." The way we "do church", or even the way we understand the Gospel itself, has allowed us to be quite comfortable with outsourcing the mission of God to the experts. We will continue next month.

See You at Church,  
Dennis Smith



September 2022

The BOD met on September 22, 2022. Our financial situation continues to be sound. As we were last month, we remain in the black. The Board thanks everyone for your continued giving during this challenging time as we search for a new pastor.

The Call committee continues its search for a new Pastor. The committee is interviewing additional candidates from our current list. Please continue to pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance in our pastoral search.

The remodel work is largely complete and we have stopped work until after Oktoberfest. The fellowship hall still needs to be painted and the sanctuary outside doors replaced. We thank everyone for their patience as we complete this major improvement project. We will be considering a building fund campaign to pay off our construction loan faster, so we can limit the size of a mortgage or eliminate the need for a mortgage.

Ongoing Board issues include:

- Re-establish ushers, readers, and greeters. Christopher Longman and Nancy Kaul will coordinate and develop a plan of action.
- The Oktoberfest preparations are in full swing now. Please consider assisting with this mission project that includes a lot of fellowship as we prep for our 42nd annual Oktoberfest celebration. Jane Kersh and Mark Keyl are serving as co-facilitators this year. Please see Jane or Mark if you are interested in helping with the coordination of the event.
- The minutes of the Board meetings are on the bulletin board in the Lobby for your review.

That is all for now. Please contact any BOD member if you have any questions. We all are the church and it is your congregation.

Yours in Christ,  
The Board



**LWML**  
Lutheran Women in Mission

LWML MITES collected on Sunday, September 6, 2022, totaled \$48.11. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the Mission Grants selected in convention by the Gulf States District and National LWML. Due to Oktoberfest, there will be no LWML business meeting on Sunday, October 2, 2022. LWML members will meet to plan for the up-coming holidays and collect MITES next on Sunday, November 6, 2022.

On Saturday, September 24, 2022, Lutheran Church of the Pines in Waveland, MS will host the Magnolia Fall Zone Rally. Due to final preparations for the 42nd Oktoberfest at Saint John Lutheran, members from our church will not be able to attend. However, we will be looking forward to activities in the Magnolia Zone for the National Convention to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on June 22-25, 2023. The Theme for the 40th Biennial Convention: "Celebrate the Lord of the Nations" Psalm 33:12-13. This convention marks the 80th anniversary of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Anyone interested in attending? Our Zone President, Hanna Dunlap, will be the Delegate for Zone 6.

LWML MITES will be collected next on Sunday, October 2, 2022. If you are unable to attend worship service, you may make your check out to Saint John Lutheran LWML and mail it directly to Christina Noffke at 108 Ramblewood Drive, Hattiesburg, MS 39402. If you need a MITE Box, please ask me anytime. Since Covid-19, it was such a blessing that we could continue supporting Missions by Mail when so many members were unable to attend worship service. Originally, MITE boxes were used for pennies, nickels, dimes, etc. dropped in the "box" saying a prayer of thanks. How wonderful God has Blessed these "Mighty Mites"!!!

On Sunday, November 6, 2022, LWML members will meet in the Community Room immediately following the worship service to make plans for the upcoming holidays. If you are new to Saint John Lutheran, you are welcome and invited! Please come and share your gifts of talent and ideas - you are needed! Agenda Items: "What's your 80?"; Thanksgiving plans; LWML annual Christmas Party; LWML District Travel Equalization and Quarterly orders (Due December 31, 2022); Election of Officers for year 2023. December marks 17 years since LWML was reorganized here at Saint John on December 4, 2006, after being inactive for fourteen years. Praise God for all the Blessings received!

### LWML MISSION STATEMENT

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support Missions and equip Women to honor God by serving others.

Until Next Time . . . . "Serve the Lord with Gladness!!!"  
Shirley Thone  
President LWML

*Think Inside  
the Box*





# What's the Buzz?

**Church Office Hours:** 8:00am – 12:00pm, Monday – Thursday

**Phone:** 601.583.4898

**Email:** stjohnlutheranchurch@gmail.com

**Oktoberfest! Saturday, October 1, 2022! Come one, come all!**

**Men's Breakfast: Canceled for October 1st so that we may be fully present for Oktoberfest.**

**LWML: MITES collected Sunday, October 2nd**

**Breadbasket: First Sunday Breadbasket Collection.** Food items go in the basket on the hall credenza across from the classrooms. Items requested: canned goods, cereal, peanut butter, bags of rice, bags of beans, Jiffy Mix, mac and cheese dinners, and saltines.

**Avenue's Bible Study:** Will meet October 12th and 26th at 10:00am

**Kaffee Klatsch:** Will meet October 19th at 1:30pm

**Board of Directors:** Will meet October 20th

**Portals of Prayer for Oct-Dec** are available at the lobby mailboxes.

**October Newsletter:** available via the church website, and printed copies are at the foyer mailboxes.

Thanks to all those who contributed!

**Reformation Sunday:** October 31st. Red is the liturgical color of Reformation Sunday because it represents the Holy Spirit. It also reminds us of those who have been martyred for their faith in Jesus. And all of us have been given the gift of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

**November Newsletter Deadline:** Monday, October 26th at 10am

**Live Streaming of Worship Services:** [www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com](http://www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com)

## **Serving in October**

**Interim Pastor**

Rev. Gary Weier

**Music Director**

Jason Sims

**Altar Care Team**

Patricia Davenport & Shirley Thone



# October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b>  10am AA
<b>2</b> 10:30am Worship MITES Collected	<b>3</b>  12pm AA	<b>4</b>  12pm AA	<b>5</b>  12pm AA	<b>6</b>  12pm AA	<b>7</b>  12pm AA	<b>8</b>  10am AA
<b>9</b> 10:30am Worship	<b>10</b>  12pm AA	<b>11</b>  12pm AA	<b>12</b> 10am Avenue's Bible Study  12pm AA	<b>13</b>  12pm AA	<b>14</b>  12pm AA	<b>15</b>  10am AA
<b>16</b> 10:30am Worship	<b>17</b>  12pm AA	<b>18</b>  12pm AA	<b>19</b> 12pm AA  1:30pm Kaffee Klatsch	<b>20</b> 12pm AA  6:30pm BOD	<b>21</b>  12pm AA	<b>22</b>  10am AA
<b>23</b> 10:30am Worship	<b>24</b>  12pm AA	<b>25</b>  12pm AA	<b>26</b> 10am Avenue's Bible Study  12pm AA	<b>27</b>  12pm AA	<b>28</b>  12pm AA	<b>29</b>  12pm AA
<b>30</b> 10:30am Worship	<b>31</b>  12pm AA					



## Birthdays in October

Gabriell Wastvedt 10/3   Chris Weiss 10/3   Jane O'Connor 10/4

Daniel Robinson 10/7   Norbert Thiel 10/7   Tommy Breland 10/13   Kathy Mount 10/13

Kerry Geroux 10/14   Alicia Liverett 10/14   Bob Cubley 10/15   Lynn Umbdenstock 10/15

Bill Lowry 10/21   Patricia Shields 10/23   Tasha Lowry 10/25

Debbie Frederick 10/26   Van Lowry 10/26   Patricia Davenport 10/27   Mark Keyl 10/27

Warner Boortz 10/29   Diana Rymarz 10/30



## Baptisms in October

Art Kersh 10/1   Julia Hagen 10/20   Lynn Umbdenstock 10/27

Jerry Frederick 10/28   Kerry Geroux 10/29



## Wedding Anniversaries in October

Scott & Sonja Chaney 10/2 29yrs

Bill & Joyce Coll 10/11 25yrs

Bill & Tasha Lowry 10/23 23yrs

***Surprise the World!***

**Love. Like. Jesus. + Hope for the City.**



**Saint John Lutheran Church**

2001 Hardy Street

Hattiesburg MS 39401

**Telephone:** 601.583.4898

**Website:** [www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com](http://www.saintjohnhattiesburg.com)

**Email:** [stjohnlutheranchurch@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnlutheranchurch@gmail.com)

**Like Us on Facebook:** [USM Campus Mission](#)

**Like Us on Facebook:** [Oktoberfest Hattiesburg](#)

**Like Us on Facebook:** [Saint John Church Hattiesburg](#)

**Like Us on Facebook:** [Longleaf Heights Neighborhood Association](#)