

July 2021

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ron Salge,

PRESIDENT of St. John's-Vilmar

Cell Phone: 641-330-0456

Monica Edeker,

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

of St. John's-Vilmar

Cell Phone: 319-939-7348

Email: vilmarchurch@gmail.com



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TIME CHANGE:

During July, and August, the church services begin at 9 a.m. No Sunday School.

UPCOMING DEADLINES:

Weekly Bulletins:

Thursdays at 9 a.m.

August Herald Announcements:

Sunday, July 25 at 5 p.m.

Jesus Christ is the same
 yesterday and today and forever.
 HEBREWS 13:8

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Vilmar

16073 Keystone Ave.
 Greene, IA 50636-9163



Office:
 (319) 267-2080

Website:
 vilmarchurch.org
 /StJohnsVilmar

Email: vilmarchurch@gmail.com

One-Day, Iowa Mission Trip

Members and friends of St. John's – Vilmar have a unique opportunity to help a local organization in the next two months.

GodSpeed Equine is a nonprofit, Christian-based organization that helps abused, abandoned, and neglected youth to connect, heal, and trust others through horse and dog therapy. They are a ministry committed to sharing the love of Jesus with the youth through these therapy-related activities and character-based trainings. A majority of kids are middle school aged, and all who participate in the programs are empowered by working with their horse and by building relationships with coaches and mentors. Most importantly, though, they are shown that they matter and that Christ loves them.

GodSpeed Equine has purchased 22 acres of land to build their "Victory Ranch," in Dallas Center, Iowa (3 miles north of Waukee). They currently have a "shell" of a building, and are fundraising to purchase supplies to construct over 8,000 feet of fencing for the ranch.

Donations: The funds needed are between \$75,000-80,000. They currently have \$46,306.11 raised. So, for the month of July, Vilmar's Mission and Outreach Committee will be designating the Sunday morning "mission funds" to this project. The organization has refused all government funding so that they can keep the Christian message at the heart of the program.

Mission Trip: On Saturday, Aug. 28, GodSpeed Equine needs volunteers to help build the fences at the Victory Ranch. They will have the all the materials and supplies there and ready to go. The fencing will be planned and laid out, so they are just looking for people to build. They will be using what is called "continuous pipe fencing." The construction will begin at 7:30 a.m., and everyone will be working in teams. All meals, snacks, and refreshments will be available on site. There will be jobs for any age and skill level, such as helping prepare the meals for everyone. So, it's not just building fences, but also assisting with many of the other tasks to keep the day running smoothly. The work is expected to be completed in one day.

If anyone would like more information, or to sign up for this mission trip, please talk to Monica Edeker.

May Treasurer's Report

Operating Balance..... \$44,853.87

INCOME:

Envelope\$9,566.00
 Vanco.....\$354.00
 May Missions–NALS.....\$300.00
 May Missions–Loose.....\$40.00
 From: Thrivent for Missions– NALS\$100.00
 Mission Investment Interest.....\$28.26
 Thrivent Funds Deposit.....\$205.90

Total Income..... \$10,594.16

EXPENSES:

Pulpit Supply.....\$750.00
 Pulpit Supply Auto Mileage\$181.45
 Wages.....\$831.15
 Supplies–Janitor\$24.41
 Supplies–Worship.....\$257.81
 Office–Postage.....\$55.00
 Electricity.....\$214.83
 LP\$999.05
 Telephone.....\$71.37
 Printer Contract\$209.50
 Vanco.....\$4.19
 Repairs–Elevator\$225.00
 TO: Thrivent\$205.00
 TO: NALS (Seminary).....\$440.00

Total Expenses \$4,496.66

Operating Balance..... \$50,951.37

Thrivent Funds\$4,182.99
 Scholarships\$1,818.75
 Youth Camp Fund.....\$965.00
 Feed My Starving Children\$1,376.25
 Mission\$10,555.18
 World Vision\$495.00
 Operation Christmas Child.....\$153.61
 Bremwood.....\$1.14
 Easter–IA Youth NALC Mission Trip.....\$258.00
 NALS\$440.00

General Fund Balance \$71,197.29

Submitted By: Brenda Boden, *Treasurer*

A Building Project

It seems like whether big or small, there is always some type of building project going on around my house. This week I plan to install a window in our garage. I've never done something like that before, so I have been cautiously approaching the project one small step at a time.

On a bigger scale is my most important building project. Jude says, "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith . . ." (Jude 20) I won't find the right tools for this on my workbench or in my toolbox. Fortunately, though, I know where I keep the necessary tool for this job. It sits right at my elbow on the book table by my chair.

Unfortunately, many believers do not keep their most important tool as close as they should. The Bible is full of building projects. Noah had to build an ark, Moses a tabernacle, Solomon a temple, and for us, Jesus said, a house that will stand the storms of time. For all these projects the total instruction book is found only in the Bible.

Our lives, spiritual lives are not something we should ignore. The world has a giant wrecking ball to knock down everything not built on a sure foundation. What to use to guard against that wrecking ball is not to be found anywhere in the world except in our Bibles. It alone will help us to keep the decaying rot of the world from weakening our firm foundation. It alone will show us the means to building our house on the only Rock, Jesus Christ, that will stand all the storms of life. It alone will reveal the termites of sin that Satan wants to undermine us with. Jude had it right. We do need to build ourselves up and to do it properly, we must build it up on the solid foundation of Christ and His Word. That is a job not to be done in a weekend, but in a lifetime.

Submitted By:

Rev. David Craig, *Bible Teacher*

Reminder: Bring your Bibles to church to follow along with the series I am preaching.

ST. JOHN'S – VILMAR COUNCIL CAPSULE

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

St. John's Church Council met for its regular meeting on Wednesday, June 9, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. Diane Hummel opened the meeting with devotions. Chairman, Ron Salge, called the meeting to order.

REPORTS

- **Secretary:** Secretary, Barb Wagner, gave the minutes of the May council meeting. There were no corrections or additions and the report would stand as read.
- **Treasurer:** Brenda Boden, treasurer, gave a review of the financial report. Currently the operating balance is \$ 50,951.37. A thank you was read from the NALC expressing appreciation for the annual contribution. St. John's contributed 5% of their budget, making the contribution \$6,446.95.
- **Chairman:** No report by the Chairman was given.
- **Stewardship & Finance:**
- **Mission & Outreach:** \$1,000 was given to the NALS in May. The emphasis for June missions will be Relay For Life. Three Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp camperships have been donated for the silent auction amounting to \$500. (One for \$200 and two for \$150 each.)
- **Worship & Fellowship:** Diane Hummel reported that Pastor Craig will be visiting with parishioners in the coming weeks. Diane will supply a list of parishioners that he may call on, and the informational sheets will be shared with the sunshine visitors as well. Worship service on June 20 will be conducted by Pastor Miller.
- **Deacons:** The Deacons asked about sharing the peace during the services. An announcement will be made during the service for parishioners to give their input to council members, and the group will address it at the July meeting.
- **Trustees:** The two sheds next to the parsonage will be repaired, trimmed, and painted.
- **Parish Ed.:** Sunday morning children's sermons will begin in August. If there are individuals who would like to share a message with the youth, they should contact Julie Eberline.
- **Director of Communications:** Monica Edeker will continue to record the communion records, rather than having the parishioners fill out communion cards right now. Monica gave a brief report from the NALC about their planned "Restructuring and Central Office Plan." They are planning to move their North American central office to the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, metro area. Also, because of growth, the NALC plans to divide North America in 4 regions (southern, western, midwestern, and eastern), and hire 4 new, part-time "assistant bishops," one for each region. Each state's district dean will report to the assistant of their region, who will then report to the Assistant to the Bishop for Ministry and Ecumenism who will then report to the Bishop. Vilmar will be in the midwestern region. If anyone wants more information about this, contact Monica and she will forward the presentations with you.

OLD BUSINESS

- Monica reported that she will be meeting with Jeff Kolb to look at the sound system to try and determine how some of the current issues can be resolved concerning the ring/echo during services.

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NEW BUSINESS

- Due to a scheduling conflict, we are in need of NALC Convocation delegates. The Convocation will be held in Corpus Christi, Texas, from August 2-6. If anyone is interested in serving as delegates to the convocation, please let Ron Salge or Monica Edeker know.
- The council has set Aug. 8 as a tentative date for worship service at Wilder Park. A potluck will follow the service. Monica will check the availability of the shelter house and chapel area for that date, and more details will be available in the future.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 council dinner for current, outgoing, and new council members was postponed. A council dinner/cookout is being planned for Sunday, July 25 at 5:30 p.m., at Barb Wagner’s home. Those who are currently on council, those who went off council, and the newly-elected council members and their spouses are invited to attend. Details will become available nearer the event.

NEXT MEETING

The next council meeting will be held Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall.

CLOSING

The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Barb Wagner, *Secretary*

MEMBERS PRESENT

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| P Ron Salge (President) | A Evan Steere | P Jason Edeker |
| P Brenda Boden (Treasurer) | P Diane Hummel | A Julie Eberline |
| P Barb Wagner (Secretary) | P Tyler Seehusen | A Don Salge |
| P Barb Meyer | P Jeff Seehusen | P Warren Van Dyke |

DATE	GENERAL	MISSIONS	SIMPLY GIVING	OTHER
May 30, 2021	\$2,110.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
June 06, 2021	\$1,725.00	\$303.00	\$382.00	\$40.00 (St. Judes)
June 13, 2021	\$1,875.00	\$81.25	\$0.00	\$0.00

Recycling

As some of you may know, or if you did not know, the council would like to remind and inform you of an opportunity to contribute to the church with your recycling. When you take your recycling (paper, magazines, cardboard, plastic, glass, bottles, etc.) to the Butler County Transfer Station, you can designate those items to the church. To do so, you will need to weigh the items, and write the total weight on the sheet provided by the station and mark it as “St. John’s – Vilmar.” At the end of the year, the station sends a reimbursement to the church for the recycling contributions. Thank you to all those who currently participate this way!

Serving in the Lord's House

SUNDAY, JULY 4

Bible Teacher: Rev. David Craig

Organist: Diane Hummel

Reader: Jen Seehusen

Fellowship Hosts: Host Needed

Notes: Holy Communion at the rail

SUNDAY, JULY 11

Bible Teacher: Rev. David Craig

Organist: Diane Hummel

Reader: Jason Edeker

Fellowship Hosts: Host Needed

SUNDAY, JULY 18

Bible Teacher: Rev. David Craig

Organist: Barb Wagner

Reader: Carol Seehusen

Fellowship Hosts: Host Needed

Notes: Processional Holy Communion

SUNDAY, JULY 25

Bible Teacher: Rev. David Craig

Organist: Barb Wagner

Reader: Jeff Seehusen

Fellowship Hosts: Host Needed

Special Music Notes

We are looking for individuals/groups to provide special music for the Sunday services from now through August. If you or someone you know would like to provide special music, please let Senior Choir Director Jane Thompson know.

Scripture Readers Notice

Pastor Craig is preaching on a series he wrote, so we will not be following the three-year lectionary for the next few months. He will provide Diane Hummel (Worship Chairperson) with the readings each week, and she will let you know what they are so you can prepare for the lessons on Sunday. The lectern Bible is NRSV, and that will also be the version printed in the bulletins each week.

Volunteer Opportunities

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

We are looking for people to serve coffee and fellowship following the worship services on Sunday morning. There is a sing-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthax.

NALC DELEGATES

Due to a scheduling conflict, we are in need of two delegates for the NALC Convocation in Corpus Christi, Texas from Aug. 2–6. If you would be willing to represent St. John's by participating in this year's convocation, please let Chairman Ron Salge know. For a schedule and details about the event, visit <https://lutheranweek.com>

CHILDREN'S SERMONS

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthex for volunteers to lead the Children's Sermons during the worship services on Sunday mornings beginning in August. If anyone has questions about this, feel free to reach out to Monica Edeker or Julie Eberline.

MOWING VOLUNTEERS

There is a sing-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthax for mowing volunteers. Volunteers will need to mow both the church and parsonage grounds this year.

FLOWERS

During the summer, if anyone would like to share flowers for the altar, feel free to bring them with you on Sunday morning, and be sure to collect them again before you leave.

Wagner Waters Fellowship

Barb Wagner and family will host the coffee and fellowship time following the worship service on Sunday, Aug. 1 at her pond, Wagner Waters (3.5 miles east of the church at 23592 160th St.). Bring a lawn chair. All are welcome to attend.

VILMAR WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NOTES: JULY 2021

VILMAR WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Vilmar Women's Fellowship Bible Study will not meeting during the months of July and August. See the August Herald for information about resuming in the fall.

BIRTHDAYS

- July 08:** Mari Ann Wearda, 210th St., Sheffield, IA 50475
- July 15:** Karen Janssen, 205 E Elm St., P.O. Box 874, Clarksville, IA 50619
- July 24:** Jerry Wearda, 210th St., Sheffield, IA 50475

If you or someone you know is 75 or older, let Margaret DeBower know so she can add them to the list.

ALTAR COMMITTEE

The altar committee for July is Kenny and Helen Debner. We appreciate your willingness to serve in this way. Remember it is up to you to find your replacement if you discover a conflict in your schedule.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Sunshine people for the month of July are Kay Brinkman and Jennifer Seehusen.

SUMMER SOCIAL

The women will hold their annual Summer Social on Sunday, Aug. 22. More details coming soon. Please consider helping with this annual fundraiser.

SEWING COMMITTEE

The sewing committee will not meet at the church to work on quilts until the fall. However, the members have been and continue to be busy working in their own homes, and **they are always looking for volunteers.** You don't have to know how or even like to sew. They have many fabric donations that need to be trimmed/squared up, and the finished tops need to be tied, so all you need to know is how to tie a square knot. (If you don't know how, they will teach you!) If you feel called to help in this fun and fulfilling project, please talk to Margaret DeBower about how to help. Be sure to watch The Herald for the sewing start-up date in the fall.

WNALC NEWSLETTER

You can keep up-to-date on the news and happenings of the WNALC from around the country by logging into the Women's organization website, wnalc.org.

Attendance Report

<u>Worship Service</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Communed</u>
Sunday, May 30:	49	n/a
Sunday, June 06:	45	40
Sunday, June 13:	47	n/a
Sunday, June 20:	47	41

Corrections, Information

If you have corrections or announcements for Vilmar's directory, the bulletins, Heralds, or website please contact Monica Edeker at 319-939-7348, vilmarchurch@gmail.com, or send a note to the church. Everyone's communication during this time is very much appreciated!

Mission and Outreach

July Mission – Godspeed Equine

During the month of July, Vilmar's Mission and Outreach Team is working with First Lutheran Church – Manchester (NALC) by collecting financial donations for GodSpeed Equine's Victory Ranch (see article on Page 1). Their mission can be viewed online at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J5LagUHbfyA>

Thank You

THANK YOU to everyone for all the generous donations of materials, supplies, and gift of time for the NALC Disaster Response collection. The items have been delivered to Manchester for pick up by the NALC Disaster Response Team, and will be stored in the warehouse in Rantoul, Illinois, until they are needed for distribution during the time of disaster. **Vilmar collected the following amounts:** 300 devotional books, 63 quilts, 8 blankets, 15 flood buckets, 50 health kits, 4 school kits, and 4 packages of disposable diapers. Truly: God's Work. Our Hands.

Mission Meeting Minutes

Members of the Mission and Outreach Committee met on Wednesday, June 9 at 6 p.m., to discuss projects for the remainder of the year. They have decided to support the following missions:

July: Godspeed Equine (more info. on page 1)

August: Allison and Greene Food Banks

September: Allison Little Lambs

October: Samaritan's Purse

November: Bremwood Students

December: Gideons International

The group will also be looking into the following organizations and ideas for possible future projects: Adopting a local family for the Christmas season, Retrieving Freedom, Prison Fellowship, and Care packages for soldiers on our prayer list.

If anyone has ideas that they would like the church to support, either as a one-time donation from the mission team or as a mission partner for the congregation to support during a month, let Barb Meyer know.

In Our Prayers

PRAYER CONCERNS

Mari Ann Wearda, Marlys Kruse, Bruce and Deb Johnson, Dean Westendorf, Robert and Jurene Dralle, Ellie Munis, Amy Cooper, Evalyn Nettleton, Joy Schueler, Ali Matteson, Robert Vieker, Cheryl Sankey, Pastor Dave Steffenson, Carol Finke, Kirk Tanner, Suzanne Miller, Jimmy Rogers, Susan Seehusen, Mary Lou Meyer, Pastor Jordan Long, Donna Hardy, Viola Luchtenburg, Jaxon Hartkopp, John Daub, Breanna Norton, Kayla Sankey, Pastor David Schafer, Pastor James Glesne, and Althea Uhlenhopp.

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Col. Bryan Opperman, Dalton Fehlberg, Lloyd Davis, Rashell Haxhijaj, Randy Wildeboer, and Alexa Page.

Pastoral Care

During this time that Vilmar is without a pastor, if you need assistance of any kind, please let Council President, Ron Salge (641-330-0456) or Director of Communications, Monica Edeker (319-939-7348) know, and they will arrange for your needs.

Simply Giving

If you would like to enroll in Vilmar's electronic giving, contact council secretary Barb Wagner for the paperwork. We appreciate everyone's continued financial support of Vilmar's ministry.

Contributions

If you are not comfortable, or cannot worship in-person with us, we encourage you to continue your tithes/offering by mailing financial gifts to the church at, St. John's–Vilmar, 16073 Keystone Ave., Greene, IA 50636.

JULY 2021: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church—Vilmar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<i>Notice: Worship time change for the summer months! No Sunday School.</i>				1 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	2	3 7 a.m.: Community Bible Study and Coffee at Allison Congregational Church
4 Independence Day 9 a.m.: Worship Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. David Craig 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship	5	6	7	8 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	9	10 7 a.m.: Community Bible Study and Coffee at Allison Congregational Church
11 9 a.m.: Worship Service led by Rev. David Craig 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship	12	13 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. LIFT at St. James	14 7 p.m.: Council Meeting	15 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	16	17 7 a.m.: Community Bible Study and Coffee at Allison Congregational Church
18 9 a.m.: Worship Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. David Craig 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship	19	20	21	22 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	23	24 7 a.m.: Community Bible Study and Coffee at Allison Congregational Church
25 August Herald Announcements Due 9 a.m.: Worship Service led by Rev. David Craig 10 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship 5:30 p.m.: Council Dinner	26	27 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. LIFT at St. James	28	29 9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline	30	31 7 a.m.: Community Bible Study and Coffee at Allison Congregational Church

Deacons: Jeff Seehusen and Tyler Seehusen