

September 2021

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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UPCOMING DEADLINES:

Weekly Bulletins:

Thursdays at 9 a.m.

October Herald

Announcements:

Sunday, Sept. 26 at 5 p.m.

TIME CHANGE:

Beginning Sept. 5 worship services will begin at 10 a.m.

(Jesus said) "I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." JOHN 10:9

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Vilmar

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New Beginnings

I was walking by the school in Ackley and saw the parking lot filled with cars. Much too early, I thought, to start school, but things are different from when I was a child. Then, school started the day after Labor Day and ended the day before Decoration Day (now Memorial Day). From kindergarten through senior high school this schedule never changed. It was a fixed routine of life, like sunrise and sunset.

But things do change. When I taught school, which I did off and on for 26 years, the beginning and ending were never consistent. But in my mind school should still have started in September and ended in May. My schedule, however, was not the schedule that counted. A higher power than me said, "This is the way, walk in it." The school board's schedule counted – period.

So it is with God. He has said, "This is the way, walk in it." (Isaiah 30:21) Our natural man chafes at that idea. We want to do things our way. But God says there is another way, a correct way, a God pleasing way, and we are to walk in it. Do we think we have more important things to do on the Sabbath than be in church? God says, "Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." We think we have more important uses for our money than giving it to God. God says, "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse." (Malachi 3:19) We think we should be in control of our bodies and minds. After all, they are ours. But God said, "Because it has been written: 'You shall be holy, because I am holy.'" (1 Peter 1:16)

The bottom line for our lives is, we are not our own; we have been bought with a price. "For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." (1 Corinthians 6:20) The school board and the state legislature have spoken, "School doesn't have to begin after Labor Day." So, we now must follow new rules. Jesus said, "Follow me," and now we have new rules for life as well as school.

Happy Labor Day!

Respectfully Submitted By:
Rev. David Craig, *Bible Teacher*

Treasurer's Report

AUGUST 2021:

Operating Balance.....\$55,798.28

INCOME:

Envelope\$4,778.00
 Vanco.....\$754.00
 July Loose – GodSpeed Equine..... \$81.00
 July Mission – GodSpeed Equine..... \$1,100.00
 Thrivent Funds Deposit..... \$102.95
 From: Thrivent – GodSpeed Equine..... \$100.00
 From Missions – General.....\$1,000.00

Total Income..... \$7,915.95

EXPENSES:

Pulpit Supply\$1,200.00
 Pulpit Supply Auto Mileage \$227.48
 Wages.....\$831.15
 Supplies–Janitor \$21.34
 Council Dinner \$251.49
 2nd Qtr Payroll Tax..... \$413.10
 Electricity.....\$343.37
 Telephone.....\$71.25
 Printer Contract\$248.99
 Vanco.....\$8.19
 TO: Thrivent \$102.95
 Repairs & Maintenance – Water.....\$25.00
 Repairs & Maintenance – Dust Control\$634.52
 Repairs & Maintenance – Building.....\$36.53
 Repairs & Maintenance – Grounds\$217.61
 Repairs & Maintenance – Parsonage.....\$128.78
 Mission Payments – GodSpeed Equine....\$2,231.00

Total Expenses..... \$6,992.75

Operating Balance.....\$56,721.48

Thrivent Funds\$4,188.89
 Scholarships\$1,818.75
 Youth Camp Fund.....\$815.00
 Feed My Starving Children \$1,376.25
 Mission\$8,095.18
 Operation Christmas Child\$153.61
 Bremwood.....\$1.14
 Easter–IA Youth NALC Mission Trip.....\$258.00

General Fund Balance \$73,428.30

Respectfully Submitted By:
 Brenda Boden, *Treasurer*



The Williamson's Family Gospel Group

Gospel Group at Vilmar

On Sunday, Sept. 12, The Williamsons Gospel Group will perform at Vilmar in place of the Sunday Morning Worship Service at 10 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend and invite others to join.

The Williamsons are a gospel group from Oklahoma, and are devoted to God, family, and their country. They live what they sing. With the goal of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ, they have performed for thousands with their unique style of Christian music. They have a way of incorporating many musical styles into their program. The group travels across the United States and around the world presenting their ministry in large concert halls, on cruise liners, and in churches of all sizes and denominations. They desire to see souls find the Lord, people encouraged, and provide quality Christian entertainment.

The Williamsons have produced more than a dozen recordings, with much of their material written by Lisa and Donnie Williamson. Several of their songs have reached the Singing News Top 10, the prevailing chart for Southern Gospel radio.

For more information about The Williamsons, visit williamsonsmusic.com.

ST. JOHN'S – VILMAR COUNCIL CAPSULE

Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2021

The St. John's Church Council met for its regular meeting on Aug. 11, 2021, at 7 p.m. Diane Hummel opened the meeting with devotions. Chairman Ron Salge called the meeting to order.

REPORTS

- **Secretary:** Barb Wagner gave the secretary's report. There were no corrections or additions and would stand approved as read.
- **Treasurer:** Ron Salge gave the treasurer's reports for July and August in Brenda Boden's absence. The current operating budget is \$55,798.28.
- **Chairman:** Ron has been in contact with Thrivent about investing some of the money in the general fund. A Thrivent representative will be meeting with council in the future to discuss some of the options available.
- **Stewardship & Finance:** No report.
- **Mission & Outreach:** Barb Meyer reminded that the August mission emphasis is the local food banks in Allison and Greene.
- **Worship & Fellowship:** Diane Hummel reported that Pastor Miller will be conducting church service on Sunday, Aug. 29 and Pastor Breddin on Sunday, Sept. 5. The Gospel Group will lead the service on Sunday, Sept. 12.
- **Deacons:** No report.
- **Trustees:** It was reported several trees will need to be removed on the church and parsonage grounds due to being diseased with Emerald Ash Borer. Trustees will be checking into having the stained glass windows weather stripped before winter.
- **Parish Ed.:** No report.
- **Director of Communications:** Monica continues to work with Butler County Computers to put Vilmar services on Dumont Cable Vision. Vilmar currently has a contract with Gordon Fleisch for the printer in the office. Currently the contract is 5,000 copies/month for a cost of \$209. Monica reported that we are not making that many copies and felt we could reduce the number to 3,000 copies/month for \$72. Any additional copies over 3,000 are charged at \$0.025/copy. Don Salge made a motion to adjust the contract to 3,000 copies. Jason Edeker seconded the motion. Council approved, motion carried. Portals of Prayer devotional booklets have arrived for the final quarter, and the subscription is up for renewal. Currently we are receiving 220 small copies and 4 large print copies. After some discussion concerning the number of copies and costs, Barb Wagner made a motion to reduce the number of Portals of Prayer quarterly order to 75 and 4 large print copies. Diane Hummel seconded the motion. Council approved, motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Sound System/Speakers:** Ron Salge has been in contact with West Music in Cedar Falls to look at the sound system.

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NEW BUSINESS

- The council reviewed the proposed part-time contract from Pastor Craig.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, Sept. 8, 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

A Brenda Boden (Treasurer)

P Diane Hummel

P Julie Eberline

P Barb Wagner (Secretary)

A Tyler Seehusen

P Don Salge

P Barb Meyer

P Jeff Seehusen

A Warren Van Dyke

Date	General	Missions	Simply Giving	Cemetery	Thrivent
08-01-21	\$2,122.00	\$44.00	\$382.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
08-08-21	\$1,500.00	\$137.29	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
08-15-21	\$1,275.00	\$50.00	\$372.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
08-22-21	\$2,215.00	\$204.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$102.95

Call Committee/Council Meetings

The Call Committee of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Vilmar met on Wednesday, July 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the council room. Chairperson Diane Hummel opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Diane informed the committee that a pastor had reached out to her inquiring about the call at St. John's. She shared information from the applicant's resume with the members. Diane also informed the members that Pastor David Craig had inquired about a part-time contract. No applicants had been given to the call committee from the NALC. The committee discussed the needs of St. John's. After some discussion, it was decided more information was needed from both interested pastors. Diane will reach out for the information. Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Present: Diane Hummel, Ron Salge, Julie Eberline, Barb Wagner, Marc Seehusen, Monica Edeker

The Call Committee of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Vilmar met on Wednesday, Aug. 11 at 6 p.m., in the council room. Chairperson Diane Hummel opened the meeting with devotions and prayer. Diane gave the committee the responses from the interested pastor. After some discussion, it was decided that the applicant would not be an appropriate fit for the call and the needs of the congregation. The committee was presented with a part-time contract from Pastor David Craig. After much discussion it was decided to bring the contract to the council for additional input at 7:20 p.m. in the fellowship hall. After more discussion, it was decided that clarification was needed from Pastor Craig.

Present: Call Committee, Diane Hummel, Ron Salge, Julie Eberline, Barb Wagner, Marc Seehusen, Doug Schueler, Monica Edeker; Council Members: Jeff Seehusen, Barb Meyer, Don Salge, Jason Edeker

Call Committee/Council Notes

On Sunday, Aug. 15, an informal discussion was held between Pastor Craig and a few available council/call members for clarification on the questions posed by the call committee and council.

On Wednesday, Aug. 18, a joint call committee/council meeting was held at 7 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Diane Hummel lead the group in devotions and prayer. Ron Salge called the meeting to order. The group began the conversation by discussing the needs of the congregation and the financial burden of a full-time pastor vs. a part-time pastor vs. sharing a pastor with a neighboring congregation. It was decided that it would be in the best interest of the congregation to pursue calling a part-time pastor to St. John's – Vilmar. The group discussed, at length, the responses the members received from Pastor Craig on Sunday, Aug. 15. Again, it was decided that clarification and answers were needed before action could be taken.

Present: Ron Salge, Monica Edeker, Tyler Seehusen, Jeff Seehusen, Doug Schueler, Jason Edeker, Brenda Boden, Barb Meyer, Diane Hummel, Julie Eberline, Barb Wagner

On Sunday, Aug. 22, a joint call committee/council meeting was held following the worship service at 10:20 a.m., with Pastor David Craig and Jacque Craig present to answer questions and provide clarification on the proposed contract he brought to the call committee. After some discussion, Pastor Craig and Jacque were dismissed. The group continued to discuss the answers and the possibility of drafting a formal contract with adjustments for Pastor David Craig. It was decided that more information was needed from the church accountant before voting on offering a part-time contract. Meeting adjourned.

Present: Ron Salge, Marc Seehusen, Pastor David Craig, Jacque Craig, Evan Steere, Diane Hummel, Barb Meyer, Jeff Seehusen, Tyler Seehusen, Warren Van Dyke, Monica Edeker, Don Salge, Brenda Boden, Barb Wagner

Mission and Outreach

September Mission – GoServ Global – Haiti

During the month of September, Vilmar's Mission and Outreach Team will be collecting monetary donations for GoServ Global – Haiti.

GoServ Global is an Iowa-based, nonprofit, Christian organization many of our members have taken mission trips with to Les Cayes, Haiti.



Unfortunately, Les Cayes was hit

with a 7.2 magnitude earthquake on Saturday, Aug. 14. The result has been absolutely devastating, with many fatalities, loss of buildings, homes, churches, and many displaced people.

The GoServ Global orphanages (roughly 10 miles from the center of the quake), sustained some damage. The children and missionaries are safe, but some have broken bones and minor injuries from the impact. Many of the children are dealing with fear of what will happen next, and some are re-living the earthquake of 2010. All of the Sukup Safe T Homes withstood the quake and remain undamaged.

The organization has been working to get much-needed medical supplies to the island to assist with the aftermath of the earthquake, and the recent tropical storms.

We ask that you keep all those impacted by the earthquake in your prayers, and prayerfully consider donating to this mission close to the hearts of many of our members.

Attendance Report

<u>Service</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Communed</u>
Aug. 01:	62	56
Aug. 08:	46	n/a
Aug. 15:	35	35
Aug. 22:	49	n/a

Serving in the Lord's House

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Breddin

Organist: Diane Hummel

Reader: READER NEEDED

Fellowship Hosts: Warren and Lollie Van Dyke

Notes: Holy Communion at the rail

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

Service: The Williamsons Gospel Group

Prayer Reader: Deacon or Chairman

Fellowship Hosts: HOST NEEDED

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Bible Teacher: Rev. David Craig

Organist: Barb Wagner

Reader: READER NEEDED

Fellowship Hosts: HOST NEEDED

Notes: Processional Holy Communion

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Bible Teacher: Rev. David Craig

Organist: Barb Wagner

Reader: READER NEEDED

Fellowship Hosts: HOST NEEDED

Fellowship Volunteers

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.

Scripture Readers Notice

READERS NEEDED! There is a sing-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthax. Pastor Craig is preaching a series, so we will not be following the three-year lectionary for the next months. He will provide Diane Hummel 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.

Music Schedule

SPECIAL MUSIC SCHEDULE:

Sunday, Sept. 05: Available for Special Music

Sunday, Sept. 12: Gospel Group

Sunday, Sept. 19: Senior Choir

Sunday, Sept. 26: Senior Choir

SENIOR CHOIR PRACTICE:

For September the choir will be practicing at 9:30 a.m., before the church service in the sanctuary.

SENIOR CHOIR NOTE:

Senior Choir kicked off this year with a pre-season song requested by Pastor Miller sung during the Aug. 29 church service. We sang "Standing in the Need of Prayer." Our official Sunday start will be Sept. 19. EVERYONE is welcome to join singing with the choir. Also, if you play an instrument and would like to accompany us or play for a service, please let us know! For more information, contact Senior Choir Director Jane Thompson.

Parish Ed. Notes

A Parish Ed. meeting will be held on Sunday, Sept. 5 at 11:15 a.m., following the Worship Service. Finalized class information will be sent to families following the discussion and decisions made at the meeting by the volunteers.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! We are looking for volunteers to help with the Sunday School classes on Sunday mornings. We are looking for individuals to be part of a rotation of helpers.

Sunday School Classes will kick-off the year on Sept. 12, from 8:45-9:45 a.m. The first day will be co-lead by the Gospel Group, The Williamsons, and Vilmar volunteers.

Mowing Volunteers

We are in need of a mowing volunteer for September! There is a sing-up sheet on the bulletin board in the narthax. Volunteers will need to mow both the church and parsonage grounds.

Vilmar Women's Fellowship

BIBLE STUDY

The women will be starting their Bible Study again on Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m., in the church fellowship hall. The title of the study is "What's Your Mission?" This will be a DVD and discussion study. No book needs to be purchased, but bringing your Bible will be helpful. Diane Hummel will lead the study and Barb Wagner will serve.

BIRTHDAYS

- Sept. 25:** Donna Kruse, 305 Truax St., Bristow, IA 50611
- Sept. 27:** Robert Janssen, P.O. Box 874, Clarksville, IA 50619
- Sept. 29:** Kenneth Debner, 20865 160th St., Greene, IA 50636

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 September is Brenda Boden and Tammy Fleshner. We appreciate your willingness to serve in this way.

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Sunshine people for the month of September are Julie Eberline and Jean Morris.

SEWING DAYS

Sewing Days will be Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., each day. There will be a potluck lunch at noon. We have lots of quilts tops to tie. We can use lots of help. So if it has been a long time since you have helped us or if you are new to this fun project, please come for one or both days or even for a couple of hours! If you have any questions, please talk to Margaret DeBower.

WNALC NEWSLETTER

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.

Items Available!

There are some items on the round table in the fellowship hall for sale. They would make great stocking stuffers or gifts. Just put your money in the box on the table.

– Vilmar Sewing Committee

Remember 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, Althea Uhlenhopp, and Pastor James Puotyual.

SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN:

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

FAITHFUL DEPARTED:

Remember the Family of Dylan Butler: Dylan, 18, of West Liberty, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 3, 2021, as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident. Dylan was the grandson of Warren and Lollie Van Dyke.

Recycling

Reminder, if you take recycling to the Butler County Transfer Station, you can designate it to the church. To do so, you will need to weigh the items, and write the total on the sheet provided by the station and mark it as "St. John's – Vilmar." Thank you to all those who participate in this program.

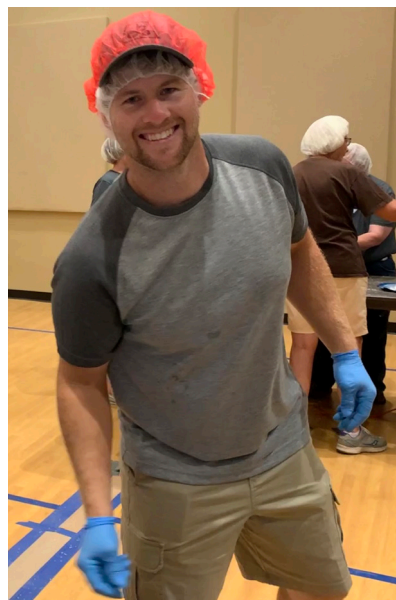
Thank You

Thank you to St. John's – Vilmar and all our family and friends for your support to the Butler County Relay For Life. Your generous donations helped Butler County raise nearly \$70,000 for research and services for those fighting cancer. May God bless you all. –*Jennifer Seebusen and Margaret DeBower*



A huge thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated, and came to our Summer Social and Country Store. Special thanks to the Butler County Pork Promoters and Thrivent for their generous donations. It was a very big success! We served 100 people. Thank you again!

Vilmar Women's Fellowship, Margaret DeBower, *Leader*
Vilmar Brotherhood, Warren Van Dyke, *Chairman*



LEFT: Helping at the Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack event in Butler County.

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”

AND I SAID,
“Here am I. Send me!”

– ISAIAH 6:8



Thanks to everyone who organized, participated, and attended our Wilder Park Service.

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.

Pastoral Care

During this time, 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.

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. Thanks to everyone for helping out!

Want More Information?

To learn more...

About Vilmar’s ministry

vilmarchurch.org

About the North American Lutheran Church

thenalc.org

About the Iowa Mission District–NALC

iowamissiondistrict.com

To stay up to date with current activities going on at the church “like” our Facebook Page:

Facebook.com/StJohnsVilmar

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
				9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline		7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10 a.m.: Worship Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. Paul Breddin 11 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship 11:15 a.m.: Parish Ed. Meeting	Labor Day		7 p.m.: Council Meeting	9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline		7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational 8 a.m.: Iowa Mission District Convo. (Emmons)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:45-9:45 a.m.: Sunday School 10 a.m.: The Williamson's Gosepl Group Worship Service 11 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship		9 a.m. - 3 p.m. LIFT at St. James 7 p.m.: Women's Fellowship	6-7:30 p.m.: Confirmation	9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline		7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:45-9:45 a.m.: Sunday School 9 a.m.: Choir Practice 10 a.m.: Worship Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. David Craig 11 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Sewing Day	9 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Sewing Day	6-7:30 p.m.: Confirmation	9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline		7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational
26	27	28	29	30	Oct. 1	2
8:45-9:45 a.m.: Sunday School 9 a.m.: Choir Practice 10 a.m.: Worship Service led by Rev. David Craig 11 a.m.: Coffee and Fellowship		9 a.m. - 3 p.m. LIFT at St. James	6-7:30 p.m.: Confirmation	9 a.m.: Weekly Bulletin Deadline		7 a.m.: Bible Study at Allison Congregational

Deacons: Jeff Seehusen and Tyler Seehusen