



## Pastor's Message: Reconciliation

This past spring I was enrolled in a 5 week course on coaching individuals through conflict. It was insightful to learn how to help people discover their own idols and things that keep them from resolving their conflicts with others.

Subsequently, this fall I was enrolled in another 5 week course on mediating disputes between parties, which builds upon the work done coaching each side of a dispute and then working with them together to not only resolve their issues, but find true reconciliation in their relationship.

As you might expect, the focus of the discussions usually centers on the self. Individuals in conflict are usually frustrated with someone else, at what they have done, and how they need to be corrected. The feeling and emotion that drives the conflict is the expectation that they are wrong and there can be peace when they acknowledge their error and correct their behavior.

However, almost without fail, the solution to our conflicts is not in the other, but within ourselves. As I've learned the key to reconciliation is Confession and Absolution – not *theirs* but mine. We have all participated in whatever conflict we are involved in. To say we are innocent would be to go against what God tells us in 1 John 1:8, **"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."** And there is no point in trying to figure out whose sin or fault is greater. That's an empty and vain discussion. Far better is to confess what we have done, first against God and then the other person, and sincerely ask for forgiveness. **"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness"** (1Jn 1:9).

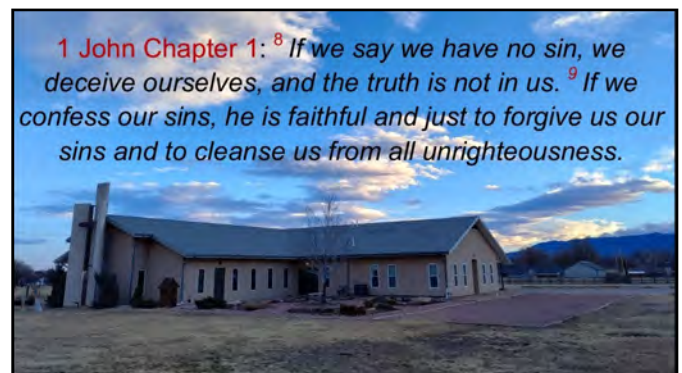
What's truly amazing, is that when we stop attacking others, their defenses typically go down and then they become open to acknowledging and confessing their part in the conflict. Suddenly, you find yourself on a path, not just to conflict resolution, but genuine reconciliation; not just solving a disagreement, but fixing and repairing a relationship.

I have truly enjoyed my two classes this year...and although I am certainly not ready or experienced enough to solve major disputes, I can see the path forward and how reconciliation can happen, both in my own life and in the life of the church...and that is truly exciting.

Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Dan".

Pastor Dan





# Come to St. John on Sunday, October 29, 2023

## We will celebrate the 506th Anniversary of the Christian Reformation!

Celebrate the 506th anniversary of the Christian Reformation at St John Lutheran Church! Our faith extends back over 2,000 years to Jesus Christ and the New Testament church.

The Reformation rediscovered the heart of the gospel message, that salvation is not something we do or earn; it is completely and totally a free gift from God. **"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."** Ephesians 2:8.

On Reformation Sunday, please come, sing, hear God's Word, enjoy a German-themed potluck, and take comfort in knowing that because of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther over 500 years ago we know with certainty that our salvation is secure through Christ alone!

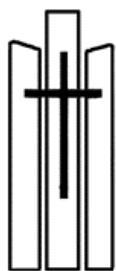




St. John Lutheran Church  
790 Greystone Avenue  
Canon City, CO 81212  
Web: [stjohnncanonccity.org](http://stjohnncanonccity.org)  
Phone: (719) 275-0111

Your Musical Servant in Christ,  
Lori





# ST. JOHN

## Alana' Letter

October, 2023 NEWS

St. John Lutheran Church  
790 Greydene Avenue  
Canon City, CO 81212  
Web: [stjohncanoncity.org](http://stjohncanoncity.org)  
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### Hello to all my church family!

I want to start by thanking you for supporting me on this journey. Your love and prayers mean so much to me, and I am so grateful for your kind donation. Classes have been going well and I am learning much. Two of my classes focuses on what it means and looks like to be a missionary in today's times, reaching out to the mission field that is the United States. My college writing class teaches the 'whys' behind all the hard and fast writing rules we learned growing up. And when to break every rule. :) My Old Testament class focuses on showing God's presence in all that He does, as well as depicting how Christ is patterned, predicted, and present throughout the Old Testament.

There are so many opportunities to learn more about my faith here on campus. Chapel is held Monday - Friday, with a variety of styles of services from Morning Prayer to truly contemporary and everything in between. There is a bible study or service every evening as well. I have found myself drawn to Compline on Friday nights and Holden on Thursday nights. Holden focuses on a meditation of the Light coming into the world, coming into our lives, and calling us out into the world of darkness all around.

I am still singing. I auditioned for Christus Choir, which is a select choir that performs at very high levels. This December we will be part of a large Christmas program here on campus, and come Spring we will be touring for a week of performances. The locations are not set in stone but I believe we will be in Nebraska (either Seward Concordia or UNL) for a performance, as well as my mother's hometown of St. Charles, MO. When I learn of the locations, days, and times I will pass them along to you all.

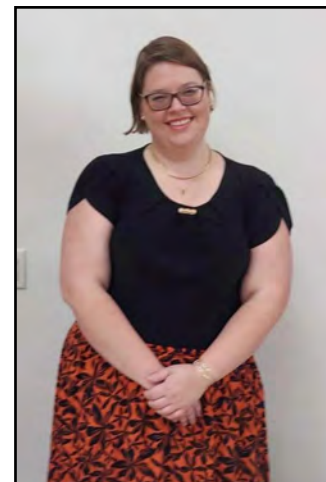
The best way to reach me would be by email. Either my personal email: [holtalana21@gmail.com](mailto:holtalana21@gmail.com) or my school email: [holta2@csp.edu](mailto:holta2@csp.edu). My physical mailing address is:

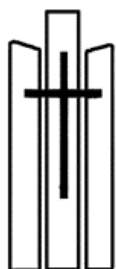
1282 Concordia Ave  
St. Paul, MN 55104

If you do happen to send me something small like a letter, let me know so I can go check my mailbox. Packages arrive to a mailroom and the school contacts me when they arrive.

Much love to you all, and I will see you in December at Christmas!

Your servant in Christ,  
Alana Holt





# ST. JOHN LWML News

October, 2023 NEWS

St. John Lutheran Church  
790 Greydene Avenue  
Canon City, CO 81212  
Web: [stjohnncanoncity.org](http://stjohnncanoncity.org)  
Phone: (719) 275-0111

## Jars of Faith

I was cleaning my old LWML electronic files from 2020-2005 and stumbled upon this gem. Blessings to All. Angela Bellantoni



*"Jars of Faith" by Dorothy Olson September 2002*

With the onset of cooler evenings, shorter days and the smell of autumn, comes the hubbub of our children's return to school and the very rewarding task of preparing the bounty of diligent, summer long efforts for gardeners; fruits and vegetables from our gardens. Whether the fruits of our labor are canned, pickled, jellied, pureed or frozen, those of us who process our garden rewards find it back breaking, exhausting but oh so fulfilling when our pantries are lined with colorful jars and our freezers are stacked with frosty containers.

Canning fruits and vegetables are a task from the heart. The contents of each jar is carefully selected, washed thoroughly (sometimes in washing machines), pared to the perfect size, trimmed to remove any imperfection, cooked, pickled or soaked. The containers are checked for cracks and chips, and bathed in scorching hot water to sanitize. The final jar is inspected for the perfect seal, personally labeled and ready to share or line our pantries.

So why isn't this an introduction to a canning cookbook?

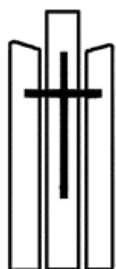
Because we are God's harvest. We are His faithful and we are His Jars of Faith.

God chose us. In John 10:3 He called each of us by name. In Isaiah 41:9b, God specifically selected each one of us. We are cleansed from our guilt and blemishes in Psalm 51:2. God put His Word in each of our hearts and minds in Hebrews 10:15b. God carefully molds us as clay in the potter's hands according to Jeremiah 18:6.

Our bodies, the containers, are made in His likeness in Genesis 1:26. In 1 Corinthians 6:19 our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.

The final product is sealed to overflowing with hope and love for our Preparer, Our Lord. We are ready to share our contents by reflecting God's grace through the brilliance of our containers. And our value is so great that God sent His Son to redeem us. God's love for our contents and containers is so unconditional that we spend our lives marveling at the intensity and beauty of this love, agape. And I thought \$25.00 for a jar of pickles at a church fundraiser was special.

The next time you see a home canned jar of jelly or green beans, I challenge each of you to reflect on your contents and container. Are you preserving your contents through faithful study of The Word? Are you a good steward of your container? When people see you on the pantry shelf of life, are you reflecting your contents of grace and love? Hmmm. Something to think about.



# ST. JOHN News & Notes

October, 2023 NEWS

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790 Greydene Avenue  
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## Church Attendance

Aug. 27	87
Sep. 3	79
Sep. 10	84
Sep. 17	110
Sep. 24	89

**Thank You!** Thanks for the cards, visits, prayers, and encouragement. Took.

**Fellowship:** I will be out of town on October 8th. I need two volunteers that day to set up coffee, pick up donuts, serve, and clean up after the fellowship. Please contact me if this is something you can do. I do appreciate your time and service. Carol Skoda, (719) 320-9812.

**Quilters:** The quilting ladies are going to start up again on Thursday, September 28th at 9:00 AM. If you are interested in being part of this group, just show up and we will be glad to get you started! If you have any questions, please call Sue Willard or call her at (719) 285-8211.

**Ride to Church:** If you or another member who you know needs transportation to church on Sundays, please call Ken Davidson at 719-429-4919.

**Church Nursery:** Parents may use the nursery in back of the church. A TV screen with remote control is available to watch the service. Diaper changing tables are available in three of our restrooms.

**Announcements:** Please e-mail any announcements for the Sunday bulletins and monthly newsletters to [Office@StJohnCanonCity.org](mailto:Office@StJohnCanonCity.org). Sarah does the bulletins and Gail does the newsletter. Thank You.

**Altar Flowers:** A sign-up chart is near the mailboxes. Envelopes are there for a donation of \$50 for two arrangements. Please note "altar flowers" on your check. Fill out and place envelope in offering plate.

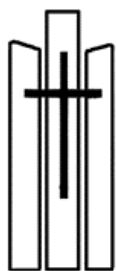
**Special Prayers:** Please contact Pastor Dan prior to the Sunday service for special prayers.

**The Lutheran Hour:** Did you know that our congregation supports The Lutheran Hour? As you get ready for church or if you are unable to attend worship, consider tuning in at KRLN 1400 AM at 8:00 AM on Sunday mornings.

**Missionaries:** Please remember to pray for JP and Aimee Cima and Chuck and Cheryl Ferry asking God to protect them and use them to spread His gospel.

**Prayer Chain:** If you have a prayer concern we have a phone chain and an e-mail chain. Please contact one of the following: **Phone:** Mary Richardson, (719) 269-1426 **E-mail:** [cspoehlein@gmail.com](mailto:cspoehlein@gmail.com).

**Food Bank Sunday:** The first Sunday of the month is when we share our blessings with the hungry and needy in our community. Please bring basics such as sugar, flour etc., or canned food for the box near the mailboxes.



# ST. JOHN

## Things to Do

October, 2023 NEWS

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### **Every Member is needed! Some of these need more people!**

- Acolyte** - Altar candle-lighting duty for pre-teen and teen boys and girls at worship services. See Pastor Dan.
- Adult Bible Class** - Age 18 and older meet on Sunday mornings at 10:30am after our time of fellowship.
- Adult Choir** - Join your voice with others on special festivals, directed by Liv Booth, (314) 973-6930..
- Altar Guild** - Prepare communion, vestments, candles, banners, etc. for worship. Mary R., (719) 269-1426.
- Audio-Visual** - Operate the slides and video production during worship service. Contact Pastor Dan.
- Book Club** - Meet to discuss books at 6:30 pm about once per month in member homes or at church.
- Car Show** - An annual fundraiser on the church grounds that needs many helpers. Carol S., (719) 320-9812.
- Childrens' Choir** - Community group that meets at St. John on Mondays at 4:00 pm. Liv Booth, (314) 973-6930.
- Christmas Program** - Help prepare or take a part in the Sunday School program. Nathan P., (952) 738-1424.
- Church Council** - Serve on one of the church boards, or as President, Vice President, or Council Secretary.
- Communications** - Website, newsletter, Facebook, publish events in The Daily Record. Gail, (720) 201-8743.
- Confirmation** - Teens meet at church on most Mondays at 6:30pm - 7:30pm with Pastor for instruction.
- Door Reception** - Greet people approaching church and open the door for them. Brandon, (314) 973-7294.
- Elders** - Men age 21+ who assist the Pastor with the spiritual life of the congregation. See Pastor Dan.
- Evangelism** - Carry out evangelism programs in the church and community. Gail K. (720) 201-8743.
- Fellowship** - Serve refreshments after worship, and during special events. Carol Skoda, (719) 320-9812.
- Garage Sale** - An annual fundraiser at St. John that needs many helpers. Richard Mowers, (719) 458-1618.
- Greeter** - Welcome members and visitors in the narthex area and offer them a worship bulletin. See Pastor Dan.
- LWML** - Women's Auxiliary of the LCMS supports synod missions. Contact Angela Bellantoni, (719) 429-8950.
- Men's Breakfast** - Men of St. John have breakfast at church about twice a month at 7:00 am on Thursdays.
- Missions** - Direct monetary resources for the missionaries and missions we support. Julie B., (714) 431-1169.
- Morning Prayer** - Almost every weekday at 7:30am in the sanctuary. Come start your day with prayer!
- Nursery** - Volunteers to assist parents who take their children to the nursery or might need help with children.
- Quilters** - Group constructs dozens of quilts annually for charities and individuals. Sue Willard, (231) 714-1562.
- Readers** - Read assigned Scripture passages at the lectern during worship services. Contact Pastor Dan.
- Sunday School** - Classes for kids at 10:30am after worship and refreshments. Nathan Pegors, (952) 738-1424.
- Teach** - Help children learn about their Savior, Preschool through High School. Call Nathan P., (952) 738-1424.
- Trustees** - Oversee maintenance, repair, cleaning of buildings and grounds. Contact Bob K. (720) 201-8104.
- Ushers** - Assist people with special needs, direct worshipers for communion during services.
- Vacation Bible School** - A short-term educational activity that needs children and volunteers every summer.
- Wednesday Bible Class** - At 10:00am Wednesdays with Pastor Dan.
- Youth Group** - St. John High Schoolers meet on Wednesdays at 6:00pm.



## Farewell and Blessings Brunch for Alana Holt on August 27th!

She will attend Concordia University, St. Paul, MN for a Director of Christian Education degree.



Thank you, Carol Skoda, for the pictures!



**The Annual Congregational Gathering - September 9, 2023**  
**Planning for next year and into the future of St. John Lutheran Church.**



**Thank you, Carol Skoda, for the pictures!**



**Welcome Ethan Moffitt to the Christian family! We're so glad to have you at St. John Lutheran Church! He was baptized here on September 17, 2023.**



**Thank you, Amy Wright, for the pictures!**

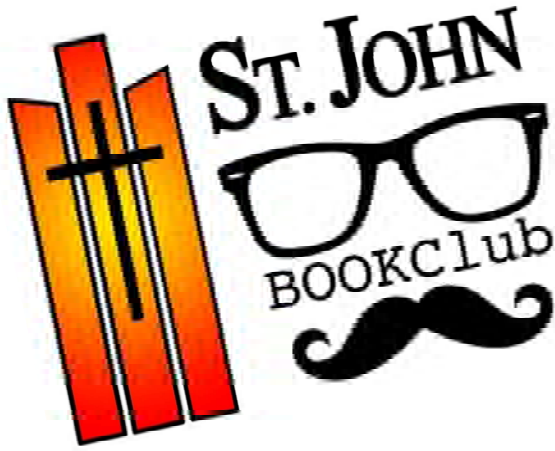


## Our 9th Annual Benefit Car Show - September 23, 2023



Thank you, Carol Skoda, for the pictures!





# October & November 2023

Here is what is happening at the BOOKClub:

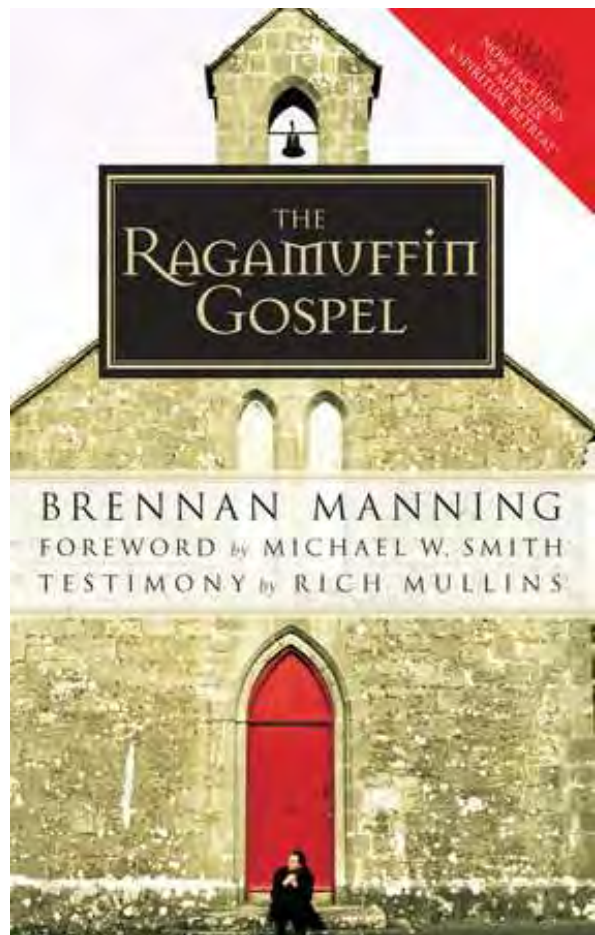
The next book on our list is Ragamuffin Gospel (ISBN 978-1590525029) by Brennan Manning. This book has been on my reading list for several years. I'm glad to finally have the time to read it. The description reads:

Most of us believe in God's grace—in theory. But somehow we can't seem to apply it in our daily lives. We continue to see Him as a small-minded bookkeeper, tallying our failures and successes on a score sheet.

Yet God gives us His grace, willingly, no matter what we've done. We come to Him as ragamuffins—dirty, bedraggled, and beat-up. And when we sit at His feet, He smiles upon us, the chosen objects of His "furious love."

Brennan Manning's now-classic meditation on grace and what it takes to access it—simple honesty—has changed thousands of lives.

"Brennan Manning does a masterful job of blowing the dust off of shop-worn theology and allowing God's grace to do what only God's grace can do—amaze." -Max Lucado, Bestselling author of *The Gift for All People*



3 copies have been ordered for the church. Used copies are available on Amazon for \$6, and a Kindle edition for \$13, and an Audible audiobook for \$7. If you have any problems finding a copy, please call Pastor Dan.

The date for discussing this book is Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm @ Ted & Nancy Schmidt's home.

**Pick up a book & join us at the BOOKClub!**



# SQUAD TWO

## SOMETIMES OLD TRADITIONS FIND FRESH RELEVANCE IN NEW CONTEXTS.

This past month, J.P. was asked by our local church's music team leader to teach a seminar focused on understanding the church year and lectionary. Most band members had never been formally introduced to these tools since they are not widely used in Cambodia. Even in the United States, where the church year and lectionary are widely used, most churches assume rather than teach their use. Pastor Songim wanted to reinforce their use in our church, and so opened the seminar to all members. We had a great turnout! J.P. grounded the discussion of the church year and lectionary (NOT biblically mandated!) tools to that end. We then looked at the structure, meaning, and purpose of the church year and lectionary. By structuring themselves around the key events of Jesus' life, and prioritizing the reading of the gospels, in which Jesus' words and actions are made known, the church year and lectionary help us to follow Jesus. J.P. also emphasized other benefits of using these discipleship tools: orienting our time to God's time, aiding preachers and church musicians, putting a wide selection of Scripture into the ears of God's people, fostering our devotional life, and expressing our unity with the Church throughout time and space which has crafted and utilized this resource. What a joy to be a part of a church that values this kind of learning! Afterwards, J.P. was delighted to be invited to a post-seminar dinner with many of the band members and other youth.



**WANNA HELP US IMPACT THE PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA?** Give online [here](#) or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166 (payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia."



Hello, Dan and Tricia, and our friends at St. John in Canon City!

Greetings in Jesus' name from Phnom Penh! It was a special blessing to visit you in May—definitely a highlight of the whole summer. Thank you for your gracious hospitality.

What a joy to send this email expressing our deepest thanks for your partnership with our family as we serve God's mission in Cambodia. We received notice of your recent gift in support of our family. As we enter our 6<sup>th</sup> year in Cambodia, and our 17<sup>th</sup> in Southeast Asia, we are more aware than ever of how precious your prayers and support are. It is because of YOU that we are able to continue to follow God's call to these corners of the globe. We love being a part of what God is doing through His people. THANK YOU!

It's been far too long since we've sent an email update like this, so there's much to catch up on. After the [death of J.P.'s father](#) in early May, J.P. traveled to the US about two weeks earlier than we had planned to be with family. [The memorial service](#) was a joyful celebration of Dad's life as husband, father, friend—and so much more—all with a deep faith in Jesus that has now carried him to eternal life. The rest of the summer included an [aggressive schedule](#) of church visits across the United States. We met so many people who are passionate about God's global mission! To be able to shake hands, discuss, celebrate, and pray with those who support our family is an immeasurable blessing.

Upon returning to Cambodia, we've been busy. The kids have started a [new school year](#), while J.P. and Aimee have continued key initiatives begun earlier in the year. As a regional manager, Aimee continues to work with missionaries in Hong Kong and Macau (where she [traveled in April](#)), as well as Papua New Guinea. Locally, she also [continues to advise](#) Concordia Welfare and Education's development projects. J.P. continues to work with the Cambodia Lutheran Church to implement priorities identified during the spring's [strategic planning](#), itself the culmination of a year-long [visitation program](#). Specifically, the CLC has asked J.P. to expand training in Luther's Small Catechism (which he had [already implemented](#) in two locations) to five other strategic locations throughout the country. The CLC has [received a grant](#) from LCMS to implement these seminars. And, of course, we continue with our [youth group](#) and [other teaching opportunities](#).

You are a part of all of it! Again, thanks for your partnership. Please do feel free to reach out at any time. We LOVE hearing from you! God bless and keep you.

In Christ,

//JP, Aimee, Celeste, Bella, and Isaac

[www.cimafam.com](http://www.cimafam.com)

[www.lcms.org/cima](http://www.lcms.org/cima)

[www.missioncentral.us/cima](http://www.missioncentral.us/cima)


Sign up for our newsletter [here](#)!

See the whole newsletter archive [here](#)!





# OCTOBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 18<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class <b>11:30</b> Elder's Meeting	<b>2</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>4:00p</b> Canon City Youth Choirs <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>3</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <i><b>Sarah Out of the Office</b></i>	<b>4</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>6:00p</b> Youth Group	<b>5</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>9:00a</b> Quilters	<b>6</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer	<b>7</b>
<div>Pastor Dan Out of the Office –Church Conference</div>						
<b>8 19<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class <b>11:30</b> Council Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>4:00p</b> Canon City Youth Choirs <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>10</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer	<b>11</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>10:00a</b> Bible Study <b>6:00p</b> Youth Group	<b>12</b> <b>7:00a</b> Men's Breakfast  <b>9:00a</b> Quilters	<b>13</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer	<b>14</b>
<b>15 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	<b>16</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>4:00p</b> Canon City Youth Choirs <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>17</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer	<b>18</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>10:00a</b> Bible Study <b>6:00p</b> Youth Group	<b>19</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>9:00a</b> Quilters	<b>20</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <i><b>Pastor Out of the Office- Prison Ministry</b></i>	<b>21</b>  <b>9:00a LWML Meeting</b>
<b>22 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY AFT. PENTECOST</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	<b>23</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>4:00p</b> Canon City Youth Choirs <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>24</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer	<b>25</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>10:00a</b> Bible Study <b>6:00p</b> Youth Group	<b>26</b> <b>7:00a</b> Men's Breakfast  <b>9:00a</b> Quilters	<b>27</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer	<b>28</b>
<b>29 REFORMATION SUNDAY</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Reformation Potluck	<b>30</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer  <b>4:00p</b> Canon City Youth Choirs <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>31</b> <b>7:30a</b> Morning Prayer	<div>  <div> <b>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH</b>  <b>CANON CITY, COLORADO</b>            790 Greydene Ave., Cañon City, CO, 81212  <a href="http://www.StJohnCanonCity.org">http://www.StJohnCanonCity.org</a> 719-275-0111         </div> </div>			