

To the congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church:

From Pastor Roger,

Grace to you and peace, from God the Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

What a joy to journey with the first communion class through their time of instruction and growth! The hearts and minds of the young people of St John's offers me such hope for the future of our church and community. I wonder often about how they will receive and shape the story of Jesus for themselves and hand it on into the future. I wonder even more often about how we can empower them (and us older folks) to live lives of love and peacefulness in the present so as to best hand Jesus work on to them.

Our energy now turns in earnest to the coming Youth Gathering and the adventure that five of our youth will be embarking on. I ask you as a congregation to pray for these young people: Danielle Corless, Sarah Ramsey, Travis Hintzman, Devin Reese, and Robert Pembroke (of Grace Lutheran Buffalo). When you see them (or any of our young people for that matter!) ask them how they are doing. Engage them in conversation and enjoy their wisdom, intelligence, and passion for Christ.

We are planning one more fundraiser to help pay for our trip to Houston. A spaghetti dinner! There are only 50 seats available. The dinner is free but diners will be asked to tip their servers. There will be musical entertainment, a basket raffle, and a delicious homemade four course meal. Please see one of those going to the gathering for a ticket!

As we celebrate in the hope of the empty tomb know that you are in my prayers.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Roger