

Kaffehuset

WINTER +
SPRING 2024

First Wednesdays of the Month, St. John's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
10 AM—Refreshments • 10:30 AM—Program

Kaffehuset meets the first Wednesday of the month and presents a variety of programs about St. John's and the central Illinois community. The benefit of Christian fellowship is nurturing each other by gathering in community and supporting each other. All are welcome—young and not-so-young, members and guests.

February 7

Susan Woollen, *Second Generation Speakers' Bureau of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center*

Chiyono Shoji Hamer was nine-years old when she survived the atomic bomb deployed over Nagasaki, Japan, on August 9, 1945. Her story, *Fall Down Seven Times. Get Up Eight*, is told by her daughter, Normal resident Susan Woollen, and it shapes broader narratives about the devastation of war, nuclear weapons and the immigration of Japanese War Brides to the United States. Beyond her war experiences, Chiyono's story also includes rich descriptions of Japanese traditions, culture, and history.

March 6

Ann Kafer, *Secretary of the Midwest Food Bank's National Board*

Food insecurity can be found in any community around the globe. But in Kenya, the need is overwhelming. Ann had the privilege to travel there in 2023 and learned much about the hunger, hope and heavenly beauty of the East-African nation. Her stories and photos will make you smile, laugh and cry. Come experience it all.

April 3

Vickie Robertson and Lynn Carpenter,
St. John's Mission Outreach Team

St. John's has a long history of loving and serving our neighbors. Are you interested in the many ways our church is impacting the world? Are you looking for opportunities to serve and connect with others? Meet members of St. John's Mission Outreach team to learn how we are called and privileged to participate in His work.

May 1*

Sherri Lewis, *Director*, **Megan Thoennes**, *Teacher*,
and **Anya Mekuria**, *Assistant Teacher*, *Noah's Ark Early Learning Preschool*

Spend a delightful session with the director, teachers, and Noah's Ark children. Learn about the history and programming of this unique preschool that serves St. John's and the local community. Do you know how many years Noah's Ark has been helping preschoolers learn? Do you know how many classrooms they have, and the number of children served? These and other questions will be answered along with a few surprises the staff and children from one of the classes will share with us.

**Please note: the May 1 program will begin promptly at 10:15 AM due to the children's 10:50 AM dismissal time. The director will remain to share additional information and answer questions.*

