

If you have not already registered - click here to register.

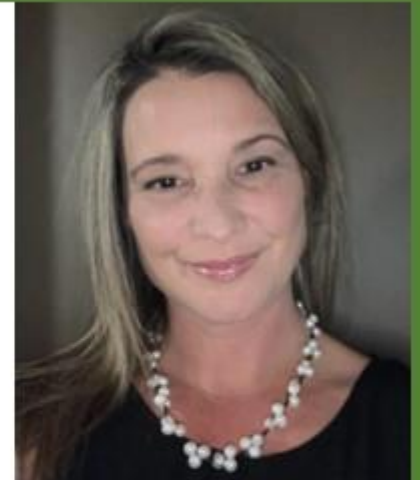
*Please join us for our Chamber Meeting!*

**January 12, 2022**

## **Chamber Lunch & Learn**

St. Joseph Government Center  
75 Callaway East in St. Joseph, MN  
12:00-1:00pm  
11:30am social time

Presenter: **Christina Buttenhoff**  
**Michelich Granite**



Christina's presentation will include industry information from what technologies are available to design concepts to completion in the cemetery. She will have examples of memorials, monuments, markers and more.

Note: Chamber luncheons are held the second Wednesday of each month from 11:30am -1:00pm. Please bring a non-chamber member to come and hear the presenter, enjoy a delicious lunch and experience our enthusiastic welcoming group.

**The St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce is a group of local businesses and individuals interested in the general welfare and prosperity of the St. Joseph, MN area. The main interests of the organization are to promote and support commercial, industrial, civic, economic and educational concerns of the area.**



**President:**  
Adam Otteson,  
*Central MN Credit Union*

**Vice President:**  
Joe Prodinsky,  
*Bank Vista*

**Treasurer:**  
Brad Eckhoff,  
*Sentry Bank*

**Member at Large:**  
Sarah Wischnefski,  
*Brenny Transportation, Inc.*

**Past President:**  
Kerry Peterson,  
*Premier Real Estate Services*

**CONNECT WITH US:**  
[stjosephchamber@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchamber@gmail.com)  
320-433-1043

**St Joseph Area Chamber of  
Commerce**

**@StJosephChamber**

**[StJosephChamber.com](http://StJosephChamber.com)**

Visit our website for a great list  
of local chamber member  
businesses!



## *Mark Your Calendar for the Next Chamber*

### **February Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 9, 2022 from Noon-1pm**

**Government Center**

**Please plan to RSVP!**

**63% more  
consumers are  
likely to want to  
purchase goods or  
services from a  
small business that  
is a Chamber  
member.**

## **Check this out!**

### **BUSINESS AFTER HOURS EVENT**

**Are you looking for a brand new way  
to promote our business?**

Business After Hours is not only a great networking opportunity, it is a perfect way to bring business to your door! When you host one of the quarterly events you have a unique opportunity to introduce your organization to business professionals who may not be familiar with who you are and what you do.

If you would like to host a Business After Hours, contact Jude by email at

[stjosephchamber@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchamber@gmail.com)

Create a relaxing, informative evening to network! Traditionally held from about 4:30-6:30, Business After Hours is one of St. Joseph Chamber's sought after events.



**It's Easy! Really!**

### **BE A MEETING HOST!**

We are looking for member businesses to host a monthly Chamber meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your business and tell others why they should do business with you. Any member is welcome to host a meeting. As host you will have an opportunity to greet our members and time at the beginning of the meeting to highlight your company. You will also have the opportunity to display any brochures, business cards, or giveaways. If you would like to be a Chamber lunch host please contact Jude for available months.

**[stjosephchamber@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchamber@gmail.com)**

**320-433-1043**

# What's Happening at Saint Benedict's Monastery?

## Upcoming Events at the Spirituality Center



### **Rainbow Support Evening**

Parents/allies/friends and LGBTQ+ persons gather to pray, share stories and support each other. Confidentiality is maintained. Free will offering accepted.

**Date:** Thursday, January 13, 7–9 p.m.

**Facilitators:** Myrna Ohmann and Eunice Antony, OSB

**Registration Link:** <https://sbm.osb.org/event/rainbow-support-evening/>

### **Psalms for Today: Touching the Scars of the World**

Can the psalms be authentic voices of prayer in our contemporary world? How can we recover their richness for ourselves? This three-session workshop moves us from an understanding of the psalms in their ancient origins to their relevance for Christians today. Through presentations, practice and time for participant interaction, we will reflect on these and other questions.

**Dates:** Mondays, January 17, 24, 31

**Time:** 9–11 a.m.

**Facilitator:** Christian Morris, OSB

**Fee:** \$175

**Registration Link:** <https://sbm.osb.org/event/psalms-for-today-touching-the-scars-of-the-world/>

### **Book Discussion on *A New Climate for Christology: Kenosis, Climate Change, and Befriending Nature* by Sallie McFague**

This book discussion provides an exploration of ways an evolutionary view of creation enriches our understanding of God's relationship with the natural world and our relationship as human beings with the community of creation. Reflection on how that understanding calls us to change our ways of engaging with creation. Participants will need to purchase their own copy of the book.

**Dates:** Tuesdays, January 25, February 1, 8, and Thursday, February 17

**Time:** 9:30–11 a.m.

**Facilitators:** Katherine Howard, OSB, and Josue Behnen, OSB

**Registration Deadline:** Tuesday, January 18

**Limit:** 8 participants, minimum of 2 participants

**Fee:** \$35

**Registration Link:** <https://sbm.osb.org/event/book-discussion-on-a-new-climate-for-christology-kenosis-climate-change-and-befriending-nature-by-sallie-mcfague/>

### **Creative *Visio Divina* (Virtual)**

Stop. LOOK. Listen. Pray without saying a word! In this three-hour workshop, you will learn about visio divina (prayerful seeing) and explore how the simple act of looking can be prayer. Visio divina is looking at images, color, nature—allowing God to touch us through our sense of sight. Pat Pickett will supply materials to help you create your own visio(s). This workshop is perfect for anyone interested in learning about a new way to pray. Registration is due Friday, January 21, to allow for materials to be sent.

**Date:** Saturday, January 29, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**Facilitator:** Pat Pickett, ObISB

**Fee:** \$90

**Registration Link:** <https://sbm.osb.org/event/creative-visio-divina-virtual/>

# January Is Glaucoma

## Awareness Month

According to one of our Occupational Therapist and Low Vision Specialist, Lynn Athman, OTR/L;



Lynn Athman, OTR/L

Glaucoma is a primarily a peripheral vision deficit where people have a much greater risk of falls due to poor orientation in space and balance deficits. I have adaptations for low vision deficits for almost every ADL/IADL activity---feeding, reading, writing guides, labeling items, contrasting surfaces, medication adaptations, labeling clothing (identifying color of clothes) etc. I think the most important thing is that people are aware that there

are many adaptive techniques as well as equipment to assist in practically all every day tasks because often

when I have evals, they have no idea of all the options that are out there.

If you have a diagnosis of Glaucoma and would like to learn more on what techniques and equipment are available, please reach out to us in setting up an appointment with Lynn or another one of our trained Occupational Therapists.

SPOT Rehabilitation and Home Care  
St Cloud, MN 56301  
320.259.4151  
[www.spot-rehab.com](http://www.spot-rehab.com)



### Lunch & Learn Certificate: **FREE Lunch**

**Be Our Guest! Be Our Guest! Be Our Guest!**

**Attend your first Chamber Lunch & Learn and lunch is on us!**

The St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce invites you to one of our informational meetings held the second Wednesday of every month at the St. Joseph Government Center (City Hall).

Don't Miss Out of a Great Opportunity to:

- \*Network with other businesses.
- \*Increase recognition.
- \*Generate new contacts.
- \*Inform others about your business.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



a new  
**YOU**  
in  
**2022**

JANUARY 1 - MARCH 31

**BUY ONE COMPLETE PAIR,  
GET THE SECOND COMPLETE PAIR**

**50% OFF\***

\*Complete pairs only. Cannot be combined with insurance. Some restrictions may apply. See optical team for details.



Snap Fitness  
St. Joseph  
is under new  
ownership!

We (Adam and Ashley Hoffman) come with 6 years experience with the Snap Fitness franchise - we've owned the Cold Spring location since 2016!

## WHAT'S NEW?

We are committed to bringing the best customer service, cleanliness, and convenience to St. Joseph Snap Fitness. We have set staffed hours where you can expect a friendly, helpful face to be available to assist you. Community involvement is also very important to us, so you'll see events and charity drives held at the gym periodically.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

**NEW EQUIPMENT!** We're placing orders with Cybex, Octane, and Matrix to bring you new treadmills, ellipticals, recumbents, and strength equipment - including a new cable machine, squat rack, and more!



**NOW OFFERING FIRST MONTH FREE!!!**

**If your lease is signed before December 1st**

**CONTACT US  
TODAY!**

**21 16th Avenue S.E.  
St. Joseph,  
Minnesota 56374**

**Phone:  
320-363-1313**

**Email:  
Manager@arlingtonplacemn.com**

**FAX:  
320-363-1021**

**What We Have To Offer:**

- ◆ **Friendly, Homelike Environment**
- ◆ **Essential Caregiver Program, Allowing Residents To Have In-Person Family Visits, Regardless Of Frequently Changing Covid Guidelines!**
- ◆ **On-Call Nursing Staff 24/7**
- ◆ **Onsite Beauty/Barber Shop & Physician Services**
- ◆ **Fireplace Lounge**
- ◆ **Family Dining Room and Home Cooked Meals**
- ◆ **Off Street Parking with Limited Access Entrance**
- ◆ **Covered Porch and Raised Garden Beds**
- ◆ **Spacious Rooms and Walk-in Showers**
- ◆ **And MORE...**



## CHAMBER NEWS

### ELECTRONIC ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES

You can submit a camera-ready, full-page, half-page or quarter-page advertisement in Chamber News.

Sizes:

Full-page 8"x10"

\$50

1/2-page is 8"x5"

\$25

1/4-page 3.75"x5"

\$15

All advertisements have an active link to your website... bringing them to your doorstep! Or, you can link directly to your email address. We are sorry, but the option of an insert is no longer

# 10 Benefits of Advertising in Chamber News

Your target audience is welcoming newsletters in their email box every day. The Chamber News is the right e-newsletter for placing your ads. You are speaking directly to your best potential customers. Advertising in emailed newsletters is one of the most effective and least expensive forms of advertising.

## # 1: **Precise Targeting.**

Your message won't get lost in the mass chatter. The people of St. Joseph are your target market, you have a much greater prospect of generating business leads with The Chamber News specifically marketing to your audience. The more specifically you can define your target market, the better your chances of success.

## #2: **Inexpensive.**

E-newsletter ads are a cost-effective way to reach your niche market. You'll build a list by using ours – a direct connection to businesses in St. Joseph. The return on investment (ROI) for e-mail marketing continues to far surpass other channels. According to a report from the Direct Marketing Association, newsletter's ROI returned \$48.06 in revenue for every dollar spent.

## #3: **Top of mind visibility.**

Each month you can remind readers of your business-generate continuous income, give your business a successful image, keep you competitive and in-

vest in your success. Your ad is among only a few, so you'll receive maximum visibility.

## #4: **Linkability.**

Your advertising in The Chamber News will be linked directly to your home page or direct customers to your social media page.

**#5: Credibility.** In addition, advertising in the St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce newsletter adds to the established credibility of your business.

Readers trust information from our newsletter and individuals don't have to worry about viruses or spam because the links are coming from a trusted source.

## #6: **Anytime, anywhere.**

The Chamber News reaches your target audience on a laptop, on their phones, at their desks in the office or at home.

## #7: **Lead generation.**

Quality lead results from The Chamber News are trackable. You will know if your investment in the Chamber's newsletter is worthwhile by watching the metrics on your website.

*"St. Joseph Area Chamber of Commerce gets results for you and your business!"*



# SAME BANK. SAME STAFF. *NEW LOOK!*



## GRANITE BANK



**BANK • BORROW • INVEST • INSURE**

**COLD SPRING** 320-685-8611 **SPICER** 320-796-2265  
www.granitecommunitybank.com NMLS# 405434 Member FDIC



**Do you want to be our  
next featured member?  
Contact Jude for the easy-  
to-fill out questionnaire.**

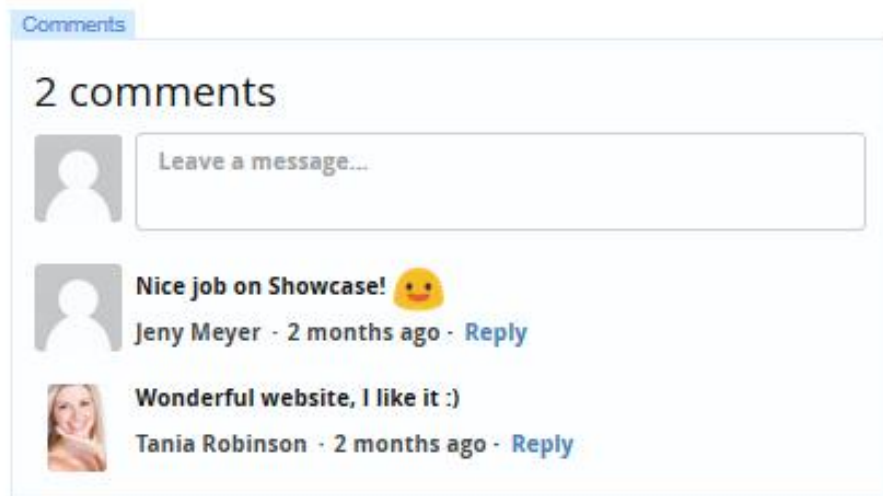


### **Member Minute**

A brief beginning to better know a Chamber comrade you can read in a few short minutes.

**St. Joseph**  
AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Do you have a  
comment or  
suggestion...leave  
it at our website.**





## Brenny Transportation, Inc. Named Top Company for Women to Work For in Transportation

As women rise through the ranks in the transportation industry, we are excited to feature the companies that make the extra effort to attract and retain a more gender-diverse workforce.

PLOVER, WIS. OCTOBER 25, 2021

Redefining the Road magazine, the official magazine of the Women In Trucking Association (WIT), announced today the recipients of the 2021 “Top Companies for Women to Work For in Transportation.” According to Ellen Voie, president and CEO of WIT, the magazine created the award in 2018 to support an element of WIT’s mission: to promote the accomplishments of companies that are focused on the employment of women in the trucking industry.

“As women rise through the ranks in the transportation industry, we are excited to feature the companies that make the extra effort to attract and retain a more gender-diverse workforce,” said Voie. “We applaud their efforts and this distinction is our way of giving them the recognition they deserve.”

There are a number of characteristics that distinguish companies recognized on this list, according to Brian Everett, publisher of Redefining the Road. These characteristics include corporate cultures that foster gender diversity; competitive compensation and benefits; flexible hours and work requirements; professional development opportunities; and career advancement opportunities.

“Identifying the companies on this list involves a two-step process,” said Everett. “First, nominations of the companies are received and carefully reviewed to ensure they qualify by meeting a minimum threshold of qualifications. Then the final ballot of companies is voted on by individuals in the industry. This is the fourth year of this prestigious recognition program and it garnered more than 14,000 votes to identify the final companies named to the list.”

The list is comprised of a diverse range of business sectors in the commercial freight transportation marketplace, including motor carriers, third-party logistics companies, and original equipment manufacturers. These companies will be recognized at the upcoming WIT Accelerate! Conference & Expo Nov. 7-9 in Dallas.

Brenny is extremely honored to win this award for the third year in a row. What distinguishes Brenny as a Top Workplace for women is: women at Brenny are recognized more than normal of others in the trucking industry. Women are encouraged to be strong and confident. The family-friendly culture at Brenny is one of respect. Women are pushed to be the absolute best for the trucking industry. Everyone’s voice at Brenny is heard and no one is judged. We go above and beyond to treat women drivers and team members with utmost respect. The Brenny team is about lifting each other up and helping each other grow and succeed.





# GRANITE BANK

Dear Customer,

Eight years ago, we changed our name to Granite Community Bank to more closely associate with the communities we serve. The word Granite is synonymous with strength, prosperity, dependability, and of course Central Minnesota.

**Effective December 12, 2021, we will be shortening our name to "Granite Bank".**

The reason for shortening our name is simplicity. Over the past eight years, we have often been referred to as Granite Bank, The Granite Bank, or other variations of our actual name. The name change is subtle and you will see no changes other than a new logo and shorter email address. You will not have to change any passwords, and no account numbers will change.

We have the same owners, same management, same great staff, and same great service. Please reach out to me or any of our employees if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Thank you for being a customer of our bank!

Sincerely,

Gerald Reiter, President/CEO





## Payroll Services

Are you struggling with not having "Peace of Mind" when it comes to your payroll processing? Since I specialize in small businesses with 25 or fewer employees, I am able to provide payroll services at an affordable price. Did you know that I offer many different payroll solutions as well as customization of each payroll package to exactly what each business is looking for? I can process your payroll for you or even train you how to process your payroll yourself. I am also available to process all your quarterly and year end payroll tax reports, so you don't have the headaches from worrying about deadlines or proper reporting. I help you with as much or as little as you would like. Some solutions I can provide are set-up and maintaining your payroll records, federal and state tax withholdings, benefit contributions, federal & state tax filings, issuance of checks or direct deposit and preparation of all W2's and 1099 forms.

If you would like a quote on your payroll processing please email or call me today! If you are looking to change how your payroll is currently being processed, the best time to make the switch is right now.



### A bit of info about me...

I have been helping owners that have been in business a few years who struggle to find time or have procrastinated with their accounting and payroll services so they can relax, and rest assured that they are caught up, don't need to worry about deadlines and are utilizing accurate reports to bring their business to the next level. I specialize in helping small businesses with zero to 25 employees.

Clients often tell me they appreciate how I take the time to make sure they understand what is happening in their business. Knowing how to read their Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss report is very important. Even when clients are not interested in learning about their reports, I make sure they are at least familiar with the basics.

I have over 20 years of experience in both private and public accounting. I am a Certified Public Accountant and have been a Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor for over 20 years. I make sure to keep up to date with new software as well as technology to help clients run their business more efficiently. I belong to many of the area Chambers of Commerce and am active in the community.

Over the years I have worked with clients in the following industries: Service, Insurance, Health Care, Construction, Retail, Automotive, Manufacturing, Restaurant, Publications, Broadcasting, Agriculture, Nonprofit, Real Estate, Rental, Entertainment, Sports and many others.

**Phone: 320-260-6491 or Email: [Chris@PanekCPA.com](mailto:Chris@PanekCPA.com)**

**Website: [www.PanekCPA.com](http://www.PanekCPA.com)**

## MELROSE HEADQUARTER OFFICE

900 Kraft Drive SE, PO Box 40  
Melrose, MN 56352-0040  
(800) 962-0655



## ST. JOSEPH BRANCH OFFICE

29643 Frontage Road, PO Box 816  
St. Joseph, MN 56374-0816  
(800) 962-655

# OPERATION ROUND UP® CONTRIBUTES \$71,952 TO 62 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CAUSES

Melrose, Minn. - Stearns Electric's Operation Round Up® Program contributed \$71,952 to 62 area organizations in November. Through the Operation Round Up® program, Stearns Electric Association gives its member-consumers the opportunity to give back to the community by rounding up their electric bill to the nearest dollar.

Since the program's inception in 1993, Operation Round Up (ORU) and Stearns Electric members have awarded over \$2.7 million to 5,071 local non-profit organizations and community service programs. The rounded-up funds, no more than \$11.88 per year, per member, are placed in a trust fund that is administered by the Stearns Electric Association Trust Board.

Trust Board Directors met on November 3 to review applications and funding requests. Sixty-two organizations were selected to receive funds totaling between \$200 to \$2,000 in this round of contributions.



Caption: (Pictured from left to right) Bob Doyle, Melrose Food Shelf; Renee Anderson, Mother of Mercy Foundation; Bud Heidergerken, Freeport Community Center; Tim Wingate, Melrose Food Shelf; Joyce Rademacher, Project Give-A-Gift; Janet and Chris Kerfeld, Sauk Centre Sno-Cleats; Kathy Struffert, Sauk Centre Ambulance; Chuck Marks, Operation Round Up® Trust Board member; Cara Norling, Melrose Area Women of Today; Jean Johnson, Honor Quilts; Kallie Larson, Albany Southsiders 4H Club; and Carolyn Carlson, Honor Quilts.

Visit [stearnselectric.org](http://stearnselectric.org) for more information on the Stearns Electric Operation Round Up® Program.

## Share Your News

This newsletter is your **FREE** opportunity to share information about exciting things happening in your organization with the rest of the St. Joseph Chamber!

**Send us newsworthy updates about your:**

- Celebrations
- Recognitions, Awards and Accomplishments
- Advancements
- New Employees
- Job Listings
- New Projects and New Locations
- Construction and Renovations
- Or anything journalism-related you'd like to share!

Newsworthy submissions to inform and enlighten will be accepted for our newsletter.

**Deadline:** 20<sup>th</sup> of every month!

Email your business name and a paragraph of 300 words or less, exactly as you'd like it published, to: Jude DuHoux at: [stjosephchamber@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephchamber@gmail.com) with the subject line "**NEWSLETTER**".

## FREE Advertising Opportunity

**Send us advertising to promote your business:**

- Sales
- Exclusive Offers
- Coupons
- Promotions
- Special Events
- Grand Openings
- New Products

Your Chamber Board of Directors has made the decision to offer free advertising in this newsletter. You must submit a camera-ready 8.5x11 or 8.5x5.5 jpg or pdf by the 20th of the month to advertise. You must submit each month and you must include an offer or benefit to our members within your advertising.

**DON'T MISS THIS!**

**Deadline:** 20<sup>th</sup> of every month!

**Plan ahead for your Advertising!**

## 10 Bonuses of Advertising in Chamber News

Your target audience is welcoming newsletters in their email box every day. The Chamber News is the right e-newsletter for placing your ads. You are speaking directly to your best potential customers. Advertising in emailed newsletters is one of the most effective and least expensive forms of advertising.

**#1: Precise Targeting**

**#2: FREE**

**#3: Monthly top-of-mind visibility**

**#4: Links to your home page**

**#5: Credibility**

**#6: Anytime, anywhere the newsletter reaches your audience.**

**#7: Lead generation**

**#8: Pass-Along Exposure**

**#9: No SPAM worries**

**#10 Positive SEO for your website**

# SAVE THE DATE



**WHAT:**

**WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS SUMMIT 2022**

Speakers, Presenters, Roundtable Discussions

**WHEN: Thursday, January 20th**

12:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Social to follow the summit

**WHERE: Willmar Conference Center**

**WHO: Business Owners and  
Human Resource Representatives**



**Details and Invite Coming Soon**

Partners include: City of Willmar and Kandiyohi County Economic Development Commission, Southwest Initiative Foundation, United Way of West Central Minnesota, the Willmar Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce, Mid-Minnesota Development Commission, Ridgewater College, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), Central Minnesota Jobs and Training Services, Inc.

Christina Butenhoff

## MICHELICH GRANITE

7808 County Road 75  
Saint Cloud, MN 56301

O: (320) 363-7779  
christinab@michelichmemorials.com

Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Evenings and weekends by appointment.

