

THE EAGLE
St. John's Newsletter
March 22, 2020

OUR ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Worship	414
Adult BibleClass.....	16
Lifelight	11
Confirmation Classes.....	13
Sunday School.....	21

Thank you for supporting God's work through St. John's.

Our offering received last weekend:
General Fund: \$8,943.00

GENERAL FUND FEBRUARY SUMMARY

Total Expenditures \$45,521.28
Total Deposits \$53,785.38
Ending Balance \$155,035.95

REGARDING OUR OFFERINGS

Congregational leaders may be exploring new options for electronic giving, but because the ministry of St. John's continues every day, please do either of these things:

- Mail your offering to the Church office.
- Save your weekly, first-fruits, joyful, and proportional offerings for that first Service when we're back together.
- Thank you.

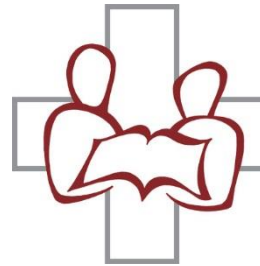
CONTACT INFORMATION NEEDED

Email and Facebook are the quickest ways for us to be in contact with many people. If you use Facebook, "like" the *St.JohnsEffingham* page. For email, Please ensure that we have a valid address for you in the office!

Thank you!

TO GET THE CHURCH BROADCASTS

Analog TV's will require a Mediacom DCT or DTA tuned to Channel 81.



FROM OUR PASTOR....

Thank you for working so well together as our congregation

operates in a different way. You've been understanding of the decision to suspend in-person public worship services. You haven't liked it, of course -- and that's good. You know how important it is to be in the Lord's House, to receive the Body and Blood of Christ (which can't happen over the internet) and to encourage one another by your physical fellowship around the Word. For a little while, we know this is the prudent choice. Unless the Lord returns first, this will change. Take heart.

There are more decisions to be made this week: when to resume regular Services, how this affects Confirmation, what to do to receive our members' offerings, how to establish and grow godly routines during this period of distancing, and how to help our neighbors. Our congregational leadership will address all these questions with prayer and care under the headship of Jesus. The Church office remains open every day to receive you -- in person or by phone. Pastor Fortkamp and I will serve you with the Lord's Supper at Church, or come visit you. We thank you for your care for us, and we -- as well as all of St. John's -- will keep on doing the ministry God has given us.

In the peace of Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pastor Fortkamp".

PRAYER LIST

Doma Wetherell, John Romero, Danny Klepzig, Dick Hulskotter, Evelyn Shepard, Connie Phelps, Jan Martins, Gayland & Shawn Bourland, Steven & Kathleen French, Deborah Wallin, Tim Mueller, Joye Bushue, Austin Miller, Esta Johnson, Roselle McClure, Greg Lankford, Zach Fritcher, Gerald Pontious, Voris Osborn, Lois Kyle, Joyce Schaefer, Craig Wolff, Nick Miller, John Holland, Lorri Mayberry, Evelyn Shumaker, Janet Brinkopf, Julie Scott, Lori Spears, Jan Pike, James Seggelke, Bill Draper, Joni Herron, Rochel Alwardt, Pastor Ted Gall, Shirley Cheadle, Gerald Pruemer, Colin Kinkelaar, Bev Koester, Rose Boggs, All Health Care Workers, and the family of Cheryl Pagel (sister-in-law of Vernabelle Lankford).

These members of the Armed Forces: Paul Smith, Sam Kehoe, Nathan Vail, Aaron Smith, Baileigh Longwell, Jason Mette, Gabriel Walker, Johnathon Schuette, and all members of the Effingham National Guard.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Stewardship Board is in need of a couple of volunteers to help existing counting teams. It usually takes less than an hour per month. If you would like to help, please contact Jeanette Worman at jaworman@gmail.com or call 217-821-7918.

SAVE THE DATES

Photography dates for the
NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY
will be May 26-30, and June 3.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

March 22 – Lent 4

Ps. 142:5 – “I cry to you, O LORD; I say, ‘You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.’ ” The Lord is our portion, our refuge, our everything. His mercy preserves us through all our days in the land of the living. This confidence frees us from the fear that so often leads to sins of greed and coveting. We have the Lord, we have a Father, and He is in control. We can follow His Word in confidence.

LIFE QUOTE from Lutherans for Life

March 22 – Lent IV –

“[T]hat the works of God might be displayed in him” (John 9:3). Wondrous honor He has given to our every affliction, even the fiercest ones. The Jesus Who has borne our sicknesses and carried our sorrows incarnates our pains unto salvation. Why consider assisted suicide when our discomforts afford us front-row seats to witness the movements of the Almighty – and the privilege of participating firsthand?

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 4th & Sunday, April 5th
Palm Sunday Services

Thurs., April 9 Maundy Thurs. Services
1 PM & 6:30 PM with Holy Communion

April 10-Good Friday Services
1 PM & 6:30 PM

Saturday, April 11—NO SERVICES

Easter Breakfast April 12th 7:00--10:15 AM

Easter Sunday Services
6 AM, 8:00 AM, and 10:30 AM
With Holy Communion

Meyer Minute for March 19

(a devotion by the President of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis)

When you're under stress, you're more likely to say and do things that upset relationships. The Coronavirus is stressing us all. While social distancing will help our physical health, social distancing does not distance us from our raw emotions. In fact, having strange ways of living suddenly imposed upon us makes us more susceptible to lashing out against others. Since the pressure within us needs a way out, we're tempted to let it out in unholy ways. An introspective Christian prays:

Keep me from saying words / That later need recalling;
Guard me lest idle speech / May from my lips be falling;
But when within my place / I must and ought to speak,
Then to my words give grace /Lest I offend the weak.

I've heard more than a few people say that our emotions are neutral. No. Since original sin has totally corrupted our being, you can be sure your emotions will tilt toward sin (Psalm 51:5, Romans 7:14). That's also true of us who confess our sins, believe in Jesus, and are bound for heaven, but we Christians have a way to sanctify our raw emotions. When day-in and day-out the Word of God gets down into our being, the Spirit gives us godly emotions. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control" (Galatians 5:22-23).

"Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God" (1 Peter 122-23).

Lord, let me win my foes / With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends / For counsel and correction,
Help me, as You have taught, / To love both great and small
And by Your Spirit's might / To live in peace with all.

Grant me the strength to do / With ready heart and willing
Whatever you command, / My calling here fulfilling;
That I do what I should / While trusting You to bless
The outcome for my good, / For you must give success.

[(Cf (Lutheran Service Book, 696, 3, 4, 2).]

--President Dale Meyer

SUNDAY	22	10:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE ON CHANNEL 81 ON MEDIACOM
MONDAY	23	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
TUESDAY	24	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
		3:00-4:00 PM	FOOD PANTRY
WEDNESDAY	25	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
		1:00 PM	STAFF MEETING & DEVOTIONS
THURSDAY	26	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
FRIDAY	27		PASTOR'S SABBATH
		12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
SATURDAY	28	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
SUNDAY	29	8:00 & 10:30 AM	TBA

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- 3/22 Mike Johnson, Elsie Kinkelaar, Bradley Miller, Nicholas Miller
- 3/24 Carter Frailey & Stacey Hagerstrom
- 3/25 Keith Bahrns, Audrey Fritcher, James Starner, & Pam Baker
- 3/26 Sharon Giesler, Pauline Johnston, Adam Storm, Avery Watson, & Nicole Doehring
- 3/27 Hayes Hinton, Emma Newlin, Al Palisch, & Sandy Wieneke
- 3/28 Pastor Michael Burdick, Judy Joergens, & Amanda Rieman

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 3/24/2007 Jeremy & Jessica Fritch
- 3/26/1999 Douglas & Jane Storm

Address for Jan Pike

Metropolitan Flats
 c/o Janice Pike
 4545 Forest Park Ave,
 Building B – Apt. 207
 St. Louis, MO 61308

THE LUTHERAN WITNESS

It's that time of year to renew your 2020 Lutheran Witness. **Cost is \$15.96/yr.** If you are a **NEW** subscriber, you will not receive you first one until July 2020. Please make checks payable to St. John's.

PORTALS OF PRAYER

Direct Mail 1 year subscription

Reg. \$9.10

Digest \$14.50

Large Print \$15.40

Simply use the designated envelopes provided in your box. Please have **these** into the office by **Wednesday April 8th**. Please make checks payable to St. John's.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE....

PLEASE have your items submitted for the Eagle Newsletter into the office by 11:00 a.m. on Thursdays to make sure it will be in the next newsletter. Thank you!