

**THE EAGLE**  
St. John's Newsletter  
March 29, 2020

**OUR ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK**  
On-line Worship Views..... 600+

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

Our offering received last weekend:  
General Fund: \$2,021.00

**FROM OUR PASTOR**

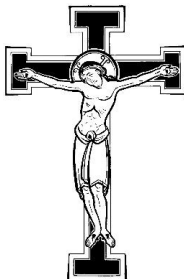
Dear Fellow Saints,

A pastor on our Central Illinois District staff shared a wonderful devotion with us in a virtual meeting we had this week. It was based upon Jesus' feeding of the 5,000 (John 6), and keyed on this powerful part of the story: *Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people can eat?" He said this to test him, for [Jesus] Himself knew what He would do."* (vv 5-6)

Jesus knew what He would do, and through a series of events, He did it.

You and I don't know what we're going to do tomorrow, let alone when the restrictions related to public health are lifted. Not knowing sparks anxiety in us. I can only imagine how the 12 disciples felt as they looked out over a huge crowd with limited resources. Jesus, though, was not anxious. Nor is He today. He knows what He is going to do with St. John's Lutheran Church, with the congregations of our District and Synod, with and for our neighbors, and with your precious life and family.

He's going to continue to deliver His Word to us, and through us. He's going to provide for people's needs by the care of neighbors. He's



going to use suffering to produce endurance, character and hope. He's going to overcome death and sin. Good Friday and Easter have already secured the victory.

I don't know if we will have public Services in Holy Week. I consult with our Elders throughout each week and we make decisions based upon statewide guidance and Christian wisdom through prayer. I know I'm planning for the Rite of Confirmation on May 3, and that it will be ok if we have to move it. Jesus knows what He is going to do.

I know you're praying for others. I hope you're also reaching out to members and neighbors in safe and warm ways. People need to hear from you. You need to be connected to them. And best of all, we all need to rest in this truth: Jesus knows what He is going to do.

In the peace of Christ,

**REGARDING OUR OFFERINGS**

Regarding our offerings: **Our Stewardship Board has initiated online-giving through a secure portal on our church website at [stjohnsLCMS.net](http://stjohnsLCMS.net)** It will soon be active for you to use, and we'll share information on how. Until then, 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, thank you for ensuring 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.

### **PRAYER LIST**

Judy Joergens, Donna Wetherell, John Romero, 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, Joni Herron, Rochel Alwardt, Pastor Ted Gall, Shirley Cheadle, Gerald Pruemer, Colin Kinkelaar, Bev Koester, Rose Boggs, All Health Care Workers. 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.

### **SAVE THE DATES**

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

### **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](mailto:jaworman@gmail.com) or call 217-821-7918.

### **LCMS STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT**

March 29 – Lent 5

**Rom. 8:1 – “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”** This is the joy of the Gospel. There is no condemnation for us before the throne of God, because in His love He has provided salvation for us in Christ. We have been set free. We are His children once again, and coheirs with Christ of all the blessings of heaven. If this does not make us thankful, nothing will.

### **LIFE QUOTE from Lutherans for Life**

March 29 – Lent V –

Life issues like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis cast long shadows. Sometimes our mortal eyes only behold despair and death in such circumstances. But our Lord Jesus loves nothing more than lost causes (Ezekiel 37:5-6). He walks hope into the darkest valley, and where our resolve ends, His resurrection begins. Trusting His presence and promise and power takes hold of a life not even crisis or cancer can touch (John 11:25).

**Sign-up at [www.cidLCMS.org](http://www.cidLCMS.org) to get our District's newsletter, The GatePost, emailed to you.**

Here's a poem/prayer worth memorizing! In our online worship this week we are singing the following hymn, rich in honesty and hope:

**552 O Christ, Who Shared Our Mortal Life** sts. 1, 9-10, 4

- 1 O Christ, who shared our mortal life  
And ended death's long reign,  
Who healed the sick and raised the dead  
And bore our grief and pain:  
We know our years on earth are few,  
That death is always near.  
Come now to us, O Lord of Life;  
Bring hope that conquers fear!
- 2 Two weeping sisters, worn by grief  
And mired in depths of gloom,  
Stood watching where their brother lay  
Within a rock-sealed tomb.  
When, Lord, You met them as they mourned,  
You wept compassion's tear.  
But Martha, sore with sorrow, said,  
"He'd lived had You been here!"
- 3 "I am the Lord of life and death!"  
You answered Martha's cry,  
"And all who hear and trust My Word  
Shall live, although they die!"  
You walked the path to Laz'rus' tomb,  
You called him forth by name,  
And living, loving once again,  
From death to life he came!
- 4 Death's power holds us still in thrall  
And bears us toward the tomb.  
Death's dark'ning cloud hangs like a pall  
That threatens earth with doom.  
But You have broken death's embrace  
And torn away its sting.  
Restore to life our mortal race!  
Raise us, O Risen King!

1 O Christ, who shared our mortal life  
And ended death's long reign,  
Who healed the sick and raised the dead  
And bore our grief and pain:  
We know our years on earth are few,  
That death is always near.  
Come now to us, O Lord of Life;  
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**CALENDAR-----MARCH 29 – APRIL 5, 2020**

SUNDAY	29	10:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE ON CHANNEL 81 ON MEDIACOM
MONDAY	30	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
TUESDAY	31	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
WEDNESDAY	1	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
		1:00 PM	STAFF MEETING & DEVOTIONS
THURSDAY	2	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
FRIDAY	3		PASTOR'S SABBATH
		12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
SATURDAY	4	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
SUNDAY	5	10:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE ON CHANNEL 81 ON MEDIACOM

**BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK**

- 3/29 Cindy Esch, Glenna Schagemann, Maleah Whitehair  
 3/30 Kylie Lamb, Sadie Norman, Kraig Rubin, Louise Schaefer, Hayden Wendling  
 3/31 Judy Siebert

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

- 3/29 Dean & Donna Wetherell  
 3/30 Allen & Fay Tomkins

**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 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please make checks payable to St. John's.

**Address for Jan Pike**

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