

THE EAGLE
St. John's Newsletter
May 3, 2020

many of you are thanking God for Pastors H. E. Zimmerman, Koschman Bachus, Gall, and others.

Because of your support of Mike Stein, someday there will be people thanking God for *Pastor Stein*. Let's keep an eye out for the next generation of young men to be trained into this wonderful vocation. Our support for them begins now, when they are perhaps only 10 years old. Or younger. Thank the Lord! In Him,



THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have used our "Online Giving" portal through our website! It's working securely and easily. Go to www.stjohnsLCMS.net and click on "Online Giving" to make a one-time or recurring offering.

OUR ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK
Online Worship Views..... 355

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

offering received last week:
General Fund:..... \$10,073.00

FROM OUR PASTOR

Mr. Mike Stein is the student at Concordia Seminary that we've been supporting for a while. Many of you will remember that he preached at St. John's last year. We had hoped to have him visit us again, but the shelter in place restrictions precluded that. This past week Mike received his pastoral assignment. He'll soon be the undershepherd at St. Paul Lutheran in Beecher, IL! He wants me to thank you for your prayerful and financial support for him as he studied for the pastoral ministry. Perhaps we will be able to have him and his family here again before his ordination and installation.



That's what pastors are – undershepherds. Jesus is the Good One, we are his representatives. And with you, pastors are all sheep needing to be trained, washed, anointed, lead. Thank God for the under shepherds who brought us to this day. In particular, I thank God for Pastor Schliepsik, who baptized me 58 years ago, and for Pastor Ueckert who gave me my confirmation instruction. I'm certain that

GET THE NEWS

Automatically get news from St. John's! Go to our website (www.stjohnsLCMS.net) and click "EMAIL UPDATES." Fill out the simple form and you'll start receiving the Eagle and all other news in your email inbox.

THE EAGLE

Next week we will mail a paper copy of the "Eagle" to our households. If you have read it all and want to save us the postage, send an email by Monday, May 4, at noon to saintjohnslcms@gmail.com simply saying "no paper copy needed." You could also send the same via Facebook. Thanks!

PRAYER LIST

Bill Draper, John Romero, Dick Hulskotter, Evelyn Shepard, Connie Phelps, Jan Martins, Gayland & Shawn Bourland, Steven 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, Joni Herron, Rochel Alwardt, Pastor Ted Gall, Gerald Pruemer, Colin Kinkelaar, All those who are in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Situations, and All Health Care Workers.

Thanksgiving for the marriage of Tanner & Ashley (Wendt) Veach on May 2.

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.

FOOD PANTRY ANNOUNCEMENT

Items to donate for the month of May are:

Canned Chicken & Wide Noodles

You may drop your items off at the church in the kitchen on the cart that is designated for the food pantry.

Thank you!

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION

During our "Shelter-In-Place" due to Covid-19, we are currently doing drive thru for our distribution on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

May 3 – Easter 4

1 Peter 2:21 – "For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps." Our heavenly Father wants us to grow into the image of His Son, to follow in His steps. Jesus suffered for us not only to redeem us, but also to show us what love looks like – to leave us an example of self-giving, sacrificial generosity. "Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow His example pure."

LIFE QUOTE from Lutherans for Life

May 3

"No more strangers or foreigners, in Christ we can be members of the family of God. Hear God's Word, then, to you today no matter your present circumstance. Your life matters to Him. With faith rooted in Jesus, we are part of His family, and that means your life and mine are valuable not just to each other, but to Him. And that changes everything." *Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, former speaker of "The Lutheran Hour" and Executive Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

COMMUNION

Pastor Burdick and Pastor Fortkamp are available to give you the Lord's Supper in individual services. Please contact the Church office (217-342-4334) and we will make arrangements.

-- Elder Update—

Dear Members of Saint John's Lutheran Church,

We pray that you are doing well. These strange times have not completely isolated us, because our Lord is always present and faithful. We know that it's difficult that we are isolated from one another much more than usual, and much more than we want to be. We want to take a moment to write to you about what we have been prayerfully discussing as a board of elders.

We're preparing now to get ready for that day when we will return to in person services. We hope you are, too. We anticipate that when the shelter in place restrictions are lifted it's going to be in phases and there will probably be a limit on how many people can come to Services. For instance, if the total number of worshipers were 50 people, we anticipate holding multiple services on a weekend so that we will be in compliance, and we will be together. Perhaps we would hold six services over the weekend, with a large amount of time between the services so that there isn't a lot of close contact as one group leaves and the next group arrives for a service. We probably will have people sign up to attend a particular service -- signing up online, or signing up by calling the church office. We will send a letter or email to all of the congregation to notify people what that process for sign-up would be. It is likely that our first weeks together will be for worship only. Sunday school and Bible classes will come soon after.

The same proposals you may have heard in local news about steps toward resuming public worship have been part of our discussion for over a week.

The church is very clean these days, as our custodial staff has done a great job of disinfecting. When we have in-person services, will ensure that the building will remain clean.

While we wait, we want to remind you that Pastor Fortkamp and Pastor Burdick are available for pastoral care, including communion services by appointment. Call the church office or one of the pastors directly, and they will make appropriate arrangements.

We have weekly elder meetings by phone. We will share more information as we receive it, and as we help guide our congregation toward the return to a more normal worship schedule. We know that preparing for the return to worship publicly, for our church family as a whole, and for each individual household, begins with what we're doing ahead of time. What we do now will be a foundation for an active worship life every week until our Lord returns. We're looking forward to that with you. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

-- Your Board of Elders

Jeff Weis, Chairman (217-246-3963)

Todd Zeigler (217-821-6135)

Howard Janis (217-821-6728)

Jeff Stremming (217-821-3891)

Jake Wendling (217-246-8667)

Jim Schroeder (217-821-1426)

Chris Niebrügge (217-821-8854)

CALENDAR-----MAY 3 – MAY 10, 2020

SUNDAY	3	10:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE ON CHANNEL 81 ON MEDIACOM
MONDAY	4	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
TUESDAY	5	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
WEDNESDAY	6	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
THURSDAY	7	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
		6:30 PM	ELDER'S PHONE MEETING
FRIDAY	8		PASTOR'S SABBATH
		12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
SATURDAY	9	12:00 PM	PASTOR'S DAILY DEVOTION ON ST. JOHN'S FACEBOOK PAGE
SUNDAY	10	10:00 AM	WORSHIP SERVICE ON CHANNEL 81 ON MEDIACOM

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

- 5/4 Alex Junge, Beckett Sams, Carolyn Webb, George Soltwedel, & Lisa Norton
- 5/5 Mary Brown
- 5/6 Fred Meislahn & Troy Probst
- 5/7 Bev Kopplin, Jim Klein, Kal Keitel, Richard Wendling, & Stephanie Gordon
- 5/8 Graham Wendling, Kara Koester, & Tamara Boerngen
- 5/9 David Walls & Kelsey Boerngen

LET'S STAY CONNECTED

Stay connected through our website (www.stjohnsLCMS.net) and our Facebook page, St.JohnsEffingham. On Sunday, at 10:00 am, worship with us on Mediacom channel 81.

ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 5/3/1986 John & Suzanne Lechman
- 5/3/1969 J. P. & Terry Simmons
- 5/3/1997 Mike & Marla Pilcher