

THE EAGLE

St. John's Newsletter

November 22, 2020

I'm writing my note for The Eagle on the anniversary of President Lincoln's Gettysburg address, and I'm mindful of how paltry these words are in comparison with his brief (271 words!) and dense speech. I hope you read both his address and these bits of news from our ministry together...

Sign up – The Elders and I have decided that it is best for us to require signup for all worship Services, beginning with Thanksgiving. We're doing our best to spread out the attendance at safe levels, so, please, go to our church website -- www.stjohnsLCMS.net -- and click the link for the Service you desire to attend. If you cannot use the website, please call the office. You can leave a message. Thank you for your understanding.

Advent Wreath

Next Sunday it's time to assemble your home wreath and intentionally slow down amidst the hustle and bustle the world



is imposing on us. Sunday School children will receive a special devotion on "The Jesse Tree." Others, like Kathy and me, will be using Portals of Prayer this Advent. Whatever you use, embrace it. Slow down. Listen to the Word. Pray back to God from what you hear. Have a blessed journey. Do Advent. Wait to celebrate Christmas.

"Pardon me, I've forgotten your name!"

– When you see someone here at church whom you don't know, be bold and warm.

Refrain from shaking hands, but don't ignore them. Introduce yourself and get to know them. More people are searching for a church – and for meaning – this time of the year.

Today's Light – Sign up to receive this great resource for reading through the whole Bible. Get the instructions off the bulletin board in the Atrium Hallway. Accept the gift subscription, or pay for it yourself. But, please, participate! You're going to be blessed. Deadline is coming up!

Missions in our backyard -- I'm speaking for a mission festival at Grace, Dieterich and Faith, Shumway this weekend, sharing what we, as a District, are doing in campus ministry. I'll share this information here in two weeks, including news about how we can give prayer and financial support to the campus ministries in Central Illinois.

Trinity Hope – Thanks to our Evangelism Board and everyone who contributed to the excellent drive-through meal last Sunday in support of this feeding program in Haiti. Special thanks to the youth and to Todd Martin. God be praised!

All of the above is good stuff, and it took almost 400 words to say it. The essential thing is this: we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow, this Church. Jesus Christ alone has done that by His death and resurrection. He has not lived in vain; nor do we, when we live in Him. Thanks be to God – His Church shall not perish from the earth.



Angel Tree Toy Drive

The deadline for the Angel Tree for the FISH Christmas Store will be **Dec. 6th**. You can put your unwrapped gifts around the Christmas tree in the Atrium. Thank you!

Thanksgiving Services

Wed, Nov 25th, 6:30 PM

Thanksgiving Day, Nov 26, 9:00 AM

Christmas Eve

Thurs., Dec. 24th 4 PM, 6:30 PM, & 11 PM
w/Holy Communion

Christmas Day

Fri., Dec. 25th 9 AM, w/Holy Communion

Saturday, Dec. 26, NO Worship Services

Sun., Dec. 27th 8 AM, w/Holy Communion

Sun., Dec. 27th 10:30 AM, w/Holy Communion

Advent Midweek Services:

Wednesdays, December 2, 9, and 16.
12:15 PM & 6:30 PM

Scrip Sales

Looking for a special gift card? The Social Ministry team will be set up before and after church services. Look for a member of the Social Ministry team who will have a table set up in the gym.

November Food Pantry Donation

Small Applesauce & Peanut Butter

Food Pantry Distribution

Tuesday, Nov. 24, from 3-4 PM

Our Response to the Gospel

Our Attendance Last Week

In Person Attendance	264
Online Worship Views	112
Sunday School Pre-K-HS.....	38
LifeLight Class	7
Adult Sunday School Class.....	13

Our Offerings Last Week

General Fund	\$4,969.25
Online General Fund.....	\$1,650.00
Total General Fund Offering	\$6,619.25

LCMS Stewardship Thought

Matthew 25:44 – “Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ ” With this parable Jesus once again emphasizes that our good works come from who we are, not the other way around. Sheep do sheep works, and goats do goat works. So, first things first. If we want to live more faithfully, let us come to Jesus, receive His gifts, and ask him to increase our faith.

Concordia Seminary Food Bank

The Board of Social Ministry will be collecting non-perishable grocery items during the Thanksgiving Worship Services. Please bring your grocery items to either service (Wed., Nov. 25 at 6:30 PM or Thurs., Nov. 26 at 9:00 AM).

Decorating

We will be decorating the church on Saturday, Nov. 28 at 9 AM. All help would be appreciated! Thank you! Howard & Laura Janis & The Decorating Committee

Deepest Prayers & Sympathy

Our deepest prayers and sympathy go to the family of Velma Wagner. She passed away on Wednesday, November 18. Visitation will be Tuesday, Nov. 24th, here at the church from 12-1 pm with the funeral beginning at 1 pm. Burial will be in St. John’s Cemetery.

Lydia Guild

The Lydia Guild will meet on Tues., Dec 1 at 6:00 pm.to complete year end items. Please bring your “Red Stocking” mission projects, mites for our missed meetings, if you have not already turned them into the church office or to Marilyn. **NO** refreshments will be served.

Christmas Cards Sales

We have added more sympathy, anniversary, & Christmas cards to the cabinet. Choose a student to profit for youth activities. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Wetherell.

Pecans Are In

You can pick them up before or after services on Saturday or Sunday in the gym.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

Lesson 13 Exodus 16

In today's lesson, we learn about how God provides "Food from Heaven." The Israelites arrive in the wilderness with no food, grumbling against Moses and Aaron. God keeps His promise to provide for His people as He daily sends manna (bread) and quail (meat) from Heaven for them to gather. The Lord teaches His people to trust as they gather only what they need for one day.

Prayer List

Cassie Power, Brett Kull, Kenneth Longwell, Florence Genaust, Marlene Bushue, Karen Dall, Delores Miller, Rev. Dr. Wayne Hoffman, Marlene Walker, Dwight Kelpzig, Gerald Pruemer, Rose Boggs, John Romero, Tim Mueller, Craig Wolff, Mike McWhortor, Mary Wolfmeyer, Bertie Powell, Zach Fritcher, Evelyn Shumaker, Janet Brinkopf, the family of Sandy McFarland, and the family of Velma Wagner.

Members of the Armed Forces, including Paul Smith, Nathan Vail, Baileigh Longwell, Jason Mette, Gabriel Walker, Johnathon Schuette, Henry Bielenberg; and all first responders of our community and nation

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"This Thanksgiving, let's remember exactly what God has bought for us with the blood of His Son—not just anything, but everything that matters: Pardon from sin and release from guilt. Peace with God and a home in heaven. We come empty-handed to this banquet of blessings. No marshmallow-topped side dish of good works can earn us a place at this buffet. We have nothing to offer God in exchange, yet '[t]he LORD has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy' (Psalm 126:3)."

Sarah Habban, *Time of Grace – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

The Lutheran Hour

November 29 "Magnum Opus", Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, How is God like a band director? Learn how God enables us to play our part in His "Magnum Opus." (Daniel 8:27)

Youth Board events are BACK!!!

Cookies—Pre-order cookies. Fill out the insert in the bulletin or call Cathy Norris 217-821-3656 or Christine Niebrugge 217-663-0719 to place your order. Cost is \$6/dz. Order by Dec. 6th pick up and pay for your order at the Dec. 19th or 20th church services.

Grab-n-Go Advent Meal Dec. 2nd. We will serve 1 hour before each service and 30 min. after each service. Menu is Chili & Vegetable Soup, Hot Dog, Chocolate Chip Bar & Water. Free will donation. NO SIT DOWN DINING.

Live Christmas Nativity Scene – Dec. 12th from 6 – 8 pm. If you wish to participate, sign-up on the bulletin board in the hallway. We are still in need of a camel, sheep, and/or mule.

Pictures from the Haiti Hunger Fight Event



CALENDAR-----Nov 22 – Nov 29, 2020

Sunday	22	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
			Operation Christmas Child Boxes are Due
<i>Preschool Classes – Monday, Tues., & Wed. 8:30 – 11:30 AM</i>			
Monday	23	12:00 PM	Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		6:30 PM	Board of Early Childhood
Tuesday	24	1:00 PM	Velma Wagner Funeral
		3-4 PM	Food Pantry Distribution
Wednesday	25	12:00 PM	Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		1:00 PM	Office Staff Devotion/Meeting
		6:30 PM	Thanksgiving Eve Service
			Donations for Concordia Seminary Food Bank
Thursday	26	9:00 AM	Thanksgiving Day Service
			Donations for Concordia Seminary Food Bank
			Office Closed/No Preschool
Friday	27		Pastor's Sabbath
			Office Closed/No Preschool
		12:00 PM	Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
Saturday	28	8:00 AM	Praise Band Practice
		9:00 AM	Decorating the Church
		4:00 PM & 5:30 PM	Worship Service w/HC
Sunday	29	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 AM	Sunday School & LifeLight
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
			5 th Sunday Food Pantry Offering

Birthdays This Week

- 11/22 Haley Brown & John Richards
- 11/23 David Brinkopf, Greg Perry, Jeff Vail, Liam Boone, & Madi Boerngen
- 11/25 Emmerson Hansen, Holly Hulskotter, Jerry Bloemer, & Randy Kohnert
- 11/26 Corey Lotz, David Barr, Doris Gartner, & Mike Schlechte
- 11/27 Dr. Kelly Haller & Janet Martins

- 11/28/87 David & Rebecca Ragan
- 11/28/54 Dr. James & Doris Gartner

Anniversaries This Week

- 11/23/89 Michael & Patricia Logan
- 11/23/19 Tyler & Cheyanne Pilcher
- 11/25/62 Paul & Judy Wendling
- 11/26/71 Jim & Becky Bailey

