

THE EAGLE

St. John's Newsletter

December 6, 2020

“The grass withers, the flower fades...” Things just don't last like they used to. You've probably heard that about appliances. Even the folks who make and sell a fridge these days will admit that it will not last as long as the Kelvinator in our basement that's been chugging away for over 60 years. But this isn't anything new. “Things” have always worn out.

*The grass withers
and the flowers fade,
but the Word of our
God stands forever.*
Isaiah 40:8



“...but the Word of our God will stand forever.” (Isaiah 40:8) This is why our life together here at St. John's is built and sustained by the Word of God.

So that more of us are immersed in the “forever” Word of God, I'm making one more appeal to you about “Today's Light.” This week you can still sign up to participate in our two-year Bible reading program, which begins 1/1/21. Stop by the main hallway bulletin board and take the sign-up instructions. If you sign yourself up, be sure to add this Order Note: start my subscription with Jan-Mar 2021. If you will accept the gift subscription from a member, contact us in the office this week. I desire that many of us will read through the eternal Word of God.

Participants in “Today's Light” would love to know who else is doing it, too.

Let others know by writing your name on the sheet on the bulletin board (or you can let the office and we'll write it there). It's encouraging!

Our Food Pantry does great work, feeding our neighbors food and mercy. You can support this ministry with your special donation in thanks for the children's nativity scene we're soon going to give to a child! The Nativity is great, and so is the work of our Food Pantry. Please consider a special gift (checks payable to St. John's Food Pantry) and give it to Janet Brinkopf, who is receiving the donations on behalf of our Social Ministry Board. Thank you!

Concordia Seminary Students

We support two pastoral ministry students at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. See the new letters and pictures from Vicar Jeron Melon and Vincent Otto on the “In the News” bulletin board,

Service Sign-Up

Please remember, you need to sign-up for **ALL** services. You can do so online, or by calling the office.

Food Pantry Distribution

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 3-4 PM

December Food Pantry Donation

Brownie Mix & Spaghetti Sauce

Offering Envelopes

The 2021 Offering envelopes are in the gym on tables. Please be sure to pick yours up today. Be careful to maintain your distance while doing so. Thank you!

Additional Seating for Christmas Eve

Our additional sanctuary for Christmas Eve worship will be in the gym. With the video, audio, and decorations we are glad it will allow us to increase the worship attendance! We'll be needing additional ushers.

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

Sat., 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 9 & 16.
12:15 PM & 6:30 PM

Our Response to the Gospel

Our Attendance Last Week

In Person Attendance	249
Online Worship Views.....	234
Sunday School Pre-K-HS.....	38
LifeLight Class	10
Adult Sunday School Class.....	8
Thanksgiving Eve.....	79
Thanksgiving Day	47
Advent Services.....	118

Our Offerings Last Week

General Fund.....	\$6,235
Thanksgiving Offering	\$3,636
Advent	\$5
Online General Fund.....	\$1,970
Total General Fund Offering .	\$12,056

5th Sunday Food Pantry \$1,651.00

LCMS Stewardship Thought

2 Peter 3:11 – “Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness ...” All the things of earth have an expiration date: “Good Until the Last Day.” On that Day, all these things will be dissolved. The things that seem so important now will simply cease to be. Peter issues this to us as a challenge. Since this is so, what kind of life should we be living? What should your priorities be? On things? Or on the things of God?

This Week’s Sunday School Lesson

Lesson 1 Exodus 31:18-32:35

The lesson this week is “The Idle Idol.” Atop Mount Sinai, Moses receives the Law from God. Meanwhile, the Israelites grow impatient and convince Aaron to create a golden idol. When God sends Moses down from the mountain, Moses sees the people’s wanton worship and smashes the stone tablets. The people are punished for their idolatry. Moses returns to Sinai to plead God’s mercy for the people.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“This Christmas, let us continue to pray for mothers who are afraid and aren’t sure where to turn when they discover they are unexpectedly pregnant. Let us pray that, like Mary, they may find the courage to bring life into the world.”

*Right to Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •
www.lutheransforlife.org*

Help Needed

Lydia Guild is looking for additional women or men to be added to our funeral call list for desert donation and/or a few hours of time to help during the luncheon. Contact Brenda Wendling (217-240-6963) if you can help.

Prayer List

Don Tieffel, Greg Lankford, George Moschenrose, Melissa Wirth, Ruth Gall, David Winter, Cassie Power, Brett Kull, Kenneth Longwell, Florence Genauast, Marlene Bushue, Karen Dall, Delores Miller, Rev. Dr. Wayne Hoffman, Marlene Walker, Dwight Kelpzig, Gerald Pruemmer, Rose Boggs, John Romero, Tim Mueller, Craig Wolff, Mike McWhortor, Mary Wolfmeyer, Bertie Powell, Zach Fritcher, Evelyn Shumaker, and Janet Brinkopf, and the families of Ellen Tinges and Jan Pike. They both passed away Thursday morning, Dec. 3.

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

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** and pick up and pay for your order at the Dec. 19th or 20th church services.

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.



Lydia Guild Red Christmas Stocking

Our mission project will need to be turned in by Sun., Dec. 13th. Please drop your stockings off with change in it at the Welcome Center in the large Mite box or give it to the office. Put your name on it so we can get it back to you. We will do the project again next year.

BIBLES

for the children of our



Chatelain and Baja Schools

We already help feed the children a daily meal in these two schools. We want to provide each child a **Bible in their own language** so they can be fed truth and grace in Jesus for their soul! **Our Evangelism Board is seeking to raise \$2,700.** Your donations will be matched by another donor to meet the complete project cost of \$5,400. Praise God! To make a special donation to this project you may write your check to "St. John's Lutheran" with a memo for Trinity Hope BIBLES. Thank you.

Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Jan Pike. Jan passed away Thursday morning, Dec. 3.

Poinsettias

It is time to purchase your poinsettias for Christmas. This year, they are \$15.00 for an 8" plant. Please place your order by calling the church office by December 13th.

Deepest Sympathy

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Ellen Tinges. Ellen passed away Thursday morning, Dec. 3.

CALENDAR-----Dec. 6 – Dec. 13, 2020

Sunday	6		CID Campus Ministry Appeal
		8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
			Cookie Orders are Due TODAY
			Last Day To Bring Angel Tree Gifts
<i>Preschool Classes – Monday, Tues., Wed, Thurs., & Friday 8:30 – 11:30 AM</i>			
<u>Monday</u>	7	12:00 PM	Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		5:00 PM	Board of Trustees
<u>Tuesday</u>	8	1:00 PM	Prayer Shawl
		3:00-4:00 PM	Food Pantry Distribution
		5:00 PM	Board of Social Ministry
<u>Wednesday</u>	9	8:50 AM	Preschool Chapel
		12:00 PM	Pastor's Devo on Facebook
		12:15 PM & 6:30 PM	Advent Service
		1:00 PM	Office Staff Devotion/Meeting
		5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
<u>Thursday</u>	10	8:50 AM	Preschool Chapel
		6:30 PM	Catechism Class
		7:30 PM	Board of Elders
<u>Friday</u>	11		Pastor's Sabbath
<u>Saturday</u>	12	8:00 AM	Praise Band Practice
		4:00 PM & 5:30 PM	Worship Service w/HC
		6-8 PM	Live Nativity
<u>Sunday</u>	13	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 AM	Sunday School & LifeLight
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

Birthdays This Week

- 12/07 Logan Sanders, Seth Russell, & Marcella Kennedy
- 12/08 Debbie Barr, Judith Meislahn, Stan Bahrns, & Todd Nelson
- 12/10 Abby Barr, Chloe Martin, & Justin Marxman
- 12/11 Jill Hecht, Joel Wolfe, & Kiersten Baker

- 12/12 Adam Wendling, Brandon Willis, Eden Probst, Kaleb Hartman, Mallory Dixon, Marcia Probst, & Marlin Alwardt

Anniversaries This Week

- 12/08/90 Ron & Kathy Stumpf
- 12/09/88 Bob & Janet Hecht
- 12/11/71 Lesley & Norma Miller
- 12/11/71 Paul & Colleen Leppin