

# THE EAGLE

## St. John's Newsletter

### January 24, 2021

From Our Pastor ...

Today's Old Testament reading gives us Jonah's extremely brief sermon, "Yet forty days, and Ninevah shall be overthrown!" Perhaps there was more to it, but that was the core. Law. Law which cuts us down to size – small and without hope in ourselves. But not without hope. "The people of Ninevah believed God." Not in themselves, not in the goodness of Assyria or Ninevah. Not in us, not in the USA or Washington D.C. We believe God. Therefore, we have hope. Abundantly!

The children and families of our Eagle's Nest Preschool live and grow in Christian hope! We have a wonderful school. As we celebrate Lutheran Schools this week, we won't be having our usual "Pancakes with Pastor," but we will have some fun events: Monday and Tuesday the staff and students will make and wear crowns with the good kings of the Bible; Tuesday and Friday will be pajama days; Wednesday and Thursday will be team days, wearing our favorite team gear, while also giving thanks for each member of our school's team. It's all under the LSW theme "Sent To Serve!" The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many." (Matthew 20:28)



You live in hope, perhaps including the hope that your pastor's sermons will be as short as Jonah's. I live in the hope that they will be as effective as his! God's Word doesn't return to Him void (you'll read that this week in Isaiah 55 as part of the Today's Light journey), so we can all be glad that a sermon, like Jonah's, that is rooted in His truth and grace will bear abundant fruit in His time!

*Pastor Furdell*



Stephen Ministry – Jan Martins is almost complete in her training as our next Stephen

Ministry Leader. Soon you'll hear about the summer opportunity for training, so that you could serve as a Stephen Minister, giving Christian care to others. Will you prayerfully consider serving? Watch for more information.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Our Elders decided last Fall to make the occasional 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month a Communion Sunday, so that we don't go more than two weeks without the Lord's Supper. Holy Communion will be celebrated next weekend, too!

### January Food Pantry Donation

Chunky Beef Soup/Fruit Cocktail

### Next Food Distribution

Tuesday, January 26 from 3-4 PM

### Voters Meeting

Tuesday, January 26 at 7:00pm

In our Voters Assembly this Tuesday night, we'll give consideration to a proposed resolution from the Synod that would delay the upcoming District and Synod Conventions by one year, respectively, due to the pandemic restrictions.

### **LCMS Stewardship Thought**

Mark 1:14-15 – “... Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, ‘The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.’ ” To repent means to turn away from sins and our former way of thinking and turn toward belief in God and His Gospel of grace and mercy. The whole Christian life is one of repentance and faith. Where is God calling you to repent today? How is He calling you to deeper faith?

### **LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

“Today we don’t confess that we are against abortion. We are, of course. But that’s not quite it. Today we don’t confess that we are pro-life. We are, of course. But that’s not quite it, either. Today we confess that God gives life to all things. God makes, and we are made. He makes life, and we leave alive.”

*Rev. Christopher Esget, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Alexandria, Virginia – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

***Lutheran Schools Week is  
January 24-30!***

### **Braille**

We may be able to open our Braille Center in March. Watch for further announcements. – Marilyn Schaefer

### **LifeLight Class**

We will be starting a new study on the Parables. The Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Be watching for a start-up date in the very near future.

Our Lenten theme will be  
***“Return to The Lord,”***  
beginning Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17

### **Lydia Guild**

We will be meeting at our regular scheduled meeting date, Tues., Feb. 2 at 7:00 p.m. We will not be serving refreshments

### **This Week’s Sunday School Lesson**

Judges 4

The account of Deborah serves as today’s lesson, “The Palm-Tree Judge.” Judge Deborah urges Barak to gather 10,000 troops to go up against Sisera’s army of 900 iron chariots. When the battle turns against Sisera, he flees on foot, seeking refuge in Jael’s tent. Snoozing beneath a rug, Sisera meets his end at the hand of Jael as she pegs him through his temple to the ground.

### **Your Response to the Gospel**

#### **Our Attendance Last Week**

In Person Attendance

Sunday, January 17 .....291  
Online Worship Views .....156  
Sunday School Pre-K-HS .....40  
Adult Sunday School Class.....16

#### **Our Offerings Last Week**

January 17, General Fund ..... \$6,074.07  
Online General Fund..... \$2,242.00  
**Total General Fund Offering ..... \$8,316.70**  
**Building Fund .....\$25.00**  
**December 2020 General Fund Summary**  
Deposits ..... \$79,587.91  
Expenditures ..... \$70,268.27  
Ending Balance ..... \$156,236.10

### **Thank You!**

The Board of Social Ministry wishes to thank St. John’s members for your generous donations to our food pantry, Operations Christmas Child, and the FISH Catholic Charities Christmas Store.

### **Thanksgiving Food Donations**

The food we collected at our Thanksgiving services designated for the St. Louis Seminary food pantry have been used by our food pantry as the Seminary pantry is closed to donations. We will have another food drive for them when they reopen for donations.

***Thank you, Sunday School  
Teachers!***

### **St. John's Prayer Partner Ministry**

We are growing our ministry, which is now 50 Prayer Partners strong. We welcome YOU! Prayer requests from members of our congregation are received and Prayer Partners are then notified by phone, text, or email of the prayer request. Prayer Partners then pause and pray. It's that simple. If you would like to become a St. John's Prayer Partner, or you have a prayer request, you can either phone or text Julie Scott at 217-343-3047 or email stjprayerpartners@gmailcom

### **Youth Events**

#### **Youth Quake 2021**

ATTENTION ALL St. JOHN'S YOUTH  
(grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

Date: Sat. Feb. 27

Place: St. John's Lutheran Church  
Effingham

Time: 11:00 am – 5 pm

Best of all—IT'S FREE!

More news to come on how to register.

#### **Ash Wednesday Meals**

Wednesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>

Luncheon & Supper Meals

(Possible Dine In, Grab & Go, &  
Drive Through

### **VBS**

June 14-17—SAVE THE DATE!

Have you signed up for "Email Updates" from our congregation? At our website ([www.stjohnsLCMS.net](http://www.stjohnsLCMS.net)) , scroll down to "Email Updates" and sign up! Make sure you follow the directions and "verify" your signup. You'll receive the Eagle newsletter and the Sunday bulletin in an email each week, which is especially helpful for those who cannot yet be with us in-person. If you know someone who needs some assistance in using technology to access our electronic worship resources, please give them a hand.

### **Prayer List**

Earline Jutkins, Danny Reynolds, Deb Meyers, Vi Kirchoff, Anna Mae Gibson, Bob & Pat Eckhart, Irene Esch, Bob Miller, David Winter, Cassie Power, Brett Kull, Delores Miller, Gerald Pruemmer, Rose Boggs, Tim Mueller, Craig Wolff, Mike McWhortor, Mary Wolfmeyer, Bertie Powell, Zach Fritcher, Evelyn Shumaker, Janet Brinkopf,

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

#### **Today's Light and Isaiah...**

Quite a few people who are walking through the Bible readings in "Today's Light" have asked if there will be some opportunity to discuss them together. On Monday, February 1, I invite you to join me in a brief overview of what we read in the month of January: Isaiah! I will give a brief summary of the book of Isaiah and will do my best to answer some of your questions about it. Come to the Trinity Rooms upstairs at either 4:00-5:00pm or 5:30-6:30pm, Monday February 1.—Pastor Burdick

### **Channel 81 ...**

Apparently, they have not been displaying our worship Service very well lately. The problem is with the equipment at the transmitter, and not with our recording at the church. One of our tech team members is working on it, however. We're sorry for the inconvenience, and hope it will be resolved this week. The best quality of video and audio is through the livestream or recordings on our YouTube channel. We'll continue to make the Channel 81 broadcast available at 10:00am on Sundays.

# CALENDAR-----Jan 24, 2021 – Jan. 31, 2021

Sunday	24	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
<i>Lutheran School Week/Preschool—Monday - Friday</i>			
Monday	25		Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		6:30 PM	Board of Early Childhood
Tuesday	26	3:00-4:00 PM	Food Pantry Distribution
		7:00 PM	Voters Meeting
Wednesday	27		Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		1:00 PM	Office Staff Devotion/Meeting
		5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
Thursday	28		
Friday	29		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	30	8:00 AM	Praise Band Practice
		4:00 & 5:30 PM	Worship Services w/HC
Sunday	31	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

## Birthdays This Week

1/24 Charles Braasch, Katie Lotz, & Mike Mietzner  
 1/25 Cole Marxman & Perrie Richards  
 1/26 AJ Radloff & Leslie Boggs  
 1/27 Rebecca Ragan  
 1/28 Alec Niebrugge  
 1/29 Taylor Rieman  
 1/30 Darcie Buening

## Anniversaries

1/26/69 Paul & Carolyn Webb  
 1/27/63 Richard & Betty Albin



## Baptism

We rejoice at the Baptism of Zoey Boone this Sunday after the 10:30am Service! Her parents are Jill Boone and Haven Boone Jr, and her sponsors are her uncle and aunt, Jim and Kathy Schroeder. Welcome to the Lord's family, Zoey, through the water and Word of Baptism!

## Card Shower

A card shower is planned for Ruth Terhume's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, which is on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

You can send cards to:  
 Ruth Terhume  
 2705 S. Park St.  
 Effingham, IL 62401