

THE EAGLE

St. John's Newsletter

February 14, 2021

From Our Pastor ...

St. Valentine's Day. Our first thoughts surrounding this holiday probably aren't about sacrificial love. We're more likely to think first of flowers, chocolates,



romance, and classroom exchanges when we were kids. That's not bad at all. Yet, the foundation of this Christian holiday –the legend of the life and sacrifice of Valentine – is self-giving love.

Natural marriage is under attack these days. The war is waged by those who pretend that "marriage" is a human institution that we're free to define according to our selfishness. I'm not just referring to folks who believe that two men, or women, can marry one another. The attack also comes through heterosexual women and men damaged by pornography, no-fault divorce, the idolatry of mere happiness, and sex outside of marriage. These things, too, are undermining marriage and family. Repent. And believe the Good News.

One of the legends of Valentine is that he gave himself as a substitute for two who were sentenced to death. I don't know if that's true. Like you, I know that Jesus' sacrifice for all is true. It is love in action. It is our only hope for renewal in this fallen culture. It is not, however, a license to persist in porn, divorce, cohabitation, or

homosexuality. The sacrifice of Christ is love in action. For you and your neighbors. That's Good News.

Speaking of love, this Lent our midweek worship theme is "Return to the Lord." It's not designed just for those who are living in open sin. It's for all of us. It's an invitation to receive the love of God, to love God rightly, and to allow His love to renew our obedience. Like ... Valentine!...
In God's Love,

Preschool Registration

The Eagles Nest Preschool is currently accepting applications for the 2021-2022 school year. Forms are in the Atrium, the bulletin board, and they are also available online.

Jeremiah Review Session

Pastor Burdick will offer a review of our February "Today's Light" readings on Monday, March 1. Like the previous one, you may attend at either 4:00pm or 5:30pm in the Trinity Room. You do not have to sign up. God bless your journey through the Scriptures

The Board of Social Ministry

The Board of Social Ministry has scrip cards available in the fellowship hall after services and in the office until the cards on hand are gone. No more cards will be purchased. \$5.00 Sav-A-Lot vouchers will continue to be provided after services and in the office.



LCMS Stewardship Thought

Mark 9:6 -- "For he did not know what to say, for they were terrified." Soon enough, the disciples' terror turned into joy, for when Jesus is with us, there is no need to fear. He loves us and cares for us and will never abandon us. That assurance is the basis of all generosity – for only those who are set free from worry can learn the joy of giving.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"For the Christian, the crucifixion is the center of the whole, the event that gives voice to a broken, dark, and dying world, and the paradoxical suggestion of life somehow within it. This is why the church calendar sets apart forty days to prepare for the cross. This is why the church marks steeples and graves in memory of the crucifixion. The death of Christ is the occasion that makes way for the last to be first, the guilty to be pardoned, the creature united again to its creator."

Jill Carattini, Ravi Zacharias International Ministries – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Your Response to the Gospel

Our Attendance Last Week

In Person Attendance

Sunday, February 7.....	279
Online Worship Views.....	175
Sunday School Pre-K-HS.....	37
Adult Sunday School Class.....	16

Our Offerings Last Week

February 7 General Fund.....	\$11,185
Online General Fund.....	\$3,890
Total General Fund Offering	\$15,075
Building Fund	\$95

January General Fund Summary

Deposits	\$69,728.98
Expenditures	\$49,334.69
Closing Balance	\$176,630.39

Braille

There will be NO Braille until further notice

Youth Events

Youth Quake 2021

ATTENTION ALL St. JOHN'S YOUTH
(grades 6th-12th)

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. 17th

Chili, Veg Soup, Hotdogs, Desserts & Drinks
Luncheon—11 am - 12:15 pm

Supper Meals—5 pm - 6:30 pm

Limited dine-in seating before both services.

Grab & Go is available before & after both
services

Drive-Thru will be available 5 PM - 6:30 PM

VBS

June 14-17—SAVE THE DATE!

Deepest Sympathies

Prayers to the family of Roselle McClure. She passed away Wed., Feb. 10, in her home. Private family services will be Mon., Feb. 15 at 11:00 am at Johnson's Funeral Home. Burial will be in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Memorials may be made to St. John's Lutheran Food Pantry, St. John's Church Library, or the donor's choice.

Portals of Prayer & Lutheran Witness

It is time to sign up for your
Portals of Prayer & Lutheran Witness
subscriptions.

Here are the prices for this year.

Portals of Prayer

Regular Size "Direct Mail" \$9.60

Digest Size "Direct Mail" \$15.00

Large Print "Direct Mail" \$15.90

Lutheran Witness

\$15.96/year.

Money for the subscriptions can be put in the designated offering envelopes, or if you do not use the envelopes, please indicate it in the memo line of your check. You can also drop your check by the office. Feb. 25 is the deadline.

Prayer List

Derek Sanders, Lilly Wright, Rich Worman, Dick Hulskotter, Alyssa Burdick & baby, Paul Wendling, Gerard Bierman, Earline Jutkins, Deb Meyers, Irene Esch, Bob Miller, David Winter, Cassie Power, Brett Kull, Delores Miller, Rose Boggs, Tim Mueller, Craig Wolff, Mike McWhortor, Bertie Powell, Zach Fritcher, Evelyn Shumaker, Janet Brinkopf, John Root & Tamara Boerngen for their marriage here Fri., Feb. 19, and the family of Roselle McClure.

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

Stephen Ministry Mission

Our Mission Statement of St. John's states: Our members will be motivated by the cross to be actively engaged in ministry, showing love & care to others. We will encourage one another, nurture one another, & enthusiastically serve our God together!

Stephen Ministry supports our mission by:

- Equipping people to use their gifts in Ministry.
- Helping people to grow in their faith.
- Providing care & support for hurting people.
- Building up the congregation as a Christian community.
- Reaching unchurched people with the love of Jesus.
- Any notes the Stephen Minister may make regarding your next visit for follow ups.

~~Janet Martins

February Food Pantry Donation

Chicken Noodle Soup/Canned Peaches

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

I Samuel 8:4-9:2; 10:17-27- 11:12-15

As we gather today, we will study "The Chosen King." Desiring to be like all the other nations, the elders come to Samuel asking him to appoint a king over Israel. Samuel vainly tries to warn them against their plan, telling them the consequences the people will face. God reveals to Samuel that he will encounter the handsome Saul, whom Samuel anoints as king over Israel.

2021 CID LLL District Annual Meeting

As we celebrate 90 yrs. Of The Lutheran Hour®, Lutheran Hour Ministries impact has grown beyond the radio signal reach, spiritual growth within homes is still a vital component for strengthening the family of God. You are invited to Central Illinois LLL District Convention on Saturday, March 6 at St. John's Lutheran Church, 901 W. Jefferson Ave., Effingham, to join us in learning from Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of the Lutheran Hour®, in virtual presentation how God's timely release of the Households of Faith research in partnership with Barna is offering a new opportunity & resources to share the Good News within our own families and in our communities, to around the world.

Registration is \$15 per person, students and children are free. Included in your registration cost is a catered lunch & refreshments. Other highlights include ministry updates from the CID LCMS & LWML representatives & Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.

Register today—check Atrium for registration information or contact:

Deloris Blessman (309) 361-1461 or email (delorisblessman@yahoo.com). For more information, you can contact <church ambassador/CID LLL VP Dale Wetherall, 217-259-4728 or email dalewet51@gmail.com>

Registration is due by Feb. 25, 2021.

CALENDAR-----Feb. 14, 2021 – Feb. 21, 2021

Sunday	14	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		11:30 AM	Board of Stewardship
<i>Preschool—Tuesday- Friday</i>			
Monday	15		No Preschool
			Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		12:00 Noon	Board of Evangelism
Tuesday	16		
Wednesday	17		Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		8:50 AM	Preschool Chapel
		12:15 PM & 6:30 PM	Ash Wednesday Services w/HC
		11 AM – 12:15 PM	Ash Wednesday Meal
		1:00 PM	Office Staff Devotion & Meeting
		5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
		5:00 - 6:30 PM	Ash Wednesday Meal
Thursday	18	8:50 AM	Preschool Chapel
Friday	19		Pastor's Sabbath
		5:00 PM	John Root & Tamara Boerngen Wedding
Saturday	20	8:00 AM	Praise Band Practice
		4:00 & 5:30 PM	Worship Services
Sunday	21	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

Birthdays This Week

- 2/14 Faith Donaldson, Gary Hewing,
John Huelskoetter, & Luke Sipe
- 2/16 Dakota Fread
- 2/17 Steve Miller
- 2/18 Bob Shepard
- 2/19 Christina Niebrugge &
Megan King
- 2/20 Alex Wall, Angie Yocum,
Florence Leppin & Nancy Kohnert

Anniversaries

- 2/14/02 Gary & Gloria Fortkamp
- 2/14/96 Wesley & Carol Osborn
- 2/20/16 David & Elesha Brinkopf

Lenten Midweek Services:
Wednesdays, February 17-March 24
12:15 pm & 6:30 pm

