

THE EAGLE

St. John's Newsletter

March 14, 2021

From Our Pastor ...

This is one of those days when my note at the front of The Eagle doesn't have a unifying theme, but consists of important and random items. Here goes...

- I'll start another Adult Catechism Bible Study on Wednesday, April 21, meeting for ten weeks at 7:00 pm. If you'd like to review what Lutherans believe and why, or if you know someone interested in membership with St. John's, this is the class!
- If positivity statistics generally continue as they are now, we're going to begin having some extra events next month. On April 18th we'll hold our first "New Member Welcome" reception in over a year. It will take place at 9:00 am, following the early Service. We'll celebrate our newest members who came to us through transfer, affirmation of faith, or adult confirmation.
- On Easter Day our Youth Board is planning to hold the Easter Breakfast with careful procedures, similar to how Advent and Lenten soup suppers were conducted. The joy of having the breakfast will be far-surpassed by the promise and comfort of the Lord's resurrection.
- Speaking of resurrection, Easter and Ascension were the focus of Confirmation class this week. Our students were asking great questions and realizing that the bodily resurrection

of Jesus is essential to the Christian faith. If Jesus didn't rise from death, Christianity is useless. If He did, only Christianity is essential. It was a great class.

- Confirmation classes will likely wrap up on April 14. We have studied the Bible Overview all year and learned a lot. Next year the 6th Grade will do Bible Overview with Jerry Lindsey, and 7th - 8th Grade will study Luther's Small Catechism with me.
- I want to plead with and encourage all the parents of Sunday School kids: come to the Bible Class at 9:15 am Sunday up in the Trinity Room! I lead a study of the same lesson your children are studying, and it will bless you and your kids when you discuss the day's story together. This Sunday we examine wisdom through King Solomon.
- We received a very nice letter of thanks regarding our hosting of the LLL Convention last Saturday. See it on the main bulletin board, and know how grateful I am for the way you welcomed them last weekend.
- This week lots of people will mark St. Patrick's Day. For some fun and some teaching, on Monday I'll repost a satirical YouTube cartoon to our church Facebook page. The point? Confession of the Holy Trinity is as essential as the resurrection of our Lord! A little laughter is good, too.

God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – bless and keep us all,



LCMS Stewardship Thought

Ephesians 2:10 – “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Even the good we do in this world is a gift from God, prepared beforehand for us to do. And this too is a gift! For isn’t doing good also a good thing for the one who does it? So, from first to last, from the Lord’s free salvation given to us to the good works He’s prepared for us to walk in, it is all a gift of God’s grace.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Christ does not refuse our sense of tragedy or awareness of pain. He bears it in love, affirming our condition, carrying our sorrows to the end, all the way to the heart of God.”

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

This Week’s Sunday School Lesson

I Kings 3:5-15; Proverbs 3:1-12

In today’s lesson, “The Wise King,” when God invites Solomon to ask for what he desires most, Solomon prays for wisdom to carefully lead the people. Pleased with this selfless request, God grants Solomon great wealth and honor in addition to his desired wisdom. Solomon wrote and collected many of the wisdom writings that make up the Book of Proverbs.

Food Pantry

March Pantry Donation

Canned Chicken & Wide Noodles

Youth Card Sales

Donna Wetherell has added more anniversary, sympathy, & birthday cards to the cabinet. Remember, that your card purchases help our youth.

Your Response to the Gospel

Our Attendance Last Week

In Person Attendance

Sunday, March 7	306
Online Worship Views	165
Sunday School Pre-K-HS.....	44
Adult Sunday School Class	31
LifeLight	
Lenten Services, March 10	108

Our Offerings Last Week

General Fund, March 7	\$14,767
Online General Fund.....	\$3,780
Total General Fund Offering..	\$18,547
Building Fund	\$65

February General Fund Summary

Deposits.....	\$49,998.94
Expenditures	\$52,715.22
Ending Balance.....	\$173,914.11

Thank You!

The Social Ministry Team would like to thank everyone who has purchased scrip cards throughout the years. All cards have been sold, and the program has ended. All proceeds from the Scrip Program went to the food pantry.

Prayer List

Ronald Stuckemeyer, Lee Larimer, Craig Wolff, Dwight Klepzig, Lilly Wright, Gerard Bierman, Bob Miller, Cassie Power, Brett Kull, Delores Miller, Rose Boggs, Tim Mueller, Mike McWhortor, Bertie Powell, Zach Fritcher, Evelyn Shumaker, & Janet Brinkopf, and the family & friends of Rev. Dr. Wayne Hoffman, who passed away on March 2.

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

Easter Lilies

It is time to order your lilies for Easter. This year, they are 8" lilies for \$15. You can stop by the church office, or call the office, to place your order, which needs to be in by Monday, March 22.

Church Week at Rural King

We are again participating with Rural King in their **CHURCH WEEK**. If you shop at Rural King from **March 24 - 27, 2021** they will donate 10% of your total purchase to St. John's Lutheran Church Food Pantry.

Instructions--Simply go to:

<https://www.ruralking.com/churchweek>

- Under Church Week Heading click on Search or Organization Search
- Select State
- Select City
- Select: Our Church

You have until April 1, 2021 to upload your receipts. If you'd rather, you can turn in your receipt to the office & we will get your information turned in! **THANK YOU** for helping the Food Pantry through this project!

Camp CILCA Annual Banquet

Reserve your tickets now for this event. It will be held on Sunday, March 21, from 5 pm to 8 p.m. Come for live music, great food, and an engaging speaker, Rev. Christopher Thomas, who will be answering the question, "Should Christians be involved in politics?" Tickets must be reserved by Wednesday, March 17.

Call 217-487-7497 or email camp@cilca.org to reserve yours!

\$5.00 Save-A-Lot Vouchers

Now more than ever, the Board of Social Ministry wants you to know about our \$5.00 Save-A-Lot Vouchers that you can purchase in the office. Times have been hard for a lot of people in our community, so we encourage you to buy a voucher, or two, so that when you encounter a person in need, they have the opportunity to shop for themselves. Think of it as an extension of our already successful St. John's Food Pantry. We can reach those who may not yet know about this ministry or our church.

On the back of the certificate, this verse from Jeremiah offers hope: *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."*

Thank you~~The Board of Social Ministry.

Upcoming Events for Immanuel Altamont

Immanuel LYF Escape Room Fundraiser, Mar 20th from Noon-9 pm. (1 hr. slots). An escape room is a fun group activity based on a specific theme where you & your friends try to solve different puzzles to escape the room! Sign up at immanuelaltamont.org under Ministries go down to Youth, & select the time slot you would like to try & "Escape". Each group can have between 2-6 people and the cost is \$30 a group.

Immanuel will also host a Drive-Thru Easter Experience on March 28th from 2 – 4 pm. In the north parking lot. This experience will show the occurrences of Holy Week!

CALENDAR-----March 14, 2021 – Mar. 21, 2021

Sunday	14	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services, w/HC
		9:00 AM	Board of Youth
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
<i>Preschool—Monday- Friday</i>			
Monday	15		Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		12:00 Noon	Board of Evangelism
		3:00 PM	Cemetery Committee
		5:00 PM	Board of Stewardship
Tuesday	16		
Wednesday	17		Pastor's Devotion on Facebook
		8:50 AM	Preschool Chapel
		12:15 PM & 6:30 PM	Lenten Services
		1:00 PM	Office Staff Devotion & Meeting
		5:00 PM	Confirmation Class
Thursday	18	8:50 AM	Preschool Chapel
Friday	19		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	20	8:00 AM	Praise Band Practice
		4:00 & 5:30 PM	Worship Services
Sunday	21	8:00 & 10:30 AM	Worship Services
		8:00 AM Service Only	Commission Stephen Ministers Karla Flach & Rosemary Seggelke
		9:15 AM	Sunday School
		10:00 AM	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

Birthdays This Week

- 3/14 Aleece Lotz, Holly Wall,
Kyle Kohnert, Michael Kremer, Jr,
& Tyler Marxman
- 3/15 Andrew Perry, Brad Wenthe,
Jordan Grupe, Kelsey Rubin,
& Mike Womack
- 3/16 Mark Marxman
- 3/17 Norma Wendling
- 3/18 Derek Storm & Vera Pfenninger
- 3/19 John Holland & Wesley Radloff
- 3/20 Gwendolyn Kuhns, Jill Marxman,
Kathy Stumpf, & Wyatt Keith

Anniversaries

- 3/18/00 John & Donna Parker

