

THE EAGLE

St. John's Newsletter

March 28, 2021

From Our Pastor ...



Children. Pictured on our bulletin today. Calling out “Hosanna!” to Jesus on Palm Sunday. Children need protection and flourishing. And salvation -- that’s why Jesus came into Jerusalem, and that’s why we baptize and train our children in

Jesus’ grace and truth.

For their protection and flourishing, it’s incumbent upon our church and nation to give them the best, and that’s an intact family. In the current issue of *Touchtone* – a magazine I highly value – Alan Carlson wrote, “the overwhelming record of the biological, behavioral, and social sciences is—and remains—clear: the best setting for healthy, happy, and enriching human lives is that of a family in which children are born into and live with their two biological parents who are married. Any chosen deviation from this model—cohabitation, divorce, out-of-wedlock births, remarriage, same-sex unions—raises the probability of negative outcomes—for adults as well as children. (I report this after serving for over two decades as editor of *Marriage and Family Studies* for Transaction, the “publisher of record” in international social science.)”

Part of my ministry here at St. John’s is to strengthen natural marriage and the natural family, so that coming generations can flourish. It’s part of your calling, too. Toward

that goal, say “yes” to the good, and “no” to the bad. Where your actions and inactions have been harmful to the family according to God’s design, confess and believe. Confess your sin and believe that this Holy Week is God’s resounding “YES” to your life and salvation. Then, find your voice and speak up, because children need protection and flourishing. You – and they – are loved,

Easter Sunday

We are likely to have some full pews next Sunday as we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord at 6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. That’s great, and it could be a bit problematic. To mitigate the problem of people being closer than we have been recently, please remember:

- Wearing a mask helps protect the wearer, and others. Use one, if possible. If someone isn’t wearing one and you’re uncomfortable with that, you can wear yours.
- Overflow seating will be in the Atrium balcony and the Library, both on the 5th level. The live feed of the Services will be there, and worshipers seated there will be able to come to Communion in the sanctuary.
- We will follow our usual, careful process of Communion distribution, with gloves, masks, and plates.
- If a member feels that they cannot come to the Service in-person on Easter, we urge them to worship using our online Service on YouTube, and then to make an appointment with Pastor Burdick or Pastor Fortkamp to come to the church during the week for a private Service of Communion.

LCMS Stewardship Thought

Zechariah 9:9 – “Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” No king ever rode to war like this. But no king had ever come to wage battle by dying. In His Passion, our Lord Jesus gives everything He has and is; He does this to bring us from death to life and to make us His own people. And He also does all this to show us an example of self-giving love for us to follow.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Good Friday shows us—in case there was any doubt before—that something is wrong with the world, something worth mourning deeply ... There will be a time when God wipes all of these tears from our eyes. We are not there yet, but we can surely take heart in the knowledge that God is close to the brokenhearted.”

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

This Week’s Sunday School Lesson

I Kings 17

The lesson this week is “Provided-For Prophet.” The prophet Elijah warns King Ahab of the severe drought coming. God first sends Elijah to the brook Cherith, where He provides ravens to feed him. When the brook dries up, Elijah lodges with a widow in Zarephath. Despite her limited supply of flour and oil, it never runs out. God supplies just what they need each day. When the widow’s son dies, Elijah raises him back to life through God’s power.

Food Pantry
April Pantry Donation
Beef Stew & Granola Bars

Larry Brandt Scholarship

Information coming soon!

Watch the Eagle & online for information.

Stewardship Request

Please help us when we count the offerings by NOT stapling things to your envelope or using tape on your envelope. Thank you!

Your Response to the Gospel

Our Attendance Last Week

In Person Attendance

Sunday, March 21.....	301
Online Worship Views.....	85
Sunday School Pre-K-HS	28
Adult Sunday School Class.....	16
LifeLight	7
Lenten Services, March 24	104
Lenten Online Views	20

Our Offerings Last Week

General Fund, March 21	\$5,563.99
Online General Fund.....	\$2,697.00
Total General Fund Offering	\$8,260.99
Building Fund.....	\$25

Prayer List

Ruth Terhune, Gloria Fortkamp, Deb Meyers, Craig Wolff, Dwight Klepzig, Lilly Wright, Gerard Bierman, Bob Miller, Cassie Power, Brett Kull, Rose Boggs, Tim Mueller, Mike McWhortor, 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

Lydia Guild

Will meet on Tuesday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. We will not be serving refreshments.

Offering Envelopes

There are several assigned envelopes that have not been picked up. Please stop by the office to pick yours up.

ALSO, we have several unassigned envelopes. If you would like to have a box of envelopes, please let the office know.

If you would rather not use envelopes, you can also do our Online giving options.

LYF – Easter Breakfast Sign-up

There is a sign-up list on the bulletin board. Please sign-up to work & bring your pastries.

Church Week at Rural King

Church week ended Saturday, March 27. You have until Thursday, April 1, to get your receipts entered online. Rural King will donate 10% of your total purchase to St. John's Lutheran Church Food Pantry.

Thank You for helping the Food Pantry through this project!

Baby Bottle Project

The Family Life Center is once again doing the Baby Bottle Project. This program is run completely by volunteers. They need a volunteer contact from St. John's to help coordinate the drop-off & pick-up of the bottles. The bottles are distributed on Mother's Day and are collected on Father's Day.

Please let Pastor Burdick or the office staff know if you are willing to volunteer.

Stephen Ministry

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2. People often find it hard to accept help, even when they really need it, because they expect themselves to be able to handle it on their own. But the reality is that people do much better when they have additional support.

Stephen Ministers are highly trained & supervised to provide care in a wide range of situations. They go through a minimum of 50 hrs. of training to learn important caregiving skills & continuous continuing education to build on those skills.

To become a care receiver, please call Janet Martins at 217-868-9576 to set up an appointment to share your needs or circumstances, to receive information, & have your questions answered about the Christ centered care & support you will receive as long as your needs persist. Then, if you feel this would meet your need, you will be assigned to a Stephen Minister.

Jeremiah & Ezekiel Review

The next review session for our Today's Light Bible readings will be Monday, April 5, from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m., or from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. I will summarize what we have heard from Jeremiah and Ezekiel. I know the readings haven't been easy. Keep going! -- Pastor Burdick

LYF Easter Breakfast

Serving will be 7:00 – 10:00 a.m.
Dine-in or Carry-out will be available.

Menu

Ham, sausage links, biscuits & gravy, scrambled eggs, fruit salad, assorted pastries, milk, orange juice, and coffee.
Free will donation

St. John's NEW Directory

Let's try this again! COVID messed up a lot of things; the new directory was one of those things. Our new photography dates will be Sept. 11, 12, 18, & 19 (more if needed). We will be using Waymo's Photography, a local establishment, since LifeTouch no longer produces directories. (COVID messed them up!)

We will be using a sign-up similar to the sign-up used for our church services & it, too, will be on our website. We are hoping this will make it user-friendly since it's a system already in place. Watch for this event in the near future.

Catechism Bible Study

It will begin Wednesday, April 21, at 7:00 p.m. What is it? It's our Adult Confirmation Class, and a Bible Study on the core beliefs of LCMS Lutherans at the same time.

Therefore, anyone interested in becoming a member of St. Johns -- and any old Lutheran wanting to review what they studied years ago -- is urged to participate. Meets for ten weeks, and Pastor Burdick is the leader.

Classes begin with a brief video from www.lhm.org/godconnects/ and then dive into the Catechism and Bible. Each participant is urged to purchase the newest edition of Luther's Small Catechism (\$15), but loaner copies are at church. All are welcome.

Happy Birthday Pastor Burdick



CALENDAR-----March 28, 2021 – April 4, 2021

Sunday	28	8:00 & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services, w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
<i>Preschool—Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday</i>			
Monday	29		
Tuesday	30		
Wednesday	31	5:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
Thursday	1		No Preschool
		12:15 & 6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Services w/HC
Friday	2		No Preschool
		12:00 noon	Office Closed
		12:15 & 6:30 p.m.	Good Friday Services
Saturday	3	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
			No Services
Sunday	4	6:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., & 10:30 a.m.	Easter Worship Services w/HC
		7:00 – 10:00 a.m.	Youth Breakfast
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

Birthdays This Week

- 3/28 Amanda Rieman, Judy Joergens, & Michael Burdick
- 3/29 Cindy Esch, Maleah Whitehair, & Glenna Schagemann
- 3/30 Hayden Wendling, Kraig Rubin, Kylie Lamb, Louise Schaefer, & Sadie Norman
- 3/31 Judy Siebert
- 4/01 Audrey Niemerg & Raymond Jutkins
- 4/02 Elizabeth Soltwedel
- 4/03 Hunter Stewart

Anniversaries

- 3/29/70 Dean & Donna Wetherell
- 3/30/84 Allen & Faye Tomkins



Our District Camp CILCA has tremendous things going on this summer – some camps are for young kids and parents at the same time, and some are for the older kids only. Check it out at: www.CILCA.org, or pick up the flyer on the main hallway bulletin board.

Register by March 31 and get the discount, please. Then, let us know in the church office (email is best: office@stjohnsLCMS.net) by April 12, and will see how far our congregation's scholarship funds for CILCA can go for you! We want to help St. Johns' kids go to Camp.

