

THE EAGLE

St. John's Newsletter

April 18, 2021



The Faith. That's what we strive to share. More than our personal believing (which is important), we share what we believe – the Christian faith as laid out in the Scriptures and Luther's Small Catechism.

Come join in a study of **The Faith**, beginning this Wednesday from 7:00 - 8:00pm in the Trinity Room. I'll be launching the ten-week study of the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism. I'll urge you use the 2017 version of the Catechism (\$15); I won't ask you to read aloud or answer questions unless you volunteer, and I will probably learn something from you. Come, whether you're seeking to join the church, or reviewing what you learned years ago.

Who will teach **The Faith** to your great-grandchildren? First, your grandchildren! That's the way it works. But who will give essential guidance? A pastor. It's time to prepare the men who serve as the next generations of pastors in our church, so plan now to participate in the Circuit Convocation on Ministerial Recruitment here at St. John's on May 23. Read all about it on our website (www.stjohnsLCMS.net) and register by May 7. All except the dinner is FREE.

Rejoicing in **The Faith** with you,

WORSHIP UPDATE

Thankful for the progress we've made, the Board of Elders have decided to make these changes in our worship...

- Return to three Services each weekend, ceasing the 4:00 p.m. Saturday Service. Beginning **May 1**, worship will be at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday. 4:00 Service will be held 4/17 & 4/24.
- The Bibles, hymnals, attendance/communion cards, and pencils are back in the pews that we're using. Ushers won't hand out cards. Please complete your card at your pew, and deposit it in the box after Service.

We are continuing...

- To encourage use of the electronic sign-up sheets, and have added 20 spots to each Service now that we're using every-other pew.
- To print the entire Service in the bulletin.
- To use every-other pew.
- To use our Communion distribution system.
- To receive the Offering in the boxes at the doors.
- To monitor statistics and make adjustments as needed.



High School Youth:

Our monthly gatherings are resuming! Gather for supper, fun, and Bible Study at 4:30pm Sunday, May 2 at Kathy & Pastor Burdick's house, 717 South 1st St. Weather permitting, we'll be outside. It's great that the Sunday morning Bible class has grown a lot in the past year. Let's grow our LYF gatherings, too! See you in church - - and May 2nd at the Burdicks! Can't make it in May? We'll meet again in June.

LCMS Stewardship Thought

1 John 3:2 – “Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.” The essence of our sanctification is becoming like our Lord. As St. John notes, this will only be completed in the Resurrection. In the meantime, we strive toward that goal because we want to walk in the footsteps of our Lord. By His grace we share His destiny in eternal life, and therefore we desire to share His life of service now.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Hang on to Jesus, my dear friend. In Him and Him alone is true life—both now and forever. Though God’s work in the world may be hard to understand sometimes, we rejoice and celebrate as we look forward to all that He has in store for us.”

Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffman, The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

This Week’s Sunday School Lesson

2 Kings 2:1-15

In today’s lesson, “A Whirlwind Ascent,” Elijah takes Elisha along as they travel from place to place. Along the way, they meet the sons of the prophets, who warn Elisha of Elijah’s impending departure. Upon reaching the Jordan, Elijah parts the river with his cloak, allowing them to cross over. There, Elisha asks to receive a double measure of Elijah’s spirit. Chariots and horses of fire appear, and God takes Elijah to heaven in a whirlwind. Gathering his master’s cloak, Elisha continues the elder prophet’s work.

Congratulations

Welcome Decker Andrew Snow. He was born April 10, and his proud parents are Carissa & Andrew Snow.

Announcement from Braille

Thank you to everyone who donated plastic grocery bags. However, we **do not** need any more.

Did you know? This Fall we will mark our 155th Anniversary as a congregation! How shall we celebrate?

Golden Eagles Meet Again!

We are happy to be able to resume our monthly meals with precautions for your health! Please sign up on the main hall bulletin board so we can plan for you! The menu for April 29th includes: Baked ham, hash brown casserole, carrots, relish tray, and followed by dessert. We hope to see you Thursday, April 29th at noon!

90th Birthday

Audrey Garbe will be celebrating her 90th birthday on April 25th. Her family is planning a card shower for her, and you can send her cards or notes with a memory in it to share with her to:

Audrey Garbe
Villas of Holly Brook
904 W. Evergreen Ave. Apt 14
Effingham, IL 62401

Prayer List

Brian Wenthe, Ken Longwell, Shirley Cheadle, Becky Janis, Doris Hammer, Joyce Schaefer, Gloria Fortkamp, Craig Wolff, Dwight Klepzig, Gerard Bierman, Bob Miller, Cassie Power, Brett Kull, Rose Boggs, Mike McWhortor, Bertie Powell, Zach Fritcher, Evelyn Shumaker, & Janet Brinkopf.

Members of the Armed Forces, including Dylan Koester, 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

VBS Decorating Meeting

Monday at 6 p.m. All Help is welcome!!!

Farewell Open House

There will be a farewell open house for Pastor Rensner on Sunday, April 25 at 2 p.m. at Faith Lutheran in Shumway. Our congregation is invited.

Congratulations!

Welcome Blakelee Rae Willenborg. She arrived April 7 and her proud parents are Bailey & Kyle Willenborg.

Your Response to the Gospel

Our Attendance Last Week

In Person Attendance

Sunday, April 11.....	309
Online Worship Views.....	84
Sunday School Pre-K-HS.....	37
Adult Sunday School Class.....	23
LifeLight	10

Our Offerings Last Week

General Fund, April 11.....	\$8,488.01
Online General Fund.....	\$1,760.00
Total General Fund Offering	\$10,248.01

Lydia Guild

The Effingham-Shelby Zone/Altamont Zone Joy Shop will be held together this year here at St. John's on Tues., April 20th. It will begin at 6:00 p.m. Please plan to attend for our Bible study and speakers that we will have on the program of Trinity Hope.

Ingathering of non-perishable food items for the St. John's, Effingham, Food Pantry include: spaghetti & spaghetti sauce, chunky soups, canned fruit, oatmeal, any kind of cereal, granola bars, & canned chicken. These are just suggestions & any non-perishable items for a food pantry will be appreciated.

Lydia Guild LMWL Mission

We are taking Orphan Grain Train donations for Health Kits, School Kits, & Pill Bottles until May 2nd for our mission projects for LWML Central IL District 75th Anniversary. Our donations will be sent to those in need all over the world. Along with your prayers & donations for the LWML, we can help families in need & teach them about Jesus through our mission work. You can see the list of needed items at the display. You may place donations in the boxes designated for the specific items.

Altar Guild

Will meet on Tues., April 27, at 5:00 p.m.

Board of Youth Meeting

Will be held this Sun. morning at 9:00 a.m.

April Pantry Donation

Beef Stew & Granola Bars

Family Life Center's

1st Annual 5 K Walk/Run for Life

The Family Life Center is having their 1st Annual 5K Walk/Run for Life on Sat., April 24th. Registration is at 8 a.m. with the walk/run starting at 9 a.m. We are looking for sponsors, volunteers, & participants. You can sign up online from our website, Familylifepcc.org or call Linda at Family Life Center for more information on sponsoring or volunteering.

Larry Brandt Memorial Scholarship Applications

The Board of Youth established this scholarship fund to support St. John's students as they pursue a post-secondary education. Applicants must be enrolled in or attending an accredited college or university pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree.

You can find the information you need online at our website: stjohnslcms.net and on the bulletin board.

The deadline to apply is Mon, Apr. 26

New Member Welcome

Sunday, April 18th, we will be holding a "New Member Welcome". We will be recognizing those who have joined us in membership through a transfer, affirmation of faith, or as an adult confirmand. Those we will be welcoming are:

Curtis Baginski

Kent & Niki Bishop

Matt Gordon

Lillian Harstine

Doug, Kristin, Kendall, & Lincoln Jackson

Marsha Klussman

Curt & Lori Meseke

Jack & Linda Miller

Rylee Rothrock

Doug, Julie, Ruby, Ethel, & Malachi

Stuckemeyer

Tanner Veach

Becky Wenthe

Join us in the gym for our Coffee Fellowship at 9:00 a.m. to help welcome them.

CALENDAR-----April 18, 2021 – April 25, 2021

Sunday	18	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services
		9:00 a.m.	New Member Welcome
		9:00 a.m.	Board of Youth Meeting
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
<i>Preschool—Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday</i>			
Monday	19	12:00 Noon	Board of Evangelism
		5:30 p.m.	Choir
		6:00 p.m.	VBS Decorating Meeting
Tuesday	20	6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	LWML Joy Shop
		7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	21	1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotion/Meeting
		7:00 p.m.	Adult Confirmation
Thursday	22		
Friday	23		Pastor Sabbath
Saturday	24	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		4:00 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.	Worship Services, w/HC
Sunday	25	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services, w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

Birthdays This Week

4/18 Eva Wendling & Molly Lipe
 4/20 Breanne Weaver & Stacy Nelson
 4/21 Don Tieffel & Janet Hecht
 4/22 David Wendte, Dennis Lading,
 Eric Hanks, & Erin Wendling
 4/23 Ian Keith & Norma Lansing
 4/24 Earl Mueller, Emma Budde, &
 Erin McDevitt

Anniversaries

4/21/74 Keith & Patsy Bahrs

Drivers Needed

The Elders are needing volunteer drivers to assist with picking up those who need a ride to church on Sundays. If you can help, please contact:
 Keith Knight (217-821-6719)

Thank You!

We would like to thank you for the food, gifts, and cards at the time of my surgery. We certainly appreciate your care & concern. We especially thank you for your prayers on our behalf. God is good! We feel we have much to be thankful for!
 Sincerely, Gloria & Pastor Gary Fortkamp

Upcoming Meetings

Church Council Meeting
 Tuesday, April 20, 7:00 p.m.
Quarterly Voters Assembly
 Tuesday, April 27, 7:00 p.m.

Join the Choir!

Rehearsal is held in the sanctuary each Monday at 5:30 p.m.