

THE EAGLE

St. John's Newsletter

November 21, 2021

From our Pastor:

"If we have met before, I've forgotten your name." God would never say that, but I would. And I do. Members and visitors come through the doors of the church, and I pull that one-liner out of my pocket fairly often. You may have to, too.

In a recent meeting of our Shepherding Our Strays teams, Pastor Fortkamp made a comment that's etched in my mind. He said, "I hope that someday our Welcome Center isn't where we expect a visitor to go, but the place where we would take them." He's teaching us to introduce ourselves to more people in the halls of the church building. Many times, we will find out that we're members together. Sometimes we'll be meeting a guest. For both scenarios, the doorway can be "If we've met before, I've forgotten your name. I'm _____." Then you can lead a visitor over to the Welcome Center to receive a little gift from the congregation. God knows where all this can lead.



God knows everything. He knows when Jesus, our King, will return in triumph. He knows that we are sometimes weary (and trusting Him) while we pray with John the Evangelist, "Come, Lord Jesus." He knows how

Thanksgiving and Advent are going to play out in our households. He knows that more visitors are going to come into the halls of the church over the next month, and He's equipping you to meet them.

When we don't know the future, it is a joy to know the King of Kings. He knows more than our names. He knows us, and has met our needs.

Pastor Fortkamp

Pickup your Advent Devotional, "Child of Promise," and dust off your wreath. Next Sunday is the kickoff of Advent!

Christmas Decorating

We will decorate the church on Sat. Nov. 27th at 9:00 a.m. Please put this on your calendar to help. It is opened to all, and be sure to bring a friend. We are also saddened by the retirement of the Decorating Committee Chairperson, Sandy Wienke. After 32 years of heading this up, she is resigning as the head. Please, when you see her, Thank Her for her dedication to this committee and the church. With that said, we are in need of a new chairperson. Please contact Howard Janis if you have any questions (217-821-6728).

E.A.S.T.E.R. Christmas

We are looking for people to volunteer to be part of our Christmas program, which will be Sat., Dec. 4th, at 9:30 a.m. We need 5-6 volunteers to act as angels to push wheel chairs. Please contact Joan Garbe (217-254-2261) if you have any questions.

Thanksgiving Services

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 24
&
9:00 a.m. Thursday, November 25.
"Now Thank We All Our God!"

Poinsettias

It is time to purchase your poinsettias for Christmas. This year, they are \$18 for a 10" plant. Please place your order by calling the church office by Sun., Dec 5th.

Operation Christmas Child

Sunday, Nov. 21 is the last day to bring your shoebox gifts.

Christmas with the Chosen

We would like to invite anyone interested in joining us to view "Christmas with The Chosen: The Messengers" on Sunday, December 5th at the 4:30 p.m. showing. Tickets are \$12.50 per person (child, adult, & senior) and can be purchased on line at:

<https://www.amctheatres.com/movies/christmas-with-the-chosen-the-messengers-67947/showtimes/christmas-with-the-chosen-the-messengers-67947/2021-12-05/amc-classic-mattoon-10/all>

Error in November Calendar

There is **NOT** a Voters Meeting

OR

Altar Guild on
Tues., Nov 23.

We are so sorry for any confusion.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"We pray for God's light to shine on all of our decisions and that every aspect of our lives would be fulfilled within the boundaries of His Law and Gospel. We do not want our worry to guide our search for daily bread (Matthew 6:25-34). Rather, we rely on God's Promise and receive what He has provided with thanksgiving. For we know that with Jesus we have daily bread that endures, even to everlasting life (John 6:28-29)."

Rev. Justin A. Herman, University Lutheran Church, West Lafayette, Indiana – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Prayer List

Alex Wall, Dick Dammerman, Chad Nelson, Doris Hammer, David Winter, Tim Mueller, Lynn Winter, Sonia Hyde, Carl Becker, Gloria Fortkamp, Cassie Power, Rose Boggs, Mike McWhortor, Evelyn Shumaker, Shawn Bourland, David Tieffel, & Roberta Jenkins

Members of the Armed Forces, including Dylan Koester, Ryan Budde, Paul Smith, Nathan Vail, Gabriel Walker, Bryce Ikemire, and all first responders of our community and nation.

Lutheran Care Door Offering

We will be taking a door offering for Lutheran Care at our services on the 27th & 28th.

Please make checks payable to
Lutheran Care.

Your Response to the Gospel Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, November 14	323
Sunday School Pre-K-HS	32
Adult Sunday School Class	40
LifeLight Class	13

Our Offerings Last Week

General Fund, Nov. 14.....	\$7,159.10
Online General Fund	\$2,610.00
Total Gen. Fund Offering	\$9,769.10
Building Fund	\$45.00

Angel Tree

New, unwrapped toys for the FISH Christmas Store will be accepted in the Atrium beginning Nov.13th - Dec 5th.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

Luke 10:38-42

Today, we begin a new unit with "A Welcome Truth." Jesus and His disciples visit the home of sisters Mary and Martha. Mary sits at the Lord's feet to hear His words. Martha, busy with meal preparations, asks Jesus to tell Mary to help. Instead, Jesus gently tells Martha that Mary has chosen the more important thing.



"Are you submitting a photo of me?"

Help us during the Advent Season

Our Advent theme is: Child of Promise. We would like to display a childhood picture of any member who would provide one of themselves or a family member (birth to 3 years old).

*Please don't give an original that you want back.

*Write your name on the back.

*Put them in the envelope on the bulletin board outside the church office.

We will display them in the Fellowship Hall.
Come. See. Enjoy.

Youth Corner

Important Dates

Advent Soup Lunch & Dinner Dec. 1st
11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. & 12:45-1:15 p.m.
5:30-6:30 p.m. & 7:15-7:45 p.m.

Live Nativity Scene-Dec. 11th, 6–8p.m.
Sign up now on the bulletin board.

Cookie Drop Off

Dec. 18, 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Cookie Walk

Dec. 18, 4:30 p.m.

Dec. 19, 7:00 a.m.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

For the birth of Jay David DeBries. Jay's parents are Dan & Brittany (Worman) DeBries and the proud grandparents are David & Jeanette Worman.

Card Showers

Doris Gartner will be celebrating her 87th birthday on Fri., Nov. 26th, and Dr. James & Doris Gartner will be celebrating their 67th anniversary on Sun., Nov. 28th. Cards for Doris' birthday, and then cards for their anniversary may be sent to:

3 Woodland Drive
Effingham, IL 62401

The Next Food Distribution

Tues., Nov. 23, from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

November Pantry Donation

Small Size Laundry Detergent/
Paper Towels, Kleenex, & Toilet Paper

LCMS Stewardship Thought

Isaiah 51:6b – "... for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment ..." The things of this earth – the things that hold our attention, that cause us worry, and that tempt us away from the Lord – are all passing away. They will vanish like a garment. They are not for us to worry over. Rather, they are to be used for the Lord's purposes. The things of this world are not the ends, in and of themselves, but only the means to be used wisely by the children of the Kingdom that has no end.

In a complex world, each of us need trusty advisers to lead us to proper decisions and actions. Some of the longest relationships adults may have may very well be with their financial planners who see them through opening their first investment account, planning for college, and implementing a retirement strategy. It is important to communicate your estate gifting plans to your financial planner so they can help you manage those gifts toward your goals until the Lord calls you home. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning counselor can help you communicate those goals. Contact Scott Radden, Gift Planning Counselor at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfn.org for more information.

Youth Meeting at the Burdicks'

8th-12th Grade youth are meeting at the Burdicks' house on Sunday, November 21st at 4:00 p.m. for supper, Bible Study, and fellowship.

Greeting Cards Update

We have added lots of cards to the Card Cabinet—Christmas, sympathy, get well, thinking of you, & birthday. They are less than \$5 a box, & students receive a small profit to use for LYF activities

There is a box of Thanksgiving, service appreciation, & wedding for you to buy single cards, which are only 50 cents each.

Offering Envelopes

It's time to start thinking about your offerings for next year. If you have an envelope number already, we are so happy you are using it. If you don't have one & would like to use the them next year, we would love to assign you a number. However, if you are giving online through Vanco, which is so simple & easy, & wish to release your envelope number, or you no longer wish to use your offering envelopes, please let the office know by Monday, November. 29th.

CALENDAR-----November 21, 2021 – November 28 2021

Sunday	21	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services/Choir will be singing
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		4:00 p.m.	Youth at Burdicks'
			Operation Christmas Child Ends
<i>Preschool Monday – Wednesday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	22	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
Tuesday	23	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Thanksgiving Feast
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
Wednesday	24	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Thanksgiving Feast
		11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Stephen Ministry Office Hours
		12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Stephen Class
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry Office Hours
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotion/Meeting
		6:30 p.m.	Thanksgiving Worship Service
Thursday	25		Thanksgiving/Office will be closed/No Preschool
		9:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Day Worship
Friday	26		Office closed/No Preschool
Saturday	27	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		9:00 a.m.	Decorate Church for Christmas
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC Lutheran Care Door Offering
Sunday	28	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC Lutheran Care Door Offering
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

Birthdays This Week

- 11/21 George Young & Makenna Duckwitz
- 11/22 Haley Brown & John Richards
- 11/23 David Brinkopf, Greg Perry, Jeff Vail,
Liam Boone, & Madi Boengen
- 11/25 Emmerson Hansen, Holly Adams,
Jerry Bloemer, & Randy Kohnert
- 11/26 Corey Lotz, David Barr, Doris Gartner, &
Mike Schlechte
- 11/27 Dr. Kelly Haller & Janet Martins

Anniversaries This Week

- 11/23/89 Michael & Patricia Logan
- 11/23/19 Tyler & Cheyanne Pilcher
- 11/25/62 Paul & Judy Wendling
- 11/26/71 Jim & Becky Bailey