

THE EAGLE

Weekly Newsletter of St. John's February 20, 2022

From our Pastor:

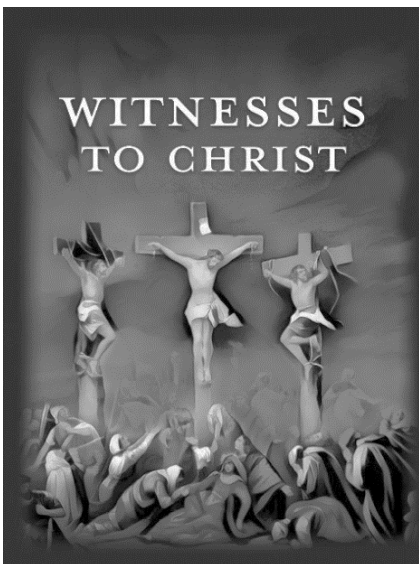
In our *Today's Light* Bible readings in Exodus this week we encountered the wisdom of the Ten Commandments, followed by the perplexity of some of the special laws given to Israel – laws about slavery, restitution when a tooth is knocked out or a pregnant woman is hurt, and carelessness with fire. It was easy for me to get stuck on the perplexing parts. My overarching, inner question was “why?”

When I don't understand God's ways, I have a tendency to question them ... and Him.

It also struck me that mine is not to question “why?” but to trust that God, in His wisdom, was shaping His rescued nation into the people He desired them to be – people of love and trust in Him. He still is. Thus, “Keep reading, keep trusting” was one of the lessons learned amidst the perplexity.

“Keep receiving, keep trusting.” We'll learn that even more in the season of Lent that's right around the corner. Our midweek Services will center on the theme

“Witnesses to Christ – People From His Passion.”



John the Baptist, Malchus, Barabbas, and Pilate are some of the witnesses we'll meet, and through whom we'll hear again “keep receiving, keep trusting

... God knows what He is doing.”

We will see – and we will be – “**Witnesses to Christ**” this Lent. Midweek Wednesday Services at 12:15pm & 6:30pm, March 2nd through April 6th. Pick up a Lenten Family Calendar and the daily devotional “Suffering Servant” in the Atrium!

Finally, take note that both Services on Sunday, March 6th, will include the Concordia University St. Paul Concert Band. We're so glad that this 35-member Band will help us worship on the first Sunday in Lent. After the Services we will receive a freewill offering to support the Band and their mission of glorifying God through music. The Evangelism Board is also preparing sack lunches for them to take as they travel to St. Louis that afternoon.

Kathy and I are away today as we participate in the “Best Practices for Ministry” Conference in Phoenix. The respite will be good, and I hope also to bring back some new approach to faithful ministry here at St. John's. Of course, the foundation of ministry as God's people and God's Church has always been the same: keep receiving, keep trusting.

God, make it so.

Thank You!

Thank you so much to all who helped in any way to make the Lutheran Care Benefit Breakfast a success. Your very generous offering and the many items given for their bingo prizes were very much appreciated! We collected \$1,604.81. Emily Miller, the Director, sends us her thanks!

Online Giving

With Lent quickly approaching, the Board of Stewardship has added the option of Special Services as an online option to give. Special Services covers all added services such as Ash Wednesday, Lent, Good Friday, etc.

If you are already contributing online but wish to change what you are currently giving, that can be done online also.

If you haven't signed up yet to give online, it is quick & easy. Simply go to <https://stjohnslcms.net/> Click on the "Online Giving" tab. Then click on "Contribute" and follow the directions.

Prayer List

Marlene Bray, Dan Chambers, Rhea Hartman, Don & Judy Ealy, Susie Austin, Tim Mueller, Irene Esch, Geraldine Grieves, John Holland, Ruth Holland, Katie Buzek, Linda Nolan, Beverly Koester, Zach Fritcher, Chad Nelson, Doris Hammer, David Tieffel, Irvin Wendte, & Ken Burdick.

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

Your Response to the Gospel

Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, February 13.....407
Sunday School.....43
Adult Sunday School.....45
LifeLight Sunday School.....12

Our Offerings February 13

General Fund.....\$12865.00
Online General Fund.....\$1515.86
Total Gen. Fund Offering\$14380.86
Building Fund..... \$25.00

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" \$12.10

Digest Size "Direct Mail" \$15.50

Large Print "Direct Mail" \$20.50

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. 28 is the deadline.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

Luke 22:7-23

Students will study "Forever Food" this week. Jesus sends Peter and John to prepare the Passover for Himself and the others. They follow a man carrying water to a home with a furnished upper room, where they prepare the Passover meal. During the meal, Jesus institutes what we now call the Lord's Supper. Through the bread and wine, Jesus lovingly gives them, and us, His very body and blood.

CID LLL Convention

This event will be held on Sat., Mar. 5 at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church, 2055 S. Franklin St. Rd., Decatur, IL. Rev. Dr. Walter Maier will speak on "The Lutheran Church in the 21st Century." Starting time is 9:30 a.m. Registration fee is \$20/person and includes a lunch meal. Check the flyer on the bulletin board for details and registration forms. Questions or to participate via Zoom, contact:
Deloris Blessman by email:
delorisblessman@yahoo.com.

Youth Corner

Sr. Youth

Will meet at the Burdicks' on
Sunday, February 27th at 4:00 p.m.

Rhodes Fish Fry



COUNTRY  RHODES
St. John's LYF Effingham
**FISH FRY
FUNDRAISER**
FRIDAY, MARCH 11TH
4:00-7:00 PM
Location: St. John's Lutheran Church
at 901 W Jefferson
Adults/ Carry out → \$12
Kids 12 and under → \$8
All YOU CAN EAT!
Menu
Fried Fish Coleslaw
Chicken Tenders Baked Beans
Hush Puppies Potato Salad
Steak Fries Applesauce

We need YOUR help
to make this a success!!

Tickets

We must sell 300 tickets

The youth are selling tickets, & you can get
yours now.

Desserts

We welcome your donated items.
If homemade, be sure they are in
disposable pans.

Spread the word! Invite your friends!

Next Food Distribution

Tuesday, February 22 from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

February Food Pantry Donation

Crackers, Hamburger Helper,
Individual fruit cups.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Jesus Christ has made every human life
indispensable.”

*Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from
Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Stewardship Thought

Luke 6:30-31 – “Give to everyone who begs
from you, and from one who takes away
your goods do not demand them back. And
as you wish that others would do to you, do
so to them.” Is it really possible to live like
this? Would it really work to be so open-
handed and generous? Our conscience
often reminds us of our failures, and the
Lord knows our frailty, that’s for sure! But a
life of faith is a life lived in imitation of Jesus,
and every follower of Jesus knows that yes,
indeed, it is better to give than to receive.

Visitation Teams

Some of our wonderful older members are
finding it more difficult to get out of their
homes or may have moved to assisted living
or nursing homes. St. John’s visiting team
takes turns meeting with them once a
month-wherever they live-to share Jesus &
Have some Christian fellowship with those
unable to regularly be in church. Would you
or someone you care about enjoy a monthly
visit from a St. John’s visiting member?
Please call or text Dana Keller at (217)-246-
5373 to be included...we’d be happy to add
you to our list!!

Serving Opportunity

If you are looking for a way to serve the
Lord, think about sharing the Good News by
volunteering to read the Old Testament and
Epistle lessons at one of our three services.
A new sign-up sheet is posted on the
bulletin board. The readings are emailed to
you by Thursday before the services.

We ask that you carefully and clearly
rehearse reading the Lessons. Jerry
Lindsey or Pastor Burdick are happy to help
if you have any questions.

CALENDAR-----February 20, 2022 – February 27, 2022

Sunday	20	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service Pastor Glenn Storchsein will be preaching The Choir sings at the 8 a.m. Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:15 a.m.	Financial Peace University Class
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		3:00 p.m. until Mon. 8:30 a.m.	LYF Lock In
<i>Preschool Tuesday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	21		No Preschool
		8:30 a.m.	Lock-in Ends
		Noon	Board of Evangelism
		5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	22	3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
		7:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
Wednesday	23	1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
		5:30 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	24	10:00	Evergreen & Lakeland Chapel
		Noon	Golden Eagles Luncheon
Friday	25		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	26	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Rehearsal
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC
Sunday	27	8:30 & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:15 a.m.	Financial Peace Class
		4:00 p.m.	Sr. Youth at Burdicks'

Birthdays This Week

02/20 Alex Wall, Florence Leppin
Angie Yocum, & Nancy Kohnert

02/21 Dan Norton, Linda White,
Meghann Day & Mike Carter

02/22 Coen Pennington & Marty Vail

02/23 Karla Johnson

02/24 Greg Habbe, Lydia Wendling,
Pauline Kinkelaar, & Tatum Genaust

02/25 Alice Knight & Becky Fielitz

02/26 Cory Wahl & Jerry Starner

Anniversaries This Week

02/20/16 David & Elesha Brinkopf

02/22/20 Daniel & Dana Haarmann

02/26/65 Jerry & Vernabelle Lankford

