

THE EAGLE

Weekly Newsletter of St. John's February 27, 2022

From our Pastor:

From 1944-1970, Pastor Zimmerman wrote monthly letters to the men of St. John's who were serving in the armed forces. Some of you may have received them. I've been reading them for the past week, and they are wonderful. He tells the boys about the weather in Effingham, the congregational news, and the Law and Gospel. Though mimeographed for distribution around the world, they are personal letters, always including a devotion tied to the current church season and world affairs – and at their heart is the death and resurrection of Jesus.

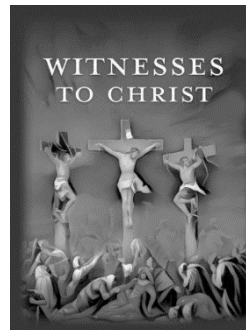
I wonder if I will soon be writing similar letters. Russian aggression isn't the only conflict in the world. The sinful hearts of people create un-rest and dis-ease everywhere.

The only lasting hope we have is the death and resurrection of Jesus. He is our peace (Ephesians 2). It's my prayer that these turbulent days will drive many more people to church in order that they will hear the Good News about Jesus.

The timing is good: we're entering into the holy season of Lent, and some of your neighbors will be a bit more open to invitation to join you here at St. John's. Invite them to our Wednesday Services. Share our "Suffering Servant" devotions with them. Share the hope and stability of Jesus. That's why Pastor Zimmerman was writing to the boys in the Armed Forces. In the hope and stability of Jesus,



P.S. The Best Practices for Ministry Conference last week was very good, and I've begun to share some of the ideas and resources with our leaders here at St. John's. In the coming months, you'll hear them, too!



Lenten Midweek Services
on Wednesdays, 12:15pm & 6:30pm
"Witnesses to Christ"

Ash Wednesday:

John the Baptist, John 1:29–34

Midweek of Lent 1:

Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha, John 12:1–11

Midweek of Lent 2:

Malchus, John 18:1–11

Midweek of Lent 3:

Peter, John 18:12–27

Midweek of Lent 4:

Barabbas, John 18:33–40

Midweek of Lent 5:

Pontius Pilate, John 19:1–16

Maunder Thursday:

Judas Iscariot, John 13:21–30

Good Friday:

John, the Gospel Writer, John 19:25–37

The Resurrection of Our Lord:

Mary Magdalene, John 20:1–18

The New Directories are IN!

Pick yours up after services this weekend.

Making the Case Conference

Sign up for the bus trip to this conference on June 24-25 at Concordia Univ., Chicago. Trip is \$200 & includes registration, transportation, lodging, & 3 of the 5 meals while you are away. For more details and the registration forms, check the bulletin boards.

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

Owen Phelps, Rhea Hartman, Dan Chambers, Don & Judy Ealy, Susie Austin, Tim Mueller, Irene Esch, Geraldine Grieves, John Holland, Ruth Holland, Katie Buzek, 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 20.....	319
Sunday School.....	29
Adult Sunday School.....	25
LifeLight Sunday School.....	13

Our Offerings February 20

General Fund.....	\$8,171.00
Online General Fund.....	\$3,314.83
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$11,485.83

March Food Pantry Donation

Shampoo, Body Wash, Wet Wipes, Kleenex, & Laundry Soap (small bottles).

Lutheran World Relief Quilts

Willing hands & hearts are needed to continue this ministry of tying quilts for LWR! Check the Mar. calendar for dates & times. We meet in the multi-purpose room. Hope to see you there.

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

Matthew 26:36-56

Today, students will study "Betrayed and Arrested." Knowing His final hours are drawing close, Jesus goes with His disciples to Gethsemane. Taking Peter, James, and John deeper into the garden, Jesus goes off alone three times to pray. His prayer reflects His willingness to fulfill the Father's plan despite the suffering that lies ahead. The armed mob arrives to arrest Jesus, whom Judas betrays with a kiss. Peter brashly tries to defend Jesus with a sword but only manages to injure the high priest's servant. Jesus allows Himself to be taken by the armed mob to fulfill the Scripture.

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.

Men's Bible Study

Sat., Mar. 5 at 8 a.m. at Niemerg's.

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

**Kids 3 & under FREE
Menu**

Fried Fish	Coleslaw
Chicken Tenders	Baked Beans
Hush Puppies	Potato Salad
Steak Fries	Applesauce

**ALL YOU
CAN EAT!**

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 are having a bake sale and welcome your donated items. If homemade, be sure they are in disposable pans.

Spread the word! Invite your friends!

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“There’s so much work to be done, so many lives to protect. The unborn, the mentally ill, the hungry, the broken, and many others still need to hear about our hope in Christ and the love He has for us, and it’s our duty to bring it to them.”

Katie Reid, 2021 Y4Life intern – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Stewardship Thought

Luke 9:36a – “And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone.” Moses and Elijah point to Jesus, speak about Jesus and His sacrifice and then they are happy to fade into the background. They know that what we need is Jesus. With our eyes focused on Him and Him alone, the rest of our lives come into focus. He is primary, all else secondary. When that order is right in our lives, things truly fall into place. Or as Jesus Himself said, “Seek first the kingdom of God and all these things will be added unto you.”

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.

Golden Eagles Luncheon NEW Date

Will be Thurs., Mar. 3. See you all at noon!

Anniversaries This Week

03/01/60 Robert & Anita Backhus
03/02/66 Michael & Joyce Curry
03/02/02 Sean & Cherilla Junge

CALENDAR-----February 27, 2022 – March 6, 2022

Sunday	27	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:15 a.m.	Financial Peace Class
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		4:00 p.m.	Sr. Youth at Burdicks'
<i>Preschool Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	28	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
		7:00 p.m.	Lutheran Care Board
Tuesday	01	9:00 a.m.	Pastor Conference at Grace, Strasburg
		12:30 p.m.	Quilt Tying
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees
		7:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
		7:00 p.m.	Lydia Guild
Wednesday	02	12:15 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Services w/HC
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
		5:30 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	03	Noon	Golden Eagles Luncheon
		12:30 p.m.	Quilt tying
		7:00 p.m.	SOS Team Meeting
Friday	04		Pastor's Sabbath
			Pastor Speaking at Gideon's Convention
Saturday	05	8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study at Niemerg's
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service
Sunday	06	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services With Concordia University of St. Paul Band Performing
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:15 a.m.	Financial Peace Class
		10:00	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

Birthdays This Week

02/27 Jeffrey Keitel

02/28 Ashlyn Hanks, Heather St. John,
Karren Tarrant, Lora Giesler, &
Wade Wenthe

03/01 Blaine Flach & Don Latch

03/03 Jackson Hagerstorm, Ursula Polzin,
& Sarah Womack

03/04 Ethel Stuckemeyer, Jaxxon Green,
Karen Stevenson, Kennedy Bailey, &
Terry Long

03/05 Gage Wernsing, Kade Pennington,
Pam Higgs, & Paul Whitehair