

# THE EAGLE

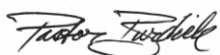
*St. John's Weekly Newsletter July 31, 2022*

I think it was a lay-leader who said "Beware of a pastor who tells you what his vision is for the congregation." He went on to explain that he meant that the future of the Church isn't up to the pastor or to the lay leaders. It's up to – of course – the Head of the Church, Jesus. What the pastor and members of the congregation seek to do is to sail the ship toward the goal that Jesus has established.

Seeking to do just that, here's my hope for St. John's: Every Sunday our pews will be full during Services, and our classrooms will be bursting with learners across all age groups. It's that last part I want to encourage you toward today. **Adults, please come to one of our adult Bible classes!** Rally Day is August 21, a relaunch of classes for kids and adults. The next LifeLight study (Exodus) will begin after Labor Day.

Prior to that, please join me for adult Bible class on Sunday, August 28. It's my hope that the fellowship hall/gym will be full of parents of Sunday School kids, with singles and seniors, too. We're working on making more room in the gym by taking out the large preschool play equipment (a playground will soon be constructed outside), and storing more things out of sight. We'll use the sound system in the gym so learners can hear better. Here's what I'm asking you to do: come to the coffee time immediately following 8:00am Service, and stay for Bible class. **This will build us up in Christ.** He has established the destination for us. The way there is paved with weekly worship and study together.

Thank you to all of the Sunday School teachers gearing up for the year! Your curriculum is excellent. Your commitment is appreciated. God bless this new year!



## **Rally Day is August 21!**

\*Coffee-time on August 21 will probably be held outdoors, because the gym floor will be waxed that weekend.



Youth in 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade serve as acolytes in our Services. We are very grateful for their service. The youth now entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade just completed their service, and now it's time for new recruits! Acolyte training will be held August 28 at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. All boys and girls entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade are expected to attend. If absolutely necessary, an alternate time for training can be arranged. Serving as an acolyte is an important and expected portion of our ministry for and by youth.

### **E.A.S.T.E.R.**

The "E.A.S.T.E.R. Class" Picnic will be held here at St. John's Sunday, August 14 at 12:30pm. All these special neighbors and their helpers will celebrate.

***"To God be the glory, great things He has done, so loved He the world that He gave us His Son!"*** Most Pastors serve in the ordained ministry for 40-50 years. When a man serves for 56 years and is continuing to tell the Good News About Jesus today, it's time to celebrate! Join us in celebrating the 55+ years of ministry of Pastor Gary Fortkamp. Sunday, September 4, 2022 St. John's Lutheran Church 901 W Jefferson, Effingham, IL. St. John's Lutheran Church congregational dinner at 11:45am **(Sign up on the hall bulletin board)** Open House Cake Reception for all area congregations and friends, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

**Sunday School Rally Day**

Rally Day will be Sunday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.  
There will **not** be Sunday School on:  
Sunday, July 31, Aug., 7, or Aug. 14

**Prayer List**

Vicki Manford, Roberta Jenkins, Justin Traub, Ken Burdick, Tatum Garcia, Voris Osborn, Shirley Cheadle, Doris Hammer, John Romero, Owen Phelps, Dan Chambers, Chad Nelson, Emery Alyse Kronewitter, who was born to Candra & Brandon, and proud grandparents are Mitch & Cinda Hulskotter, & Dick & Carol Hulskotter, and for Eric & Sandy Bernhard, who will be celebrating their 45<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on August 6<sup>th</sup>, & the family of Mary Wolfmeyer.

All Members of the Armed Forces, 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 July 24..... 312  
Sunday School ..... N/A  
Adult Sunday School..... 35

**Our Offerings July 24, 2022**

General Fund ..... \$8,633.00  
Online General Fund ..... \$3,518.61  
**Total Gen. Fund Offering ..... \$12,151.61**

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

“Therefore choose life,’ God said, ‘that you and your offspring may live.’ The way to choose life is to trust. Don’t panic. Did you think human life was going to be humanly possible? It’s not. It was never meant to be. Guiding a human being through the journey of life is possible only for God. That’s why the only way to choose life is to trust, to trust God. God gives no one a possible life. The call of God is to an impossible life. Otherwise, why trust? And life was created for trust.”

Rev. Gary Blobaum, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Oregon, Illinois – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

**August Food Pantry Items To Donate**

Creamy Peanut Butter, Jelly,  
Spaghetti O’s, Ravioli, & Beefaroni

**Stewardship Thought**

Luke 11:11 – “What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent?” A generous, giving spirit comes from knowing that you have a generous, giving Father. He will care for our needs. We are therefore free to reflect His generosity in our lives. We can be generous in raising our children, supporting the Church, and serving our neighbor in the community. In these three areas – home, Church, and society – the Lord has called us to show His grace and generosity to those around us.

**NYG Presentation Luncheon**

All are welcome, Sunday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>, at noon, in the Fellowship Hall, to hear the NYG youth presentation on their trip to Texas. A light lunch will be served, so please sign up on the bulletin board.

**Men’s Breakfast & Bible Study**

The next men’s Bible study will be at 8 a.m., Sat., Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>, at Niemerg’s. Contact Gayland Bourland (217-343-4366) with questions.

**Thank You St. John’s Congregation!**

I appreciated your cards and notes, and seeing several of you attend the worship service this past Sunday as part of a SURPRISE event for my 50+ years of organist and choir director. Bethlehem Congregation also sends their thanks for working so well on keeping “tight lipped” about the whole event. I truly was surprised and had no idea what was being planned. WOW! As long as our Good and Gracious Lord allows me to, I will continue in the music ministry of which I love. ALL GLORY BE TO GOD ALONE! Sincerely, Dean Manuel.

### **Ladies Breakfast & Bible Study**

The next ladies Bible study will be at 8 a.m., Sat., Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>, at Niemerg's. Contact Renee Kremer (217-821-3142) with questions.

### **Youth Corner Upcoming Events**

#### **Garage Sale**

##### **Drop Off**

Sun., July 31 from Noon - 1 p.m.  
Mon., Aug. 1 from 9 am. – 6 p.m.  
Tues., Aug. 2 from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

##### **Sale Dates**

Thurs., Aug. 4 from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
Fri., Aug. 5 from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sat., Aug. 6 from 8 a.m. – Noon

##### **Clean Up**

Noon – 2 p.m.

If you are willing to help, call Carolyn or Domer

#### **Cruise Night**

Cruise night will be Saturday, Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>

#### **Larry Brandt Golf Outing**

1:00 p.m., Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>

#### **NYG Presentation**

Fellowship Hall at Noon  
Light lunch will be served.

Please sign up on the bulletin board.

#### **Hayride & Weiner Roast**

4:00 p.m., Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>  
At the home of Jim & Kathy Schroeder

#### **Job Opening**

Eagles Nest Preschool is looking for a preschool aide for the 4/5-year-old class, on Monday – Friday. This is a part time position from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Please contact Carrie in the Church office.

#### **LifeLight**

We are beginning a new study on Exodus Part 1. Materials will be distributed on Sunday, Sept. 4, & we will do the first lesson on Sunday, Sept. 11. Please sign up on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact Karla Flach.

### **Confirmation**

Confirmation ministry for youth in grades 6, 7, and 8 begins with the Parent-and-Student meeting on Wednesday, August 31 at 5:00 p.m. The first day of classes is Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.!

#### **Adult Catechism Class**

The next Adult Catechism Bible Study begins Tuesday, September 27. Ten classes, 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., all digging into the Bible, using Luther's Small Catechism. For review or for joining our church, you're welcome!

#### **Ushers & Communion Assistants Breakfast**

It takes many volunteers to carry out our ministry. Two of the groups that help us in worship are our Ushers and our Communion Assistants. Every volunteer involved as an Usher or Communion Assistant is invited to a special breakfast provided by our Elders. It will be Saturday, August 13, from 7:30-8:30am in the gym/fellowship hall. The catered breakfast is free to you. Come and let us thank you! Gayland Bourland is in charge. Let him know that you're coming!

Ray Stuckemeyer and the men of the Lutheran Laymen's League Zone are organizing a missions presentation here at St. John's on Tues., Aug. 23, at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Britt Odemba serves in Kenya. She'll be in our area to share what God is doing through LCMS Missions there. Watch for more information on the cost of the catered meal. There will be a signup sheet when the LLL leaders release it. Sounds interesting!

Do you receive emails each week from St. John's? Every week we email the Bulletin and the Eagle to those who have signed up through our website. Go to [www.stjohnsLCMS.net](http://www.stjohnsLCMS.net) and click on "email updates" at the top of the page.

### **Lydia Guild Will Not Meet This Month**

**CALENDAR-----July 31, 2022 – August 7, 2022**

Sunday	31	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School No Children's Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		11:30 a.m.	Garage Sale Set Up
		Noon – 1:00 p.m.	Garage Sale Drop Off
Monday	1	9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Garage Sale Drop Off
		4:30 p.m.	Today's Light Class
Tuesday	2	9:00 a.m.	Pastor Conference St. Paul, Strasburg
		4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Garage Sale Drop Off
Wednesday	3	1:00 -2:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
Thursday	4	3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Garage Sale
Friday	5		Pastor's Sabbath
		8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Garage Sale
Saturday	6	8:00 a.m. – Noon	Garage Sale
		8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study at Niemerg's
		8:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study at Niemerg's
		8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		Noon – 2:00 p.m.	Garage Sale Clean-Up
		5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday	7	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School No Children's Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81

**Birthdays This Week**

- 7/31 Kyle March, Ruth Kohnert, & Ruth Rhodes
- 8/01 Donetta Ohnesorge & Layla Nelson
- 8/02 Andrea Wendling, Erica Hansen, & Reese Wendling
- 8/03 David Moeller, Dawn Quicksall, Dena Willis & Suzanne Lechman
- 8/04 Alex Nelson, Clay Weber, Holly Bray, Jessica Mottashed, Sydney Nelson, & Nancy L. Ohnesorge
- 8/05 Cinda Hulskotter, Debby Storm, Quinn Flach, Ryan Kohnert, & Terry Budde
- 8/06 Justin Brummer, Marcy Scott, Phyllis Rohlfing, & Rachel Utz

**Anniversaries This Week**

- 7/31/76 Dennis & Bonnie Siebert
- 8/01/20 Chris & Morgan Lidy
- 8/02/80 David & Bea Wendte
- 8/03/68 Larry & Pat Milleville
- 8/03/74 Mike & Marcella Kennedy
- 8/03/13 Bobby & Kristin Niemerg
- 8/04/84 Robert & Pamela Williams
- 8/05/78 David & Jeanette Worman
- 8/06/77 Eric & Sandy Bernhard

**C.I.D. "Gatepost"**

Sign up for the Central Illinois District "Gatepost" at [www.cidLCMS.org](http://www.cidLCMS.org) This newsletter is full of info on what we're doing as District!