

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter August 7, 2022

Dr. Dale Meyer is our "guest writer" for this week's Eagle Note. Earlier this week, he wrote:

Stepping out this morning, I was delighted to see Surprise Lilies up and about to open. In early spring this bulb sends up a cluster of leaves, but as spring moves on the leaves die off. If you didn't know better, you'd think that was it, death the final word, but come midsummer, that bulb sends up beautiful pink flowers on tall stalks. It's also called the Resurrection Lily, and you see why. "We now commit the body of our brother/sister to the ground...in the sure and certain hope of the resurrection to eternal life through our Lord Jesus Christ."

[Last Sunday's] Gospel lesson was "the Parable of the Rich Fool" (Luke 12:13-21). The man had plenty of money, thought he was set. "You have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." Have you seen the bumper sticker, "I'm spending my kids' inheritance"? Gentiles did believe that death was the end. The first century tombstone of Marcus Statius Chilo says, "*Ah! Weary wayfarer, you there who are passing by me, though you may walk as long as you like, yet here's the place you must come to.*" That's not what we believe. A Christian friend of mine says, "Don't call it a gravesite. Call it a resurrection site."

Dr. Arthur Just: "To be rich toward God is to believe that God is the giver of all things, including life and salvation. To show that one believes is to share with others the gifts God gives" (Concordia Commentary, 507). A few verses after the parable, Jesus says, "Sell your possessions and give to the needy" (Luke 12:33). True believers literally do that. In my ministry, especially at the

Seminary, I have been encouraged by many followers of the Lord of life who gave their earthly possessions away through their estate plans, providing for family and continuing the work of the Gospel long after they had been taken to heaven. The Resurrection Lily tells a story, and we thank God for Christians who live and die with confidence in the resurrection. "If we have united with him (Jesus) in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection life his" (Romans 6:5). (The Meyer Minute for August 1, 2022)

Rally Day is August 21!

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 21st.
There will **not** be Sunday School on:
Aug., 7 or Aug. 14

Prayer List

Marlene Haake, John Huelskoetter, Charlie Braasch, Vicki Manford, Roberta Jenkins, Justin Traub, Ken Burdick, Tatum Garcia, Voris Osborn, Shirley Cheadle, Doris Hammer, John Romero, Owen Phelps, Dan Chambers, Chad Nelson,

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 31 319
Sunday School N/A
Adult Sunday School 35

Our Offerings July 24, 2022

General Fund \$7,936.00
Online General Fund \$1,933.13
Total Gen. Fund Offering \$9,869.13
Building Fund Offering \$50.00

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“God’s Son began His life weak and helpless, laid in a feeding trough. He began His ministry weak and tempted, vulnerable in the desert. In a weakened state from the scourging, Jesus died on the cross, making you right with God, filling you with His strength. And when God supplies your strength, you are strong, indeed.”

Marie MacPherson, author – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

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



Youth in 6th - 8th Grade serve as acolytes in our Services. We are very grateful for their service. The youth now entering 9th 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 6th 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.

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 7th from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.!

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Cruise Night

Cruise night will be Saturday, Sept. 10th

Larry Brandt Golf Outing

1:00 p.m., Saturday, September 17th

NYG Presentation

Sunday, September 18th

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 16th

At the home of Jim & Kathy Schroeder

Stewardship Moment

Luke 12:24 – “Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them.” God feeds the birds of the air – this we know, it’s just that, as one wit put it: God sometimes feeds the birds...to the cats! Yes, crosses and hardships will always come, Christ said that no disciple is above his Master. But through it all, the Lord cares for us and He calls upon us to entrust ourselves to that care. He really is our Father, and He really will guard and keep us through whatever this life has to throw at us. And in the end, we shall receive the gift of eternal life.

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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!

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 and click on “email updates” at the top of the page.

125th Anniversary

Grace Evangelical Lutheran in Strasburg would like to invite you to celebrate with us on Sunday, Aug. 21st, as we give thanks to God. Special gratitude service & praise at 2 p.m. with Rev. Michael Mohr, Holy Cross Lutheran, Vandalia speaking. Cake & punch reception will follow this service.

If you can attend, please RSVP to 217-259-5756 by Sun., Aug. 14.

SEA LLL Zone

The Summer Rally of the Shelby-Effingham-Altamont LLL Zone will be Tues., Aug. 23rd at St. John’s Lutheran in Effingham. Missionary Britt Odemba will be the speaker. Britt works with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK) as an educational consultant. Her main role is to assist the local Project 24 Director. Project 24 is a children’s boarding facility program initiated by the LCMS and ELCK.

The Rally will begin at 6 p.m. with a catered meal followed by a short business meeting and concluded with Britt’s presentation.

Registration for the Rally is \$15 per person and is due Aug. 18. Send your name with registration fee to Raymond Stuckemeyer, 3683 E. 1600th Ave., Altamont, IL 62411. Please make checks payable to SEA LLL. For additional information, contact Raymond at 217-267-6909.

Prayer Shawl

We will meet at 1:00 p.m. Tues., Aug. 9th

CALENDAR----- August 7, 2022 – August 14, 2022

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
Monday	8	6:15 p.m.	Board of Education
Tuesday	9	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
		5:15 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees
Wednesday	10		
Thursday	11	8 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Dist. 6 HCE
		4:45 p.m.	Stephen Ministry
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
Friday	12		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	13	7:30 a.m.	Usher/Communion Assistants Appreciation Breakfast
		8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship w/HC
Sunday	14	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School NO Children's Sunday School Teacher Meeting
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		12:30 p.m.	E.A.S.T.E.R. Picnic in Fellowship Hall

Birthdays This Week

8/07 Becky Janis, David Ragan, & Malachi Stuckemeyer
 8/08 Kathy Shingler
 8/09 Dawn Koester, Jim Wallin, & Kohen Willenborg
 8/10 Claire Niemerg, John Jackson, Josie Fritch, & Logan Bloemer
 8/11 Brittany Bloemer, Dillon Wallin, & Jackson Mottashed
 8/12 Brody Nelson, Courtney Cook, Roger Ohnesorge, & Sue Habbe
 8/13 Curtis Baginski, Kristin Niemerg, & Phil Stuemke

Anniversaries This Week

8/07/04 Chad & Angie Nelson
 8/09/80 Vincent & Nancy Wendt
 8/09/08 Matt & Carrie Brown
 8/10/58 Vincent & Nancy Wendt
 8/10/13 Chuck & Nancy Lykins
 8/11/90 Greg & Carolyn Lamb
 8/12/06 Chad & Kristen Hartman
 8/13/21 James & Paige Jansen