

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter September 25, 2022

C.S. Lewis named one of the tyrants of our age, saying it's that little word "mine." In *The Screwtape Letters* he taught that the devil tempts Christians to move easily from saying "my boots" to "my body." This week I heard that movement while listening to the podcast "This American Life." In a beautifully narrated story about a man's journey to assisted suicide, I heard a devilish belief: "It's my body -- my life -- and I should be allowed to do what I want." The story was very moving. I felt great compassion for the man and his wife. Alzheimer's is a terrible disease. You know. It brings great suffering, and suffering is a terrible burden. But the beauty of the narration didn't equate to the truth of the narrative. We aren't allowed to end our lives. They aren't ours to do with as pleases us, even if the burden is huge.

"For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's."

Romans 14:7-8

True beauty and joy are found in knowing that we belong to the Lord of Life, and that He will sustain us in the midst of every trial. Every. One. The Lord is with you. He says to you, "You are mine."



- Sign up for the Catechism Bible Study Class that begins this Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
- There will not be a "Today's Light Review Session in October. We will hold one Nov 7.

The Call Committee

Has notified the Central Illinois District that we are proceeding with calling an Associate Pastor. We ask the members of St. John's to...

- Pray that we will be ready and willing to carry out the mission God has given us.
- Pray for wisdom in the nomination and selection process.
- Pray that the Lord of the harvest will send the associate pastor in His time and manner.
- Submit names of pastoral candidates for our associate pastor position during October.
 - It is not necessary that the pastor you are suggesting knows about, or consents to, your submission of his name at this time.
 - The pastor must be on the clergy roster of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

To submit a name for consideration:

- Take a nomination form from the Welcome Center. (Forms available Sept. 25 – Oct. 31)
- Place the completed form in the offering plate during any worship service between Sept. 25 – Oct. 31

The associate pastor will work alongside Pastor Burdick, working first in all dimensions of our ministry and later specializing in those areas that Pastor Burdick, the Associate Pastor, & congregational leaders believe best match the needs of the congregation and the gifts of the pastor.

It is likely that we will not be calling until early 2023. The Lord will provide. May His will be done!

St. John's Call Committee
Sandy Bernhard, Holly Bray, Pastor Burdick,
Ray Hartman, Dan Jansen, Jerry Lindsey, Jeff Weis,
Sandy Wieneke, and Dave Worman

Life Chain 2022

Sun., Oct. 2

Prayer service at 1:30 p.m.

Sacred Heart Parish Center

The Life Chain is from 2-3 p.m.

If standing is a problem, lawn chairs are welcome. For more information, please see the flyer on the bulletin board.

Prayer List

Marcella Wolf, Vera Huey, Marlene Haake, Heather Davis, Becky Fielitz, Tatum Garcia, Shirley Cheadle, Doris Hammer, Owen Phelps, Dan Chambers, & Chad Nelson.

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

Your Response to the Gospel Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday September 18	357
Sunday School.....	49
Adult Sunday School.....	38
LifeLight	8

Our Offerings September 18, 2022

General Fund.....	\$10,088.00
Online General Fund.....	\$2,187.86
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$12,275.86
Building Fund.....	\$145.00

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Every time we speak up for the sanctity of life, whether for the unborn, the disabled, the elderly, or the marginalized, we speak for hope. Every time we drop some coins or a check into a baby bottle, we stand for hope and healing and life. Every time we personally care for someone or hug someone or talk to someone who is in a crisis pregnancy or is disabled or is elderly or is marginalized, we show them Christ. We show them the common ground that transcends all our differences. We show them that all our lives matter because God made us. He chose each of us to be His child, and He will never leave us or forsake us. Let us never give up on baby bottle drives and hugs and smiles. The world needs us!”

Barbara A. Geistfeld, D.V.M., Lutherans For Life regional director of Texas – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Hayden Rensner Update

Join us in the Fellowship Hall Sun., Oct. 9th during the Sunday School Hour to hear an update from Hayden. She has been living in the Czech Republic since Dec. 2021. Come & hear about Hayden’s busy summer & how God is using her (& us by extension) in Central Europe & beyond.

The Next Food Distribution

Tues., Sept. 27th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Food Pantry Donations for September

“Your Choice”

Youth Board Needs Your Help!

We are looking for monetary donations or candy donations for the kids to hand out during the Halloween parade.

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Hayride & Weiner Roast

4:00 p.m., Sunday, October 16th

At the home of Jim & Kathy Schroeder
Be sure to sign up on the bulletin board.

Halloween Parade

Sunday, October 30th

Online Apparel Sales

Watch the Eagle for the dates.

This Week’s Sunday School Lesson

Genesis 37; 45:1-10; 50:20

The account of Jacob’s favorite son, Joseph, serves as today’s lesson, “Hope in Hardship.” This account occupies a turning point in the history of God’s people. The unusual timeline of Joseph’s life includes him being despised by his brothers, being sold into slavery, attaining success, and then losing it all to false accusations, being imprisoned, and serving in the court of Pharaoh. Joseph summarizes his life in one sentence addressed to his brothers, “You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good” (Genesis 50:20). Discuss how God can use negative things for our benefit.

Greeting Card Orders

The 6th, 7th, & 8th graders are again taking orders for greeting cards. There are catalogs in the card cabinet in the hallway for anyone to take & return asap. These students have catalogs: Ava & Lilli Wernsing, Aleece & Evan Lotz, Luke Sipe, Mason & Max Stewart, Jackson & Josie Fritch, Eli Wendling, Kennedy Bailey, Tenley Sams, Allyson Kremer, Cailin Ohnesorge, & Avery Bohnoff.

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Golden Eagles

We will meet Thurs., Sept. 29th at noon in the fellowship hall for an Italian lunch.
Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Stewardship Moment

Amos 6:1a – “Woe to those who are at ease in Zion.” The Book of Amos is a warning to God’s people who have been given great material wealth. As Jesus Himself mentions, material blessings can turn into temptations – chiefly the temptation to think of ourselves as self-sufficient and independent. What does Amos suggest as a way to combat this temptation? First, faith in the Lord and dependence upon Him! And if our faith is right, we will want to follow the rest of Amos’ instructions – to bless the poor with our alms and to make sure the Lord’s House is properly cared for. In other words, we are called to align our actions with God’s priorities and put others ahead of ourselves.

Making Disciples For Life Conference “Let Us Keep Awake”

The conference runs from 2 p.m. Oct. 10th through Noon on Oct. 12th at the LCMS International Center in St. Louis. The focus will be on understanding and engaging the people in our culture with various worldviews to share the Good News of Jesus with them in ways that encourage them to listen. Over 30 sessions are planned, all of which will be recorded & available for 60 days after the conference. Go to: <https://cvent.me/mMnXed> to register and see the agenda. Deadline for in person registration is Sept. 19th. Virtual registration closes on Oct. 10th.

Women’s Ministry

We will be starting a new book in Oct. entitled “Living A Chocolate Life”. Our next meeting will be Sat., Oct. 1st at Niemerg’s, at 8 a.m. Questions, contact Renee Kremer (217-821-3142).

Men’s Bible Study

Sat. Oct. 1 at 8 a.m. at Niemerg’s.
Hope to see you there. Questions, contact
Gayland Bourland (217-343-4367).

St. Paul Lutheran Corn Maze & Scavenger Hunt

September 30, October 1 & 2; October 7, 8, & 9
October 14, 15, & 16

Time

Fridays 6 p.m.-10 p.m.; Saturdays 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sundays 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Admission into the corn maze is \$5 /person
Children 5 & younger are free

See the flyer on the bulletin board for details.

Faith Lutheran Church in Shumway

Annual Soup Supper

Sun., Oct. 16 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Menu: Homemade Chicken Noodle Soup & Chili
Hot dogs, Ham & Cheese Sandwiches
Pies, Cakes, & Drinks
FREE will offering.

Check the flyer on the bulletin board for details.

St. John’s Church

Family Picnic

POTLUCK LUNCH

Sunday, September 25

Ballard Nature Center

5253 E US Hwy 40, Altamont

Meet at noon/Eat at 12:30

The main course will be provided,
along with dinnerware and drinks.

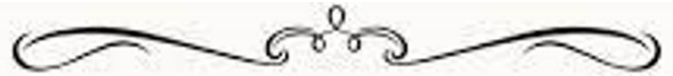
Living with Grief Support Group

The next meeting will be Tues., Sept. 27, 10-11 a.m. here at St. John’s. We will be studying Chapter 4.

LLL Pork Burger Sale on the Triangle in Altamont

The SEA LLL Zone will have a Pork Burger Sale on Sat., Oct. 1, from 10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

There will also be a bake sale at the same time. Donation of items for the bake sale would be appreciated & should be brought to the Triangle by 10 a.m. on the day of the event. All proceeds will go to maintain the airing of the Lutheran Hour on WPMB/WKRV radio in Vandalia. Questions, contact Raymond Stuckemeyer at 618-267-6909.

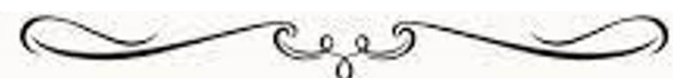


Birthdays This Week

- 9/25 Andrew Weber, Angie Sipe, Dick Hulskotter, Jeanette Worman, Rylee Rothrock, & Tanner Veach
9/26 Allie Wendling, Eric Budde, & Jason Smith
9/27 Erica Davis & Rachel Ault
9/28 Ashley Jansen & Sylvie Bohnhoff
9/29 Aurora March, Beau Grupe, Charlotte Grupe, Lincoln Mottashed, Linda Cushman, Linda Marxmann, & Linda Nolan
9/30 Everly Jeffries
10/1 Avery Miller, Lance Dixon, Madilyn Garrison, & Rosemary Seggelke

Anniversaries This Week

- 9/25/09 Samuel & Kylee Hewing
9/25/10 Jonas & Kara Hoedebecke
9/25/21 Mack & Mikayla McWhorter
9/27/75 Jeff & Kathy Stremming
9/29/07 Jim & Kathy Schroeder
9/29/00 Sam & Ann Wagner
9/29/07 Jason & Andrea Wendling



CALENDAR-----September 25 2022 – October 2, 2022

Sunday	25	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC and Bells are playing 10:30 Service only 3 rd Grade Bible Presentation
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School FCA Presentation in the Fellowship Hall with Kyle Stortzum
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		12:30 p.m.	Church Picnic at the Ballard Nature Center
Preschool Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.			
Monday	26	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
		7:00 p.m.	Lutheran Care Board
Tuesday	27	9:00 a.m.	CID Board of Directors
		10:00 a.m.	Living with Grief Chapter #4
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
		7:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
Wednesday	28	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Grandparents Day
		1:00 p.m.	Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:30 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	29	10:30 a.m.	Preschool Grandparents Day
		Noon	Golden Eagles
Friday	30		Pastor's Sabbath
		6:00 p.m.	Klepzig/Wagoner Rehearsal
Saturday	1	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
		2:00 p.m.	Klepzig/Wagoner Wedding
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service
Sunday	2	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:00 a.m.	Worship Service/Mediacom Channel 81
		1:30 p.m.	Life Chain
		2:30 p.m.	LYF



Youth in grades 7-12 are invited to meet at Church at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 9. We will go to the St. Paul Wheeler Corn Maze, and then back to the Burdicks' home for Bible Study and a cookout. Christian fellowship in the Fall! Come on, kids! Signup on the hall bulletin board by October 5 at Confirmation Class.

