

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter January 15, 2023

I'm very pleased that we can offer free childcare to parents who want to participate in our Catechism Bible Study on Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. (starting 1/31). We're

extending this invitation to our members, and to the parents of our Eagle's Nest Preschool students. Even if those Preschool parents already have a church family, I hope this study (which never

includes an expectation that participants will join St. John's) will give them a chance to engage in Bible Study. The newest edition of the Catechism is \$15, but we're ready to give it free to non-members. Of course, the danger in offering free childcare and a free Catechism to someone is that they might think there's no value or commitment in it all. That's a small risk I'm willing to take! The class is open to all. Come, study with others. Invite a friend to come along. Rejoice in the grace of God.



CID Pastors' Conference

May 1-3, St. John's will host the Central Illinois District Pastors' Conference. Approximately 125 pastors will be here from 1:00 p.m. Monday to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday. Our Social Ministry Board is working on the meal and snack plans, but they aren't expected to do it all. Lots of volunteers will be needed from the congregation, and will be appreciated. Watch for more details in coming months. Thanks.

"Take Me To Church"

As part of "Lutheran Schools Week" January 22-28, we're encouraging our preschool parents to worship! We've dubbed February 5th as "Take Me To Church Sunday." Families are urged to be in church together that Sunday, whether it's here at St. John's or in the congregation of which they are already members. If you see new families on any given Sunday, welcome them warmly.

Confirmation Lock-In



The congregations of our Circuit are inviting Confirmation-age youth to come together for a fun and Biblical Lock-In on Sunday Night, February 19, hosted at St. John's Lutheran of Effingham. Pastor Burdick & Pastor Herberts will lead, and adults are needed for chaperoning. *Fun games. Devotions and Bible Study. Party (and some nutritious) food. Some sleep. Gaga Ball. Good friends. And more!* \$10 per youth. 4 p.m. Sunday to 8 a.m. Monday. Sign-up on the bulletin board.

Take the Catechism Class!

"I highly recommend the Adult Confirmation class to any member or non-member of St. John's. The class is both enlightening and valuable for our walk in the Faith. I look forward to every session and wish there was a part two to continue the journey. "I was most richly blessed by the experience!" -- recent class member.

Study the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 p.m., January 31 to April 4. Topics: death, resurrection, creation, commandments, forgiveness, bitterness, prayer, baptism, communion, science, Luther, pastors, Moralistic-Therapeutic-Deism, grace, etc, SIGN UP TODAY ON THE MAIN BULLETIN BOARD. **Childcare available.**

Pastor Rutherford has served as our Circuit Visitor since 2018, and has been a great blessing to us and our circuit. His final Sunday at St. John's, Louisville, is February 5. The Lord has called him to serve in Lincoln, MO. We trust God and know that the Lord of the Church will bless St. John's and the Rutherford family mightily!

Confirmation Class Update

Our 7th and 8th Grade Confirmation class is beginning the study of The Creed this week. The new Memory Work schedule was sent home with students last week, and was emailed to parents.

New Envelope Numbers

Are now in effect! PLEASE throw the old ones away! Also, If you could put your name on the envelope for a month or so, that would help to make sure everything is correct.

Prayer List

Becky Janis, Earline Jutkins, Jerry Pruemer, Fred Richter, Rich Brillhart, Carol Althoff, Heather Harbour, Janice Mellendorf, Justin Traub, Chad Nelson, Vera Huey, Marlene Haake, Heather Davis, Tatum Garcia, Shirley Cheadle, Doris Hammer & Dan Chambers.

All Members of the Armed Forces: Ben Sams, Ryan Budde, Bryce Ikemire, and all first responders of our community and nation.

Your Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, January 8	398
Sunday School.....	45
Adult Sunday School.....	42

Our Offerings January 8, 2023

General Fund	\$8,581.58
Online Offering.....	\$4,420.00
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$13,001.58
Building Fund.....	\$90.00

Thank You From the Food Pantry

In the calendar year of 2022, St. John’s Food Pantry served 1,955 individuals (1,563 adults & 392 children). Without the continued support of our congregation of food, monetary gifts, and additional support from other congregations and our great community, our mission of the food pantry would not be possible.

We at the pantry want to thank each & every donor for your help. No donation is too small! God has blessed us richly! The pantry received cash donations of \$29,013.42, plus the many tangible food items that we have no dollar figure for and it was all distributed to those in need. Our expenses for food we had to purchase was \$29,866.23, showing a deficit of \$852.81.

Anyone wanting a tour to personally witness our mission and goals, we are always happy to show you around. Just let us know.

Patsy Latch, Pantry Coordinator
and our 16 volunteers

Fun Events for the WHOLE Congregation

Fun for ALL Game/Bingo Night

Sunday, January 15th

Beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Bring your favorite appetizer & favorite game and join us for **Game Night!**

Pickleball for ALL

Tues., Jan. 17th, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sun., Jan. 22nd, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 26th, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Insurance Waivers must be signed.

12 & under must be accompanied by an adult

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board

FAMILY Puzzle Night & Mexican Dinner

Sunday, January 29th from 2:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Tickets go on sale Sat., Jan. 14th

Adults \$8.00 & Kids \$4.00 (5-12)

Rhodes Fish Fry

Friday, March 3

Tickets will go on sale Sat., Feb. 4th

Watch for ticket prices, coming soon.

Trivia Night for ALL

Sunday, March 19th

If you have any questions about any of these events, please contact:

Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)

Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)

Stewardship Moment

John 1:29 – “The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!’” The Israelites of old offered a lamb to God at Passover so that death might pass over them and do no harm. Over those long centuries of sacrifice, did they understand that this was actually God’s gift? That God would be the true Giver of the true Lamb? Truly, we can never out-give God, for all that we have is His.

Greeting Cards

There is a new greeting card catalog in the “card” cabinet. You may leave an order until February 12th. We only have the one catalog.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

Jeremiah 1:4-10; 29:1-14; 31:31-34; 33:14-16

"Comfort in Captivity" is the theme for our lesson this week. When Nebuchadnezzar takes the Israelites into exile in Babylon, Jeremiah writes to the exiles, assuring them of God's continuing care for them. Through Jeremiah, God promises a new covenant where His people will live eternally through Jesus. Discuss, "How does God comfort us today?"

Flower Chart

The 2023 chart has been posted. Please sign up if you would like to donate flowers for the altar.

Looking for a way to Serve?

Are you looking for a fun & special way to serve the Lord that works with your own schedule? I have just the one for you!

Become a member of St. John's visiting team!! Each month we get to spend time with 3-4 older members who are staying in assisted living or nursing homes...and a few are shut-ins at home. The time is well spent discussing past & current events, talking about our families & friends, and sharing a devotion and prayer. (We also try to bring a little snack because who doesn't enjoy a treat??) They appreciate having someone new listen to their stories, and we have the opportunity to meet other believers. It's definitely a win-win situation!!

We currently have 8 members who see over 20 folks, but there are more than a dozen others that would like to have a visit. Before we can add them to our list, more volunteers are needed.

PLEASE consider helping us meet the needs of our older members. In Matthew 25:40 Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of Mine, you did for Me."

Simply contact Dana Keller (217-246-5373) to answer any questions or for more information.

LifeLight's New Class

On Exodus Part 2 will begin Sun. Jan. 15th

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"Christians are to love their neighbors, including the unborn ... (Proverbs 24:11, 29:8-9) ... This means we can and ought to pray for the unborn, for women who have the choice of preserving or ending the life of their unborn child, for women who have had abortions and who need forgiveness in Christ—freely given through faith, for abortion doctors who are directly responsible for killing these children, and for our governing officials."

Pastor David Thompson, St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Lombard, Illinois – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Pure Germany! 2024

Are you interested in this trip of a lifetime? It will be Sept. 11-22, 2024. If you are interested, take a flyer off the bulletin board.

Food Pantry Donations for January

Canned fruit, Sloppy Joe mix
Soup, & Pasta

LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Our estates are full of God's gifts. Sometimes, God's people sense a tension brought on by considering directing gifts to support ministry when the Lord calls them home, fearing ministry gifts might rob family of what is due to them. That is really a false tension, as all our gifting from our estates is aimed at blessing people with God's gracious gifts, according to His plan and design. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can begin talking and praying with you to understand the personal plan that makes sense for estate gifts from your life. Contact Scott Radden at Scott.Radden@LFND.org or call his cell phone at 618-977-4049.

Issues, Etc.



Christ-Centered Cross-Focused Talk Radio

www.issuesetc.org

CALENDAR-----January 15 – January 22, 2023

Sunday	15	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service The Choir will be singing for both services
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		3:00 p.m.	Youth Fun Bingo/Game Night
Monday			No Preschool
		Noon	Board of Evangelism
		5:30	Choir Practice
Tuesday	17	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Pickleball
		7:00 pm.	Council
Wednesday	18	1:00 p.m.	Office Devotions/Staff Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	19		
Friday	20		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	21	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	E.A.S.T.E.R.
		5:30 p.m.	Worship w/HC
Sunday	22	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Pickleball

Birthday's This Week

- 01/15 Marjorie Cline & Paula Holland
- 01/16 Dennis Wendling & Kylee Hewing
- 01/17 Dale Schagemann, Devin Frailey, & Todd Zeigler
- 01/18 Alec Longwell, Hudson Wilson, & Lindsey Stewart
- 01/19 Keith Knight
- 01/20 Emery Wendling & Vicky Keith
- 01/21 Nancy Moeller & Rachel Miller

Anniversary's This Week

- 01/15/22 Howard & Marlene Haake
- 01/17/10 John & Cathy Mellendorf

This week's Catechism Readings:

- 1/15/23 Lord's Prayer
- 1/16/23 Introduction
- 1/17/23 1st Petition
- 1/18/23 2nd Petition
- 1/19/23 3rd Petition
- 1/20/23 4th Petition
- 1/21/23 5th Petition

Upcoming Meetings

- Council Meeting
Tues., Jan 17 at 7 p.m.
- Voters Meeting
Tues., Jan 24 at 7 p.m.