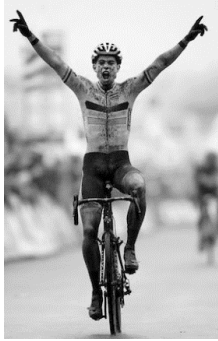


THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter January 8, 2023

With two days remaining, it appears that I will prove to be the winner of the Advent Wreath Game in our home. I say this with too much pride, I know. What it really proves is that I'm long-winded. Each Advent



and Christmas we conduct our home devotions around the wreath, ending with long-distance blowing out the candles. I'm up by six with just tonight and tomorrow to go. It's entirely possible that I'm the cyclist who raises his arms in premature celebration twenty feet before the finish,

only to crash in humiliation ...but I don't think so.

You know who else prematurely thought he had won? Evil King Herod, killing the boys around Bethlehem to get rid of the newborn king. Herod died; Jesus survived. Thirty-three years later Satan must have celebrated on Good Friday, only to realize on Sunday that Jesus is his Lord, and Lord of all.

Take heart, this new year 2023 "A.D." is, indeed, the "year of our Lord." As a congregation and as congregational households, we will seek to be faithful. He will prove to be. You can bank on it.

Finally, everyone who gathered around the Advent wreath and used our "A Son Is Given" devotional proved to be a winner. I found those devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries to be Christ-centered and beautifully relevant. Let this be a reminder to us that LHM provides great resources for us as individuals and as churches. Check them out at www.LHM.org. There's Good News there for sinners such as us. Jesus is Lord.

LifeLight's New Class

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

Adult Confirmation Class

Are you interested in joining our congregation through adult confirmation? Are you a longtime Lutheran who would like to review Luther's Small Catechism? Our next series of 10 sessions in the Adult Catechism Class runs from January 31 to April 4, 2023, and classes will be held at a new time: 4:00-5:00 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Last month one of the class participants said "I want to encourage people to take this class, because ***"the Word acts as the only influencer that we need and is an antidote to our times. Instead of being divided and separated, we come together to learn the Word and its Truth. Instead of anger, we learn love; instead of bitterness, forgiveness."*** If interested in the class, sign-up on the main bulletin board in the Atrium Hallway, or email pastor at

mike.burdick@stjohnsLCMS.net.

Sign up today to help provide childcare during our Catechism Bible Study. See the main hall bulletin board!

This week's Catechism Readings:

1/8/23 8th Commandment
1/9/23 9th Commandment
1/10/23 10th Commandment
1/11/23 Close of the Commandments
1/12/23 1st Article
1/13/23 2nd Article
1/14/23 3rd Article

Do you listen to podcasts?

Two that Pastor would recommend:

- **Issues, Etc** (www.issuesetc.org)
- **The World and Everything In It** (www.wng.org)

Upcoming Meetings

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

Prayer List

Fred Richter, Rich Brillhart, Carol Althoff, Kathy Wall, Don Clark, Elizabeth Ziegler Cole, Heather Harbour, Janice Mellendorf, Justin Traub, Marcella Wolf, Chad Nelson, John Lin, 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

New Year's Eve 147
New Year's Day 130

Our Offerings Dec. 31 2022 & Jan. 1, 2023

General Fund (New Year's Eve) \$7,406.00
Online Offering..... \$4,415.92
General Fund (New Year's Day) \$3,008.00
Total Gen. Fund Offering..... \$14,829.92
Building Fund..... \$100.00

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"When an abortion is performed, we proclaim that we know better than God. We disregard His wisdom, for He taught us that we should never kill innocent human beings. We proclaim that we do not want or need a gift from God. And in doing so, we seek to make ourselves more powerful than God. We seek to make ourselves God."

Archbishop Samuel Aquila – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Flower Chart

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

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.

Prayer Shawl

Will meet on Tues., Jan. 10th at 1 p.m.

Food Pantry Next Distribution

Tues., Jan. 10th from 3-4 p.m.

Food Pantry Donations for January

Canned fruit, Canned Sloppy Joe's, Soup, & Pasta

Call Committee

The next Call Committee meeting will be held on Monday, January 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Trinity Room. Members are:

Fred Bray, Chair
Jerry Lindsey
Linda Marxman
Holly Bray
Ray Hartman
Dan Jansen
Sandy Bernhard
Pastor Burdick

New Envelope Numbers

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

Contribution Statements

We will be emailing contribution statements to everyone that we have an email for. Please be watching for an email from "Auto Mail" in your inbox towards the end of January. If we do not have an email, we will send you one in the mail. ***If you do not wish to receive yours by email, you will need to let the office know by: Monday, January, 9th.***

Stewardship Moment

Matthew 3:15 – "But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.'" The reason God sent His Son into the world is to fulfill all righteousness for us, to do what we could not do. Here, Jesus plunges Himself into our sins and soaks them up in His Baptism, so that in our Baptism we might be cleansed and renewed. The whole of Jesus' life, everything He did and said, was one great offering to the Father in our stead to fulfill all righteousness for us.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

Matthew 2

In the lesson for this week, "Wise Men Worship," God leads Gentile scholars to worship the Christ. Following their visit, Joseph immediately flees with his young family to the safety of Egypt. When Herod's insane jealousy dies with him, the Holy Family returns home to Nazareth. Discuss, "How does God keep you and I safe today?"

Youth Corner

Pickleball Dates

Sun., Jan. 8th, 1:00 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Thurs., Jan. 12th, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

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.

Sun., Jan. 29th, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Insurance Waivers must be signed.

12 & under must be accompanied by an adult

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board

Fun Bingo/Game Night

Jan. 15th at 3:00pm

Bring your favorite appetizer!

Drinks & tableware will be provided.

Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Puzzle Night & Mexican Dinner

Sunday, February 12 from 3 – 7 p.m.

Rhodes Fish Fry

Friday, March 3

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

Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)

Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)

Attention All Boards

Your reports are due in the church office for the Council meeting by Wed., Jan. 11

St. Peter's Lutheran Men's Club

Sausage Supper

Sausage, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, and all the fixings

Sun., Feb. 19

Serving begins at 5 p.m. in the school gym

Carry outs will be available

Pre-orders for sausage & ribs must be placed by Jan. 23

To order, contact:

John Lotz (618-553-5585)

Tim Brauer (267-6229)

David Schall (618-292-3732)

St. Peter's Church (618-349-8321)
after 12 p.m.

In our Voters Assembly on Tuesday, January 24, our congregation will have the opportunity to make nominations for President and Vice President of our Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Nominations for President, First Vice-President and the five regional vice-presidents of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (who are ranked by a series of convention votes as the second through sixth vice-presidents of the Synod after their election) are submitted exclusively by the member congregations of the Synod.

The Secretary of the Synod is responsible for providing a secure and verifiable method for submission and tabulation of these nominations (Bylaw 3.12.2)

Beginning with nominations for the 2023 convention, member congregations will submit their nominations exclusively through an electronic system, administered by Yes Elections (formerly known as Election America), the outside contractor that has supported the online process for election of the Synod President. Bylaws provide for this nomination process to close five months prior to the opening of the convention; the Secretary has set the process to open nine months prior to the convention opening.

Each congregation may nominate up to two ministers from the Synod's roster of ordained ministers, other than specific ministry pastors, for:

- President (nominate up to two)
- First Vice-President (nominate up to two)
- Regional Vice-President in the Congregation's Region (nominate up to two; must be resident in the congregation's region at the time of nomination and throughout service)

For relevant dates and details on the nomination process in the current triennium, see [Step 4C in the Member Congregation's Guide to Convention Participation](#). Information on the candidates is published in the ***Biographical Synopses and Statements of Nominees***, which is published at the same time as the *Convention Workbook*, no later than 12 weeks prior to the opening of the convention (Bylaw 3.1.8 [b]).

CALENDAR-----January 8 – January 15, 2023

Sunday	8	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC & Bells will be playing Installation of Officers
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Pickleball in the gym
Preschool—Monday – Friday 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.			
Monday	9	5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
		5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
		6:15 p.m.	Board of Christian Education
		7:00 p.m.	Call Committee
Tuesday	10	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
Wednesday	11	8:50 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		1:00 p.m.	Office Devotions and Staff Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	12	8:50 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		4:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
		6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Pickleball
Friday	13		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	14	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service
Sunday	15	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		3:00 p.m.	Youth Fun Bingo/Game Night

Birthdays This Week

- 01/08 Charity Ozenkoski, Jack Watson, Kateleigh Zeigler, Sarah Wyckoff, & Tate Niebrugge
- 01/09 Ben Burdick, Jessica Fritch, & Marilyn Schaefer
- 01/10 Ana Lotz, Dana Haarmann, Darwin Wohltman, Norbert Brauer, Pat Miller, Ruth Gall, & Tenley Sams
- 01/11 Joanne Schlechte
- 01/12 Brent Bahrns, Carolyn Wendte, Kylie Pryor, & Mandy Westjohn
- 01/13 Madison Marcum
- 01/14 Grayson Buening

Anniversaries This Week

- 01/14/06 Adam & Kiley Bohnhoff

Lutheran Schools Week

Will be celebrated January 22-28! On Wednesday and Thursday of that week (Jan. 25 & 26), we will welcome each child in our Preschool to start the school day with "Pancakes With Pastor." From 8:00-8:30am, Pastor Burdick and volunteers will serve Pancakes to the students and their parents. This is an effort to get to know those parents and to invite the families who don't yet have a church to come worship with us at St. John's. Volunteers are needed to set up, serve, and clean up. Sign up on the main hall bulletin board, please. We did this three years ago, and are pleased to offer it again. Thanks for volunteering.