

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter March 5, 2023

“God has visited His people,” (Luke 7:16) exclaimed the residents of Nain after Jesus raised a young man from death. Boy, had He! A resurrection in front of your face would make that clear. I hope, dear reader, that you are certain, too, that the Lord Almighty has visited us through His Word and Spirit. God is near. Here. As He has promised.

Believing that, we visit others. I'm deeply grateful for all the volunteers of our congregation who work together to visit shutins and others with the love of Christ. Dana Keller is the coordinator of this ministry among us, and she is praising God for the addition of new visitors and new people to visit. Thanks, everyone. Keep up the good work.

In a couple of weeks, we'll have Bill Wagner visiting us again on behalf of the Gideons. He's a member of Trinity Lutheran (LCMS) in Peoria, and will appeal to us to support the distribution of the Word with prayer and donations.

In less than two months (May 1-3), many pastors of the Central Illinois District will visit Effingham when we host the CID Pastoral Conference at St. John's. You'll be welcome at all of the Services held during the Conference, and your help throughout the conference will be appreciated, greeting, guiding, refilling coffee and water, etc. I know you'll host them very well – because almost 25 years ago you hosted the same conference, and it was my very first visit to St. John's!

We have numerous Baptisms coming up. Jesus makes it clear in today's Gospel that this is one of the liveliest “visits” by God, for in Baptism – the work of water and the Spirit

– the Lord gives new birth. God has visited His people. Boy, has He!

In Christ,



Dollars for Missions

Check out the “Dollars for Missions” offering box in the atrium! Thank you for partnering with the Board of Evangelism & Central Illinois District in focusing on local missions. We are asking each member to contribute an additional \$1 per week from now through the end of the year. We look forward to updating you on how these dollars are being used in the District.

“Blue4Crewe 5K

Saturday, April 15 at 8:00 a.m. in Stewardson. This race is a way to remember Crew Jones, who was a student at Trinity Lutheran School in Stewardson, who never got the chance to run on the cross country team, but had hoped to. Crewe was a young boy full of energy and this race is a way to remember that spirit that we all came to know and love. All funds will go to updating the playground at Trinity. Follow the QR to register.



Don't Forget

Set your clocks ahead Sunday.,
March 12th.

Exodus

LET MY PEOPLE GO

Midweek Lenten Services on Wednesdays at
12:15 and 6:30pm.

Prayer List

Carolyn Croft, Kelsey Baker, Zach Fritcher, Debbie Barr, Thad Genaust, Jim Feldhake, Rich Brillhart, Richard Ohnesorge, Dave Ragan, Sara Bernhard, Justin Traub, Marlene Haake, Heather Davis, Tatum Garcia, Shirley Cheadle, & Dan Chambers.

Fun Events for the WHOLE Congregation

Potato Bar and/or Trivia Night for ALL

Sunday, March 19th

Potato Bar Served from
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Free Will Donation

Then, if you want, stick around...

Trivia begins at 1:30 p.m.

Cost: Adults \$10

Children under 12 \$5

Sign-up by March 5th on the bulletin board.

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

Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)

Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)

Preschool Registration for 2023/2024

Preschool Registration for members of St. John's is now open. You may pick up a registration form on the bulletin board or stop by the office. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie in the office.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"But death is not a part of the life for which we were created—for we were created. You did not morph from pond scum into an intelligent hairless monkey; you were handcrafted by the Lord of the Universe."

Hannah Nissing, Bulldogs4Life, the Y4Life team at Concordia, Nebraska – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Your Response to the Gospel Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, February 26.....	393
Sunday School.....	42
Adult Sunday School.....	50
LifeLight.....	11
Lent Services	166

Our Offerings February 26, 2023

General Fund	\$8,906.75
Online Offering.....	\$3,288.11
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$12,194.86
Building Fund	\$90.00

Stewardship Moment

John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” This is perhaps the most well-known and beloved verse in the New Testament, for good reason. This simple Gospel message is the foundation for our whole life, including our new life in Christ. This new life is characterized by thankfulness and devotion to our Father who has provided for us so lavishly in Christ.

Food Pantry Updates

Items Needed for March:

Peanut Butter, Oatmeal, Pasta Sauce,
Tuna and/or Hamburger Helper.

Drop-Offs

You may place your donations in the brown box by the elevator.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

Mark 4:35-41

“A Weather Wonder” is the theme for this week's lesson. With the simple command, “Peace! Be still!” (Mark 4:39), Jesus proclaims His power over a storm strong enough to shake even experienced fishermen. With the disciples, we must ask, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey Him?” (v. 41). How can your family respond to this question?

V.B.S. Meeting

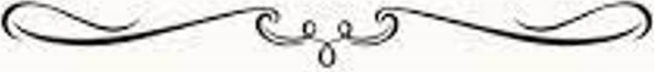
A planning meeting for VBS is set for Thurs., Mar. 9th, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. This meeting is for anyone who is interested in helping! If you have questions, contact Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541) OR Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300).



90th Birthday Open House

Dr. James Gartner will celebrate his 90th birthday on Friday March 10th. The family will be hosting an Open House to celebrate his birthday, Saturday, March 11th from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. at St. John's Church, Effingham. Everyone is welcome to attend. Cards may be sent to him:

James Gartner
3 Woodland Dr.
Effingham, IL 62401



Portals of Prayer

It is time to sign up for your Portals of Prayer subscriptions. Here are the prices for this year.

Regular Size "Direct Mail" \$12.00

Digest Size "Direct Mail" \$17.50

Large Print "Direct Mail" \$20.50

Money for the subscriptions can be put in the designated offering envelopes. If you do not use envelopes, please indicate it on the memo line of your check, and place in the offering plate. You can also drop your check by the office. Monday, March 13th is the deadline.

Trinity Lutheran School in Stewardson Open House

Sun., Mar. 5th from 12 p.m. – 2 p.m. See the flyer on the bulletin board for details.

Lydia Guild

We will meet on
Tuesday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m.

Camp CILCA "Act Like Men"

Woodcutter Retreat

This retreat will be held March 10-11. Cutting trees, splitting wood, fellowship with other men, good food, and time in God's Word are all great ways to grow your soul. You do not have to be skilled in using a chainsaw, hammer, or tractor to come to this event. Strong backs and eager hands are just as helpful. The suggested donation for overnight is **\$25** (\$10 for Saturday only). To register, contact the camp office at 217-487-7497 or email director@cilca.org. **Please let us know you are coming so we can prepare the meals.**

Important Youth Updates

Dam Run

This will be held Sat., April 1. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. You must sign up by March 19th.

If you have any questions, please contact:
Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541) OR
Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)

LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

We can discover great joy by thinking of the benefit that will come from the gifts we give from our estates. Family inheritance is often understood as entitlement. That robs the joy. Instead, living in grace we see distributions to family as gifts. How do you hope the gifts you will give to family will benefit them? Will they free family from debt, enable the start of a new business, pay for college, or provide for special needs? Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you to think about the purpose of your gifts. Contact Scott Radden for more information at 618-977-4049.

Prayers & Best Wishes

Congratulations to Dan & Dana Haarman on the birth of the daughter, Georgia. She arrived on Friday, Feb. 24th. Please keep this family in your prayers.

CALENDAR-----March 5 – March 12, 2023

Sunday	5	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service /Bells will be playing
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		Noon - 2 p.m.	Trinity Lutheran School Open House
Preschool Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.			
Monday	6	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	7	9:00 a.m.	Circuit Pastor’s Meeting, Sullivan
		4:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
		6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Pickleball
		7:00 p.m.	Lydia Guild
Wednesday	8	10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Quilting
		12:15 p.m. & 6:30 p.m.	Lent Service
		1:00 p.m.	Office Devotions & Staff Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Catechism
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	9	4:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry
		5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.	VBS Planning Meeting
Friday	10		Pastor’s Sabbath
Saturday	11	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Dr. Gartner’s Birthday Open House
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service HC
Sunday	12		Daylight Saving Time Begins
		8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School

Birthday’s This Week

- 03/05 Gage Wernsing, Kade Pennington, Pam Higgs, & Paul Whitehair
- 03/07 Beth Hanks, Curt Meseke, Gayland Bourland, & Laura Braun
- 03/08 Brody Kuhns & James Ousley
- 03/10 Dr. James Gartner, Kaiden Kohnert, & Katherine Jansen
- 03/11 Jim Schroeder & Patricia Logan

Anniversary’s This Week

- 03/06/99 Brian & Dawn Koester
- 03/08/20 Jordan & Paige Boldig
- 03/10/18 Jason & Michelle Miller

Effingham County Right to Life Bus

Another Bus for Springfield is available: Effingham County Right to Life has 25 seats available on a bus. This bus leaves the Effingham Event Center at 7:30 a.m. Mar. 21 for the Right to Life March in Springfield, IL. The Event Center is formerly the KC Hall on Fayette Ave. Please text Diann Ruholl to reserve a seat 217-663-2056.