

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter May 21, 2023



I have good news for you. Our risen Lord -- ascended to the right hand of the Father -- is near to us through His Word and Sacraments. You knew that already ... but we need to hear it *often*.

I have a little more good news for you – after extensive study, the Elders and I have decided that our congregation will increase the frequency of Holy Communion to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th weekends of the month.

How did we make this decision? The Elders and the Sunday morning Bible class studied the Bible and a booklet titled “A Simple Explanation of Holy Communion.” We concluded that the blessing of the Lord’s Supper is so real and so good that more frequent reception is right. The small costs, including time and volunteers, are outweighed by the benefits.

Why not the 5th Sunday weekends? Having a non-communion Service will allow us to use a different liturgy occasionally.

Will we still have Children’s Sermons? Yes!

When will this new schedule begin? In September, after we have used the summer to train additional servants for communion ware set-up, cleanup, and distribution. We will create brief videos to begin this training, augmenting the precious work our Altar Guild and Lydia Guild are doing.

Who can help with Communion setup and cleanup? Any members who are able and

willing to be trained. We hope that individuals and families will serve together in his joyous work. Youth can serve with their parents. You can serve!

Will weekly communion lead members to take it for granted and without proper preparation? Only if they choose to. It’s possible and it’s good to come to the Lord’s Table every week in godly repentance and with a holy hunger for God’s grace.

Why? Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Those are some of the questions that have already been asked. What are yours? We want to hear from you, and we want to have our dear church family continue to grow in faith, knowledge, and witness to Jesus. God grant it!



Prayer List

Becca Lading, Beulah Ziegler, Karen Flemmings, Rachel Miller, Rich Brillhart, Vicki Snider, Terry Simmons, Thomas Reeves, Nadine Clem, Florence Leppin, Sharon Hiser, Kelsey Baker, Richard Ohnesorge, Sara Bernhard, Heather Davis, Tatum Garcia, and Shirley Cheadle,

Response to the Gospel **Our Attendance Last Week**

Sunday, May 14	414
Sunday School.....	38
Adult Sunday School.....	49
LifeLight	9

Our Offerings Sunday, May 14, 2023

General Fund	\$8,537.09
Online Offering.....	\$1,692.86
Total Gen. Fund Offering	\$10,229.95
Building Fund.....	\$45.00

Stewardship Moment

Acts 1:11 – “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.” Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ is ascended, and Christ will come again. We live our lives in this world in the sure confidence of the world to come. We live as people who know our Lord Jesus and who know that He is coming back. This knowledge makes all the difference in how we approach the things of this world.

VANCO Online Options

Did you know that you can make your regular donation, building fund donation, special services offering, food pantry donation, and now Undesignated Memorials online? Simply click on the church website, then click the “Online Giving” tab & go from there. Questions... just call the church office.

Classroom Aide Needed

Eagles Nest Preschool is in need of an aide for the 2023/2024 school year on Tues. & Thurs. Please contact Carrie in the office.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson

Luke 24:44-53; Acts 1:1-11

The Bible lesson this week is “An Ascending Truth.” During His last days on earth, Jesus instructs His disciples, preparing them for the challenges that lie ahead. Gathering His disciples on the Mount of Olives one last time, Jesus physically ascends to heaven. Two angels repeat Christ’s promise to return in the same way He ascended into heaven. Discuss, “What great commission does Jesus give His followers?”

Food Pantry Updates

Next Distribution Day

Tues., May 23 from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Food Items Needed for May

ANY food will be greatly appreciated!

Drop-Offs

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

Summer Sunday School Schedule

Summer is just around the corner, and as in the past, we plan to have Sunday School as a group. We will need volunteers to teach the following dates:

June 4, June 11, June 18, June 25
July 9, July 16

No Classes

July 2, July 30, August 6, August 13

Rally Day

August 20

It is always nice to teach with someone, so grab a friend & let me know when you can help! Please contact Kiley Bohnhoff (217-343-3520 or email kbohnhoff@hotmail.com).

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"God has chosen each one of us from the beginning of creation. God has also chosen our body to be a temple. He gave us the beautiful gift of a body, and we are called to be stewards of that body, to take care of it and be aware of what we do with it. God also chooses each one of us to belong. We all have a spot and purpose in God's family—and not one of us is useless or random. God chose us with a purpose. Nothing He does is random."

Kambria Steinhaus, Knights 4 Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Welcome Center Volunteers Needed!

The Welcome Center needs volunteers! If you would like to help, or have questions about what is involved, please call Dena Willis (217-821-2903), or contact the church office (217-342-4334).

Baby Bottle Project



We are once again participating in the



Family Life Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Project. Be sure to pick up your Baby Bottles in the middle of the Atrium today, and return them on Father's Day weekend, Sunday, June 18th.

VBS Needs!

Volunteers

(Check bulletin board for registration forms)

Students

(There is a registration form in the bulletin)

Supplies

Insulation foam board, Blue plastic table cloths, Artificial trees & plants, Large real potted plants, Banana Tree Plants, You can place your items in the box in the Atrium.

Golden Eagles

Will meet on Thursday, May 25th at Noon.
The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

St. John's Choir

Please come & join the choir at the Lutheran Care Center Chapel on Sun., May 21st from 1:15 p.m.–2:15 p.m. We are wrapping up this choir season by performing many of the songs from the last year for the residents. Guests are welcome!

VBS Decorating Committee

Will meet on Tues., May 24th at 5:30 p.m.

Dollars for Missions

The dollars you contribute to a Dollar for Missions are presently going to assist with the purchase of a 12-passenger van at University Lutheran Church in Champaign, which serves students, faculty, & staff at the University of Illinois & Parkland College. Project cost is \$35,000.

Junior High Room

The Board of Education is wanting to furnish a room for the junior high kids in the education building. If anyone has Thrivent Cards that we could use towards this project, we would really appreciate it. Questions, please contact Kiley Bohnhoff.



Register for Camp CILCA!

www.CILCA.org

Please Help Us

Please help us keep the building safe. During office hours, allow the office staff to let unknown (to you) people to come in only after they have pressed the intercom. You are not being rude when you smile and allow the intercom system to work. Thank you!

CALENDAR-----May 21 – May 28, 2023

Sunday	21	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services Graduation Service at the 8:00 a.m. Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	St. John's Choir performs at LCC Chapel
Monday	22	4:30 p.m.	Lutheran Care Center Board Meeting
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
Tuesday	23	9:00 a.m.	Dist. Board of Directors meeting in Springfield
		10:00 a.m.	Living with Grief #6 & 7 meet in Altamont
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
Wednesday	24	1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:30 p.m.	VBS Decorating Meeting
Thursday	25	Noon	Golden Eagles
		1:00 p.m.	Stephens Ministry
Friday	26		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	27	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service /HC
Sunday	28	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service /HC
			No Sunday School

Birthdays This Week

- 05/21 Ashley Flach & Kelly Keitel
 05/22 Coralin Ohnesorge, Doris Mueller, & Jane Tolch
 05/24 Janet Koebele, Julie Bahrns, & Laura Galvan
 05/25 Chris Lidy
 05/26 Dolores Huelskoetter, Jared Weis, Jenni Newlin, Lucas McDevitt, Marla Pilcher, Sarah Kirby, & Will McDevitt
 05/27 Dick Kinkelaar & Kori Heuerman

Anniversaries This Week

- 05/21/88 Rick & Nancy Kohnert
 05/25/74 Dennis & Nitelle Lading
 05/25/85 Alvin & Judy Siebert
 05/26/12 Adam & Chrystal Wendt
 05/27/17 Brendan & Brittney Keller

LCMSFoundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Can my estate plans change over time? Since you put your estate plans in place 15 years ago, your children have become incredibly successful in their professions, and you now have seven grandchildren under the age of seven. You have a sense the Lord will be calling you home within the next ten years. Your love for family now leads you to consider family inheritance as support for grandchildren's college education. Whether it is this change or your unique one, your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you think and pray through it. Contact Scott Radden by emailing scott.radden@lfnd.org or calling his cell phone at 618-977-4049.