

# THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter May 14, 2023



Vacation Bible School. 6:00-8:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday, June 12-15. It's all about God's grace in Jesus! It's a lot of work, and it's all possible with many hands pitching in. Please volunteer early. We need to plan a Christ-centered VBS and carry out the plan with volunteers who have all had a background check. Here are the week's lessons:

- God Creates All Creatures  
-**Genesis 1; 2:10-14**
- Water from the Rock-**Exodus 17:1-7**
- Jesus at the Well-**John 4:1-30**
- Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet-  
**John 13:1-20**

Where would we be without water? Even more, where would we be without **God's Living Water** in Christ? Honestly, hell. In Him, we have a hope to share with others (think of this Sunday's Epistle reading), so let's share it, partly through Vacation Bible School. I thank our Youth Board for planning the VBS, and you for volunteering this week to assist us.

Sunday Adult Bible Study in the fellowship hall gets back on track today, using the same Bible Lesson as our youth are using: Luke 24:13-35 and "The Emmaus Road." Join us!

**Scholarships.** When I was studying at the Seminary, I was shocked and blessed to receive approximately \$1000 per quarter from the Central Illinois District Scholarship Fund to help pay my tuition. That didn't cover all of it, but it helped so much! Looking back, this helps me understand why today's "Scholarship Sunday" Offering is so very important to the men and women of our District who are studying for fulltime ministry at our Concordia Universities and Seminaries. You can give in two ways: pick up an envelope from the Welcome Center above the sign, "Will They Always Be There?" and mail it to the CID. Or, place your special check payable to "CID Scholarship Fund" in the offering plate this weekend (we'll mail it to CID for you). 100% will be used as scholarships for future pastors, DCEs, teachers, and other church workers. Thanks.



Register for Camp CILCA! [www.CILCA.org](http://www.CILCA.org)

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Altamont  
welcomes you to their  
**Ascension Day Service**  
this Thursday, May 18, at 6:30pm.

## Worship Committee Report

We are altering our routine at the beginning of Services slightly. The Prelude (or preservice songs) will come before the Call to Worship Bells, which will ring at the scheduled worship time. The Welcome will follow the bells.

**Prayer List**

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

**This Week’s Sunday School Lesson**

**Luke 24:13-35**

“A Revealing Truth” is the Bible lesson for this week. On Easter afternoon, Jesus joins two disciples discussing the events of the past week in Jerusalem while on their way to Emmaus. Along the way, Jesus interprets the Old Testament prophecies concerning Himself. Arriving at Emmaus, the disciples suddenly recognize Jesus, who then disappears from sight. The disciples quickly return to Jerusalem to share their amazing account. Discuss how you, too, can share this amazing story.

**Response to the Gospel**

**Our Attendance Last Week**

Sunday, May 7 .....496  
Sunday School.....43  
Adult Sunday School .....N/A  
LifeLight .....11

**Our Offerings Sunday, May 7, 2023**

General Fund .....\$12,705.00  
Online Offering.....\$4,724.76  
**Total Gen. Fund Offering .....\$17,429.76**  
**Building Fund..... \$80.00**

**April 2023 General Fund Summary**

Deposits.....\$63,301.44  
Expenditures.....\$50,969.76  
**Ending Balance .....\$94,483.72**

**Food Pantry Updates**

**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.

**Stewardship Moment**

John 14:15 – “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” Jesus is clear: our obedience to His Word comes from our love for Him. But where does that love come from? Jesus tells us that as well: “Her sins, which are many, are forgiven — for she loved much” (Luke 7:47). Christ shows us His love and gives us the forgiveness of our sins, which causes love to well up in us and thereby keep the commandments of Jesus. For after all, the summary of the Law is “love.”

**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.

**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).

Faith Lutheran Church of Shumway held the funeral for Brody Braunecker here at St. John’s this Saturday, with Pastor Rensner officiating. We extend our Christian love to Brody’s family, and his church family.

### **LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

“This, dear friends, is why Christ’s ascension is a good goodbye. Jesus leaves you with everything! He has done it all. The grave is empty. Death is defeated. Life is yours. So, people of God, ‘Why do you stand here looking into the sky?’ You have an ascension victory to celebrate and an ascended Savior to proclaim!”

Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

### **Save the Date for Bells In Motion**

Bells in Motion is an advanced, auditioned community handbell ensemble, based in Springfield, IL. They will be on tour in June, and will be making their final stop at Immanuel Lutheran Church, in Altamont, on Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the upper Parish Hall. Chris Peck, is the Immanuel mixed choir director, and he rings with this ensemble. They have an exciting line up planned. If you like jazz, classics from the '60's, '70's, & '80's, if you like Broadway, there will be something for you! This family friendly concert has music for everyone. A free-will offering will be taken.

### **Greeters & Welcome Center Hosts Appreciation Breakfast**

This will be held on Sat., May 20 at 8:00 a.m. In the fellowship hall. We'll enjoy some fellowship, food, have a brief discussion about how you can support the Pastors in welcoming guests to our congregation. Recent attendance reports show we are hosting more guests each week. We're excited to welcome & encourage them to keep coming back. Not a greeter or welcome center host yet, but interested in volunteering? Please come to the breakfast. We would love to include you in this important roll.

### **Welcome Center Volunteers**

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 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **St. John's Choir**

Please come & join the choir at the Lutheran Care Center Chapel on Sun., May 21<sup>st</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

### **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 25<sup>th</sup> at Noon. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. We hope to see you all there.

**CALENDAR-----May 14 – May 21, 2023**

Sunday	14	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services/HC Choir will be singing for both services
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
Monday	15	Noon	Board of Evangelism
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
		5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	16	5:30 p.m.	VBS Decorating Meeting
Wednesday	17	1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Youth
Thursday	18		<i>Ascension Day!</i>
Friday	19		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	20	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band
		8:00 a.m.	Welcome/Greeter Hosts Training Breakfast
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service
Sunday	21	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services Graduation Service at the 10:30 Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		Noon	Senior Farewell Lunch
		1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.	St. John's Choir performs at LCC Chapel

**Birthdays This Week**

- 05/14 Chase Smith
- 05/15 Adam Devall, Alayna Goldstein,  
Chandler Devall, & Valerie Wright
- 05/16 David Storm, Dennis Rubin,  
Douglas Storm, Kelsey Baker
- 05/17 Audrey Jansen & Vicki Manford
- 05/18 Anne Young, Dennis Johnson,  
Katy Miller, Travis Sipe, &  
Zachary Haake
- 05/19 Cailin Ohnesorge & Seth Wilson
- 05/20 Colin Wendling

**Anniversaries This Week**

- 05/15/99 Mike & Amanda Brummer
- 05/15/10 Clayton & Katie Hinton
- 05/15/20 Richard & Nikki Vahling
- 05/18/19 Isaac & Laura Galvan
- 05/19/01 Travis & Angie Sipe

Let us pray.  
**O Lord, our saving light and our shelter in the day of trouble, turn us not away in anger because of our sins. Calm our hearts, strengthen our faith, and lead us in Your straight paths until we see Your surpassing goodness in heaven with all those who live in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen!**

