

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter June 25, 2023

Our Catechism Bible Study launched last Monday with fourteen participants. We covered a lot of ground, including "Law & Gospel" as the two great doctrines of the Scriptures. One person commented that seeing how the LAW Shows Our Sin and the GOSPEL Shows Our Savior is super helpful. Yes! I don't think it is an exaggeration to say that understanding the distinction between the Law and the Gospel will unlock your understanding of the Bible. Both are necessary. Only one can comfort and save you: the Gospel, the Good News that Jesus's death and resurrection are the promise of forgiveness.

The Law is eternal, unchanging, and we are wise if we love it. Here is an old poem (note the reference to "meters" and "patrol boys"!) to help you...

To Love the Law

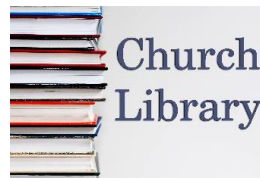
Your Law, O Lord,
written on men's hearts,
inscribed and learned
by multitudes of men,
seeping through a thousand crevices
into the remote corners of our world --
Your Law has reared
not only the huge symmetries of justice,
those marred majesties,
but even these little
complexities of discipline
that make the grit of life less grinding,
the collision of will on will less violent;

yellow lines on roads, meters on the
curb,
patrol boys at crossings,
lights that guide us with bright control
or, blinking, warn us in our hastiness.
Teach us, O Lord,
to see in them a refraction from flashing
Sinai,
to see Your moving finger in their work,
to give them our ready and quick assent,
to delight in them as men made new
in Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Through Him we pray.
Amen.

(Martin Franzmann, Pray For Joy, 1970)

We are men made new by the Gospel,
through Jesus Christ. Love them both; the
Law and the Gospel.

In Christ,



Have you or your children visited our Church Library recently? There are a few new titles up there on the 5th Floor. Oldies and goodies, too! From Luther's Works ... to Chronicles of Narnia ... to The Hear-Me-Read-the-Bible ... you will find something for your summer reading.

Thank You

I join the Youth Board leaders in their thanks to all of you who served with VBS, and I especially want to thank the Youth Board for their servant leadership.

By God’s grace, it was a great week.

Prayer List

Avery Braunecker, Mickey Weber, Louis Esker, Kelsey Baker, Raelyn Medici, Dwight Klepzig, Karen Flemings, Thomas Reeves, Nadine Clem, Sharon Hiser, Richard Ohnesorge, Sara Bernhard, Heather Davis, Shirley Cheadle, and the family of Marilyn Antrim, who passed away Thursday, June 15.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, June 18.....	433
Sunday School.....	16
Adult Sunday School.....	33
LifeLight	10

Our Offerings Sunday, June 18, 2023

General Fund	\$9,825.00
Online Offering.....	\$2,954.83
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$12,779.83

Stewardship Moment

Romans 6:13 – “Present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.” Everything we have — even our own existence, our very selves — is a gift from God to be used for His purposes. God has called you to be His own and has given you tasks to perform in home, in church, and in society. How will you serve Him today?

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“We need campfires and cookouts and picnic lunches filled with laughter. Yet, as members of the household of God, we also need conversation and consolation and prayer. We need to gather, in person, at the Communion rail. Surrounded by our eternal family, we need to hear God’s promises and rejoice in His forgiveness.”

Michelle Bauman, Y4Life - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life · lutheransforlife.org

Food Pantry Updates

Next Food Distribution

Tues., June 27th from 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Food Items Needed for June

ANY food will be greatly appreciated!

Drop-Offs

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

\$ Dollar for Mission \$

A 12-passenger van for University Lutheran Church, Champaign would have uses besides getting college students to church on time. This is the current Dollar for Mission project in the Central Illinois District. The vehicle would also facilitate travel for UniLu students to events such as campus retreats. Project cost: \$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.

This Week's Sunday School Lesson **Acts 9:1-31**

In today's Bible lesson, students study the amazing account of "An Enemy Converts." On the road to Damascus, Saul encounters the risen Lord, who converts him from a persecutor of the Church to its greatest missionary—Paul. God sends Ananias to lay hands upon the temporarily blinded Saul, baptizing him in the name of the living God. Despite the disciples' distrust of Saul's motives, Barnabas speaks boldly on Saul's behalf. Discuss, "How does the conversion of Saul change the history of the world?"

Preschool Substitutes Needed

Eagles Nest Preschool needs substitutes for the 2023/2024 school year. Please contact Carrie in the office if you are interested.



It is healthy for our church family to discuss the issue of suicide in the light of God's Word. Wednesday, July 26, at 4:00 p.m., Pastor Burdick will lead a discussion titled "I Will Grieve For The Suicide." It will be held in the Trinity Room. This is a general treatment of suicide and not a focus upon a person. Every family has been touched by this reality in some way, and we need to apply God's Word to the wounds and the wonder connected to death from suicide. For reference, the e-book "I Will Grieve For The Suicide" by Rev. Peter Preus is available for download on the "Resources" page of our website, www.stjohnsLCMS.net.

Board Reports

Just a reminder that all board reports are due in the church office by July 12.

Lutheran High School Project

Along with six other LCMS congregations in our area, St. John's adopted a resolution in our April Voters Meeting supporting the exploration of a Lutheran High School nearby. Laura Galvan is the chair of the exploratory committee, and we have submitted our application to the Synod's Genesis Project. The Genesis Project consultant may soon visit us to help discern whether we ought to move forward. There are many steps yet to take. Our prayer is, and ought to be, "Thy will be done, O Lord."

Thank You!

We really appreciated everyone who helped with the VBS clean up Monday. It made clean up a lot quicker. Thank you all so much and God bless each of you.

LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

How might retirement change my estate plans? Sometimes retirement planning changes our focus on life, reprioritizing the things we count as important. Beyond thinking that retirement is nothing but vacations, you might find that a few things have become very important to you, especially ministries that are sharing the life of Jesus through the Gospel. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can discuss and pray with you, as you seek clarity of purpose. Contact Scott Radden at Scott.Radden@LFND.org or call his cell at 618-977-4049.

CALENDAR-----June 25 – July 2, 2023

Sunday	25	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
Monday	26	1:00 p.m.	Cemetery Committee
		6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	Adult Catechism Bible Study
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
		7:00 p.m.	Lutheran Care Board of Directors
Tuesday	27	10:00 a.m.	Living With Grief 8 & 9 Class at St. John's
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
Wednesday	28	1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		6:00 p.m.	Youth at Burdicks'
Thursday	29	Noon	Golden Eagles
		5:30 p.m.	Fair Pageant Rehearsal
Friday	30		Pastor's Sabbath
		11:00 a.m.	Betty Snyder Memorial Service
Saturday	1	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band
		8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study, Niemerg's
		8:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study, Niemerg's
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service
Sunday	2	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School/Adults Only

Birthdays This Week

06/25 Emily Klitzing
 06/26 Emmalin Smith
 06/27 Lucas Stortzum, Nicholas Devall,
 Sharon Vonderheide
 06/28 Jensen Brach, Paul Leppin, &
 Rev. Earl Brown
 06/29 Justin Wendling & Kaylee Stuckey
 06/30 John Romero, Nikki Vahling, &
 Tori Budde
 07/01 Kassie Stanfield

Anniversaries This Week

06/25/16 Phil & Heidi Kinkelaar
 06/28/08 Adam & Lindsey Storm
 06/28/08 Chad & Mandy Westjohn

High School Youth Get Together

High School Youth will meet at the
 Burdicks'on Wed., June 28th at 6 p.m.