

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter October 1, 2023

Ah, October – replete with pumpkin spice and farm families working exhausting hours to bring in the harvest safely.



This is also the month that brings us the celebration of the 16th century Reformation. Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door and Christians started talking more and more about the Gospel. That Gospel – the good news of salvation by God's grace and not by man's cooperation – is

the beating heart of our congregation's ministry.

On October 29 we'll celebrate Reformation Sunday. The music and the message will be clear Law and Gospel. It's also going to be a grand opportunity for you to do something:

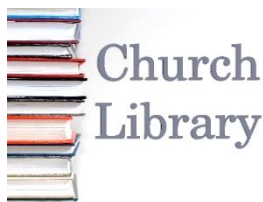
Bring a friend to Church.

Begin now to pray for the person(s) you can invite to come to church and sit beside you. Ask for God's winsome courage as you get prepared to make the invitation. Pray that they will accept the invitation. Picture yourself sitting with them in the pew, rejoicing in the Good News about Jesus. Be glad!

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (Psalm 122:1)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Ford".

We welcome Pastor Colin Ford this weekend, as he visits while prayerfully deliberating our call for him to serve as Associate Pastor. God bless us all, seeking and doing God's will for the Kingdom.



Kids and adults:
Have you visited it lately?

Office Assistant

St John's Lutheran Church, Effingham

St. John's Mission is to **Proclaim the Christ, Grow the Family, Love the Neighbor.** The Office Assistant works alongside the Office Administrator to help the mission of the congregation move forward. This is a vital front-line position in welcoming people in the office, preparing financial and Word documents, and supporting the work of the pastors and the Preschool. The position is a part time (28 hours), four-day (Tuesday-Friday) job. Compensation is commensurate with experience; rate determined by the Board of Elders. The Office Assistant will be hired on or about November 1, and will work with the retiring Office Assistant for approximately two weeks to learn the tasks of the position. Interested candidates can pick up a job application and full position description in the church office.

The ideal candidate will possess these qualities:

- Passion for supporting the mission of the congregation.
- High level of integrity, confidentiality, and precision in record keeping.
- Ability to communicate effectively (written and verbal).
- Working knowledge of QuickBooks, Word, and Excel programs.
- Readiness to use the internet for email, online purchases, and payments.
- Joy in being a team player, participating in weekly staff devotions and meetings.

It's a great thing that we get to host the E.A.S.T.E.R. Class here every-other Saturday morning. We had a fine turnout of special-needs students and volunteers last week for the first gathering of the school year. Special thanks to Joan Garbe and all the volunteers from St. John's and other congregations who provide this ministry. It is truly heartwarming. It's Christian love in action.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, September 24 415
Sunday School..... 53
Adult Sunday School..... 38
LifeLight 13

Our Offerings Sunday, September 24, 2023

General Fund \$7,417.31
Online Offering..... \$3,200.52
Total Gen. Fund Offering..... \$10,617.83
Building Fund..... \$90.00

“This Week’s Sunday School Lesson”

Genesis 25:19-34; 27:1-45

The account of Esau and Jacob serves as today’s lesson, “Twin Troubles.” When Isaac is sixty years old, Rebekah gives birth to very different twin boys—Esau and Jacob. Isaac ignores God’s promise to Jacob and favors Esau. Esau’s hunger gets the best of him as he sells his birthright for a bowl of stew. Rebekah enables further deception as she plots with Jacob, her favored son, so that he receives Isaac’s blessing. When Esau vows to kill Jacob, Rebekah sends Jacob away for his own safety.

Youth Corner
Upcoming Events

Halloween Parade

Sunday, Oct. 29th at 2 p.m.

Advent Soup Meals

Save the Date

Wed., Dec 6 Lunch & Dinner

Hayride & Wiener Roast at Schroeders’

Sunday, Oct. 22nd from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Questions, please contact
Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)
Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“The science is conclusive: Human life starts at fertilization. The Bible is conclusive: Life is from God, it begins at fertilization, and God’s commandment of ‘You shall not murder’ (Exodus 20:13) certainly applies to the slaying of an innocent child in the womb. Because that little baby in the womb IS a human being.”

Pastor Paul Clark, President of Lutherans For Life of Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Wednesday Night Door Monitoring

Each Wednesday from 4:45 p.m. – 5:20 p.m. we must keep our West doors unlocked as youth & choir members are coming & going. We need to have one or more adults simply be door monitors during that time. Parents of Confirmation students and other adults are requested to sign-up on the hall bulletin board to cover that whole time. Thank you.

Communion Volunteers

Please check the sign-up sheet to fill and clean up communion trays. There are weekends available for each in late November and part of December.

Prayer List

Janice Mellendorf, Becky Janis, Karen (Klay) Flach, Rebecca Belcher, Nancy Ohnesorge, Fred & Rich Brillhart, Beulah Ziegler, Becca Lading, Dennis Bushur, Avery Braunecker, Richard Ohnesorge, Sara Bernhard, Heather Davis, & Janet Ohnesorge.

Men and women of the Armed Forces, including Austin Traub & John Perry.

Food Pantry Updates

Food Items Needed for October

Soup, saltine crackers, peanut butter, Vienna Sausages with flip/pop up lids.

Drop-Offs

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

We **DO NOT** need plastic bags.

LIFE Chain

Sunday, Oct. 1 is Respect Life Sunday. There will be a prayer service at 1:30 p.m., led by Pastor Burdick, at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 407 S. Henrietta St., Effingham. The Life Chain will be on Keller Drive from 2-3 p.m. See the flyer on the bulletin board.

October 15th will be LWML Sunday

We will be taking up a door offering for the LWML Mites for Missions that weekend.

Door Offering

One of our Adopt a Students, Vince Otto & his wife, will be here Sat., Oct. 7th & Sun., Oct. 8th. There will be a door offering for him after each service. If you must use a check, PLEASE make it out to Vince Otto.

Stewardship Moment

Luke 14:11 – “For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” The kingdom of God is always upside down and backwards like this. We must die in order to live. We must be humbled so we can be exalted. It’s like this with giving as well. When we give away, then we receive much more than we bargained for: peace of mind, contentment, joy.

Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting

Tues., October 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Voters Meeting

Tues., October 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Campaign for LIFE

Sept. 27 – Nov. 5

Our congregation will soon be participating in the annual “Prayer Campaign for LIFE,” 40 days focused on building a pro-life culture. We will be joining people of faith across our nation to pray and serve to end abortion and to fight physician-assisted suicide.

God heard the pro-life prayers of our nation, and blessed us by overturning Roe v. Wade in 2022. What a huge victory! We have the wonderful opportunity to pray in thanksgiving for this gift.

Unfortunately, the average number of abortions committed in our state *increased by over 1,300 per month* after Roe was overturned. People in surrounding states view our state as an abortion “haven” since Illinois has no abortion restrictions. We have much to pray for!

There will be opportunities to sign-up on the bulletin board for individual prayer hours at our church on Sunday, October 22.

Lydia Guild

Will meet on Tues., Oct. 3 at 7:00 p.m.

All Church

Hayride & Wiener Roast at Schroeders'

Sunday, Oct. 22nd from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.



Menu:

Hot Dogs

Chips

S'mores

Drinks

Tableware

Will all be provided

Please bring your lawn chairs

**LET'S GO ON
A HAYRIDE**



We will have special guests,
Officer Matt Gordon & his K-9 Partner, Argo

Youth Float for the Halloween Parade

The parade will be Sun., Oct. 29th at 2 p.m.

The Youth Board is needing to borrow 2 portable outdoor basketball hoops, 6½-8 ft. tall. If you have one we may borrow, please contact

Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)

Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)

We also need CANDY

You can drop your bags off in the kitchen, or if you would rather make a monetary donation, we would truly appreciate it.

Hoopla For Abby

The Burdick family will celebrate Abby's 30th Birthday on October 6th. The congregation is invited. No gifts! Learn about it at www.hoopla4Abby.info If you will attend, we appreciate an rsvp via that website. Thanks.

Men's Bible Study

Will meet at 8 a.m. on Sat. Oct. 7th at Niemerg's
Questions, contact
Gayland Bourland (217-343-4366)

Women's Bible Study

Will meet at 8 a.m. on Sat. Oct. 7th at Niemerg's
Questions, contact
Renee Kremer (217-821-3142)

CALENDAR----- October 1 – October 8, 2023

Sunday	1	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC The Bells will be playing
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		1:30 p.m.	LIFE Chain
Preschool Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.			
Monday	2	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	3	5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees
		7:00 p.m.	Lydia Guild
Wednesday	4	1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	5		
Friday	6		Pastor's Sabbath
			No Preschool
Saturday	7	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study at Niemerg's
		8:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study at Niemerg's
		9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m.	E. A. S. T. E. R
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC Vince Otto will be preaching
Sunday	8	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC Vince Otto will be preaching
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School

Birthdays This Week

- 10/01 Avery Miller, Madilyn Garrison,
Lance Dixon, & Rosemary Seggelke
- 10/02 Mary Ann Hoeffliger
- 10/03 Beth Miller, Carol Wallace,
Carrie Brown, & Linda Miller
- 10/04 Andrew Womack & Rick Manford
- 10/05 Debbie Womack, J. P. Simmons,
LeeAnn Perry, & Terry Braun
- 10/06 Abby Burdick, Andrew Moeller,
Andy Janis, Judy Ziegler,
Kendra Daman, & Tammy Phillips
- 10/07 Delanie Hinton, Kade Bishop,
Neal Mellendorf, Sandy Bernhard,
Ahawn Newlin, & Zachary Keitel

Anniversaries This Week

- 10/01/22 Nicholas & Holly Burger
- 10/01/22 Danny & Ashley Klepzig
- 10/03/09 Seth & Jennifer Wilson
- 10/03/15 Mike & Debbie Buenker
- 10/03/20 Colby & Holly Adams
- 10/05/91 Mitchell & Cinda Hulskotter
- 10/05/96 Ken & Norma Lansing
- 10/05/19 Jake & Emily Devall
- 10/05/19 Jacob & Carrie Janis

Old Periodicals for the Food Pantry

We are looking for old Portals of Prayer, Devotionals, or tracks that they may use to hand out to the food pantry participants. You may put them in the Food Pantry box. Thank you!

Attention Ladies

There are several dishes in the kitchen. Please check to see if any happen to belong to you.