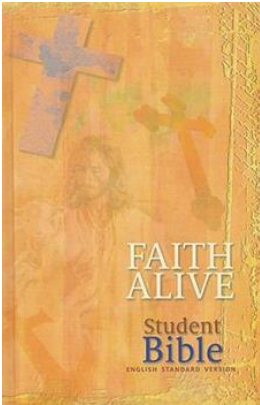


# THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter September 17, 2023



**“Bibles that are falling apart usually belong to people who aren’t.”**

That’s a snappy little quote for a church sign, and it has some truth to it. This week one of our confirmation students came to class with her Bible that is losing its cover. Why? Her Bible has been well-used at Camp CILCA and at home! I was happy to see it.

Numerous children in the congregation are receiving their “Faith Alive” ESV Bibles in this Sunday’s Services. I hope they will carry them to college someday, well-worn, and beloved. Even more, I pray that their parents are reading the Bible to them at home, and sitting with them in worship every single weekend. That way, they won’t fall apart ... while the world will.

Our Call Meeting on Tuesday night was a thorough and prayerful exercise in life-together as the Church. After good deliberation, we extended the Call as Associate Pastor to Rev. Colin Ford of Michigan. Now he has begun deliberating it. Pray for him. The Lord’s will shall be done! We will keep you updated throughout the process.

Two weeks from today, October 1, is the community Life-Chain event. See the details later in the *Eagle*. I will lead the brief Prayer Service prior to it, in the Sacred Heart Church Parish Hall. Let’s pray together, and let’s stand together along Keller Drive in silent, positive witness of the precious nature of LIFE. It makes a difference. Your neighbor needs it.

**“I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”**

**Wonderful are Your works; my soul knows it very well!”** (Psalm 139:14)

This is the Word of the Lord!



## **St. John’s Annual All Church Potluck Picnic**

Sunday, Sept. 24 at 12:30 p.m.

Ballard Nature Center

Pork loin, hamburgers, brats, hot dogs, table service and drinks will be provided.

Please bring side dishes & your lawn chair. Please sign up on the main hall bulletin board. Bingo & Music will be provided for entertainment.

## **Wednesday Night Door Monitoring**

Each Wednesday from 4:45 p.m. - 5:20 p.m. we must keep our West doors unlocked as youth and choir members are coming and going. Recent events have demonstrated that it would be prudent 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. The sign-up is on the main hall bulletin board. Thank you.

## **Thank You**

Thank you, Pastor Strohschein, for helping our guest pastor on Saturday! It was truly appreciated.

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

Sunday, September 10 ..... 404  
Sunday School..... 60  
Adult Sunday School..... 55

**Our Offerings Sunday, September 10, 2023**

General Fund ..... \$6,205.94  
Online Offering..... \$2,881.88  
**Total Gen. Fund Offering..... \$9,087.82**  
**Building Fund..... \$80.00**

**“This Week’s Sunday School Lesson”**

Genesis 22:1–19

This week, we learn how God provided “A Merciful Substitute.” God had blessed Abraham with the son he had waited for his entire life; yet now God asks the seemingly impossible—sacrifice your son to Me. By faith, Abraham takes Isaac to the mountain, trusting God, who was able to raise his son from the dead. Abraham completes the test, and God provides the sacrifice.

**LifeLight**

We will meet in the Trinity Room  
Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

“No matter what our days bring, God is the answer. His love never ends. His strength is our strength. He cares about each one of us in the most intimate of relationships. Through Jesus, we are His beloved children. We are here, in the land of the living, for His good purpose and at His will. Each day is a day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it!”

Barbara Lane Geistfeld, D.V.M., Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**Prayer List**

Beulah Ziegler, Becca Lading, Dennis Bushur, Avery Braunecker, Richard Ohnesorge, Sara Bernhard, Heather Davis, Kyle Pennington, & Janet Ohnesorge

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

**Lutheran Care Center Family Day**

Sun., Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> from 1 p.m. – 3 p.m. in the LCC Courtyard. Bring a lawn chair. Food will be available for purchase. We will have Live Music, Bake Sale, & Games. Check the flyer on the bulletin board for details.

**Updating the Church Directory**

Please look at your information in the 2021-2022 directory & let the church office know if you have additions or corrections, such as address, phone numbers, or email address.

You can call 217-342-4334

or

email [sarah.mellendorf@stjohnslcms.net](mailto:sarah.mellendorf@stjohnslcms.net)

**Food Pantry Updates**

**Food Items Needed for September**

Toilet Paper, Mixed Vegetables,  
Mandarin Oranges & Graham Crackers

**Drop-Offs**

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

We **DO NOT** need plastic bags.

**Stewardship Moment**

Romans 14:7 – “For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.” We just do not belong to ourselves — we belong first of all to God, and through Him, we belong to our neighbors. We are here to serve God in our service to one another. God has called you to this service through your vocation: as a Christian you serve others in the church, as a neighbor you serve others in society, and as a son or daughter, husband or wife, father, or mother, you serve your family.

**Card Sales**

The Confirmation Students are currently taking orders for cards. The students have catalogs & order forms & there are 2 catalogs in the cabinet. If you have any questions, please contact:  
Donna Wetherell (217-343-6901).

**Youth Corner**  
**Upcoming Events**

**Hayride & Wiener Roast at Schroeder's**

Sunday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

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

**Ladies Aid Effingham/Shelby Zone Rally**

The Ladies Aid of Faith, Shumway will be hosting the Effingham/Shelby Zone Rally on Wed., Sept. 20 at Faith. Registration & fellowship begin at 8:15 a.m., and the Rally will be from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. We will have an ingathering of items or monetary donations for St. John's Food Pantry in Effingham.

See the bulletin board for details.

**Life Chain 2023**

Sunday, Oct. 1

Respect Life Sunday

1:30 p.m.—Prayer Service,

lead by Pastor Burdick

at the Sacred Heart Parish Center

407 S. Henrietta St., Effingham

2-3 p.m. Life Chain on Keller Drive.

See the flyer on the bulletin board.

**SEA LLL**

Will be having a Pork 'Burger Sale & Bake Sale on the Triangle in Altamont on Sat., Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Proceeds will help fund the Lutheran Hour Broadcast on the Vandalia Radio Station. For complete details, see the flyer on the bulletin board.

**A BIG Thank You!**

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make Cruise Night so successful! The workers, Culvers for the ice cream, and to all of you for your continued support of our Youth. It is all so very much appreciated! God bless you all!

The Youth Board

**LCMS Foundation**

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Life is full of starts and stops, but the Lord looks at all our lives in one grand design. Our estate plans dwell in the grand design vision, instead of focusing only on the moment. Ministries start. Sometimes they complete their mission and cease to exist. You know in your heart that the Lord wants you to support ministry through your estate. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you see how to build flexibility to address the future which you cannot see today. Contact Scott Radden at (618) 977-4049 or [Scott.Radden@lfn.org](mailto:Scott.Radden@lfn.org) for more information or to start your plan.

**Thank You!**

I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for the support and prayers you have showered upon me during my time away from home during my Basic Military Training and now Technical Training. Your prayers and support have been a constant source of strength and encouragement for me. Knowing that I had church family behind me made a world of difference during those challenging moments in Basic. Your letters and Bible verses helped me get through the stressful moments and feelings of homesickness. Everyone's thoughtfulness towards me truly touched my heart, and I am deeply grateful for each and every gesture of love and support.

I want to extend a large thanks to the entire congregation and everyone who wrote to me for being a source of inspiration and comfort. Your faith has guided me through a lot, but more importantly reminded me of the importance of community. I look forward to returning home and sharing my experiences with everyone. Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for your prayers, support, and love. Your presence in my life has truly been a blessing.

Yours in Christ, Airman Perry

**Hoopla For Abby**

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

**CALENDAR-----September 17 – September 24, 2023**

Sunday	17	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC 3 <sup>rd</sup> Graders will receive their Bibles
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
<b>Preschool Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.</b>			
Monday	18		Pastor Conference St. Louis Seminary
		11:45 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Preschool Staff Meeting
		Noon	Board of Evangelism
		5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	19		Pastor Conference St. Louis Seminary
Wednesday	20		Pastor Conference St. Louis Seminary
		9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.	LWML Zone Rally at Shumway
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Youth
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	21		Pastor Conference St. Louis Seminary
Friday	22		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	23	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	E.A.S.T.E.R.
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC The Choir will be singing
Sunday	24	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC The Choir will be singing
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		12:30 p.m.	All Church Picnic at Ballard Nature Center

**Birthdays This Week**

- 9/17 Lee Hartman & Truman Brown
- 9/18 Fred Richter
- 9/19 Marcy Wallace & Mike Conrad
- 9/21 Katie French & Kendall Jackson
- 9/23 Abigail Keitel & Maddux Wyckoff

**Anniversaries This Week**

- 9/18/66 Lyle & Jane Tolch
- 9/19/20 Tyler & Jennifer Marxman
- 9/20/86 Dennis & Nancy Johnson
- 9/20/08 Mike & Linda Nolan
- 9/23/95 Keith & Alice Knight
- 9/23/06 Kyle & Rachael Pennington



**Potluck**

All Church Potluck Picnic  
 Sunday, September 24 at 12:30 p.m.  
 Ballard Nature Center  
 Please sign up on the bulletin board.