

# THE EAGLE

*St. John's Weekly Newsletter September 3, 2023*

I've been privileged and responsible to be your pastor for almost four years now. Lord willing, we're going to grow old(er) together! Two years ago, we established a Call Committee to prepare for calling a second pastor, and now we're about to extend that call, seeking the man whom the Lord wants to work with us. I'm deeply grateful that Pastor Fortkamp has been supportive and encouraging of this process. We are not seeking to replace him. He will remain a vital team member in our life together as a church family.

Together, let us seek God's will and "Proclaim the Christ, Grow the Family, Love the Neighbor." The Lord will provide! All of you who use Portals of Prayer meditated upon this passage last week: "And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8)

Lord, lead us! In Christ,



"O Gracious Father, You led Your holy apostles to ordain ministers for the proclamation of Your Word and the faithful administration of the Sacraments of Christ. Grant to this congregation the guidance of the Holy Spirit to choose a suitable pastor according to Your will for the blessing of Your Church in this place; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

The Call Committee received nine candidate names from Central Illinois District President Rev. Michael Mohr. Those nine candidates are:

- Rev. Paul Beisel, Iowa Falls, IA
- Rev. Michael Diener, Jefferson City, MO
- Rev. Ryan Fehrmann, Aniwa, WI
- Rev. Colin Ford, Traverse City, MI
- Rev. Bruce Lesemann, Storm Lake, IA
- Rev. Jonathan Meyer, Edmond, OK
- Rev. Tim Smith, Schofield, WI
- Rev. Joshua Theilen, Cantrall, IL
- Rev. Timothy Wilcoxon, Carlinville, IL

Congregational members have the right to file an objection to a candidate. A valid objection is one according to which a person cannot in good conscience or on moral grounds accept the candidate in question as a called worker. If any congregational member wishes to submit an objection, please do so in writing to the Call Committee Chairman, Fred Bray, no later than Monday, September 11, 2023.

After prayerful review and discussion, the Call Committee interviewed five of the candidates. After further prayerful consideration, the Call Committee will recommend three candidates to the Voters' Assembly on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

## **Man Up!**

*The Quest for Masculinity* will be a book study for men starting later this Fall. Interested? Perhaps you know a man in our community who is not a member of St. John's who would be interested. Begin to pray for them now.



## **Eagle's Nest Preschool**

### **Open House**

Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

&

Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

### **School Begins**

Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

## **Special Voters Meeting**

President Jerry Lindsey is calling a special voters meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of calling an Associate Pastor.

**Bible Sunday will be September 17.**

**Larry Brandt Golf Outing**

Sat., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>

Have a team? Sign up in the gym by Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Sponsor a hole or cart or a prize give away?  
All proceeds go towards college scholarships  
for our youth. Questions, please contact  
Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)  
Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)

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

Sunday, August 27..... 460  
Sunday School..... 64  
Adult Sunday School..... 72

**Our Offerings Sunday, August 27, 2023**

General Fund ..... \$10,823.00  
Online Offering..... \$3,510.74  
**Total Gen. Fund Offering..... \$14,333.74**  
**Building Fund Offering..... \$90.00**

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

Genesis 15:1-6; 17:1-21

Today, we will study God’s covenant with Abram in “A Sign and a Promise.” God reassures Abram of His promise to bless the earth through Abram’s offspring. God changes his name from Abram (“exalted father”) to Abraham (“father of many nations”) and institutes circumcision as the sign of His continued covenant with Abraham. Despite Abraham and Sarah’s advanced age, God promises they will have a son of their own.

**A Big Thank You!**

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and to everyone who came to the Fishing Day! Thank you, Don & Patsy Latch, for hosting this event, and making everyone feel so welcome. God Bless you all, the Youth Board.

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

“We are made holy by the perfect righteousness of Jesus Christ, ours by faith in His life, death, and resurrection. Yet we are holy in another sense, too. We have been set apart, called out, by a holy God for God’s holy purposes—to love God and our neighbor, to serve, to make disciples. We have been set apart to serve as spouses, parents and grandparents, citizens, workers.”

Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy, Guest Speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**Visiting Team Meeting**

There will be a brief Visiting Team meeting on Sun., Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> in the Trinity Rooms at 9:15, so you will have time to pick up some delicious coffee hour goodies & drinks, and head upstairs. We only have a few things to cover, so you will not miss much of Pastor Mike’s Sunday School class or the LifeLight orientation! If you are unable to attend, please contact:  
Dana Keller (217-246-5373).

**Confirmation Parent LYF Informational Presentation**

There will be an LYF Informational Presentation for 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents, & any 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent who have not previously attended our LYF Informational Presentation. It will be held on Wed., Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. Questions, please contact Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)

**Family Life Center Annual Fundraising Banquet**

The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Life Center Fundraising Banquet will be held on Thurs., Sept. 14 at the Thelma Keller Convention Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is at 7:00 p.m.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Altamont Lutheran Interparish BBQ Fundraiser**

Saturday., Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>. at the Effingham County Fairgrounds, Altamont. There will be dinner, beer garden, games, & bounce houses, bags tourney, bake sale, cake walk, & entertainment. Everyone is Welcome!

See the flyer on the bulletin board for details.

**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).

**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.

**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.

**LifeLight**

We will meet in the conference room to hand out  
material on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Our class  
has grown, so we will begin meeting in the Trinity  
Room on Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

**Cruise Night**

Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

**Larry Brandt Golf Outing**

Sat., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>

**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)

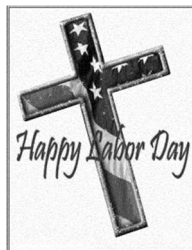
**Lydia Guild**

We will meet on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

**Prayer List**

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.



**Cruise Night**

Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

We will be serving from  
4 p.m. until we run out of food.

Please stop by and support our youth.  
They will also be serving ice cream from



**ST. JOHN'S YOUTH DRIVE-IN**  
**MENU**

**GRILL**

HOT DOGS.....\$2.00

POLISH SAUSAGE...\$3.00

**APPETIZERS**

CRUISIN TACOS...\$5.00

NACHOS.....\$3.00

POPCORN.....\$1.00

CHIPS.....\$1.00

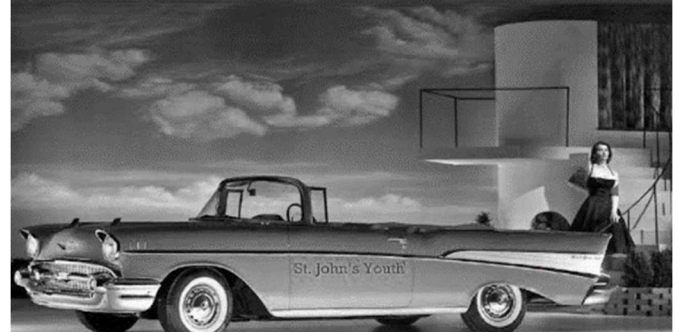
**DESSERT**

ICE CREAM.....\$3.00

**DRINKS**

WATER.....\$1.00

SODA.....\$2.00



**Stewardship Moment**

Matthew 16:26 – “For what will it profit a man if  
he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?”  
He who dies with the most toys ... is dead. But  
the one who trusts in the Lord, even though he  
dies, yet shall he live. We live out our trust in the  
Lord by faithfully fulfilling the roles God has given  
us to play in home, church, and society as loving,  
generous people. Those who do not know the  
Lord are afraid to be generous because they  
think that what they give away is lost to them.  
But we who know the Lord know that the things  
of this world become true blessings when they  
are used for God's kingdom.

**CALENDAR-----September 3 – September 10, 2023**

Sunday	3	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC Bells will be playing
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
Monday	4		Labor Day/The Office will be closed
Tuesday	5	9:00 a.m.	Circuit Pastor Meeting in Shelbyville
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
		7:00 p.m.	Lydia Guild will Meet
Wednesday	6	1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Office Staff Meeting & Devotions
		5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Confirmation Parent/LYF Informational Presentation
		6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Preschool Open House & Meet the Teacher
Thursday	7	6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Preschool Open House & Meet the Teacher
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders Meeting
Friday	8		Pastor's Sabbath
		8:00 a.m.	First Day of Preschool
Saturday	9	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		4 p.m. - ???	Cruise Night Youth will serve food until they run out food
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC
Sunday	10	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:15 a.m.	Visiting Team Meeting in the Trinity Room

**Birthdays This Week**

9/03	Mallory Weber	09/04/04	Jonathan & Erica Marxmann
9/04	Justin Norris & Kristen Hippchen	09/04/20	Josh & Angie Heuerman
9/05	Alan Phelps, Gale Budde, Jayla Stuckey, Kirby Tolch, Joe Gibbons, & Tim Casteel	09/05/81	Curt & Lori Meseke
9/06	Jon Perry, Beulah Ziegler, & Sarah Woelfer	09/05/92	Joe & Carol Budde
9/07	Brian Koester, Haley Ebbert, & Hank Sipe	09/05/92	Brian & Jill Haake
9/08	Justyce Higgs	09/05/09	Tony & Larissa Jones
9/09	Blake Higgs & Mike Pilcher	09/05/21	Nicholas & Rushida Miller
		09/06/75	David & Debby Storm
		09/06/80	Dennis & Lana Rubin
		09/06/81	Randy & Cindy Esch
		09/06/03	Ryan & Sarah Wyckoff
		09/07/63	Leroy & Carolyn Campton
		09/07/91	David & Kathy Wall
		09/09/53	Billy & Florence Genoust
		09/09/11	Troy & Ammon Probst

**Anniversaries This Week**

09/03/11	Michael & Rachel Utz
09/03/16	Luke & Melissa Goldstein
09/03/21	Clay & Courtney Weber
09/03/22	Blake & Destiny Marxmann