

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter October 15, 2023

How likely is it that a person who has never or rarely been to a Christian worship service would walk into St. John's on a Saturday night or Sunday morning? Honestly, very unlikely. Maybe around a 5% chance. But what if ... *you* invited them to come *with* you? The likelihood goes up exponentially. They'd have a greater peace of mind that you would gently guide them through the building and the service.

On Reformation weekend, October 28-29, bring a friend to church with you. The Reformation message will emphasize salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, for Christ's sake alone. In this temporary world, we have the eternal Gospel. Your unchurched friends and family need to hear the Gospel that you believe. Make Reformation the day that you're going to invite them to come with you!



As announced last Sunday, Pastor Colin Ford declined our call as associate pastor. We will soon announce the next steps to prepare for another call. Thank you.

Illinois State Patrol Trooper Matt Gordon will bring his K-9 partner, Argo, to our congregational Hayride October 22. This will be our "**Faith and Blue**" Event, during which the youth and families of the congregation can a little spend time with Law Enforcement Officers and will pray for them. Date, time, location in the Eagle.

Thanks for every "Happy Birthday!" wish for Abby. You blessed her tremendously! - the Burdicks

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.

40 Days

On Sunday, October 22, you can join in prayer for moms, dads, babies, authorities, and fellow life-minded people. Sign up on the hall bulletin board for a 30-minute block after worship.

Please write on the list whether you'll pray here at church (office will arrange for you to come in), or at home.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, October 8.....	381
Sunday School.....	50
Adult Sunday School.....	50
LifeLight	12

Our Offerings Sunday, October 8, 2023

General Fund	\$9,329.24
Online Offering.....	\$3,996.47
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$13,325.71
Building.....	\$100.00

“This Week’s Sunday School Lesson”

Genesis 39:20–23; 41:9–49

In today’s lesson, “A Dreamer Rises,” students will learn about how God works good for Joseph. Falsely accused, Joseph finds himself in prison interpreting dreams for Pharaoh’s baker and cupbearer. When the Egyptian pharaoh has troubling dreams, God empowers Joseph to explain the visions. Pharaoh appoints him to the second highest position in the land, and Joseph manages the harvest to endure the coming famine.

Youth Corner
Upcoming Events

Hayride & Wiener Roast at Schroeders’

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

Halloween Parade

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

Advent Soup Meals

Save the Date

Wed., Dec 6 Lunch & Dinner

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

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“For all who have been damaged by the sin of abortion—and for all who have been complicit by not speaking up in defense of innocent babies—repent, and then hear the sweet and comforting words of Jesus: ‘Come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest’ (Matthew 11:28). God give us courage to engage in the battle For Life!”

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

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

Dannie Braun, Janice Mellendorf, Karen (Klay) Flach, Rebecca Belcher, Nancy Ohnesorge, 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

Next Food Distribution

Tues., Oct. 24th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Food Items Needed for October

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

Stewardship Moment

Matthew 22:5 – “But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business.” The invitation to join God in His feast and in His work is easily ignored. The rest of life seems so much more pressing, and we always think that there will be another time when we can catch back up with God. But what joys are we missing when we set aside God’s invitation to join Him in His plans and purposes? What inheritance are we trading for the world’s bowl of pottage?

Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting

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

Voters Meeting

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

Today is LWML Sunday

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

Please make checks payable to
Lydia Guild

Pastor Appreciation Month

October is Pastor Appreciation Month.
We are so blessed to have 2 of the best:
Pastor Michael Burdick
&

Pastor Gary Fortkamp

Thank you for all you do here at St. John's.
May God continue to bless you, your families,
and your ministry! Be sure to tell them how
much you appreciate all they do!

LET'S GO ON
A HAYRIDE



All Church Hayride & Wiener Roast at Jim & Kathy Schroeders'



Sun., Oct. 22nd from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Hot Dogs, Chips, S'mores, Drinks &
Tableware will all be provided.

Please bring your lawn chairs.

Special guests, Officer Matt Gordon & his K-9
Partner, Argo, will also be there.

Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Children's Christmas Program

Believe it or not, Christmas is only about 11 weeks away! This year, we will have the Children's Christmas Program on Sunday, December 24th at 9:00 a.m. Sarah Wyckoff, Ammon Probst, and Kiley Bohnhoff will be meeting to assign parts. We are assuming all Sunday School children will be participating, unless we hear differently. Parents, please feel free to reach out to any of us. Thank you!

Halloween Parade

We are looking for monetary donations or candy donations for the kids to hand out during the Halloween parade. Please leave your candy donations in the kitchen. Anyone wishing to walk along beside our float should contact

Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541)

Domer Ohnesorge (217-821-3300)



Lydia Guild Social

We will meet on Tuesday, Oct. 17th at 5:30 p.m.

Dollar for Missions

A Dollar for Missions gathers many small gifts – one dollar at a time! – to add up to a big impact for the spread of the saving Gospel of Christ. Our current project is to provide payments to churches for pastors visiting 4 new prisons or county jails in 2024.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child will run from
October 15 - November 12

Please pick up a gift box & shipping label today! The boxes are set up in the main hallway. Pamphlets describing suggested gifts and prayer bookmarks are also free for the taking. There are 4 ways to participate:

1. Purchase gifts & pack a shoebox, including a check to cover shipping.
2. Donate new items for packing.
3. Contribute any amount, making checks payable to "Samaritan's Purse."
4. Pray for safe & successful delivery of Christmas Child boxes as well as those receiving the Gift of the Gospel message.

2024 Board Nominees

Board of Christian Education—Kristen Niemerg

Board of Early Childhood—Ammon Probst

Board of Elders—Dave Worman & Dave Wall

Board of Evangelism—Laura Janis

Board of Social Ministry—Patsy Latch

Board of Stewardship—Troy Probst

Board of Trustees—Al Siebert

Board of Youth Ministry—Cathy Norris

LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

Life is full of milestone events that impact the gifts we plan from our estates. When we begin nearing the age of retirement, our financial planner may begin advising about consolidating some investments, potentially rolling multiple qualified retirement plans into one IRA for ease of management. At this time, seeing the clear picture of God's things to manage in life, it is a good time to consider new support of ministry, or to confirm that past planned gifts for ministry are still in place as assets are changing. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help. Contact Scott Radden at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org for more information or to start your plan.

CALENDAR----- October 15 – October 22, 2023

Sunday	15	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC LWML Sunday/Door Offering for LWML
			Board of Elders Breakfast/Proceeds will go to the Sunday School Mission Project
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
Preschool Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.			
Monday	16	Noon	Board of Evangelism
		5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	17	5:30 p.m.	Lydia Guild Social Katie Scheuermann will be the speaker
		7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	18	1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Youth
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	19		
Friday	20		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	21	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		9:30 a.m.	E. A. S. T. E. R
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC
Sunday	22		40 Days for Life Prayer Day
		8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Hayride at Schroeders' With "Faith & Blue Event"

Birthdays This Week

10/15 Grant Goldstein & Jim Bailey
 10/16 Stanley Moeller
 10/17 Erica Palmer, Kami Bahrns, Katy Higgs,
 Laura Janis, & Lonni Weis
 10/18 Brenda Osborne, David Althoff, &
 Evan Pryor
 10/19 Amelia Hippchen, Blair Smith,
 Craig Bailey, Renee Keitel, &
 Steve Backhus
 10/20 Chuck Mayberry, Eric Schoonover,
 Gloria Fortkamp, & Mike Field
 10/21 Ryan Sandifer

Anniversaries This Week

10/15/83 Mike & Joanne Schlechte
 10/17/70 Dave & Carol Althoff
 10/17/15 Ryan & Amanda Rieman
 10/19/69 Don & Patsy Latch
 10/19/13 Jason & Megan Smith
 10/19/14 Kris & Molly Lipe
 10/19/19 Kyle & Bailey Willenborg
 19/19/19 Tony & Karine Castillo
 10/20/63 Dwight & Kay Klepzig