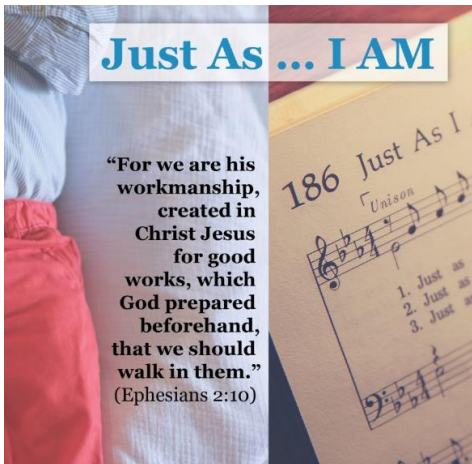


THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter January 14, 2024



At first, it's difficult to identify what's on the left side of the image. It's a boy! It is probably not difficult to identify the hymn referenced on the right, though. "Just as I am, without one plea, but that Thy blood was shed for me..." echoes in many of our minds when we see that title.

Charlotte Elliott wrote that beloved hymn because she was disabled and felt worthless. Yet she knew that no human -- no matter how small, needy, or powerless -- is worthless. She came to the Lamb of God, and found in His shed blood her worth. Yours, too.

- **We are God's workmanship** -- no matter how "wanted" we may seem...
- **Created in Christ Jesus for good works** -- not saved a bit by our good works, but to do good works for others...
- **Which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them** -- Whether we can walk, or not, we Christians live in love with and for our neighbors.

When we celebrated Abby's 30th birthday last Fall, I could see anew how mightily God has used her. No one in our family has sparked and reflected the love of God more than Abby. I couldn't see that 30 years ago, but by God's grace I do now. And you don't have to be Abby to spark and reflect the love of God for others.

You can only be you. Chris. Justin. Carla. John. Keith. Karen. You. Just as you are -- saved by God's grace in Christ, saved to do good works this week in support of life. Little life, like the boy in the image above. Larger life, like that of the senior citizen you will visit, encourage, and help this week.

For Life,

Right to Life

The Effingham County Right-to-Life Breakfast will be next Sunday, January 21, 7:00am-Noon at the Teutopolis Banquet Center! Our freewill donations all support LIFE.

Flower Chart

The 2024 chart has been posted. Please sign up if you would like to donate flowers for the altar.

Communion

Thank you to all who have signed up and prepared communion. There are several upcoming open weekends. Please check the bulletin board located in the Atrium hallway.

Bible Study



If you haven't been ... COME TO BIBLE STUDY THIS SUNDAY in the Fellowship Hall.

Contribution Statements

We will be emailing contribution statements to everyone that we have an email address for. Please be watching for an email from "Auto Mail" in your inbox towards the end of January.

Greeter Sign Up Sheet

There is a new sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for greeters. If You are a part of this important ministry, please sign up. If you would like to know more about this ministry, please talk to a member of the Board of Evangelism or a greeter and they will be happy to give information. A list of the Board Members is located on the bulletin board.

Sign up if Interested...

...in the Adult Catechism Bible Study. Tuesdays at 7:00pm, beginning January 30. For 10 weeks we will dive into God's Word on questions such as...

- What is the Sabbath?
- Did God create all things in six real days?
- Why did Jesus descend to hell?
- What does my neighbor need me to do for them?
- Does Baptism save, or dedicate?
- To whom should we not pray?
- Is Communion a representative or a real presence?
- What's the joy in life?



The 2017 edition of Luther's Small Catechism is our text (\$16). Participants might be reviewing their longtime faith in the Lutheran Church, or may be taking the class before deciding to join our congregation. All are welcome. Sign up on the main hall bulletin board and bring a friend! Questions? Speak with Pastor Burdick.

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

Sunday January 7388
Sunday School76

Our Offerings

General Fund \$7,922.00
Online Offering \$4,652.50
Total Gen. Fund Offering..... \$12,574.50

Bible Study and Training

This summer we will offer a Bible Study and Training Class called:



Preschoolers

National Lutheran Schools Week

January 22nd-26th

January 22 & 23 – Neon Party Day

Bring white t-shirt to be decorated by

Tuesday 1/17

January 24 & 25, 8-8:30am– Pancakes with

Pastor

Wear your favorite P.J.'s

January 26 – Sports Theme Day

Wear your favorite team's shirt, hat, or fun socks

Prayer List

Richard Ohnesorge, Judy Latta, Katie Buzek, Colbert Mueller, Cindy Myers, Cherilla Junge, Rick Thompson, Fred Brillhart, Sara Bernhard, & Heather Davis.

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

Chili/Soup Luncheon

Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Vandalia

Sunday January 21st

See Bulletin Board for Details



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Abortion has only ever represented a symptom. The sickness has always consisted of the deeper reality of sin. So, law never embodied the finish line or the prize. Our Savior’s victory invites us to settle for nothing less than sharing life, abundant and everlasting, with each human being and receiving them all as gift and privilege. Let’s press ahead with renewed enthusiasm!” *Pastor Michael Saleminck, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Stewardship Moment

Mark 1:7 – “And [John] preached, saying, ‘After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.’” John is right — Jesus is immensely greater than any of us, yet behold how He came to serve! That is the upside-down, outlandish grace of God: the innocent Jesus takes our sinner’s place. This is the greatest act of giving the world has ever known or will know: the Father gives His Son to die in the place of sinners.

“This Weeks Sunday School Lesson”

Lesson 3

In today’s lesson, “The Fall-Short Report,” students will learn how Moses chooses one man from each of the twelve tribes and sends them to spy on the land God has promised. The spies report a land of great plenty but occupied by mighty, fearsome people. Despite Caleb and Joshua’s pleas to seize the land promised to them, the people rebel. Moses pleads for mercy, and God promises to care for His people. At the same time, He condemns the Israelites to forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Of all the adults, only Joshua and Caleb will live to enter the Promised Land.

Food Pantry

Our next distribution will be
Tues., Jan 23rd from 3-4 p.m.
Donations needed for January are Canned fruit, Canned Sloppy Joe’s, Fruit & Cereal Bars, Soup, & Pasta

Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting
Tues., Jan 16 at 7:00pm
Voters Assembly Meeting
Tues., Jan. 23 at 7:00pm

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Pickleball Dates

Thurs., Jan. 18th, 6:00pm – 7:30pm
Thurs., Jan. 25th, 6:00pm – 7:30pm

Insurance Waivers must be signed.
Those 12 & under must be accompanied by an adult

Puzzle Night/Mexican Dinner

Sun., January 28, 2:30pm Puzzle;
5:30pm Dinner
Cost: \$8/adult...\$4/child (ages 5-12)
See Bulletin Board for Details

Ash Wednesday Soup Meals

Wednesday, February 14
We will be serving for Lunch & Dinner

Rhodes Fish Fry

Friday, February 23

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, March 31st.

VBS

Will be June 10 – 13 next year.

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

CALENDAR-----January 14 – January 21, 2024

Sunday	14	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC - Choir
		9:15 p.m.	Sunday School
		9:15 a.m..	Christian Education
<i>Preschool -- Monday – Friday 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	15		No Preschool
		12:00 p.m.	Board of Evangelism
		5:30 p.m.	Choir
Tuesday	16	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Wednesday	17	1:00 p.m.	Staff Devotions and Staff Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:00 p.m.	Board Youth
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	18	6-7:30 p.m..	Pickleball
Friday	<u>19</u>		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	20	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

Birthdays This Week

- 1/14 Grayson Buening
- 1/15 Majorie Cline & Paula Holland
- 1/16 Dennis Wendling & Kylee Hewing
- 1/17 Dale Schagemann, Devin Frailey & Todd Ziegler
- 1/18 Alec Longwell, Hudson Wilson, Libby Dasenbrock & Lindsey Stewart
- 1/19 Keith Knight
- 1/20 Emery Wendling & Vicky Kieth

Anniversaries This Week

- 1/14 Adam & Kiley Bohnoff
- 1/15 Howard & Marlene Haake
- 1/17 John & Cathy Mellendorf

Lutheran Schools Week

Will be celebrated January 22-26! On Wednesday and Thursday of that week (Jan. 24 & 25), we will welcome each child in our Preschool to start the school day with "Pancakes With Pastor." From 8:00-8:30am, Pastor Burdick and volunteers will serve Pancakes to the students and their parents. This is an effort to get to know those parents and to invite the families who don't yet have a church to come worship with us at St. John's. Volunteers are needed to set up, serve, and clean up. Sign up on the main hall bulletin board, please. Thanks for volunteering