

# THE EAGLE

*St. John's Weekly Newsletter February 18, 2024*



“Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,” Jesus taught you to pray. Those words easily roll off our lips and through our minds, because we’ve had them memorized since childhood. Good. The harder part is to be aware of the temptations that knock

upon the door of our hearts, and to reply upon God in the face of them. This is the daily battle.

Your Lenten journey has commenced. Take inventory of the common temptations in your life – excess or excuses, lust or laziness, bitterness or misplaced fear, just to name six categories. Take inventory. Take time. Take your sin to Christ in repentance. Take heart. He took your guilt. Take the battle to Him daily and fight in the strength of the Holy Spirit. Take up the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God (Ephesians 6). Take heart – you belong to Christ.

The colorful “Alleluias” the children laid at the Altar last week now rest in a shroud of black behind the cross. Easter is coming. We will not only see that glorious word again, our choir is preparing the glorious “Hallelujah Chorus” to be *sung* on March 31. What a gift.

Finally, it’s a going to be a nice gift to have the Lutheran Laymen’s League District convention near us in three weeks. March 9 at Immanuel, Altamont, you can learn from The Lutheran Hour Speaker, attend breakout sessions, and enjoy fellowship with others. If you’re reading this online, click [here](#) for the registration form.

In the love of the One Who gives us the victory over sin,

## LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES

12:15pm & 6:30pm Wednesdays

Feb 21-Mar 20

**“Honest Repentance”**

## Lutheran Care Center News

The Lutheran Care Center Celebration will be held here at St. John’s March 3<sup>rd</sup>. (Worship at 3:30 pm, Bake-off and Reception following.)

The Board of Social Ministry, along with St. John’s LCC representatives, are asking for items to be donated to the Involvement Store in connection with the event.

The store is available to residents who earn points by participation in activities. Then, at the end of the month the store is open for cashing in points to shop.

In addition, items are needed for the LCC Kids Childcare center.

You’ll find a table set up to receive your gifts in the fellowship hall.

## Lutheran Care Celebration

A worship service of scripture and song thanking God for the blessings he has given to Lutheran Care Center during the recent Care Campaign will be held Sunday, March 3, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Effingham. This event will allow all members of LCC Churches to come together for an afternoon of worship and fellowship. Refreshments will be served after the service along with a pastoral bake off with auctioneer, Trent Schmidt.

Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board if you will be attending by February 26, 2024.

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

Sunday February 11 .....	418
Sunday School .....	48
Ash Wednesday .....	226
Adult Bible Study .....	47
Life Light .....	12

**Our Offerings**

General Fund .....	\$11,404.01
Online Offering .....	\$1,768.05
<b>Total Gen. Fund Offering .....</b>	<b>\$13,172.06</b>



The Altar Guild recently had our Communion Chalice restored, and the result is beautiful. All of our Communionware is of a great quality, but its age is great, too. Thus, the Guild wants to begin a project of have all of it restored and replated in gold. The cost will be approximately \$20,000, and some anonymous memorial funds have already been received. If you would like to give a special gift above your regular offering for the Lord's work among us, you may send it to the church office with a special note that it is for "Communionware Restoration." Our Memorial Book in the Atrium will record all donors, unless they indicate it is to be anonymous. To God be the glory.

Sign up for our District Newsletter, "The Gatepost." Go to [www.cidLCMS.org](http://www.cidLCMS.org) to add your email address. Great stuff is there.

**Preschool Registration for 2023/2024**

Preschool Registration for members of St. John's is now open. You may pick up a registration form on the bulletin board or stop by the office. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie in the office.

**Fish Fry**

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for both LYF youth and adults to help work the fish fry. Please help and sign up for a shift.

**Deepest Sympathy**

We extend our condolences to all the family of Cindy Myers, who died in Christ last week. Her funeral was February 17 at 10:00am at Church. We thank God for her life, and her eternal life in Jesus. Memorials may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church Food Pantry

**Stewardship Moment**

**Matthew 4:4 – "But he answered, 'It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"** What good are all the things of this world (food, drink, house, home, wealth, etc.) if we lose the things of God? What's more important? How should our priorities be arranged?

**Food Pantry**

Our next distribution will be  
Tues., Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> from 3-4.  
Donations needed for February are  
Peanut Butter, Jelly, Beefaroni, &  
Scallop/Augratin Potatoes.

**Quilting for Lutheran World Relief**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

- WHO:** Any mission minded volunteer with a desire to help those in need.
- WHAT:** Assembling quilts for people around the world.
- WHEN:** Each Wednesday beginning at 10 a.m.
- WHERE:** Multi-purpose Room (Lower level of the church fellowship hall)
- WHY:** To provide warm quilts for those in need.

You may contact Jane Tolch for more information at (217) 690-5171.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Do you have Thrivent Choice Dollars? Don't forget to direct them by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Spaghetti Dinner**

Trinity Lutheran School Gym, Stewardson  
Sun., Mar. 3<sup>rd</sup> 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
See Bulletin Board for more information.



**LUTHERANS  
FOR LIFE**

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

The state can punish offenders, but it can't give birth to law-abiding citizens. The state cannot love or nurture a child. It takes a family. A radical thought, that, but off limits in our public conversations swept clean of moral discourse. Pray that this will change.

*James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Golden Eagles**

Golden Eagles will be here on Thursday Feb., 29<sup>th</sup> @ noon. The menu is Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Salad, Bread sticks from Joe's and dessert. We hope you can join us for lunch & fellowship. Please sign-up on the bulletin board if you are planning to attend.

**"This Weeks Sunday School Lesson"**

**Lesson 9**

As we gather today, we will study "The Chosen King." Desiring to be like all the other nations, the elders come to Samuel asking him to appoint a king over Israel. Samuel vainly tries to warn them against their plan, telling them the consequences the people will face. God reveals to Samuel that he will encounter the handsome Saul, whom Samuel anoints as king over Israel.

**Prayer List**

Judy Latta, Gary Wachtel, Katie Buzek, Cobert Mueller, Richard Ohnesorge, Rick Thompson, Sara Bernhard, Heather Davis, Carroll Wilson, Marilyn Schaefer, Dennis Genoust, Meredith Roderick & Cameron Scott.

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

**Lutheran Witness**

Renewal & New subscriptions will be in a couple of months.

**Youth Corner Upcoming Events**

**Pickleball Dates**

Tues., Feb 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
Thurs., Feb 29<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

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

**Rhodes Fish Fry**

Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 4:00pm – 7:00 pm

Drive-Thru, Dine in or Carry out

Cost \$14 adult ticket (ages 13 & up)

\$10 child ticket (ages 4-12)

Under age 4 eat free

ALL CARRY OUT TICKETS \$14

Tickets are on sale, see one of our youth.

**Bake Sale**

6<sup>th</sup> – HS Youth can bring 2 desserts for the bake sale. Make sure they are marked with name, what it is, and the cost.

Questions, please contact

Carolyn Wendte (217) 821—6541

Donetta Ohnesorge (217) 821-3300

**Portals of Prayer**

It is time to sign up for your Portals of Prayer subscriptions. Here are the prices for this year.

Regular Size "Direct Mail" \$13.00

Digest Size "Direct Mail" \$19.00

Large Print "Direct Mail" \$23.00

Money for the subscriptions can be put in the designated offering envelopes. If you do not use envelopes, please indicate it on the memo line of your check, and place in the offering plate. You can also drop your check by the office. Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> is the deadline.

**E.A.S.T.E.R. Program**

The staff and students of E.A.S.T.E.R. are eager to share updates of what we have been doing. Please see the bulletin board.

**CALENDAR-----February 18 – February 24, 2024**

Sunday	18	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		4:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m.	Circuit Conference Youth Lock-In
<i>Preschool -- Tuesday – Friday 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	19		No Preschool
		Noon	Board of Evangelism
		4:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Refurbishing Committee
		5:30 p.m.	Choir
Tuesday	20	10:00 a.m.	Living/Grief Immanuel Altamont
		6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Pickleball
		7:00 p.m.	Catechism Bible Study
Wednesday	21	10:00 a.m.	Quilting
		12:15 & 6:30 p.m.	Lenten Service
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		6:00 p.m.	Board of Youth
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	22		
Friday	23		Pastor's Sabbath
		4:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Rhodes LYF Fish Fry
Saturday	24	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	E.A.S.T.E.R.
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC.

**Birthdays This Week**

- 2/18 Bob Shepard, & Ruby Stuckemeyer
- 2/19 Christina Niebrugge, & Megan King
- 2/20 Alex Wall, Angie Yocum,  
Florence Leppin, & Nancy Kohnert
- 2/21 Dan Norton, Linda White,  
Meghann Day, & Mike Carter
- 2/22 Coen Pennington, & Marty Vail
- 2/23 Karla Johnson
- 2/24 Georgia Haarmann, Greg Habbe,  
Lydia Wendling, Pauline Kinkelaar, &  
Tatum Genaust

**Anniversaries This Week**

- 2/19/2021 John & Tamara Root
- 2/19/2022 Tyler & Katey Devall
- 2/20/2016 David & Elesha Brinkopf
- 2/22/2020 Dana & Daniel Haarmann

**CID L.L.L. District Convention**

Sat., March 9, Registration at 8:00am,  
Convention at 9:00 am  
Cost: \$25 per person (lunch included)  
See bulletin board for more information