

THE EAGLE

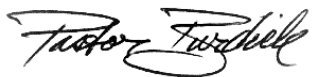
St. John's Weekly Newsletter March 3, 2024

There are many titles by which we describe Jesus. Good Shepherd. Lord. King. Here's one we might rarely use: *Priest*. Hebrews 5:6 is speaking of Jesus when it says "You are a priest forever in the order of Melchizedek." A priest intercedes for the people. In the Old Testament he offered sacrifice on behalf of the people and prayed for them. You can see why we refer to Jesus as "priest." He prays for His people (Romans 8:34). He's the final sacrifice.

Over thirty men in our church are working through the book Man Up ! and meet monthly to discuss it. In tonight's meeting we will consider that one of the tasks given to Christian men is to be priests, that is, to be men who intercede for their families and for others. The book challenges men to be disciplined in regular prayer for others: "Prayer is the admission that a man cannot do what needs to be done. It's submission to a higher power, an acknowledgement by the one who is called to be the head of others that he is not his own head.... This is why a man needs to pray." Gentlemen, we must be servant-leaders who pray regularly for others.

Ladies and gentlemen, we all have that privilege and responsibility. We are the "priesthood of all believers" (1 Peter 2:9).

For *whom* are you praying? What's your *routine* for prayer? In the name of Jesus, pray with regularity.



"Almighty and everlasting God, You desire not the death of a sinner but that all would repent and live. Hear our prayers for those outside the Church. Take away their iniquity, and turn them from their false gods to You, the living and true God. Gather them into Your holy Church to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

Thanks!

Thank you all for your thoughts and prayers.
Janet Martins

LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES

12:15pm & 6:30pm Wednesdays

Mar 6-Mar 20

"Honest Repentance"



Last month a troubling bill was introduced in Illinois: SB 3499, the "End of Life Options For Terminally Ill Patients Act." However, many refer to it more accurately as the "Legalization of Assisted Suicide Act." Look it up on the General Assembly site. See the flyer on the main bulletin board to learn more about the bill, and about the Action Meeting this Thursday, March 7, at 7:00pm at the Effingham Event Center, in which we can learn more. Join Pastor Burdick in attending. The meeting is offered by the Effingham Area Right to Life Team.

Our congregation uses the MinistrySafe platform to ensure that all volunteers and staff who work with and for youth have adequate training in Sexual Abuse Prevention. Staff and the Board of Youth have recently completed the training. Now all who will be working with youth through our Vacation Bible School will begin receiving emails from Mandy in the church office so they can complete the training, too. We work safely with youth in order that they may know the Good News About Jesus!



Will you be giving children gifts for Easter? If your old practice was to tell them the gifts came from a bunny, how about telling them the truth? The gifts are from *you* in celebration of the joy of Easter – Jesus' resurrection! It's just as fun ... and it's true!

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.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday February 25	407
Sunday School	54
Lenten Services	133
Adult Bible Study	45
Life Light	11

Our Offerings

General Fund	\$16,093.14
Online Offering.....	\$5,392.45
Total Gen. Fund Offering	\$21,485.59



Join us for the 2024 Martin + Katie Conference at University Lutheran Church in Champaign, IL on Saturday, April 6, 2024. At this free conference, learn about being men and women in Christ, meet new friends, get to know each other, and have fun. The conference is open to ages 18--35. Married or single are welcome. Registration is required, as capacity is limited. Info and registration are available at <http://martinpluskatie.org> *Plus:* Extra bonus activities planned for Friday night, April 5, and Saturday night, April 6! All are invited to stay for Sunday Bible Class, Divine Service, and lunch on Sunday, April 7.

Food Pantry

Our next distribution will be
Tues., Mar. 12th from 3-4.
Donations needed for March are pop tarts, 4 pk pudding cups, pancake mix, & pasta.

Illinois March for Life

April 17, 2024 @ 12:00 pm
Springfield, Illinois at the Capitol Building
See Bulletin for more information.

Stewardship Moment

John 2:16 – “And he told those who sold the pigeons, ‘Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.’”

The Lord’s house is not a place to sell, but a place to receive and a place to give. It’s not a place for our schemes and plans. Instead, the church is a place for the Lord’s gracious giving and our faithful sacrifices in response.

Please take the time to read our District’s newsletter, The Gatepost. Go to www.cidLCMS.org to subscribe, or click [here](#) for our current issue.

Crisis Nursery & Kiwanis Club Trivia Night

Sat., March 23rd at 7 pm
Teutopolis Banquet Hall

See bulletin board for more information



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.

Deepest Sympathy

We extend our Christian sympathy to the family and friends of Dolores Huelskoetter, who died February 23. Her funeral was held here at St. John’s on March 2. Christ is risen, and Dolores shall rise, too.

Memorials may be made to: St. John’s Lutheran Church in Effingham, Lutheran Care Center in Altamont or donor’s choice.

Thanks!

The youth of St. John’s Louisville sent a big “thank you” to us for the Confirmation Lock-In we hosted February 18. See it on the main bulletin board.

“This Weeks Sunday School Lesson”

Lesson 11

Today, we will study “The Faith-Full Friends.” The Bible tells us David and Jonathan were such close friends that “the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David” (1 Samuel 18:1). Saul’s insane jealousy of David tests their friendship to the limit. David and Jonathan establish a plan to alert David if Saul continues to seek his life. Sadly, Saul’s anger remains unchecked. Jonathan, faithful to God’s will, warns David to flee from the king.

Spaghetti Dinner

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

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.

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 12th is the deadline.

Thank You

Thank you all for your support and hard work to make both the Lenten soup luncheon/supper and the fish fry a big success.

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Pickleball Dates

Thurs., Mar 7th 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Thurs., Mar 14th 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Thurs., Mar 21st – 6:00 – 7:30 pm

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

Trivia

Sun., Mar 17th 1:30 pm

Form your team of 1 to 8 players.

Cost: \$10 per Adult & \$5 per child 12 or under
Snacks available for free will donation.

Easter Breakfast

Sun., Mar. 31st serving 7 -10 am

VBS Meeting

IT’S THAT TIME AGAIN.

VBS meeting for all who are interested

Thurs., Mar., 7th at 6 pm in the multipurpose room.

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

Prayer List

Judy Latta, Gary Wachtel, Katie Buzek, Cobert Mueller, Richard Ohnesorge, Rick Thompson, Sara Bernhard, Heather Davis, Marilyn Schaefer, Catherine Zumwalt John Romero & Dennis Genaust

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“[W]e were made for light and life. God’s Word and Sacraments cast darkness aside in our lives; they draw us closer to Him and make us strong unto salvation ... cling to the promises of Christ. May we recognize that we are blessed For Life even when we are surrounded by darkness, and may we in our darkest seasons, through the work of the Holy Spirit, lean toward the Son for light and for hope.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

CALENDAR-----March 3 – March 9, 2024

Sunday	3	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC, bells will be playing.
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		2:30 p.m.	LCC Worship & Reception
		7:00 pm	Man Up
<i>Preschool -- Monday – Friday 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	4	5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	5	9:00 a.m.	Circuit Pastor Conference, Sigel
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees
		7:00 p.m.	Lydia Guild
		7:00 p.m.	Catechism Bible Study
Wednesday	6	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
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	7	6:00 p.m.	VBS Information Meeting
		6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Pickleball
Friday	8		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	9	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		9:00 a.m.	LLL District Convention, Immanuel Altamont
		9:30 - 11 a.m.	E.A.S.T.E.R.
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC, Choir will be singing.

Birthdays This Week

- 3/3 Jackson Hagerstrom,
Karen Stevenson, Sarah Womack, &
Ursula Polzin
- 3/4 Ethel Stuckemeyer, Jaxxon Green,
Kennedy Bailey, & Terry Long
- 3/5 Gage Wernsing, Kade Pennington, Pam
Higgs, & Paul Whitehair
- 3/7 Beth Hanks, Curt Meseke,
Garyland Bourland, & Laura Braun
- 3/8 Charlie Jansen, Debbie Buenker, & Jerry
Pruemer

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

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Do you have Thrivent Choice Dollars? Don't forget to direct them by March 31st (as per long standing policy, dollars can only be directed to the General Fund).

Anniversaries This Week

- 3/6/1999 Brian & Dawn Koester
- 3/8/2020 Jordan & Paige Boldig