

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter March 10, 2024

"There's nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9). That's true in many ways, and one small one is that at this time every year I am reminding our 8th Grade Confirmation students and their parents that "confirmation" isn't spelled g-r-a-d-u-a-t-i-o-n. When I started saying it that way 35 years ago I bet I thought I was clever, having come up with something new. Nope. Teachers of the faith have been saying it for a *l-o-n-g* time. "You have abandoned the love you had at first," Jesus said to the Christians at Ephesus (Revelation 2:4).

In eight weeks these young Christians will stand up and confess the faith into which they were baptized: Eva Wendling, Allie Wendling, Ethel Stuckemeyer, Kade Pennington, Evan Lotz, Josie Fritch, and Avery Bohnhoff. I expect they will all sincerely promise to stay faithful to Jesus. But there's nothing new under the sun.

They will be pressed hard in life, and much of that pressure will push them away from Jesus, His Church, and the faith they confess on May 5. Sadly, we see it all the time, don't we? Gladly, we also see that many remain active as the Church, in the Church. Against evil forces, the Holy Spirit helps them.

You can help them, too. Pray for the parents of those seven young Christians above. Their children's future is largely still under their control. They (the kids and their folks) need you to pray for them. You should also get to know them, encourage them, and lovingly hold them accountable to their confirmation vows.

I wish you could observe our Wednesday evening Confirmation classes. While there's nothing new to the fact that students sometimes don't want to be there at a particular moment in time, most of the time they are a joyful, respectful, and studious bunch while studying the Bible and Catechism. This past week we studied The Table of Duties. They are a great group.

Lenten Midweek Services

12:15pm & 6:30pm Wednesdays

Mar 13-Mar 20

"Honest Repentance"

Palm Sunday w/Holy Communion

March 23 at 5:30pm

March 24 at 8am and 10:30am

Maunder Thursday w/Holy Communion

March 28 at 12:15pm

6:30pm (Stripping of Altar)

Good Friday

March 29 at 12:15pm and 6:30pm

Easter Sunday w/Holy Communion

March 31 at 6:00am, 8:00am, and 10:30am

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!

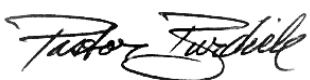
Preschool Registration for 2023/2024

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.

LLC Worship & Pastoral Bake Off

Thank you to all who planned and attended the Lutheran Care Center celebration last Sunday. The worship Service was wonderful, including great singing! The Pastors' Bake-Off was fun and generous (over \$6200 was raised). Pastor Burdick went home with the traveling trophy for the Dessert Auction. Lutheran Care Center is a vital ministry, and we are blessed to be part of it.

Thank you for all the items donated to the Involvement Store in connection with the event.



Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday March 3.....	413
Sunday School	58
Lenten Services	149
Adult Bible Study	53
Life Light	13

Our Offerings

General Fund.....	\$7,326.00
Online Offering.....	\$4,517.32
Total Gen. Fund Offering	\$11,843.32



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.

Communionware

We will continue to receive donations to the special project of refurbishing our Communionware, even though you won't see the announcement in the Eagle every week. Thanks to everyone who has given a special gift thus far. We will update you in coming weeks about how much has been received. To God be the glory!

Deepest Sympathy

We extend our Christian Sympathy to the family and friends of Dennis Genaust, who died February 29. His funeral was held here at St. John's on March 7. Memorials may be made to the donor's choice.

Trivia

We are **NEEDING** teams. Please contact Carolyn, Donetta or sign up on the bulletin board.

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.

Stewardship Moment

Ephesians 2:10 – “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.” Even the good we do in this world is a gift from God, prepared beforehand for us to do. And this too is a gift! For isn't doing good also a good thing for the one who does it? So from first to last, from the Lord's free salvation given to us to the good works He's prepared for us, everything is a gift of God's grace.

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.

“This Weeks Sunday School Lesson”
Lesson 12

“The King of Glory” is the title for this week's lesson. King David prays, thanking God for His blessings and seeking His guidance. As David worships and acknowledges the true God, he asks God's blessing on his household and nation. David's psalm praises and glorifies God as it looks ahead to the coming of the glorious Savior and King.

Save the Dates

VBS Jun. 10th - 13th from 6 – 8 pm
Rummage Sale Aug. 1st – 3rd
Golf Outing Sat., Sept. 14, 2024

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.

Prayer List

Judy Latta, Gary Wachtel, Cobert Mueller, Richard Ohnesorge, Rick Thompson, Sara Bernhard, Heather Davis, Marilyn Schaefer, Catherine Zumwalt, Nancy Ohnesorge, Gloria Fortkamp, John Romero & the Family of Dennis Genaust.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"With gentleness and respect, we witness to our faith in Jesus so that others will come to believe in Him and eagerly await His return. All who confess Jesus as Lord look forward to His Second Coming with a joy far greater than idle mirth. We are encouraged as we remind each other that our Savior is coming back, and we pray that He would 'hear and grant our fervent plea.' Come, Lord Jesus!" *Dr. Carol Geisler – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Braille

Braille Center will take a break during Holy Week & Easter Monday.

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Larry Brandt Scholarship

Application for the Larry Brandt Scholarship can be found online or copies are on the bulletin board. Due date is April 15, 2024.

Dam Run

Youth/parents that are interested in helping at the Dam Run need to contact Carolyn or Donetta. Or you can sign up on the bulletin board. We need to know by this Sunday March 10, 2024.

Band App

Youth parents (6th – high school). We are trying to get everyone set up with the Band App so that communication would be easier. If you have not received a text from Carolyn on how to do this, please contact her. If there are questions, how to set up the App contact Coralin Ohnesorge at 217-821-5783.

Pickleball Dates

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

CALENDAR-----March 10 – March 16, 2024

Sunday	10	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC, choir will be singing. Reagan Keith Baptism at 10:30 a.m. service.
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
<i>Preschool -- Monday – Friday 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	11	5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
		5:30 p.m.	Choir
		6:15 p.m.	Board of Education
Tuesday	12	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
		3:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:15 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
		6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Eagles Nest Preschool Dad's Night
		7:00 p.m.	Adult Catechism
Wednesday	13	10:00 a.m.	Quilting
		12:15 & 6:30 p.m.	Lenten Service
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Meeting
		1:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
Thursday	14	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Pickleball
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
Friday	15		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	16	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

Birthdays This Week

- 3/10 Dr. James Gartner, Kaiden Kohnert, & Katherine Jansen
- 3/11 Jim Schroeder & Patricia Logan
- 3/12 Steve Wendling
- 3/13 Sean Sandifer
- 3/14 Aleece Lotz, Holly Burger, Mike Kremer Jr., Tyler Marxman, & Kyle Kohnert
- 3/15 Andrew Perry, Brad Wenthe, Jordan Grupe, Kelsey Keller, & Mike Womack
- 3/16 Jonathan Becker & Mark Marxman

Anniversaries This Week

- 3/10/2018 Jason & Michelle Miller
- 3/16/2023 David & Sandra Habbe

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).

Illinois March for Life

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



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!