

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter April 21, 2024

Welcome, New Members!

Since our most recent New Member Welcome in the Fall, we have received these dear Christians into the fellowship of St. John's Lutheran Church:

By Baptism:

- Connelly Beccue
- Wade Goldstein
- Reagan Keith
- Cason Klepzig
- Walter Koester
- Tate Marxman
- Reese McWhorter
- Cavan Snow
- Jonathan Summers
- Gerald Went

By Transfer

- Cindy Schilling
- Rich Ohnesorge
- Maddy & Hunter Keith
- Bryce Beccue
- Luke Daniels
- Nick, Mallory, Anderson, Collins, & Carson Jones
- Kristen Dahnke, Dylan, Carsyn, Melinda, & Gabriel
- Ryan, Morgan, Jameson & Emersyn Engel
- Sadie Turner

By Adult Confirmation

- Kelcie Beccue
- Jill Daniels
- Kyle Gibson
- Kathy & Cobert Mueller
- Dan Haarmann

By Affirmation of Faith

- Toni Elderworth
- Donna LeCrone
- Hope Went

Many of them will be present during the Coffee Hour today, our **New Member Welcome**. Come to Coffee Hour! Reach out and get to know them! Walk together in the faith, and help one another fulfill our mission: *Proclaim the Christ, Grow the Family, Love the Neighbor!*



I enjoyed a week of encouragement in the faith. Monday and Tuesday, our CID Pastors' Conference focused upon *Partnerships* and *Outreach*. The "Partnerships" discussion looked at the myriad of ways that congregations of various sizes and situations can work together to feed Christ's sheep and reach out to unchurched neighbors, remaining vital congregations even after years of numeric decline. It was quite hopeful. Then the "Outreach" discussion was an analysis of our upcoming summer Bible class series – *EveryOne His Witness*.

Then on Wednesday the encouragement was shining in the face of something sad and sinister: our nation's culture of death (e.g., abortion, assisted suicide). The Illinois March For Life in Springfield was a shining beacon of encouragement, joy, love, life, Christian hope, and courage. Thousands worshiped, rallied, and marched. So positive. So beautiful. So necessary. I so hope that you will participate with me next year.

It was a week of encouragement. Christians who trust God take courage. Lambs who follow their Shepherd have enduring hope. No matter what we see on the surface in our culture or congregations, this is always true: **Jesus said, "I am the Good Shepherd...for this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again."** (John 10:11, 17). Alleluia.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Furbelle".

Our Mission:
Proclaim the Christ.
Grow the Family.
Love the Neighbor.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday April 21..... 420
 Sunday School 53

Our Offerings

General Fund..... \$7,730.00
 Online Offering..... \$3,092.57
Total Gen. Fund Offering \$10,822.57

The Confirmation Banners are up in the Atrium. Pray for these 8th graders and their parents. Ask the students which banner is theirs ... and why. They will make the good confession on May 5, and will need real support to keep that confession.

- Avery Bohnhoff
- Josie Fritch
- Evan Lotz
- Kade Pennington
- Ethel Stuckemeyer
- Allie Wendling
- Eva Wendling

MinistrySafe

All who work with youth in our congregation (as staff or volunteers) will complete our excellent MinistrySafe online Sexual Abuse Prevention Training. It's imperative that you let our VBS leaders know soon that you'll be volunteering so Mandy can send you the email link to your required training. Thank you for your service, and for being well-trained!

Altar Guild

Altar Guild will meet Tuesday April 23rd at
5:00 p.m.

Save the Dates

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

Save-A-Lot Food Pantry Bags

Save-A-Lot is reimplimenting the Food Pantry bags through their store for customers to purchase at \$12.99 per bag. Ask at the checkout.

Lutheran Witness Subscriptions

It's time to sign up for Lutheran Witness.
 Cost this year is \$20.65 for the year, & are due
 by *Monday, April 22.*

Parents and Kids



Grow by going to Camp CILCA this summer! Check out the program at www.CILCA.org or see the flyer on the hallway bulletin board (take one!). The St. John's Youth Board is able to reimburse every member who participates in camp, due to a generous donation from a member. Go to camp! Submit to your receipt for your payment to Camp CILCA, and the Youth Board will process your reimbursement in the summer. This summer's theme is "To Die For!"

Vacation Bible School

Wish list for VBS: Cardboard, pool noodles (any color), primary colors of balloons, red plastic table cloths, white plastic table cloths, Thrivent cards and 8 to 10 Tidy Cats Plastic Containers.

Food Pantry

Our next distribution will be
 Tues., Apr. 23^h from 3-4.

Donations needed for April are peanut butter, ravioli, fruit/cereal bars, & crackers

Prayer List

Jeff Stremming, Irene Esch, John Bannick, Catherine Zumwalt, Marla Jackson, Ann Stine, Judy Latta, Cobert Mueller, Roger Ohnesorge, Rick Thompson, John Romero, Linda Miller, Rev. Gail Heimgartner; Debby Storm and family following the death of her mother, Helma; Patsy & Keith Bahrns as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary; & Seminary students receiving their vicarage assignments & pastoral calls.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Lonni & Jeff Weis upon the birth of grandson Joseph Anthony Weis!

Stewardship Moment

John 10:14 – “I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me.” What does it mean to know the Lord? It starts with being known by the Lord: He claims us as His own and calls us by name. Then, once we are His, we learn to know Him, and in knowing Him, we learn to imitate Him. That is how the Christian life of good works and generosity grows from the Lord’s grace.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Scripture and prayer are our strongest weapons to change hearts, and we must persist and never give up, no matter how disappointing things get with evil laws being enacted or evil intent coming our way.” *Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

CID Scholarship

Central Illinois District Scholarship Sunday is May 5th. Gifts will be used to support our CID students who are attending an LCMS seminary or university to become a pastor, teacher, deaconess, or other called church worker. Please plan to make a generous gift now or on May 5th. Gifts may be designated “CID Scholarship Fund” to be used for the 2024-2025 school year or be designated “CID Scholarship Endowment Fund” to provide gifts every year for this ongoing need. Checks may be given through your church or sent to the Central Illinois District -LCMS, 1850 N. Grand Avenue West, Springfield, IL 62702-1626. Since the need for called workers is so great, we also ask you to encourage those who may be good candidates to consider pursuing a called church-worker vocation.

If you are considering a major gift, or would like to include scholarships for CID seminarians or church worker students in your estate planning or through a life insurance policy or IRA, please contact CID Planned Gift Counselor, Rev. Charles Olander, at (217) 416-8842 or c-olander@msn.com for assistance. Thank you.

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

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.

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

“This Weeks Sunday School Lesson”

Lesson 1

The lesson this week is “Provided-For Prophet.” The prophet Elijah warns King Ahab of the severe drought coming. God first sends Elijah to the brook Cherith, where He provides ravens to feed him. When the brook dries up, Elijah lodges with a widow in Zarephath. Despite her limited supply of flour and oil, it never runs out. God supplies just what they need each day. When the widow’s son dies, Elijah raises him back to life through God’s power.

Dollars for Missions

DFM is funding new prison ministries in central Illinois. If a congregation lends its pastor to prison Ministry one day a week, Central Illinois District is in a position to thank that church with \$5,000 per year. In 2023 it received DFM funds for starts of new ministries in as many as four prisons or county jails. Now in 2024 the protect is to gather sufficient money to continue such new work into 2025. The current target is \$10,000.



Breakfast Fundraiser

If your group or board would like to host a breakfast to raise funds for your missions & projects, please contact Ruth Bray or any of the Board of Social Ministry members.

CALENDAR-----April 21 – April 27, 2024

Sunday	21	8:00 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:15 a.m.	New Member Welcome
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
<i>Preschool -- Monday – Friday 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	22	4:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Refurbish Committee
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Early Childhood
		7:00 p.m.	Lutheran Care Board
Tuesday	23	10:00 a.m.	Living with Grief, Altamont
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:00 p.m.	Altar Guild
		7:00 p.m.	Voters Meeting
Wednesday	24	10:00 a.m.	Quilting
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Meeting
		1:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministries
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
		5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Preschool Open House
Thursday	25	12:00 p.m.	Golden Eagles
Friday	26		Pastor's Sabbath
Saturday	27	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

Birthdays This Week

- 4/21 Don Tieffel, & Dutch Klitzing
 4/22 David Wendte, Dennis Lading,
 Eric Hanks, Erin Wendling, &
 Sandra White
 4/23 Ian Keith, & Norma Lansing
 4/24 Emma Budde, & Erin McDevitt
 4/25 Adia Jennings, Claire Gibson, & Corbyn
 Boone

Anniversaries This Week

- 4/21/1974 Keith & Patsy Bahrns
 4/25/1981 Neal & Sarah Mellendorf



Another great podcast:
 "The World and Everything In It"