

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter May 19, 2024

The work of the Holy Spirit is not optional. It's necessary. We say so this week in the confession of the 3rd Article and its meaning. Since the Holy Spirit's work is the sole reason you and I believe in Christ as Lord, we celebrate Pentecost today. And one small way we mark this Church festival is with something that is optional: the pastor's chasuble. This special



vestment is a symbol of the presiding pastor's leadership in the liturgy of the Lord's Supper. St. John's has a chasuble for most of the liturgical seasons of the church year, but I typically only use them at the three major festivals of Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost. As you see the red chasuble today, the goal is that you and I give thanks for the Holy Spirit's work in the Word and Sacrament. God covers a sinful man with His grace and truth, in order that His people can be forgiven and alive in Christ. He loves you. The chasuble isn't necessary, but it is good. Give thanks that God gives you His goodness. A blessed Pentecost!

Congratulations to the Graduates from Effingham, Beecher City, Neoga, and other area high schools!



This is Armed Forces Sunday, a day to give thanks for their service and for the service of their Christian chaplains. Our Synod sends and supports numerous LCMS chaplains. Use the insert in today's bulletin if you would like to give a special donation to this vital ministry of Word and Sacrament. You should also inform the Synod of the name and address of any family or friends serving, who could be receiving God's Word through devotional materials.

Immediately following Pastor Dille's Installation on Sunday, June 16 at 4:00pm there will be a catered meal in the fellowship hall. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board if you will be attending. There is no charge for the meal.

THANK YOU

There are always individuals and groups to thank in the congregation. Surely we miss some of them. Two groups today who deserve our hearty "thanks":

- Our Sunday School teachers. The power of our Sunday School is the Word of God, presented in the excellent curriculum* we offer. The teachers are the pipeline. Thank you. Whether in teams or solo, you give children the Word of God, and we appreciate you.
- The crew of volunteers who showed up and cleaned up at the parsonage last Saturday. The "blue house" parsonage is almost ready, inside and out, to receive the Dilles. Thank you. You knocked out a lot of work in short order!

**Enduring Faith* makes it easier to teach the Word of God. Volunteer to teach a summer Sunday School lesson. Reach out to SS Superintendent Kiley Bohnhoff NOW to get scheduled for a summer lesson. Email her at kbohnhoff@hotmail.com

Young Lutheran Adults of Effingham and Altamont! Our next meeting is Friday, May 24, at 6:00pm. We meet at the home of Adam & Andi Dahnke, 8273 N 300th St. Altamont, IL. We will have supper, games, and a Bible Study (led by Pastor Burdick this time). Questions? Contact Violet Wendling (618-704-6114) by voice or text.

Pastor-elect Dille will be ordained into the Holy Ministry on Saturday, June 1, at 2:00pm in his home congregation, Immanuel Lutheran Church of St. Charles, MO. You are invited. He will be installed as Associate Pastor here at St. John's on Sunday, June 16, at 4:00pm. You are, of course, invited!

Christ is risen! Memorial Day Sunday, May 26, our new Cemetery Cross will be dedicated to the glory of God. After the morning Service, come to St. John's Lutheran Cemetery (Luther Street, near Culver's) at NOON for a brief dedication ceremony.

VBS Needs Volunteers:

Set up: Fri., June 7th starting at 9am til ?. If you can help later call one of us to see if we are still working. (Maybe even working on Sat. June 8th)
Take down: Fri., June 14th starting at 9am til ?.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday May 12.....	440
Sunday School	27
Life Light	13

Our Offerings

General Fund.....	\$7,113.00
Online Offering.....	\$3,048.25
Total Gen. Fund Offering	\$10,161.25



Sign up if interested ... in the **Adult Catechism Bible Study**.

Mondays at 6:30pm for five consecutive 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?
- *And many more questions of the Bible and of life.*

We meet in the Trinity Room at St. John's. Video snippets begin each class to get us discussing. You won't be asked to read aloud or be forced to answer a question. 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.

Mondays – June 17 & 24, July 1, 8, 15 -- 6:30-8:30pm! All are welcome. Sign up on the main hall bulletin board and bring a friend! Questions? Speak with Pastor Burdick (309-255-5580 or mike.burdick@stjohnsLCMS.net).

Food Pantry

Our next distribution will be
Tues., May. 28th from 3-4.

Any donations for May will help the pantry continue our outreach for those in need.

Golden Eagles

Golden Eagles Thurs., May 30th at noon. We are having a cookout with hamburgers, pork burgers, brats, potato salad, baked beans, chips & dessert. Please sign-up on the main bulletin board in you plan to attend.



Begins Sunday June 2 at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Buy your training manual (\$10) TODAY in the Fellowship Hall.

Save the Dates

Drop off dates & times:

Sun., July 28th from noon – 1pm

Mon., July 29th from noon – 6pm

Tues., July 30th from 4pm – 6pm

Rummage Sale: August 1st-August 3rd

Golf Outing Sat., Sept. 14th

For Effective Congregational Communication

1. In the Church Office we are continuing to update our members' records. Please help us by using your pew attendance card to give us your family members' updated phone numbers, email addresses, etc. This information can also be sent to us via email. Sending us a recent photo by email (office@stjohnsLCMS.net) is very helpful! Thank you.
2. In the summer, we're going to publish an updated in-house Church Directory with photos.
3. You may soon get an email asking you to opt-in for text messaging from the church office. This will be very helpful in case of critical announcements, including weather-related changes. If given the opportunity to opt-in, we hope you will. Thank you.

Immanuel in Altamont Religious Liberty Presentation

We invite you and your congregation to meet Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz from the LCMS Center for Religious Liberties on Saturday, June 1, 2024 from 6-8 PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 203 E. Division St., Altamont, IL. Rev. Seltz will speak about religious liberties for clergy and laypersons.



Many households took the training last summer to serve on Communionware Teams. Thank you. We ask that you take time to sign up on the hallway bulletin board for the time(s) you can serve. You don't have to serve the entire weekend. See the bulletin board and choose a slot in which you can fill, or transition after a Service, or clean and put away after the final Service. Since we have created the new Sacristy, your service has been made easier. The youth and their parents who have been trained are encouraged to serve together. If you are interested in being trained, or have questions, please speak with Lisa Norton, Altar Guild Chair. Thank you!

Sunday School

There will be no children's Sunday School on May 26th.

We are looking for volunteers to help with summer Sunday school. If you could teach even one Sunday, please let Kiley Bohnhoff know. It's nice to give our wonderful teachers a break.



Baby Bottle Project

We are once again participating in the Family Life



Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Project. Be sure to pick up your Baby Bottles in the middle of the Atrium today, and return them on Father's Day weekend, Sunday, June 16th.

Stewardship Moment

Acts 2:1 – "When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place." Pentecost was the Old Testament harvest festival: a time of thanksgiving, bounty and the giving of gifts. How appropriate that in the New Testament, Pentecost takes on the meaning of a new harvest, directing us to the ripe fields of the nations and the task of bringing in the elect of every tribe and tongue to sing the Lord's praise. Every farmer knows that it is God who gives the increase and that the harvest calls for thanksgiving.

Vacation Bible School

Wish list for VBS: Different sizes of wicker baskets, oversized bib, red clown nose, cardboard, primary colors of balloons (definitely yellow & white), red, white, & yellow table cloths, and 8 to 10 Tidy Cats Buckets (square 35lb).



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!

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"Go to church together and get God's message into your ears, into your life, into your relationships. And the Spirit who created you and recreates you into the best version of yourself, that self that God has in mind for you, will work in your relationship and make it into one that is life-giving. But married or single, divorced or twice-divorced, wid-owed, brokenhearted, or thriving, we all live in the echo of Easter: Christ is risen. Indeed. Alleluia. We walk in the power of Pentecost. Alleluia." *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Gift Card Shower

To welcome the Dilles to St John's, Effingham, the board of Social Ministry is hosting a gift card shower. We will collect gift cards to give to the Dilles at the welcome dinner after Pastor Dille's installation on June 16. Gift cards can be dropped off in the church office if you will not be able to attend in person.

"This Weeks Sunday School Lesson"

Lesson 5

"Unwilling Prophet" is the title of this week's lesson. Jonah, a reluctant prophet, tries to flee God's calling to declare His message to Nineveh. Attempting to escape by boat, Jonah finds himself cast into the sea, swallowed by a great fish, praying for deliverance, and spit up on the beach three days later. The people of Nineveh receive and respond to the message Jonah delivers, repenting of their sins before God. Angered at God's mercy, Jonah heads out of the city to sulk. There, God reminds Jonah who is in control.

Prayer List

Judy Zeigler, Sara Bernhard, Catherine Zumwalt, Judy Latta, Cobert Mueller, Rick Thompson, John Romero, Linda Miller, & Rev. Gail Heimgartner.

CALENDAR-----May 19 – May 25, 2024

Sunday	19	8:00 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
Monday	20	Noon	Board of Evangelism
		4:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Refurbishment Committee
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Education
		7:00 p.m.	Lutheran Care Board
Tuesday	21	10:00 a.m.	Living w/Grief
Wednesday	22	1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Meeting
		1:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry
Thursday	23		
Friday	24		Pastor Burdick's Sabbath
Saturday	25	8:00 p.m.	Praise Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

Birthdays This Week

- 5/19 Cailin Ohnesorge, Seth Wilson
- 5/20 Colin Wendling
- 5/21 Ashley Flach, & Kelly Keitel
- 5/22 Coralin Ohnesorge, Doris Mueller, & Jane Tolch
- 5/23 Emersyn Engel
- 5/24 Janet Koebele, Julie Bahrns, & Laura Galvan
- 5/25 Chris Lidy

Anniversaries This Week

- 5/19/2001 Travis & Angie Sipe
- 5/21/1988 Rich & Nancy Kohnert
- 5/22/2021 Alex & Sadie Turner
- 5/25/1985 Alvin & Judy Siebert
- 5/25/1974 Dennis & Nitelle Lading

St. John's Large Print Center News
(formerly the Braille Center)

Lutheran Braille Workers headquarters in Yucaipa, California tallied the work that our Ministry Center did in 2023. The information is presented on a poster displayed in the Church hallway. The volunteers at our Large Print Center work hard to print, punch, bind and ship Bibles, Devotionals and Catechisms to fill orders for the sight challenged around the world.

Please take time to read through how many books were produced and where they traveled to those awaiting the Word of God.

If you would like to be a part of this ministry, you may talk to Marilyn Schaefer or any volunteer. We would be excited to share our enthusiasm for the work at St. John's Large Print Center.



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