

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter June 9, 2024

June: Marriage Month



“Do you love me!?” Many will remember that as the question Tevye asks Golde in *Fiddler On The Roof*. Do you? That’s not the question that’s asked in our wedding services. Instead, we are asked “will you?” In the statements of intent* in a marriage service, the husband and the wife are asked if they are committed to love, cherish, and protect their wife or husband until death parts them.

We’re not asked how we *feel at the moment*, but that to which we are committed for a lifetime.

Marriage is the union of one man and one woman for life. It was 38 years ago this week that Kathy and I said “I will” before God, our families, and our friends at Salem Lutheran Church. It’s a good thing that marriage doesn’t depend upon the dash of how we feel at the moment, but the marathon of keeping promises with God’s help. In last week’s Eagle note concerning natural marriage, I noted that marriage is for most of us, but not for all. It’s also a reality that sometimes marriages end with divorce. That’s never ok. It’s also not the unforgivable sin. Repentance is always answered with God’s forgiveness.

There’s been a lot of forgiveness in the Burdicks’ marriage, like any successful marriage. Commitment involves forgiveness – in marriage, parenting, friendship, and more.

Love is commitment, not a feeling. Let us foster that, now and always.

**EVERY
ONE
HIS WITNESS**
LUTHERAN EVANGELISM

*Statements of Intent

“[Groom], will you have this woman to be your wedded wife, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony as God ordained it? Will you nourish and cherish her as Christ loved His body, the Church, giving Himself up for her? Will you love, honor, and keep her in sickness and in health and, forsaking all others, remain united to her alone, so long as you both shall live? Then say: I will.” ***I will.***

“[Bride], will you have this man to be your wedded husband, to live together in the holy estate of matrimony as God ordained it? Will you submit to him as the Church submits to Christ? Will you love, honor, and keep him in sickness and in health and, forsaking all others, remain united to him alone, so long as you both shall live? Then say: I will. ***I will.***

Exploration of a possible Lutheran High School in Effingham County continues through the work of a steering committee. Laura Galvan and Pastor Burdick serve on that committee. A consultant from our Synod’s “Genesis Project” will be in the area July 1-2 to help us conduct interest surveys as part of our feasibility study. We pray, “Thy will be done.”

Volunteer Needed

We are needing a Volunteer to fill pews card and sharpen pencils on a weekly basis. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Mandy Einhorn has resigned as our office assistant here at Church. We appreciate the substitute secretarial help we are receiving from various people now, and we will soon move forward with hiring a new office assistant. Thanks for your patience and help. If you previously sent email to Mandy at her church address, please now send it to office@stjohnsLCMS.net. Thank you.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday June 2.....	396
Sunday School.....	22
Adult Bible Study.....	62

Our Offerings

General Fund.....	\$7,997.00
Online Offering.....	\$3,288.04
Total Gen. Fund Offering	\$11,285.04

Door Change

The east door off of Cherry Street beneath the bell tower is always an exit, but is no longer an entrance for Services. We're sorry for the inconvenience to those who have used it in the past, and we thank you for your patience as we prioritize safety by limiting the number of entrances into the building. Thank you.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"For the Christian, changing hearts and minds isn't just about meeting bodily needs; it also means connecting our neighbor to the true source of life—Christ Himself. It means providing for her needs in this world and the next by boldly intertwining our works and words of mercy with the gift of mercy Himself. It means helping him carry the crosses of this world on the way to his heavenly home." *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Stewardship Moment

Mark 3:35 – "Whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother."

Doing the will of God starts with trusting in His Son, Jesus Christ. Once we have faith in Him and have been reborn as new creatures through Holy Baptism, we strive to grow in this faith and in a life that agrees with our faith. Growing in generosity, in kindness and in love across our callings in the home, in church and in society is growing into the family of God, for all who do His will are His brothers and sisters and mothers.

Pastor Fortkamp at Immanuel

Pastor Jim Wright has been called from Immanuel, Altamont to Trinity in Berrien Springs, Michigan. We will miss him. Area pastors are going to help in various ways with the vacancy at Immanuel. Pastor Fortkamp will be preaching at Immanuel on at least two Sundays each month, and will continue to help with visitations there. Pastor Fortkamp will also continue to be our visitation pastor here at St. John's.



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., June. 11th from 3-4.
Donations needed for June are peanut
butter, 4 pk pudding cup, sloppy
joe/manwich & fruit.

“This Weeks Sunday School Lesson”

Lesson 7

Today, we will study “Enduring Exile.” Despite constant warnings, the Israelites continue in their idolatry. Because of this, God allows the king of Assyria to capture the Israelites and carry them into exile. The king resettles Samaria with other peoples, who bring with them their own false gods. When wild lions begin killing these immigrants, the king sends for an Israelite priest, hoping to appease God. But the people continued to sacrifice to idols—confusing the worship of the Lord with worshiping false gods. This is the beginning of the Samaritans.

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. Sign Up TODAY!

Save the Dates

Rummage Sale: August 1st-August 3rd

Drop off dates & times:

Sun., July 28th from noon – 1pm

Mon., July 29th from noon – 6pm

Tues., July 30th from 4pm – 6pm

Golf Outing Sat., Sept. 14th



Gift Card Shower

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

Prayer List

Bernetta Marxman, Dwight Klepzig, Dennis Johnson, Michael Habing, Bert Pruitt, Eileen Wall, Sara Bernhard, Catherine Zumwalt, Cobert Mueller, John Romero, & Rev. Gail Heimgartner.

Thanks be to God that this is another Vacation **Bible** School week for us here at St. John’s. Hundreds of kids will be here. Pray for the children and adults to learn a great deal from God’s holy Word, and to rejoice in “Jesus who gives us joy”. Thanks to the Youth Board and the many people who are making the VBS possible! Some of the children will sing VBS songs in the 10:30am Service next Sunday.

The baby bottles with donations for Family Life Center are to be returned next Sunday, Father’s Day.



Logan Samuel Stortzum, son of Lucas and Lauren Stortzum of Rogers, Arkansas and grandson of Brenda Wendling will be baptized on Sunday June 9th at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Bentonville, AR.



CALENDAR-----June 9 – June 15, 2024

Sunday	9	8:00 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
Monday	10	5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
		6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	VBS
Tuesday	11	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:15 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
		6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	VBS
Wednesday	12	1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Meeting
		1:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry
		6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	VBS
Thursday	13	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	VBS
Friday	14		Pastor Burdick's Sabbath
		9:00 a.m.	VBS Take Down
Saturday	15	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

Birthdays This Week

- 6/9 Shirley Cheadle
- 6/10 Alexis Walker, Candra Kronewitter,
Cassie Smith, & Vernabelle Lankford
- 6/11 Avery Wahl, Finley Bloemer, &
Jesse Davies
- 6/12 Ethan Kuhns, & Grace Roderick
- 6/13 Scott Marxman
- 6/14 Ammon Probst, Faye Tomkins, &
Marlene Haake
- 6/15 Bailey Willenborg, Danny Stevenson,
Derek Ohnesorge, Jacque Dixon,
Jamie Lotz, Jim Gibbons, Joyce Curry,
Leandra Meyers, & Paige Jansen

Anniversaries This Week

- 6/10/2011 Darwin & Jill Wohltman
- 6/10/1978 Howard & Laura Janis
- 6/11/1961 Bob & Ruth Kohnert
- 6/12/1982 Norbert & Mary Brauer
- 6/13/1992 Greg & LeeAnn Perry
- 6/13/1998 Greg & Rosemary Seggelke
- 6/13/1987 Kevin & Dena Willis
- 6/13/1987 Marcy & Julie Scott
- 6/14/1986 Dennis & Linda Marxmann
- 6/14/1986 Mike & Kathy Burdick
- 6/15/2019 Kolin & Meredith Roderick