

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter September 8, 2024

Last week, Pastor Burdick introduced our theme for September—Devotional Life. There are few things more important for Christians than their devotional life. Devotional life includes the time that we spend in devotion with God and His Word. You could say that it is the lifeblood of our lives as Christians. It is the time that we spend in specific and intimate conversation with our Creator (Father), our Savior (Son), and our Helper (Holy Spirit). It is through our devotional life, that God interacts with His people.

So, how is your devotional life? If you are like me, it is not as good as you would like it to be. But don't be too discouraged because there is always somewhere to start. First, and foremost, know that devotions can be as simple as reading a verse in the Psalms (or somewhere else in the Bible) and spending some time in prayer. Our devotions do not have to be extravagant. Yet, they should include time in prayer and a sort of meditation over God's Word. These are the primary means of communication we have with God.

If you have a hard time making time to sit down and read a devotion, there are also a number of materials that you can listen to while you're driving, doing chores, or even going for a walk. If you are interested in an audio devotion, but don't know where to look let me or Pastor Burdick know.

If you are struggling to find a devotional let us know and we will be happy to point you in a direction. I pray that through your devotional life, our Lord and Savior will continue to strengthen your faith and your trust in Him. May the Lord bless your daily conversation with Him.

In Christ,

Pastor Dille

Life Chain 2024

Sunday, October 6

Respect Life Sunday

1:30 pm – Prayer Service

Sacred Heart Parish Center

407 S Henrietta St, Effingham, IL

2-3 pm Life Chain on Keller Drive

(See the Church Bulletin Board for Details)

St. John's

SINGLE SERVICE SUNDAY

9:30 am September 29

Followed by the all-church picnic
on our grounds.

A new way to celebrate our unity
on the 5th Sunday of a month.

Our regular 5:30pm Saturday Service will be
held September 28.

2025 Budgets

All board budgets are due in the church
office TODAY

The Annual St. John's Church Picnic

Will be held Sunday, September 29, here at the church immediately following the 9:30am service. The meal will be held in the fellowship hall with indoor and outdoor activities for all, weather permitting. Todd Martin will be the grill master and everyone is invited to bring a favorite dish to share. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet posted on the main bulletin board.

We are having a "Cake Walk" with donations of cakes from the congregation. Start planning the cake you will bring.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday September 1..... 370
Sunday School 48
Adult Bible Study 42

Our Offerings

General Fund \$11,464.93
Online Offering \$3,236.05
Total Gen. Fund Offering \$14,700.98

Prayer List

Keith Bahrns, Alan Phelps, Joan Koester, Dwight Klepzig, Dylan Beccue, Lorri Mayberry, Rick Gregory, Bernetta Marxman, Bert Pruitt, Cobert Mueller, John Romero, Sara Bernhard, Marlin Fortkamp, Stan & Mary Dorney

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“Let us never forget and continue to trust in God as our only resource when we face difficult life issues. Continue to pray for our country as some leaders continue to pursue making laws that jeopardize precious lives and challenge God’s plan for life. Let us put our trust in God, not man.” *Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Choir

Choir practice is resuming Monday, September 9th. Rehearsal time is at 5:30pm in the church balcony, and new singers are welcome. If anyone has questions, feel free to contact Dennis Lading at 217-821-8483.

Stewardship Moment

Matthew 6:24 – “You cannot serve God and money.” In today’s Gospel, Jesus gives the first and last word about our stewardship — well, you have to go back a few verses to verse 19 to get the whole thing: “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Read Matt. 5:19–34 again this week at home and consider your generosity to the Lord’s work in light of what Jesus says.

Youth Corner Upcoming Events



LYF Fellowship



This past Wednesday, LYF (grades 6-12) students gathered for a fun time of devotion, food, and games. We will do the same next Wed. Sept 11th from 6-7:15pm. Dinner will be provided for all who attend. We encourage you to come as you are able! We will be there.

NYG Information Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 8 at noon. We will dive into the details of our NYG trip to New Orleans next Summer and answer any questions.

22nd Annual Larry Brandt Golf Outing

Saturday, September 14 at 1 p.m.

Our sympathy goes out to family and friends of Shirley Cheadle. Her funeral was Wednesday, September 4th here at St. John’s. Memorials may be made to St. John’s Lutheran Church Food Pantry or the Lutheran Braille Workers.

Special thanks to Carol Lading for interviewing many of our new members and preparing a summary. Check out the new member bulletin board by the elevator!

“This Weeks Sunday School Lesson”

Lesson 3

In today’s lesson, “The Temple Testimonies,” God fulfills His promise as Jesus is born in Bethlehem. Forty days later, in keeping with the law, the family travels to Jerusalem’s temple for Mary’s purification and Jesus’ presentation. There, they encounter Simeon, a devout Jew whose song of praise lives on in the Church today. Likewise, Anna, the aging prophetess, rejoices at the coming of the Savior.

Food Pantry Distribution

Tues., Sept.10th from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Here are the three Adult Sunday Bible Classes we will have here this Fall, all at 9:15am:

I. **Fellowship Hall** -- Adults study the same lessons as the children. Pastor Burdick leads the class into the familiar and far-reaching stories of the Bible. September 1, we begin in Luke 1 with the birth of John the Baptist. This will get you thinking and talking about God's promises then and now. If you're the parent of a Sunday School kid, come to this class and you'll be ready to talk about the week's Lesson with them. Your kids will be proud!

II. **LifeLight** – Facilitated by Karla Flach, this is an in-depth look into the book of Acts! You'll have something to read each day of the week, and you will grow in knowledge and faith. Meets in the Conference Room. Sign-up on the bulletin board so your materials are ready! Begins September 8.

III. **“Life as a Christian in a Post-Christian World”** - Pastor Dille leads participants into the Bible and into a better understanding of worldviews. In the study, he will guide the group through both the factors that have contributed to such a Post-Christian World and the tools God gives His children to stay faithful and continue to trust in Him. This study will meet in the Trinity Room.

We're never finished with learning ... especially as Christians.

Effingham/Shelby Zone Rally

Sept. 18th

St. Paul, Sigel

Registration and Fellowship 8:15am

Rally opening at 9:00am

“SEEK THE LORD”

(details on the bulletin board)

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
Corn Maze with Scavenger Hunt**

Fridays 6pm – Midnight

Saturdays 11am – 10pm

Sundays 11am – 5pm

1st weekend: Sept. 27-29

2nd weekend: Oct. 4-6

3rd weekend: Oct. 11-13

4th weekend: Oct. 18-20

Bring a flashlight for evening hours

Admission into the corn maze is

\$5 per person

Children 5 yrs. and under are FREE.

13204 N 2300th St

Wheeler, IL 62479

(See poster on bulletin board)

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Altamont)
Mission Festival Sunday**

Join us Sunday, September 22, 7:00 p.m. for our Mission Festival with guest speaker, Rev. Andrew Preus, Pastor of Trinity Lutheran New Haven, MO, and a representative for Luther Classical College. Mission Festival starts at 7:00 p.m. with Vespers Worship Service. Following the service, Rev. Preus will have a presentation about the new Luther Classical College in Casper WY. Ice Cream & Desserts will be provided by the Bethlehem-Zion Youth Group in the Parish Hall.

Thank you, Bell Choir



CALENDAR-----September 8 – September 14, 2024

Sunday	8	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Services w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		9:30 a.m.	Communion Preparation Training
		Noon	National Youth Gathering Meeting
<i>Preschool -- Monday – Friday 8:00 – 11:30 a.m.</i>			
Monday	9		Pastor Dille’s Sabbath
		4:00 p.m.	Sanctuary Refurbishment Committee
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
		5:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	10	7:30 a.m.	Board of Elders
		1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl Ministry
		3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:15 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
Wednesday	11	8:50 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		10:00 a.m.	Stephen Ministry
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Choir Practice
		6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m.	LYF Fellowship
Thursday	12	8:50 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
Friday	13		Pastor Burdick’s Sabbath
			Wax Fellowship Hall Floor
Saturday	14	8:00 a.m.	Praise Band Practice
		1:00 p.m.	Larry Brandt Memorial Golf Outing
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

Birthdays This Week

09/08 Justyce Higgs
 09/09 Blake Higgs, Mike Pilcher
 09/10 Alyene Bahrns, John Wieder,
 Jon Wilhelms
 09/11 Allen Tomkins, Eric Bernhard,
 Joyce Wenthe, Sean Junge
 09/12 Blake Bahrns, Jenna Bohnhoff,
 Phillip Wendling, Ryan Wyckoff
 09/13 Ann Newton, Coen Westjohn, David
 Habbe, Debbie Sanders, Trey Dille
 09/14 Dwight Klepzig, Mackenzie Stuemke,
 Madison Stuemke, Mason Gordon

Anniversaries This Week

09/09/1953 Billie & Florence Genoust
 09/09/2011 Troy & Ammon Probst
 09/10/2011 Brad & Laura Jeffries
 09/11/2010 Craig & Ashley Bailey
 09/11/2021 Kirby & Nicole Tolch
 09/12/2019 Adam & Chelsea Devall
 09/12/2020 Megan & Nathan Day
 09/14/2013 Leandra & Drew Meyers