

# THE EAGLE

## *St. John's Weekly Newsletter April 6, 2025*

As we approach Easter, I want to check in on your Lenten fast. Whether you chose to take up something new or fast from something, it's always good to pause and evaluate how you're doing. Perhaps you've faltered once or twice, or maybe life has gotten so busy that you've forgotten about it entirely. Or, this year, your fasting might be going smoothly. No matter where you stand, you can rest assured that Jesus never faltered or got distracted on His journey to the cross. He walked that road for you, for me, and for all His people.

Even during Lent, it's essential to be reminded that our Lord has His hand in everything. In all that we do, Jesus is at work in each of our lives and through each of us. Sometimes, we become so consumed by our own Lenten fasts—or distracted by the world around us (like the storms and rain we've experienced this week)—that we forget He is right there with us.

It's only when we truly recognize the goodness of Jesus' love for us and allow Him to take His rightful place at the center of our hearts that we can fully embrace the freedom of the Christian life. This freedom comes from understanding our need for God's grace and mercy.

Henri Nouwen, a Dutch theologian put this well when he wrote, "As long as I am constantly concerned about what I 'ought' to say, think, do or feel, I am still the victim of my surroundings and not liberated... But when I can accept my identity from God and allow Him to be the center of my life, I am liberated from compulsion and can move without restraints." What Nouwen is saying is that when we rest in the goodness and mercy of Jesus, everything in our souls falls into place. It is in Jesus' love, that we find ourselves at home.

So, my encouragement for today is this: rest in the goodness and mercy of your Savior this Lent. Whether you've kept up with your fasting or not, remember that the past is in the past. What matters now is the future. Pick your fast back up for this final week of Lent and into Holy Week, if you've set it aside—or keep going strong if you haven't. Either way, trust in God's goodness and mercy for you.

May God continue to bless you.

*Pastor Dille*

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Council Meeting  
Tues., April 15 at 7:00pm

Voters Assembly Meeting  
Tues., April 22 at 7:00pm

### **Lenten Midweek Services**

12:15pm & 6:30pm Wednesdays  
March 5 - April 9

**"His Wounded Body"**

### **Palm Sunday w/ Holy Communion**

April 12 at 5:30pm  
April 13 at 8am and 10:30am

### **Maundy Thursday w/ Holy Communion**

April 17 at 12:15pm and  
6:30pm (Stripping of Altar)

### **Good Friday**

April 18 at 12:15pm and 6:30pm

### **Easter Sunday w/ Holy Communion**

April 20 at 6:00am, 8:00am, and  
10:30am

### **Attention All Boards**

Your reports are due in the church office for the Council meeting by Mon., Apr. 7

**Response to the Gospel**  
**Our Attendance Last Week**

Sunday March 30 ..... 392  
Lenten Services ..... 108

**Our Offering**

General Fund ..... \$10,373.76  
Lenten Service ..... \$759.00  
Online Offering ..... \$2,413.54  
**Total Gen. Fund Offering      \$13,546.30**

**“This Week’s Sunday School Lesson”**

**Lesson 13**

“The Living Wonder” is the title of this week’s Bible lesson. After mocking and beating Jesus, the Roman guards take Him to be crucified. As Jesus hangs on the cross, the crowds continue to hurl insults. As Jesus gives up His life, the curtain of the temple splits from top to bottom. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus see Joseph of Arimathea lay Jesus’ body in the tomb. When the two Mary’s and Salome come to the tomb on Sunday morning, they find it empty except for a young man in white, who tells them Jesus has risen from the dead.

**LCC Congregational Scripture and Song**  
**Service**

Praise God for the Lutheran Care Center and the “Care Campaign” donations this year! We will have a celebration Service for all owner congregations on Next Sunday, **April 6 at 2:30pm at Faith Lutheran Church, Shumway**. After the Service, the reception will include the “Pastors’ Bake-Off.” Come, celebrate. Sign up on the main bulletin board, please, so our hosts know how many will attend.

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

“Friend, you have a good word to speak to your neighbor. You have God’s Word of life to share — with your spouse, your children or grandchildren, your co-worker or friend. You can tell them that their life is sacred, a gift of God, and that their life matters to you.”

Rev. Robert Mohns, Lutheran Church—Canada – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**Youth Corner Upcoming Events**



**NYG**

The second payment of \$200.00 is due April 6.

**High School Youth**

Join us this Sunday (4/6) from 7-8p.m. as we dive into Bible Study, play a game, and plan some events this summer. This is an important opportunity to join together with your friends and grow together. We look forward to seeing you there.

**Larry Brandt Scholarship**

Application for the Larry Brandt Scholarship can be found online or copies are on the bulletin board. Due date is April 14, 2025.

**Vacation Bible School**

June 9 – 12 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

The theme this year will be Epic Australian Adventure. Watch Bulletin for a meeting date if you would like to help. Planning is underway!! If anyone has Thrivent Cards that they would be willing to donate they would be greatly appreciated!! Wish List Items! We need huge pieces of cardboard, red, yellow, and orange tablecloths.

**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 an email link can be sent to you with the required training. Thank you for your service, and for being well-trained!

### **Lydia Guild Bake Sale**

Maundy Thurs – Good Friday after services until all items are gone. All proceeds will go to Lutheran Care Center.

### **Lutheran Witness**

It's time to sign up for Lutheran Witness. Cost this year is \$20.65 for the year, & are due by Monday, April 21.

### **Food Pantry Distribution**

The next distribution is Tues., April 8 from 3 p.m. - 4 p.m. The Food Pantry is needing Pork & Beans, Diced Tomatoes, Tomato Juice, and Dry Macaroni.

### **Thank You!!**

To all who gave to the Lutheran Care Center in our Fifth Sunday Offering. The total raised was \$1,785.00.

### **Prayer List**

Allen Birch, Carolyn Campton, Heather Davis, Niki Bishop, Dick Hulskotter, Dan Overbeck, Jerry Lankford, Janet Martins, Beulah Ziegler. Madison Gartner Hagen, Becky Janis, and Vi Kirchhoff.

We extend our condolences to Jerry Pruemer and family following the death of his dad, Gerald, this past Wednesday.

Looking for a good podcast with news from the world through the eyes of the Lord of Lords? Check out "The World and Everything In It." - Pastor B

### **A Challenge For this Week**

Take 5 minutes when you wake up or before bed and try to memorize a scripture passage. Below are a couple great places to start:

- Philippians 4:13
- Proverbs 3:5-6
- 1 Peter 5:7
- Isaiah 41:10
- Psalm 118:24

### **Sanctuary Update**

The progress on renovation of the sanctuary has suddenly picked up the pace, and we are optimistic that we will be able to use it for the first time on Easter Day. The flooring will be completed this week, we believe. Pews will be delivered on April 14 and will take three days to install (all by the company). Once the flooring is complete, there are many tasks that can be completed by volunteers. Holy Week is always a busy time, but you can see that we will need many volunteers then. If you can build some time helping here into your schedule, please do ... in addition to worship in all of our Services of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. If you can help with some of these tasks, please speak with Lyle Tolch:

- Clean the Communion rail with proper cleaner.
- Attach the Communion rail to the Chancel floor.
- Dust/vacuum the walls, woodwork, etc., throughout the sanctuary, atrium, balcony, vestry, and sacristy.
- Clean/oil the Chancel woodwork and fixtures.
- Move the hymnals, cards, etc., into the pews after the Good Friday Services.
- Move the Altar, Font, etc., on Holy Saturday.
- Move chairs into the balcony.
- And more! Thank you.

*Sanctuary Renovation Committee: Lyle Tolch, Kara Koester, Jill Wendling, Jim Bailey, Laura Janis, Pastor Burdick.*

# CALENDAR----- April 6, 2025 – April 12, 2025

Sunday	6	8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC - Bells
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		2:30 p.m.	LCC Service – Shumway
		7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Banners and Stoles
		7:00 p.m.	LYF HS
<i>Preschool -- Monday – Friday 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. (Unless otherwise noted)</i>			
Monday	7		Pastor Dille's Sabbath
		5:15 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	8	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Youth
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Education
Wednesday	9	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		10:00 a.m.	Stephen Ministry
		12:15 p.m.	Lenten Service
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Bell Choir Practice
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		6:30 p.m.	Lenten Service
Thursday	10	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
Friday	11		Pastor Burdick's Sabbath
		6:30 p.m.	YABS
Saturday	12	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

## **Birthdays This Week**

4/06 Jeff Stremming, Joey Walls  
 4/07 Blakelee Willenborg, Brooke Mueller,  
 Earline Jutkins, Elijah Wendling  
 4/08 Cheryl Pruemer, Meghan Wahl  
 4/09 Eileen Hartman, Molly Wallin,  
 Nancy Johnson, Steve Rubin  
 4/10 Decker Snow, Gene Jackson,  
 Helen Miller  
 4/11 Carol Osborn, Cohen Hoedebecke,  
 Leo Jansen  
 4/12 Allen Radloff, Liz Brown, Nancy Lykins

## **Anniversaries This Week**

4/06/1974 Larry & Ann Gehle  
 4/07/1989 Don & Ruth Rhodes  
 4/11/2015 Tim & Melody Schuette  
 4/12/1958 Bob & Bernetta Marxman  
 4/12/2003 Dan & Ashley Jansen