

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter July 20, 2025



Many of us remember this painting from the fall, when we studied Jesus' visit with Mary and Martha in Bible study. I believe it's one of Pastor Burdick's favorites. It beautifully illustrates this week's Gospel lesson from Luke 10:38–42.

Take a look at the woman in the foreground who appears to be cooking—this is Martha. She's the sister who welcomed Jesus into her home. Martha is doing exactly what Jesus encouraged in last week's Gospel lesson—the Parable of the Good Samaritan. She is serving and loving her neighbor by preparing a meal for Jesus.

Now, look through the window in the upper right. There, you see Jesus teaching. He is speaking to Mary, Martha's sister. Mary is sitting and listening to the Teacher—listening to Jesus.

Both sisters are doing what they believe is right. Yet, as often happens with us as sinful humans, Martha becomes frustrated with Mary. In Luke 10:40, Martha says to Jesus, *"Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself?"*

Think about your own life and relationships. Martha's reaction isn't far-fetched—many of us would feel the same way. But listen to how Jesus responds. He says:

"Martha, Martha... you are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

Jesus' response is surprising. He gently corrects Martha. And in doing so, He teaches us an important lesson: Serving our neighbors is important, but listening to Jesus is even more important. Martha was doing good work, but Mary had chosen the better path—being present with Jesus and hearing His word.

So this week, and always, no matter how much or how well you serve others, remember to take time to listen to Jesus.

God bless you,

Pastor Dille

Rally Day 2025

Mark your calendars.

Sunday, August 17th

Breakfast will be at 9:00 a.m.

Single Service Sunday **With a Potluck Dinner**

Our next 5th Sunday will be August 31st. We will have only 1 service on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. with a potluck meal to follow at 10:45 a.m.



Church Picnic

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 28

Funeral Planning

worksheets are available in the main hallway, on the shelf across from the bulletin boards. It is good to prepare a Christ-centered funeral!

Upcoming Meeting

Voters Assembly Meeting
Tuesday, July 22 at 7:00pm

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday, July 6418
 Sunday School..... 15

Our Offering

General Fund.....\$6,636.00
 Online Offering.....\$4,143.29
Total Gen. Fund Offering \$10,779.29

Prayer List

Chuck Mayberry, Janice Tappendorf, Trevor Roy, Judy Siebert, Henrietta Poe, Niki Bishop, and Madison Gartner Hagen.

Stewardship Moment

Luke 10:40b

“Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone?” Martha is doing the right thing but in the wrong order. Her service to the Lord is good, but she has let it get ahead of hearing His Word. Mary has placed the Word first, which is good. Is there any doubt that she will rise once she has heard the Word and get to serving as well? Isn't that what hearing the Word always leads us to do? We listen, then respond. We believe, and thus we act!

Rummage Sale

Help is needed

at all the times listed, but especially during the drop off and clean up times There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

Clothes Racks

If anyone has any, we could borrow for the rummage sale please contact us.

All LYF Youth and Parents

Please consider helping at any of the rummage sale drop off times and/or sale dates as listed.

Please contact Cathy Norris (217-821-3656) Donetta Ohnesorge (217-821-3300) or Carolyn Wendte (217-821-6541).

Braille Volunteer Potluck Luncheon

Hosted by St. John's, Effingham

Tuesday, July 22 at NOON

Chicken and a potato side dish will be provided

Please sign up at St. John's in the Braille Room

Or Call or text Kathy at 217-254-9360

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

What a fun day these youth and their chaperones had at the annual trip to Holiday World! Thanks to the congregation for paying for transportation.



Rummage Sale

Drop Off

Sun., July 27 from Noon – 1pm

Mon., July 28 from Noon – 6pm

Tues., July 29 from 4pm – 6pm

We cannot accept TVs or monitors. Please make sure your items are clean and/or in good working condition. Thank you.

Sale Dates

Thurs., July 31 from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Fri., Aug. 1 from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sat., Aug 2 from 9 a.m. – Noon

Clean Up

Noon – 2 p.m.

Golf Outing

Sat., Sept. 13 at 1:00p.m.

(See this week's Insert for details)

Save the Date

Wed. Aug 6th at 6:00p.m.

National Youth Gathering presentation
 with a light dinner in the gym.

All are welcome.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"Sometimes the answer to a problem is as simple as asking for help. Let's not hesitate to bring all our questions, troubles, and needs to the Lord. Thank Him for the people He provides for our help. Pray that He will give you the opportunity today to be His help to others." *Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Golden Eagles

There will be NO Golden Eagles dinner for the month of July. The youth will be using the fellowship to prepare for their annual garage sale. We will meet again on Thurs., Aug. 31

St. John's "Jam Night"

August 16, 6:30 p.m.
(after evening service)
105 S Oak St (backyard)
Rain = gymnasium

Come enjoy a wide variety of music performed by our talented musicians.
Bring a lawn chair and your favorite snack!

"This Weeks Sunday School Lesson"

Lesson 9

This week's Bible lesson is "The Unknown Revealed." As Paul waits for the other disciples to join him in Athens, he spends time in discussion with philosophers and others in the marketplace. Many temples and altars fill the city of Athens, including an altar dedicated to the "unknown god." One day, Paul speaks at the Areopagus—also called Mars Hill. He uses the altar to the unknown god as an opportunity to teach the people concerning the true God.

Confirmation Orientation

Confirmation ministry will begin again in late August. The Orientation meeting for parents and students in grades 6, 7, 8 will be Wednesday August 20 at 5:00pm. The Word of God and Luther's Small Catechism are our texts. Faithful attendance in class and in worship is required. God's truth and grace strengthen kids and parents in the faith. For life. The First class will be **September 10th**.

National Youth Gathering

Please continue to pray for the 17 High School Youth and 5 Adult Leaders who will participate in our National Youth Gathering in New Orleans titled.



The Lord will certainly be with the group as they are in New Orleans, but your prayers are welcome and needed. The Lord certainly answers prayers. Pray for safe travels. Pray for individuals and for the group as a whole. Pray for those who have been in the church their whole life and those who are still new to faith. Pray that this gathering will bear fruit in the future, too.

Food Pantry Distribution



Garden produce is always very well received by our food pantry, so if you have been abundantly blessed, we would gladly accept it. However, we can only accept "FRESH produce the Sun., Mon., or Tues before our pantry distribution which is the 2nd & 4th Tues of the month.

The next distribution is Tues., July 22 from
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Acolyte training

The incoming 6th Grade students will receive their training in service as an acolyte on Sunday, August 17, immediately following the 10:30 Service.

Substitute Sunday School Teachers are Needed!

It would be nice to have a couple of names for this fall on hand if we are in need. Please reach out to Kiley Bohnhoff.

CALENDAR----- July 20 - 26, 2025

Sunday	20	8:00 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
		12:30 p.m.	E.A.S.T.E.R. Picnic
			NYG - New Orleans
Monday	21	4:00 p.m.	Board of Evangelism
			NYG - New Orleans
Tuesday	22	Noon	Braille Luncheon
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
		5:00 p.m.	Altar Guild
		7:00 p.m.	Voters Assembly
			NYG - New Orleans
Wednesday	23	9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		10:00 a.m.	Stephen Ministry
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotions/Meeting
			NYG - New Orleans
Thursday	24	Approx. 5:30 p.m.	NYG Board Bus to Return Home
		6:00 p.m.	Stephen Ministry Training
Friday	25	Approx. 8:00 a.m.	NYG Arrive back from New Orleans
		11:30 a.m.	Office Closed
Saturday	26	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

Birthdays This Week

7/20 Daniel Haarmann, Paulena Romero, Rudy Koester, & Vi Kirchoff
 7/21 Emery Kronewitter
 7/22 Alicia McCallister, Dana Cox, Julie Zeigler, & Sarah Mellendorf
 7/23 Anita Backhus, Connie Phelps, & Jill Wohltman
 7/24 Bayleigh Lobmier, Karen Hartman, Tammy Wendling, & Tony Castillo
 7/25 Brady Scott, Elena Niebrugge, Jason Wendling, & Norma Larson
 7/26 Ella Niebrugge, Patsy Latch, Tyler Pilcher & Watson Brown

Anniversaries This Week

7/21/1999 Clinton & Jennifer Weber
 7/21/2018 James & Megan King
 7/22/2011 Wade & Brittany Bloemer
 7/23/1988 AJ & Linda Luckett
 7/24/2020 Phillip & Abbey Knight
 7/24/2021 Chris & Cheyenne Sandifer
 7/24/2010 Andrew & Amy Wetzel

