

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter September 14, 2025

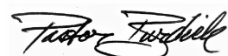
Our friends, Mitch and Chris, had sheepdogs for pets. Incredibly smart animals, it was natural for them to herd sheep. So they even herded



people. If you visited their house and yard, you'd probably find yourself being moved and manipulated by the dogs. It was kind of hilarious.

In our recent Elders meeting, our opening devotion used the sheepdog metaphor to describe the roles of pastors and elders. We don't own the flock, and we don't answer to the flock. The Shepherd owns. The Good Shepherd, Jesus, is in charge. Pastors – and elders by extension – are sheepdogs. That means: 1) The will of the Lord Jesus is the chief aim. 2) The welfare of the flock is our job description. Keeping those two things straight isn't instinctual for us men, though. We need to be taught and reminded repeatedly. Thus the meeting devotion!

What do you want your pastors and elders to do and be? "Sheepdogs" would be a pretty good answer. Pray for us and encourage us toward that answer, please! Thank you.



P.S. If you're thinking that the same could be said of parents, I would agree!

Circuit Forum

Sunday, October 5, the Effingham Circuit Forum will be held here at St. John's. Each congregation in our Circuit will send a pastor and a lay representative to the meeting for the purpose of electing the Lay and Pastoral Delegates who will be sent to the July 18-23, 2026 LCMS Convention on behalf of our Circuit. If you are interested in being elected as our Circuit Lay Delegate, ask Pastor Burdick about what that entails, and if you're willing to serve, notify congregational president Jeff Weis by October 1. Thank you.

Our next Food Pantry Distribution
September 23 from 3-4 p.m.

September 14 is "Holy Cross Day"



Let us pray to Jesus. "You meant it for evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring about that many people should be kept alive." (Genesis 50:20). When Your servant Jospheh spoke these words, he foreshadowed Your Work on the cross. Man designed the cross to torture and humiliate, but by Your suffering and death, You won our forgiveness and saved us for eternal life. All praise to You, resurrected Lord and Savior of the nations! In Your holy Name, Amen."

Board Members

In October our Voters Assembly will elect board members for service in support of our mission (Proclaim the Christ, Grow the Family, Love the Neighbor). Boards, including those members who are completing their time of service, should soon be praying, thinking, and recruiting so that all positions are filled. Do you have a desire to serve in some aspect of our ministry? Speak with our pastors or with Adam Bohnhoff (VP) or Jeff Weis (Pres). Thank you.

Church Picnic

The annual St. John's Church Picnic will be held Sunday, **September 28**, here at the church immediately following the 10:30 a.m. 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, baked goods, or goodies from the congregation. Start planning what you are going to bring.**

E.A.S.T.E.R Class resumes
September 27th at 9:30 a.m.

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

Sunday, September 7 442
 Adult Sunday School..... 50
 Sunday School..... 49

Our Offering

General Fund..... \$8,615.25
 Online Offering..... \$5,789.58
Total Gen. Fund Offering..... \$14,404.83

Life Chain 2025

Sunday, October 5th
 Respect Life Sunday
 1:30 pm – Prayer Service
 Sacred Heart Parish Center
 407 S Henrietta St., Effingham, IL
 2-3 pm Life Chain



Adult Catechism

Bible Study begins Tuesday September 30th.
 From 7:00-8:00pm, we'll be digging into God's
 Word through Luther's Small Catechism.

Prayer List

Matt Fauss, Cassie Power, Steve Rubin, Holly
 Bray, Trevor Roy, Mary Dasenbrock, Kenny
 Dasenbrock, Irvin Wendte, Judy Siebert, Perrie
 Richards, Connie Phelps, Lloyd Wittenberg,
 Cindy Crawford, Vi Kirchoff and Kathy
 Schroeder.

College Students:



Who's where? Help us compile an
 accurate list of where our college
 students are studying. Students,
 parents, or grandparents should
 email the church office
 (office@stjohnsLCMS.net) with

each college student's name, school address,
 and email address so we can send them
 encouragement and a care package from the
 Church. Thank you!

Try Something New

St. John's Large Print (Braille) Center invites
 you to consider joining our Ministry to the Sight
 Challenged population worldwide!

Becoming a volunteer is EASY! Give us a call.
 Schedule a visit. Find out when you can help on
 a team.

The work is straightforward.

- Books are printed from orders sent from
 Lutheran Braille Workers Headquarters
- Operating a manual punching machine,
 you get the pages ready to assemble
- Another machine is used to bind the
 pages together with a front and back
 cover. (Also manually operated)

Bibles and Devotionals intended for Prison use
 are printed and

- It is essential that finished books are
 checked page by page to ensure that the
 recipient has a quality Bible or Devotion
 for their use. Pages in order, no streaks
 or markings and the book is easy to
 open.
- Packing, labeling and mailing are done
 with care.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"If we expect to be the one to change hearts by
 sowing seeds of judgment rather than love, we
 are changing the mission we have been sent to
 fulfill. Please use your Gospel-motivated voice
 For Life in love and may God bless your efforts!"

Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Stewardship Moment

Luke 10:25

**"And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to
 the test, saying, 'Teacher, what shall I do to
 inherit eternal life?'"** Talk about the wrong
 question! You can't do anything to inherit
 something. It's either yours by birth, or you are
 not in the family and there's nothing you can do
 to inherit it. We are part of the family through
 Baptism. We don't have to buy our way into the
 kingdom. We are brought in by the precious
 Blood of Christ. Our good works are not the
 purchase price of the kingdom. They are simply
 what the children of the Father want to do in
 thanksgiving to Him.

"This Weeks Sunday School Lesson"

LESSON 3

Widespread sin and corruption filled the earth, but "Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD" (Genesis 6:8). In today's lesson, "A New Beginning," students will learn how, following God's command, Noah and his family begin constructing a massive ark, with provisions for an extended journey. At the Lord's direction, each animal kind boards the ark, along with Noah and his family. The fountains of the deep open and rain falls for forty days, swallowing up every living thing. Through the flood, God keeps Noah's family safe and lands them on a mountain. Discuss the sign of the promise God gives us: the rainbow.

New Outdoor Sign

Our new Outdoor Message Center is installed and ready (we're still learning the new steps to posting messages and photos). We thank God for every donor who made this new tool for outreach possible. We especially acknowledge the generous Ministry Outreach Grant of \$5,000 from our Central Illinois District Church Extension Fund. This LED message board will display God's Word, Church information, Eagle's Nest Preschool information, and invitations to our ministry. To the glory of God and for the good of our neighbors, we dedicate this message center a tool for outreach. We hope and pray that more people will know the Gospel hope!

Family Day

Lutheran Care Center invites you to come celebrate "Family Day" on September 21 1:00-2:30pm. Held in the LCC Courtyard, it's an afternoon of fellowship, live music, sweets, and celebration. Poster on the bulletin board. Whether or not you have a family member living at LCC, come celebrate the ministry of Lutheran Care Center.

Baby Shower

St. John's is hosting a baby shower for Pastor Dille and Katie on October 19th from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. ALL ARE WELCOME! There will be cake and punch.

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Youth Group Participation

Jr. High LYF September 10th: 12
The Flock September 7th:8

Hayride & Wiener Roast at Jim & Kathy Schroeder's

**LET'S GO ON
A HAYRIDE**



Sunday, Oct. 19th from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Everyone is invited. Food provided by the Youth Board. You will need to bring a lawn chair. Sign up coming soon.

Effingham/Shelby Zone Rally

Sept. 17th

Trinity Lutheran, Stewardson
Registration and Fellowship 8:15am

Rally opening at 9:00am

"PRECIOUS IN HIS EYES"

(Ingathering and other details on the bulletin board)

3rd Grade Bibles

It's tradition here at St. John's that we give all members entering the Third Grade a Bible. Part of that tradition is that we give parents the Bible's the week before we hand them out, and bless them at Church. This is meant to be an opportunity for parents to mark their favorite verses and make note of the passages that have been most helpful to them. The Bibles are ready for pick up. Please pick them up this weekend as we plan to hand them out and bless them next Sunday, September 21
Thanks!

LWML Sunday will be October 5th

READY TO
serve

••••• LUKE 1:38 •••••

 **Lutheran Women**
in Mission SUNDAY

CALENDAR-----Sept. 14 - 21, 2025

Sunday	14	8:00 a.m.	Worship w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC
Preschool – Monday – Friday 8:25 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. (Unless Otherwise Noted)			
Monday	15		Pastor Dille's Sabbath
		1:00 p.m.	Cemetery Meeting
		4:00 p.m.	Board of Evangelism
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
		5:15 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	16		
Wednesday	17	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		9:00 a.m.	LWML Effingham/Shelby Zone Rally at Trinity in Stewardson
		10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Quilting
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotion/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:15 p.m.	Bell Practice
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Thursday	18	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Youth
Friday	19		Pastor Burdick Sabbath
Saturday	20	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		8:30 a.m.	Stephen Ministry Training
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC-Choir

Birthdays This Week

9/14 Mackenzie Stuemke, Madison Stuemke, Mason Gordon
 9/15 Clayton Hinton, Irvin Wendte
 9/16 Carlee Adams, Eileen Wall, Lisa Wilson, Phil Kinkelaar, Sean March
 9/17 Lee Hartman, Truman Brown
 9/18 Fred Richter
 9/19 Marcy Wallace, Mike Conrad
 9/20 Jill Daniels

9/14/2013 Leandra & Drew Meyers
 9/15/1990 Jeff & Melissa Vail
 9/15/2012 Kent & Niki Bishop
 9/16/1978 Don & Karen Grupe
 9/18/1966 Jane & Lyle Tolch
 9/19/2020 Tyler & Jennifer Marxman
 9/20/1986 Dennis & Nancy Johnson
 9/20/2008 Mike & Linda Nolan

Anniversaries This Week