

# THE EAGLE

## *St. John's Weekly Newsletter September 7, 2025*

This marks the first weekend in September, and the rhythm of the school year is officially underway. Routines are valuable, and by the time we reach May, we hope that new routines will feel like second nature.

Over the past couple of weeks, Pastor Burdick and I have spent a considerable amount of time talking about the routine of family devotions. During last week's Children's Sermon, Pastor Burdick handed out a calendar that offers materials and a schedule for a simple, age-inclusive approach to family devotions. We're committed to continuing our search for new resources to help you build a strong habit of spending time together in God's Word at home.

This was also the focus of our August Parent Gathering. One key topic we explored was how to be creative in teaching biblical principles at home. We reflected on the following quote:

"Kids of any age learn through play, and what better way to help them understand the principles of scripture than through activity?"  
—*The Family Challenge*, p. 35

Teaching the Faith through activities might feel intimidating at first—and that's okay. But remember, it doesn't need to be elaborate. We shared a few examples, including one where a dad used sticky notes to encourage his children to write down their thoughts on a verse from Proverbs each night. By the end of the month, they had created a commentary on an entire chapter of Proverbs! Another idea was to design a simple game that teaches a virtue or biblical principle. The goal is to make Bible teaching memorable through creativity.

Looking ahead, keep an eye out for more resources to help you put your faith into practice at home and continue pointing to Jesus through your words and actions.

God bless you and your work.

*Pastor Dille*

### **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.

### **2025 Budgets**

All board budgets are due in the church office by **September 11<sup>th</sup>**.

### **Sunday School Teacher Needed!**

We are now in need of a Kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup> grade Sunday School Teacher. Please reach out to Kiley Bohnhoff.

### **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.**

### **Adult Catechism**

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

### **Life Chain 2025**

Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

Respect Life Sunday

1:30 pm – Prayer Service

Sacred Heart Parish Center

407 S Henrietta St., Effingham, IL

2-3 pm Life Chain

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

Sunday, August 31..... 313  
Adult Sunday School..... NA  
Sunday School..... NA

**Our Offering**

General Fund.....\$5,418.70  
Online Offering.....\$2,312.30  
**Total Gen. Fund Offering.....\$7,731.00**

**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.

Interested? Call Marilyn Schaefer 217-821-0508 or Kathy Stremming 217-254-9360. We will be happy to arrange for you to get involved.

**Our next Food Pantry Distribution**

September 9 from 3-4 p.m.

**Reminder**

Notify the hospital staff or the church office if you're admitted to a hospital. Your pastors need to know so they can come minister to you. Thank you.

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

"Difficult situations like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis can tempt us to forget our Savior's presence and power. Comfort comes not from making deals with death but from the gifts He wrings and the privileges He brings even in and through hardship. An everlasting, unchanging, and all-sufficient Creator and Keeper not only provides life, He protects it as well!" *Pastor Michael Salemink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

**Prayer List**

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

**Stewardship Moment**

Romans 10:15

**"And how are they to preach unless they are sent?"** Each week in the Lord's House, the Word goes out to us. Indeed, every day and all around the world the Word goes out wherever it is preached and read. This brings us great joy, but even more joy is derived from realizing that God has blessed us with being part of this sending of the Word. From the blessings God gives us, we return a portion to Him in the church for His work. And thus we are doubly blessed. We receive the Word, and we get to send it forth to others.

**"This Weeks Sunday School Lesson"**

LESSON 2

Today, we will study "The Fall and a Promise." The slithery serpent caused Eve to doubt God's Word with one simple question: "Did God actually say?" (Genesis 3:1). Seeking to gain wisdom, Eve and Adam rebel against their Creator. Suddenly aware of their condition before God, they vainly attempt to hide their sinful exposure. With sin comes punishment that is just; yet our heavenly Father does not leave humankind without hope. Instead, He promises One who will come to rescue His people from the jaws of death and Satan. As a family, discuss the importance of God's promise of the Savior.



### Witnessing Helps

Our "Witnessing Helps" posters are always in the Fellowship Hall on the East wall. But this week, the 2nd poster is displayed in the Atrium. And the rest of them will rotate there in the coming weeks. Stop and read. Receive the HELP you need in witnessing to the Gospel.

### 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!

### 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](mailto: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!

### 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.

### Effingham/Shelby Zone Rally

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>

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)

### Youth Corner Upcoming Events

#### Youth Fellowship

This Wed. September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6-7:15 p.m. all LYF (grades 6-8) are invited to devotion, food, and games. Sign up on church bulletin board or text Donetta (217) 821-3300 or Carolyn (217)821-6541

#### Cruise Night

Saturday, Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>.

We will be serving from

4:00pm until we run out of food.

Avery Bohnhoff will be performing from 5-7

We will also be serving ice cream from



ST. JOHN'S YOUTH DRIVE-IN  
**MENU**

<b>GRILL</b>	<b>APPETIZERS</b>
HOT DOGS.....\$2.00	CRUISIN TACOS...\$6.00
POLISH SAUSAGE...\$3.00	NACHOS.....\$3.00
	CHIPS.....\$1.00
<b>DESSERT</b>	<b>DRINKS</b>
ICE CREAM.....\$3.00	WATER.....\$1.00
	SODA (CAN).....\$1.00

Cruise Night: Sept 6<sup>th</sup>  
Serving 4:00 - 7:30  
(money goes to our Youth)

#### The Flock

High School bible study September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Come for drinks, snacks, and the start of a new bible study, Worth Dying For: A Bible Study on Dating & Relationships (hear about how we are redefining "flocking")

#### Golf Outing

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

# CALENDAR-----Sept. 8 - 14, 2025

Sunday	7	8:00 a.m.	Worship w/HC-Bells
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Service w/HC-Bells
		7:00 p.m.	"The Flock" H.S. LYF
Preschool – Monday – Friday 8:25 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. (Unless Otherwise Noted)			
Monday	8		Pastor Dille's Sabbath
		5:15 p.m.	Choir Practice
Tuesday	9	1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
		6:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
Wednesday	10	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		9:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		10:00 a.m.	Stephen Ministry
		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	11	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		6:30 p.m.	Family Life Center Dinner
Friday	12		Pastor Burdick Sabbath
		6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Bible Study
Saturday	13	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		8:00 a.m.	Usher Meeting
		1:00 p.m.	Golf Outing
		5:30 p.m.	Worship Service w/HC

## Birthdays This Week

9/7 Brian Koester, Hank Sipe  
 9/8 Justyce Higgs  
 9/9 Blake Higgs, Mike Pilcher  
 9/10 Alyene Bahrns, Dylan Gibbons,  
 Jon Wilhelms  
 9/11 Allen Tomkins, Eric Bernhard,  
 Sean Junge, Joyce Wenhe  
 9/12 Phillip Wendling, Ryan Wyckoff,  
 Blake Bahrns, Jenna Bohnhoff  
 9/13 Ann Newton, Coen Westjohn,  
 David Habbe, Dawn Hunsaker,  
 Debbie Sanders, Trey Dille

## Anniversaries This Week

9/7/1963 Leroy & Carolyn Campton  
 9/7/1991 David & Kathy Wall  
 9/9/2011 Troy & Ammon Probst  
 9/10/2011 Brad & Laura Jeffries  
 9/11/2010 Craig & Ashley Bailey  
 9/11/2021 Kirby & Nicole Tolch  
 9/12/2019 Adam & Chelsea Devall  
 9/12/2020 Meghann & Nathan Day

**Welcome back, Eagle's Nest Students!**

