

# THE EAGLE

*St. John's Weekly Newsletter March 8, 2026*

Our Lenten season started with "A *Mighty Fortress Is Our God.*" It was appropriate due to the fact that Jesus' temptation by the devil was the Gospel reading and the fact the same devil – a very real enemy to you and your family – is a cunning tempter in your life. One of the themes of Lent is spiritual warfare. Our lives are little battlegrounds. The ultimate war was won by

Jesus, but battles are ongoing in your life. Appropriate use of "no" and "yes" are tactics for fortification.



You know where and when you ought to say "no." So say it. Satan tempts you to doubt God's Word, to dip your toe in the puddle of vice, and to neglect the godly training of your children. By the Holy Spirit's power, say "no." And when you fail, repent. And say "no" next time.

You know where and when to say "yes." So say it. God invites you to lead your household (of one or ten people) in daily devotions. Say "yes." He calls you to have regular meals together blooming with listening and talking to one another. Say "yes" (and as a help, pick up the packets of discussion-starters pinned to the Family Resources board in the Atrium!). He prepares a table of truth and grace in worship every week. Take the invitation. Say "yes" every single week.

These simple "no" and yes" answers empowered by the Holy Spirit are fortifications for you. The battles will continue. The war has been won. I'm praying for you.

P.S. Parents: I've recently been reading about the ways that online gaming places children at grave risk. Maybe you already know and have given a loving "no" to your children. Maybe you need to change course for the sake of your children's wellbeing. Get educated and protect your sons and daughters. When you want to talk about it, Pastor Dille and I are here to walk with you. You have tremendous authority and influence in your children's lives!

## **Office Assistant!**

We're still praying for the next Office Assistant in the church office. Are you? We hope so! The job description and application are posted on our website under "Employment." Help us fulfill the mission God has given to St. John's. [www.stjohnLCMS.net](http://www.stjohnLCMS.net) **"Make me to know Your ways, O Lord; teach me Your paths."**  
*Psalm 25:4*

## **9:00am Wednesday Study**

Any of you ever need to eat a 'snack' between lunch & supper? Just having that little something to help tide you over from one meal to the next can make SUCH a difference in how your afternoon goes!! In a similar way, going to our pastors' Wednesday Bible classes at 9:00am is my 'snack'. I enjoy my daily devotions, but these midweek classes give me that little something to help tide me over in-between St. John's weekend services. It's an opportunity to be with other believers who also want to learn more about the God who loves us with His WHOLE heart. We listen to the next weekend's readings, ask questions, hear others' thoughts, and our faith is *always* fed. Please join us-it'll definitely make a difference in how the rest of *your* week goes!! -DK

## **Easter Lilies**

Time to order your Easter Lilies. This year they are 6in. for \$19. Please contact the church office to place your order by **March 9**

## **LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICES**

12:15pm & 6:30pm Wednesdays

March 11 – March 25

**"Exodus"**

## **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Do you have Thrivent Choice Dollars?  
Don't forget to direct them by March 31<sup>st</sup>

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

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Sunday March 1st.....    | 385 |
| Sunday School.....       | 32  |
| Adult Sunday School..... | 39  |

**Our Offering**

|                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| March 1 .....                        | \$12,542.01        |
| Lenten Offering .....                | \$1,136.00         |
| Online Offering.....                 | \$3,862.00         |
| <b>Total Gen. Fund Offering.....</b> | <b>\$17,540.01</b> |

**Prayer List**

Betty Carter, Bob Flach, Carol Hulskotter, Marilyn Schaefer, Scott Comrie, Geraldine Graves, Mary Dasenbrock, Terry Long, & Steve Rubin. Eagle's Nest Preschoolers Knox (parents Heidi & Phillip) & Lincoln (parents Jessica & Luke)

**"This Week's Sunday School Lesson"**

Lesson 10

The Sermon on the Mount is the topic for this week's lesson, "Mountain Message." Jesus reminds His listeners not to worry about things they cannot control. The birds of the air and the flowers of the field serve as examples of God's continuing care for His creation. Likewise, we have no need for worry or anxiousness, because God provides and cares for us.

**Preschool Registration for 2026/2027**

Preschool Registration for members of St. John's is now open. Visit the website for a registration form, or pick up a registration form on the bulletin board or stop by the office. If you have any questions, please contact Carrie in the church office.

**Stewardship Moment**

Exodus 17:3 – "But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?'" Even the Israelites, who saw miracles with their own eyes, fell into unbelief and fear. From this distance we can see how foolish their worry is. How foolish will our worries appear from the distance of eternity? The Lord cared for them, and He will care for us.

**Youth Corner Upcoming Events**

**Easter Breakfast**

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

**VBS**

June 8 – 11 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

"The call to be disciples of Jesus who live out our faith each day and, in so doing, work to make disciples of others, has never been greater ... We need to boldly proclaim what God has done for us in Christ. Not in a spirit of superiority or power, but in a posture of love and grace." *Bishop Dan Selbo, North American Lutheran Church – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life*  
• [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**Looking for a New Mission?**

The visiting team is seeking new compassionate volunteers to go see some church members who have a challenge getting out of their home. If you have a good listening ear, and love visiting with others. Please prayerfully consider joining the visiting team. To volunteer or ask questions, call Kathy Shingler at 630-805-3838.

**Prayer Shawls**

We have prayer shawls. Please help us give them out to friends and family. Contact the office or Donna Wetherell 217-343-6901

**Portals of Prayer and Lutheran Witness**

We will **NOT** be ordering your subscriptions through the church this year or in the future. If you wish to subscribe you will need to do it personally by calling Concordia Publishing House.

**1-800-325-3040**

Please disregard the offering envelopes.

**Save and Strengthen your family through**

1. Family meals daily, with discussion
2. Worship together at Church every week
3. Family prayer at home  
*It's not rocket science.*

### **Food Pantry**

Our next distribution will be  
Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>  
The Pantry no longer needs plastic bags.

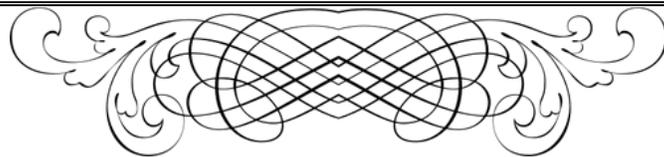
### **March for Life**

Again, this year, I will attend the The Illinois ProLife March held Thursday, March 19, 2026 in Springfield. Other families from St. John's have attended in the past, and have loved the experience! Join us. - Pastor Burdick

The Effingham County Right to Life group has secured two buses for transport and has invited us to ride these buses free of charge. Busses will pick up at 6:55 am at Effingham Event Center and at 7:20am at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Altamont and return around 5:00 pm. Matins begins at 11:00am at Trinity Lutheran Church, Springfield. A simple lunch will be offered at the Statehouse Inn for a freewill donation. The rally begins at 1:00 pm in front of the Capitol with the March to follow. Altamont Area Lutherans for Life encourages participation. If you'd like to attend, please contact Rose Kopplin (217-821-2109) or Anita Ziegler (217-821-9101). Thank you. -Anita Ziegler

### **Birthdays This Week**

- 3/08 Charlie Jansen, Debbie Buenker, Jerry Pruemmer
- 3/09 Brody Kuhns
- 3/10 Dr. James Gartner, Kaiden Kohnert, Katherine Jansen
- 3/11 Jim Schroeder, Kelcie Beccue, Patricia Logan, Taunya Ohnesorge
- 3/12 Steve Wendling
- 3/13 Sean Sandifer, Tate Marxmann
- 3/14 Aleece Lotz, Holly Burger, Kyle Kohnert, Mike Kremer, Tyler Marxman, Wesley Scott



### **Anniversary Open House**

You're warmly invited to an Open House in honor of Rev. Steven and Esther Becker as they celebrate 40 years of God's provision and blessings in their marriage.

March 22nd  
2:00-4:00 PM

Faith Lutheran Church in Shumway.  
Desserts and drinks will be provided.

Please come and go as you are able as we give thanks and celebrate this special milestone together!

The link to RSVP:

<https://forms.gle/asKyZAMZxppWPXq69>



## **LCMS YOUNG ADULTS BIBLE STUDY**

FRIDAY MAR 20

ST PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH ST PETER, IL

6:30

Gather with other young adults to learn the  
difference between Christian  
denominations

### **St. John's Lydia Guild Easter Bake & Craft Sale**

Maundy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Before/After the noon & evening services  
\*\*until items are gone\*\*

All money raised will go to:  
Lutheran Care Center

|                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>CALENDAR</b> ----- | <b>March 8 – 14, 2026</b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|

|   |    |                        |                                   |
|---|----|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday  | 8  | 8:00 a.m.              | Worship w/HC Bells                |
|   |    | 9:15 a.m.              | Sunday School                     |
|   |    | 10:30 a.m.             | Worship w/HC Bells                |
| Preschool – Monday – Friday 8:25 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. (Unless Otherwise Noted) |    |                        |                                   |
| Monday  | 9  |                        | Pastor Dille's Sabbath            |
|   |    | 5:00 p.m.              | Board of Stewardship              |
|   |    | 5:15 p.m.              | Choir                             |
|   |    | 6:00 p.m.              | Lifetime Plan for Giving          |
| Tuesday   | 10 | 7:15 a.m.              | High School Breakfast             |
|   |    | 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  | Preschool Donuts with Dad         |
|   |    | 1:00 p.m.              | Prayer Shawl Ministry             |
|   |    | 2:00 - 2:45 p.m.       | Food Pantry Prayer Service        |
|   |    | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.       | Food Pantry                       |
|   |    | 5:00 p.m.              | Board of Social Ministry          |
| Wednesday   | 11 | 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.  | Preschool Donuts with Dad         |
|   |    | 8:45 a.m.              | Preschool Chapel                  |
|   |    | 9:00 a.m.              | Bible Study                       |
|   |    | 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Quilting                          |
|   |    | 12:15 p.m.             | Lenten Service                    |
|   |    | 1:00 p.m.              | Staff Devotions and Staff Meeting |
|   |    | 5:00 p.m.              | Confirmation                      |
|   |    | 5:15 p.m.              | Bells                             |
|   |    | 6:30 p.m.              | Lenten Service                    |
| Thursday  | 12 | 8:45 a.m.              | Preschool Chapel                  |
|   |    | 5:30 p.m.              | Board of Elders                   |
| Friday  | 13 |                        | Pastor Burdick Sabbath            |
|   |    |                        | Office Closes at Noon             |
| Saturday  | 14 | 8:00 a.m.              | Band Practice                     |
|   |    | 9:30 - 11:00 a.m.      | E.A.S.T.E.R.                      |
|   |    | 5:30 p.m.              | Worship w/HC Choir                |

**Anniversaries This Week**

03/01/2020 Jordan & Paige Boldig