

# THE EAGLE

*St. John's Weekly Newsletter April 12, 2026*

How can you top what happened here in God's house last week? We celebrated the resurrection of Jesus. During Holy Week, we remembered and celebrated the most important week in human history. So what is there to talk and think about this week? Well, for one... we could talk about Thomas. In this week's Gospel lesson, we hear Thomas and his awesome proclamation, "My Lord and my God."

We could also talk about the persecution of the early church in Acts 5 from the first reading this weekend. Or Peter's proclamation of the blessings we've received through our being baptized into Christ's resurrection. Peter says that through our baptism we receive "an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you" (1 Peter 1:4). But that's not going to be our main focus either.

Our main focus will be on these words from Jesus: "Peace be with you." Peace in a world filled with so many things that are not peaceful. Peace in a world filled with busy schedules and too much stuff to store. Peace in a world filled with violence and selfish ambitions. Peace in a world that needs it. In the Gospel lesson—John 20:21, to be exact—Jesus greets His disciples with the words, "Peace be with you," exactly what they needed in that moment. And that's exactly what they got... peace.

My prayer is that you and your family find peace today. That you find peace in knowing that the victory was won by Jesus on the cross and that you have been brought into an eternity of peace that began at your baptism. In times when peace seems impossible, Jesus gives it. His grace, mercy, and peace are sufficient for you.

Peace be with you,

*Pastor Dille*

**We're hiring in our church office!**

See [www.stjohnsLCMS.net](http://www.stjohnsLCMS.net) for the job description and application.

## **CID Conference worship welcome.**

When we host the CID Church Workers' Conference April 20-22, the members of St. John's are most welcome to join the church workers for the worship Services listed below. You'll be blessed by the readings, preaching, singing, and Lord's Supper. Help is needed with ushering, if you're so inclined.

- Monday: 12:30pm Opening Communion Service & 4:30pm Evening Prayer
- Tuesday: 9:00am Communion Service & 5:00pm Evening Prayer
- Wednesday: 9:00am Communion Service



In The Atrium you'll find **Family Devotion Helps.**

These are designed to help your family of one or more people to pray, praise, give thanks, and talk at your meals! Take a set. Use it everyday in the

way that suits you best. Your household worship practices are the building blocks of family strength. Be in church every week. Pray at your table. Everyone will be better for it. **"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."** (Joshua 24:15)



## **Catechism Bible Study**

To join our congregation by adult Confirmation, or to review the faith, come to our Catechism Bible Study. Five two-hour sessions, plus Catechism reading at home, will deepen your knowledge and your faith! **Tuesdays, May 5, 12, 19, 26 & June 2! 6:30-8:30pm.** Prior to the first session you'll receive Luther's Small Catechism and an assignment to read through the section on the Ten Commandments. Each class begins with a video snippet to launch our class instruction and discussion. No one is compelled to read or answer aloud. All are welcome. Sign up on the hall bulletin board and Pastor Burdick will prepare a Catechism for you. Questions? Pastor Burdick is glad to field them! Come, study with us.

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

Maundy Thursday .....	226
Good Friday .....	255
Easter Sunday April 5 .....	650

**Our Offering**

Maundy Thursday .....	\$1,242.00
Good Friday .....	\$2,313.00
Easter Sunday April 5 .....	\$46,094.98
Online Offering.....	<u>\$5,461.00</u>
<b>Total Gen. Fund Offering.....</b>	<b>\$55,110.98</b>

**Immanuel Cemetery on Dutch Lane**

We now have a tall granite cross declaring "Christ is Risen!" We welcome more donations toward its purchase! If you would like to give a memorial or special donation for it, please make the check payable to St. John's with a clear memo saying "Cemetery Cross" and give it to the church office. Like at our St. John's Cemetery, it will be a last declaration of Easter hope!

**Pastor's Conference**  
**Help is Needed**

The conference will be held here on Mon., April 20, Tues., April 21, & Wed., April 22.

1. Volunteers are needed to make cookies for Mon. & Tues. and desserts for Mon. evening. pastries for Tues. & Wed.
2. Volunteers to help set up snacks on Mon. afternoon, Tues. a.m. & p.m. & Wed. a.m.
3. Volunteers to help serve Dinner Monday evening & Tuesday lunch.

*Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board.*

If you have any questions, contact  
Ruth Bray (217-821-8024).

**Prayer List**

Eileen Wall, James Seggelke, Roger Fritch, Mary Dasenbrock, Terry Long, & Steve Rubin, and Corbin Matney.

**Bring a Friend Sunday**

April 26th is Bring a Friend Sunday for Sunday school. Bring them to church and Sunday school.

**Stewardship Moment**

1 Peter 1:3-4 – "He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you." We have an inheritance waiting for us, a treasure gathered where moth and rust do not destroy. That should change our perspective on the treasures of this earth. They are fleeting. They come and go. But we can use the treasures of this earth for the work of the kingdom that will not fade away.

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

"The cross that held Jesus' body exposed all the sin, violence, and injustice of this world for what it is. At once, the cross revealed what kind of world we have and what kind of God we have: a world of gross unfairness but also a God of sacrificial love." Rev. Gregory Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

**Welcome Eagles Nest Preschool**  
**and their families**



**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!

**LWML Joy Shop**

Effingham/Shelby Zone  
Thursday, April 16 at 6:00pm  
St. Paul's – Sigel  
Ingathering for Lutheran Care Center  
And LCC Kids  
See bulletin board for details

**No 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes**  
on April 15. The final class will be April 22.

## Youth Corner Upcoming Events

### Larry Brandt Scholarship

Applications for the Larry Brandt Scholarship can be found online or copies are on the bulletin board. Due date is **April 13**.

### Vacation Bible School

**June 8 – 11 from 6:00pm – 8:00pm**

**We could use your help!** A few people can work many days or a lot of people can work few days, so please consider helping. Meeting days & times vary so contact Carolyn Wendte (217) 821-6541 or Donetta Ohnesorge (217) 821-3300 and you will be included on a group meeting text.

**Wish List** – Cardboard, Large cylinder cardboard tubes, and yellow balloons.

**Thrivent Cards are always greatly appreciated.**

## Gentlemen

Are you interested in a replay of the book **Man Up!** we read two years ago? *How* we would do it isn't known yet, but we have heard that some guys are interested. Add your name to the **Man Up! Replay List** on the bulletin board. And if this would be the *first* time to read this excellent book for Christian men, you're welcome!

## Upcoming Meetings

Council Meeting Tues., April 14 at 7:00pm

*(due to CID Conference here on April 21)*

Voter's Assembly

Tues., April 28 at 7:00pm

## The Rite of Confirmation

Will be held at 10:30am Service on May 3, these young Christians will stand and publicly confess the Christian faith as their own: Cloie Bailey, Mackenzie Stuemke, Madison Stuemke, Graham Wendling, Alexa Westjohn, Joel Wolfe, and Maddux Wyckoff. Pray for them. Pray for their parents, who are the most influential teachers in their lives. Pray that they will treasure what they have learned from the Catechism, and will keep their vow of fidelity to God. You will see their Confirmation banners and verses in the atrium on April 19. "Remember Your Baptism" will be Wed., April 29 at 6:00pm for the seven Confirmands and their parents.

## Food Pantry Needs for April

Elbow Macaroni, Crackers (NOT Saltines), Cold Cereal, and Boxed Instant Mashed Potatoes.

Administrative Assistants may not make the world go 'round, but they are the key to a great church office. This week we thank Sarah Mellendorf, Ruth Bray, & Carolyn Wendte for their skilled and caring service in our church office. Thank you, dear sisters in Christ!

## "This Week's Sunday School Lesson"

Lesson 14

"Ephphatha . . . be opened" (Mark 7:34), Jesus says to a deaf man as He places His fingers in the man's ears and touches his tongue in this week's lesson, "A Hearing Aide." The man's ears open and his tongue releases, but Jesus warns the crowd not to tell anyone. The good news cannot be contained, however, and those who witness the miracle share the story. Discuss, "How can we share the Good News with our friends and family?"

## LWML CID Convention

The 81<sup>st</sup> annual LWML CID Convention will be held on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 8:45am at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1 Bachrach Court, Decatur. Registration and morning refreshments will start at 7:45am.

## Lutherans for Life April Meeting

The Altamont Area Lutherans for Life Chapter will hold a meeting on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church fellowship hall.

## Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Altamont. Gather with other young adults to learn about the book of Job and the reality of suffering.

## Anniversaries This Week

4/12/2003	Dan & Ashley Jansen
4/12/1958	Bob & Bernetta Marxman
4/13/1996	Todd & Sonja Martin
4/16/1994	David & Angie Moeller
4/16/1977	Jim & Maleah Whitehair

**CALENDAR-----April 12 - 18, 2026**

Sunday	12	8:00 a.m.	Worship w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship w/HC Preschool Sing
		5:00 p.m.	YABS at Joe's Pizza, Altamont
		6:00 p.m.	Holy Trinity Lutheran HS Committee Mtg
Preschool – Monday – Friday 8:25 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. (Unless Otherwise Noted)			
Monday	13		Pastor Dille Sabbath
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
		5:15 p.m.	Choir
Tuesday	14		Pastor Dille Vacation
		1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
		2:30 p.m.	Food Pantry Prayer Service
		3:00-4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
		7:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	15		Pastor Dille Vacation
		8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		1:00 p.m.	Staff Devotions/Meeting
		5:00 p.m.	No Confirmation
		5:00 p.m.	Bells
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Thursday	16		Pastor Dille Vacation
		8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Youth
		6:30 p.m.	YABS Immanuel Altamont
Friday	17		Pastor Dille Vacation
			Pastor Burdick Sabbath
Saturday	18	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Hall Rental
		5:30 p.m.	Worship w/HC
		6:30 p.m.	Large Print Center Tour

**Birthdays This Week**

4/12 Liz Brown, Nancy Lykins

4/13 Beth Bahrns, Cathy Norris, Dylan Weber,  
Gwen Mhlbachler, Hunter Keith

4/14 Anna Mae Gibson, Betty Albin, Chris Debolt,  
Deanna Wetherell, Kevin Wenthe,  
Megan Smith

4/15 Allyson Kremer, Bonnie Siebert, Jennifer  
Wilson, Nick Jones, Roscoe Davies

4/16 Amanda Genaust, Jenna Norris,  
Vincent Wendt

4/17 Andrew Lotz, Avery Bohnhoff, Evan Lotz,  
Ray Hartman, Zachary Scott

4/18 Eva Wendling, Molly Lipe