

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter April 19, 2026

In a church family like ours, it's not easy to know all the candidates for the Rite of Confirmation super well. But it's possible.

Today you're starting to see the seven Confirmation banners hanging in the Atrium, made by the students and their parents. Will you do them a favor? Try to find one or more of the kids and ask them, "which one is yours?" Then, tell them a little about your day of Confirmation, and why you're glad you have stayed active in the church. These youth need you, and they need to know that you're on their side when it comes to being faithful to their vows and active in the church family for years to come. **Because they ultimately need Christ**, they need you. And that includes getting to know them. Thanks for trying! In Christ, our risen Lord,



Voters Assembly

Tues., April 28 at 7:00pm

We're hiring in our church office!

See www.stjohnsLCMS.net for the job description and application.

CID Conference Worship Welcome.

When we host the CID Church Workers' Conference this week, 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

Bring a Friend Sunday

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

+ OUR MISSION + ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Proclaim the Christ.

- Within the Church, we proclaim the Christ in our worship Services and educational offerings. Founded upon the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism, we give our members Christ's Word of Law and Gospel, so they have comfort in Him.
- As the Church, we reach out to unbelievers with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We share God's Word, because it alone has the power to bring someone to faith.

Grow the Family.

- As we have the opportunity, we get married and raise up children in the Christian faith. We teach the next generation the truth and grace of God.
- We believe that fellow members of St. John's Lutheran Church comprise the household of faith, our church family. We care for one another and we invite people to join the church family.

Love the Neighbor.

- We begin with our closest neighbors: our families. In concentric circles outward, we put Christian love into word and deed.
- As we have opportunity, we provide some of the necessities of life to those in our community and world -- food, shelter, help, and friendship -- with the love of Jesus.

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!

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday April 12.....	577
Sunday School.....	49
Adult Sunday School.....	NA

Our Offering

Sunday April 12.....	\$12,053.28
Special Services	\$90.00
Online Offering.....	\$3,649.75
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$15,793.03

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.

Prayer List

Lacy Bushue, Travis Vonderheide, Eileen Wall, Roger Fritch, Mary Dasenbrock, Terry Long, & Steve Rubin, and Corban Matney.

Stewardship Moment

1 Peter 1:18-19 – "You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot." Christ ransomed us and bought us back from the slavery into which we were born. We do not belong to ourselves, to the devil or to the world. We belong to Jesus. Therefore, we live our lives not in accordance with our own wisdom, but in line with God's Word.

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!

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

"Sin has made an impact on human conception: Babies are conceived that the parents do not want, and parents who desperately want children do not conceive. Yet, I do not believe for one moment that there is ever an unplanned pregnancy. God personally knows every child even before conception. He has a plan to create, redeem, and call that child into a relationship with Him." *Barbara Lane Geistfeld, DVM – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

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!

Family Life Center

BABY BOTTLE
Fundraiser

MAY 10 - JUNE 21

Pick up your baby bottle, fill it with your loose change, dollars or checks and return to the church on Father's Day or give online below:



<https://rebrand.ly/bbeff>

Youth Corner Upcoming Events

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.

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.

Food Pantry Needs for April

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

“This Week’s Sunday School Lesson”

Lesson 1

In this week’s lesson, “A Mercy-Full Message,” Jesus tells the famous parable of the Good Samaritan, who risks his own life to help a Jewish man whose peril was ignored by his own countrymen. In telling the parable, Jesus answers the question “Who is my neighbor?” for His followers as He challenges us to “go, and do likewise” (Luke 10:37). As a family, you could discuss ideas to help those in need in your community.

LWML CID Convention

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

Golden Eagles

Will be serving Lunch on Thursday, April 30, at noon. The menu will be Lasagna, Chicken Alfredo, Salad, Garlic Bread and Dessert. Everyone is welcome to attend. We ask that you please sign the name of each person who will be attending on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the atrium. If you are planning to attend you **MUST** be signed up. **We are collecting items for the Samartan’s Purse Shoe Boxes that will be assembled later this year. Tooth brushes are being collected this month. Please bring one to Golden Eagles.**

To Find Joy in Life's Trials

You put me on the stretch, O God.
You do me the honor of putting me to the test
as You once tested our father Abraham.
You bid me do the impossible:
not only to endure the tempering heat of trial
but to rejoice in it--impossible!
But Your Son did not find it impossible
when You tried Him with failure.
He rejoiced in the Holy Spirit
and gave thanks to You
when You took from Him
the wise and understanding
and revealed Him only to babes,
to the inconsequential little ones
in whom Your love delights.
Your servant Paul found it possible.
Your servant James found it possible.
And You are my Father, just as You are theirs.
I thank You for all proofs of Fatherhood.
I thank You for the trials I meet.
Give me the heart
to meet them unafraid,
to joy in them as I rejoice in You.

- *Martin Franzman. Pray for Joy (1970)*



Camp CILCA provides a fantastic program for youth and families. Visit www.CILCA.org and choose a camp experience for this summer. All members of St.

John’s should submit their paid receipt for a Camp CILCA youth camp to the church office and they will be reimbursed for the cost of their camp! A generous donor has provided these scholarships. “Let’s Go” to Camp!

CALENDAR-----April 19 - 25, 2026

Sunday	19	8:00 a.m.	Worship w/HC
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School and Large Print Center Tour
		10:30 a.m.	Worship w/HC
		7:00 p.m.	The Flock
Preschool – Monday – Friday 8:25 a.m. – 11:25 a.m. (Unless Otherwise Noted)			
Monday	20		Pastor Dille Sabbath
		11:30 a.m.-6:30p.m.	CID Church Worker Conference
		12:30 p.m.	CID Conference Communion Service
		4:30 p.m.	CID Conference Evening Prayer Service
Tuesday	21	7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	CID Church Worker Conference
		9:00 a.m.	CID Conference Communion Service
		5:00 p.m.	CID Conference Evening Prayer Service
Wednesday	22	7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	CID Church Worker Conference
		9:00 a.m.	CID Conference Communion Service
		5:00 p.m.	Confirmation
		5:00 p.m.	Bells
		5:30 p.m.	VBS Decorate
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Thursday	23	8:45 a.m.	Preschool Chapel
Friday	24		Pastor Burdick Sabbath
		9:00 a.m.	Holy Trinity Lutheran HS Steering Comm
Saturday	25	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		9:30 a.m.– 11:00 a.m.	E.A.S.T.E.R. Class
		5:30 p.m.	Worship w/HC

Birthdays This Week

- 4/20 Breanne Worman, Max Courson, Stacy Nelson
- 4/21 CJ Koester, Don Tieffel, Dutch Klitzing, Shayna Scott
- 4/22 David Wendte, Dennis Lading, Eric Hanks, Erin Wendling, Sandra White
- 4/23 Ian Keith, Norma Lansing
- 4/24 Emma Budde, Erin McDevitt
- 4/25 Adia Jennings, Claire Givson, Corbyn Boone

Anniversaries This Week

- 4/25/1981 Neal & Sarah Mellendorf

VBS Decorating Night

Will be on Wednesday's at 5:30pm
In the multipurpose room

St. John's VBS 2026

