

THE EAGLE

St. John's Weekly Newsletter May 10, 2026

A friend of mine wrote: Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. "For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you" (John 13:15). We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God, that job is already done! But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow His example of generous giving. And Jesus' generosity is not merely an example. Our Lord also commands us to act according to our gifts: "The one who contributes, [let him give] in generosity" (Rom. 12:8).

My friend was encouraging you and me to follow God's example of generosity. Good moms do that daily. Dads, too, of course, but mothers especially pour themselves out for their children. It's tiring, beautiful, and right. For the family.

When we follow Jesus' example of generosity in the Church, it's for the sake of the whole Church family ... and so that unbelievers will hear the Gospel for their salvation.

How will you follow Jesus' generosity this week? Are you looking for an opportunity to serve others through our church family? Here are a few possibilities. Teach Sunday School. Join the "calls & cards" or "visitation" teams. Help the Food Pantry. Bring your regular, sacrificial, and thankful offering to the Lord. For the sake of your neighbor!



Thank you for working with our common-sense security system here at church. We know it's a bit of a hassle to ring the video doorbell when you come throughout the week, but it's necessary. We're striving to be both welcoming and wise. Thanks for understanding!



Mother's Day Singing

On May 10th, Mother's Day, Sunday School Students will be singing our Old Testament & New Testament songs in both services. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:45 to warm up and enter together. Then we will sing at the beginning of the 10:30 service. Thanks for encouraging your children in this service to our church.

Seminary Student Visting

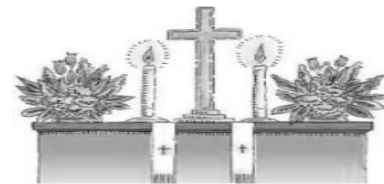
One of the students we support at Concordia Seminary is Ron Zucarro, who will soon be going to Michigan on his vicarage. See his letters posted on the main hallway bulletin board. Even better, come to Services next weekend, when Ron will be our guest preacher!

Celebrating God's Work

Pastor Fortkamp will celebrate the 60th Anniversary of his ordination this summer! On July 26 we will mark that great milestone with a special dinner for the congregation following the 10:30am Service, and after that an Open House for area congregations and friends.

Wanted

Vintage tools and household gadgets for a "Name that Tool" game at our next Golden Eagles Luncheon May 28. We will also be collecting combs and hair brushes for Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Mission. 43 tooth brushes were collected in April. Thanks so much.



Flowers on the Altar may be placed in remembrance of or in thanksgiving. There is a calendar at the top of the stairs in the atrium. Altar flowers are \$60.

Flowers are still needed for these dates:

May 31

June 7

June 28

July 5

If questions, contact the church office
217-342-4334.

Response to the Gospel
Our Attendance Last Week

Sunday May 3	503
Sunday School.....	26
Adult Sunday School.....	N/A

Our Offering

Sunday May 3	\$5,983.00
Online Offering.....	\$5,352.00
Total Gen. Fund Offering.....	\$11,335.00



A good gift plan within an estate includes inheritance for family and gifts to ministry. Some might consider this a difficult task. How does an LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor help? Working on your estate can be complicated as you balance legal, tax and financial issues, along with your desires to care for family and support ministry. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor has tools to organize all these things. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org

Prayer List

John Jackson, Dick Hulskotter, Terry Long, Terry Simmons, Travis Vonderheide, Roger Fritch, Steve Rubin, Steve Martin, and Gerry Thoman.

Stewardship Moment

Sixth Sunday of Easter

John 14:15 – “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” Jesus is clear: our obedience to His Word comes from our love for Him. But where does that love come from? Jesus tells us that as well: *“Her sins, which are many, are forgiven — for she loved much” (Luke 7:47).* Christ shows us His love and gives us the forgiveness of our sins, which causes love to well up in us and thereby keep the commandments of Jesus. For after all, the summary of the Law is “love.”

Food Pantry

We will meet at Tuesday, May 12th at 2:30 p.m. for prayer
The food will then be distributed from 3:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.

LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life

“If you’re a single parent, don’t count yourself out ... If you’re widowed or divorced, don’t count yourself out. If you’ve never married, don’t count yourself out. We sinners are all in this together. We want to see the relevance of faith for our daily lives. We hear the religious talk and we humbly ask, ‘How does this apply to me?’ The answer is that the glory of Christ’s resurrection is for us all. It continues in the message of forgiveness and hope we experience each time we gather together.”

Rev. Dr. Dale Meyer, Speaker Emeritus of “The Lutheran Hour” – 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>

We extend our Christian condolences to:

- Curtis Baginski and his family, following the death of his father, John.
- Cinda Hulskotter and family, following the death of her dad, Stan Dorney.



“This Week’s Sunday School Lesson”

Lesson 4

In this week’s lesson, “A Tree View,” students learn about Zacchaeus, a wealthy tax collector, who anxiously awaits the arrival of Jesus. Short of stature, Zacchaeus climbs a tree to see the Savior. Despite criticism, Jesus invites Himself to the tax collector’s home. Motivated by Christ’s compassion, Zacchaeus confesses his sin and promises to make restitution. Families could discuss, “How does Jesus motivate you to make a difference in your world?”

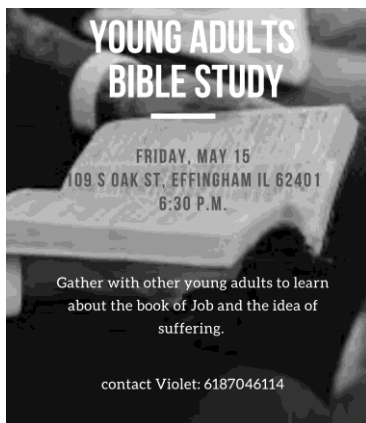


If you have a palm displayed in your home, the time to return it for next year’s ashes is coming. May 16/17 are the first Services after Ascension, and there will be a container in the Atrium to receive your palms.

Prayer Shawl

We will meet Tuesday, May 12th at 1:00 p.m.

We praise God with John & Marla Jackson as they mark their 60th wedding anniversary on May 12! Praise God from Whom all blessings—including marriage—flows!



Youth Corner Upcoming Events

Jr. High LYF-May 13

Jr. High LYF will wrap up the school year on **Wednesday, May 13th** with an ice cream outing to **Homewood Grill**. Youth will also receive details about our **summer schedule** that evening.

Vacation Bible School

June 8 – 11 from 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Enrollment is open and forms are available in the worship folders or the church office. Return forms no later than Sunday, May 18, 2026 if you want a VBS shirt.

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.

Save The Dates

Garage Sale

July 30, 31, and August 1

Larry Brandt Golf Outing

Sept. 19th

1 p.m. Tee Off

After VBS, our **Church Picnic** will be held Sunday, **June 14**. There will be a Single Sunday Service at 10:00am, followed by the picnic. Put it on your calendar!

CALENDAR-----May 10- May 16 2026

Sunday	10	8:00 a.m.	Worship w/HC-The Choir will be singing SS Children will be singing at the end of the service
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School & Adult Class
		10:30 a.m.	Worship w/HC-The Choir will be singing SS Children will be singing at the beginning of the service
Monday	11		Pastor Dille Sabbath
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
Tuesday	12	10:00 a.m.	Tri Circuit Pastor Conference Here
		1:00 p.m.	Prayer Shawl
		2:30 p.m.	Food Pantry Prayer Service
		3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Food Pantry Distribution
		5:00 p.m.	Board of Social Ministry
		6:30 p.m.	Adult Catechism
Wednesday	13	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotion and Meeting
		5:30 p.m.	VBS Decorate Work Night
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Elders
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Thursday	14		
Friday	15		Pastor Burdick Sabbath
		6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Bible Study
Saturday	16	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		5:30 p.m.	Worship w/HC Guest Preacher – Ron Zuccaro

Anniversaries This Week

5-10-2001 Don & Christa Tieffel
 5-10-1975 Mike & Sandra Mietzner
 5-11-2019 Brandon & Candra Kronewitter
 5-12-1966 John & Marla Jackson
 5-13-1995 Steve & Jill Wendling
 5-14-2011 Ervin & Brooke Mueller
 5-15-2010 Clayton & Katie Hinton
 5-15-1999 Mike & Amanda Brummer
 5-15-2020 Richard & Nikki Vahling

Birthdays This Week

5-10 Pamela Williams, Jack Jansen
 5-11 Greg Seggelke
 5-12 Avery Westjohn, Matt Gordon,
 Nancy M Ohnesorge
 5-14 Chase Smith
 5-15 Adam Devall, Alayna Goldstein,
 Chandler Devall
 5-16 Braidee Bushue, David Storm,
 Douglas Storm, Kelsey Baker