

# THE EAGLE

## St. John's Weekly Newsletter May 31, 2026

This past weekend, Katie, Kaleb, and I went on a road trip with my family. We visited the small town in northwest Ohio where my parents grew up and attended my cousin Charlie's high school graduation. On the drive, we listened to what felt like every children's song—everything from Jesus Loves Me to Kaleb's favorite, Choo Choo.

Somewhere between all those songs, I was reminded that we often make life more complicated than it needs to be. One simple song has been stuck in my mind the last couple of days—a song many of us know well, the one that reminds us that God holds the whole world in His hands. Let that sink in for a moment. God truly does hold the whole world—and each of us—in His hands.

The verses walk through the people we love: siblings, parents, tiny babies, and more. Each line repeats the same comforting truth: God holds them. God holds us. God holds everything.

All we have to do is cling to His promises and receive His good gifts. Brothers and sisters, this has been a reminder for me and for you, to look to Jesus, to remember that God's got it—that He will never leave you or forsake you.

*Pastor Dille*

### Sunday School

We are looking for volunteers to help with summer Sunday school. If you could teach even one Sunday, please let Kiley Bohnhoff know. It's nice to give our wonderful teachers a break.

The Dedication of the Cross at our Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery on Dutch Lane will be held at Noon on Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Vacation Bible School June 8 – 11 from 6:00pm – 8:00pm

St. John's VBS 2026



Many Hands Make LIGHT Work

### VBS Needs Volunteers:

Set up: Sunday, June 7 at 11:30.

If you can help later, call one of us to see if we are still working.

Take down: Mon., June 15<sup>th</sup> at 9am

### All VBS Volunteers

Please find your name and assigned duty on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall

Those helping with VBS need to meet at the church in the sanctuary Monday June 8th at 5:15 for a short meeting and prayer. We will be wearing our gray St. John's T-shirts. If you do not have one contact Carolyn or Donetta and we will have one for you.

### After Vacation Bible School

We will be working on reorganizing some of the storage areas around the church. Numerous Boards and groups will evaluate what items must be kept and which can go on the Rummage Sale in late July.

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

Sunday May 24 ..... 348  
 Sunday School..... NA  
 Adult Sunday School..... 38

**Our Offering**

Sunday May 24 ..... \$8,955  
 Online Offering..... \$3,469  
**Total Gen. Fund Offering..... \$12,424**



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? Many people can get involved in this gift planning and estate process. It can include attorneys, tax preparers, financial planners, as well as ministry leaders and family members. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor will assist with your communication with all these people so that you construct a plan that will last. Contact Scott Radden @ 618-977-4049 or scott.radden@lfnd.org.

**Church Picnic**

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. We will have a potluck lunch with meat, drinks, and table service provided. There will be bounce houses, snow cones, and popcorn for kids and adults to enjoy. Put it on your calendar! There is a sign-up sheet on the main bulletin board.

**District Scholarships for Church Workers**

The Central Illinois District offers a scholarship program to support students of CID congregations pursuing a degree to become full-time church workers at one of our synodical institutions. Your gifts to the Scholarship Fund will bless future church workers! Find envelopes on the Welcome Center and the bulletin board.

**Stewardship Moment**

“When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place.” Pentecost is the Old Testament harvest festival, taking place around the time when the wheat and oats are ready to be brought in. Of course, this was an image and foreshadowing of the great harvest of humankind that God means to carry out through the preaching of His Word. God gives the seed, and God brings about the harvest. From first to last, in things temporal and things eternal, we stand only by His grace.

**LIFE QUOTE From Lutherans for Life**

“If we want to save more Trinitarian-valued lives, then we need to knock a Humpty Dumpty way of thinking about words off the wall. We need to speak of the reality behind the word ‘abortion’ and use such a time as this to speak of the reality behind the Word made flesh to dwell among us and in us and for us. You have been called for such a time as this.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – 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. Ministry safe has been sent to all VBS workers. If you have not received an e-mail, please contact Carolyn Wendte at 217-821-6541 ASAP. Thank you for your service, and for being well-trained!



**Volunteer Luncheon**

Tuesday, July 14 at noon  
 For all Volunteers of the Large Print Center  
 Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell, President of Lutheran Braille Workers will be our special guest  
 Sign up in the work room before July 6  
 If you’re not able to sign up in person, please call Marilyn (217-821-0508) or Kathy (217-254-9360) to be included  
 The catered meal will be hosted by St. John’s.

## Youth Corner Upcoming Events

### The Flock

High schoolers are invited to join us for The Flock this summer! We will be meeting on the following dates:

June 7 and **21**

July 5 & **19**

August 1 & **15**

Each gathering will include time in God's Word, meaningful fellowship, and encouragement with one another. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to be part of The Flock this summer! We are looking for volunteer families to host on the dates in bold. Hosting is a wonderful opportunity to help build community. Friends are always welcome!

### Jr. High LYF

Jr. High youth are invited to join us for Youth Group this summer! We will be meeting on the following dates:

June **3** and 17

July 1, 15, and 29

August **5**

We look forward to time together in God's Word, fellowship, and encouragement. Mark your calendars and plan to join us this summer! We are looking for volunteer families to host on the dates in bold. This will be a great way to share our sense of community. Friends are welcome to join! Please talk to Pastor Dille if you'd like to host.

### Garage Sale

July 30 from 4-7pm

July 31 from 9am-6pm,

August 1 from 9-11:30am

August 1 from 12-2pm cleanup

### Drop off dates & times:

Sun., July 26<sup>th</sup> from noon – 1pm

Mon., July 27<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 6pm

### Larry Brandt Golf Outing

Sept. 19<sup>th</sup>

1 p.m. Tee Off

## "This Week's Sunday School Lesson"

### Lesson 6

This week, students will study "A Living Truth." The women who witness Christ's burial are the first to witness His resurrection. With great joy, they run to tell His disciples that Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Discuss, "How can we as a family spread the word of Christ's resurrection?"

### Prayer List

Sharon Moss, Marty Vail, Paul Lash, Jr., John Jackson, Donetta Ohnesorge, Gary Wenthe, Bryce Beccue, Roger Fritch, Steve Rubin, Steve Martin, Gerry Thoman, and Lois Budde.

### St. John's Cards Ministry

Would you like to help reach out to the shut ins of our congregation? We have a group of people who send out cards each month to just say we care. It's a simple organized system and brings much joy to the family of God. Please sign up on the bulletin board if interested. Any questions call Kathy Burdick 309-255-8343

### Young Adults Bible Study

Friday June 5

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Vandalia

6:30 p.m.

### Positions Open at St. Peter Lutheran School

The Board of Christian Education is seeking to fill the positions for Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teachers for the next school year. If you would like to apply, please mail resume to St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 605 E. Third St., St. Peter, IL 62880 ATTN: Board of Education. If you prefer, you may also email your resume to the board Chairman at [nathanjacquin@gmail.com](mailto:nathanjacquin@gmail.com)

### Guys. Young men. Gentlemen.

We have a handful of men who have expressed interest in a reprise of our Man Up! Study. We will launch the study in **August**, and conduct it much like we did three years ago: one or two chapters will be discussed at each monthly meeting. Last time about 25 men studied the book -- a great turnout. Families with high school and older boys ought to discuss having those boys read this book. One man in our congregation recently said, "I really wish I would have studied that book before I went to college." Good advice.

**CALENDAR-----May 31- June 6, 2026**

Sunday	31	8:00 a.m.	Worship
		9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship
Monday	1		Pastor Dille Sabbath
Tuesday	2	5:30 p.m.	Board of Trustees
		5:30 p.m.	Board of Education
		6:00 p.m.	Lydia Guild
		6:30 p.m.	Adult Catechism
Wednesday	3	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		1:00 p.m.	Office Staff Devotion and Meeting
		6:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Thursday	4	5:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Hall Rental
		5:30 p.m.	Bd of Elders
Friday	5		Pastor Burdick Sabbath
		6:30 p.m.	Young Adult Bible Study
Saturday	6	8:00 a.m.	Band Practice
		8:00 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
		8:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
		5:30 p.m.	Worship w/HC

**Anniversaries This Week**

- 6-2-1973 David & Linda Wells
- 6-3-2016 Blake & Laura Bahrns
- 6-3-2017 Carissa & Andrew Snow
- 6-6-1959 Dick & Carol Hulskotter
- 6-6-1992 Greg & Kara Koester
- 6-6-1981 Jeff & Pam Baker
- 6-6-1987 Scott & Joyce Marxman

**Birthdays This Week**

- 5-31 Becky Wenthe, Trey Koester
- 6-01 Brian Overbeck, Jackson Wendling, Samuel Hewing, Valena Soltwedel
- 6-02 Chris Niebrugge, Jake Niebrugge, Rick Kohnert
- 6-03 Ryan Budde
- 6-04 Jonathan Summers
- 6-05 David Wall, Eric Whitaker, Todd Anderson
- 6-06 Ainsley Jeffries, Alivia Wahl, Cherilla Junge, Richard E. Ohnesorge

**New Members**

Next Sunday and beyond we will be welcoming some new members to St. John's by Baptism, Confirmation, and transfer. The Word does the work!

One of the older members who receives cards, calls, and visits from our visitation teams recently said to me (again): *"I hope they never stop doing that. It means so much to us."* Praise God. – Pastor B

