

Spirit *Alive!*



MARCH NEWSLETTER 2024 | ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

Happy Easter-He Is Risen!!!

As I read and reread the script of The Last Supper portrayal we are using for Maundy Thursday, the thought that I kept having was "how humbling are the things that Jesus has done for us." This holds so true for all of Jesus' life, and even more so as we reflect during holy week.

This brought to my mind, one of my sister-in-law's favorite songs. *Humble and Kind* by Tim McGraw. (I encourage you to listen to the lyrics if you are not familiar with the song). Humble and Kind. Don't these words truly describe the way Jesus lived His life?

When I looked up the word 'humble' in the Bible, it referenced me to Philippians, Chapter 2.

Verse 3 says "When you do things, do not let selfishness or pride be your guide. Instead, be humble and give more honor to others than to yourselves."

And verse 8 says "And when he was living as a man, he humbled himself and was fully obedient to God, even when that caused his death---death on a cross."

As we enter the time before Easter, may we all reflect on what Jesus did for us and do our best to live like Him---always be humble and kind.

Happy Easter---He Is Risen!!!

Council Member,
Linda Mielke



President-Pat Mielke

V. President-Amy Bazile

Secretary-Mandy Malueg

Brian Sawall

Crystal Schwan

Dawn White

Linda Mielke

Mary Hoppe

Melissa Pfeiler

Ron Krueger

Wanda Tucker

Please contact the council members for any concerns.

Pause Ponder Pray

Blessings

This morning, I was playing the radio when I heard “Blessings” by Laura Story. As she sang ‘what if your blessings came from pain’ I thought of the upcoming season of Lent. Six weeks that will culminate with three days of unfathomable pain and humiliation for the dearest, purest, sinless man who ever walked this earth. JESUS.

His ministry was rooted in compassion, forgiveness, mercy, grace, acceptance, and love. And he was met with denial, accusations of heresy, rejection, and suspicion.

Our blessings came from HIS pain and sacrifice. Our blessings of eternal life was rooted in his pain and death. He conquered death. He revealed to us even death can not defeat the love of our Creator Father.

Blessings come in many forms of emotions and events.

Pray that you recognize them. Make an effort to appreciate them and learn from them. Be thankful for them.

During this season of Lent humble yourself to realize how blessed you are to have a Creator God who cares enough to sacrifice his Son for your eternal life. You did not earn it – it is a gift. You do not deserve it – it comes from sacrificial love that is beyond human understanding.

God loves each of us as if there were ONLY one of us. Author Unknown

People see God everyday they just don't recognize him. Pearl Bailey

The church is only the church when it is there for others. Dietrich Bonhoeffer



YEARS AGO...



If you recognize anyone in this picture. Please contact the church office so we can include the information in next month's newsletter. This picture was found in the *Diamond Jubilee of St. John's Lutheran Church*.

"MATTHEW, MARK, AND LUKE, SEE ME AFTER CLASS."



"YOUR BOOK REPORTS ARE SURPRISINGLY SIMILAR."

Young Jesus Chronicles. 12th of February, 2024. <https://ntweblog.blogspot.com/2010/10/young-jesus-chronicles.html>



This picture was in last month's newsletter.

This was a picture of the ushers who served the congregation in 1961. Row 1: James Poppe, Fred Poppe, Elmer Dalum, Howard Hidde, Norman Dieck. Row 2: Kenneth Mielke, Reinhard Lehman, Harold Krueger, Melvin Schroeder, Clifford Solem, Andrew Pockat. Row 3: Donald Mielke, Chester Krueger, Leonard Zeuske, Hollis Sether, Byron Draeger, William Welch, Roy Schmidt, Marvin Hintz.

Pictures like these can be found in our church library. There are also several new books, dvds, and cd's available to church members based on the honor system.

Baked French Toast

- 1 stick butter
- 1 c. brown sugar
- 1 loaf French Bread in 3/4" slices
- 6 eggs
- 2 c. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Melt butter and brown sugar in bottom of 9x13 pan. Placed sliced bread on the mixture. Beat eggs, milk and vanilla. Pour over bread and refrigerate overnight. Bake in the morning at 350° approximately 3/4 hour or until done. May sprinkle cinnamon on top when serving.

From: Brenda Mehlberg, pg. 195 of *Cookin' With St. John's* 2009 Cookbook

Month End: **January 2024**
Year to Date

General Fund:

Revenue \$ 17,553
Expenses \$ 19,257

Financial Condition-

Balances as of January 31st

General Fund \$ 39,253
Building &
Church Improvements 100,208
Benevolence Fund 1,184
Special Funds 46,339
Check EFT 1,039
Total \$188,023



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Campership Scholarships are available through St. John's to help offset 75% of camp costs. The scholarship application can be found at <https://www.stjohnsmarion.org/information-forms/>. Crossways is also looking for staff to help this summer. For more information about Crossways, contact them at 920-882-0023; e-mail info@crosswayscamps.org or visit their website at www.crosswayscamps.org.

Prayers

- ◆ Becky Van Buren
- ◆ Bev Genskow
- ◆ Braeden Mielke
- ◆ Brian Sawall
- ◆ Clarence Fenner
(Peggy Hammond's dad)
- ◆ Corrine Kroening
- ◆ Darla Dieck
- ◆ Dave Krueger
- ◆ Dave Schmidt
- ◆ David Soik
- ◆ Denise Pamperin
- ◆ Dorothy Arndt
- ◆ Jackie Suehring
- ◆ Jaden Stuhr
- ◆ James O. Krueger
- ◆ Jerome Portnoy
- ◆ Jerry Zimdars
- ◆ Kristy Overman
- ◆ Laura Moericke
- ◆ Nancy Helms
- ◆ Nathan Nick
- ◆ Patty (Fournier) Beck
- ◆ Rachel Fischer
- ◆ Will Wege



Prayer for Those In Assisted Living

- ◆ Karen Aschenbrenner
- ◆ Anne Erdman
- ◆ Jack Lozier
- ◆ Arnold Kriesel
- ◆ Gloria Krieser
- ◆ Mary Mengert
- ◆ Lois Miller

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St. John's Church Council Minutes – January 16, 2024

Council members present: Amy Bazile, Linda Mielke, Mary Hoppe, Melissa Pfeiler, Mandy Malueg, Ron Krueger, Shirl Tischauser, Wanda Tucker, Pat Breitenfeldt, Brian Sawall. **Also present:** Sheri Fuhrman **Absent:** Kelly Trebus

Meeting called to order by Amy Bazile at 6:45 p.m. Shirl opened with devotions and prayer.

The mission statement was read together.

Member Comments: None to report.

Secretary's Report: The meeting minutes for December 2023, were reviewed. A motion was made by Ron, seconded by Wanda, to approve the Council minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made by Brian, seconded by Pat, to approve the December 2023 financial statements as presented. Motion carried.

Vital Statistics: Ronda Radtke passed away on 01/08/2024, celebration of life was 01/13/2024. Norman Fischer passed away 12/14/2023, funeral was 12/20/2023.

Old Business: None to report.

New Business: Items of New Business considered were:

- **Approval of Annual Meeting Agenda**– A motion was made by Mary, seconded by Ron, to approve the Annual Meeting Agenda. Motion carried.
- **Lenten Breakfast Update** – The Lenten breakfast speakers have been scheduled. The kitchen team is ready to go!
- **Quarterly Benevolence** – It was discovered that quarterly benevolence can be designated directly through the ELCA rather than St Johns issuing separate checks to various organizations.
- **New Council Installation** - New council member installation will occur on February 11, 2024 at both services.
- **AED Training Quote** – Manawa & Clintonville Ambulance services were asked regarding training. Clintonville has the training materials for the specific AED unit St Johns has. A quote of \$30 an hour was given, training taking no more than two hours. The training will be scheduled, dates to be determined.
- **Any Other New Business** – None to report.

Action Team Reports: The following Action Team reports were provided:

- **Property** – The cross (which was donated by Clintonville Hometown Veterinary Service) was hung in carport area. The outlets in the clubroom have been installed. The Green Boyz Inc out of Waupaca will be hired to provide weed, feed and seed to the church lawn. The estimated cost will be \$400.00.
- **Worship and Music** - Pastor Lois has been asked to preach for Easter. Pastor Nicole is willing to preach on Palm Sunday and Wednesday nights. "Meeting Jesus at the Table" for Lenten services, donations will be requested for the food pantry. Pastor Jenn will be presiding at the Last Supper/Maundy Thursday. April 14 is First Communion Sunday. Denise Pamperin will be teaching the First Communion classes.
- **The Baptismal Candle** – There is a church calendar that will be used for the candle lighting schedule.

- Candelabras – The suggestion will be to purchase flameless candles which will be used instead of the current wax candles.
- Community – The Fall Dinner profits totaled \$3457.00. An announcement will be made at the Annual Meeting as to how the funds will be disbursed. The next Fall Dinner will be held on November 10, 2024.

Closed Session: none

The next meeting will be on February 20, 2024 at 6:45 pm.

The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Are You Looking To Place An Announcement In The Church Newsletter?

If so, please contact the church office with the words you would like placed in the next month's newsletter by the second Thursday of every month.



Quake

Pictured below are the pre-confirmands and confirmand who attended Quake in Wisconsin Dells at the Wilderness Resort on Feb. 16th-18th. Pictured from left to right are Stephan Krueger, Finn Polzin, Harper Polzin, Brystal Burr, Kiza Tarr, and Bria Rabe. A huge thank you to the chaperones who safely transported, fed and attended the faith enhancing workshops. The chaperones were Amber Hedtke, Andy and Heather Krueger.

Thank you to all who donated time, money, and food so the kids could attend Quake.



The above picture is from Council Installation at the 8a.m. worship service on February 11th, 2024. Pictured above from left to right are: Ron Krueger, Crystal Schwan, Melissa Pfeiler, Mary Hoppe, Brian Sawall, Amy Bazile and Pastor Bob Wilkinson.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **AED**

An AED, or automated external defibrillator, is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. The church has an AED located in the back of the sanctuary, in the left stairwell going up to the balcony. Training to use the AED will be in the Parish Hall on March 10th at 11:30a.m. If you plan on attending, please let the church office know so the trainer is notified of how many to expect at the training.

- **Camelot Worship**

Camelot Worship service is typically the first Wednesday of each month at the Camelot Apartments at 3:00p.m. The Camelot Service is a community outreach program. It is an opportunity to worship and receive Holy Communion.

- **Communion**

The next time communion will be offered is Sunday, March 10th at 8a.m. and 10:30a.m. services, Sunday, March 24th 8a.m. and 10:30a.m., Thursday, March 28th, and Sunday, March 31st at both the 8a.m. and 10:30a.m. services.

- **First Communion Classes**

For those who are not yet sharing in Holy Communion that are second grade or above, there will be two classes on Wednesday evening on April 3rd and 10th from 5-6p.m. A parent or guardian is required to attend. Please let us know if you want to attend these classes so we have enough materials. April 14th at 10:30a.m. will be the date to celebrate partaking in Holy Communion. Sponsors and families are encouraged to attend this service to support those taking this step of faith.

SOUL OPPORTUNITIES

- **Backpack Program**

Thank you to all who volunteered and represented our church with filling the backpacks in the month of February. Again thank you!

- **Flowers**

If you wish to have a flower in memory or in honor of, on Easter Sunday, please sign-up on the clipboard in the back of church or call the church office by Thursday, March 14th.

- **Funerals**

We thank all of the volunteers that help with funerals whether it is a monetary donation, bringing food, or helping in the kitchen. Thank you for providing for members and their families at such as needed time. If you have brought food for funerals, please be sure to stop by the church kitchen to pick up any dishes that may have been left from a previous funeral.

- **Meeting Jesus at the Table**

Lent is a season for the deepened reflection on the meaning of Jesus' life and ministry, death, and resurrection. It is also a time for us to reflect on what it means to be called to follow Jesus in our own lives individually and as communities of faith. In the study, Meeting Jesus at the Table, we will follow Gospel readings that represent a range of stories about food and feasting from the life and teaching of Jesus. We hope that these table stories draw you closer to Christ and to one another as the body of Christ and that you will always be able to recognize him in the breaking and sharing of bread. We ask that each week you bring an item for the Food Pantry.

- **Wanted**

We are looking for Worship Leaders and Readers and members to give Home Communion. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

2024 St. John's Lutheran Church Marion

8:00 a.m.

Community Lenten Breakfast menu:



Week 4. Thursday, March 7:

Speaker: Pastor Tim Lofgren, From: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Pella

Sausage Gravy with Biscuits, Southern Fried Cubed Potatoes, Fresh Fruit, Cheese, Milk, Orange Juice and Coffee

Week 5. Thursday, March 14:

Speaker: Pastor Dean Suehring, From: Three Churches, St. John's Lutheran Church, Tigerton and Caroline, and Immanuel, Caroline

French Toast, Ham, Cheese, Apple Sauce, Milk, Orange Juice, and Coffee

Week 6. Thursday, March 21:

Speaker: Denise Pamperin, From: St. John's Lutheran Church, Marion

Quiche, Fruit Cocktail, Kringles, Milk, Orange Juice and Coffee



CHURCH CALENDAR

Church Services

March 3rd, 17th, 25th-8 & 10:30a.m. Worship

March 6th, 13th, 20th-6p.m. Worship

March 10th-8 & 10:30a.m. Worship with Communion (Pastor Bob Wilkinson)

Daylight Savings

March 24th-8 & 10:30a.m. Worship with Communion (Pastor Nicole Behnke-Welke)

Palm Sunday

March 27th-No Worship Service

March 28th- 6p.m. *Last Supper* Worship with Communion (Pastor Jenn Pockat)

March 29th-1:30p.m. *Good Friday* Worship

March 31st-8 & 10:30a.m. *Easter Sunday* Worship with Communion (Pastor Lois Graper)

April 3rd-No Worship Service

Camelot Worship-March 6th at 3p.m.

Confirmation Class-Please attend Lenten Services in place of class.

Worship & Music-Monday, March 18th at 5p.m.

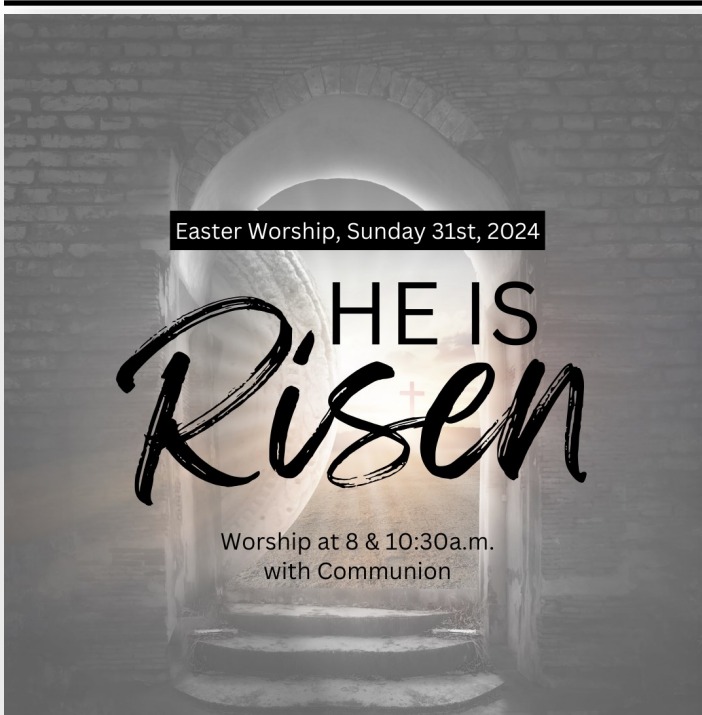
Council-Tentative date of March 19th at 6:45p.m.

AED Training-March 10th at 11:30a.m. in the Parish Hall-Call Church office if you plan on attending

Dominos-Every Wednesday 1p.m.

Quilting-Every Wednesday 12:30p.m.

Yoga-NO CLASS on Thursdays; Mondays at 9a.m.





St. John's Lutheran Church
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