

St. John Lutheran Church
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Thank You!

St. John Council

- 2016-2018 Dean Froslic President
- 2016-2018 Shawn Vasichak Vice President
- 2016-2018 Larry Papenfuss Secretary
- 2016-2018 Rachel Rude Worship and Music
- 2016-2018 Janis Keller Education
- 2017-2019 Eric Christeson Property
- 2017-2019 David McMahon Social Concerns/Missions
- 2017-2019 Sally Sterk Good Samaritans
- 2017-2019 Damon Janssen Youth and Family



And Spring arose on the garden fair,
Like the Spirit of Love felt everywhere;
And each flower and herb on Earth's dark breast
rose from the dreams of its wintry rest.
- Percy Bysshe Shelley

Contact Us

St. John Lutheran Church
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www.stjohnfargo.com

The Ministry Team of St. John: All the People of God, along with
Rev. Brian Hansen, Pastor
Rev. Paul Balaban, Interim Pastor
Dawn Papenfuss, Director of Music/Organist
Jackie Jabens, Finance/Office Manager
Carly Cox, Secretary Randy Shone, Custodian
Jeremy Maahs, Youth Programming Director
Jana Bruhschwein, Preschool Director
Kellie Knodel, Cheryl Dietz, Katie Olson, Preschool Teachers
Peggy Hammerling, Recorders Jessica Westgard Larson,
Handbells

Editor: Carly Cox, Articles accepted before
1 pm April 20th for the May '17 Herald.



St. John Lutheran Church

Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

THE HERALD

Volume 117, Issue 4 Community in Christ: Christ in Community April 2017

Wednesday Lenten Worship 6:30pm

We will continue our Lent series through April 5th. Lenten Suppers will be served from 5:30-6:30 pm



HOLY WEEK
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

April 9 Sunday of Palm and Passion - 8:30; 10:45 am
The **Cross+walk** children (and anyone who wants to join in) begin our worship with the blessing of the palm branches and process around the sanctuary as the rest of the congregations sing “All Glory, Laud and Honor”. During this worship we thematically go from the joy of Christ’s entrance into Jerusalem to his being led out of the city to his crucifixion.

April 13 Maundy Thursday -7 pm
Our worship starts out with a tableau of Jesus with his 12 disciples and what has become known as his “Last Supper”. We will have an opportunity to commune before we participate in the “Stripping of the Altar”. The bare altar symbolizes our own emptiness without our Savior. Even the Christ (or Pascal) candle is removed and we leave in darkness and silence.

April 14 Good Friday-7pm
Good Friday is the most somber day in the Lutheran Church year. Good Friday is traditionally observed as the day Jesus Christ was put to death by crucifixion dying for our sins. We observe Good Friday as a means for quiet self-examination.

April 16 Easter Sunday -8:30 & 10:45 am
Our Festive worship of Christ’s resurrection gives great contrast to when we last worshipped together. The sanctuary is transformed with color, sights and sounds of the great victory Christ has won for us. Easter Breakfast Potluck will be served for 9:30-10:30am. There are sign-ups available in the Narthex.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE: The Call Process is now in the “Interview Phase”. The St. John Call Committee has reviewed the information of many pastors, narrowed that initial number of candidates to a few and has begun the interview process. We continue to gather additional information regarding those whom we’ve interviewed. We ask for your prayers as the committee nears deciding whom we recommend as St. John’s next senior pastor. For your information: once the Call Committee decides on a pastor, that recommendation is forwarded to the Church Council. The Council needs to take action approving the pastoral selection, as well as approving a compensation package. That will be followed by a special congregational meeting where two votes will be taken. One for approving the new senior pastor and one for approving the compensation package. The Call Committee thanks all those who have helped during this process: the synod bishop and staff, Pastor Balaban, Pastor Hansen, and the staff of St. John. And, a thank you to those members of St. John who offered suggestions and recommendations during the process.
Thank you, St. John Call Committee

A Note From the Pastor, Are We There Yet?

It's Time to . . .

We say that in many ways and formats.

"It's time to get ready for school" followed by many moans and groans on school mornings.

"It's time to begin the party (or dance or game)" much to the delight of those attending.

"It's time to say goodbye". I know many examples of when we say this, few of them seem positive. We've heard it, and said numerous times: at the hospital, at funerals, out at the cemetery. All these goodbye's are tinged with sadness, I think, even when said for a life well spent.

"It's time to say farewell and God's speed". That's actually one of our formal liturgical options, to physically say "good-bye" and "God bless" on your new journey. We don't tend to use it much anymore. Normally, I include it as a part of our final worship together, but as that happens to be Easter, I'll not detract from that celebration.

I have loved living, working and joining with you in your process of finding your next leader. That process is almost concluded (and could be so by the time you read this!) I will leave with fond memories of the all-too-brief time we shared in ministry together.

It is time for me to leave. It is time for me to say goodbye. It is time for me to bless and praise God for our time together. I ask for your blessing as well. TGBG! – Pastor Paul

ELCA World Hunger Emphasis begins in April

Please take note that our annual ELCA World Hunger emphasis will be the three Sundays of April 23, 30, and May 7. World Hunger offering envelopes will be made available on April 30 and our financial ingathering will be May 7.

Can we at St. John Lutheran make a difference"? We can! Our Lord calls us to feed the hungry. In Matthew chapter 25 Jesus makes it very personal when he says, "for I was hungry and you gave me food..." The righteous answer Jesus, "When did we see you hungry?" Jesus' response is, "As you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me."

We do thank so many of you who have been part of this emphasis in recent years. Now we ask that you set aside a special gift as we prepare for this year's emphasis. As in prior years we are asking some families in our congregation to put up a challenge gift for the rest of us. Might the remainder of our congregation be willing to contribute an equal amount to meet this challenge.

Plan to join us at the Adult Forums on April 23 and April 30 where we will talk in more detail about the challenges we face in helping to feed those who have so little.

From the property committee.

The property committee has been busy meeting with contractors and gathering proposals for the roof. A vendor has been chosen and we are looking to start work mid-April. A huge Thank You to the congregation for the vote of support at the March 12 special meeting. It is heart-warming to see the commitment not only to this community but also to the physical church where so many things take place. Also a large thank you to Jack Anderson and Aaron Nissen, who have spent many hours on the roof, gathering proposals, and researching roof technologies. Their work will have lasting results.

Committee Spotlight - Good Samaritan Committee

Members: Cathy Chatelain, Lavon Rieke, Mavis Lura, David Duval, Pastor Brian Hansen Sally Sterk (Council Liaison)

Meets: First Tuesday of the month at 6:30

The focus of the Good Samaritan Committee is to nurture the spiritual and physical well-being of our congregation and community through the activities and ministries we support, including:

St. John Foot Care Clinic "Happy Feet" invites Sanford Home Health Care to provide nail care at a cost of \$16 the third Tuesday of each month. Volunteers provide foot washing, massage, and paraffin bath. Coffee and fellowship are also a part of this event.

Stephen Ministry matches those in need of caring relationships with trained Stephen Ministers. We recently welcomed 4 new Stephen Ministers who have completed 50 hours of training.

Young At Heart provides a Christian fellowship for our senior members - "we are mature in years, but young in spirit." From September to May, this group meets the second Thursday of the month at 10:00 for programs of music and speakers of interest, such as Beth Brantner of Lost and Found Ministry, who spoke about drug addiction in our community at our February gathering.

Jambalaya Quilters create baby quilts with a cross design, which are then presented as a special gift to baptismal families.

Prayer Shawl Ministry combines craftsmanship with prayer as several members of the congregation knit and crochet shawls while praying. These shawls are then distributed by our pastors to those in need of comfort and healing.

The Nursery offers families a comfortable, safe space to bring their children during worship. From September to May, confirmation students along with a parent staff the nursery; at other times parents are asked to stay with their child in the nursery.

We welcome anyone interested in being involved in any of these opportunities or with ideas for new ways to nurture the spiritual and physical well being of our congregation and community to join us!

St. John Foundation Report

At the March 8th meeting of the St. John Lutheran Church Foundation Board, funding was approved in response to financial requests as follows:

-\$1,500 to St. John for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal

-\$1,000 to the St. John Good Samaritan Emergency Assistance Fund

The board disbursed a total of \$12,257 to fund various projects, organizations and scholarships last year. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the St. John Foundation to support continued outreach giving!

If you have a project or a special need (or know someone in the community with a project that fulfills the foundation's mission), please consider making a funding request. Funding request forms are available at the church office or by email (jjabens@stjohnfargo.com or office@stjohnfargo.com). The foundation board's next meeting is scheduled in June 2017.

Currently serving on the foundation board: Pat Pobst-Chair, Heidi Twedt-Vice Chair, James Botnen-Treasurer, Julie Kloster-Secretary, and Jessica Westgard Larson.

Memorials, Honorariums & Special Gifts

General Memorial Fund:

In Memory of Laurie Gibb-Perlenfein: Fred & Judy Haugo

Good Samaritan Committee Fund:

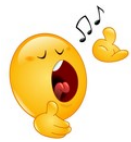
In Memory of Mark Aanderud, brother of Rachel Dahl, for the Foot Care Clinic: Jane Nissen

Lutheran World Relief:

In Memory of Char Rimmereid, for the shipping of quilts: Adelle Salvesson



MUSIC NOTES by Dawn Papenfuss



April 2
8:30 Recorders,
10:45 Recorders, St. John Choir

April 9 PALM SUNDAY
**Crosswalk children & choir children process and sing two songs at the beginning of both services. Families can choose which service they want to attend.

April 13 Maundy Thursday.
No choirs but don't miss this service. We will experience the Last Supper and hear from each disciple and see the Last Supper re-enacted.

April 14 Good Friday.
No choirs but experience meaningful "sounds" of the crucifixion.

April 16, EASTER!!!
8:30 and 10:45. Experience the Resurrection with the Adult Handbells, Brass Quintet and the St. John Choir!

April 23
Worship Band at both services!!!

April 30
Worship Led by Red Willow Bible Camp and Jeremy, our youth director.

PLEASE THANK all the people who helped to make Lent and Easter meaningful: Altar Guild members (paraments, communion, stripping of the altar, Easter flowers); Wednesday guitar group & cantors; All music groups and their directors; everyone who made and served and cleanup up after the Lenten meals; the small group leaders & groups; & the pastors for the extra sermon preparation. It takes a LARGE VILLAGE to have a meaningful Lent & Easter and I thank the St. John congregation for their commitment to our mission.

Children's choir will continue until April 26. However, we may not sing in church until May 7 or possibly during one of the last two Sundays in April.

"Happy Feet" St. John Foot Care Clinic

We have volunteers to pamper your feet and trained personnel to trim your nails. All while you enjoy coffee and visit with friends. Most helpful to those with foot health issues. Future dates Tues. April 18, May 16 in the Parlor. Tues: Schedule an appointment by calling Cathy Chatelain 293-6772 or 261-2707. Cost is \$16 paid to Sanford Home Health

For the "Young At Heart"

"It's not the years in your life that count But the life in your years"- Abe Lincoln

Please join us for Christian fellowship. **Thurs. April 13 at 10:00 AM in the Parlor** for coffee and refreshments. Elwood Rieke will speak of the life of Martin Luther and the Reformation, **Thurs. May 11 at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall** for a Pot Luck Lunch. If you can't cook, come anyway. Dawn Papenfuss will entertain us with Golden Tunes we all enjoy. Questions: Call Mavis Lura 238-4147, Donna Enstad 701-840-0348 or Cathy Chatelain 261-2707. **All Are Welcome**

Youth and Family

St John Talent Show and Auction: Sunday, April 9 12-2pm

The talent show and silent/live auction is one of our biggest fundraisers supporting our youth.

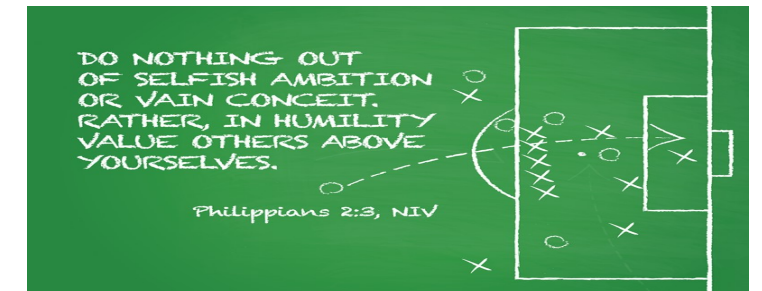
*If you have talent (or a lack of talent) to share, please contact Jeremy Maahs at Jeremy.maahs@gmail.com, sign up on the Tower of Service, or leave a message in the church office(232-8521)! *We are currently seeking items for the auction. If you happen to have a business or business contact that would be willing to donate items please contact Jeremy. We appreciate donations of new or in very good condition for the silent auction, gift cards or certificates are always a hit as well. We encourage these items to be dropped off in the church office by arrive by April 5th Please include your name as the donor and the value of the donation. Thank you for supporting our youth!

VBS 2017!

June 10-June 14

Let's Fetch Some
Faith-Filled Fun!

Kids are crazy for critters with whiskers, tails, feathers, or scales! That's why kids will think this VBS is the cat's meow. During the four short days at Pets Unleashed VBS, we will introduce kids to Jesus, God's Son who lovingly cares for us all. At Pets Unleashed vacation Bible school, kids experience God's Word in surprising and unforgettable ways! Each day, leaders reinforce one simple Bible truth—which makes it easy for kids to remember and apply to real life! Sign up now at www.stjohnfargo.com or in the church office.



CROSS+WALK Sundays: 9:45-10:35 am

We think it's important, especially at Easter, for us to help our kids and families discover more about **humility—putting others first by giving up what you think you deserve.** Our Memory Verse for April comes from Philippians 2:3.

This verse is part of a passage that describes Jesus' humility. Jesus left everything He deserved to humble Himself to save us. As we respond to Jesus' love, we can show humility as we love on those around us.

As we celebrate Jesus' life, death, and resurrection this Easter season, we'll be taking a closer look at the way humility shows up throughout the end of Jesus' time on earth.



At Celebration Sunday worship service on March 26 each of our St. John families were asked to consider a gift or three-year pledge, over and above their regular ministry giving, to our Active in Love appeal. This is so important for our life together! These appeal proceeds help to care for this ministry center we call "the church," and it also devotes a generous gifting for Churches United for the Homeless and for our Synod's Multi-Cultural Outreach, this bringing the light and compassion of Christ to others in need.

It is not to late! Everyone has something to share! Please know that we treasure your gift/pledge, whatever the size of that offering. It takes all of us together, from \$5.00 a week to \$500 a week! As you offer your gift or pledge, do so with thanksgiving to God for all the ways that you have been and continue to be blessed by God's enduring love for you. Do so knowing that you gift matters and helps to strengthen this ministry which God has entrusted to us. And do so knowing that we receive it all in thanksgiving and to the glory of God!