



April 2023

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church April Newsletter

Worship Schedule



...Pr. Matthew V. Moss

9141 County Road 101,
Corcoran, MN 55340
763-420-2426



Sundays:

8:00 am Divine Service
(live-streamed on our website: stjlutheran.org)

9:30 am Adult Bible Study
10:30 am Divine Service

Address Updates:

Help us keep our files up-to-date. E-mail: secretary@stjlutheran.org or call 763-420-2426, ext. 10

Special points of interest:

- April Birthdays
- Monthly Calendar
- Pastoral Inspiration
- Minutes of the Deacon Council Meeting
- Financial Updates
- History Committee notes

Connected to Christ: Why Membership Matters

You've almost successfully completed your "Every Sunday in Lent" challenge, or are ready to renew it for the seven weeks of Easter (from the Resurrection to Pentecost). You know that receiving the Means of Grace is or ought to be one of the most important parts of your Christian identity. You know that those Means of Grace are given out in faithful churches, but that doesn't mean you're always sure why church *membership* is important. How would you explain it to a friend or relative?

Starting April 16th and running through May 21st our Sunday morning Bible study will focus on answering those questions using a helpful little book from Concordia Publishing House: *Connected to Christ: Why Membership Matters* by Peter Speckhard. You can purchase your copy at church for \$7.75. Join us for the studies on each chapter, and prepare yourself to have productive and helpful conversations with family and friends about the importance of being a member of a faithful, local congregation.

Here is the synopsis from the publisher:

"Connected to Christ: Why Membership Matters presents biblical reasoning for why church membership is a crucial aspect of Christianity. Every believer—regardless of one's gender, ethnicity, economic class, political party, or level of education—is part of the Church.

"Being a member of a church isn't just about tithing and having your name on a roster. It's about supporting your brothers and sisters, holding them accountable, and regularly receiving God's Word and Sacraments with them.

"You are a part of the body of Christ. You matter. Membership matters."

Here are some of my goals – what I hope to see happen after we study this book together:

- 1) Regularly attending members will attend even more regularly and seek more ways to get involved in the life of the congregation.
- 2) All of us will be better equipped and get more active in the Christian duty to invite and encourage absent members to return to a regular diet of Word & Sacrament.



Please remember...

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, it is up to YOU to find someone who will take over for you.

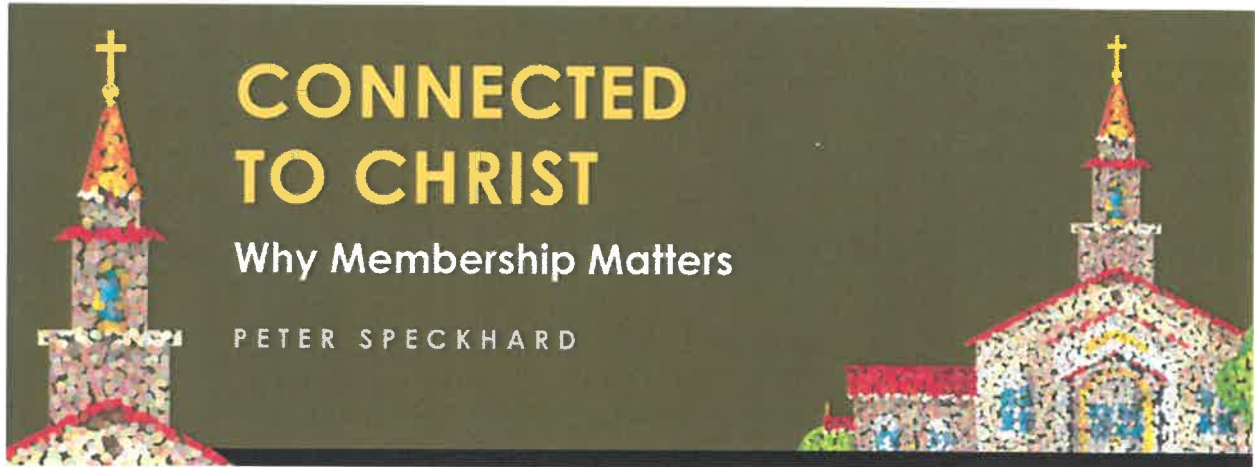
Pastor Moss' article continued:



3) All of us will become better at encouraging and facilitating *transfers* to local LCMS congregations for the offspring of the congregation who have relocated. We don't expect them to receive God's Word & Sacrament here, we must encourage them to receive it *there*, in the place where God has put them.

I hope you'll join us for this five week study! See you Sunday,

~Pastor Moss



Christ
is
Risen!



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School
Council of Deacon Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2023

Present	First Name	Last Name	Present	First Name	Last Name
X	Rob	Borcherding	X	Russ	Rezneck
X	Leif	Briel	X	Dennis	Schwecke
X	Todd	Haag	X	Ted	Schmidt
X	Andrew	Heinen			
X	David	Kiesow	X	Gretchen	Dolan
X	Scott	Kulberg		Pastor	Johnson
X	Jesse	Mathwig	X	Pastor	Moss
X	Ross	Meyer	X	Steve	Kruse
X	Cory	Olson	X	Sam	Kuphal

Call to Order:

By Chairman Ross Meyer at: 7:00 pm

Opening Prayer:

By Pastor Moss

Theological Study:

Why I Am a Lutheran, Chapter 3: We Are Alive

By Daniel Preus

Deacon Minutes:

1/12/23 Deacon Meeting Minutes- M/S Approved with correction.

Deacon Board Reports:

Pastors Report:

Written report submitted.

NEW MEMBER(s):

Michelle Malecha

Transfer/Release

Sarah Wiley to St John's Buffalo, MN

Peter & Karen MacMillan to Concordia Fairhaven, MN

Leslie Weide and sons Lucas & Hunter to Nativity ELCA St. Anthony, MN

M/S approved

Removals and Record-Keeping:

Kevin Oswald Marissa Qunell, Piper

Stephanie McCutcheon & Isabela & Noah

Terry, Gayle, Mindy & Leah Haggberg

Al & Bonnie Kunde

Luke & Lance Bourdeaux

Board of Spiritual Life:

Written report submitted.

- Handbells have been delivered.
- 7 Youth have registered for Higher Things conference.

Business Manager's Report:

Written report submitted.

- Projected Fiscal Year Deficit: (-\$88K) compared to (-\$74K) Budget
- Total revenue projected at \$1,826K compared to \$1,914K Budget (-\$88K)
- General Fund Offerings projected at \$799k compared to \$845k Budget (-\$46k)
- School Tuition projected at \$850k compared to \$899k Budget (-\$49k)
- New night cleaning crew (Twin City Commercial Cleaning)
- To go forward with check scanning, giving access to revisit all members' and visitors' plate offering personal checks on-line.

Options for St Johns church members and visitors that give in offering plate:

- Continue giving via checks as they have been and encourage them to research any potential risk.
- Encourage them to switch to online giving as a more secure option
- Start giving cash if they wish to eliminate all risk from their end.

Deacon concern was brought up that St John's Church has no cyber liability coverage for a data breach, and church member personal and checking account information could be compromised.

Board of Administration:

Written report submitted.

- 79 households returned pledge cards with 64% increasing their giving from prior year.
- Building Restoration Corporation estimated exterior masonry repair at \$141k. Jesse Mathwig & Mark Radintz reviewed projects BRC has completed and other estimates and feel BRC is the best option.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the proposal from Building Restoration Corporation for tuck point repair and be funded from the Gifting Fund for an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

Motion approved.

Principal's Report:

Written report submitted.

- Final push this month with accreditation.
- 2 families will not be returning to St John's School next year, one is home schooling, and the other family cited the cost of tuition.
- Early estimated enrollment 2023/2024 =169. (37) Prospective Students.

Board of Education:

Written report submitted.

Congregational President:

- Date for the spring congregational assembly meeting will be March 26th. @12:30 pm.
-

Old Business:

- Review budget proposal for 2023/2024.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the fiscal Budget for 2023/2024, as proposed by Business Manager Sam Kuphal and Board of Administration.

Motion approved.

New Business:

- Teacher Candidates from the call committee: Hannah Lange, Sarah Carter, Cadie Koosman, Laura Piel, Christina Warnier, Amanda Dehmer, and Lisa Molitor.

Motion was made and seconded to approve candidates for further consideration and listed in church bulletin.

Motion approved.

Resolutions:

- Endowment Advisory Committee: Be it so moved to implement a minimum Gifting Fund balance of \$100,000.

M/S passed.

- From BOA: Be it so moved that updates to the St. John's Facilities and Grounds Usage Policy and St. John's Facilities and Grounds Usage Form as found in the attached documents are approved.

Motion Withdrawn.

- From BOA: Be it so moved that updates to the St. John's Church and School Fundraising Policy and St. John's Fundraising Form as found in the attached document are approved.

M/S Motion passed.

Motion made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 9:36 pm.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

St. John's Lutheran Church & School Monthly Financial Reporting – February 2023

Cash and Investment Balance Details:

Operating Fund – Funded primarily by offerings and school tuition/fees. Pays for operating expenses and critical for short-term viability.
Gifting Fund – Primarily funded by member gifts and fundraisers. Pays for capital improvements/repairs and flow-thru giving to mercy/kindness.
School endowment fund – Funded primarily by member gifts and fundraisers with goal to ensure the long-term viability of affordable Lutheran education.

	TOTAL		
	AS OF FEB 28, 2023	AS OF JUN 30, 2022 (PP)	AS OF FEB 28, 2022 (PY)
▶ A) Operating Fund	435,918	289,498	524,108
▶ B) Gifting Fund	353,914	339,147	454,488
▶ C) School Endowment Fund	420,013	364,669	338,003

February Operating Fund Summary:

February surplus of \$66K favorable to \$12K budgeted surplus (total Revenue – total Expenses)

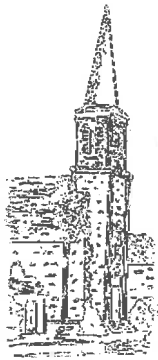
- Total revenue favorable \$32K to budget
 - Offerings \$25K over budget; school tuition/fees \$6K over budget
- Total expenses a favorable \$22K under budget
 - Salaries/wages/benefits \$14K under budget (no 5th grade teacher and less than expected aide/teacher sub costs)
 - Other Operating expenses finished relatively flat to budget
 - Church Programs includes \$3K parent reimbursements for Higher Things conference for youth group and \$1700 in Super Bowl sub fundraising that will be distributed to participants toward their fees
 - Utilities/Maintenance \$4K under budget

Operating Details:

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
▼ Revenue				
4010 General Fund Offerings	100,096	75,096	25,000	133.00 %
4020 Tuition	79,024	76,950	2,074	103.00 %
4030 Other School Income	24,707	20,370	4,337	121.00 %
4400 Other Income	892	180	712	495.00 %
Total Revenue	\$204,719	\$172,596	\$32,123	119.00 %
▼ Expenditures				
6200 Salaries & Wages	99,154	106,178	-7,024	93.00 %
6400 Benefits	24,526	31,084	-6,559	79.00 %
6500 Other Staff Expenses	1,131	1,629	-498	69.00 %
6506 Promotions	78		78	
6510 Church Programs	-3,653	1,342	-4,995	-272.00 %
6560 Operating/Misc Expenses	5,066	4,673	393	108.00 %
6570 Utilities and Maintenance	7,858	11,839	-3,981	66.00 %
7100 School Academic Expe...	1,337	2,203	-866	61.00 %
7300 School Bus Service	1,695	950	745	178.00 %
7900 Other School Expenses	1,570	905	665	173.00 %
Total Expenditures	\$138,762	\$160,803	\$ -22,041	86.00 %
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$65,957	\$11,793	\$54,164	559.00 %

Reporting Callouts

- 1) Fund balances do not include the Cemetery, Church Worker Scholarship Funds, Hot Lunch or PTL.
- 2) Year-To-Date and more detailed ins/outs for Gifting/Endowment funds will be reported quarterly
- 3) Full Balance Sheet and Profit/Loss reporting available via request to sam.kuphal@stjlutheran.org



St. John's History Committee

St. John's History Trivia -

**The questions are from the earliest years of St. John's.
How many can you answer correctly?
(Find the answers elsewhere in the April newsletter!)**

1. Pastor Fackler had been given 4 gifts for his 25th Anniversary of being Pastor at St. John's. Can you guess what they were?

- a. A whip b. 5 chickens c. A buggy d. A watch
e. A horse fly-net f. A cord of wood g. A bible
h. A new chair**

2. St. John's was the first Synod Congregation organized in Minnesota.

True or False

3. What was the main mode of Transportation of the mission Pastors in the Minnesota Territory Between 1857 and 1870?

- a. Model A Ford b. Horse Back c. Foot d. Stage coach**

4. During the first years of St. John's becoming a congregation, an interim Pastor was paid how much per trip to preach to the congregation?

- a. \$20 b. \$100 c. \$6 d. \$2**



2022 MISSION PROGRAMS: St. John's currently supports the following mission programs: Synod, Soldiers of the Cross, and that of Rev. Dr. Daniel Jastram and Rev. P.A. Charles Richard-Wokoma. Please note: Any contributions to missions other than these four options at this time will be divided between these currently supported programs. May God bless you for your generosity!

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT: *The mission of St. John's Lutheran School is to nurture young people through God's Word, sound Lutheran doctrine and worship, and a strong academic foundation. Our goal is to equip students to lead their lives as God's baptized children in this world and to carry out Christ's command to "make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:19)*

CALL COMMITTEE: After prayerful consideration, we are excited to share with the congregation that Sarah Carter has accepted our call for the position of 3rd grade teacher! Please keep her and her family in your prayers as she finishes the year at her current school and makes the transition to our school. Sarah has asked for help finding care for her children (infant son and potentially 2 days a week for her preschool aged daughter). She is hoping that they can be in a home. If you have any information for in home care or if you are interested providing this care, please contact Brenna Koehler to pass that information along.

EASTER BREAKFAST will once again be served by the St. John's Youth Group from 7-10 am on Easter morning. You can help by donating food for the breakfast! A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. As always, we appreciate any donations you are able to give. Thanks for supporting our Youth!

SPRING SOCIAL EVENT: Please join us for a Ladies Luau Luncheon & Spring Social on Saturday, April 22 from 11:00am – 1:00pm at St. John's in Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by April 20th using this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094BACAF2AA7FD0-stjohns3>

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Dates for St. John's VBS this summer are June 19-23, 9am - 12pm Monday-Thursday; 9am -1pm Friday. More details to come.

2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR: Admissions and Enrollment is open!
If you have a student interested in St. John's School, please complete an online application for Preschool-8th grade: <https://sjl-mn.client.renweb.com/oa>
Classes are filling and we anticipate reaching maximum class sizes in some grades. Please invite friends and neighbors to join the St. John's Community!
If you have questions or wish to schedule a tour, please contact us at admissions@stjlutheran.org.

St. John's History Trivia Answers:

1. A whip, A buggy, A fly-net, A new chair
2. False – Trinity First in Minneapolis was the first congregation, St. John's was the 2nd congregation to be organized.
3. By foot- the mission Pastors did a lot of walking, for the longer trips a stage coach may have been used.
4. \$6 per trip was paid to the interim pastor before the arrival of the first resident pastor G. H. Hoernicke in 1868.

SCHEDULING CHURCH AND SCHOOL EVENTS AT ST. JOHN'S

Please remember to check with the church/school secretary about scheduling any event. The Secretary keeps a main calendar and all church and school events need to be coordinated through this main calendar!

† **HOLY WEEK and EASTER SCHEDULE** †

Monday – Wednesday (April 3-5):

7:00 pm – Evening Meditation and Devotionals ~ based on the Propers of the Day

Maundy Thursday (Apr 6): 7:00 pm –

Divine Service (Stripping of the Altar)

Good Friday (April 7): 12:30 pm –

Good Friday Chief Service ~ Adoration of the Holy Cross

7:00 pm –

Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers

Holy Saturday (April 8): 7:00 pm –

The Vigil of Easter Divine Service

EASTER SUNDAY (April 9):

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord

6:00 am –

Sunrise Divine Service with Communion

7:00 am-10:00 am –

Easter Breakfast Served

8:00 am –

Divine Service with Communion

10:30 am –

Divine Service with Communion



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Phone: 763-420-2426
 Fax: 763-420-7198

Web Portal:
www.stjlutheran.org

E-mail:
secretary@stjlutheran.org
secretary2@stjlutheran.org



EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Lutheran Public Radio. Listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org.

GET CHURCH EMAIL COMMUNICATION: If you are not already on our church email distribution list for notices such as upcoming church events, funerals, weather closures, etc. and wish to be included, please provide your email address to: secretary@stjlutheran.org

~LIFE NOTES~

"As you travel with Jesus through Holy Week, don't lose heart. He is your Palm Sunday King. He will always come to you and give you the best of what He has to offer because of His humble attitude and His devotion to His mission. When you see this Savior who personally cares for you, you can't help but join the believers of old to give to the Lord your best and most precious treasures of your heart and life, and then to join with all believers saying, 'Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!'" Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life www.lutheransforlife.org



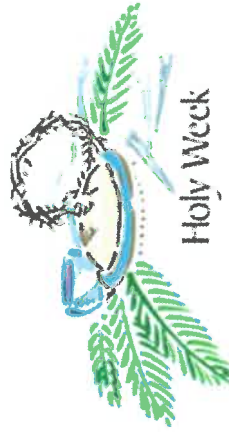
Holy Week



APRIL BIRTHDAYS AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Jessica Anderson	3 Donna Kliche	4 Sandy Glefer Linda Schutte	5 Casey Philipp John Purdes	6	7 Becky Bredenberg Riley Klein Grady Mathwig Dennis Schwecke	8 Kevin Pomerente
9 Krista Anderson Annika Dufault Todd Haag Josh Ims	10 Kyle Bode	11 Donald Kalk Coralyn Koehler Dan Picotte Mackenzie Sumstad	12 Mark Ellinger Nicoleen Meyer	13 Judie McClees	14 Caitlin Ashland Jasmine Brockberg Jill Gehl	15 Adalyn Baltas
16 James Peterson Adalynn Stewart	17 Drew Anderson Brady Kappel D.J. Schilling	18 Marie Lindblad Audra Wolter	19 Ava Ashland Leo Heidorn Ross Meyer Daphne Olson Liam Spaulding	20 Darcy Wandersee	21 Tara Eder Jeff Holovnia Michelle Malecha	22 James Beck Ivar Briel
23	24 McKenzie Burke Kari Schutte	25 Jordan Ashland	26 Sam Say	27	28 Diane Haag Ronald Mead	29 Edward Murschel
30 Dave Hebert						





Holy Week



April 2023



Earth Day



*Monthly events are subject to change

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 PALM SUNDAY Church Handbell Choir & Sunday School Sings at both services 8:00 am Divine Svc [indv gls] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [cm cup]	3	4 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Holy Week Meditations/Devotions	5 8:10 am Chapel 5:30 pm Wed Catechism 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Holy Week Meditations/Devotions	6 MAUNDY THURSDAY ~No School/ESP~ ~Easter Break~ 12pm Deacon Reports Due 6:15 pm Choir Warm-up 7:00 pm Divine Svc~ Stripping of the Altar [cc]	7 GOOD FRIDAY ~No School/ESP/Ofc Clisd~ ~Easter Break~ 12:30 Good Friday Matins- Chief Service of The Word 6:15 pm Choir Warm-up 7:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers	8 HOLY SATURDAY 6:15 pm Choir Warm-up 7:00 pm Easter Vigil Service [individual glasses]
9 EASTER SUNDAY 6:00 am Sunrise Div Svc [cc] 7:00 am -10am Breakfast 7:30 am Choir Warm-up 8:00 am Divine Svc [cm cup] 9:15 am NO Sunday School 9:30 am NO Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [cm cup]	10 ~No School/ESP/Ofc Clisd~ ~Easter Break~	11 9:00 am Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm PTL Meeting	12 6:00 pm Wed Catechism	13 9:30 am Pastors Circuit Winkel 7:00 pm Deacons Council Meeting	14 8:10 am Chapel (7/8 Handbells)	15
16 8:00 am Divine Svc [indv gls] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [cm cup]	17	18 9:00 am NO Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Board Meetings	19 6:00 pm Wed Catechism	20 MAY NWSLTR DEADLINE	21 8:10 am Chapel (All School/ K-2 Choir Sings)	22 Earth Day 11:00 am Fellowship Event- Ladies Luau Luncheon & Spring Social
23 Good Shepherd Sunday 8:00 am Divine Svc [cm cup] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [indv gls] (K-2 gr Choir Sings at 2 nd Svc) 12:30 pm Congregational Assembly (Rescheduled)	24	25 9:00 am Adult Bible Study	26 Administrative Professionals Day 6:00 pm Wed Catechism	27	28 Arbor Day 8:10 am Chapel	29 9:00 am Eagle Family FUNDAY
30 8:00 am Divine Svc [indv gls] 9:15 am Sunday School 9:30 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Svc [cm cup]						

April 2023



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School
9141 County Road 101
Corcoran, MN 55340

**Divine Services Live-Streamed on Sundays at 8:00 am
Sunday Divine Service 10:30 am**



THE SERVICE OF INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION
is available this month by appointment only. Take advantage of this opportunity to hear
God's Word of forgiveness spoken to you individually in Jesus' Name.

"If we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us
from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)

LAST ONE OUT, PLEASE REMEMBER TO LOCK THE DOORS, PICK UP AFTER YOURSELVES.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!