

# *THE GOOD NEWSLETTER*

*March 2019*



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL  
— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

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**“God’s Love in Action”**

### ***What's That Smell?***

On the first morning of our vacation years ago, my wife and I awoke to see a steady drizzle of rain hitting the window of our New York hotel. "So much for our morning stroll in Central Park," said Susan.

Since our walk had been rained out, I decided to head down to the hotel's fitness center for my morning workout. I was thrilled to see that the fitness center had a whole row of gleaming, new treadmills ... each with its own individual color TV! "Who needs Central Park?" I thought. "I can exercise here in climate-controlled comfort, with 125 channels of mindless entertainment at my fingertips!"

I hopped onto one of the treadmills, plugged in my earbuds, and away I went. I'd soon worked up a sweat, but barely noticed it because I had become so absorbed in watching TV. About 15 minutes into my workout I became vaguely aware of a loud noise coming from somewhere in the room. There were lots of people in the room and many pieces of equipment, so the noise didn't faze me. I just kept watching TV. A few minutes later, I noticed a strange smell in the fitness center and briefly wondered if it had come from the guy on the treadmill next to me. But, by now, I was really into the show I was watching on TV and didn't really care what the smell was ... I just kept watching.

Suddenly, I was startled by an employee of the hotel running up and yelling at me. I took my earbuds out so that I could hear what he was saying.

"Stop your machine! Turn it off!" he yelled.

Flustered by this sudden intrusion and the loud, roaring noise now coming to my ears, I couldn't find the emergency off switch. So, the employee pulled it for me.

"Sorry to startle you," said the employee, "but I've seen these things seize up and throw a person off before!"

Apparently, while I was watching TV, my treadmill had started to malfunction. The loud noise was the sound of my machine's belt, which had gone off track and was rubbing against the side of the machine. The smell was from the smoke that was being created by burning rubber. I was so into my TV show that I was completely unaware of what was going on!

How easy it is to get so absorbed into ourselves and our stuff that we become completely unaware of the things inside of us that urgently need our attention. This Lent I invite you to come and get re-focused with a Wednesday Lenten Series called: "Cultivating and Letting Go." Starting on March 20th, this 4-week worship series is intended to help us listen to God, let go of things that aren't helping us, and become more aware the new things that God is doing in our lives. Worship will be at 4:30 and 6:15 PM. It's just half an hour and you can come in your workout clothes, if you want. But please leave the earbuds at home.

Peace, Pastor Russ

### **Scripture Readers:**

#### **March 3**

**8:00** – Kate Prichard

**10:15** – Sue Ayers

#### **March 10**

**8:00** – Addison Tracey

**10:15** – Michelle Grob

#### **March 17**

**8:00** – Greg Buenger

**10:15** – Kady Korb

#### **March 24**

**8:00** – Darcey Tracey

**10:15** – Linda Johnson

#### **March 31**

**8:00** –

**10:15** –





## **Stephen Ministry Informational Meeting**

Stephen Ministry is a program that trains lay people to do one-to-one Christian caregiving with people in and close to our congregation who are going through difficulties. More than 13,000 congregations are enrolled in Stephen Ministry. Our Church Council has voted to proceed with making St. John a Stephen Ministry Congregation, as well. We currently have 14 people signed up who are interested in becoming Stephen Ministers and there's room for more! Pastor Russ Leeper will hold an informational meeting about Stephen Ministry in our chapel on Sunday, March 31 at 9:15 AM. If you have questions but can't make it to the meeting, feel free to contact either Pastor Russ Leeper at St. John Lutheran (641-228-3397) or Rev. Norm Bauer at Messiah Lutheran (641-228-6772) for more information. Also, check out [www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org) for more information about Stephen Ministry.

The glass box that will be in the Narthex starting March 10<sup>th</sup> is for your **Lenten Offering**. Please consider an extra gift of at least a dollar a day during the approximately 40 days from Ash Wednesday to Easter.



**Ash Wednesday  
March 6, 2019**

**4:30 p.m. Worship with Communion  
6:15 p.m. Worship with Communion &  
5<sup>th</sup> grade 1<sup>st</sup> Communion**



**Wednesdays in Lent worship services will be 4:30 & 6:15 p.m.**

The theme for Wednesday Lenten services is  
***“Cultivating & Letting Go”***

**March 13<sup>th</sup>: No Services at St. John**, we encourage you to attend service at Messiah Lutheran. They have a soup supper at 5:00 p.m. & **worship is at 7:00 p.m.**

**March 20<sup>th</sup>: “Letting Go of Anxiety & Busyness to Cultivate Calm”**

**March 27<sup>th</sup>: “Letting Go of Fear to Cultivate Confidence in God”**

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>: “Letting go of Hurts to Cultivate Peace”**

**April 10<sup>th</sup>: Letting Go of Doubt to Cultivate Hope”**



Of  
Note...



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME  
BEGINS  
MARCH 11!  
DON'T FORGET TO  
"SPRING AHEAD"!**

If you would like to donate toward the Easter lilies this year, call Kathy in the office at 228-3397.



### Drive-In Movie Social

Who doesn't love a good old-fashioned drive-in movie theater? Join us on **March 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 P.M.** for an evening with your friends. The movie to be shown is the Sandlot. All you need to bring is a blanket and a lawn chair or a box, large enough for a kid (or adult!) to sit in. We'll provide you with supper and concessions and a great ambience to enjoy the movie. All people of all ages are invited!



**Noisy Bucket Sunday** - Bring your loose change to church on Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, when the Stewardship Board will be hosting a "Noisy Bucket" offering. This offering will be taken separately and apart from the traditional offering and all coins (or dollars if you prefer) will be collected in tin buckets and gathered in one large bucket at the front of the church. All the "noise" received will go to Bible Camp Scholarships. Kids young and old can enjoy this giving and fun event. Let's see if we can fill the bucket!

**The Parkinson's Support group**  
Meets March 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the  
St. John Parish Hall

**ALTAR GUILD –MARCH 2019**  
Kathy Crooks, Kathy Waldorf

**Do Day Quilters**  
Meets March 14 & 28

**St. John Lutheran Card Ministry** will  
meet March 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

**THRIVENT members** designate your Choice Dollars by March 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Call 1-800-8847-4839 to designate or for more information!

### Wednesday Night Supper

**March 6:** Pork loin, au gratin potatoes, pea & corn salad, pineapple cake

**March 13: No Meal:** Spring break

**March 20:** Baked chicken, cheesy potatoes, corn, Éclair dessert

**March 27:** Tater Tot casserole, applesauce, pudding



**The St. John book club** will meet **March 25<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside room and will review the book *Hissy Fit* by Mary Kay Andrews. "A truly rollicking tale...If you are interested in interior design, Southern manners, heartache, and romance, or just a well-told story, *Hissy Fit* is for you." – The Charlotte Observer



**Fifth Grade First Communion**

Blake Tobias Dean  
Bennett Scott Hansen  
Carson Douglas Holm  
Katlyn LeeAnn Parson  
Emma Marie Prichard  
Donaven Jordan Sande

Emilee Jo Sande  
Simon Lee Schmidtke  
Kayla Ann Streich  
Addyson Christine Vance  
Jacob Nathan Vance  
Bryce Anthony Walker

**March Birthdays**

9 <sup>th</sup>	Larry Stewart	19 <sup>th</sup>	David Hagen
10 <sup>th</sup>	Ivabelle Stevenson	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Maxine Vetter
13 <sup>th</sup>	Helen Peterson	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Judy Thornton
19 <sup>th</sup>	Andy Melrose	28 <sup>th</sup>	Shirley Madsen

**Celebrating...**

**The baptism of**  
Kash Jacob Kubik, February 17, 2019



**March Anniversaries**

March 2, 1958	Russell & Betty Ball
March 11, 1955	Loyal & Norma McLean
March 26, 1960	Louis & Sharon Streich



St. John's Parent Support Group will be meeting on an **as needed basis ONLY**. Anyone who needs to meet should contact Jill Connell at 319-215-8252 or [jillconnell@hotmail.com](mailto:jillconnell@hotmail.com).

**Memorials were given in memory of...**

**Steve Buseman:** Don & Shirley Holm, Arlene Thomas, Roger & Kathy Michael, Kent & Lorie Hoeft, Kathy Crooks, Greg & Rosalie Pieper, Mary Mooberry, Jeremy & Jodie Heyer, Lynn & Peg Poppen, Kurt & Kathy Hoeft

**Mitch Nordmeyer:** Kurt & Kathy Hoeft, Dennis & Gloria Carr

**Wilma Handt:** Jim & Donna Gambaiani, Bill & Sharon Bledsoe, Helen Goplerud

**Irene Mehmen:** John Mehmen, Helen Goplerud

**Evelyn Fitzgerald & Emma Seckar:** Helen Goplerud

**With sympathy...**

**The Funeral of**

Bonita Ann Horgensen Milhan, February 9, 2019

**The Death of**

Marietta Sylvester, February 15, 2019

**FEBRUARY FUNERAL CALLERS & HELPING HANDS:**

**CALLER – Sandie Quade.** Thanks to our January caller **Lori Gassman**, and to all who provided food and served.

**HELPERS –** Jeanette Anderson, Becky Boerschel, Rita Booker, Shirley Davidson, Elsie Ferguson, Helen Hagen, Katie Hammond, Teresa Knecht, Gina McClintock, Becky Meyer, Jolene Patterson, Carol Quade, Sandie Quade, Wanda Sprout, Virginia Titus, Wendy Vance



The month brings the official beginning of spring so hopefully the weather will reflect what the calendar says!!

*“As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.”* Genesis 8:22

Blessings, Laurie

### **Youth News**

The Youth will be hosting a **Palm Sunday Breakfast** on April 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be serving from 7am-10:30am. The menu is eggs, ham, hash browns, pancakes, cinnamon rolls, juice, milk and coffee. Put this on your calendars now and plan on attending! All free-will donations will go into the individual accounts of the youth working at this event. (We are changing this breakfast from Easter Sunday to allow more of the workers to be able to attend Easter Worship services.)

### **Confirmation**

Confirmation students are expected to attend **Lenten services** each week in place of regular Confirmation classes. Students, please make sure to fill out the purple attendance slips.

### **Family Board**

The Family Board will host a large group Lent Event on March 3<sup>rd</sup> during the education hour. It will be great to see all the Sunday School students and their families working together to create their diorama of Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane!

### **Bible Camp Scholarships**

Just a reminder that St. John offers scholarships for all our youth members attending a Christian camp. Scholarships are offered in the amounts of \$25 for a one-day camp, \$50 for camps lasting 2-3 days, and \$125 for camps lasting 4-7 days. Just bring in a copy of your registration to the Business Office for a reimbursement.

Thank you to the Stewardship Board for hosting the Bean Bags for Bible Camp event to support this scholarship fund!

### **Sunday School News**

March 6, 2019 is Ash Wednesday. The 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Sunday School students will be taking Holy Communion for the first time with their families at the 6:15 pm Lenten worship service.

**There will be NO Sunday School on Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> due to Spring Break.**

SAVE THE DATES: July 30-August 2, 2019 for VBS. Plan on having your kids attend Tuesday-Friday from 5:30pm-8pm! Look for more information in the upcoming newsletters.

**St. John VBS will be July 30 - August 2 & VBS will sing at St. John on August 4<sup>th</sup>.**





**March 2019**

**Greeter/Offering Assistant:** Olivia Kreger

**Acolytes:** 8:00 a.m. – Sydney Hinz, Kyndra McDonald

10:15 a.m. – Kassey Kakac, Isaac Hervert, Tyler Marth

Lenten Wednesday 4:30: Tyler Marth,

6:15: Isaac Hervert

**Communion Assistants, Crucifer, & Banner Bearers**

8:00 a.m. Colton Crooks, Alyvia Vance

10:15 a.m. Tino Tamayo, Keaton Schmidtke, Deven Castillo, Brandan Castillo

Ash Wednesday 4:30 p.m. Colton Crooks, 6:15 p.m. Keaton Schmidtke

*Dates & times when the youth are serving are posted on the bulletin board outside the Business Manager's office.*

**Confirmation**

Wednesday Lenten worship services begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Confirmation students are expected to attend **Lenten services** each week in place of regular Confirmation classes. Students, please make sure to fill out the purple attendance slips that is in the bulletin and drop it in the offering plate. Worship services are at 4:30 and 6:15pm on Wednesdays.



NO Sunday School  
March 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>  
During Spring Break week

lentevent<sup>+</sup>

**Family Board's Lent Event!**

March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:05 – 10:00 a.m.

St. John Parish Hall

Sunday School students and their parents are invited to learn a little about Lent & do a fun craft together!

**Save the Date!**

Family board will host a **Ladies' Luncheon**

April 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.

Watch the bulletin & April newsletter for more information!







“God’s  
Love  
in  
Action”

HAPPY SPRING! Maybe if I say it enough, it'll actually come. HAPPY SPRING! HAPPY SPRING! HAPPY SPRING! Our small friends are so eager to get outside, but we are still having a blast inside the preschool learning about and celebrating God's love!

Our little friends were certainly busy during the month of February (even with all the snow days!) We learned all about the letters X, Y, Z, & B; how to write them on our own, the sounds each letter makes, and how to sign each letter in American Sign Language. Our 5-day friends are continuing to learn more sight words and are already showing great beginning skills for reading!

Unfortunately, due to all the weather delays and cancellations, we were unable to hold our Valentine's Day Teas. However, we were able to still have the Valentine Exchange between friends.

We have loved having the privilege of getting to know our many friends and their amazing families this school year, but it is already time to start thinking about registration for the fall semester and welcoming some new families to our preschool program. Please feel free to pass on the following information to anyone who may be interested.

Our registration began on Monday, February 18, for our families who are currently enrolled. Registration for new families began on Monday, February 25, and will continue until all of our classes are full. Families who have a child who will be at least 3 on or before September 15 can register for our morning class. The 3-day class meets Monday-Wednesday-Friday mornings from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Families who have a child who will be at least 4 on or before September 15 can register for one of our afternoon classes. The 3-day session meets Monday-Wednesday-Friday from 12:30-3:30 p.m. and the 5-day session meets EVERY day from 12:30-3:30 p.m. A non-refundable registration fee is due at the time of registration. Families may choose to pay \$40 for the entire year or \$25 per semester. Please call Whittney Franke for any further information: 228-7274.

In HIS name,  
Whittney Franke

When the rain is splashing down on the fields and in the town  
Singing winds begin to blow and the flowers start to grow  
How glad I am when I have seen those tender leaves of gentle green  
They warm my heart and make it sing for now I know at last it's spring  
Spring makes the world a happy place you see a smile on every face  
Flowers come out and birds arrive. Oh, isn't it grand to be alive.  
~ Author Unknown ~









# March 2019 Birthdays!!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
						Rita Booker Karleen Sickman
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Norman Bauer Helen Bond Rae Lynn Chase Phyllis Foxen	Diane Barr Deena Downs Jared George Linda Johnson		Xander Chase Jean Evans		Sandra Miller	Abby Ayers Larry Stewart
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Janet Delap Hana Laue Ivabelle Stevenson		Ajay Johnson Kara Schilling	Helen Peterson	Matt Ross	Charlene Fisher Tyler Marth	Hunter Hinz Barbara Johnson
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Mija Cotton Dan DeBower	Ian Hallett Amy Titus	Carol Brahn Ellen Dix David Hagen Andrew Melrose	Nathalia Dean Dan Kehret		B. J. Gifford	Brenda Bailey Myla Meyer Janice Mulford Angie Parsons Kathy Rogotzke Judy Thornton
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Leslie Bechthold Isaiah Knecht		Isaah Eppley Jacob Hallett Peyton Ungs	Marlene Holthaus Cherie Schafer		Nadonne Buseman Douglas Holm Tayleigh Lantz	Michael Kreger
31						
Sandra Harrington Jessie Holm						

# MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 <b>Communion Sunday</b>	4	5	6 <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	7	8	9
<b>8:00 a.m. Worship</b> 9:00 a.m. Stewardship 9:00 a.m. Lent Event 9:15 a.m. Deacons <b>9:05 a.m. Education Hour</b> <b>10:15 a.m. Worship</b> 11:20 a.m. Parish Ed		5:00 p.m. Building & Grounds 6:00 p.m. Council	<b>Lenten Wednesday Night</b> <b>4:30 p.m. Worship/Comm</b> <b>6:15 p.m. Worship/Comm &amp; 5th grade 1st Comm</b> 	1:00 p.m. Parkinson's Support group		4:00 p.m. Wedding Vance & Decker
10 <b>Dalylight Savings</b>	11 <b>Spring Break</b>	12	13	14	15	16
<b>8:00 a.m. Worship</b> <b>10:15 a.m. Worship</b> 11:20 a.m. Youth board	1:00 p.m. Card Ministry	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible study	<b>No Activities - Worship at Messiah Lutheran</b>	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters		
17	18	19	20 <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	21	22	23
<b>8:00 a.m. Worship</b> <b>10:15 a.m. Worship</b>		6:30 p.m. Preschool board	Lenten Wednesday Night Schedule <b>4:30 p.m. Worship</b> <b>6:15 p.m. Worship</b> 			
24 <b>Communion Sunday</b>	25	26	27	28	29	30
<b>Noisy Bucket Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship</b> <b>9:05 a.m. Education hour</b> <b>10:15 a.m. Worship</b> 4:00 p.m. Drive-in Movie Social	7:00 p.m. Book club	9:30 a.m. Women's Bible study	10:00 a.m. Assemble newsletters Lenten Wednesday Schedule <b>4:30 p.m. Worship</b> <b>6:15 p.m. Worship</b>	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters		
31						
<b>8:00 a.m. Worship</b> <b>9:05 a.m. Education hour</b> 9:15 a.m. Stephen's Ministry Info. Meeting <b>10:15 a.m. Worship</b>	<b>Lenten Wednesday Night Schedule</b> <b>4:30 p.m. Worship</b> 5:30 p.m. Carol Choir 5:00 p.m. Supper      5:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble <b>6:15 p.m. Worship</b> 7:00 p.m. Trinity Choir					