

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

March 2020



ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL
— LUTHERAN CHURCH —

200 South Main Street
Charles City, IA
50616-2751

Phone:
641-228-3397

Website:
www.stjohncharlescity.org

“God’s Love in Action”

Years ago, I saw a cartoon that still makes me laugh. Because of copyright I can't print it here but let me describe it for you. The scene is a psychiatrist's office. The patient is a distraught dog who is lying back on the psychiatrist's couch and appears to be filled with anxiety. As the doctor looks on with professional concern, the dog simply says: "They moved my bowl."

I don't know why, but ever since I first saw it, that cartoon has stuck in my head. It's become a family tradition, really. Whenever I start going on and on about some little change that's upsetting me, my wife will turn to me and say, "So, they moved your bowl, huh?" Which is her not-so-subtle way of saying, "Let it go, dear... it's not that big of deal."

It's funny how little changes can have such a gut reaction. We like to think that we're more well-adjusted than our pets - but then your hairdresser gives you a little different haircut than what you're used to or you click the "update" button and suddenly you can't find the stuff you need on your computer or your husband decides to be nice and unload the dishwasher (for once) and now your pans and utensils are playing hide-and-seek all over the kitchen. Suddenly, you become Skippy the dog and can't believe that someone has messed up your nice, comfortable, predictable world.

It seems to be doubly true, at times, when that change happens in the Church. We think, "How can the Church change? God doesn't change!" That's true. God doesn't change, but the Church does. It always has... from the Early Church to the Reformation to today. The Church is a living, growing organism that's constantly adapting and changing in order to bring the love of a never-changing God to an ever-changing world.

At a theological event not long ago, I heard a speaker say, "the Church today is thinking itself into a panic." As we see major societal shifts happening and as we realize more and more that the ways we're used to doing church aren't working very well, anymore, we're getting worried and starting to panic. But she urged us to resist that temptation.

It's true ... our bowl has moved, and it will move again. But don't panic. The God who fills that bowl and continues to feed and sustain us hasn't gone anywhere. We still have all that we need to be the Church today. We still have all that we need to reach out with the love of Christ to a hurting world. We still have all that we need to find strength and hope for the ups and downs of daily life. We might need to create some new patterns and set some new goals, but that's OK. Everything is OK. Be at peace. God loves you.

Pastor Russ

Our Generosity in December and January

Your offerings to St. John were shared beyond our walls in December/January in the following ways:

8% of our regular December offering (\$3,020.78) and January offering (\$2,137.72) went to support the mission of the larger church

2% of our total offering goes to support our community needs. In December (\$262.19) was donated to help purchase a wheelchair and (\$845.35) was given to the Charles City Schools Housing Crisis Program. In January, Community Benevolence of (\$750) was given to the St. John Preschool Scholarship Fund to help with tuition costs for those in need.

The Fourth Quarter 8% of the Thank Offering (\$2,868.49) was designated to the following: \$1,000 to the Coats for Kids fund and \$1,868.49 to the Floyd County Friends of Cancer fund.



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

The theme for Wednesday Lenten services is
“Characters from the Bible”

March 4th: Rusty Rogotzke as “The Roman Centurion”

March 11th: **No Services at St. John**

March 18th: Linda Hughes as “Mary of Bethany”

March 25th: Rosie Baldus as Peter’s “Mother-in-Law”

April 1st: Wayne McClintock as “Thomas”

Family Board’s Lent Event!

March 1st 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 Lenten calendar or yarn cross!

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



Adult Education Series Coming in Lent

During Lent, Pastor Russ will lead an adult education series called “Animate: Bible”.

This series is a four-part exploration of the Bible and includes video presentations from contemporary leaders of Christian thought. These sessions are designed to be thought provoking for everyone, no matter how much or how little Bible experience you have. The series will take place on

March 1, 8, 22, and 29 between services in the chapel, starting at 9:15 a.m.

Confirmation

Wednesday Lenten worship services begin on Ash Wednesday, March 6th. 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 are in the bulletin and drop it in the offering plate. Worship services are at 4:30 and 6:15pm on Wednesdays.

Noisy Bucket Sunday - Bring your loose change to church on Sunday, March 29th, when the Stewardship Board will be hosting a "Noisy Bucket" Sunday. The “noise” (coins, or dollars if you prefer) will be collected in tin buckets by the children during children’s sermon and gathered in one large bucket at the front of the church. All the "noise" received will go to the mission trip to North Dakota in July. Kids young and old can enjoy this giving and fun event. Let’s see if we can fill the bucket!





**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
BEGINS
MARCH 8!
DON'T FORGET TO
"SPRING AHEAD"!**

Meals on Wheels
Drivers will be needed
March 16 -20 & 23 -27. Signup
sheets will be in the Narthex
March 1st – 8th.
Thanks for helping!

March Stained Glass Make and Takes
We are going to have some Make and Take stained glass days in March. There are still some people with an interest and we even have a couple ladies from Osage that plan on coming down to see our beautiful Ascension Window and learn to make some jewelry. We will meet only at 1:30 p.m. On March 5th and then 1:30 and 6 p.m. on each of the next Thursdays in March. You can decide your time. The cost will be \$10 for a basic necklace and possibly a bit more if a larger item is made. I will show you how and then you can create. New accent items that I have are some 2020 and 2021 silver accents (and many more fun things) that can go on the pieces to make a graduation present or personal item. You can also help the Anniversary Fund by making some to sell before graduation day. Let me know if you are coming at petefishj@mchsi.com

If you ordered pictures from the company doing the St. John Directory and haven't received them yet, please let the church office know and the Communication Board will look into it.

St. John Lutheran Card Ministry will
meet March 9th at 1:00 p.m.

ALTAR GUILD –MARCH 2020
Bev Selvig, Kathy Waldorf

Do Day Quilters
Meets March 12th & 26th

Women's Bible study
March 17th at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel

Wednesday Night Supper

March 4: Baked Spaghetti, lettuce salad, garlic bread, corn, cake

March 11: NO MEAL – Spring Break

March 18: Ham balls, scalloped potatoes, mixed vegetables, cottage cheese, "Pokie" cake

March 25: Chicken, whipped potatoes, green beans, fruit salad, butterscotch dessert



The St. John book club will meet **February 24th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside room and will review the book *When Life Gives You Lululemons* by Lauren Weisberger. "If you ever wondered what happened to the Miranda Priestly's assistant from the *Devil Wears Prada*, you'll love this amazing novel about the character Emily Charlton. Weisberger once again weaves a fun tale of how things aren't always as they seem, especially in the most dazzling neighborhoods. *When Life Gives You Lululemons* is the story of truth, lies and how everyone is a little bit insecure."—*Associated Press*



Fifth Grade First Communion, February 26th



*Xander Leroy Chase
Kaleb Michael Davis
Jonah Dale Justin DeVore
Erin Sophia Gassman
Ellie Joy Lantz
Jaxon Scott Douglas McDonald
Caleb Lon Streich*

Scripture Readers:

March 1

8:00 – Kathy Rogotzke

10:15 – Ann Prichard

March 8

8:00 –

10:15 – Linda Hughes

March 15

8:00 –

10:15 -

March 22

8:00 – Johnsons

10:15 – Johnsons

March 29

8:00 – Olivia Kreger

10:15 – Susan Leeper

March Birthdays

3 rd	Helen Bond	15 th	Charlene Fisher
3 rd	Phyllis Foxen	19 th	David Hagen
9 th	Larry Stewart	23 rd	Judy Thornton
10 th	Ivabelle Stevenson	28 th	Shirley Madsen
13 th	Helen Peterson		

March Anniversaries

March 2, 1958	Russell & Betty Ball
* March 11, 1955	Loyal & Norma McLean
March 15, 1970	Rev. Norm & Carol Bauer
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.

Celebrated...

The baptism of...

*Bentley Alan Hillegas, February 9, 2020
Kayden Lucas McDonald, February 23, 2020*

With sympathy...

The Funerals of

*Shirley Ann Hage Jacobson, February 1, 2020
Doris Irene Goeken Thorson, February 7, 2020
Leon Allen Isakson, February 15, 2020*

Memorials were given in memory of...

Shirley Ann Hage Jacobson: *Frank & Jeanette Anderson, Arlene Thomas, Bette Gullickson, Marjorie Gardner, Mary Mooberry, Wanda Sprout, Helen Goplerud*

Doris Irene Thorson: *Lynn & Peg Poppen, Marilu Wohlers, Wanda Sprout, Cal & Joyce Wood, Kenneth Thorson, Leon & Jan Mulford, Donn & Cherie Schafer, Helen Goplerud, Arlene Thomas*

David Head & Katherine Head: *Helen Schmidt, Jack & Gloria Hulbert*

Leon Allen Isakson: *Lynne & Peg Poppen, Wanda Sprout, Kay Tjaden, Cal & Joyce Wood, Scott Aspholm, Larry & Sondra Coen, Karen Streich, Donn & Cherie Schafer, Bill & Sharon Bledsoe, Dave & Shirley Ripley, John & Bev Selvig, Sandy Miller, Helen Goplerud, Kip & Judy Hauser, Mary Mooberry, Georgena Miller, Ron & Connie Rasmussen, Leon & Jan Mulford, Gary & Sandie Quade, Ruth Farmer, Leonard & Susan Erickson, Arlene Thomas*

MARCH FUNERAL CALLERS & HELPING HANDS:

CALLER – **Helen Hagen & Gina McClintock.** Thanks to our February callers **Lori Gassman & Judy Hughes**, 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, 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 5th. 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 go into the individual accounts of the youth working at this event. These donations help kids pay for mission trips, Bible camps, etc.

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 1st during the education hour. It will be great to see all the Sunday School students and their families working together to create a Lenten calendar or yarn cross!

Our annual Ladies' Luncheon will be Sunday, March 22nd at 11:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall. All St. John ladies and their friends are welcome! This fun event will include fellowship, lunch, dessert, a short program, and a pretty “photo booth” to snap a few cute pictures of your group! Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for girls ages 6-18. Under 6 is free. Tickets may be purchased in the church office until March 20th.

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.

Sunday School News

There will be NO Sunday School on Sunday, March 8th or 15th due to Spring Break. Our PreK-2nd grade students will be singing during the 10:15am worship service on March 29th.

SAVE THE DATES: July 28-31, 2020 for VBS. Plan on having your kids attend Tuesday-Friday from 5:30pm-8pm! Look for more information in the upcoming newsletters.





March 2020

Greeter/Offering Assistant: Quinn Heidebrink

Worship Assistants (Acolyte & Communion Assistant)

8:00 –Kyndra McDonald, Sydney Hinz, Katie Prichard

10:15 – Tyler Marth, Isaac Hervert, Anna Herbrechtsmeyer

Lent Wednesday, March 4 - 4:30: Tyler Marth, **6:15:** Isaac Hervert

March 18 & 25 – 4:30: Tyler Marth, **6:15:** Kyndra McDonald

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

NO Sunday School
March 8th or 15th
During Spring Break week

lentevent⁺

Family Board's Lent Event!

March 1st 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 calendar for Lent or a yarn cross!

Save the Date!

Family board will host a **Ladies'**

Luncheon

March 22nd at 11:30 a.m. Sign up by
March 18th in the church office!



Coming in April...Youth Palm/Passion Sunday Breakfast
April 5th - from 7:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Menu: eggs, ham, hash browns, pancakes, cinnamon rolls,
juice, milk, and coffee (Free will donation)



“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 C, B, & D; 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!

February was also a very exciting month for our preschoolers as each class was able to host its own Valentine's Day Tea Party. Every small friend was allowed to invite one tall friend to our class for cold cocoa, hot cider and some yummy treats. We ended our day reading Valentine's in the laps of our tall friends. What a wonderful way to share the love that God first shared with us.

We will be running our All-School Fundraiser from March 16-April 3. We are selling Scratch Cupcakes! Mmmm! ☺ Delivery will be Thursday, April 23rd from 3:30-5:00pm.

This fundraiser will directly benefit the school, as a whole, by allowing us to purchase many supplies and equipment for all the children to use. We are hoping to purchase new baby dolls, a new set of large foam blocks, and we'd also like to replace some of our more "loved" books. Any remaining profit will also help with updating our many toys/manipulatives and help with the basic funding of our program! **Our goal is to raise at least \$2,000.** The items are between \$15-\$20 and we earn 40% on all the orders. We know sometimes it gets overwhelming with all of these fundraisers, so if you would like to pass on purchasing an item, but would still like to help us reach our goal, please feel free to give a monetary donation. Either way, we greatly appreciate your support!

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 Tuesday, February 18, for our families who are currently enrolled. Registration for new families began on Monday, February 24, 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 one of our morning classes. The 3/4-year-old 3-day class meets Monday-Wednesday-Friday mornings from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and the 2-day class meets Tuesday-Thursday 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 Whitney Franke for any further information: 228-7274.



In His Name, Whitney Franke



March 2020 Birthdays!!

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

MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion Sunday	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Stewardship 9:00 a.m. Lent Event 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 9:15 a.m. Adult Lent Education 9:15 a.m. Deacons 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:20 a.m. Parish Ed		5:15 p.m. Communication board 5:30 p.m. Building & Grounds	Lenten Wednesday Night 4:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. Worship	1:30 p.m. Stained glass group		
8 Daylight Savings Time	9	10	11	12	13	14
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Adult Lent Education 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:20 a.m. Youth board	1:00 p.m. Card Ministry 		5:15 p.m. Family board 5:30 p.m. Finance board NO Wednesday Night Activities	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters 1:30 & 6:00 p.m. Stained glass group		
15 Communion Sunday	16	17	18 Newsletter Deadline	19	20	21
8:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Worship		9:30 a.m. Women's Bible study 6:00 p.m. Council 	Lenten Wednesday Night 4:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. Worship	1:30 & 6:00 p.m. Stained glass group 		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 9:15 a.m. Adult Lent Education 10:15 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Ladies Luncheon		6:30 p.m. Preschool board	10:00 a.m. Assemble newsletters Lenten Wednesday Night Schedule 4:30 p.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Book Club 6:15 p.m. Worship	9:00 a.m. Do Day Quilters 1:30 & 6:00 p.m. Stained glass group		
29	30	31				
Noisy Bucket Sunday 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:05 a.m. Education Hour 9:15 a.m. Adult Lent Education 10:15 a.m. Worship			Lent Wednesday Nights 4:30 p.m. Worship 5:00 p.m. Supper 5:45 p.m. Carol Choir 6:15 p.m. Worship 7:00 p.m. Trinity Choir			