

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Mendota, IL 61342



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Please remember that the standard rule for canceling worship services and meetings is for you to stay safe! If ice, snow, or dangerously low temperatures would endanger your drive or entrance to the church, please stay home! We will do our best to have the office open during our normal hours, but if school is canceled, it would be a good idea for you to phone the church office to be sure we are open before venturing out.

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Search for "St. John's
Lutheran Church" and
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Periodicals

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February Birthdays, Anniversaries,
Special Days, Upcoming Events

God's continued blessings to the following members of our congregation...

75th+ Birthday

Feb. 2 Elwood Kidd
Feb. 3 Joanne Politsch
Feb. 6 Carol Schinzer
Feb. 17 Bruce Wilhelm
Feb. 22 James Armstrong
Feb. 23 Elizabeth Robinson
Feb. 24 Charles Roloff
Feb. 27 Jerrene Gray

Happy 50+ Anniversary!

William & Marlene Simonton
February 14th — 59 years



Upcoming Events

February

2 Super Bowl pizza fundraiser — pizza making 9am, pick up 11am to noon
2 HS provide PADS meal
7 Sarah Circle at 1pm
7 Executive Board mtg. at 6:30pm
7 All Teams meeting at 7pm
10 March To A Million "Textathon"
11 Rebecca Circle at 1pm
18 Office Closed — Presidents' Day
21 Church Council mtg. at 6:30pm
25 Newsletter Deadline
26 Mission Quilt Day at 9am
28 Newsletter Assembly at 10:30am

March

2 Jr. High provide PADS meal
5 Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner
6 Ash Wednesday
7 All Teams meeting at 7pm
21 Church Council mtg. at 6:30pm



We thank the following members for volunteering to serve St. John's as delegates and committee members —

Ellen Olson - Mendota Lutheran Home Representative

Roger Anderson - Nominating Committee

Becky Atherton, Dennis Bieser, Cyndy Kreiser, Beth Miller, Myrna Simon, Jean Carnahan (alternate) - Mendota Lutheran Home Delegates

Steve Florschuetz, Carol Dilbeck, Richard Althaus, Leslie Althaus (alternate) - Northern Illinois Synod Assembly Delegates

Jim Mathesius - Memorial Team

St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

Volume 49, Issue 2

February 2019

Special items of interest:

- We hope you will join us for worship!
Saturday worship - 5pm
Sunday worship - 9am
Fellowship - 10am
Sunday School - 10:10am
- The hospital does not contact the church when you are hospitalized. Please have a family member contact us.
- St. John's offers Electronic Giving. If you are interested please contact Susan in the office.
- Volunteers are needed in February & March to host Fellowship Time. Sign up in Kitchen.
- We thank everyone for their patience in receiving this edition of the Eagle newsletter. Office closures due to the extreme winter weather along with a breakdown of our printer made finalizing and printing the newsletter a real challenge!

Inside this issue:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| December 2018 Council Mtg. | 2 |
| Seminarian Report | 2 |
| 2019 Church Council Info. | 2 |
| Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper | 2 |
| Youth News | 3 |
| Birthdays & Anniversaries | 4 |
| Upcoming Events | 4 |

Annual Meeting of St. John's Congregation

The annual meeting was held following worship on Sunday, January 27th. Council President Steve Florschuetz opened the meeting with a litany devotion followed by remarks about all of the good that God has provided us this past year including our interim clergy and youth director, call committee, church council, staff, musicians, and the many, many volunteers who make our ministry possible. One special note: the Barnyard Project directed by our Task Force was such a huge success that it caught the eye of the Synod staff, and they have invited Ken Ladenburger to report on it at the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly. President Florschuetz also thanked the members of the congregation who are visiting our shut-ins and hospitalized members in the absence of a pastor.

Karen Goy reported on the many activities that our youth have been involved in during this past year. She thanked the congregation for their continuous, generous support of our youth with prayer and financial support.

Karyn Bock presented the Treasurer's Report, noting that we finished the year with a deficit of -\$18,046 which was ahead of the deficit of -\$18,441 budgeted for 2018. The congregation approved the 2019 Annual Budget.

There was much discussion about the yearly \$50,000 distribution of the Ministry Enhancement Fund. The original language regarding the set-up of the Ministry Enhancement Fund was read from the January 25, 1998 Annual Meeting. Point #4 of the original language was amended to direct any funds remaining from the \$20,000 allocated to cover a budget shortfall be dispersed as directed by the Ministry Enhancement/Benevolence Team.

Property Team member Ron Rose reported that the sidewalks were not repaired as planned in 2018. A vote was taken to approve funds needed to repair the sidewalks around the church and courtyard in 2019.

All Team reports were accepted and approved.

The next annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 26, 2020.

An omission to the Annual Report... The Baptism of Taeden Gideon Holland took place on December 8, 2018. Taeden is the son of Marshall and Farrell (Lowers) Holland. We apologize to the Hollands and Lowers for this oversight.

Pastoral Care

During this time that we are without a full time pastor, we ask you to please contact the church office if you have any pastoral needs. We will arrange for someone to visit. If it is an emergency, please contact our Youth Director, Karen Goy, at (815) 228-2391.

Church Council Highlights

The following are some highlights from the December 20, 2018 Church Council meeting.

- Approved the proposed 2019 Budget;
- Approved Call Committee revisions to the Ministry Site Profile;
- Approved Roberta Wendel to be the second Council representative for the Call Committee;
- Approved asking the Northern Illinois Synod for another Interim Pastor.

Finance Report Year To Date thru December 2018:

Budgeted Income \$359,470 Actual Income \$320,506

Budgeted Expense \$377,911 Actual Expense \$338,552

Behind Budget on Regular Offerings by -\$36,126

Special Offerings: \$400 (CA Wildfires), \$100 (Task Force)

2019 St. John's Church Council

The newly-elected Church Council gathered in the Library following the Annual Meeting on January 27th for a brief organizational meeting.

Executive Team includes:

President — Steve Florschuetz

Vice President — Ken Ladenburger

Secretary — Melissa Nosalik

Treasurer — Carol Wheeler

Church Council also includes:

Ed Bock, Dorothy Brandner, Gary Duttlinger, Bill Garthe, Nancy Holland, Dawn Kendall, and Roberta Wendel.

We thank all of them for their service to our church family.

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper



Mark your calendars now for our annual Mardi Gras themed Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper on **Tuesday, March 5th.**

Our middle school and high school youth will be serving delicious pancakes, sausage patties, applesauce and beverages (milk, orange juice & coffee) from 5pm to 7pm in the Fellowship Hall. All proceeds from this freewill offering meal will support our many youth events and activities. The public is invited to attend. Carry-outs are available.

Report from our Seminarian, Maria Bonine



By the grace of God and through the generous prayers and support from St. John's I am over half way through my seminary journey! I am also almost half way through my year of internship. Each day I marvel at where God is leading me and I am ever so grateful for the people I have met along the way. Being a tristate traveler has had its ups and downs; with my primary residence and family in Mendota, my official coursework in Dubuque, Iowa and now internship in Evansville, Wisconsin. I have learned that home is where your heart is and in my case my heart is stretched between three states. I am still on target to complete my theological studies in May of 2020 with hopes of having a first call shortly thereafter.

I trust that the road ahead will be illuminated brightly as God continues to provide me and my family with the strength and courage needed for each day. Your continued prayers and support are also a guiding light for me and my family. Thank you for your care and compassion in raising up a future leader in the church and for your faithfulness in providing the encouragement and financial resources that allow me to faithfully continue in my call to ministry of word and sacrament. God's blessings to you all in 2019. I hold you in my prayers, trusting that God is at work in and through you all each day.

In Christ, Maria Bonine,
Vicar at St. John's Lutheran in Evansville



St. John's Mission Work group would like to extend a big thank you to the congregation for all their support throughout 2018. With your generous donations of material, school supplies and drawstring school bags, we were able to assemble 173 quilts and 112 school kits for Lutheran World Relief. Special thanks to the Rebecca Circle for supplying all of the school bags. The Mission Work group meets in the Fellowship Hall on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 9am to noon. The next work day is Tuesday, February 26th and we hope you will join us! If you would like to work at home, quilt top kits are available in the Information Booth.



St. John's Youth News

"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"



Confirmation Class News...

Confirmation Students, please mark your calendars now! Confirmation Camp is *tentatively* set for June 23rd to June 28th at beautiful Lutherdale Bible Camp in Elkhorn, Wisconsin. All current Confirmation students are eligible to attend, even if you went last year. When we receive more information from Lutherdale, Karen will be in contact with you.

Thank you for your support of our Annual Super Bowl Pizza Fundraiser!



Our Mission Trip participants met on Saturday, February 2nd to assemble approximately 190 pizzas. We were overwhelmed and grateful, once again, for your generous support! All proceeds from this fundraiser will support our mission trips and other youth activities.

Junior High Students — We are preparing and serving the evening meal at the PADS Homeless Shelter on Saturday, March 2nd. Information will be shared soon with all of the details.

Bringing Comfort to Those in Need is God's Work, Our Hands
...and Texting Thumbs ...and Dialing Fingers!

On **Sunday, February 10th from 10am-1pm**, rooted in our call to be Christ to those in need, our young adults have made the decision to use their expertise with technology, smartphones, social media, etc. to bring healing and hope to all affected by cancer by **conducting a live "CANCER TEXTATHON"** from the High School Sunday School classroom. We invite you to join us by going to our website: www.1mil.org.

Monies raised will be donated to the Relay for Life's March to a Million campaign taking place in our community in July to be used to help provide free services, support, and emotional, transportation, and financial help to local people who are living with cancer, as well as funding research at the national level. The Confirmation and High School youth are hoping to raise several thousand dollars in 3 hours.

In addition to generating these funds, we will also plan to create encouragement packets that people could take for persons they know living with cancer; raising awareness of ways to locally volunteer or access help; and praying for persons afflicted and living with cancer as well as their family, caregivers, and healing partners during our textathon.

We're excited to have this opportunity to serve as "the church in our community" and extend Christ's caring and hope in a tangible way to so many! **We hope you'll consider partnering with us to share the information about our efforts** with people you know in your friendship circles, groups, and workplaces. There are informational notes/posters on the Information booth in the Parish Hall you may feel free to take and share or you can ask Karen Goy for some. If you have any questions - please contact Karen Goy or Mitch Landgraf.



Plans are being made for an exciting new version of Vacation Bible School this summer entitled *ROAR! Life is Wild... God is Good!*

VBS will be held on Monday, June 17th through Friday, June 21st from 9am to Noon. We are in need of a few adult teachers and high school aged teacher assistants to help us this year. It's sure to be a week filled with fun, friendship, and worshipping God!! Those interested in helping, please contact one of the co-coordinators, Valerie Kreiser at (815) 866-4946 or Deb Rose at (815) 866-5833 as soon as possible so we can finalize plans.