

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Periodicals

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Sunday,
March 12th

Find us on Facebook!
Search for "St. John's Lutheran Church" and join our page.



March Birthdays, Anniversaries, Special Days, Upcoming Events

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

75th+ Birthday

Mar. 1 Gladys Brantner
Mar. 4 William Simonton
Mar. 6 Thomas Truckenbrod
Mar. 7 Robert Shaddick
Mar. 10 Roger Anderson
Mar. 12 JoAnn Kidd
Marlene Simonton
Mar. 14 Vade Wehmeyer
Mar. 16 Joan DeWeerth
Donald Pollex
Mar. 17 Marianne Daniels
Mar. 20 Geraldine Sauer
Mar. 28 Marlin Hoelzer
Carol Kerchner
Mar. 31 Melanie Schroeder

Happy 50+ Anniversary!

Donald & June Pollex
March 14th — 64 years

Upcoming Events

March

- 1 Ash Wednesday worship at 7pm
- 2 All Teams meeting at 7pm
- 8 Lenten supper 5:30pm - worship 7pm
- 10 WinterJam Concert outing
- 12 Daylight Savings Time begins
- 15 Lenten supper 5:30pm - worship 7pm
- 16 Church Council meeting at 6:30pm
- 22 Lenten supper 5:30pm - worship 7pm
- 23 Men's Lenten Dinner at 6pm
- 29 Newsletter Assembly at 10:30am
- 29 Lenten supper 5:30pm - worship 7pm

April

- 5 Lenten supper 5:30pm - worship 7pm
- 6 All Teams meeting at 7pm
- 9 Palm Sunday worship at 9am
- 13 Maundy Thursday worship at 7pm
- 14 Ecumenical Good Friday worship 7pm
- 15 NO Saturday worship
- 16 Easter Sunday worship at 9am (Egg Hunt following worship)
- 17 Office Closed—Easter Monday
- 20 Church Council meeting at 6:30pm
- 26 Newsletter Assembly at 10:30am
- 29/30 Bishop Clements here

The 2017 Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) will be held on Saturday, March 11th at Kishwaukee Community College in Malta, IL.

The CRE is one of the synod's finest yearly events. There are workshops available that *everyone* — pastors, council members, teachers, musicians, staff, volunteers, leaders — can take advantage of to strengthen skills, gather resources, network with others, and discover new ways to enhance congregational and individual ministries. More information will be shared in upcoming worship bulletins. You may also go to <http://nisynod.org/cre> for a listing of workshops and to register. More info on the Information Booth.

St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

Volume 47, Issue 2

March 2017

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 Pastor Lepp or the church when you are hospitalized.** Please have a family member contact us.
- **Volunteers needed** in April to host Fellowship Time. Sign up in Kitchen.
- **Parents with infants or small children** are welcome to use the Nursery or the Cry Room (near the Women's restroom in the narthex) during Sunday services. TV monitors are provided in both locations so you may view the service. Please ask an usher for assistance.
- **The Annual Meeting of the Mendota Lutheran Home** will take place on Sunday, March 19th at 2pm in the MLH Chapel.

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Lent 2017



We are entering the Season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, and ends with Easter Sunday, April 16th. Lent is a time for us to prepare our hearts and minds for the mystery and joy of Easter. I invite you to participate in these times of worship and fellowship as we grow in faith together. Be sure to tell your family and friends and invite them, too. All are Welcome!

Sundays during Lent

Worship at 9am - Our worship services will include songs of praise, Holy Communion, a reflection of Scripture, and presentations of Bible readings by our members.

Fellowship at 10am - This is a time to greet both those you know and visitors.

Education at 10:10am - There is Sunday School for all ages, and three classes for adults.

Wednesdays during Lent

Supper at 5:30pm - The suppers will be hosted by various groups within the congregation. A great opportunity for fellowship!

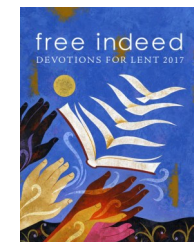
Worship at 7pm - Six area ELCA Pastors are rotating through the congregations starting on March 8th to preach on topics within The Small Catechism. Be sure to attend each week to welcome these neighbors.

Small Catechism - Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton calls Luther's Small Catechism a 'great treasure' and is encouraging the whole Church to read and study it during Lent. We are making The Small Catechism available for everyone.

1. **Phone app** - Go to your App Store and type in Small Catechism Augsburg Fortress. It's a free download.
2. **Hymnal** - The Small Catechism is located in the back of the ELW hymnal on pages 1160-1167.
3. **Small Booklets** - These are available from the church office or Pastor Lepp. Please ask.



Ash Wednesday – March 1st - Lent begins with this service of repentance where we experience the Imposition of Ashes as a sign of our human frailty, and Holy Communion which reminds us of God's love and mercy through Jesus Christ.



Free Indeed: Devotions for Lent - We are providing this Devotional to assist in our Lenten journey through the reading of Scripture, prayer, and reflection upon the Small Catechism. Please pick up your copy at church.

Looking Ahead: Holy Week

We follow Jesus during the week of his crucifixion, death, and resurrection.

- ♦ Sunday of Passion/Palm Sunday – April 9th at 9am
- ♦ Maundy Thursday – April 13th at 7pm
- ♦ Ecumenical Good Friday – April 14th at 7pm
- ♦ Easter Sunday – April 16th at 9am



On Saturday, March 25th from 1pm to 4pm, we will participate in a Kids Against Hunger mobile food pack event right here in our Fellowship Hall. The mission of Kids Against Hunger is to significantly reduce the number of hungry children in the USA and to feed starving children throughout the world. Meals are shipped to starving children and their families in over 60 countries through partnerships with humanitarian organizations worldwide. We need your help to end world hunger.

Please make plans to participate in the Kids Against Hunger mobile food pack event which will be held in our Fellowship Hall on Saturday, March 25th from 1pm to 4pm. Sign-up before March 13th by contacting the office or by adding your name to the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

Our newly-elected Church Council met recently and made the following appointments:

Eric Anderson	President, Benevolence/Ministry Enhancement, Finance
Lauren Anderson	Educational Ministry
Karyn Bock	Treasurer, Finance
Kevin Champlin	
Gary Duttlinger	Educational Ministry
Steve Florschuetz	Vice President, Stewardship
Bill Garthe	Property, Scholarship
Dawn Kendall	
Becky Lowers	Memorial & Remembrance, Stewardship
Melissa Nosalik	Secretary, Children's Worship, Worship Planning, Youth Huddle
Lori Simonton	Food Service
Shylah Ward	Member Care, Stewardship

Inquiry Class and New Member Reception



Pastor Lepp will be holding an "Inquiry Class" on **Sunday, March 26th at 10:15am** during the Education Hour. This class is for anyone interested in learning more about the ministry of St. John's. We will also be talking about what it means to be Lutheran. Please grab a snack and a cup of coffee, and then join her in the south side of the Fellowship Hall near the Luther Lounge. This class promises to be really interesting, particularly for those who are considering membership. Everyone is welcome! New members will be received during worship on Sunday, April 2nd.

The Mendota Church Women invite you to join them on **Wednesday mornings throughout Lent** (beginning on March 8th) for a time of worship and fellowship. The group will meet at First United Methodist Church at 9:30am each Wednesday morning. The theme for the first service is "Give Up Something Bad For Lent" based on the book by the same title authored by James W. Moore. A chapter of the book will be studied and discussed each week. A light continental breakfast will also be provided, and a freewill offering will be taken with offerings being donated to organizations serving our community. Throughout the Lenten services, we will be hearing from several exceptional Mendota women who will share their faith stories with us. Please plan to attend and invite your friends and neighbors to join you.



Scholarship Applications are now available in the church office and on the Information Booth. Completed forms must be returned to the office no later than **April 15, 2017**. For further information, please contact Bill Garthe, Chair of the Scholarship Team.

Men's Lenten Dinner

The Annual Men's Lenten Dinner will be held at **6pm on Thursday, March 23rd** in the Fellowship Hall at St. John's. The meal will be catered by Matt Becker of Stone Jug Barbecue and the theme of our program will be "How To Put Your Faith Into Action In Everyday Life."

If you are planning to attend the Men's Lenten Dinner, please sign up on the sheet on the Information Booth or on the sheet in the Narthex. **Please also indicate if you are willing to contribute a homemade pie for the pie auction.**

St. John's is also responsible for providing two volunteers to assist with set-up at 4pm, serving, and clean-up after the meal.

Thrivent Financial Members

Please make sure that you have designated St. John's for your 2017 Choice Dollars before the end of March.

In 2016, St. John's received \$2,207 through the Thrivent Choice Dollars Program.

We thank you for choosing St. John's!

St. John's has a **Scholarship program** to help the youth of our congregation finance their education at a school of higher learning. College



St. John's Youth News

"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"



High School Students...

Our friend and Sunday School classmate, Jackson Guo, will be performing in *Mary Poppins* on Sunday, March 12th at 2pm in Amboy. Please contact Maria to reserve your free ticket.



Maria is organizing an outing to **WinterJam** for any interested junior high or high school students. We will travel to AllState Arena on Friday, March 10th to enjoy a evening of Christian music for \$10. We will leave from St. John's at 3:45pm and return late. Parents, please contact Maria if you are able to help with transportation!

Confirmation Class News...

Mark your calendars now for these upcoming events —

- February 28th - Pancake Supper
- March 8th - Lenten Meal
- March 25th - Kids Against Hunger food pack
- March 26th - Play chimes during worship
- March 26th - Visit Mendota Lutheran Home during the Sunday School hour



Have you turned in your Confirmation Camp registration form yet?

Be sure to take a good look at the March Volunteer Schedule. You may be assigned to assist at a Wednesday Lenten service in addition to the usual weekend services.

****Sunday School students 3year old Preschool through 2nd grades will be singing during worship on Sunday, March 26th.****



We are excited to announce that counselors from **Lutherdale Bible Camp** will again conduct Vacation Bible School at **St. John's** for all students who have completed Kindergarten through 5th grade. We will welcome the counselors on Sunday, June 18th and camp will be held from Monday, June 19th through Thursday, June 22nd. Registration forms and additional information will be available as the date approaches.

Wednesday Lenten Meals



Confirmation and High School youth will be serving the Lenten meal on Wednesday, March 8th. We will be offering our famous baked potatoes, chili and hot dogs! Please meet in Norma's Kitchen at 4:45pm.

Check the bulletin board in the Youth hallway for the donations needed to make our meal a success. (Hot dogs & buns, potatoes, bacon bits, shredded cheese, sour cream, chili, cookies, and brownies.)

Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper
February 28th — 5pm to 7pm

Our annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper is right around the corner. Be sure to invite your family and friends to join us! We are still in need of "just add water" pancake mix, sugar-free syrup, squeeze bottles of butter, milk, and orange juice. Confirmation and high school students should plan to be in the Fellowship Hall to set-up at 4pm. Servers and kitchen crew will be needed by 4:30pm. See you there!

