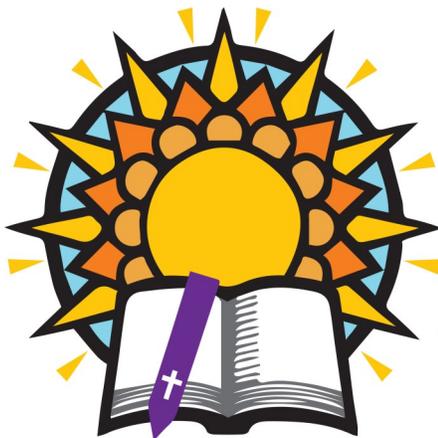


April Newsletter

2021



Rejoice! He Lives!

There's more!

On the first Easter morning, three women found an empty tomb. The discovery left them trembling and afraid. They didn't know there was more — a resurrected Lord.

Later that day, the risen Jesus appeared. As happy as the disciples were about this miracle, they didn't yet know there was more — a gift of the Holy Spirit that would make their joy complete.

Early Christians in Corinth were so delighted by the gift of baptism that they could scarcely imagine there was more — the resurrection of the body to eternal life.

As great as Easter is, it's only the "first fruits" of what lies ahead. Celebrate the fact that Christ is risen, but remember that the best is yet to come!

Easter Services
7:00 & 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
*Sunday School
& Bible Class*
9:15 a.m.

Wednesday Worship
April 21 @ 6:30 p.m.



St. John's Lutheran Church—Sherburn, Minnesota
317 South Main, Box 760, Sherburn, Minnesota
(507) 764-5312

Email: church@sjlsherburn.com

Website: stjohnlutheransherburn.org

[facebook@stjohnslutheransherburnmn](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnslutheransherburnmn)

Pastor: Rev. Steven D. Wilson (507)236-1181

Vicar: Mr. Jeff Hagen (507)236-3114

Holy WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday—April 1
7:00 p.m. Holy Communion Service

Good Friday—April 2
7:00 p.m. Service

Easter Sunday—April 4
Communion Services
7:00 & 9:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast
7:30-9:15 a.m.

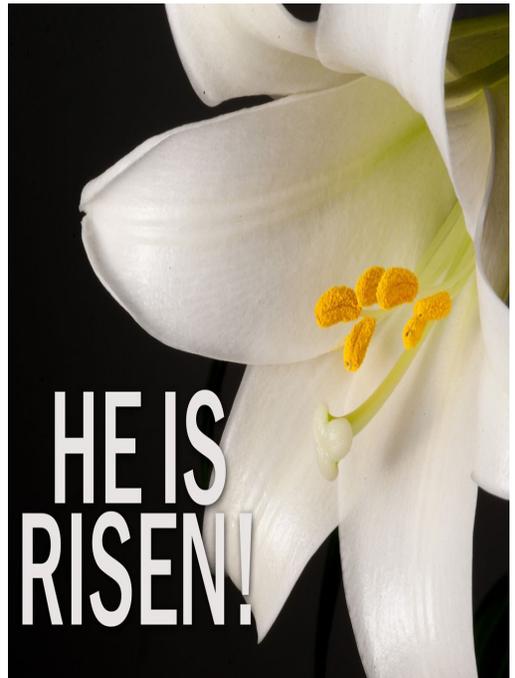
Change In Worship/Sunday School Schedule Starting April 11

With more and more members at St. John's returning back to in-person worship, the Board of Elders has decided to add another Sunday morning worship service.

Starting Sunday, April 11, we will have worship services at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. and Sunday school/Bible study will move back to its normal time slot of 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. We will still have social distancing guidelines in place to provide a safe atmosphere for those who come to worship at St. John's Lutheran. We will also continue to provide the fireplace room as an overflow space for those that are not yet comfortable worshipping in the sanctuary.

Contemporary Worship Service for April is Wednesday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m.

We praise God for the opportunity to come together to worship as the family of Christ at St. John's!



Pastoral Visits

If you are not comfortable coming to church due to the virus concerns or otherwise, but would like to have a pastoral visit and communion, please contact the church office at 507-764-5312 or email us at the church office church@sjlsherburn.com



The youth invite you to the Easter breakfast that they will be serving on Easter Sunday from 7:30-9:15 a.m. They will be serving egg bake and rolls.



"Jesus Came To Unlock The Doors Of Our Fears"

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After He said this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. (John 20:19-23)

What a great turn out for our Palm Sunday Service as our children were a part of the processional following the cross into the church waving their palm branches with the congregation singing: "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna." Following the processional hymn the children sang their Hosanna's to the Lord while they waved their palm branches. Connie Markquart and Mary Petersen then invited the congregation to join with the children singing our Hosanna's waving our palm branches or bulletins. It was a great way to begin our Palm Sunday worship service.

Through the reading of the Gospels we have a picture of what it was like when Jesus entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The followers of Jesus wanted Him to be their king. They shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the King of Israel!" It became a fanfare and parade with Jesus riding into town on a colt of a donkey with people laying down their garments on the ground before Him and waving palm branches. What a moment two thousand years ago when this event took place in the lives of His followers and even more so for us today for we know the reason for His coming into Jerusalem. However, the disciples were dealing with the reality of what they witnessed and experienced when they saw with their own eyes Jesus suffering and dying on the cross. They saw Jesus being taken down from the cross and being buried in a tomb. They had a deep sense of sorrow and loneliness and they were afraid and not knowing what to do, they hid behind locked doors.

It seems that the disciples had forgotten what Jesus had shared with them preceding His death. Jesus time and time again prepared His disciples for what was to come. That He would die and be buried, but in three days He would return to them. He tried to comfort them on Maundy Thursday after celebrating the Passover meal and instituting The Lord's Supper by saying to them: "Don't not let your hearts be troubled trust in God and trust also in Me." (John 14:1)

Instead of putting their faith and trust in what Jesus had said and all He did to prepare them for His death and burial they found it better to lock themselves behind locked doors. They lived as they had no hope and expectation of what was to come. They remained behind those locked doors for three of the longest days of their lives. It was while they were hiding that the following events were taking place at the tomb of where Jesus was buried.

Mary Magdalene and some other women went to the tomb to prepare Jesus' body for burial because He was laid in the tomb by Joseph and Nicodemus in haste due to the fact that Sabbath was about to begin. When she came to the tomb the big stone had been removed from the entrance and Jesus was not in the tomb. She found Peter and John and reported to them what she witnessed and they too went to the tomb and found it just as Mary said. The disciples returned to the upper room where they were behind locked doors, however Mary stayed behind and Jesus appeared to her. He said to Mary, "Go to My brothers (disciples) and tell them, 'I am returning to My Father and your Father, to My God and your God.'" (John 20:17)

Jesus now appears to them that evening behind those locked doors and said, "Peace be with you!" After this, He showed them His hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Can you imagine the joy and excitement of seeing your best friend, who once was dead, is now alive and standing with you. Jesus fulfilled everything that He was sent to do by the way of the cross and the empty tomb. He defeated Satan on the cross by crushing his head. He paid the price for our sins by His suffering and humiliating death on the cross. He overcame the grave for you and me so that death and the grave have no hold on us.

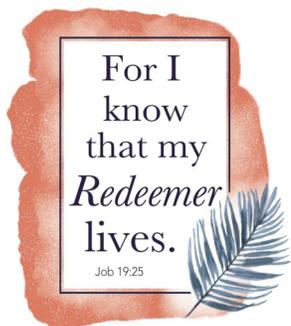
Now, this story asks us, "What is the fear or the fears that keep us behind locked doors without hope and faith?" Maybe, like the disciples, it is fear. Maybe it is sorrow and loss over someone we love. Maybe it is an unexpected accident. Maybe it is an inexpressible stress about parental life, married life or school life; or sometimes people press us with their own expectations or some complain; or is it depression and anxiety that we experience due to the fact that you have little control of your own life; or is it listening to the news that presents all kinds of things that we should worry about. Maybe it is a virus that has kept us in isolation and separated you from family and friends in fear of sickness or death.

Whatever the fear or fears may be that keep us behind locked doors they are no match for Jesus who came to conquer them. Jesus came to His disciples behind those locked doors to calm their fears by sharing this greeting with them: "Peace be with you." He then showed them His hands and side as proof that He was victorious over the grave.

Jesus comes to comfort us in our many fears through His Word and by participating in the eating and drinking of His body and blood in the Lord's Supper. In His Word we have His promise that He is always with us no matter what we are confronted with; and In the Lord's Supper we have the promise of the feast that awaits us in heaven. Easter means that Jesus came to unlock the door or doors of our fears so that we can know the amazing joy of His presence with us.

I will close my newsletter this month with one of my favorite Easter hymns: "I know That My Redeemer Lives" the fifth verse:

He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.



Please prepare for Easter by taking part in our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services.

A Most Blessed Easter!

Pastor Steve



Quarterly Voter's Meeting Sunday, April 25

On Sunday, April 25, St. John's will hold its quarterly voters meeting for the members of the church. The meeting will take place between worship services on that Sunday (approximately 9:15am) and it will be held in the church sanctuary.

The various boards of the church will give reports of recent activity and the business of the church will be conducted at this meeting.

The meeting will be live-streamed for members who are unable to attend, so watch your emails closer to the meeting date for more information and a link to the live stream.

Kingdom Builders Meeting

St. John's Kingdom Builders (all church officers, board members, technology and communications committee members) will meet on **Wednesday, April 14 at 6:00 p.m.**

Confirmation Sunday is Sunday, May 2 at the 10:30 service. We will confirm thirteen of our youth.

Emily Anderson
Sydney Beseke
Luke Curtis
Isabella Fitzgerald
Slade Fitzgerald
Berent Kosbab
Kale Larson
Lucas Larson
Brenan Ringnell
Joshua Roben
Malaki Runkle
Breanne Steuber
Caleb Stibbe

(We would like to keep the 10:30 service open for the confirmands' families, and encourage other members to attend the 8:00 service.)



Worthington Zone LWML Spring Get-Together

Saturday, April 10

Immanuel Lutheran Activity Center
Lakefield, MN

Registration 8:30 a.m.

Cost is \$5.00

Speaker: Pastor Bohmer, Estherville, IA Jail Ministry and Pastor Christiansen retired Sr. Chaplin @ AZ State Prison

LWML Spring Rally Sherburn Zone

Saturday, May 1

Here at St. John's Lutheran Church, Sherburn
9:00 a.m. Registration, 9:30 a.m. Rally

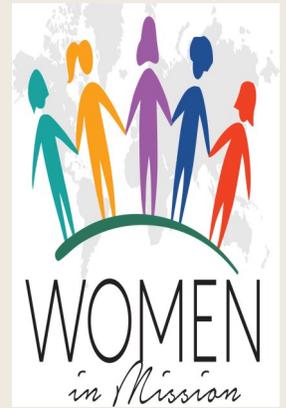
Watch your bulletin and May newsletter for more details

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who remembered me in any way while I was receiving chemo and radiation cancer treatments. Also, a very special thank you to Jeff and Pastor Wilson for all the prayers. Thanks again.

~Marlene Kuntz

LWML Minutes



- ◆ President Lynne Mulso called the meeting to order.
- ◆ Vicar Jeff Hagen gave a devotion "A Sweet Tooth". Most of us have a sweet tooth. Zechariah and John were told to eat a scroll which tasted like honey. God's Word is sweet to us.
- ◆ Secretary's report was read and approved.
- ◆ Treasurer's report was given and placed on file.
- ◆ Diane reported on grocery receipts.
- ◆ Lois Ziemer reported on Zone Rally. The Spring Zone Rally will be here on May 1 at 9:30.
- ◆ Was some discussion on the Rally.
- ◆ Correspondence was read.
- ◆ We talked about when we could have Karis come to speak when there are more people.
- ◆ The giving of memorials was discussed but will leave it as in our standing rules.
- ◆ Ethel Hagen's name was omitted when the books were printed so added her name to Lifetime members.
- ◆ Judy Hybbert read about Yeleta Lutheran Mission Care in El Paso, TX which is a music ministry so people can grow in faith through the music ministry.
- ◆ Birthday song was sung for Marlys Kahler, Lynne Mulso and Lois Ziemer.
- ◆ The LWML pledge was said. We prayed Lord's Prayer and table prayer.
- ◆ A delicious lunch was served by Vicar Jeff Hagen and Pastor Wilson.
- ◆ There were 9 members present, Pastor Wilson and Vicar Jeff Hagen.

~Lois Ziemer, Secretary

April LWML Meeting is April 14 @ 2:00 p.m. The LWML members encourages ladies to come and attend one of their meetings and see what this organization does for our church and mission work.



“Yes, there is a reason”

I began my third quarter of studies for the SMP program at Concordia Theological Seminary a couple weeks ago and we have been studying the purpose and the mission of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. One of the topics we have discussed is our worship liturgy – where it came from and what its purpose is.

There are times that some people may ask something like, “Is there a purpose or reason that we have certain things as part of our worship each week?” Up until now, I really didn’t have a complete idea myself, but since we what we are studying is the answer to this question, my professor suggested it would be good to share this with others. It takes far longer than I have space in my column this month, so I will be writing a series of columns in the coming months giving you a “taste” of why we have the liturgy we use in worship here at St. John’s.

In order to get a better understanding of our worship, we need to look back at how the “church” as we know it now was started. We have to look back all the way to Pentecost for us to learn about the “church”. In the second chapter of Acts, it states, “When the day of Pentecost arrived, they (the apostles – and in some accounts it refers to the “120”) were all together in one place.” The day of Pentecost was fifty days after the Passover Sabbath. On this day, God’s people are publicly formed through the bestowal of the Holy Spirit. In verse 2 it says, “And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

At Pentecost, those who were gathered acquired the names “Church” and “Christians”. This church of believers gathered to hear God’s Word, to have fellowship, worship and partake of the sacrament. When the Holy Spirit descended upon them at Pentecost, it descended as a gift, sounding one message in many tongues. Because of all that took place that day, it overwhelmed many, so Peter, who was in the group of the 11 apostles who were present began to give a sermon preaching to them of God’s work through His Son Jesus and what Jesus fulfilled by His death on the cross. Peter stated to them that all who heard needed to repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of their sins and in doing so, they will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. So that day, those who received Peter’s words were baptized, and the church that day grew by about three thousand souls. (Acts 2:14-21)

It was after this that the apostles attended temple “day by day”, where they heard God’s Word, had fellowship with each other, sharing prayers, and broke the bread, taking part in the Lord’s Supper. The early Christians lived only for their Lord and for the other members of His Body, the Church. When you compare that to today, it is sad that our compromises of this world impact more of God’s members and many do not have that same zeal for church and for the fellowship of believers.

This fellowship and worshipping of the early Christians defines the Divine Services that are contained in our Lutheran Service Book today. The structure of these Divine Services has been used since the early times of God’s church. This fellowship, the coming together, to hear The Word, offering up our prayers and sharing in the “breaking of the bread” – The Lord’s Supper – this is why we have the worship structure we use today at St. John’s.

Next month I will go into more detail about our Divine Services and also talk about the seasons of the church year.

May God bless you, watch over you, protect you, and guide you as we come together in the fellowship of our Lord.

Vicar Jeff

Youth Ministry NEWS

Upcoming activities:

- April 2 - Good Friday following church – Jr and Sr High Food. Fun. Faith. are watching The Passion of Christ movie and having a gaga ball tournament.
- April 4 - Easter breakfast – youth are serving from 7:30-9:15. Contact Sheri 612-756-0707 if you are willing to make an egg bake, bake cinnamon rolls, or work a shift.
- April 5 - Watch email and facebook for information on our Flamingo Flocking fundraiser. Let's have some fun!
- April 7 - Serving at The Banquet – youth are serving at the soup kitchen in Sioux Falls.
- April 28 – Sr High Food. Fun. Faith.
- May 5— Jr High Food. Fun. Faith.

Thank you to the following:

- Scott and Jessica Fisher – donation of 10 pounds of ground beef for youth meals.
Cassy Roben and Sheri Markquart – preparing and serving meal for Sr. High Food. Fun. Faith.

Ways you can help:

- Sign up to make a meal at one of our Food. Fun. Faith. events
- Pray that attendance at Food. Fun. Faith. increases and our youth leaders stay energized to help our youth grow in their faith journey



Spring Bible Knowledge Bowl

On Sunday, April 18, the St. John's Lutheran Church 4th through 6th grade Sunday school students will be taking part in a bi-annual tradition called "Bible Knowledge Bowl". The competition will take place from 9:15 to 10:15 in the church basement fellowship hall.

The questions for this event are taken from stories in the Bible. Students in all three grades will be mixed up evenly into three teams on three different tables with a bell on a string in the middle. After a question is asked, the first team to ring the cowbell will have 15 seconds to decide as a team what their answer is. If they answer incorrectly, the next team to ring in will have their chance to answer until one team answers it correctly. Each correct answer will give the team a point. The team with the most points at the end of the competition will be declared the winner. There will be prizes for first and second place teams and each participant will receive a Certificate of Participation. The winning team will also have their names placed on a plaque attached to the Bible Bowl trophy. There will also be refreshments and snacks for all who attend.

Parents and church members are invited to join them to cheer the kids on that day!

Life

God's gift of life.

*"For one who has died has been set free from sin."
(Romans 6:7)*

Here we go again, talking about death. Death can be so unsettling for those of us who want nothing more than to possess life. Death is so final. The one who dies tends to stay dead. Those who are dead can't do anything. If stewardship is something we have been created and redeemed to do, what good is death?

But once again, our Lord, through His servant Paul, reminds us of the great stewardship of life, that has been given to us in Jesus Christ. We are not called to free ourselves from death for stewardship. It is Christ's death on the cross that sets us free. His death is far from being in vain. In fact, it is His death that gives us the greatest freedom: life!

Life is meant to be lived and lived to the fullest. However, because we were once in bondage to death, we have not been set free to do whatever we please. God has set us free from death in Christ for a purpose. The purpose, like the life we now live in Christ, comes from outside us. Stewardship of the new life we have in Christ is never about us. It is always about the One who gives us life: Jesus. All that we are and have then becomes a living,

breathing, baptism-inspired billboard for the new life that comes to all those in Christ. How we live and how we give of ourselves is to be for the glory of Christ and for the sake of our neighbor. We give freely of ourselves because Jesus has given freely of His life for us. He gave that life so that we might know the love of God. We give so that others might experience that love which comes in Jesus.

We are free. Free from death. That means we are free to live. This free life is a steward life. We give all that we are and have for the sake and glory of the One who gave it all to make it possible. This is the new life we are called to live for Him!

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, Your death set us free from death. Those free from death are given life. May that life flow out from us to others. Lead us to live and love as stewards of this gift of life in such a way that others would crave this grace as well. Use us as Your instruments in this new life. Amen.



- 1 Dixie Preuss
- 1 Mark Wohlhuter
- 2 Mylee Buchmeier
- 2 Josh Lutterman
- 2 Stephanie Wohlhuter
- 3 Rick Behne
- 3 Roy Behne
- 3 Jennifer Clow
- 3 Emily Crissinger
- 3 Janet Kahler
- 3 Kevin Kahler
- 4 Nicholas Potthoff
- 4 Lindsey Pytleski
- 5 Marcella Brolsma
- 5 Caroline Flohre
- 6 Molly Markquart
- 6 Michael Kleine
- 6 Jesse Lutterman
- 7 Karen Brolsma
- 7 Galen Hilgendorf
- 7 Diane Nelson
- 8 Liz Gerhardt
- 8 Verna Bliesmer
- 8 Jim Klima
- 8 Reese Olson
- 8 Sarah Stahn
- 9 Ashley Eisenmenger
- 10 Jon Anderson
- 10 Jennifer Beseke
- 10 Tracy Swanson
- 10 Kinley Hartung
- 10 Chelsea Reese
- 11 Dick Brolsma
- 11 Caden Ballard
- 11 Octavia Buchmeier
- 11 Ethan Heller
- 11 Jeff McCarron
- 12 Madison Howard
- 13 Hope Meade
- 13 Wes Anderson
- 13 Jordan Schwager
- 14 Cayden Gregory
- 14 Easton Gregory
- 15 Cole Ballard

- 15 Colton Leiding
- 15 Jenna Steele
- 16 Sydney Clow
- 16 Ardys Manzey
- 17 Tyson Crosby
- 17 Carol Janssen
- 17 Karley Runkle
- 17 Laurabeth Waldee
- 18 Sarah Knaak
- 19 Pat Johnson Sackman
- 20 Penny Troe
- 20 Rogan Truesdell
- 20 Rachel Vanden Berg
- 22 Carson Kahler
- 22 Loren Lutterman
- 22 Deb Williamson
- 23 Kristin Cain
- 23 Serena Johnson
- 23 Vicki Lutterman
- 24 Sara Curtis
- 24 Sutton Lutz
- 24 Ryan Fitzgerald
- 24 Berent Kosbab
- 24 Nancy Schwager
- 25 Sandy Dessen
- 25 Brooke Eisenmenger
- 25 Larry Norem
- 25 Erik Ogren
- 26 Larry Johnson
- 26 Doug Winter
- 27 Marlin Bliesmer
- 29 Harvey Amborn
- 29 Tom Gregory
- 29 Lucille Meyer
- 29 Jenna Fraherly
- 30 Roberta Garbers
- 30 Terry Peterson
- 30 Jamie Williamson

- 14 Jim & Wanda Klima
- 14 Joe & Mary Kay Schultz
- 16 Zach & Hayley Olson
- 16 Jim & Evelyn Keithahn
- 17 Marvin & Roberta Garbers
- 17 Mark & Erica Larson
- 19 Tony & Carol Zender
- 20 Kevin & Lisa Lange
- 20 David & Jill Swanson
- 21 Marlin & Nancy Bliesmer
- 22 Doug Rosenberg & Becky Mulso
- 23 Ben & Leslie Truesdell
- 24 Allen & Marlys Kahler

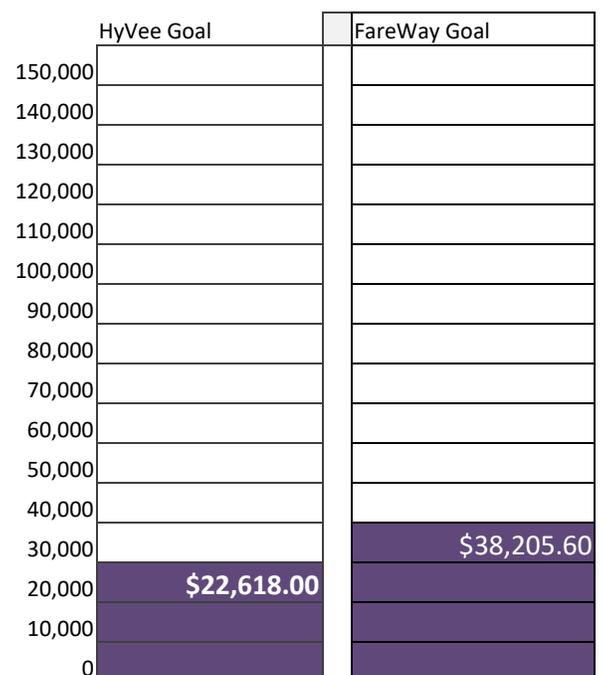


- 1 Kyle & Pauline Steffen
- 3 Doug & Sue Dunker
- 9 Chuck & Sandy Dessen
- 11 Dennis & Jean Finke
- 11 Gary & Dorothy Janssen
- 13 Doug & Bethany Faber
- 13 John & Dawn Weseman

HyVee & Fareway Receipts

The LWML is asking that you save your Fairmont HyVee grocery and gas receipts and Fairmont Fareway receipts and drop them off at church in the container in the front entry. The LWML will be reimbursed \$1,000.00 from HyVee for a total of \$150,000.00 worth of HyVee receipts. Fareway will do the same.

It was so nice to hear the young ones sing for us on Palm Sunday... waving palms and singing as only they can do. Thank you Choir for your part in the service on Sunday! Know the Lord is talking thru the pastor, vicar, teachers and choir. Blessings to all. Blessings to you who save your receipts so faithfully for the LWML so we can help others!



PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING 3-16-21

3-16-21 at approximately 6:00 p.m., President Paul Stueven called the Planning Council Meeting to order.

Present at the meeting: Pastor Wilson, Vicar Jeff Hagen; Paul Stueven (President); Robb Larson (Vice-President); Mary Whitehead (Treasurer); Mary Johnson (Secretary); Cassy Roben (Board of Education); Jamie Williamson (Board of Elders); Marlene Stueven (Board of Stewards); Jeff Markquart (Board of Trustees); Lana Morris (Board of Parish Services); Sheri Markquart (Youth Committee)

Pastor Wilson opened with a short devotion and prayer.

Secretary's Reports

The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of last Planning Council meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

There are a few differences in the reports with the new software. Mary Whitehead will be working with Kathy on these updates and changes.

Paul signed a new form at the bank which will change status of the PPP funds to a "forgiven loan" when processed.

The motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Vicar's Report –January to present, 2021

2021 started about pretty much the same as it had been in 2020 for the past 10 months (COVID restrictions, limited visiting ability to shut-ins and mask requirements.) As you all know, we are scrutinized for all our safety precautions we have in place – especially with the larger audience who view our services online each week, so it has been a learning curve as well as a challenge for both Pastor Wilson and me to deal with for what (as of this date) has been a year since we first shut down worship at St. John's because of COVID.

Pastor Wilson continues to mentor me as I continue my studies towards Ordination, and I am very thankful for his guidance and the ongoing support of this congregation and others. I really enjoy my time with my fellow classmates and even the pastors in my SMP courses. With the pastor's guidance, I am becoming more and more engaged in my activities at St. John's, and I enjoy being an active participant in the mid-week Lenten worship in this year. I am becoming more comfortable leading worship and giving the message as part of Sunday services.

I have also been able to take part in a couple baptisms during this time, along with providing a rite of commendation for a member in their last couple days; so, as time goes on, I am becoming more familiar with the rites of the church, the sacraments and worship in general, which is greatly helping me in my understanding for seminary studies.

As of March 9th, I officially completed my first year on staff here at St. John's and I can't tell you enough how valuable of resources we have with Kathy in the office and Pastor Wilson as our shepherd. By being a part of their day every day, I now see just how much they do over and above what is expected (or even known) of them. Working with them both not only helps me immensely in learning my position here at St. John's, but it also gives me urgency to want to assist them both in as much as I can to take some of the heavy burdens they both have from serving our members. I thank God every day for this opportunity and for having such a supportive and encouraging congregation!

Pastor's Report

Pastor shared a list of Missionaries for 2021 that St. John's supports. We will include them in our weekly prayers in church.

There is a concern about getting our members back to worship in person.

Hopefully, this will get better as vaccines are administered and the Covid concerns lessen.

Upcoming Dates to Remember: (SOME OF THIS CALENDAR INFORMATION HAS CHANGED SINCE THE PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING.)

March 17-Confirmation 3:45 p.m.; Lenten Worship Service 6:00 p.m.

March 18-Pastor's Circuit 8:30 a.m. in Rushmore, MN

March 21-Sunday Worship w/communion 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

March 24-Confirmation 3:45 p.m.; Lenten Worship Service 6:00 p.m.

March 28-Palm Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. (Sunday School processing in with palms and singing a couple of songs)

April 1-Maundy Thursday Service w/communion 7:00 p.m.

April 2-Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m.

Planning Council Minutes Continued

- April 4-Easter Sunday with times to be confirmed by Elders
Worship at 7:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
Easter breakfast fundraiser served by youth 7:30-9:30 a.m.
- April 7-No Confirmation classes and no mid-week service
Serving at "The Banquet" in Sioux Falls this evening
- April 11-Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
- April 14-LWML 2:00 p.m.; Confirmation 3:45 p.m.; Kingdom Builders 6:00 p.m.
- April 15-Pastor's Circuit 8:30 a.m. in Jackson, MN
- April 18- Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Spring Bible Knowledge Bowl 9:30 a.m. (4th-8th grade)?
- April 21-Confirmation 3:45
Midweek Worship w/communion 6:30 p.m.
- April 25- Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
Voters Meeting 9:45 a.m.
- April 28-final day confirmation instruction for 7th and 8th Grade 3:45 p.m.
Confirmation pictures 5:00 p.m.
- May 1-LWML Spring Rally at St. John's 9:30 a.m.
- May 2- Sunday Worship 8:00 a.m.; Confirmation Service 10:00 a.m.
times to be confirmed by Elders
Reception for Confirmands between services
- May 4-Planning Council meeting 6:00 p.m.
- May 5-Midweek Worship w/communion 6:30 p.m.
- May 7-9-Jeff on vacation
- May 9- Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
- May 12-LWML 2 p.m.
- May 14-Gregory/Holm wedding rehearsal 6:00 p.m.
- May 15-Gregory/Holm wedding
- May 16- Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School/Bible Study 9:30 a.m.
- May 19-Midweek Worship w/communion 6:30 p.m.
- May 22-Darv and Helen Roebbeke Funeral (Sherburn Park-backup is St. John's)
- May 23-Sunday Worship 8:30; Last day of Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Possibility of change to service time and location-Everett Park
- May 30- Sunday Worship with time to be confirmed by Elders (Memorial Day Worship)

Board of Elders-Jamie Williamson

The service time of 8:30 will continue until further notice.
One service on Sundays seems to be working well.
Attendance ranges from 60-91 and we can seat up to 110 in the Sanctuary under the present Covid rules.
Easter Sunday (April 4) and Confirmation Sunday (May 2) services will be discussed at the next Board of Elders meeting.
Live streaming numbers watching is fantastic.
However, we cannot determine if inactive members are participating via streaming options.
The Board of Elders is working on how we get more people back to worship in person.
With one service, we have 2 Elders each Sunday, so there is no need for additional ushers.
However, that will change when we return to 2 services, which at this point will be in the fall.
In May, we may switch the mid-week service day to Mondays.

Board of Education-Cassy Roben

The Sunday School plan to sing at church service Palm Sunday, and will carry palms, which are ordered.
The last day of Sunday School is May 23. It was suggested that we have our service at Everett Park similar to the previous service we had at Everett Park. The Elders will take this into consideration.
Vacation Bible School for Preschool-Kindergarten will be June 7-11, from 9-11 a.m.
Camp Omega will have Vacation Bible School for older students in July.

Planning Council Minutes Continued

Youth Committee-Sheri Markquart

The Youth is planning an Easter Egg Hide fundraiser. Adults can sign up for youth to hide eggs for them. At this time, plans are to have an Easter breakfast of egg bake, rolls, and beverages. There will be an option for "to go" orders.

Help is requested from the Parish and Education Boards to help with food for the Food Fun Faith nights.

Board of Parish Services-Lana Morris

Easter lilies will be in front of church similar to the Christmas poinsettias. They will be set up on Saturday before Easter. Spring decorating will be done in and around church.

Sally is working with Pastor Wilson and Vicar Hagen on the welcome packet.

There is a picture board with new members.

There will be a reception for the Confirmands which will include rolls and beverages.

Board of Stewardship-Marlene Stueven

November is Stewardship month.

Gary Thies will be here Sunday, Nov.21. He would like to talk to the Sunday School.

There was discussion about serving a meal sometime this Sunday.

Board of Trustees-Jeff Markquart

We are almost ready to begin installing Smart TVs in the Sunday School rooms.

We are trying to think of ways to get people back to in person worship services.

One option was to have Sunday School at the same time as the church service.

However, this would affect Sunday School teacher's ability to attend church and/or sing in the choir unless we had enough teachers to rotate.

There is consideration to installing a large screen TV I the present location of the bookshelf in the basement. This will be easier viewing than the smaller one presently used.

Technology Committee-Sheri Markquart

There was discussion of adding a verbal pitch of 30-45 seconds to the live stream. This might encourage those watching the services online, to come back to in person services and those who are not members, to contribute to St. John's.

The Smart TVs to be installed will have built in fire sticks to make updating technology easier.

We are short 3 Sundays for Sunday School curriculum.

The plan is to have the TVs installed in the Sunday School rooms which will allow us to try the online Sunday School curriculum which has a video to tell the Bible story.

This curriculum is much less expensive than the printed curriculum we have been using.

We can have pictorial directory put onto our website. There was discussion, rather than paying Lifetouch, having a member of the congregation take pictures. This person would be able to go with Pastor Wilson or Vicar Hagen on home visits to get pictures of our shut-ins.

The Technology Committee will continue to assess our needs for updates to accommodate all these changes efficiently.

Open Discussion

Various community service projects were discussed.

A Post Covid celebration was discussed.

The possibility of serving a meal when Gary Thies is here was discussed.

Kingdom Builders (All Boards) Meeting is Wednesday, April 14,2021.

All boards should have their reports to church office by Monday, April 19 so Kathy can put them into the packets for the Quarterly Voters Meeting, which is Sunday, April 25.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn at approximately 7:25. Motion carried.

Pastor Wilson closed with prayer and we joined with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Johnson, Secretary

St. John's Lutheran Church
317 South Main Street
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Sherburn, Minnesota 56171

The Lutheran Hour

Radio Broadcast: KSUM, Fairmont 1370 AM—Sundays @ 11:00 a.m.
KJLY Blue Earth 104.5 FM—Sundays @ 6:00 p.m.

April 4 "**Fear...Like Onions, You Know?**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Why end a good news story on a note of fear? St. Mark's Gospel wants us to see human fear as evidence that God is at work. (Mark 16)

April 11 "**What It Means to Be a Family**" Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gerard Bolling

Loving, caring, and sharing--it's what we do as God's family, His Church. (Acts 4:32-35)

April 18 "**One Greater Than Mrs. McCalliter**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"When you start to see God, the undaunted, determined, dead serious love of God in Jesus, by faith you start to see Him everywhere else, even when it feels like the world is against you. Perhaps no one learned this better than the prophet Jonah." Dr. Michael Zeigler (Jonah 1)

April 25 "**Replace or Repair?**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

"God wants you to function as He designed you. He wants you to build a good reputation with your neighbors, to be known as someone who is faithful and truthful. But your reputation isn't the source of your worth. God is, and He will be that for you, even if your reputation is destroyed." Dr. Michael Zeigler (Jonah 2)