

# ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Week of April 17, 2016

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## SUNDAY (17) FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8:00 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Group, CDC

## MONDAY (18)

- 5:30 p.m. Walkie Talkies, Tivoli
- 6:30 p.m. Parish Life, CLC

## TUESDAY (19)

- 6:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study, CLC
- 9:15 a.m. Tuesday Morning Bible Class, CLC
- 1:30 p.m. Women's Guild, CLC
- 5:30 p.m. Thirsty Souls Bible Study, Two Rivers Signs
- 6:30 p.m. Sisters In Christ Bible Study, CDC

## WEDNESDAY (20)

- 10:00 a.m. Chapel
- 5:00 p.m. Handbells, Balcony
- 6:30 p.m. Public School Confirmation
- 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir, Balcony

## THURSDAY (21)

- 8:00 a.m. Esther Bible Class, CLC
- 9:30 a.m. Rachel Bible Class, CLC
- 10:00 a.m. Walkie Talkies, Tivoli (DSH)

## FRIDAY (22)

NO ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED

## SATURDAY (23) FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 5:30 p.m. Service of Word & Sacrament

## SUNDAY (24) FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8:00 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 9:15 a.m. Christian Education Hour
- 10:30 a.m. Service of Word & Sacrament
- 11:30 a.m. Youth Group, CDC

### \*Christian Education Hour This Week

Adult Bible Class, CLC • Study of Exodus, APR  
Sunday School, School Gym

APR = All Purpose Room; CLC = Christian Life Center

CDC = St. John's Child Development Center

Also listed on [www.stjohnsportage.com](http://www.stjohnsportage.com) under "calendar" link.



Join the **St. John's Lutheran Ministries** group for news, updates and daily encouragement!

## BIBLE STUDIES

### SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS @9:15

Pastor Hovland will lead Sunday Morning Bible study with us in the Christian Life Center. We hope to see you there for coffee, fellowship, and study!

**STUDY OF THE EPISTLES** This class is led by Dave Tamminga **Sunday mornings at 9:15** in the All-Purpose Room.

**TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS** meets Tuesday mornings at 9:15 and is led by Pastor Hovland. Come a few minutes early for treats and coffee.

**THIRSTY SOULS BIBLE STUDY** meets **Tuesdays, at 5:30 p.m.** at Two Rivers Signs (1316 Wauona Trail, Portage). Contact Marilyn Jahn at 617-7787.

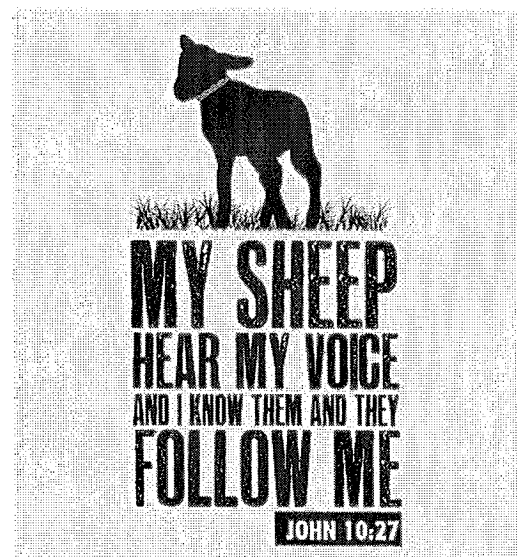
**SISTERS IN CHRIST BIBLE STUDY** meets @ **6:30 pm Tuesday nights** to study *Heroes of the Faith* in the CDC lower level. All women are welcome. Contact Elaine Hull 742-2034.

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** meets **Tuesday mornings at 6:00 a.m.** in the CLC. Contact Ken Manthey at 742-5216.

**ESTHER BIBLE STUDY** meets **Thursday mornings at 8:00 a.m.** in the CLC. Contact Mary Loomans at 742-3972.

**RACHEL BIBLE STUDY** meets **Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m.** in the CLC. If you have questions, contact Gladys Chance @ 742-2014.

*\*Announcements to be printed must be in the church office no later than Wednesday NOON.*



## ST. JOHN'S INFO CORNER

**Last Weekend's Attendance: 388**

**Unified Received: \$15,642.88**

**Other Contributions: \$1,679.00**

**TOTAL: \$17,321.88**

**Weekly Unified Needed: \$13,781.00**

## ST. JOHN'S ELDER DIRECTORY

The Elders listed below are available to talk with and pray with you. Feel free to contact us wherever you are with whatever you may be going through. We CARE and are here for you:

Elder Gene Thompson 697-4786

Elder Ron Mueller 369-1845

Elder Bob Griepentrog 566-9810

Elder Al Volpentesta 697-9566

Elder Don Waukerhauser 617-6171

Elder Ray Wiser 617-6816

Elder Ken Chvojicek 697-2102

Head Elder Jim Atkinson 697-7052

## PRAYER REQUESTS

(Names in bold face are members of St. John's)

### Illness:

**Connie Chapman** (dealing with chemo treatments); **Delores Fandrich** (recently suffered a stroke); **Rita Fenske**; **Verona Gray**; **Michael Johnson** (battling leukemia); **Jane Kaiser**; **James Mientke**; **Kenneth Schwanz** (now at Wyocena); **Edmond Spaeth** (husband of **Ray Wiser's** sister-in-law);

### Hospitalized:

**Tiffany Veach** (daughter of **Ken** and **Marilyn Baars**); **Kim Purgett** (mother of **Jessica Walker**; having open heart surgery April 4)

### Recovering:

**Dennis Bennett**; **Veronica Clymer**; **Robert Hoffer**; **Joyce Mael**;

### How Do I Get Someone on the Prayer List?

If you or someone you know would like to have your name added to the prayer list, please contact the church office. Individuals will remain for a 2-week period. Please keep us **updated on a regular basis**.

**\*Please notify the church office when one of our church family members is in the hospital so that a pastoral visit may be made or arranged.**

**ALSO: Please be sure that you have the permission of the individual before contacting the church office to add them to the public prayer list.**



## Marriage Milestones

No milestone anniversaries this week...



## THANK YOU

Quilters for hosting this weekend! We encourage groups to host coffee hour on Sunday mornings so that individuals aren't overwhelmed. If you are involved in a Bible Study, Board or group that would like to host, please contact the church office to sign up!

April 24	Health & Wellness	May 8	OPEN
May 1	Kathy G & Bonnie K.	May 15	LWML

## Radio Ministry

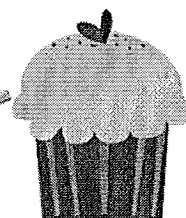


Our **Sunday morning broadcast** of the previous Sunday service continues at 10:00 a.m. on WPDR

1350 AM. Broadcasts (\$50) as well as the order of service booklets (\$30) may be sponsored in honor or in memory of a special person or occasion.



# CANCELLED



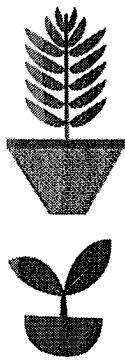
The "Bake-Off" scheduled for Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup> has been cancelled. The Financial Action Committee still has plans to have a Spring Plant Sale (Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>), a summer garage sale, a Fall Work Day and a "Chili cook-off" as fundraising events for 2016. There is still time to sign up for the Spring Work Day (Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup>) being conducted by the Youth Group as a fund raiser for their trip to the LMS National Youth Gathering in July.



## USED EYEGLASSES

The Portage Lions Club will be collecting used prescription eyeglasses, prescription sunglasses and hearing aids for distribution to the needy in underdeveloped countries. Children's glasses are especially in high demand.

A collection box will be available at the church during the month of May.



## Save the Date!

St. John's will be holding an Outdoor Plant & Garden Sale on Saturday, May 14th. Last year's plant sale was a huge success! If you are interested in helping or have plants to donate, please contact Jan or Don Weideman at 742-6776.

-Financial Action Committee

JOIN US FOR  
**WORSHIP**

## Special Ascension Service

**Thursday, May 5, 2016 6:30 p.m.** Please come, and join us in sharing the love of God in the Word and music!

## TALENT SHOW

The School Talent Show is Thursday April 21st starting at 6:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. The cost is \$3.00 per person or \$7.00 per family. All proceeds will go towards the 8th grade trip to Chicago. There will be concessions for sale.



## PART TIME CUSTODIAN AT OUR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

(Compensation: 10.00/hr)

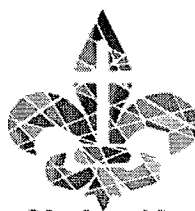
4-5 hrs. a night. Some weekend work may be required. General cleaning, including vacuuming, mopping, cleaning bathrooms, etc. Cleaning carpets with an extractor and stripping and waxing floors as needed. Must be hardworking, able to work independently, and have excellent attendance. Please send resume when responding. Hours are Monday through Friday from 6:30 P.M. until finished and one or two Saturdays a month.



## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

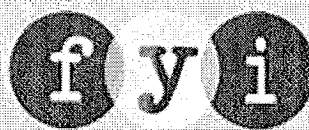
**John 10:27** "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me." On their own,

sheep are in great danger. They need a shepherd to guide them. The sheep know the Shepherd's voice – and we delight to go where He leads. Of course, the world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh want to pull us in another direction. Namely, they want to pull us in the direction of death. But following the Shepherd means life. So no matter how difficult the path is that the Shepherd points out: let us follow Him! **Witness:** Since we are but travelers here, spread the seeds of the Gospel everywhere you go!



## St. John's Youth Group

**In Christ Alone** is raising funds to go to the LCMS National Youth Gathering in July 2016. They are planning a "Spring Work Day" on Saturday April 23rd to raise funds for the trip. Raking lawns, cleaning windows and other miscellaneous spring jobs can be done if needed. Sign-up sheets for people wanting jobs done will be at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions please call Joel Leeland at 608-697-5173, contact the church office, or see Don Weideman at the Welcome Center.

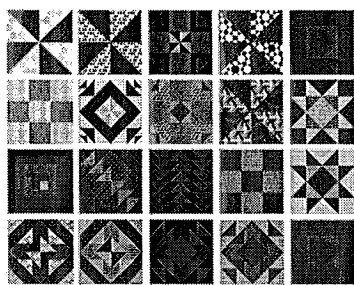


## Attention Altar Guild:

The 2016 Altar Guild Federation will be held Saturday, May 7th at St. John Lutheran Church on Hwy Z east of Wausau. If you are interested in attending, the cost is \$10/ person. Please call Irma Brockley (429-3917 or 742-5351) as the deadline for registration is April 23.

*The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want...*

## QUILTS ON DISPLAY



Several ladies from our congregation have continued their handiwork in assembling quilts to be donated to the efforts of Orphan Grain Train. Quilts will be on display in church this weekend. If you would

like to support this ministry, donation baskets will be available, or a designated offering can be given in the offering collection plate.



## Hygiene Kits

The LWML will be collecting items for relief for families in need through the work of Orphan Grain Train. Congregation members, including school children, will have an opportunity to donate specific items for Hygiene Kits, which will be assembled in May.

These donations may be brought anytime during the month of April through the weekend of May 7-8 and can be placed in designated boxes in the narthex. **Items requested are the following:**

-Bath towels and wash cloths, new or in good condition, preferably a dark color

New items:

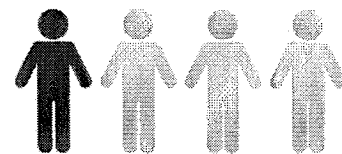
-Bath-size bars of soap      -Adult size toothbrushes  
-Sturdy comb                      -Stick deodorant

We encourage you to participate in this important work, providing relief for human need worldwide.

## Simply giving® online GIVING

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? At no cost to the congregation? Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsors a program called *Simply Giving®*, which offers this service for people who wish to have offerings transferred electronically to their church's account. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with their intended offerings, and it will keep you from having to make up the difference later. The Congregational Council has approved this program for those who choose to participate in it. Contact the church office for more details.

## A GATHERING ON MENTAL HEALTH



One in four people has a mental illness.  
You can be the one that helps.

In partnership with Prevent Suicide Columbia County and other community organizations, Durward's Glen Retreat & Educational Center will host "A Gathering on Mental Health" on Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14, 2016. This event is open to all community members - including people living with mental health challenges, their families and friends, church or agency leaders, congregation members, and the general public. Cost is \$40 for pre-registration by May 1; \$50 registration after May 1. With sessions on Friday evening and all day Saturday, we hope to launch discussions among pastors and their staff, and members in the pew. For more information, visit <http://www.durwardsglen.org/events.html> or contact Cathy Lins, at or [theglen150@gmail.com](mailto:theglen150@gmail.com) or 608-356-8113. \*Information, brochures, and registration forms at the Welcome Center

### St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

850 Armstrong Street  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608) 742-2387 fax 742-7154

Rev. Greg Hovland, Senior Pastor  
[ghovland@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ghovland@stjohnsportage.com)  
Cassandra Musser, Business Manager  
[cmusser@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cmusser@stjohnsportage.com)  
Leah Smith, Administrative Assistant  
[lsmith@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:lsmith@stjohnsportage.com)  
Emily Browning, Accounts Pay./Rec.  
[ebrowning@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ebrowning@stjohnsportage.com)

### St. John's Lutheran School

A Nationally Accredited School  
430 West Emmett  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608) 742-4222 fax 745-4889

Doug Jacoby, Principal  
[djacoby@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:djacoby@stjohnsportage.com)  
Karen Taft, School Coordinator  
[ktaft@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ktaft@stjohnsportage.com)  
Mike Lally, Facilities Manager  
[mlally@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:mlally@stjohnsportage.com)

### St. John's Child Development Center

A Five-Star Rated Center  
426 West Emmett  
Portage, Wisconsin 53901  
phone (608) 742-9000 fax 742-0040

Debra Drew, Director  
[ddrew@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:ddrew@stjohnsportage.com)  
Mary Soch, Assistant Director  
[cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com](mailto:cdcoffice@stjohnsportage.com)



## 5:30 & 8:00 WORSHIP

**8:00 Special Music** *The Adult Choir*

**Announcements** *(if any)*

**The Peace of The Lord**

**Hymn**

"Father Welcomes" LSB 605

**Confession and Absolution** LSB 151

**Kyrie** LSB 152

**This is the Feast** LSB 155

**Collect of the Day**

**First Reading** Acts 20:17-35

**Second Reading** Revelation 7:9-17

**5:30 Alleluia and Verse** LSB 156

**8:00 Special Music** *The Adult Choir*

**Holy Gospel** John 10:22-30

**Hymn of the Day**

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is" LSB 709

**Sermon**

**Apostles' Creed** LSB back cover

**Prayers**

**Offering**

**8:00 Special Music** *Soloist Katherine Hovland*

**Offertory** LSB 159

**Preface / Sanctus** LSB 160

**Lord's Prayer**

**The Words of Our Lord**

**Pax Domini / Agnus Dei** LSB 163

**Distribution Hymns**

"The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want" LSB 710

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb" LSB 740

**Thank the Lord** LSB 164

**Post-Communion Collect**

**Benediction**

**Hymn**

"Children of the Heavenly Father" LSB 725

## 10:30 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

**Preservice**

Come on up, kiddos to sing with Kara on her guitar!

**Announcements** *(if any)*

**The Peace of The Lord**

**Songs** Come on up, kiddos!

"I Am Jesus' Little Lamb"

"I Will Call Upon the Lord"

**Remembering Our Baptism**

Hazel Rose Gudgeon is being baptized today!

**Confession and Absolution**

**Opening Prayer**

**First Reading** Acts 20:17-35

**Second Reading** Revelation 7:9-17

**Holy Gospel** 10:22-30

**Song**

"He Is Exalted"

**Sermon**

**Offering Song**

"Untitled Hymn"

**Prayer of the Church**

**The Words of Our Lord**

**Distribution Song**

"Amen (Because He Lives)"

**Closing Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Closing Song**

"I Will Rise"

APRIL 16 & 17, 2016: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*Serving the Worshipping Community Today*

**Organist:** Sara Jakeman

**8:00 Special Music:** Adult Choir dir. by Kathy Gerstenkorn

"Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me" "Brother James' Air"

**8:00 Soloist** "When I Think Upon Thy Goodness"

**Lectors:** Gretchen Hintz (5:30);

Jim Atkinson (8:00); Ron Mueller (10:30)

**Worship Team:** Led by Lisa Tessmann and Kara Rietmann

<sup>17</sup>Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him.

<sup>18</sup>And when they came to him, he said to them:

"You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, <sup>19</sup>serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; <sup>20</sup>how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, <sup>21</sup>testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup>And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, <sup>23</sup>except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. <sup>24</sup>But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. <sup>25</sup>And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. <sup>26</sup>Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, <sup>27</sup>for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. <sup>28</sup>Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. <sup>29</sup>I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup>and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. <sup>31</sup>Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. <sup>32</sup>And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. <sup>33</sup>I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. <sup>34</sup>You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. <sup>35</sup>In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

<sup>9</sup>After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup>and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup>And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup>saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

<sup>13</sup>Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" <sup>14</sup>I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

<sup>15</sup>"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. <sup>16</sup>They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. <sup>17</sup>For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

### Holy Gospel

John 10:22–30

<sup>22</sup>At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, <sup>23</sup>and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. <sup>24</sup>So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." <sup>25</sup>Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, <sup>26</sup>but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. <sup>27</sup>My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. <sup>28</sup>I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. <sup>29</sup>My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. <sup>30</sup>I and the Father are one."

### Holy Communion

Saint John's celebrates The Lord's Supper, knowing that "it is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and drink." In this meal, we receive the forgiveness of sins. It strengthens our union with Christ and one another. Our Lord invites to his table those baptized and instructed Christians who trust his words, repent of all sin, and forgive and love others as He forgives and loves us. Holy Communion is also a public testimony of our unity of faith. Please speak to the pastor before communing if you intend to receive the sacrament, but you are not yet instructed in Luther's Small Catechism, in doubt, or hold a different teaching from this congregation and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm, all individuals who commune should first spiritually examine and prepare themselves before communing. A self-examination includes the following questions:

- Do I believe I am a sinner?
- Do I, by the power of the Holy Spirit, believe in Jesus Christ as my Savior?
- Do I believe Jesus' own words that I receive His true body and true blood in this meal?
- Do I, by the Holy Spirit, intend to change my sinful ways (repent)?

If you cannot say "yes" to these questions, please speak with the pastor privately before attending the Lord's Supper.