

God works according to His own timetable and when you accept that you'll be able to enjoy where you are right now and get to where He wants you to be. *Isaiah 55:8-9 (ESV) says,* \*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. \*For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

God may not answer all your questions; at least not in the way you'd like Him to. Be assured He is working. Since what He's working on is often bigger than you can comprehend, He won't bother you with details you can't handle.

Think about it. If God had told you all the things you'd have to go through to get to where you are right now, could you have handled it? He knows how long it'll take and how hard it'll be.

Joseph discovered during his time in prison that when God gives you a vision and you commit yourself to it, there's no opt-out clause. Stop projecting into the future. When you live in yesterday you end up with a case of the if onlys and when you try to live in tomorrow you get a case of the what ifs.

Luke 9:62 (ESV) says, <sup>62</sup>Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Matthew 6:25-34 (ESV) says, <sup>25</sup>"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup>For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup>But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<sup>34</sup>"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself.

## **Prayer Requests**



#### Those who are ill:

Don & Elaine Adams, Pamela Andrews, Gloria Balgeman. Alicia Briskey (acute leukemia), Steve Collins (Linda Butt's son-in -law), Payton Cowan, Marie Gehrke, Sherry Gehrke (for wisdom with farm dealings), Rose Hartwig, Evelyn Hertrich, Karen Johnson, Ernst Kohn, Daniel Kowalski, Linda Mandell, Paul Mills, Dave Neisendorf, Dan Powell (close friend of Bette Wine's, in recovery after being attacked and shot). Dennis Roush, Lynn Robertson (cancer), Andy Schuring, Norm Schuring, Shaquita (Nakaila Slaughter's mother), Karen Stojan, Marilyn Thompson, Kathy Voog, Joe Watzlawick (Bobby Watzlawick's father-cancer), Gloria Wine (Bette Wine's sister-in-law, having radiation treatment), and Andrea Zachotina

# Those residing in healthcare centers:

Don & Elaine Adams (Heritage Woods), Dave & Carol Bahr (Highland Oaks), Donna Butts (unknown), Walt Claus (The Sheridan at Tyler Creek), Marie Gehrke (Avondale), Meta Meyer (The Pointe at Eastgate), Ellen Nelson (The Sheridan at Tyler Creek), Bill Mikesell (Crescent Care), and the residents at Deer Path Assisted Living

Those serving in our military: Aidan Buttrum and Ally Mills

#### **Attendance**



#### **Attendance**

**December 31:** 43

January 7: January 14: January 21: January 28:

#### **True Practice of Faith**

Giving back to God from what He has given you is a question not of reason or convenience or what God will do for us but of faith in God as our Creator. Giving back involves complete trust in His providential promises.

## Altar Guild



Altar Flowers are always, first and foremost, given for the glory of God.

## January 7

In honor or our daughter, Jessica Syverson's birthday on the 9th by Pastor and Marilyn.

### **Lutherans for Life**

# Life Quote - January 7, 2024

"What is it that is essential for your life this New Year? What gifts do you cherish? Certainly, Jesus is the most precious gift we have! Let Him shine through your whole life this year. Take Him with you everywhere. Remember whose family you belong to! Cling to Jesus, our Father's Son this New Year! Our Father goes with you and promises His blessings, now and forever!" Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – lutheransforlife.org

## Life Thought - Epiphany I/Baptism of Our Lord

Nothing and nobody comes into existence apart from the will and the Word of the Lord God Almighty (Genesis 1:3). This means God desires the survival of every human life from fertilization to forever. We court great danger if we go against this intent or counsel others to do so (Psalm 29:7-8). Instead let us receive neighbors as blessings and enjoy our Father's favor (Mark 1:11)!

Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Philippians 4:4-7 (ESV) says, <sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Remember the popular hit song: One day at a time, sweet Jesus, that's all I'm asking of you. Just give me the strength to do every day what I have to do. Yesterday's gone, sweet Jesus, and tomorrow may never be mine. Lord help me today, show me the way, one day at a time. What should you do? Trust God to work things out for you according to His timetable.

Jesus Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Christ has died! Christ is risen! He will come again!

## **Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) Grant Update**

2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 4
Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment Lutheran Braille Workers—\$100,000

Lutheran Braille Workers freely supplied large print and braille materials for blind and visually impaired people around the world. The \$100,000 LWML grant, Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment, will help in developing, formatting, producing, and distributing fifty to one hundred new Scripture-based and theologically related materials to people in need around the world.

# **Food Pantry Needs**

Items Needed: variety of canned pastas (i.e. SpaghettiOs), pancake mixes, and syrups.

Fill The Pews: January 21, 2024

Mail Monetary Donations to: Burlington/Hampshire Area Food Pantry P.O. Box 651 Hampshire, IL 60140

Worship Assistants							
	Elder	Ushers	Greeters	Reader	Altar Guild		
1/7	Bob Felbinger	Fred Rackow	Beth Jack & Betty Kurtz	Bob Felbinger	Cindy Kuschel		
1/14	Steve Sporleder	Nancy Heine	Marilyn Eaves	Sandy Dorwaldt	Cindy Kuschel		
1/21	Jeff Pergande	Fern Petersen	Bette Wine	Steve Sporleder	Cindy Kuschel		
1/28	Steve Sporleder	Christy Petersen	Dave & Pam Neisendorf	Fern Petersen	Cindy Kuschel		

Birthdays					
1/11	Adrianna Jacob				
Wedding Anniversaries					
1/9	Bart & Becky Needham				
1/13	Steve & Loretta Hatch				
Baptism Anniversary					
1/8	Bobby Watzlawick				
1/10	/10 Ashley Muir				

# **Lutheran Hour**

## January 7

"As We Forgive"
Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Dr. Michael Zeigler discusses
forgiveness—what it is and
what it isn't.

#### January 14

"How Could She Ever Forgive Him?" Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler It's not a contradiction to offer forgiveness while insisting on justice.

# Broadcast Stations & Times: Sundays

WGN 720 AM, 6:30 am WGSL 91.1 FM, 4:30 pm WKKD 1580 AM, 9:30 am

This Week						
Sunday, 1/7	Worship Donut Sunday (hosted by Ladies' Aid) & LWML* Mites Sunday Children's Sunday School (Lesson: The Holy Spirit Comes, Acts 2:1-12)	9:00 am 10:00 am				
Tuesday 1/0	Adult Bible Study  Dartball	10:30 am				
Tuesday, 1/9 Wednesday, 1/10	Chapel - Deer Path Chapel - Little Saints Preschool	10:00 am 11:45 am				
Thursday, 1/11	Chapel - Little Saints Preschool Bible Study	11:15 am 1:30 pm				
Looking Ahead						
Sunday, 1/14	Worship Children's Sunday School (Lesson: The Community of Believers Share, Acts 2:42-47) Adult Bible Study	9:00 am 10:00 am				
Monday, 1/15	No Preschool Martin Luther King Jr. Day					
Tuesday, 1/16	LWML* Quarterly Bible Study Where is Your Treasure	6:30 pm				
Wednesday, 1/17	Chapel - Deer Path	10:00 am				
1/17 - 2/9	Denise on medical leave					
Thursday, 1/18	Pinochle Bible Study Preschool Board Meeting	1:00 pm 1:30 pm 6:30 pm				
Sunday, 1/21	Worship Fill The Pews Children's Sunday School (Lesson: Peter and John Heal a Man Who Couldn't Walk, Acts 3:1-11) Adult Bible Study	9:00 am 10:00 am 10:30 am				
Monday, 1/22	<b>Board of Outreach Meeting</b>	6:30 pm				
Tuesday, 1/23	Dartball					
Wednesday, 1/24	Chapel - Deer Path Chapel - Little Saints Preschool	10:00 am 11:45 am				
Thursday, 1/25	Chapel - Little Saints Preschool Bible Study	11:15 am 1:30 pm				

<sup>\*</sup> Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Mrs. Kristina Kolodziej
Little Saints Preschool Director
847-464-5134
preschool@stpetersnorthplato.org
www.stpetersnorthplato.org
Facebook: Little Saints Preschool