



The Dual-Parish Review

Message from Pastor

We are living in a time when people are fond of saying, “You have your opinion; I have mine. Maybe your Easter celebration turns you on, but don’t tell me it’s the only truth. Jesus? Buddha? Mohammed? Truth is whatever you and your friends make it out to be.” That’s the way many people look at truth today. Easter and Jesus, many people say, may be “true” for us but not for everybody. Faced with this mindset we’ve got to ask some basic questions. How much does Easter matter for *us*? How much does Easter matter for you? Will our celebration of Easter matter for others?

How much does Easter matter for you and me? The Apostle Peter says, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, because according to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” (1 Peter 1:3). Jesus died and rose for the sins of the whole world, especially for you. In fact, it’s because Jesus did die and rise for you, that you can be assured that your sins are forgiven and that you do have eternal life. For you, Jesus allowed Himself to be beaten and flogged, and teased and taunted. And for you, Jesus allowed a crown of thorns to be pressed into His head. But most important of all, it was for you that Jesus laid down on that fateful Friday, and allowed His hands and feet to be nailed to a wooden cross. At any time, Jesus could have said, “That’s it! I’ve had enough. No more!” But for you, *for you*, Jesus not only endured the cross, He died on it. And He did it all to pay for your sins. He was then laid in a tomb. And just when it looked like all was lost, just when it looked like this Messiah was just some cruel joke, just when it looked like that was it, it happened! Jesus rose from the dead!

St. Peter says, “For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed...but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without any blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through Him you believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and glorified Him, and so your faith and hope are in God” (1:18-21). Yes, Easter matters...to you...to me, and it can matter to anyone who believes in Him!

As followers of Jesus we believe that this is the absolute truth. St. Peter says, “You have purified yourself by obeying the truth” (1:22). We believe this word of resurrection is the truth and that it is true for us and for everyone. Our eternal destiny depends on it, “God has given us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” With that in mind, what should it look like to others because Easter matters to us?

Continued.....on page 2



2023

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

233500 County Road E

Milan, Wisconsin 54411

Sunday Worship at 8:00 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

Pastors Office Hours @ BETH.

By appointment

Pastors Number:

715-330-5599:

*not a cell, no text messages

Pastors Email:

lcmsrevmike@gmail.com

Office Secretary Email:

secretary@stjbeth.org

St. John “High Steeple” Lutheran Church

119415 Huckleberry Road

Edgar, Wisconsin 54426

Sun. Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Sun. Bible Study at 11:45am

Pastor: Rev. Michael Mathey

Pastors Office Hours: M, T,W, T, :

9am to 5pm

Pastors Number:

715-352-2888

Or 715-330-5599.

Neither are Cell Phones Leave

A Message (no texts)

Pastors Email:

lcmsrevmike@gmail.com

Sec. Office Hours: M, T, W, F:

1pm to 4pm

Dual Parish Office:

715-352-2888

Office Secretary Email:

secretary@stjbeth.org

Dual Parish Website:

www.Stjbethorg

When we live as though Easter matters, we put a high priority on being a Christian community, on our life together as the body of Christ. We regularly come to God's house to hear His Word and receive our Lord's Supper. We continue to be fervent in our daily prayers and devotions, even beyond Lent. "Lord, we believe Your word is truth; help our unbelief!" When Easter matters we continue as a church to do good works in our community and let our neighbors know that Christ is here with us for them.

Bunnies and candy and eggs are all good and fine, but the true meaning of Easter is so much more. The angel at the tomb puts it nicely, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead..." Come and see so that you can go and tell the Good News of this Easter season. The news of the hope that is in each of us that Christ has risen! He has risen indeed! Let others know that your faith isn't about living a life that is "holier than thou," but that your faith is instead a life that sees the cross and knows that in spite of its pain and suffering and ability to kill our Lord, His tomb is empty and He is alive! Alleluia! Amen. – *Until Next Month – Pr. M.*

St. John Council Meeting

March 16, 2023

Doug opened the meeting with prayer. Present were Doug Brown, Mel Niemann, Jeff Werner, Traci Pehlke, Kay Christiansen, Stephan Schneider, and Sharon Niemann.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Pastor Mathey left word that Amber Kroening had requested release to St. Andrew Church. 3200 N Mountain Rd. Wausau. 54401.

Elders had no report.

Outreach reported that they have plans for a Brewers bus trip. The council approved to provide start up funds to secure a bus and tickets. These monies would be paid back as soon as reservations were sent in by trip attendees. More info will follow shortly; watch the bulletin.

A blood drive is being held in April at St. John; the date is to be announced.

Sound equipment for the Edgar Parade to amplify the chime choir is being investigated.

Treasures report was given. We are still behind budget goals. Basic bills are being covered.

Financial, Trustees, and Cemetery committees all had no reports.

Reports were accepted as given.

Old business, no report.

New business, no report.

Motion to adjourn was made and we closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Sharon Niemann, Recording Secretary



St. John Lutheran Church

**Blood Drive
Saturday April 22
9am - 1pm**

**Helpful hint:
Make sure to eat a healthy
meal and drink plenty
of water before donating.**

Saving lives, while saving the planet! All donors with a valid email who complete a redemption form will receive a link and tree ID planted in honor of their donation. Visit versiti.org/onetree

Bethlehem

Birthdays

Geisking, Thomas	4/05
Graun, Kimberly	4/05
Gumz, Jolene	4/06
Weiler, April	4/07
Klimpke, William	4/09
Viegut, Marya	4/13
Thielman, Brooks	4/15
Denzin, Bruce	4/18
Schmidt, Brenda	4/19
Schmidt, Derek	4/19
Thielman, Jase	4/21
Cook, Caelyn	4/27
Cook, Calliegh	4/27
Cornelius, Joe	4/27
Kunze, Nathan	4/28

St. John

Birthdays

Wussow, Taylor	4/06
Marcis, Charles	4/07
Murkowski, Joe	4/07
Witucki, Matthew	4/07
Thompson, Lisa	4/14
VanHoy, Carson	4/15
Callies, Nadine	4/19
Pehlke, Marcus	4/22
Hamann, Dale	4/26
Thompson, Alex	4/27
Derfus, Abram	4/28
Pehlke, Lillian	4/28

Anniversaries

Jim, Joanne Rathsack	4/27
Roger, Sharon Ballerstein	4/29

Youth Serving Cinnamon Rolls on Easter Sunday



On Easter Sunday before church service, we will be serving delicious homemade cinnamon rolls and some beverages. You can stop and have fellowship, or take some cinnamon rolls to go. There will be a free will offering, with the donations going to the youth group for their trip this summer.

At St. John's we have six youth, Ben Hartwig, Lillian, Nicholas, and Colin Pehlke, and 2 adults, Dean Pehlke and Michael Rhode, that will be going with Trinity Athens's Youth Group to Niagara Falls, NY this June on a mission trip. Leaving Athens on Saturday, June 17th at 8:00 AM, they will be heading to Tallmadge Lutheran Church in Tallmadge, OH. There they will visit Pastor Andy's church, sleeping overnight, and attending Sunday morning worship. After that, they will be back on the road to Niagara Falls, arriving at the Youth Works site on Sunday afternoon. They will be working throughout the week departing Niagara Falls, Friday and returning back to Athens on Saturday June 24th.

The group will come alongside existing organizations to meet ongoing needs through food and clothing distribution, home repair projects, community beautification projects, and youth programming at a local community center. After the service day, you'll learn more about the community by participating in Evening Activities where you'll experience some of the hardships of those living in poverty, visit the beauty of the Falls and share a time of fellowship with partners and community members. Youth Works has been serving in Niagara Falls since 2003.



When: Wednesday August 23rd

Game: 1:10pm vs twins

Where: Milwaukee

Cost: \$75 to reserve your spot. Price includes ticket, charter bus, and a sack lunch. We will be stopping to eat on the way home and that is not included in price. It is at your expense.

Contact and pay: Stacey VanHoy @ stacey61917@yahoo.com or 715-506-0207 to reserve your spot.

St.john/Bethlehem have first option to reserve before this is opened to the public in a few weeks.

St. John Helping Hands: Our helping hands ministry is available to help with needs, anonymously, to our congregation members. If in need call the church office or Carolyn Hahn for help or for more information. (715)223-7052

Annual Bethlehem & St. John Thrift

Sale May 3-4-5-6. Please bring items **after Easter**. No large furniture. No electronics.

Note: We will be setting up after April 29 Rev. DuWayne Schneider committal service. For more information contact Arlette Molthen 715-223-6060 or Janice Brown 715-219-1970

St. John LWML Ladies Aid and Mission Guild

will be meeting on Thursday April 13, 2023 at 1:30 P.M. at Athenian Assisted Living 716 Caroline St. Athens, WI 54411, Selma's new place. Everyone is welcome to join us for a Bible Study.

Orphan Grain Train news for Bethlehem & St. John - We shipped 48 quilts on Tuesday March 7, 2023 along with 2 sleeping mats, school supplies and baby clothes. for Ukraine refugees ! As you are shopping Garage sales this spring: think of the refugee children --good gently used children's clothing , shoes, and boots are in great demand. Baby clothes also!

St. John Sunday School is participating in our NW District Hearts for Jesus. Its Kids Helping Kids- "Lead a Child" helping children in Central America, West Africa, Guatemala, South America and Asia. Helping children attend Lutheran Schools. Our Feb offerings will be sent to NW District

Lutheran Hour Ministries report: Rose Bowl Parade: the Lutheran Hour float : A New Day with JESUS" won the Tournament of Roses Director Award This year. Sub Sale for the Lutheran Hour We had 250.00 Thrivent card to help pay for the sandwich ingredients. We totaled \$908.00 We sent \$500.00 to the Lutheran Hour and the balance to Trinity, Spencer for local broadcast of the Lutheran Hour. Thank you to all who helped make the and deliver the subs.

Bethlehem Sunday School News :

A Thank You was received from LAMP for the mission gift sent to them from our Sunday School the past quarter. LAMP is a ministry sharing Jesus Christ with God's people in remote areas of Canada. This quarter, the Sunday School will be purchasing a large print Lutheran Service Book which will be given to our congregation.

Bethlehem Sunday School runs from 9:15am-10:15am each Sunday. An offering is collected each Sunday in the classroom. At 10am, the classes meet at the front of the church to bring the offerings to the altar, to sing and to join in a closing.

***Mark your calendar** – Bethlehem Vacation Bible School will be on July 10th & July 11th –from 4:30p - 7p. (a light lunch will be served at 4:30p) More details will follow. Everyone is welcome – bring a classmate, a neighbor, a friend. We are always appreciative of anyone who may be able to volunteer to help in any way and are looking for someone to coordinate VBS. If interested in volunteering, please contact Gloria, Aaron or Patti. Following Sunday School on April 16 there will be a meeting with the board of education, parents and anyone interested in helping out.

Palm Sunday – (April 2nd) no Sunday School session due to a brunch being served after the 8am service. The Sunday School children will be singing during the service and a children's palm processional will be at the beginning of the service.

Easter Sunday – (April 9th) no Sunday School sessions

Plastic Bags – Arlette Molthen is asking everyone to save their plastic bags. There is a great need for the mats that they make for the people in Ukraine.

**Bible Bowl
Way to go Trinity/St. John/Holy Family Youth.**

They did great in the statewide Bible Bowl Competition. The Senior Team (Nick Pehlke, Makala Schreiner, and Lillian Pehlke) took 1st place. The Junior Team (Nick Paul, Ben Hartwig, Colin Pehlke) placed Third. Five of the Seven placed in the top ten individually as well. Most importantly they studied God's word in the Book of Exodus





The LWML, North Wisconsin Zone 10

Spring Rally will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, Athens, WI. On Thursday, April 27, 2023.

Registration begins at 5pm The Rally will be from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. The event will be live-streamed for those who aren't able to attend. Tune into YouTube and go to "Trinity Pastor". The registration fee of \$5.

Please note: We will be serving a light lunch, which will be at 5:00pm and will continue serving as the meeting begins at 5:30pm. All activities will be held in the Trinity Fellowship Hall (church basement) You may enter at the north doors, located on Elm Street, by the bell tower.

When registering, please provide the names of any deceased members from your society.

The Christian Life Bible Study "Holy Communion: will be presented by Christian Life Chair, Marilyn Mueller.

The Open Door

Open Door is now helping the homeless along with those being released from jail so they are open more than **just in the morning**.

Wish List of items needed at the Open Door:

- Men's, & Women's underwear (new)
- Men's, & Women's Socks (new or used)
- Blue Jeans—lightly used

- Men's shoes
- Jackets and long underwear
- Cleaning supplies: dish soap, bleach & air freshener
- Coffee creamer and sugar , to-do cups with lids.
- Breakfast bars
- juice
- SpaghettiOs
- Applesauce
- Easy items for kids to prepare
- Jam/Jelly
- Tuna
- Peanut butter
- Granulated and brown sugar
- Noodles/macaroni
- Cooking oil

Non-food items

- Kleenex
- Bathroom tissue
- Paper towels
- Diapers
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Laundry soap
- Dish soap

Orphan Grain Train Wish List

St. John and Bethlehem send needed items to Orphan Grain Train periodically. Here is a list of much needed items.

Prayers for God's blessings on this ministry.

- Diapers, Kirkland brand or Huggies only.
- Feminine products, all kinds
- Hygiene Kit supplies, Bar soap, sturdy combs, nail clippers, towels, wash cloths, toothbrushes, band aids, plastic soap boxes, small tissue packs.
- Toothpaste, make sure expiration date is a least a year out.
- Winter/summer Children's, infant/toddler. And men's clothing, right now we have enough
- women's clothing, But are short on the other categories.
- Winter coats, boots for all sizes.

- Tennis shoes all sizes.
- Quits blankets, and bedding, new pillows only.
- New socks and underwear for all. Mittens, gloves, hats and scarves.
- Monetary donations for major medical, food, and diapers, etc.
- Monetary donations made to our general fund are helpful because we can order all these items in bulk, except for clothing, quilts, and bedding. When we buy in bulk our dollar stretches much further.



Lutheran Hour Sermon Schedule

April 2

"Hell: No One Has to Go There"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Hell is a serious word, meant to be taken seriously. However, hell doesn't have to be one's inevitable destination.
(Matthew 26:20-29)

April 9

"He Is Risen, Indeed"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Christ's resurrection affects everyone—even those who don't believe it happened.
(Matthew 28)

April 16

"Raising the Praise"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. John Nunes
Easter may be past—but it isn't over! Learn how we can bring the hope and glad good news of Christ's resurrection into the lives of those we meet. (1 Peter 1:3)

April 23

"The Man Who Will Be King"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler
Anticipation, preparation, and action are the traits that make great leaders—and great followers of Christ, the King of kings.
(1 Peter 1:13)

April 30

"Bridge Builders"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

Lutheran Hour Radio Broadcasts

Lutheran Hour Ministries - God has called all laypeople to be powerful witnesses for Christ to their families and communities. At LHM, we strive to create convenient ways for you to connect with Jesus and share your faith with others. Our products are free, easy, and digital so that you can use them in your home, on-the-go, or wherever you may be.

In this time of uncertainty, don't find yourself feeling isolated. HE is always with you! Discover FREE resources for your entire household and continue enriching your faith even when we can't gather together. Visit lhm.org/covid-19 and explore all of the ways you can hear God's Word, equip yourself in outreach, and provide Gospel-centered activities for the kids!

Internet Resources:

Worship Anew is an online ministry put out by Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne available to view on the Internet. The current week's program can be found on their homepage at Worshipanew.org/program.

- Moments of Comfort is an online video ministry of Worship Anew which speaks to the sufferings we face in this life with the comforting message of God's Word.

They have a list of archived programs

The following dates are available for 2023 for the sponsorship of The Lutheran Hour over WDLB—450AM/98.7FM at 8:00 A.M. on Sunday mornings.

What better way to help spread the Word of God! A full sponsorship is \$94.00 per Sunday. Please contact Bonnie Beyreis of Trinity Lutheran Church, Spencer, at 715-659-4006 to request a date.

Jan.	15	Apr.	2	July	9	Oct.	1
			29	9	23		8
Feb.	5		30		30		22
	19	May	7	Aug.	20	Nov.	5
	26		14		27		19
Mar.	12		21	Sep.	10	Dec.	10
	19		28				17
	26						24

Station City, State Freq. Day Time

WDLB	Marshfield, WI	1450 AM	Sun	8:00am
WRVM	Marshfield, WI	91.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Medford, WI	98.7 FM	Sun	10:00am
WRVM	Wausau, WI	101.3 FM	Sun	10:00am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	550 AM	Sun	8:30am
WSAU	Wausau, WI	99.9 FM	Sun	8:30am
WAXX	Altoona, WI	104.5 FM	Sun	6:30am

You can also go on line at www...lhm.org or download the free App @ LHM.ORG/APPS

**St. John
Lutheran
Church
Blood Drive**



Saturday April 22 9am - 1pm

Helpful hint:

**Make sure to eat a healthy meal and
drink plenty of water before donating.**

Saving lives, while saving the planet! All donors with a valid email who complete a redemption form will receive a link and tree ID planted in honor of their donation.

Visit versiti.org/onetree

**Donate
Blood**

**Bethlehem & St. John Lutheran Churches
119415 Huckleberry Road
Edgar, Wisconsin 54426
715-352-2888**



*Where
the
Light
of
Jesus
Christ
Always
Shines*