

St. John's Lutheran Church



Newsletter

Bryan Robertson, Pastor

April, 2020

Have you remembered St. John's in your will?

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It has been unusually quiet in our hallways at St. John's.

The familiar sounds of choir practices and children running down the halls are absent. Likewise, the familiar smells of coffee cooking and meal preparations have disappeared and given way to those of cleaning products.

While the season of Lent is meant to be a quiet and subdued time in our worship life together, this is because we are preparing to celebrate loudly our Lord's resurrection on Easter. The quiet we are experiencing now, however, has less to do with our life together as a church, and more to do with our lives together as neighbors and citizens of this community and our country.

Following the health emergency proclamation of our governor, we have cancelled all in-person meetings and gatherings of 10 or more people. This includes all worship services, choir practices, Sunday School and Confirmation gatherings. We have also postponed our Meatball Supper until a later date.

We will continue to broadcast our worship services each Sunday morning at 8:30 A.M. on KNEI, 103.5 FM. We will also continue to use our liturgy and hymns from our book of worship. We will have a small group of musicians to assist us and I will continue preaching on the Bible readings scheduled for the day.

If this health emergency continues, we are prepared to cancel in-person worship and activities throughout

the month of April, including Palm Sunday and Easter. We will rely on social media, radio, and television to communicate continued cancellations or resumptions of normal worship, study, and service activities.

We are not locking our doors throughout the week, but we recommend that we follow the health emergency protocols currently in effect. Our office will be open to receive your phone calls and emails, but we ask that you continue to stay at home and limit your physical contact with others, including our staff. Likewise, I will not be visiting our hospitals, care facilities and homes until it is deemed safe for residents, patients, staff and our members.

Together, we are doing these things, not out of fear, but to protect our neighbors from illness. Fear is a powerful emotion, but our Lord Jesus does have a good word for us when we're afraid.

The Bible says that when his disciples were cowering in fear after he was crucified, he walked in among them through locked doors. And his first words to them were "Peace be with you." And these words came from a man who had been crucified, had died, and had just risen from the dead.

This is the same Jesus who is with us now, just as he was with his disciples on Easter morning, and his words to us are still the same: "Peace be with you."

This sickness is going to run out of steam, eventually. We don't know what these days ahead will bring, but Jesus is with you and with us together in the family of God. And he is working in each of us as we do our parts to protect and care for our neighbors.

I hope we can be together again, soon.

**Peace,
Pr. Bryan**

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Primary, Kindergarten and 1st Grade

The Primary, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade Sunday School Students started a Lenten project called “Lent in a Dish”. Each week, students will hear a Bible story that teaches about Jesus’s life and ministry. After the story, they will add items in the dish that symbolize the story they heard. On March 1, students heard the story of Jesus in the wilderness for 40 days, and being tempted and tormented. To symbolize this, students put sand in a dish to represent the desert, and drew a symbol in the sand to represent Jesus.

The Sunday School has put a sample dish in the Narthex. Please take a moment to look at the “Lent in a Dish” display each week and discuss the symbols with your child as they are added.

March 1: Sand (Luke 4:1 – 13) Jesus wandering in the desert

March 8: Rock (Mark 6: 30 – 44) Jesus Feeds 5000

March 15: Pipe cleaner Figure (John 13: 1 – 15) Jesus washes disciples’ feet

March 22: Candle (Matthew 5: 14 – 16) Jesus tells his disciples to be a light in the world

March 29: Shell (Matthew 3: 13 – 17) Jesus is baptized

April 5: Grass (Matthew 27: 27 – 61) The death of Jesus



To Receive the Word ...



Sunday morning worship services are on the local radio station. Dial in 103.5 FM (KNEI) at 8:30 am or log into www.kneiradio.com to worship with St. John’s.

You may now receive the newsletter via email as a PDF document. Contact the church office if you would like to be on this email list.

St. John's is on the web at www.stjohnswaukon.net and Facebook stjohns@waukon



The 4th-5th graders have been learning about the miracles of Jesus. They made edible fishing boats to represent the miraculous catch of fish.



Altar Guild will NOT be taking orders for lilies this year.

****Scheduled activities subject to change based on Covid-19.****

2020

<- MARCH

MAY ->

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1 6pm Youth Bells 7:15pm service *NO Confirmation	2	3	4
5 worship 8:30 & 10:45am with communion 9:30am Sun.School	6	7	8	9 6pm Youth Bells Maundy Thursday service @ 7:15pm with communion	10 1pm service at Presbyterian Church ?	11
12 worship 6:30, 8:30 & 10:45am with communion 7:15am breakfast NO Sun.School	13	14 Circles meet (see page X) 6pm Trustee mtg	15 6:15pm Youth Bells 7:15pm Sr Bells, Confirmation 8:15pm Sr Choir	16	17	18
19 worship 8:30 & 10:45am with communion 9:30am Sun.School	20	21	22 9am Assemble Newsletter 9am - 5pm WIC 3pm-4pm Comm. Evergrn Crt & Good Sam. 6:15pm Youth Bells 7:15pm Sr Bells, Confirmation 8:15pm Sr Choir	23 8:30 - 4pm WIC	24	25 Upper IA River Cluster spring meeting
26 worship 8:30 & 10:45am 9:30am Sun. School	27	28	29 6:15pm Youth Bells 7:15pm Sr Bells, Confirmation 8:15pm Sr Choir	30	1	2

Radio Ministry



- April 5 Given by Roger & Mary Quandahl
- April 12 Sponsored by Bart & Marilyn Hamm in memory of Greg Hamm, who was a devoted worker to the Glory of God
- April 19 In loving memory of Roy Wandling from his family
- April 26 Anonymous gift from former church member
-
-



Thank you to the volunteers who have quietly slipped onto the church property to remove and repair of electrical door on main electric box and east narthex bulb replacement, and socket replacement.

We appreciate everything you have done for us and thank you for your service to our church!



Church Council Highlights

Actions taken at the
March 10 Trustee Meeting

- ~ A motion was made to secure a bid for an automatic door opener on the East Door
- ~ Discussion of setting up a Building Maintenance Fund
- ~ Motion was made to obtain a credit card for church purposes. Purchases will be preapproved.

Music Ministry



I am having difficulty composing the April Music Notes with no definite schedule of activities, services, or rehearsals. However, several things need to be addressed.

First, a huge thank you to the men's choir that has been rehearsing twice a week to provide special music for our radio ministry services. Members who have performed include Greg Hagensick, Brian Bieber, Jon Payne, Dolan Jones, Randy Johnsen, and myself. They will continue each week as needed and as permissible under every changing guidelines for assembly.

Also, thank you to Lindsey Palmer Lund who has been playing piano and organ duets with me. Since her church, First Lutheran in Decorah, does not have a service, she has been available and eager to keep practicing and performing. Therefore, we will be sharing some of our hymn playing, organ and piano music, and accompaniments until the general assembly restrictions are lifted.

There will, of course, be no services or rehearsals for all of the choirs until further notice. I horribly miss all of our choir members gathering each week for rehearsals and services, but I realize the assembly ban is all in our best interest and safety. Thank you God for phones, e-mails, and text messages to stay in touch. Therefore, stay safe and do as the doctors order. Choir members, expect a phone call when the ban is lifted so we can all get together and again enjoy fellowship and music with one another.

Jim Bieber - Organist/Director of Music

March Statistics



Baptisms: none

Funerals: Virginia Hazen
 Jean Berge

Weddings: none

Volunteer List may be cancelled for April.

****The Executive Committee will meet again on March 30th to assess the current situation with Covid-19 and decide whether or not to hold church services.****

St. John's Volunteer Duty List				Apr 2020				
Date	Service		Greeters	Readers	Comm. Asst.	Comm. Prep.	Acolytes	Ushers
4/5/20 Palm Sunday	8:30 AM	E	Jane Dietrich/Bernice Thies	Chris Engstrom	Joan Moody	Ron & Linda Dahlstrom	Lynsey Houg	Lee Ellickson Fam.
		W	I. Fosaan/C. Engstrom		Vicki Larson			Mark Stock
	10:45 AM	E	Rhonda Hansen Fam.	Chuck Larson	Chris Stuckman	Rosanne & Darrel Wicks	Eva Miller	Chuck Larson
		W	Sandra Hove		Arica Grimstad			Kariton Gruel
4/9/20 Maundy Thursday	7:30 PM	E	G&A Hagensick	Nona Sawyer	B&S Blagsvedt	Linda Groe	Ushers	Bill & Linda Halvorson
		W	Russ & Mary Jo Meyer		Bev Haas			
4/12/20 Easter	6:30 AM			Linda Groe	TBD	Linda Groe	TBD	R&L Dahlstrom Fam.
	8:30 AM	E	Rhonda Barr/Halse Fam.	Bev Haas	Russ & Mary Jo Meyer	Colinda Roderick	Sean Bieber	Same as 4/5
		W	Jerry & Carla Schnuelle		Bailey Benson	Annette Stock		
	10:45 AM	E	Hemann Fam.	Dan Treangen	Dan Treangen	Linda Groe	Ava Bossom	Same as 4/5
		W	Gayle Larkin					
4/19/20	8:30 AM	E	Bernice Thies/DonnaLee Osland	Sarah Hagen	Rhonda Barr	Lori & Randy Hesse	Sarah Stock	
		W	Ron & Marilyn Jahnke		D&L DeBuhr			Same as 4/5
	10:45 AM	E	Mary Jackson/Vicki Larson	Mary Jackson	Sue Bieber	Diane & Gerald Pittmann	Olivia Bossom	
		W	Cody & Annette Cook					
4/26/20	8:30 AM	E	Betty/Ann White	Dalton Ellickson			Keeran Barr	
		W	Rudy & Marian Hesla					Same as 4/5
	10:45 AM	E	Dick & Evonne Kistler	Ben Rausch			Olivia Marti	
		W	Ben & Kris Rausch					



**St. John's Women
Serving and Socializing**

Oh goodness, by the time you receive the Messenger, I wonder if we can be serving and socializing in large groups at all. I am sure that we all are praying that the Coronavirus stops spreading and that a real cure is quickly found. Well, I guess we all have to do whatever is necessary to keep everyone healthy.

Our schedule of events at St. John's has definitely been changed. We do not know when and/or if we will have our Congregational Meatball Supper. Thank you to the women who made calls to everyone in our Circles to line up food, workers, and money donations. Please keep in mind what you volunteered to do at the Supper, for you will still be needed to do such whenever we find a new date.

Sarah Circle was to take treats to Southcrest II in March, but they were told not to come. Mary Circle goes to Northgate Care Center to fulfill our mission of visitation and taking treats during April. Perhaps the Circle may be told not to come to their facility, also, to try to keep everyone healthy.

Our Ladies' Luncheon Honoring Daughters, Mothers, and St. John's Senior Women on Saturday, May 2, at 10:30 a.m. may or may not take place. We will notify our congregation about this event in the future when we know more.

Dorcas Circle is to serve the next funeral. We are not sure how that will work either.

St. Patrick's Church women had a meaningful World Day of Prayer service and luncheon on Friday, March 6, with a good number in attendance. An interesting program written by the women of Zimbabwe was presented.

Also, at every table seating place, there was a glass of water to drink. We were told that the custom in Zimbabwe is to welcome guests with a glass of water, and we practiced that tradition at the luncheon as we all at first drank water together from our glasses. World Day of Prayer always teaches us about women all over the world and how they live.

You may still gather the needed items for Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Refer to the list of required items on page 11 of your 2020 Events Booklet. There are extra items on the table opposite the church secretary's office for you to use. There is a list of items required for the Kits displayed for you to see near the table. Completed Kits may also be left there.

Our Lenten Services and Casserole Suppers are not happening yet. That may change, too. However, we hope you are still thinking about and are very thankful for what Jesus willing did for all of us as he walked the path to his death and resurrection. We also hope we can be in church on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter morning.

Please pray for peace, for the safety of our military men and women, for people suffering from natural disasters and diseases all over the world, and for Christians everywhere.

Thank you for MAKING TIME and TAKING TIME for our privileges and responsibilities at St. John's.

Sue Bieber, President

2020

<- MARCH

MAY ->

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
				Kasey Iverson Trent & Kayla Larkin (A)		Caroll Schreiber Chelsey Stamper Kevin Stinn Kirby & Matt Jones (A)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Jenna Fish Blake Fosaaen Dustin Otto Haylee Rathbone Kay Sewick Sarah Stock	Gordon Ellingson Mary Flatin Wayne & Nona Sawyer (A)	Ethan Harrington Molly Johnson	Keigan Leiran	Kadence Harrington Marlene Hills Bill Roe	Charles Jackman Matt Joachim Cora Marti Ben & Kris Rausch (A)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Hailey Cook		Jane Dietrich Bryan Fish Alden Leiran Kim Rathbone Jane Regan Jen & Adam Bieber (A) Ross & Leah Stammeyer (A)	Rose Beardmore Greg Bossom Jim Evanson Cierra Snitker Dave Svendson Hannah Weiss	Nan Grangaard Jessica Murphy Jordan Murphy Theo Rausch Chris Stuckman	Charles & Mary Jackman (A)	Lynsey Houg Tammy Knudtson Mark Stone
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Mike Dahlstrom Darlene Schlake	Susan Burrow	Loren Fiet Brennan Hartley Jerry Schnuelle Austin Williams	Don Dahlstrom Jeremiah Rausch Blake Roe Alison Sherman	Sue Blagsvedt Jim & Kay Christianson (A)	Shawn Gordon Kevin & Kayla Leiran (A)	Cole Iverson Trent Peterson Tom & Caroll Schreiber (A)
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
Annette Cook Dave Eilers Bonnie Roe Adam & Rosemary Hagensick (A)	Irene Clarke Kari Harrington Jon Payne Virgil Thorstenson	Shawn & Jodie Moe (A)	Bailey Benson Samara Berger Henry Clarke Coco Lyons Oliver Roderick	Mike Allison Reid Liddiard Kacey Nuehring Lorraine Severson Jared & Jill Soper (A)		

****Hymns for April at St. John's****



April 1 Midweek Lenten 6

No. 336 Lamb of God (Your Only Son)
No. 609 Chief of Sinners Though I Be

April 5 Palm Sunday

No. 344 All Glory, Laud and Honor

First Lesson: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11

Gospel: Matthew 26:14-27:66

No. 351 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

During Distribution No. 338 & 353

No. 783 Praise and Thanks and Adoration

April 9 Maundy Thursday

No. 349 Ah, Holy Jesus

First Lesson: Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Gospel: John 13:1-17, 31b-35

No. 347 Go to Dark Gethsemane

April 12 Easter Sunday

No. 365 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

First Lesson: Acts 10:34-43

Second Lesson: Colossians 3:1-4

Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

No. 374 Day of Arising

During Distribution No. 373 & 462

No. 367 Now All the Vault off Heaven Resounds

April 19 Second Sunday of Easter

No. 385 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:3-9

Gospel: John 20:19-31

No. 635 We Walk by Faith

During Distribution No. 360 & 381

No. 376 Thine Is The Glory

April 26 Third Sunday of Easter

No. 384 That Easter Day With Joy Was Bright

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

No. 451 We Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

No. 389 Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

Book Nook



"River to Redemption" by Ann Gabhart

Orphaned in the 1833 cholera epidemic, Adria Starr was cared for by a slave named Louis. While many fled, he gave up an opportunity to escape and stayed to nurse the sick and bury the dead in Springfield, Kentucky. Twelve years later he's facing the auction block, can Adria find a way to buy his freedom?

"Wish You A Happy Forever" by Jenny Bowen

Empty nesters Jenny and Richard Bowen's simple pledge to provide love for one Chinese orphan - which then led to their creating a model program called Half the Sky that would eventually better the lives of children in all the orphanages throughout China.

Children:

"A First Bible Story Book" by Mary Hoffman

In this beautifully illustrated picture book, 13 specially selected stories from both the Old and New Testaments are retold for the very young.

"What Is God Like" by Beverly Lewis

You want to teach your children about their heavenly Father. You want them to know and love our great and all-powerful God, but how to effectively teach them about someone we cannot see? Select verses along with engaging illustrations bring God's attributes to life and provide ongoing discussions about our wonderful God.

****Circle News**



SARAH Circle meets April 14 @ 9:15am at Nan Grangaards home & Caroll Schreiber has the Bible study.

MARY Circle meets April 14 at 1:30pm for potluck, lesson done together.

RACHEL Circle meets April 14 at 1:30pm in F.H. for potluck, Bev Haas is Bible study leader.

DORCAS Circle meets April 14 at 7pm in Royal Room with Linda Groe as Bible study leader.

****Subject to cancellation based on Covid-19**

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8 Fifth Street, S.W. Box 403
Waukon, IA 52172-0403

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.....and finally

The LYO will again be serving Easter Breakfast between the Sunrise and 8:30 am services on Easter Sunday. Free will donations will be accepted to help fund future LYO activities. **Come join us for fellowship and to celebrate the resurrection of our Savior!**

****Subject to cancellation based on Covid-19 activity.****

**CONGREGATIONAL MEATBALL SUPPER-
POSTPONED**

AND

**LADIES' LUNCHEON HONORING DAUGHTERS,
MOTHERS, AND ST. JOHN'S SENIOR WOMEN**

These events may or may not take place.

Watch for future notices.

In the event that our weekly offerings are not able to cover our ministry expenses, we have opened a line of credit at our bank to continue paying for our utilities, invoices and wages. We hope not to use it, but we will inform you if we do. In the mean time, we ask for your continued support for our ministries-your prayers and your financial gifts.

Thank you

BABY CARE KITS

Refer to p. 11 in the 2020 Events Booklet for needed items required by Lutheran World Relief.

You may use extra items on the table opposite the Church Secretary's Office.

