

St. John's Lutheran Church



Newsletter

Bryan Robertson, Pastor

April, 2024

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

8 5th Street S.W. P.O. Box 403
Waukon, IA 52172-0403

Phone 563.568.3623
Fax 563.568.3922

stjohnswaukon@gmail.com
www.stjohnswaukon.net

In a week and a half, there's something that's coming that not very many have seen in their lives. The sun will go dark, though the hour says daylight. Day birds' songs stop, our owls will start hooting, and our general wildlife, for just a few minutes, will start to bed down for an evening of sleep.

Yes, the sun and the moon in perfect alignment—the moon the right size and right distance from earth, and the sun the right size and distance from it and from us—will put on a show confusing the world, and making our cows think it's time to get milked.

This maximum eclipse, in all of its glory, doesn't seem natural, doesn't seem right. With the sun blotted out, it looks like the laws of everyday life have called a time-out. The world's upside down.

But it's not. No, it's real and it's normal. And our awe at this sight is rooted in what makes it happen: that everything has to line up like a plan and be perfect.

It's a lot like the awe we feel, but many times over, hearing the news and believing the news that Jesus was part of God's plan for all time:

that God chose to die and show us forgiveness, and rise from the grave and save from death.

The good news of Easter, just like an eclipse, seems to defy the laws of real life: where the strong bully weaklings, where good hates the bad, and when somebody hurts you, you hurt them right back.

And dead means dead, 24/7.

But that isn't true for God or for us. That's not who we are or where we are going as people of God. No, God has made and is making the rules of our everyday lives and nature around us.

Just like our Lord once said in the past, "Let there be light," and creation got bright, so now he can say, "Get up from the grave," and we'll all arise. And he can say to us all, "I forgive all your sins," and our sins are forgiven—even the sins of the people who killed him.

Which is his will, his decision, his choice for your good. While full eclipses last for only four minutes, he's decided to save you, world without end. Thanks be to God.

What's Inside

Pastor's Comments	page 1
Trustee Mtg	page 2
WELCA	page 5
Camperships	page 7
LYO	page 7

Peace,

Pr. Bryan

Radio Ministry

April 2024



- Apr 7 Church Funds
- Apr 14 faithful listener from Decorah
- Apr 21 we pray for our country & families
- Apr 28 Church Funds

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. We also are video streaming on Facebook Live.

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



Thank you to the volunteers who have quietly slipped into the church property to attend to cracks in windows, change out lightbulbs, repair kitchen faucets and the repair of the women's bathroom door and reanchoring pews to the floor . We appreciate everything you have done for us and *Thank You for your service to our Church!*



Book Nook

"A Million Little Choices"
by Tamera Alexander

A timeless tale of marriage and family, brokenness and betrayal, faith and forgiveness, reminding us that every decision a person makes has ripple effects, sometimes lasting for generations. The author skillfully weaves the past with the present, bringing out long-buried secrets. This hope-filled story will undoubtedly serve as a beacon of light for each and every reader.

submitted by Karen Grimstad

Trustee/Council
Meeting
March 12, 2024



- ~Bailey Benson to fill Bd of Ed seat
- ~discussion of salting parking lot
- ~no charge for radio broadcast one week due to internet issues
- ~donations made to Pastor's Welfare Acct.

****SEE NARTHEX BULLETIN BOARD for details****

April 2024

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3 8:45am-noon Quilting 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation & Sr Bells	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30am & 10:30am worship w/comm. 9:30am SS & Sr Choir 5pm Mens Choir			8:45am-noon Quilting 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation & Sr Bells	8:30am-4:30pm WIC		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30am & 10:30am worship **new member Sunday** 9:30am SS & Sr Choir 5pm Mens Choir			8:45am-noon Quilting 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation & Sr Bells	6pm Trustee mtg		Upper IA River Cluster mtg, Decorah IA
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30am & 10:30am worship w/comm. 9:30am SS & Sr Choir 5pm Mens Choir			8:45am-noon Quilting 6pm Youth Bells 7pm Confirmation & Sr Bells			
28	29	30				
8:30am & 10:30am worship 9:30am SS & Sr Choir 5pm Mens Choir						

Music Ministry



Thank you to Senior Choir members who sing at all midweek Lenten services along with their Sunday morning services.

Senior and Youth Bell choirs played occasionally for the Wednesday services and Sunday morning as well along with their traditional Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday & Easter services.

Beginning Wednesday April 3rd we will be back to our regular rehearsal schedule of bell choirs with Youth Bells at 6pm and Senior Bells at 7pm and Senior Choir on Sunday mornings at 9:30am.

Several special performances have or will be taking place in our church & community. Sunday, March 17, Elsa Thorstenson made her debut playing a violin solo in church. Saturday, March 23, the Men's Choir performed for the Annual Lion's Variety Show. Sunday, April 7, Ila Johnsen will be performing another table bell solo and the Men's Choir will

also provide our anthem music.

Thank you to all our musicians for sharing your talents in our worship services. Also, a special thank you to Sarah Bieber for leading our musical liturgy with the Holden Prayer Services each Wednesday of Lent.

James H. Bieber / Director of Music



CIRCLE NEWS April 2024

SARAH Circle: 9:15am Apr 9 meeting in the Lounge, with Joan Leiran as hostess & Bible study done together.

DORCAS Circle: Apr 9, 7pm virtually, contact Linda Groe with questions.

St. John's Volunteer Duty List

Apr-24

Date	Service		Greeters	Readers	Comm Asst	Comm Prep	Acolytes	Ushers
4/7/24	8:30 AM	E W	Randy & Lori Hesse Irv & Chris E Fosaaen	Chris E Fosaaen	Randy & Lori Hesse Cindy Barness	Bailey Benson Mary Jo Meyer	Ushers	Ron Dahlstrom family
	10:30 AM	E W	Ed & Karen Stamper	Karen Stamper	Sadie Bucheit	Evonne Kistler Jill Kistler	Ushers	Norm Peterson Chuck Larson
4/14/24	8:30 AM	E W	Gary & Marlene Houg Marilyn Henkels	Donnalee Osland			Ushers	same as above
	10:30 AM	E W	Mary Jackson	Mary Jackson	X	X	Ushers	same as above
4/21/24	8:30 AM	E W	Wayne & Nona Sawyer Lee Ellickson family	Bill Roe	Tiffany Evans, Joan Moody Matt Teslow	Bonnie Roe Linda DeBuhr	Ushers	same as above
	10:30 AM	E W	Sunday School Sunday School	Sunday School	Linda Groe	Altar Guild	Ushers	same as above
4/28/24	8:30 AM	E W	D & Wendy Sanderson Donnalee Osland	Dave Sanderson			Ushers	same as above
	10:30 AM	E W	Vickie Larson	Linda Groe	X	X	Ushers	same as above



WELCA News:

We are focusing on the Meatball Supper this month. Most of the calling has been done at this point. It was wonderful to see Circles helping each other out. One Circle was short on workers and another Circle was able to help them out with volunteers. The same was true of donating food. What a wonderful community that we have!

Quilting Wednesdays continue to "sew on". The quilters will keep quilting through April. They will then take a break until the fall. So far, they have made 18 quilts since January.

This year the WELCA Executive Board voted to offer \$25 camperships for our youth attending Bible Camp. We hope that many kids can go to Bible Camp this summer.

Respectfully submitted
Karen Stamper

April 7 Second Sunday of Easter
No. 384 That Easter Day with Joy was Bright
First Lesson: Acts 4:32-35
Second Lesson: 1 John 1:1--2:2
Gospel: John 20:19-31
No. 635 We Walk By Faith
During Distribution No. 374 & 381
No. 548 Rise, O Church, Like Christ Arisen

April 14 Third Sunday of Easter
No. 391 This Joyful Eastertide
First Lesson: Acts 3:12-19
Second Lesson: 1 John 3:1-7
Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48
No. 361 The Day of Resurrection
No. 674 Let Us Talents & Tongues Employ

April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter
No. 385 Good Christian Friends Rejoice & Sing
First Lesson: Acts 4:5-12
Second Lesson: 1 John 3:16-24
Gospel: John 10:11-18
No. 764 Have No Fear Little Flock
During Distribution No. 772 & 778
No. 536 God Be With You Till We Meet Again

April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter
No. 449 We Know That Christ Is Raised
First Lesson: Acts 8:26-40
Second Lesson: 1 John 4:7-21
Gospel: John 15:1-8
No. 359 Where Charity and Love Prevail

March 2024



Baptisms: Tucker Garthoff

Weddings: none

Deaths: Damian Copp Feb.23, 2024
Arlene Beisker

April 2024

Sunday	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2 Kasey Iverson	3	4 Caroll Schreiber Chelsey Stamper Kevin Stinn Matt & Kirby Jones (A)	5 Jenna Fish Blake Fosaaen Dustin Otto Kay Sewick Sarah Stock	6 Gordon Ellingson Mary Flatin Wayne & Nona Sawyer (A)
7 Ethan Harrington Molly Johnson	8 Keigan Leiran	9 Kaydence Harrington Marlene Hills Bill Roe Jr	10 Matt Joachim Cora Marti	11	12 Hailey Cook	13
14 Jane Dietrich Bryan Fish Alden Leiran Kim Rathbone Jane Regan Adam & Jennifer Bieber (A)	15 Rose Beardmore Greg Bossom Jim Evanson Cierra Snitker Dave Svendson Eva Urmanski Hannah Weiss	16 Chris Stuckman	17	18 Lynsey Houg Tammy Knudtson Mark Stone	19 Darlene Schlake	20 Susan Burrow
21 Brennan Hartley Jerry Schnuelle Austin Williams	22 Don Dahlstrom Blake Roe	23 Sue Blagsvedt	24 James Emerson Shawn Gordon Kaylie Hanson Kevin & Kayla Leiran (A)	25 Hudson Hills Cole Iverson Trent Peterson Tom & Caroll Schreiber (A)	26 Annette Cook Bonnie Roe Adam & Rosemary Hagensick (A)	27 Irene Clarke Kari Harrington Jon Payne Virgil Thorstenson
28 Shawn & Jodie Moe (A)	29 Bailey Benson Henry Clarke Nichole L Krueger	30 Mike Allison Kacey Neuhring Lorraine Severson Jared & Jill Soper (A)				

LYO Activities

LYO would like to thank the choir, council, and WELCA for helping and providing casseroles for our weekly Lenten suppers. Special thank you to Gerald Pittmann for providing cinnamon rolls one week, Linda Groe for making the jello every week, and Matt Teslow for getting the rolls and milk every week. Thank you to the parents and youth for helping and providing casseroles.



Camperships 2024

If you are planning on attending summer camp, please let the Church Office know as soon as possible as we are handing out checks on May 19 at both services. All campers will receive \$25 from the WELCA, \$100 from the Trust Fund and \$100 from the Orrin Grangaard Campership Fund.



Tucker W Garthoff, son of Kris Garthoff & Melissa Wicks was baptized on March 24.

St. John's Lutheran Church
8 Fifth Street, S.W. Box 403
Waukon, IA 52172-0403

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WAUKON, IA 52172
PERMIT NO. 67

Special Music.....



6 year old Elsa Thorstenson played "Thine Is The Glory" on her violin on Sunday, March 17 at both services. Elsa is the daughter of Jon and Serene Thorstenson.

(pictured with Jim Bieber)