



MESSENGER NEWSLETTER
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

“The small church with a BIG heart: Ordinary people
 With an extra ordinary message!”

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VOLUME 53, ISSUE 3 **MARCH, 2021**

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Schubert and Babbtown Newsletter
 Calendar for March, 2021

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

BABBTOWN

Sunday Worship

8:00 A.M. Worship

(Holy Communion 2nd & 4th Sunday)

SCHUBERT

Sunday Worship

Sunday school 9 A.M. &
 9:15 A.M.

Bible study 9:30 A.M.

10:00 A.M. Worship with
 (Holy Communion)

Also Streaming on Facebook

March at a Glance

- Mar 2 Pastor's Conference, 9 am
- Mar 3 Conf. 5:30 pm, Worship
7 pm, Elders Following Worship
- Mar 6 Mask Only Worship 6 pm
- Mar 9 Clergy Mtg. Capitol Region
12:00 Noon
- Mar 10 Confirmation 5:30 pm,
Worship 7 pm
- Mar 13 Confirmation Practice 9 am
Mask Only Worship, 6 pm
- Mar 14 Daylight Saving begins
Babbtown Chili Supper,
Exam Pt 1
- Mar 17 Conf. 5:30 pm, Worship 7 pm
- Mar 20 Confirmation Practice 9 am
Mask Only Worship 6 pm
- Mar 21 Exam Pt 2
- Mar 24 Conf. 5:30 pm, Worship 7 pm
- Mar 27 Mask Only Worship 6 pm
- Mar 28 Palm Sunday, Confirmation
- Mar 29-31, April 1-3 Holy Week
- Mar 31 Babbtown Maundy Thursday
Eve Worship 7 pm
- April 1 Maundy Thursday 7 pm
- April 2 Good Friday, Babbtown 6 pm
Schubert-7:30 pm
- April 3 Mask Only Worship 6 pm

Dear Friends and Members of St. John's Congregations, Brothers and Sisters in Christ Fellow Redeemed,

As I begin writing this month's newsletter article, I am looking out the window to see piles of snow in the parking lot and most of the yard is still covered with the white stuff. But the sun is shining and the water is dripping off the roof and the thermometer is reading 48 degrees—things are changing quickly.

As I look at the calendar I see that as this newsletter is being printed there are only 21 days until spring officially arrives.

Wow what a difference three weeks can make! We can be in the midst of seemingly unending winter—then suddenly it passes.

This is similar to what is happening in the church as we observe the season of Lent. Things seem so long and the message of repentance and contrition can seem so dark because it focuses our hearts and minds upon our guilt, our sin and the great price that Jesus paid to forgive us all our iniquity. This comes to an intense climax as we worship on Good Friday and darken the church while we meditate upon the crucifixion of Jesus. We leave in silence and return to our homes in somber thought and devotion.

But what a difference 3 days makes—we leave meditating on death—we return rejoicing in life. Jesus Christ who died for our sins, rose again for our justification. As He lives we too will live and walk in the newness of life.

What a difference a few days will make!

Keep your eyes focused on Jesus—the cross and the empty tomb.

Rejoice in Christ's Death and Resurrection.

In Christ's Love

Pastor

SPEAKING FOR LIFE

“We affirm again and again that God handmade all people and Jesus died for all people. And that means ALL lives are valuable and equally loved.”

Michelle Bauman,
Director of Y4Life for Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life •
lutheransforlife.org

THE FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION

APRIL 3
SATURDAY EVENING MASK ONLY 6:00 PM

APRIL 4
SUNDAY
BABBTOWN 8:00 AM **SCHUBERT 10:00 AM**

STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS ON THE BOARD OF ELDERS DISCISIONS ON THE EVER CHANGING COVIL SITUATION AS WE DRAW NEARER TO THAT DAY.

EASTER LILIES

If you would like to place an Easter lily in church to celebrate the resurrection please sign up and turn in this sheet.



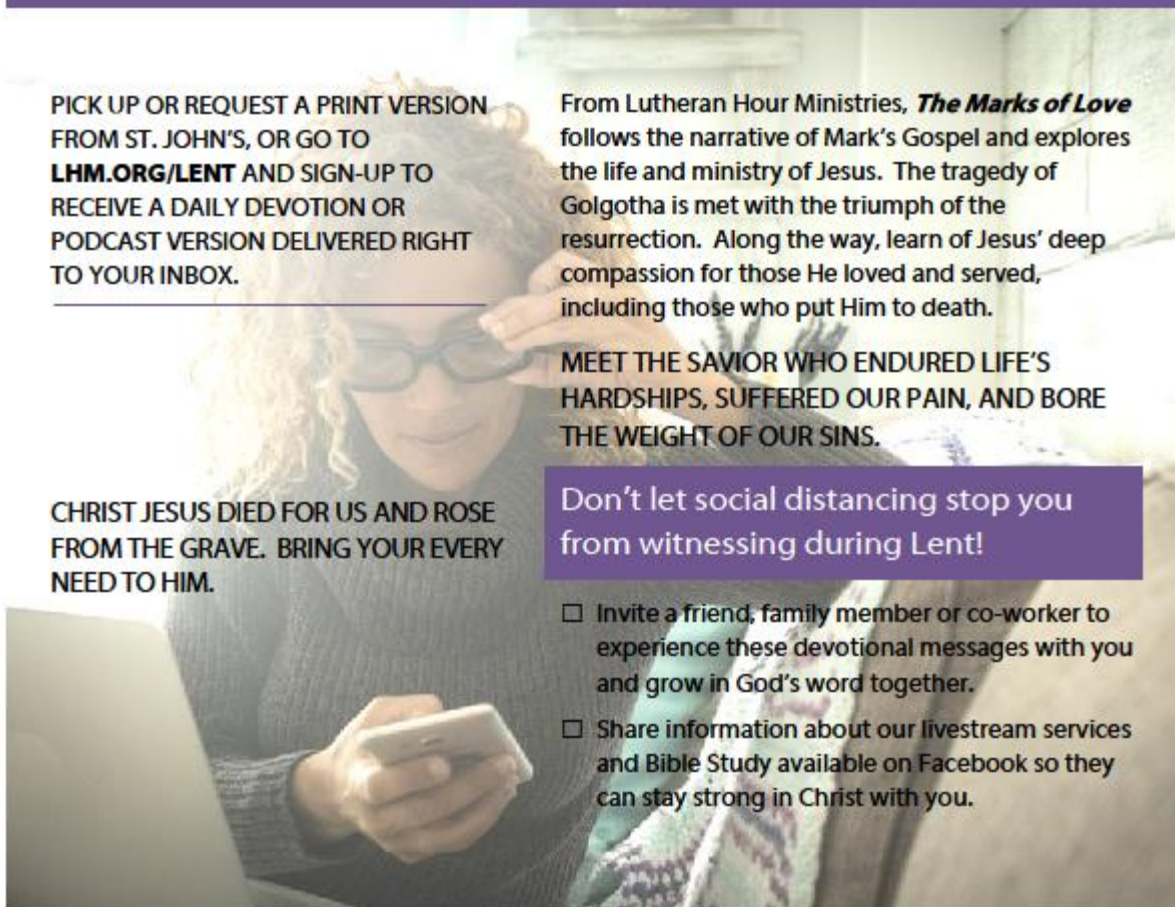
WANTED: Young person to supervise 2 boys in our home this summer, M-F. Job requirements: basic skills in preparing lunch and snacks, ability and willingness to build with Legos, reread the same book, watch cartoons and prepared to hear mind numbing facts about military, space and vehicles. We will be flexible with summer sports and vacations etc. Please call or text if interested or have questions. #573-694-2893
Trisha Mistler

Easter Lily Sign Up

Yes, I would like to place a lily in church for the celebration of the Resurrection.

Name: _____

Optional, In Memory of: _____



PICK UP OR REQUEST A PRINT VERSION FROM ST. JOHN'S, OR GO TO **LHM.ORG/LENT** AND SIGN-UP TO RECEIVE A DAILY DEVOTION OR PODCAST VERSION DELIVERED RIGHT TO YOUR INBOX.

From Lutheran Hour Ministries, *The Marks of Love* follows the narrative of Mark's Gospel and explores the life and ministry of Jesus. The tragedy of Golgotha is met with the triumph of the resurrection. Along the way, learn of Jesus' deep compassion for those He loved and served, including those who put Him to death.

MEET THE SAVIOR WHO ENDURED LIFE'S HARDSHIPS, SUFFERED OUR PAIN, AND BORE THE WEIGHT OF OUR SINS.

CHRIST JESUS DIED FOR US AND ROSE FROM THE GRAVE. BRING YOUR EVERY NEED TO HIM.

Don't let social distancing stop you from witnessing during Lent!

- Invite a friend, family member or co-worker to experience these devotional messages with you and grow in God's word together.
- Share information about our livestream services and Bible Study available on Facebook so they can stay strong in Christ with you.

Pray for the world around us

All nations and leaders need our prayers for God's guidance



From St. John's Evangelism Committee

With so much going on today with politics, our leaders, and the world around us, we may wonder with some concern just what will happen next? Of course, while we may be anxious about the future, as Christians, we know how wonderful it is that God has provided us with an outlet to bring our concern directly to Him.

It's called prayer.

God hasn't promised that world tension will subside, or every leader will instantly become pure and righteous if we pray, but He still commands us to do it. God wants us to pray not only for our leaders, but for other nations too. The Bible says, *"I urge then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercessions and thanksgiving be made for all people...and all who are in high positions"* (1 Timothy 2:1-2). This is powerful because as we read in Proverbs 21:1, *"The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water He turns it wherever He wishes."*

Still, even though we know that it's our duty to pray, we may wonder if prayer applied to these situations can really make a difference? After all, we've been praying a long time and *the world is still evil* (a great answer to a Bible Study question when you're stuck). Here at St. John's, we pray for our nation all the time, but the country still seems to be plagued with conflict and injustice. Is anything really changing?

The answer is plain. We only need to consider how much worse the world would be if we didn't pray. What if we simply gave in and gave up? We may never know what impact our prayers are having, but we can be certain that God is still at work in response to our prayers.

There's no doubt that the devil is at work in the world—**but so is God!** And someday, as God has promised, He will intervene, and Christ will come again to establish His kingdom. In the meantime, don't become discouraged by what you see in the news and so many of today's social media sites. The Bible says, *"The secret power of lawlessness (the devil) is already at work; but the one (the Holy Spirit) who holds it back will continue to do so"* (2 Thessalonians 2:7).

God knows what's next. He sees the big picture, and He cares how you're feeling. Just think how many times He has been walking next to us, caring for us as we question the future. Sure, the world can be chaotic, but God offers a peace that transcends this.

As Jesus said, *"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid"* (John 14:27). That kind of peace doesn't come from one person in power, or a piece of legislation. It's a peace that begins in your heart, and with your prayers.

Armed with this truth, continue to pray for those to whom God has given authority. Pray for our nation, our president, congress, judges, pastors, Christian leaders, and others who advise them.

It is true that we are still living in dangerous times—but God has always been—and still is **AT WORK**. And He alone is our hope.

Stay strong in Christ.



This article is a blend of ideas from St. John's Evangelism Committee coupled with various resources on Christian instruction found on the worldwide web.



**LENT CONTINUES
WORSHIP SERVICES,
WEDNESDAY, 7 P.M.**

THEME—“The Hands of the Passion”

The overall theme for the 2021 Lenten sermons is “The Hands of the Passion.” When we Consider Jesus and the people around him in his Passion, we can’t help but think of their hands- The hands that beat their breast, accepted money for betrayal, petulantly swung swords, pointed in accusation, beat and disavowed, praised, washed, were pierced, and offered eternal life. In short, we can’t help but think about how we sinners have had the same sinful hands of those who surrounded Jesus in his Passion, and how Jesus our Savior has touched us with his hands of grace.

Services

- Midweek 3, Mar 3.....Hands of Misguided Zeal (Peter).....John 18:4-11**
- Midweek 4, Mar 10.....Hands of Hypocrisy (Caiaphas).....Mark 14:55-65**
- Midweek 5, Mar 17.....Hands of Brutality (Soldiers).....Matthew 27: 27-31**
- Midweek 6, Mar 24.....Hands of Self-Preservation (Pilate).Matthew 27:15-26**

Join Us for Worship

Greetings in the Name of Jesus, who has chosen you,

Each year Lutherans For Life sponsors an essay contest for grades 6 through 12. The winner of each state contest competes in the National contest. The Missouri winner receives a cash prize, a plaque and a Bible and is asked to read their essay at the Missouri Annual meeting. The winner of the National contest also receives a cash prize and receives a trip to the National Conference where they also read their essay.

The theme for this year's contest is God Chose You based on the Bible verse John 15:16: ***You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.*** Any Lutheran student is eligible to enter. Guidelines for the contest can be found at lflfmo.org. or contact this editor. Entries should be submitted digitally using Microsoft Word or Google Docs to lflfmo@gmail.com by **March 15, 2021**.

The following is one of the winners from 2020. Be encouraged and encourage a young person you know to enter.

LFL of MO's 1st Place Elementary Essay Winner: Sam Arroyo

LFL National's 2nd Place Elementary Essay Winner: Sam Arroyo

A Burning Flame

There is a flame in every person; that flame is meant to burn. This flame is not meant to be put out by one's own self. God designed each and every one of us in His own image. He planned out our lives before we were born. Suicide was not God's perfect plan for our lives.

Everyone has a purpose; God planned that purpose before our lives began. Jeremiah 1:5 says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" (*Faith Alive Student Bible*). Suicide crushes God's Plan for us. Suicide rates have increased substantially since the year 2000. Suicide is now the 10th leading cause of death in the United States ("Suicide Statistics"). 1 Corinthians 12:22 says, "On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable." God mapped out the human body so perfectly; it is amazing how every part of the human body matters. When our mind is feeling weak, we should turn to God. Isaiah 41:10 says, "Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." God only wants the best for us. God is always by our side, so hope should come from Him when we feel down or depressed. John 8:12 says, "Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'" Even in the darkest time in our lives, Jesus is our hope and way to the light.

Committing suicide is destroying God's perfect creation. God gave everyone unique and different gifts. Each one of us has a purpose in this world. The journey we take may have many ups and downs, but knowing that Jesus is our rock and our salvation can get us through our difficult moments. Life is a burning flame; it only lasts for so long. God made us to share His love and spread that flame, not to put it out before it is time.

In Christ,
Sylvia Glenn

Feel free to call me (573-592-7866) for information or concerns about life issues. For those who have had an abortion, there is a word of hope! "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3). For confidential post-abortion referral, counsel, and reconciliation call WORD of HOPE, toll-free 888-217-8679.



**St. John's
Lutheran Church Chili Supper**

St. John's Parish House

Babbtown, Mo.

7075 Hwy P

2 Miles North Meta

12 Miles South of Westphalia



Sunday, March 14, 2021

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

CARRY OUT ONLY

Hot Chili Chili Dogs

Hot Chicken Noodle Soup

Hot Dogs Dessert

For information call 573-229-8829

BABBTOWN NEWS

**CLEANING FOR
PARISH HOUSE
MARCH, 2021**
April and Gabriel Schubert

**BAPTISM BIRTHDAY
MARCH, 2021**
Mar 12, Arline Mueller
Mar 19, Blakely Nilges

**Calendars Date
March 31, Babbtown Maundy
Thursday Service- 7:00 pm**

SCHUBERT

USHER SCHEDULE

- Mar 7 Russ Titus
Andy Beach
Silas Luetkemeyer
Gary Lofton
- Mar14 Russ Titus
George Kuhlman
Eric Lofton
Dale Schmutzler
- Mar21 Russ Titus
Mike Forbis
Dave Mueller
Dale Ludwig
- Mar28 Russ Titus
Kevin Lohraff
Berry Wiggin
Sherrie Russell

- Haley Toerper
- Mar16 Jay Forbis
- Mar17 Elizabeth Isenhart
Trisha Mistler
- Mar22 Corra Lofton
Tristan Marble
- Mar23 Mary Kuhlman
- Mar24 Taylor Isenhart
- Mar25 Devin Dippold
- Mar26 Sara Schatz
- Mar27 Lois Loduca
- Mar30 Lathe Willson

APRIL, 2021 Newsletter
Items are due
MARCH 21, 2020
Newsletter items may be placed in either Pastor's or Jan's mailbox.

Or they may be e-mailed to Pastor Schepeler—
st.jschubert@outlook.com
Any announcement: Weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, personal notes, pictures or church related business are welcome.



- Mar 1 Keith Bohl
- Mar 6 Carson Bohl
Kennady Grothoff
- Mar 8 Jennifer Murray
- Mar 9 Roger Schroeder
- Mar11 Haley Kelly
- Mar13 Mason Mistler
- Mar15 Linda Brenner



**MARCH, 2021
CLEANING
CHURCH**
Bethany Marble
Terry Walkenhorst
ALTAR GUILD
Linda Brenner
Martha Kleindienst