

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2010



REV. KEVIN K. ADER

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Mission Statement: We are called by God to be the light of the world. We are to go forth and show Jesus' love and forgiveness through loving care for all God's creation.

Lenten Mid-Week Schedule

We will continue our theme of the "The Lord's Prayer" with the round robin style schedule of Pastors. All services will be held here at St. John at 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM.

Mar. 3-Pastor Peterson

Mar. 10-Pastor Tonn

Mar. 17-Pastor Ader

Mar. 24-Pastor Mouldenhauer

Palm Sunday



Palm Sunday Services will be on March 27 at 6:30 PM and March 28 at 9:30 AM. Week-day School will be singing in the Sunday service.

LLL at St. John

Our church will be hosting Lutheran Laymen's League on Friday, March 12 at 6:30 PM. The dinner will be Corned Beef and Cabbage and the program will be guest speaker Ed Bieno Regional Governor of LLL. Cost is \$7.50. For reservations call Duane Steinke at 423-2716 by Tuesday, March 9.

Interfaith Presentation

Robin Madson will be with us on Sunday, March 21, to present information about Inter-Faith Caregivers of Portage County. Robin is currently serving as Director of Inter-Faith Volunteer Caregivers.

Easter Flower Orders

Watch for bulletin inserts starting March 7 for prices and deadline to order Easter Lilies and Spring Flowers. Flowers will be used to decorate the church and names and memorials will be published in the Easter bulletins. You can take your flowers home anytime after the 9:30 AM Easter service.



Cards and Napkins For Sale

A new shipment of greeting cards and napkins has arrived. We have a wide variety of cards—get well, birthday, sympathy, all occasion and Easter. Cards are sold by the box or packaged in 3 or 4 cards per pack. We also have a variety of new napkins to choose from. Stop by our display in the narthex. If you need assistance, ask one of the Evening Guild members.

Foundation Challenge



Spring is just around the corner and before you know it preparations for the repair work on the church foundation will begin.

Contributions are still needed to give us a jump start on this very important project.

Starting in March the Ladies Aid and the Ladies Evening Guild are sponsoring a "Foundation Challenge." For every two dollars donated by the congregation, the ladies organizations will donate one dollar up to \$1,500.00. More information on the "Foundation Challenge" will be coming in our March service bulletins.

SWEPS Collection

The Human Care Board is asking for your help in collecting items for the South Wood County Emergency Pantry Shelf. Please bring your non-perishable food and personal items to the collection box in the narthex. Collection will run through March. Thank you!

Thank You

We wish to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards and kind words to us at the loss of Les's mother, Verona Reed.
Thank you--Les and Mona Heindl.

Evangelism

"Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase" -Martin Luther King, Jr.

Book Sale Donations

Are you planning on doing some spring cleaning soon? If so, don't forget the library will accept book, CD, and video (in good working order) donations throughout the year. Bring your items in a bag marked "Book Sale" and place them in the library area. Items donated will be sold at the bazaar in the fall. The money from this sale allows us to make new purchases for the library. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Bethesda Thrift Shop

The Bethesda Thrift Shop in the Rapids Mall will have its season ending Clearance Sale including a Bag Sale From March 1 through 13 - a whole bag of clothing and shoes for only \$8.00 per bag. Don't miss this sale! Then, on March 15 the whole store will be packed with a new supply of spring and summer clothing and shoes. Come in soon for the best selection. The store will also celebrate its 6th anniversary on Wednesday, March 17 with sales of 20% to 60% off on most items in the store. Celebrate with us with refreshments and great bargains. We are looking for good furniture donations. We will return to our regular hours on March 15 (10:00-8:00 M-F; 10:00-5:00 Sat.; Closed Sundays). Thank you for enhancing the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities at Bethesda.

Spring Ahead

Daylight Saving Time begins March 14.
Remember to set your clocks ahead 1 hour.



LCFS Adoption Reunion

On Saturday, June 5, we will be holding our first reunion for adults who were adopted as children through Lutheran Counseling and Family Services (formerly known as Lutheran Children's Friend Society). By doing this we hope to encourage friendship, promote discussion and receive feedback. If you, or someone you know is interested or wants more information, please contact Diane Boheen, LCFS Adoption Coordinator, by phone at 414-536-8333 or 800-291-4513 or by email at adoption@lcfswi.org. The gathering will be held at 3800 N. Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI 53222. Please pass this information along to anyone adopted through LCFS.

WVLHS Applications

Application Packets for Wisconsin Valley Lutheran High School are available in the church office for the 2010-2011 school year. Registrations submitted to the school prior to April 30, 2010 will receive a \$50 registration fee discount. If you have a student interested in applying please call or stop by the church office.



What Have I Done for Him?

Lent is a season in the church year during which we particularly focus on the sacrifice Jesus made for us to pay the debt we owed for our sin. We know there is no way we can pay the debt ourselves. Only the sinless Son of God could do that. We have access to heaven only by grace through faith in Christ Jesus.

While we cannot repay Jesus for what He has done for us, His love does require a response. Paul, speaking of our ministry of reconciliation, wrote, "For Christ's love compels us..." (2 Corinthians 5:14). We remain on earth to carry out the tasks which Christ left for us to do: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner, (Matthew 25:31-46). James admonished us that "...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead" (James 2:17). We provide the funds that support our pastors, teachers, and missionaries. Again, we can quote Paul writing in 1 Corinthians 9:11-12. "If we have sown spiritual seed among you, is it too much if we reap a material harvest from you? If others have this right of support from you, shouldn't we have it all the more?" Certainly each of us is addressed by the Great Commission: "Go and make disciples of all nations..." (Matthew 28:19). The following words from Frances Ridley Havergal are a poignant reminder that Christ's love and sacrifice for us require a response:

Thy life was given for me, Thy Blood, O Lord, was shed
That I might ransomed by, and quickened from the dead.
Thy life was given for me, What have I given for Thee?

And Thou hast brought to me Down from Thy home above
Salvation full and free, Thy pardon and Thy love.
Great gifts Thou broughtest me, What have I brought to Thee?

We are saved by grace through faith for works. Let us pray for the desire to be good stewards of the gifts of salvation, health and wealth, and time and opportunity which God has given us that we might have a part in the furthering of God's kingdom.