

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church



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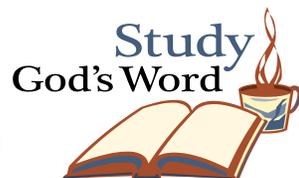
February 2015

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.

Adult Bible Study

The Parables of Lent

Beginning on February 15th, the Sunday Morning Bible Class will be studying the *Parables of Lent*. This will be a six session study. There is a study guide for this study, the cost of the study guide is \$6.00.



The Gospel of Mark We will continue the study of the Gospel of Mark on Monday afternoons from 1:30 pm until about 3:00 pm. There is still room if you would like to join us.

Please note that there will **NOT** be Bible Study on the following dates: Monday, Feb. 2, or Sunday, Feb. 8.

Lenten Services

Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten season, is February 18. St. John will continue to offer Mid-Week Lenten Services. The themes and service schedules are as follows:



Wednesday Morning Traditional Service at 10:30 am

We will be following the theme *The Parables of Lent* for these services. It will also be the theme for the Holy Week Services of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter.

Ash Wednesday, February 18

"Receive Justification: The Pharisee and the Tax Collector" • Luke 18:9-14 The tax collector who repents goes home justified, while the proud Pharisee does not. We, too, who repent are justified through Christ.

Week 1, February 25

"Receive the Word: The Sower and the Seed" • Matthew 13:1-8, 18-23 The seed that falls on fertile soil takes root and grows, while seeds in other soils fail. The Word of Christ flourishes within us.

Week 2, March 4

"Receive the Treasure: The Hidden Treasure and the Priceless Pearl" • Matthew 13:44-46 Two men give all that they have to buy objects of great worth. We who are priceless to Christ receive him who gave all that he had to call us his own.

Week 3, March 11

"Receive Mercy: The Good Samaritan" • Luke 10:25-37 A man beaten on the road gets help from an unlikely traveler. We who are often beaten down along the road of life encounter the healing of Christ through the cross.



Week 4, March 18

“Receive Grace: The Workers in the Vineyard” • Matthew 20:1-16 All workers in a vineyard are given the same pay from the master, no matter how long they have labored. All who have been called by the Master are blessed by the same reward in Christ.

Week 5, March 25

“Receive Forgiveness: The Prodigal Son” • Luke 15:11-32 A wayward son returns to the forgiving embrace of his father, who welcomes him home. We who have strayed return again and again to the embrace of our Father, through the sacrifice of his Son.

Palm Sunday, March 29

“Receive Love: The Lost Sheep” • Luke 15:1-7 A shepherd leaves his 99 sheep to find the one who is lost. We who are lost in sin are found by our loving Shepherd, who heads into Jerusalem amid praise and palm branches.

Maundy Thursday, April 2

“Receive the Meal: The Great Banquet” • Luke 14:7-24 Those in low positions are invited to a place of honor by the host. We who are humbled by our sins and outcast by the world are welcomed by Christ to dine at his Holy Supper.

Good Friday, April 3

“Receive the Sacrifice: The Landowner and the Tenants” • Matthew 21:33-45 Tenants in a vineyard kill the son the master sent to gather the harvest. The Son of God is killed that we might receive the kingdom.

Easter Sunday, April 5

“Receive Eternal Life: The Wise and Foolish Builders” • Matthew 7:24-27 When a storm hits, the house built on the rock remains while one built on sand is washed away. We build our lives on Christ the Cornerstone.

Wednesday Evening Family Service at 6:30 pm

We will be following the theme *Questioned for Christ* for these services. Each service in the series focuses on figures from the story of the Passion of Christ who are questioned concerning their relationship to Jesus Christ.

The service for Ash Wednesday is called “A Question of Cost” and includes a police interrogation of the “money men” in the story of Christ—Zacchaeus, Matthew and Judas. “What is the cost of following Christ?”

The service for Week One is called “A Question of Priorities” and includes a police interrogation of Mary, the sister of Martha and Lazarus. “What priority do we give Christ in our lives?”

The service for Week Two is called “A Question of Conviction” and includes a police interrogation of Nicodemus, the Pharisee who secretly conversed with Jesus by cover of night. “What are your convictions about Christ?”

The service for Week Three is called “A Question of Innocence” and includes a police interrogation of Mary Magdalene and another witness, who are accused of many things, but ultimately set free. “How are we declared innocent through Christ?”

The service for Week Four is called “A Question of Sacrifice” and includes a police interrogation of Barabbas, a criminal who was released by Pilate and replaced by Jesus. “How much did Christ sacrifice for us?”

The service for Week Five is called “A Question of Authority” and includes a police interrogation of John, the beloved disciple of Christ. “How does the ultimate authority of Christ affect our daily lives?”



Pancake Breakfast Thank You

Thank you to all of our guests who supported us on such a snowy day. As well as all of our workers who helped set-up and clean up for the event. Thank you to all the people who supported us with money



donations by envelope. Pancake earnings after expenses \$429.00 was collected. "Journey To The Cross" is an important Community and Congregational Event at St. John which requires so much of your help and support to put on. Every amount of help or contribution throughout the year is greatly appreciated. "Journey To The Cross" will be Saturday March 28 from 11:00am-2:00pm. ~Board of Evangelism

Church Directory

As part of the 150th. celebration of St. John church, we will be making a new pictorial church directory. The committee has chosen these dates when photos will be taken: May 5th. thru May 9th. This is a Tues. thru Sat.. The times are 2pm-9pm weekdays and 9am-4pm on Sat. You will be able to choose your photo that day from a choice of three poses. We will be starting a new web site that will enable you to make your appointments on line and receive a \$10.00 off coupon for using the web site., rather than by signing up. More information and details will be forthcoming, but we want to give out the dates for those who have to plan ahead

Church Photo Directory



Ladies Aid Pie Sale

The Ladies Aid will be selling their delicious homemade pies after services on February 21 & 22. Thanks for your support!



Life Circles

On Thursday Jan.8th. Life Circles had an opportunity to tour the Opportunity Development Center (ODC). All were impressed by the magnitude of their business. It was very inspiring to see these dedicated workers at their jobs! The jobs are fit to the worker so it requires a lot of thought and ingenuity on ODC's part. It was also impressive to see how many local businesses use ODC providing jobs so that their workers can be productive and build their self worth. ODC has an electronics recycling program and also a bakery and kitchen, both open to the public. To find out more call ODC at 715-818-6481. If you ever get the opportunity to tour their center, please go, it is an awesome experience! Life Circles next meeting will be Feb 12th at 1:00pm at St. John. We show a movie and will have a brief business meeting after. See you at the movies!

SWEPS Collection

Just a reminder that we are collecting nonperishable food items for the South Wood County Emergency Pantry Shelf (SWEPS) all year due to the need in the area. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity to help others meet the need to keep their families fed. The basket for the collection is in the Narthex. Thank you again. The Human Care Board

Journey to the Cross Meeting

After the 6:30PM Ash Wednesday Service there will be a brief organizational meeting for Journey To The Cross in the basement. Character's, Tour Guides and new people who would like to



become involved are encouraged to attend. I will be at the morning service as well; if you are unable to be at the evening service, to talk to. **Journey To The Cross is Saturday, March 28, from 11:00AM to 2:00PM—Sandra**

Spaghetti Supper

The entire congregation and families and friends are invited to attend the Spaghetti Supper on Sunday, February 15th from 4 to 6 pm. Come join us for a great supper of salad, spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic bread topped off with the best selection of St. John famous desserts. The event is hosted by the Ladies Evening Guild. Adults \$7.00, children under 6 \$3.50.



150th Anniversary Committee Meeting: Change of meeting date

The Anniversary Committee will meet on Thursday, March 5th at 6:30 p.m. All sub-committees are asked to have a member present or a written report to update the full Committee on the progress of their portion of the celebration.

Scrip Scrap Corner

Dining out is the perfect way to spend time with your sweetheart. We have Applebee's, Chat-R-Box Café, El Mezcal, Olympic, Graces, Panda Express and more. If we don't have the restaurant you want we can special order it for you. Scrip works great for other Valentine gifts as well-Barnes & Noble, Bath & Body Works, Gap, Gordmans, Hallmark, J.C. Penney, Kohls, Younkers and so much more. Shop with Scrip for all your Valentine gift needs and thanks for buying Scrip and helping our church! Our profit total for January was \$283.07.

Thank You

Thank you very much Pastor Ader for all of your prayers and visits to Duaine Saeger while he was in the hospital and Bethel. Thank you very much to the funeral committee for serving a great luncheon for the funeral. It was very much appreciated. We have a wonderful group of people in this congregation. – Nancy Saeger

Lutheran Hour Broadcast

If you would like to sponsor the Lutheran Hour on WFHR 1320 AM at 9:00 AM please call the radio station at 715-424-1300 and ask for Bob or Chuck. Previously we had announced that WFHR would no longer be broadcasting the Lutheran Hour. As we become informed about the situation we will include updates.

The Lutheran Hour will be on the following radio stations on Sunday: WAXX 104.5 FM at 6:30 a.m.; WDLB 1450 AM at 8 a.m.; WDUX 92.7 FM at 8 a.m.; WSAU 99.9 FM at 8:30 a.m.; and WRVM 91.3 FM, 94.3 FM or 101.3 FM at 10 a.m.

February 1

"Boring? Not Likely!"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus Jesus' enemies considered Him too dangerous to let live, but we have wrapped the Savior in a cloak of dullness. (Mark 1:21-28)

February 8

"The Gospel's Power for Gracious Living"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz Christ empowers His followers to live lives that encourage, affirm, and serve others.

(1 Corinthians 9:18-23)

February 15

"Searching for Love - Listen to Jesus"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz Jesus is God's love in action for you. Listen to Him! (Mark 9)

February 22

"Regrets, Reality, and Grace-filled Restoration"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz Through Christ's forgiveness, regrets give way to restoration. (Luke 15)



Bethesda Thrift Shop

In February we begin our seasonal clearance sale with 25% off all clothing and shoes (and the store is still loaded with clothing and more coming out each day)... changing to 50% off later in the month. On Feb. 27-28 we will have 50% off almost everything in the store. We have various Valentine items and can we suggest using your tax refund for our great selection of NEW furniture or mattresses. Just to let you know our progress, we are a non-profit organization that took in \$265,751.00 in sales last year with 65% of that going to enhance the lives of the intellectually and physically disabled folks we serve. The 35% of the income is needed for rent, buying new furniture and mattresses and store supplies. At this rate we should take in our 2 millionth dollar in August! There is no pay roll at our store – every one working at the store including management serves as a volunteer. We have about 130 volunteers who worked 15,000 hours this past year. We had 33,000 customers and 4,300 donations this past year. Thanks again for your continued support.



Fellowship & Food

Quarterly throughout the coming year

Starting Sunday's:
March 15, June 14, and
December 6 (Skipping
the fall because of our
150th Anniversary)

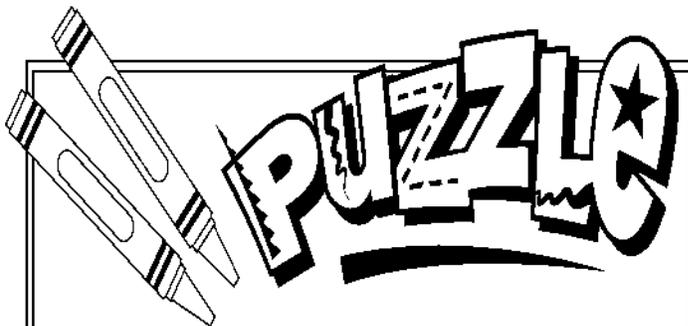


Fellowship Meals

Potluck & Your Fellowship after the Sunday Service

A Dish to Pass & a Free Will Donation towards
General Fund Church Expenses

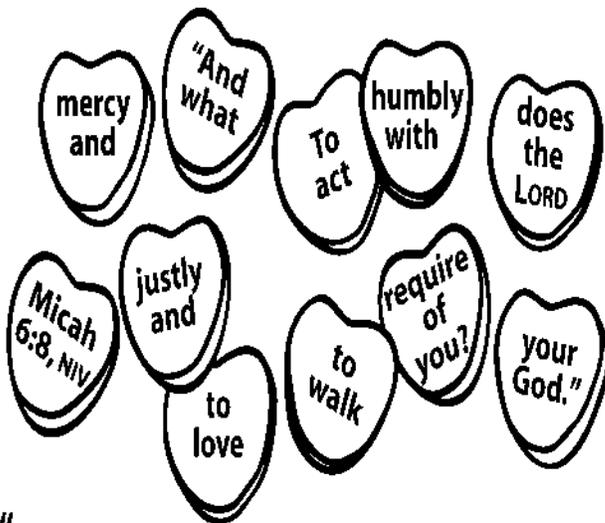
~ **Come Visit with your Church Family** ~
Evangelism & Stewardship Committees



Conversation hearts

The world encourages people to look out for themselves and seek success, but in Micah 6:8, God tells us to live differently.

Directions: Put the conversation hearts in the correct order by writing the words on the lines below. Hint: Capitalization and quotation marks are included.



" _____
 _____ ? _____

 _____ " _____
 _____ 6:8 _____

Answer: "And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8, NIV

PLAIN & *Simply* Just Pancakes



The Children of St. John invite you
to an Ash Wednesday Evening Supper
of **Just Pancakes** with a Topping Bar.
Wednesday February 18, 2015
4:30 – 6:00 PM

Eat before church – or come back if you went to
church in the morning.

Your Free Will Donation will support the Youth of St. John
Hearts for Jesus Mission. This year, donations will go towards
Jeremiah's Crossing in Babcock, WI.

PLAIN & *Simply*

This has become a yearly event supporting the
Youth of St. John

*Come and treat yourself
by creating your own special pancakes with our topping bar.*