

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church



MARCH 2016

REV. KEVIN K. ADER

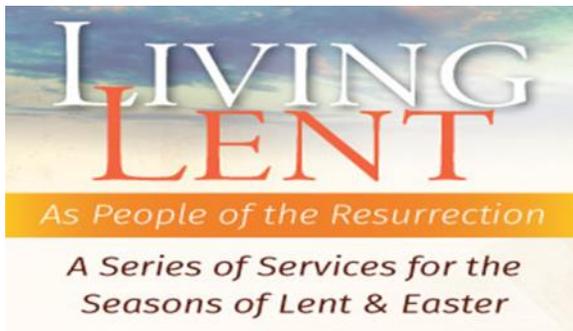
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Mission Statement: We are called by God to be the light of the world. We are to go forth and show Jesus' love and forgiveness through loving care for all God's creation.



Join us for Living Lent, a special series of midweek services for the season of Lent. Each service in this series focuses on a word to consider while living Lent as Easter people. Mid-week services are Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Service times for Holy Week services are indicated for each service.

Week Three (March 2) in the series is based on the word **PROCLAIM** and reminds us that our proclamation of the Savior brings faith to life.

Week Four (March 9) in the series is based on the word **PRAISE** and reminds us that even in the midst of sorrow, we are called to celebrate the love of God and the joy that can be found only in Christ crucified, who reigns in glory now.

Week Five (March 16) in the series is based on the word **PAIN** and reminds us that the pain of rejection and the pain of a father when a son leaves demonstrate the reckless love of God revealed in Jesus, who wipes every tear from our eyes.



Holy Week

Join us on **Palm Sunday Weekend** (March 19 & 20) for a special service based on the word **PALMS**. While we know the resurrection is on the horizon, we will welcome with palms in our hands the King of glory, now humbly riding a donkey. Service times are 6:30 p.m. on Saturday and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday

Join us on **Maundy Thursday** (March 24) for a special service with Holy Communion based on the word **PRAYER**. We watch as Jesus prays in anguish that this cup might pass from him, aware that God's plan for him is glorious. Service times are again at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. *Following the morning service, the Ladies Aid will be serving their chicken soup and sandwich luncheon.*

Join us on **Good Friday** (March 25) for a special service based on the word **PASSION**. We witness the passion and death of Christ on the cross, knowing that by his death we have life everlasting. Please note that service times are 1:00 p.m. and also 6:30 p.m.

Join us on **Easter Weekend** (March 26 & 27) for a special service based on the word **PARADISE**. As Easter people, we rejoice in the end of the story: paradise is ours through the resurrection of Christ. Saturday Easter Vigil service will be at 6:30 p.m.; Sunday Morning SonRise service will be at 6:30 a.m.; and Easter Festival service will be Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Holy Communion will be celebrated at each of these services. *Following the SonRise service, Easter Breakfast will be served by the Evening Guild.*

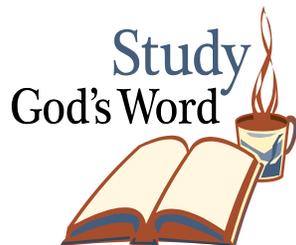
Adult Bible Class

The **Sunday** morning Bible Class meets at 8:05 a.m. and is continuing the *Gospel Project Chronological* study. We will be looking at the books of Numbers, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, and 1 Samuel. The **Monday** afternoon Bible Class continues its study of Church History – *Christian History Made Easy* on Monday afternoons from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join us for these studies.

Last Supper Presentation

The Wesley United Methodist Church in Marshfield will be presenting a dramatic presentation of the Last Supper on Monday, March 21, and Wednesday, March 23, at 7:00 p.m. each night. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex for those who might be interested in attending.



Communing with the Common Cup

As you will have read under the February Council Minutes, the Board of Elders and Council approved the use of the Common Cup during the Communion Services at St. John.



The individual cups will continue to be used for those who prefer the individual cups and also for the non-alcoholic wine.

- Q. How will this change our communion service, and what should I do if I desire to commune with the Common Cup?
- A. Little will change in our communion service. One noticeable change will be that our Pastor will now distribute the bread, the Elder will follow with the tray of individual cups, and Pastor will follow with the Common Cup for those who desire it and pronounce the dismissal.

Parishioners will still be ushered up as we currently do, there will be no communing of those desiring the Common Cup separately, which only leads to confusion and having to step over fellow parishioners to get to the center aisle.

When you are at the communion rail, if you desire the individual cups, you will take the cup from the tray as the Elder passes by, please leave the cup visible so Pastor may see who desires the Common Cup. Those desiring the Common Cup, Pastor will hold the cup before you, but please guide the cup and tip to drink yourself. After all have communed, Pastor will speak the dismissal and you will return to your seats as usual.

It is my hope that we will begin using the Common Cup during our Palm Sunday (March 19/20) and Holy Week services. If there are questions or concerns, please speak with me.

Pastor Ader

Lutheran Hour Broadcast

The Lutheran Hour can be heard on the following radio stations on Sunday Morning: 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.

March 6

"Reconciled Reconcilers"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Through forgiveness, God gives us another way to deal with people who have hurt us.
(2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

March 13

"It's Worth the Sacrifice"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
God calls us to be the right people in the wrong place, for the sake of others.
(Philippians 3:8-14)

March 20

"Strive for What You Already Have"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Christianity is about putting to work what God has already given us, in Christ.
(Philippians 2:5-11)

March 27

"An Unbeliever's Sermon"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz
Pastor Ken Klaus asked several non-believing friends to help him write his Easter sermon. Hear what they said (Luke 24:5-6)

Bethesda Thrift Shop

March is Clearance Sale month and at the Bethesda Thrift Shop in the Rapids Mall, you can really cash in on some great deals. Our semi-annual BAG SALE begins February 29 and ends March 12 - all the clothing and/or shoes that fit into a grocery bag for only \$8.00 (\$7.00 the 2nd week). On March 14, the store will be completely restocked with spring and summer clothing. On March 19 the store will be celebrating its 12 anniversary with a special discount day for everything in the store. And for those who have a tax refund to spend, consider NEW furniture and mattresses from our store. Bethesda appreciates your business and we hope you will shop with us this month.

Journey To The Cross Important Organization Date

Thursday March 17th –
6:00pm

All Cast & Tour Guides

Cast: You will get costumes on, meet at your stations, review your parts, and then go home.

Tour Guides: You will meet as a group review the Tour Guide Booklet and then go home. These 15-20 minutes spent is to assure we are all organized for Sat. ***We will not have a full dress rehearsal or a walk through.**



Journey to the Cross

Potluck and Fellowship

There will be a potluck dinner and fellowship on Sunday, March 6, 2016 after the church service.

Bring your favorite dish to pass. A free will offering will be taken and the money from the offering will go towards the Veterans Memorial Day weekend meal expenses here at St. John.



Fellowship Meals

Scrip Scrap Corner

Getting bored with winter? How about considering purchasing books, e-readers or audiobooks to help pass the time? You can purchase Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, iTunes, Target or Walmart gift cards from Scrip. This is a good way to help out our church and also will keep you entertained during the winter months. Our profit total for February was \$162.74.

Thank You

We would like to thank Pastor Ader and our church family for your prayers, cards, and support at the loss of our mother and grandmother. It is a comfort to know you care—Ron, Laurel, Brian and Jessica Zager

Spaghetti Supper Thank You

The Annual Spaghetti Supper that was held on Valentine's Day this year was a huge success. The Lord blessed us with a terrific turnout. Thanks to all who contributed your time, provided delicious homemade desserts and to those who came to enjoy this Valentine dinner. A HUGE THANK YOU to the youth of our congregation who came and helped with serving desserts, busing table, waitressing and helping out wherever they were needed. Also a special thank you to the men of the congregation who so generously help out each year with this event. The event would not be a success without the help of all of you who so willingly give of your time and talents! Thanks again for supporting the Evening Guild to make this event so enjoyable. We would also like to thank the local funeral homes who were so willing to sponsor our ads in the Daily Tribune: **Herman-Taylor Funeral Home and Ritchay Funeral Home**. A special thanks to the local businesses who generously donate their marquee advertising: **Country Tots Child Development Center, Bancroft State Bank—Kellner and Wisconsin Rapids Chamber of Commerce.—Ladies Evening Guild**



Plain & Simply Pancakes Ash Wednesday Thank You

The Youth of St. John would like to thank all of their guests: Friends, Family and Congregation members for attending the Pancake Supper on Ash Wednesday. It was a great success.



OPEN TO ALL— Life Circles Trip for March 10th

Please join us for a relaxed lunch at Great Expectations on Thursday, March 10th at 11:00 AM. After our delicious lunch, Amy Schiede will speak to us about their start in the restaurant business, how it operates and her passion for home grown healthy foods. Amy also has a connection to the old Tribune building restorations and will be able to provide us some insight as to its purpose and progress. So, have your questions ready. To help them prepare ahead, we are asking that you pick out your lunch choice ahead of time. In the narthex you will find menu sheets—look it over-circle your choice. Then fill out reservation tickets. Place in the envelope provided. The deadline for sign up is March 6. However, we will be able to accommodate some on the last minute on Thursday. Please join us—good food-good people-What's not to like?



Life Circles Trip for April

It is time again for the Midwest Horse Show in Madison, Wisconsin. The date is Friday, April 15. We will leave St. John @ 7:00AM—stop for breakfast in Westfield—then proceed to Madison. We will be able to purchase tickets at Tractor Supply for \$13.00. This is cheaper than at the gate for \$17.00. A signup sheet will be in the narthex if you can join us and want tickets. All who went last year enjoyed the experience, hopefully you will too. We generally leave Madison around 5:30PM.



**Back in
the
Saddle**

Worship for Shut-Ins

Worship for Shut-Ins (WSFI) is a thirty-minute Christian worship experience featuring



classic hymns, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and a 10-minute message by Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod pastors. Beginning on June 28, 2015, RCCA will begin airing WSFI on Solarus Cable Channel 3 and Charter Cable Channel 985 on Sunday mornings at 6:30 am and Wednesday mornings at 8:00 am. WSFI can also be seen on Stevens Point Community TV (Charter Cable Channel 984) at the following times: Mondays 12:30 pm, Tuesdays 2:00 pm, Thursdays 2:30 pm, Fridays 10:30 am and Saturdays at 11:00 am.

March 6, 2016—2 Corinthians 5:16-21

"Faith in What or Whom?"

by Rev. Dr. Thomas R. Ahlersmeyer, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wane, IN

Reconciliation is a beautiful word that describes the universal and sacrificial love of Jesus Christ. Reconciliation normally is a two-way street; with our great God, He does all the work. NOTHING about us—even our faith—makes reconciliation a reality. Reconciliation happens because of what Jesus Christ has done.

March 13, 2016—Isaiah 43:16-21

"The God of New Things"

By Rev. Dr. Walter A. Maier III, Concordia Theological Seminary—Fort Wayne, IN

Do you long for the "good old days"? Appreciate the past, but don't be weighed down by nostalgia. Recognize how God is acting for your benefit now, and how he will so act in the future. For He is the God of new things.

March 20, 2016 – John 12:12-33

"Palms & Grain Kernels"

by Rev. William Mueller, Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church~Fort Wayne, IN

The Palm Sunday crowd cheered at the entrance of Jesus Christ into Jerusalem just five days before He would be cast out of the city to be crucified on a cross. The crowd waves palm branches in the air as a sign of glory and honor to Jesus. Later that day Jesus talked about casting kernels of grain into the ground. What do these two seemingly insignificant items – palm branches and grain kernels – have to do with our Palm Sunday celebration and our faith? Each remind us about His eternal love for us!

March 27, 2016 – 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

"Firstfruits"

by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker, Emanuel Lutheran Church~New Haven, IN

On Easter morning our Lord Jesus rose from the dead in victory over sin, death and the power of the devil. He is the firstfruit. We, also, shall rise from the dead in glorious victory to live with Jesus forever. Just as He has been raised from the dead so we too shall rise. We shall follow Him to be with Him where He is.

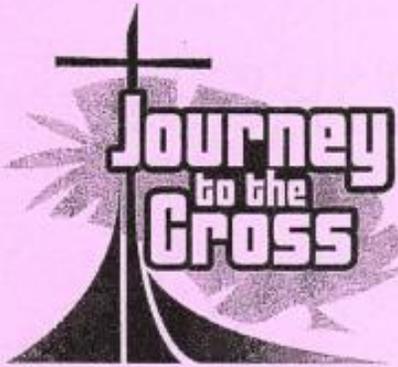
Save the Date!

Saturday, April 30, 2016.

**10:00 a.m. until Noon—
TEA TIME AND PURSES.**

All Ladies who live near or far of every age are invited to our Spring Tea Party.





Get immersed in Easter like you never have before!

Join us for a sensory learning event that covers the last days of Jesus' life on earth. Meet witnesses from the Bible; taste, touch, feel and be a part of the Passion story. Take a walking Journey inside and outside with your Passport in hand and be transported back to the time of Christ.

**Saturday, March 19, 2016
11:00AM – 2:00PM
St. John Lutheran Church, Kellner, WI**

**Walking tours leave every 5 minutes
Rain or shine
It's free and all ages are welcomed!**

An old spiritual song asks this question: "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?" In all honesty, we have to say no, but soon our church could have a different answer to that question.

St John Lutheran Church will be hosting *Journey to the Cross*, an Easter learning experience.

As a traveler, you have the opportunity to walk in Jesus' footsteps during Holy Week. Smell the aroma of anointing perfume, taste Passover food, feel a crown of thorns, and so much more. You will hear about Jesus from Bible witnesses and be a part of the Passion experience.

Please save March 19th on your calendar. Come join us as a volunteer or a traveler. Help us to get this great news out to your friends and family members, so that they too can experience this wonderful event. **Pick up "Journey business cards" at the table in the narthex to hand out to friends and family.**

And please pray for all those involved—volunteers and journeyers—so that the Holy Spirit may truly bless our experience together.

TEA TIME & PURSES

Bring your favorite purse



Saturday April 30th, 2016

10:00AM ~ NOON

At St. John Lutheran Church

All Ladies ~ who live near or far ~ of every age ~
are Invited to our Tea Party.

~Free Will Donation~