

This Week With Our Lord, March 17-24, 2019

When activities are in the Fellowship Hall, the sanctuary is open for prayer and meditation.

SUNDAY, March 17-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
9:30 a.m. Adult/Youth Bible Classes; Sunday School classes at school
10:30 a.m. Divine Service (Alternative)

Monday, March 18-

7:00 p.m. Choir practice at school
7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting in the school library

Tuesday, March 19-

12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Evening Guild gathering and Prayer Service

Wednesday, March 20-

8:30 a.m. Midweek Lenten service at church Acolyte: Emme Deterding
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Quilting at church
9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall
11:00 a.m. Office Staff meeting
3:30 p.m. 6th-8th Grades Public School Confirmation
5:30 p.m. Lenten supper in the Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Midweek Lenten service at church Acolyte: Zandra Harless

Thursday, March 21-

6:30 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall
8:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study on Proverbs in the Fellowship Hall
9:30 a.m. Women's Advanced Bible History in Fellowship Hall
6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony

Friday, March 22-

8:30 a.m. Early Childhood Chapel with Mrs. Steele
4-7:30 p.m. PTL Rummage Sale in the school's old gym

Saturday, March 23- Pastor Nebel is on vacation thru Monday

7:30 a.m. to noon PTL Rummage Sale in the school's old gym
5:00 p.m. Divine Service

Acolyte: Taylor Guebert Greeters: Virginia and Mark Moeller

SUNDAY, March 24-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service Acolyte: Jakob Biffar
Greeters: Milton and Mary Ann Weber; Clyde and Kathy Rowold
9:30 a.m. Adult/Youth Bible classes; Sunday School classes at school
10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion Acolyte: Maggie Brown
Greeters: Jim & Judy Guebert; Carl and Flo Zschiegner

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP READINGS

Old Testament- Ezekiel 33:7-20; Epistle- 1 Cor. 10:1-13; Gospel- Luke 13:1-9

EPISTLE:

The March edition of our congregation's newsletter, *The Epistle*, is available in paper copy in the entryway. It is also on our website under the Media tab and has been sent by email to those for whom Pastor Nebel has an address.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

Strikingly, Jesus refers to his people both as "sheep" and as "gods" (Psalm 82). How does that work? Listen to "Ba-a-ah" (John 10) with Speaker Dr. Michael Zeigler on KFUO AM 850 Sunday at 12:30 & 5 p.m. or on Bott Christian Radio Sundays at 8 a.m. (KSIV 1320 AM or 91.5 FM).

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OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Sun. Worship: 395; Communion: 112; Adults/Youth: 50; Sunday School: 43

Midweek Lenten Worship: AM- 198 PM- 38

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" Psalm 122:1

FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL:

To have flowers in worship please call the office at 282-3873 to notify the committee and to have proper thanks in the bulletin of those donating.

WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN, WHATE'ER THE GIFT MAY BE:

We join with one another in the grace of giving. Offering: 3/10: General Fund- \$26,069.83; School- \$430; Foundation: \$100. *"The people shall not appear before their Lord empty-handed. Every one shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the Lord your God that He has given you."* (Deut. 16:16c-17). There are boxes of envelopes for 2019 on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: LCMS Stewardship Resources

Philippians 3:19 – "Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things." St. Paul does not want us to set our minds on earthly things, for they are passing away. This is similar to what Jesus says about storing up treasures on earth rather than storing them in heaven. Our heart tends to go where we put our treasure. This is why God commands us to live generously; not to spoil our fun but to help train us in keeping our priorities straight and our minds off earthly things.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

+ "Jesus Teaches Nicodemus" - Under the cover of darkness, the Jewish Pharisee Nicodemus visits Jesus. Nicodemus and we are from birth spiritually blind, sinful and unclean. Given the new birth of water and the Spirit, we are children of God who now see our sinfulness and the salvation that is ours in Jesus. Families may discuss, *What has our baptism done to change our lives?*

+ Primary classes (Nursery-1st grade) will sing "Lord I Lift Your Name on High" in the late service next Sunday.

+ Your child's Sunday School offering helps to cover the cost of materials and to support our mission project for the year which is support for Rev. Dr. Hans Trinklein (formerly of rural Okawville), LCMS missionary in South Korea.

PORTALS OF PRAYER:

The next edition of our quarterly devotional booklet, *Portals of Prayer*, is in the racks by the front and back doors of church.

WORSHIP GREETERS NEEDED:

There are openings at our 10:30 a.m. service for a couple or for two individuals to serve as greeters once every five weeks. Please call the office if you can help!

ADULT BIBLE CLASS OPPORTUNITIES; (Fellowship Hall unless noted)

Sunday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. "Justification and Sanctification" (Pastor Nebel)

Sunday from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. "Acts" (Pastor Koen- school library)

Men's Bible Breakfast, 1st and 3rd Saturdays, 7 a.m. "Angels" (Pastor Nebel)

Wednesday Women, 9:30 a.m. "Waiting: A Bible Study on Patience" (J. Fritsche)

Early Bird Thursdays, 6:30 a.m. "1st Corinthians" (Pastor Nebel)

Thursday Morning Women, 8:15 a.m. "Proverbs" (Julie Fehr)

Thursday Ladies, 9:30 a.m. "Advanced Bible History" (Doris Mueller) Page 3

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES:

The theme for the messages in our midweek Lenten services on Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. is "Minor Prophets With a Major Message." This week is "God Delights in Love and Compassion" from Micah 7. Supper will be served in the Fellowship Hall each Wednesday beginning at 5:30 p.m. This week's menu is ham, sweet potato, green bean casserole and deserts. The pre-service hymn sing begins at 6:50 p.m.

PTL RUMMAGE SALE:

Please begin bringing in your Rummage Sale items on Sunday, March 17 for our annual PTL Rummage Sale! It is earlier this year than normal. If doors are locked, please leave your items under the awning at the north doors. Helpers are needed for setting up before the sales, during the sales, and for clean up after the sale on Saturday beginning at 11:30. Friday's sale is a presale and it is \$2 at the door. It goes from 4 p.m. -7:30 p.m. Saturday is a bag sale from 7:30 a.m.-noon. There will be lots of heavy lifting during clean-up on Saturday so we will need some very strong arms!! Thanks in advance for your participation! All earnings go to benefit our school!! If you have any questions, please call Jamie Korando or Becky Liefer.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT WITH ERIC CARLE:

St. John's Lutheran School is hosting its 5th Annual Family Fun Night on Thursday, March 28 at 6:00 pm. We invite congregation families who have preschool and kindergarten-aged children to this fun night. All the activities, games, and snacks will be centered around books written by the author Eric Carle. We hope you can join us at school on March 28.

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON:

Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is being planned for Friday, April 5 with lunch at noon in the cafeteria. Volunteers also are invited to attend "Here For the Gold," our spring musical dress rehearsal at 10:00 a.m. in the old gym.

BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT LIFE NETWORK:

Please bring back the baby bottle you have used to collect change for Life Network (including Sunday School) and put them in the box in the Fellowship Hall. Last year we raised \$888.48 for the work of Life Network in this way!

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING OPENING:

We have one spot available for the National Youth Gathering. At this time, it can be a male or female high school age (or current 8th grade) student. Deposit is based on years of active participation in the youth group, but this can be discussed in person if you're interested. This spot to fill will be reduced to a female only spot in a couple weeks. We'd love to have you join us for this experience. Contact Susie Harms 618-201-5654. Call or text.

LILY GARDEN:

Again this year we will have a lily garden to decorate the chancel for Easter. The cost is \$6 per flower. You may donate this in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for the ways in which God has blessed you.

"RAINDROPS KEEP FALLING ON MY HEAD":

Lost and Found items are on the coat rack shelf across from the restrooms. These include many umbrellas. Take a look, one of them may be yours! [Page 4](#)

THANK YOU:

"Lauri and I thank you for your generous gifts, your prayers of support, and your words of encouragement. We thank the Lord for allowing us to serve Him here at St. John's. God daily sends us His angels through the acts of His people. [Jesus said:] 'For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited Me in; I needed clothes and you clothed Me, I was in prison and you visited Me.... I tell you the truth, whatever you did to the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.' God's blessings as you continue to serve Him!" *Pastor and Lauri Koen*

EVENT REMINDERS ON YOUR CELL PHONES:

Remind Me.com is a free system that will allow us to send text messages to you reminding you of what is happening in our family of faith here at St. John's. However, it does not allow for group discussions so that there will not be continued unwanted messages from anyone in the group receiving the text. To join this remind system for St. John's, text the message @2h9de to the number 81010. Please contact our office at 282-2394 with your questions.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

3/17-Jane Blankenship, Deborah Siegfried, David W. Stellhorn, Ralph Sievers, Kerrigan Zeiger; 3/18- Verla Salger, Harvey Liefer, Tim Kueker, Devyn Liefer; 3/19- Larry Gielow, Staci Candler, Christine Liefer; 3/20- Ronald Seymour, Julie Koester, Nicholas Uffelmann, Carlynn Rekosh; 3/21- Virginia Moeller, Glen Muench, Terry Donjon, Emma McCarthy, Bryce Becker; 3/22- Kristine Neff, Emily Buatte, Samuel Wright, Loreli Aubuchon; 3/23- Kathryn Chunn, Stanley Langrehr, Kathleen Salger, John Hemmer, Marquita Tindall, Ken Wild, Alexandra Sullivan, Jarret Fleming. *Call the office for additions or corrections!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY CONFINED IN-HOME:

Nancy Holmstrom, June Lawrence, Joyce Lopez, Jean Menke, Edna Moeller, Leonard and Norma Vogt.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT:

Red Bud Care Center: Virginia Bahr, Alvin Moeller, Clifford Stellhorn, Willard Uffelmann, Wilma Wagner and Jody Winkelmann; New Athens- Eunice Stumpf; Waterloo Garden Place- Alice Smith; Ruma R & R- Fern Schnepel

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT RED BUD GARDEN PLACE:

Margaret Hanebutt, Dorothy Heizer, Melba Liefer, Vernon and Evelyn Muench, Lorine Reinhardt, Dr. Paul Schrieber, and Wilma Stellhorn.

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Lisa Kloepper is our Prayer Chain coordinator. If you would like to serve as part of the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please call Lisa at 282-2426. Please call the church office if you would like to add someone to our worship prayers. *Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective (James 5:16).*

CHOIR CONCERT:

The Singing Saints of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, Missouri will be in concert this Sunday at 7 p.m. at Timothy Lutheran Church, 6704 Fyler Avenue in St. Louis.

LIONS CLUB “SPRING FOR LIFE” BBQ:

This Sunday, March 17, the Red Bud Lions Club is holding a “Spring for Life” BBQ in our school’s parking lot. The menu includes pork steaks, brats, homemade potato salad, baked beans, cole slaw. Desserts from SW Illinois Lutherans for Life will be available. Funding is provided by Thrivent Financial. Proceeds will benefit Life Network of Southern Illinois.

BACH CANTATA CONCERT:

Join the American Kantorei Chorus and Orchestra on a journey with Bach through three cantatas on Sunday, March 17, at 3:00 pm. These stirring works unite text with music, moving from supplication to thanksgiving under the theme, “Christ Who Is My Life.” The performance by chorus, soloists, and orchestra will be presented at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, 12345 Manchester Road, in Des Peres. An offering will be received, and a reception will follow the concert. All are welcome. For more information, visit AmericanKantorei.org

RUMMAGE SALE:

The youth group at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Columbia (Route 3 and Bottom Avenue across from Walgreens) will hold a Rummage Sale on Saturday, March 23, from 8 a.m.-noon. Funds raised will help make it possible for our 7 students to attend the LCMS National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in July. Whether you'd like to shop or donate items, we greatly appreciate your support. Any and all items are accepted, but please no computers or TVs.

LIFE NETWORK OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS ANNUAL DINNER:

Thursday, April 4 and Friday, April 5 are the dates for the Life Network’s annual fundraising dinner at The Falls Reception Center in Columbia. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. Adults only please, as seating is limited. The speaker will be Dr. Robert Record of Hope for the Heart Ministries. There is no charge to attend, but there will be an opportunity to make a financial gift. Please RSVP before March 22 by calling 939-4224.

LESA DINNER AUCTION:

The Lutheran Elementary School Association will hold its annual dinner auction on Saturday, April 6, from 5-10 p.m. at Orlando Gardens South (4300 Hoffmeister Avenue off I-55). Dan Gray of Channel 2 News will be the emcee. Tickets for the dinner, open bar and small batch spirit tasting cost \$75. To register, please call 314/200-0797 or online at www.lesastl.org.

LIFE THOUGHTS: *(from Lutherans for Life)*

Each human body belongs to the Lord Jesus (Philippians 3:20-21)! He paid for it by dying and rising to make us His own twice over. He is preparing for our bodies the perfected pattern of His own glorified body. Even during our earthly adversities, Jesus is revealing His heavenly kingdom through the Spirit-guided works of our physical bodies. My body is God’s gift! His bidding is my delight!

PARISH NURSE NOTE:

What can I do about high blood pressure? Do not smoke and avoid second-hand smoke. Maintain a healthy weight. Eat a diet low in saturated and trans fats and rich in fruits, vegetables, whole grains and low-fat dairy products. Consume less than 1500 mg per day of salt. Eat foods rich in potassium. Limit alcohol to no more than one drink per day for a woman and two for a man. Be more physically active, 90 to 150 minutes of aerobic/resistance exercise per week.

KFUO AM 850 LUTHERAN RADIO:

Listen to Worldwide KFUE AM850, your radio station for news, talk, and sacred music with a Lutheran worldview. This week on KFUE AM850, hear from Tim Young Eagle of Lutheran Indian Ministries on The Coffee Hour about the future of Native Ministry (3/18 at 9:00 a.m.), get in depth in Genesis chapters 4-7 on the Sharper Iron Series "In the Beginning was the Truth" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m.), continue in our study of Ezekiel on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m.), and worship with us during midweek Lent Worship broadcast from Peace Lutheran Barracksview in St. Louis (3/20 at 11:00 a.m.). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org!

ISSUES, ETC.:

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Parable of the Rich Fool, Joseph: The Guardian of Jesus, Jesus & the Samaritan Woman, The Annunciation of Our Lord and more. You can tune in live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUE, 850 AM in St. Louis. You can also listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

ELDER ZONES FOR 2019: (Chairman, Kevin Liefer)

Zone 1: Deborah Adams thru Rodie Collins- Elder Ron Kunkelmann
Zone 2: Susan Conboy thru Dennis/Kathy Grohmann- Elder Stuart Langrehr
Zone 3: Nick/Emily Grohmann thru Roger/Kim Herriman- Elder Jacob Arbeiter
Zone 4: Ryan Herriman to Travis/Erin Krick- Elder Adam Guebert
Zone 5: Wil/Martha Krick to Janel Maes- Elder Kevin Liefer
Zone 6: Pat Malik to Lanie Pensoneau- Elder Quentin Stenzel
Zone 7: Alan/Amber Piel to Don Schrader- Elder Garon Stanley
Zone 8: Jeff/Dawn Schrader to Bob/Carol Turner- Elder Stanley Langrehr
Zone 9: Derek/Katelin Uffelmann to Doug Zschiegner- Elder Bill Becker

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL 618-853-7300

Track Season: The COS Track and Field season has begun. This week you can cheer the Soldiers on March 19 at the Red Bud meet; on March 21 at the Chester meet; or on March 22 at the Waterloo meet. All meets begin at 4:00 p.m.

Don’t forget to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31** to direct any remaining 2018 Choice Dollars. Call 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” after the prompt or go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions.

Shadow Days: Parents of eighth graders and potential transfer students are encouraged to call and make arrangements for their student to spend a day at *Christ Our Savior* shadowing a COS student and learning more about the COS advantage.

Sponsor a Thrivent Action Team: If you would like to organize or participate in a Thrivent Action Team to benefit COS, please call us to let us know what you would like to do. We can help you fill out the application. Each project team is given up to \$250 along with organizational material and t-shirts to help make their project successful. For info see: <https://www.thrivent.com/actionteam/>.

The mission of Christ Our Savior Lutheran High School is to provide a Christ-centered and academically excellent education.



St. John's Lutheran Church – LCMS
 508 Bloom Street, Red Bud, Illinois
 Church Office & School: 808 South Main Street
 (618) 282-3873 Fax 618-282-4087

E-mail: office@stjohnsredbud.org Web address: www.stjohnsredbud.org

Senior Pastor Mark Nebel 618-237-5802 or home 282-3050

Pastor Russell Koen 618-282-1958

Principal - Deitt Schneider 618-806-3049 or home: 824-6335

Director of Parish Music – Mrs. Lindsey Hudak 340-6055

Junior Youth - Lisa Quinn and Jennifer Roscow 282-5343

Athletic Director – Justin Palm 214-1103 Secretaries - Julie Ratz & Jessica Schloemann

Senior LYF – Terry and Susie Harms [618-201-5654](tel:618-201-5654); Pr. Russell Koen 282-1958

Matthew Foster, Principal, Christ Our Savior Lutheran High, 853-7300

Faculty and Staff

Preschool - Cindy Steele

Kindergarten – Betty Schmitz and Stephanie Valleroy

First Grade – Rachel Miller

Second Grade – Rebekah Liefer

Third Grade – Laura Vause

Fourth Grade– Bill Becker (Librarian) and Cindy Nebel (Before/After School Care)

Fifth Grade - Darlene Letcher

Sixth Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Doreen Schnepel

Seventh Grade Homeroom (6th-8th) – Nancy Whelan

Eighth Grade Homeroom and Athletic Director (6th-8th) – Justin Palm

Custodians – Loren Harms, Alan Ohms, and Bob Schramm

Cooks – Jill Gross and Marilyn Oettle; Resource Teacher – Lauri Koen

Day Care

Amanda Falkenhain, Director; Kellie Shields, Assistant Director; Jennifer Pfannebecker,

Chelsea Wegener, Lisa Quinn, Pam Henry, Nicole Kadlec, Eileen Seibold, Christy

Deterding, Lori Moses, Heidi Guttman, Samantha Yankey, Gerry Thompson, Morgan

Woodsley, Terra Williams, Melissa Schilling, Patricia Brewer, Kristi Martel,

Courtney Schoenbeck and Megan Diercks

Church Council

Chairman: Bruce Schneider Vice-Chairman: Ray Wagner

Secretary: Joan Ruwald Treasurer: Gary Buatte Board of Finance: Ben Guebret

Elder Chair: Kevin Liefer Parish Education Chair: Miriam Poston

Trustee Chair: Estate Fund Chair: Jim Walker

Lutheran High School Board: Lisa Quinn and Kathy Valleroy

Serving Us in Worship Today

Preacher: Pastor Mark Nebel Sunday Liturgist: Pastor Russell Koen

Organist: Mrs. Lindsey Hudak

(5 p.m.) Greeters: Harold and Deb Siegfried Acolyte: Ryker Papenberg

(8:00 a.m.) Greeters: Roger and Peggy Hanebutt; Ken and Joan Ruwald

Acolyte: Dylan Minemann

(10:30 a.m.) Greeters: Ken & Karen Wetzel; Ron and Diane Kunkelmann

Acolyte: Isaac Moll

Flower Servers: Pam Stellhorn and Donna Wetzel

Chancel Parameters: Irma Birkner Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

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ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Red Bud, Illinois

The Second Sunday in Lent 2019

WELCOME to St. John's Lutheran Church! We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, administer the sacraments and provide Christian education in service to all people. We are especially happy that we have visitors with us today. St. John's is a congregation which follows the historic order of Christian worship. Even if you are not Lutheran, you may recognize many of the elements of worship from your own tradition. If you or your small child needs a space for privacy during the service, Room 1 in the Fellowship Hall has a TV with a video feed of our worship service. To help with the reverent nature of our worship, please silence and do not use your cell phones and pagers during this service. Thank you!

ATTENDANCE: During the offering, please sign the black Friendship register at the end of the pew. We ask our guests to please fill out the red side of the card marked "Guests" in the attendance book and give it to an usher. We invite you to worship with us again very soon.

HEARING AND VISION ASSISTANCE: See an usher if you would like to check out a hearing assistance device during our worship service. You can sit anywhere you wish while wearing this device. You can adjust the volume as you desire. Please return it to an usher after worship. Large Print copies of the complete worship service and bulletin notes are available from an usher.

WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION: In this Supper of our Lord we receive the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the earthly forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Since this Holy Communion is also a sign of how we commonly confess the Christian faith, we welcome to the Lord's Table those who are confirmed members of congregations of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The individual cups of white wine in the center of the cup tray contain non-alcoholic wine for those who prefer this. Place a finger to your lips if you prefer an individual cup. For more information about this sacrament, please see pages 326-327 and 329-330 of *Lutheran Service Book*.

SCHOOL: St. John's Lutheran School provides a quality Christ-centered education for our congregation and community to make and equip disciples of Jesus Christ. We offer classes from pre-school through eighth grade. Our school building is located two blocks south of the church. For information about our school and enrollment please call our principal, Mrs. Deitt Schneider, at the office (282-3873).

DAY CARE: St. John's provides a quality Christian-based day care. The curriculum includes an emphasis on Christian instruction with the full intent of following Dr. Martin Luther's ideal of leading a child to grow in spirit, mind and body. Full and part-time care is available for children ages six weeks to six years. Before- and after-school child care also is offered.

Worship is Saturday at 5 p.m. and Sunday at 8 & 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible Classes are Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

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ST. JOHN'S BUSINESS YELLOW PAGES:

The new edition of the St. John's Business Yellow Pages is available on the table in the entryway. This is a first run copy. If you would like your business added to this edition, please contact the office so that we can include it in a larger, second issue. Thank you!

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Cor. 9:6-7).

ESTATE FUND ASSISTANCE:

Our Estate Fund Committee has money available to assist with the Christian Education of St. John's members who are pursuing a church professional career and attending one of our seminaries or Concordia universities, as well as money to help those who attending a Lutheran high school. Please realize that this help is available as you consider your career and educational choices.

BUILDING KEYS:

Anyone who had a reason to have keys for our church or school buildings in the past but does not have a reason to have those keys any longer, please return them to our office so that those who now do need a key can be issued one.

+Check our website under the Media tab for Bible studies that you can do on your own. The topics so far are Angels, Cremation, Christian Citizenship, The Justice of God, Haggai, Purses, Was Jesus a Vegetarian?, Baptism Q & A, Discussing Homosexuality, Word Dwellers, Heaven, God's Will in the Lives of His People, Communications Skills, Having the Right Attitude, Live By the Spirit, Malachi, Philemon, and more to come!

SET UP DIRECT PAYMENTS THROUGH ACH:

If you so choose, payments for items such as worship offerings, school lunches, preschool tuition, and daycare can be withdrawn automatically and securely from the bank account you designate at either bi-weekly or monthly intervals. To set up this option, simply fill out a form (in the school office) and select each payment account you would like to have automatically withdrawn (e.g. school lunches, offerings, etc). It is free to set up, and you can make changes or cancel at any time at no cost. If there are insufficient funds in the specified account at the time of payment, no funds will be withdrawn and the user will be notified. Our hope is that this option will offer convenience to users and will result in a greater level of efficiency for our congregation. Please note that this is completely optional--no one is required to sign up. If you feel more comfortable continuing to use cash or check, please do so!

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:

Please see Doreen Schnepel in the Fellowship Hall between services this Sunday to purchase gift cards. A percentage of each purchase assists the ministry of our family of faith. Cash and checks only please.

EPISTLE:

PICTORIAL DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE:

Copies of our latest pictorial directory are available for purchase from our office for \$50. This money goes for our congregation's debt relief.

SAVE THE DATE!:

The annual Lutheran Older Adult Retreat, "Growing in Christ" will be held on May 1-2 at Pere Marquette Lodge with the theme, "From Age to Age the Same." Keynote Speaker will be humorist Jan Struck. Rev. Mark Femmel of Zion in Maryland Heights will be the Bible study leader. Registration fee is \$100 (plus lodging). Contact Margo Wolf at 618-622-0264 or dmwvette74@gmail.com.

FISH FRY:

St. Peter UCC of Red Bud will hold a Fish Fry on Friday, April 19 from 4-7 p.m. This will include jumbo cod, catfish cutups, chicken strips and shrimp with German and American potato salad, stewed tomatoes, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, slaw, French fries and cucumber salad.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP:

The Alzheimer's Support Group meets in the ground floor auditorium of Red Bud Regional Hospital on Thursday, at 6:30 p.m. Program Facilitator Rebecca Schrauth will present "." Refreshments will be served. Call Julie at 282-5456 for more information.

GOODSEARCH:

When you use Goodsearch (www.goodsearch.com) for the benefit of St. John's Lutheran School as your computer search engine we get one cent!

CHURCH LIBRARY:

"Why Am I Joyfully Lutheran?" is in the Book Nook of the Fellowship Hall. It is a book of instruction, meditation and prayers on Martin Luther's Small Catechism. It is authored by our LCMS president, Dr. Matthew Harrison. Pick up a book, take it home to read, and bring it back. We are on the honor system here at St. John's!