

The Epistle

APRIL 2022

**St. John's Lutheran
Red Bud, Illinois**

**Church: 508 Bloom Street
618/282-2394**

**School: 808 South Main Street
618/282-3873**

618-282-4087 (fax)

office@stjohnsredbud.org

www.stjohnsredbud.org

Worship: Saturdays at 5 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education Hour:

Sundays from 9:30-10:15 a.m.

We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
administer the sacraments and provide
Christian education in service to all people.

Rev. Mark A. Nebel, Senior Pastor

Rev. Brian Nowak, Associate Pastor

Mrs. Lindsey Hudak, Director of Parish Music

Mrs. Deitt Schneider, Principal

Mr. William Becker, Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Amanda Falkenhain, Daycare Director

From Lutheran Church Charities

Memorizing Scripture and Conquering Worry

Oh, how I love Your law, I meditate on it all day long

Psalm 119:97

One of the most powerful tools God has given you for conquering fear and worry is memorizing Scripture. Your memory is like a muscle; the more you exercise it, the stronger it becomes. Seneca, the ancient Roman teacher of rhetoric, would impress his class of two hundred by asking each student to recite a favorite line of poetry. He would then recite all two hundred lines from memory – in reverse order. Saint Augustine had a friend who could recite all the poet Virgil's words – backwards!

Okay, maybe those guys were gifted – but there are lots of things each of us can recite from memory too. Things like birthdays and anniversaries, addresses and phone numbers, National Insurance numbers and bank account numbers and driving license numbers. These items have two characteristics in common: we use them frequently, and we need them constantly. In other words, we have memorized them because we use them so often, and we can't get along without them.

Similarly, you can begin to conquer your worries by confronting them each time they arise with a Scripture you have memorized. It's powerful! It's effective! It works! Why? Because God's power is greater than your problems, and God's Word is greater than your worries. Understand this: God is committed to keeping His Word. So when you speak scriptural words instead of anxiety-ridden words, God goes to work on your behalf. He has made you this promise: *'I will hasten my word to perform it'* (Jeremiah 1:12). So if you're serious about wanting to conquer stress and worry, begin to memorize and verbalize God's Word each day.

Prayer- Heavenly Father, Your Word is a light to my path. Move me by Your Holy Spirit to let that light shine on my way and guide me in where You would have me go. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Your Pastors' Ponderings

We will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation in the late service on April 10 for twenty young Christians who will publicly confess the Christian faith as their own after a more intensive period of instruction in that faith based on Holy Scripture and the *Small Catechism* of Dr. Martin Luther.

Prior to the Rite of Confirmation our congregation has the traditional and common practice of a Questioning or Examination Service. This will be on Thursday, April 7 at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend (although our students will say that the fewer are there, the better!). Based on selected catechism sections, Bible passages and questions from the Explanation to Luther's Small Catechism, the students will recite the Christian faith as they have learned it to this point in their baptismal lives.

Contrary to perception, and perhaps prior experience, I do not see this as being a final exam that one must pass in order to "graduate" from confirmation. I have never failed anyone at questioning (at least not yet, as I always warn the 8th graders). I do not have a buzzer I press when a student gets an answer wrong. Neither is there a trap door that I can open which sends the unprepared student down into the dungeon of disgraced confirmation students (though that could be an interesting project for our Trustees).

When it comes to the Questioning Service, I tell the students that I will not make them look bad. However, if they want to look good, they had better study. While that word is five letters, it still comes across as a dirty word to adolescent youth. So, I tell them that what they are doing is learning the playbook of the Christian faith for their future Christian living. Like a playbook for a football or basketball team must be studied and learned in order to know the

plays, get into the game and benefit your team, we study the Christian faith for our own good and the benefit of our fellow Christian believers, the Holy Christian Church.

Your servant in Christ, Pastor Mark Nebel

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray this letter finds everyone doing well. It's hard to believe that Holy Week is quickly approaching. Holy week is an extremely sorrowful time of the Church year where we, as Christians, are reminded of the ultimate sacrifice that God's one and only Son, Jesus Christ, took on for us. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday we will hear about what happened from God's Word and talk about everything that Christ endured on our behalf. Yes, everything He took on and endured for all of His people to save us from sin, death, and the devil.

Although Holy Week is a sorrowful time of year, we join together in the expectation of knowing how the story ends. Filled with happiness, joy, and excitement, we join together on that Sunday (April 17th) to hear the "Good News" or Gospel. Because even though Jesus Christ suffered and died on that cross. Even though He would be buried in an empty tomb. And even though He would be dead for three days. We join to celebrate the unbelievable and life-saving news that on Easter morning, that third day, Jesus Christ rose from the dead. By doing so, He conquered sin, death, and the devil once and for all. He brings all people who believe and trust in Him as their one true and only Lord and Savior to one day live with Him for eternity. What great news!!!! I pray that you will make it a priority in your busy schedule to come and join us for services during Holy Week and beyond.

Finally, please remember that if you need anything, or would like to talk with or like a visit from either Pastor Nebel or myself, please feel free to contact us. We would be glad to assist you.

*God's blessing to you all now and always,
Pastor Brian Nowak, Associate Pastor*

We Bid a Fond Farewell

March 7 Curtis Stoll released from membership by request
March 27 Death of Wilma Stellhorn

Welcome to Our Family of Faith

March 7 Acceptance of Peggy Koen by Profession of Faith
March 7 Transfer in of Gena Triefenbach from St. John Lutheran in Baldwin, Illinois
March 20 Baptism of Jacob Michael Schrader, son of Michael and Angela (Saenz) Schrader

Sunday School Mission Project

Our offerings to the Big City Mission project help kids and adults learn about how much Jesus loves them. By providing something simple like a lunch or backpack, those involved in urban ministry can build relationships that allow them to tell people about their Savior, Jesus!

Midweek Bible Classes

Our Wednesday evening midweek Bible class on 1st Kings will be in session on April 20 but off again on April 27 because of our Voters Assembly meeting. Our Wednesday Morning Women (Esther) and Thursday morning (Ezekiel) classes remain in session this month.

Men's Bible Breakfast will meet on the first and third Saturdays (5th and 19th) this month at 7 a.m. We continue to study Paul's second letter to Timothy in the Bible.

Midweek Lenten Services

We have one more midweek Lenten service on Wednesday, April 6 at 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. under the theme, "Witnesses to Christ," based upon the Gospel of John. The ten minutes before worship will include a hymn-sing in the sanctuary.

Our last Lenten dinner (pork chops/sides) will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30 p.m. Your freewill offerings will support our teenagers who are attending the LCMS Youth Gathering in Houston this summer.

Upcoming Special Worship Services

Wed	6	8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Midweek Lent
Thu	7	7:00 p.m. Confirmation Questioning
Sat/Sun	9/10	*Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion (*Rite of Confirmation at 10:30 a.m.)
Thu	14	*8:30 a.m. & *7 p.m. Maundy Thursday
Fri	15	8:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Good Friday
Sat	16	*5 p.m. Resurrection Festival Service
Sun	17	*6:30 a.m. Resurrection Sunrise Service
Sun	17	*10:30 a.m. Resurrection Festival Service

Calling All Hallelujah Chorus Singers

St. John's Choir extends a warm welcome to anyone who wishes to sing the "Hallelujah Chorus" with us on Easter Sunday! We will practice on Monday, April 4th & 11th at approximately 7:45 p.m. in the church balcony. We will sing on Easter Sunday (April 17th) at BOTH the Sunrise (6:30 a.m.) and Festival (10:30 a.m.) services as the closing hymn. Come join us if you can Handel it! (Sorry, Pastor could not resist that one.)

April Servers

Flowers: Irma Birkner and Sharon Koester
Paraments: Virginia Moeller Cloths: Joan Ruwald

Voters Assembly Meeting

All St. John's communicant members age 18 and older are invited to attend the quarterly Voters meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, April 27 at 7 p.m.

Rural King Church Week

Shop at the Waterloo Rural King store, or at www.ruralking.com, and submit your qualifying receipt on its website, www.ruralking.com/churchweek and St. John's will receive 10% of your receipt. To be eligible, the receipts must be dated April 7-20 and be submitted to the website above by May 6, 2022.

From the Principal's Pen

The month of March has been busy and we are happy that school days are back to normal! We are thankful for this blessing!

The boys' basketball team was chosen to attend the Lutheran Sports Association tournament in Chicago. This was a fun weekend and we were happy for them to represent our school so well. They are pictured below.

Front Row (l-r): Liam Quintin, Brodie Stenzel, Ty Voss, Sutton Jones, Cason Birch, Luke Quintin, Landon Ruebusch, Ian Moll, Liam Kilpatrick, Colby Voss

Back row (l-r): Coach Danny Moll, Grayson Herriman, Landon Kilpatrick, Lucas McCarthy, Austin Kiefer and Coach Quentin Stenzel



Students attended the Regional Science Fair at SIU-C on March 22. The students who attended were Julia Whelan, Addelyn Rahn, Kendall Crafton, Colby Voss, Landon Kilpatrick, Lucas McCarthy, Landon Ruebusch, Jenna Whelan and Brodie Stenzel.

Five students from St. John's Lutheran School (pictured below) participated in the Art Contest sponsored by the Regional Office of Education on March 24. Those attending were (l-r) Kinley Macbeth, Jenna Whelan, Kendall Crafton, Addelyn Rahn and Levi Nagel.



The annual Spring Musical was presented on March 25 with two performances. The musical, "iAm" was very well done and we thank our students, teachers and especially Mrs. Hudak and Mr. Becker for doing such a great job! We thank the 8th grade class for sponsoring Ted Drewes Frozen Custard as a fundraiser after the evening performance, it was delicious!

At a special voters meeting on March 27, a slate of candidates was presented to the congregation to fill our 5th grade position we will have upon Darlene Letcher's retirement. Amanda Ruhmann received the majority vote and has verbally accepted the call given to her from the congregation.

3rd quarter awards were presented to the students on April 1:
1st Grade: Perfect School – Amelia Langrehr, Liam Langrehr, Layla Meyer, Emry Voss, and Brinley Wolter. Perfect Church – McKinley Florreich, Maggie Kuehn, Amelia Langrehr, Lian Langrehr, Elsie Liefer, Avery Moll, Claire Sachtleben, Jack Valentine, Sophia Voss, Liza Wagner, and Brinley Wolter. Perfect Sunday School – Maggie Kuehn, Amelia Langrehr, Liam Langrehr, Elsie Liefer, Avery Moll, Claire Sachtleben, and Liza Wagner.
2nd Grade: Perfect School – Haydn Albert, Harper Mounts, and Cassidy Palm. Perfect Church – Audrey Badger and Henry Schnepel.
3rd Grade: Perfect School – Alexa Cheek, Maverick Cowell, Maybre Falkenhain, Aiden Kiefer, Sydney Krick, Lucy Kuhlen, Presley Liefer, and McKenzie Niemeyer. Perfect Church – Lucy Kuhlen.
4th Grade: Perfect School – Colton Albert, Amelia Cheek, Aubrey Kiefer, Jozlynn Palm, and Sutton Jones. Honors – Amelia Cheek, Kellen Herriman, Aubrey Kiefer, Kaydence Proctor, and Sophia Zeiger. High Honors – Addison Breier, Sutton Jones, Payton Liefer, Brayden McCarthy, Austin Stellhorn, and Elle Sutton. Highest Honors – Colton Albert, Jozlynn Palm, Blaine Rohlfing, Easton Ruebusch, Henry

Sachtleben, and Max Voss. **5th Grade:** Perfect School – Lyle Schlueter and Brooke Wolter. Honors – Liam Kilpatrick, Brendyn Wegener, and Brooke Wolter. High Honors – Maya Macbeth, Carson Moll, Jack Sachtleben, and Cailyn Wilson. Highest Honors – Ella Cowell and Tessa Stenzel. **6th Grade:** Perfect School – Mallory Arbeiter, Joey Biffar, Emily Farmer, Brian Liefer, Karleigh Liefer, Lilly Meyer, Norah Wagner, and Hollis Wolfmeier. Perfect Church – Emily Farmer, Molly Kuehn, Brian Liefer, and Norah Wagner. Perfect Sunday School – Molly Kuehn. High Honors – Joey Biffar, Cason Birch, Braylin Eggemeyer, Emily Farmer, Molly Kuehn, and Brian Liefer. Highest Honors – Mallory Arbeiter, Karleigh Liefer, Lilly Meyer, Addy Schloemann, and Norah Wagner. **7th Grade:** Perfect School- Milla Neff, Addelyn Rahn, Liam Quintin, Shamus Korves, Kinley Macbeth, Landon Ruebusch, and Brodie Stenzel. Perfect Church – Alan Wolter. Honors – Colby Voss, Annika Herriman, Liam Quintin, Kinley Macbeth, Amelia Guebert, Blayton Sutton, and Olivia Valleroy. High Honors – Lucas McCarthy, Kendall Crafton, Julia Whelan, and Eve Schwartzkopf. Highest Honors – Milla Neff, Addelyn Rahn, Jenna Whelan, Landon Ruebusch, and Brodie Stenzel. **8th Grade:** Perfect School – Emma Kiefer, Kadin Liefer, and Addy Piel. Perfect Church – Lilly Nowak. Honors – Ava Clifford, Luke Quintin, and Addison Salger. High Honors – Morgan Kent, Evan Kiefer, Alexa Wegener, and Kerrigan Zeiger. Highest Honors – Emma Kiefer and Addy Piel.

Looking ahead to April, we will have our NLSA accreditation on April 4 and 5 and our Non-public school recognition visit on April 5. We thank all who served on the committees or helped in any way to prepare for these visits.

Confirmation questioning and the Rite of Confirmation will be on April 7 and 10. We pray for these young adults as they profess their faith. Easter will follow the next week with no school days on April 15 and 18.

Our school will host the Regional Office of Education Spelling Bee at our school on April 19. Students from schools in the Randolph and Monroe counties will visit that evening to test their spelling abilities in grades 5-8. We look forward to hosting this event for our bi-county schools.

The 8th grade class will take their trip to Washington DC on April 23-30th. We look forward to this trip and pray for safe travel. We have 36 students and adults making the trip this year. *God's blessings to you, Deitt Schneider*

It Is Finished...Christ Has Risen!

Preschool/Kindergarten Registration

The web address for Kindergarten Registration is <https://forms.gle/XzTLYhhTWB8Uy6KU7>.
The web address for Preschool Registration is <https://forms.gle/CrPsj1hnshM6Y74M9>.

Senior Youth

Our next event will be our fundraising BBQ on Sunday, April 3 in our school's parking lot. We will help with the last Wednesday evening Lenten Dinner in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, April 6. We will hold a reception for the 8th grade confirmands in the Fellowship Hall after the 7 p.m. Questioning Service on Thursday, April 7.

Our Senior Youth is selling greeting cards (all occasions) for \$1. Cards are on display in the Fellowship Hall. We are using an honor system for payment. A money box is next to the card display. We also have full boxes of greeting cards for sale. They cost \$30 for 30 cards and come with a lovely storage box.

God's blessings to you! *Terry and Susie Harms*

Junior Youth

Junior Youth will prepare for the annual Easter Egg Hunt by stuffing and taping eggs. We will do this on Thursday, April 14 from 3:30 - 4:30 at school in the cafeteria. I am asking that each Junior Youth member bring a small bag of candy and 1-2 dozen plastic eggs to stuff. *Stephanie Valleroy*

From Your Director of Christian Education

The somber Lenten season is quickly ending and the joyful season of Easter is right around the corner. The signs of spring with its blooming flowers, trees budding, and lawn mowers starting up again are sure signs of spring. We read in the book of Ecclesiastes 3:1 "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (ESV). While seasons change, the love of God remains forever. Through the death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus into heaven we are sealed in our baptismal covenant. Jesus victoriously has risen from the grave!

April 6 will end another year of successful Lenten dinners. I would like to thank the Senior Youth and their families for assisting with the serving, cleaning up, and bringing of desserts. All donations went to the Senior Youth for their trip this summer for the National Youth Gathering in Houston. The Senior Youth will have a BBQ Sunday, April 3, serving from 10:30 a.m.-?

We also are planning the Easter breakfast after the sunrise service! I invite all high school age youth to the

High School Bible class held each Sunday morning in my classroom (room 103) from 9:30-10:10 a.m. The Junior Youth will help with the Easter Egg Hunt again this year. This will be held Saturday, April 16 at 9 a.m. on the north lawn of school.

I will be attending the 8th grade trip this month from Saturday, April 23-30. I will be absorbing all the years of knowledge and experience of Principal Deitt Schneider. I've asked her to help out next year too as we hope more things will be open in DC. I would like to plan to meet with the current classes of grades five, six, and seven. Date and time will be announced later. Please watch Cougar Tracks for this announcement.

Mark your calendars for June 13-17 as we are planning our week of VBS under the theme, The Tree of Life: God's Promise of Salvation. I will host another Stem Camp for students leaving grades two-four in July the week of the 18th-22nd. More details will be coming for both of these events. Helpers will be needed too! Summer Sunday school will be held in June-August!

The season of learning never stops! Make plans to keep your children and young adults growing each day in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus!

Serving our risen Lord,

Mr. Bill Becker, Director of Christian Education

Sunday School Perfect Attendance

Nursery: Case Uffelmann; Pre-K: Hayden Schlimme; Kindergarten: Elaina Uffelmann; First Grade: Amelia Langrehr, Liam Langrehr, Brewer Krick; Second Grade: Jackson Carnahan; Third Grade: Sydney Krick; Fourth Grade: Aubrey Kiefer; Fifth Grade: Clare Carnahan; Sixth Grade: Sydney Kassing; Eighth Grade: Noah Kassing. Thank you for your participation in and your support of our Sunday School ministry!

Website Bible Studies

Bible studies topics under the Media tab of our website www.stjohnsredbud.org are Amen, Angels, Antichrist, Apostles, Apostolic Preaching of the Resurrection, Baptism Q & A, Church & Homosexuality, Communications Skills, Cremation, Christian Citizenship, End of the World, Discussing Homosexuality, Fear or Faith? Terror or Trust? Worldly Worry or Christian Living, God's Will in the Lives of His People, Haggai, Having the Right Attitude, Heaven, The Justice of God, Justification and Sanctification, Islam, Live By the Spirit, Malachi, Meditation, Philemon, Purses, Was Jesus a Vegetarian?, and Word Dwellers.

Music CDs Available

St. John's member Joan Voges offers music CDs from her Lilyfields Collection to us for a donation to our school's ministry. All of her Lilyfield CDs are available on the table in the entryway for a \$10 donation to our school ministry.

Former St. John's member Bryan Perdue has made his latest CD of music, "Freely Given, Freely Received," available for us to purchase. The \$10 will be used for our congregation's Debt Reduction. They are on the table in the church entryway.

Evening Guild News

Easter Egg Hunt: On Saturday, April 16 our Evening Guild is sponsoring the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the north entrance (Sixth Street) of the school beginning at 9:30 a.m. Our Junior Youth Group will conduct the hunt for the children. We need egg donations! Please drop your filled plastic eggs off in the main entrance of school (marked egg hunt) no later than Thursday, April 14. Thank you!

Waterloo Mini-Retreat: Saturday April 23 from 9-11 a.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Waterloo with guest speaker Lisa Clark. Lisa is an author, hymn writer, and editor for CPH. Topic: "Already Won!" based on Romans 8:37. Ingathering donations: Any food item, paper products or art supplies to benefit the local Bi-Country Backpack Program.

Mother/Daughter Night: Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m. Invite your sister, friend, or neighbor; all women are invited. Meal catered by Tina Heinemann. Dinner cost is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-14. RSVP to Patti Liefer at 618-282-3950 or email patricialiefer@gmail.com by Friday, April 22. Hostesses: Patti Liefer, Tina Heinemann, Donna Wetzel, Brenda Gilpatrick, Judy Guebert. Devotions: Betty Schmitz. Program: Cindy Nebel.

LWML Lower Kaskaskia Zone Spring Renewal: Thursday, April 28 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Renault. Registration at 8:30 a.m. with Opening Service at 9 a.m. Guest speaker: Dr. Gillian Bond, the director of Deaconess Studies at Concordia Seminary. Ingathering for Concordia Seminary Food Bank and one for Zone expenses.

Quilting schedule for April is Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Quilting Room.

Baldwin Sight Center: Volunteer your time to help make large print books at the Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin. Assembly dates for April are the 14th and 28th. Call Mary Ann Wegener (282-2839) or come to the church parking lot at 1 p.m.



All women are invited to a
Mother / Daughter Night
 in the Fellowship Hall of
 St. John's Lutheran Church, Red Bud, IL

**NACHO average
 Mother / Daughter Night**

Tuesday, April 26

6:30 p.m.



*"I praise you, for I am fearfully and
 wonderfully made." Psalm 139:14*

Dinner: \$10.00

Children ages 6-14: \$5.00

Catered dinner by Tina Heinemann

RSVP by April 22, 2022 — PAY AT DOOR

To: Patricia Liefer 618-282-3950

Email: patricialiefer@gmail.com



Sponsored by the LWML Evening Guild of St. John's Lutheran Church

Altar Guild Meeting

The Altar Guild will meet Tuesday, April 12, at 6 p.m. in the church sanctuary to practice for Maundy Thursday.

Men's Club

Our Men's Club gathers on Thursday, April 21 at 7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be served.

Southern Illinois District Older Adult Retreat

Camp Wartburg will host the SID Older Adult Retreat on Tuesday, April 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Dr. Dale Meyer will speak on "Yet to Come the Mystic Close." The cost is \$35. To register contact Faith Morris at 618/939-7715, ext. 15 or email at faith_morris@lcfcs.org.

Southwestern Illinois Lutherans For Life Prayer Vigil

We will go to the PP in Fairview Heights to peacefully pray at the facility at 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 9th. If you want to carpool, meet at St. John's Lutheran School parking lot in Red Bud at 9:30 a.m. We plan to stay for at least an hour. Bring a lawn chair if it is difficult for you to stand for an hour. Students from Christ Our Savior LHS and our own Senior Youth are invited to join us. Let me know if you have any questions. *Jennifer Becker-Roscow*

The Prayer Chain

Our Prayer Chain Coordinator is Vickie Heller. If you would like to be part of the Prayer Chain or if you have a prayer request, please call her at 618/521-7417. Please call the church office if you would like to add someone to our worship prayers. *Pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective* (James 5:16).

Worship Greeters

- Sat. April 2 5 p.m. Stanley and Lynn Langrehr
- Sun. April 3 8 a.m.
10:30 a.m. Gerald and Jill Hanebutt
- Sat. April 9 5 p.m. Virginia and Mark Moeller
- Sun. April 10 8 a.m. Loren Harms and Lisa Quinn
10:30 a.m. Cindy Ebers
- Sat. April 16 5 p.m. Stanley and Lynn Langrehr
- Sun. April 17 **6:30 a.m.** Kalin and Kathy Liefer
10:30 a.m. Ken and Karen Wetzel
- Sat. April 23 5 p.m. Virginia and Mark Moeller
- Sun. April 24 8 a.m. Olivia Schmitz and Cindy Steele
10:30 a.m. Ron and Donna Burgdorf
- Sat. April 30 5 p.m. Stanley and Lynn Langrehr
- Sun. May 1 8 a.m. Clyde and Kathy Rowold
10:30 a.m. Jim and Judy Guebert

Calling For Worship Greeters

Whether you have done this in the past or would be new to this ministry service, we have need of you. Please call or email Pastor if you are willing to serve St. John's in this way. We need one person for the late service and two people for the 5th Saturday evening of the month (only four times a year) and for special services (Ash Wednesday!).

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 @8243ad2 (new code) to the number 81010. Please contact our office at 282-2394 with your questions.

Planning Counselor, at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org for more information.

Acolyte Schedule

Sat. April 2 5 p.m. Colby Voss
Sun. April 3 8 a.m. Mallory Arbeiter
10:30 a.m. Kerrigan Zeiger
Wed. April 6 8:30 a.m. Morgan Kent
7:00 p.m. Emily Farmer
Thu. April 7 7:00 p.m. Jack Kennedy
Sat. April 9 5 p.m. Colt Hess
Sun. April 10 8 a.m. Lucas McCarthy
10:30 a.m. Sydney Kassing
Thu. April 14 8:30 a.m. Karleigh Liefer
7:00 p.m. Luke Quintin
Fri. April 15 8:30 a.m. Kadence Koen
7:00 p.m. Amelia Guebirt
Sat. April 16 5 p.m. Ty Voss
Sun. April 17 **6:30 a.m.** Addy Schloemann
10:30 a.m. Loreli Aubuchon
Sat. April 23 5 p.m. Connor Bumann
Sun. April 24 8 a.m. Brody Stellhorn
10:30 a.m. Molly Kuehn
Sat. April 30 5 p.m. Olivia Candler
Sun. May 1 8 a.m. Blayton Sutton
10:30 a.m. Hollis Wolfmeier

If you are not able to serve when scheduled, please switch with another acolyte and contact our office with the change. Thanks!

LCMS Foundation

Randy was somewhat of a hypochondriac throughout his life. His fear of catching a disease or getting cancer caused him to become a recluse in his house. He gave up gathering with family, attending Church, or even taking a walk in the park. All of these things seemed like they posed danger to him. The sad thing is that for decades, he was forfeiting living of life, trying to preserve life, only to find that he had become the biggest loser.

As Christians we don't live in such paralysis of fear, even though certain areas of our lives may reflect it still. Avoiding the planning of our estate because we are afraid that if we talk about the end of our lives that talk will make it a reality, is choosing to live in fear rather than faith. It is true that end of life planning does acknowledge there is an end coming, but it's not really end of life. It's just the end of current circumstances, for life lasts forever in Jesus, who conquered death by rising from the dead.

With that confidence we choose to use the legal tools of wills and trusts, constructed by our attorneys, to guide our affairs. But this process is more than just a legal transaction. It is an act of love, providing for family care. It is an act of love providing support for ministry so that countless more will hear the Gospel and come to faith in Jesus. Live in that faith and love. Express it in your plans. Contact Scott Radden, Gift

What Is A Steward? *From LCMS Stewardship*

“Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground and the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your herds and the young of your flock. Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. Blessed shall you be when you come in and blessed shall you be when you go out.” (Deuteronomy 28:3-6)

This is God's promise to the Israelites as they stood beyond the Jordan outside of the Promised Land. He promises blessing to His people. He will make them prosper, whether they are in the city or the field. He will make their fruit of their work to prosper, whether from the ground, their wombs, their flocks, or their herds. He will make them to prosper in all things, whether upon their coming in or their going out.

But there's a catch. He would do this for Israel only “if you obey the voice of the LORD your God.” (Deuteronomy 28:2b) If they did that, He would cause that “all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you.” (Deut. 28:2a). If they didn't obey the voice of the Lord, if they didn't keep the commandments of the Lord and “walk in his ways” (Deut. 28:9), they would be met with curse and woe. The blessings would be replaced with curses. Everything that the Lord promised to prosper and bless would be cursed and fail.

Thanks be to God that our Lord Jesus Christ has come into our flesh and fulfilled the law for us – in our place and for our benefit. Our Lord Jesus Christ died for us – in our place and for our benefit. Our Lord Jesus Christ is risen from the dead for us – in our place and for our benefit. By this we have justification before God. We are forgiven, clean, holy, and righteous. The blessing of God is promised to us in Christ Jesus. It depends upon his work, not ours.

All this is ours in Holy Baptism. For in Holy Baptism, God claims us as His own, makes us His children, His heirs, and His holy people. And so it is that the work of our hands and its fruit is holy because we are holy in Christ. It is pressed into His service, and it thereby becomes a blessing to us and to our neighbor.

For this great gift, our reception of the blessings of God because of Christ Jesus our Lord, it is our duty to thank and praise, serve, and obey Him. This is not in order to receive the blessings but because in Christ we already have. With this in mind, we sit down on the first day of the week and set aside as He has prospered us to give to His church for His work of blessing in our midst (1st Corinthians 16:2).

April Church and School Calendar

Saturday, April 2-

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast (Titus) in the Fellowship Hall

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

SUNDAY, APRIL 3-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Sunday School and HS Youth classes at school

9:30 a.m. Adult (FH & SL) Bible classes

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

11 a.m. to ?? Senior Youth fundraising BBQ in school parking lot

4-6 p.m. 8th Grade Confirmation retreat at church

Monday, April 4- National Lutheran School Accreditation Visit

7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meeting in the Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school's music room

Tuesday, April 5- National Lutheran School Accreditation Visit

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Circuit Pastors' Conference at Christ LC in Jacob

Wednesday, April 6- OVC Senior Track Meet

8:30 a.m. Midweek Lenten Service at church

9 a.m. to Noon Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Office Staff meeting

3:30 p.m. 6th-8th Grade Public School Confirmation (school)

5:30 p.m. Lenten Dinner in the Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Midweek Lenten Service at church

Thursday, April 7-

7:15 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (Ezekiel)

5:45 p.m. Confirmation pictures in the sanctuary

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony

7:00 p.m. Confirmation Questioning Service

Friday, April 8-

8:30 a.m. Early Childhood Chapel service in the new gym

Saturday, April 9-

10:00 a.m. Southwestern Illinois Lutherans for Life Prayer Vigil

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

SUNDAY, April 10- Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Sunday School and HS Youth classes at school

9:30 a.m. Adult (Fellowship Hall & School Library) Bible classes

10:30 a.m. Divine Service w/ Holy Communion and Confirmation

Monday, April 11-

6:00 p.m. Board of Parish Education meeting in the school library

7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school's music room

Tuesday, April 12-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service at Red Bud Care Center

6:00 p.m. Altar Guild meeting at church

7:00 p.m. Parent-Teacher League meeting in school cafeteria

Wednesday, April 13- OVC Junior Track Meet

9 a.m. to Noon Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Office Staff meeting

3:30 p.m. 6th-8th Grade Public School Confirmation (school)

Thursday, April 14-

8:30 a.m. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service at church

1:00 p.m. Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Holy Communion Service at church

Friday, April 15- No School!

8:30 a.m. Good Friday Worship Service at church

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae Service at church

Saturday, April 16-

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall

5:00 p.m. Easter Festival Holy Communion Service

SUNDAY, April 17- Resurrection of Our Lord

6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Holy Communion Service

8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast in old gym (served by Senior Youth)

9:30 a.m. Sunday School and HS Youth classes at school

9:30 a.m. Adult (FH & SL) Bible classes

10:30 a.m. Easter Festival Holy Communion Service

Monday, April 18- No School!

7:00 p.m. Church Council meets in the school library

7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school's music room

Tuesday, April 19-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

5:30 p.m. Regional Office of Education Spelling Bee

Wednesday, April 20-

8:30 a.m. School Chapel service in new gym

9 a.m. to Noon Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Office Staff meeting

3:30-4:30 p.m. 6-8th Public School Confirmation at school

7:30 p.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (1st Kings)

Thursday, April 21-

7:15 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (Ezekiel)

5:30 p.m. Emig Marriage Celebration rehearsal

6:15 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony

7:00 p.m. Men's Club Gathering in the Fellowship Hall

Friday, April 22-

8:30 a.m. Early Childhood Chapel in the new gym

Saturday, April 23- 8th Grade leaves on DC trip

Red Bud Catholic Track Invitational

1:00 p.m. Justin and Trisha Emig marriage celebration

5:00 p.m. Divine Service

SUNDAY, April 24-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School and HS Youth classes at school

9:30 a.m. Adult Bible classes in FH and school library

10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

3:00 p.m. Hymn Festival at St. John LC in New Minden

Monday, April 25-

4:30 p.m. Estate Fund Committee meeting at school

7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the school music room

Monday, April 26-

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

1:30 p.m. Holy Communion Service at Red Bud Garden Place

6:30 p.m. Evening Guild Mother/Daughter Banquet in FH

Wednesday, April 27- Weather Bash Field Trip at Busch Stadium

8:30 a.m. School Chapel Service in the new gym

9 a.m. to Noon Quilting in the Fellowship Hall

9:30 a.m. Office Staff meeting

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Voters Assembly meeting in the Fellowship Hall

Thursday, April 28- 6th & 7th Grades Field Trip to Aquarium

7:15 a.m. Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall (Ezekiel)

1:00 p.m. Sight Ministries Center in Baldwin

6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony

Friday, April 29-

8:30 a.m. Early Childhood chapel service in the new gym

Saturday, April 30- 8th Graders return from class trip

Regional Track meet

5:00 p.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

SUNDAY, May 1-

8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Sunday School and HS Youth classes at school

9:30 a.m. Adult (FH & SL) Bible classes

10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Cougarwear

This year PTL is testing a new Spirit Wear Company.
*Orders can be placed anytime! No more waiting on the PTL to organize a sale. *The PTL no longer has to support minimum orders for each item to place an order. *Shipping is direct to your home and usually an item arrives in 2 weeks or less from the time of the order (all items are printed within a few days of ordering here in the US!)
*Watch the site for sales and team up with another parent to get free shipping! *Shirts for sports are now available on the site as well!! Check out all the tabs at the top of the page for your order needs!! www.1stplace.sale/30121