

This Week With Our Lord, April 14-21, 2019

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

SUNDAY, April 14- Palm Sunday

- 8:00 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult and Youth Bible classes
- 10:30 a.m. Divine Service with Holy Communion (Rite of Confirmation)

Monday, April 15-

- 7:00 p.m. Choir practice in the church balcony
- 7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting in the school library

Tuesday, April 16-

- 12:30 – 3:00 p.m. Quilting in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Bell Choir practice in the church balcony
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Guild gathering and movie night in FH

Wednesday, April 17- Junior OVC Track Meet

- 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

Thursday, April 18 - Maundy Thursday

- 8:30 a.m. Holy Communion service at church Acolyte: Karson Liefer
- 9:30 a.m. Women's Advanced Bible History in Fellowship Hall
- 4:30 p.m. Estate Fund Committee meeting in the Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Holy Communion service at church Acolyte: Owen Liefer

Friday, April 19- Good Friday, No School!

- 8:30 a.m. Good Friday Worship Service at church Acolyte: Makayla Liefer
- 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae service at church Acolyte: Blake Henry

Saturday, April 20-

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall
- 9:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt on the north side of school
- 5:00 p.m. Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion
Acolyte: Cadin Voss Greeters: Harold and Deb Siegfried

SUNDAY, April 21- The Resurrection of Our Lord

- 6:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise Holy Communion Service Acolyte: Noah Tepe
Greeters: Kalin and Kathy Liefer; Gerald and Jill Hanebutt
- 8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast in the old gym hosted by our Senior Youth
- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult and Youth Bible classes
- 10:30 a.m. Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion

Acolyte: Sam Roscow Greeters: Ken & Karen Wetzel; Ron and Diane Kunkelmann

OUR RESPONSE TO THE GOSPEL LAST WEEK:

Sun. Worship: 360; Communion: 161; Adults/Youth: 57; Sunday School: 49
Midweek Lenten Worship V: AM- 196 PM- 49

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS: LCMS Stewardship Resources

Luke 22:11 – “Tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?’” Did Jesus really need this man's Upper Room? If the man had refused to let Jesus use it would the work of our salvation have been derailed? Of course not! But what an honor for the man who owned this room! It is likewise with us. The Lord needs none of us, but what an honor for God to choose to use our generosity in the work of His Church.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR:

We are people of diverse backgrounds drawn together by Jesus. We want to share His life with you. Listen to “He Loved Them to the End” (John 13, 18 & 19) with Speaker Dr. Michael Zeigler on KFUE 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).

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

We join with one another in the grace of giving. Offering: 4/7: General Fund- \$22,648.25; School- \$25; Debt: \$1,020. “*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.*” (Deuteronomy 16:16-17). There are boxes of envelopes for 2019 on the table in the Fellowship Hall.

TODAY IN SUNDAY SCHOOL:

+“Jesus Calls Disciples”- Jesus preached, taught, and healed. He called His first disciples to do the same. Today our children learn that Jesus chose ordinary, sinful men to follow Him and be His disciples. In Baptism, Jesus chooses us to be His children. In Jesus' forgiveness we find peace and favor with God, whose Word testifies repeatedly and consistently that Jesus is His Son and our Savior. Ask your children, “*Through whom does Jesus continue His saving work where His Word is preached and His Sacraments are administered today?*”

+*Perfect Attendance for March:* Nursery: Amelia Langrehr, Liam Langrehr; Kindergarten: Natalie Kassing, Holden Wagner; 2nd Grade: Caleb Klausung; 3rd Grade: Sydney Kassing, Norah Wagner; 5th Grade: Noah Kassing; 6th Grade: Connor Jordan, Bruce Quinn, Sam Roscow and Daniel Stapleton; 7th Grade: Hannah Schoenbeck; 8th Grade: Ashton Liefer. Thank you for your faithfulness and your participation!

+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. We plan to visit with him via Skype on April 28

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)

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.

WORSHIP GREETERS NEEDED:

There is an opening 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!

PORTALS OF PRAYER:

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

EVENING GUILD MOVIE NIGHT:

On Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00 p.m. all women of St John's are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a Movie Night. We are featuring "Ruth" from the Sight & Sound Theatres of Branson. Devotions will be lead by Brenda Gilpatrick. Refreshments will be by: Patti Liefer, chairman, Neva Liefer, Pat Malik, Doris Mueller and Cindy Nebel. There will not be a business meeting! Remember our LWML Zone will meet at St. John's for our Spring Rally on Thursday, April 25.

EASTER EGG HUNT:

The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, April 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the north lawn area of the school. Meet at the north doors beginning at 9:20 a.m. The hunt is open for infants to 6 years old children. *Donations of filled plastic eggs are needed! Please bring your donation to the school office between now and Thursday, April 18. *Using scotch tape to close the eggs works great!** Thank you in advance!

CHOIR NEWS:

Our St. John's Lutheran Choir extends a warm welcome to anyone who is interested in singing the "Hallelujah Chorus" with us on Easter Sunday! We will practice on Monday, April 8th & 15th at approximately 7:45 PM in the balcony at church. We will sing it on Easter Sunday (April 21st) at BOTH the Easter Sunrise and Easter Festival services at the very end. (The times are 6:30 AM and 10:30 AM.) Come join us!

EASTER CELEBRATION MATCHING GIFT:

We are being given the opportunity of a \$60,000 matching gift during the Easter season to help pay down our building and operating deficit. Please use the blue envelopes in the baskets in the church entryway.

DINNER AUCTION CONTINUATION:

You still can be a part of the PTL Dinner Auction support by purchasing a ticket for the Cinco de Mayo Celebration at the Ratzkeller in Red Bud on Sat., May 4. Doors open at 6 p.m. The meal (nacho and taco bar) will be at 6:30 p.m. Music by Terry Meyer will be from 7- 11 p.m. The cost is \$35 per person for the meal, draft beer and margaritas. Call the school office at 282-3873 to reserve a ticket.

THE PRAYER CHAIN:

Lisa Kloeppe 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).

USHERS NEEDED:

We welcome anyone to assist with our worship services as an usher. You will be part of a team that serves three months at a time and then is off for a year. See Head Usher Scot Heller or Pastor Nebel if you are interested.

ALSO NEEDED- CUSTODIAN FOR FUNERALS:

Assistance is needed for a custodian to work funerals at church during the week. The pay is \$12.50 an hour for this occasional work. See John Preston or Pastor Nebel for more information.

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.

EPISTLE:

The April 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.

PAYMENTS ON FAST DIRECT:

Fast Direct now allows you to make payments online directly from Fast Direct using your credit or debit card! Simply log in, select Finance from the top of the page. You will add your credit or debit card info in the "wallet" section. Once that has been completed you can go to "make a payment". Be sure to select which account you want to make the payment to...tuition, lunch, daycare, After school care, etc. We are very excited about this new feature, but like always please call the office if you have any questions at all!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!:

4/14- Alverda Rahn, Trish Sachtleben, Sydney Kassing; 4/15- Jacob Arbeiter, Mackenzie Schweizer; 4/16- Terri Dilley, Chase Jackson, Cali Hoffman, Jase Matzenbacher; 4/17- Roy Wirth, Carol Turner, Christine Deien, Claire Diewald, Cassidy Palm; 4/18- Neva Liefer, Margaret Hanebutt, Griffin Ziebold, Lucas Stellhorn, Isabella Nagel; 4/19- Danette Kaesburg, Erin Krick, Cameron Harms, Breanna Bingel, Aiden Lewis, Issac Moll, Ava Moll; 4/20- Karen Wetzell, Chloe Cowell, Josef Biffar. *Please Call the office for additions or corrections!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY CONFINED IN-HOME:

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT:

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR FAMILY AT RED BUD GARDEN PLACE:

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

ISSUES, ETC.:

Tune in to Rev. Todd Wilken live weekdays from 3-5 p.m. on KFUO 850 AM in St. Louis or listen on-demand at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

APPLE BUTTER AVAILABLE:

The Ladies Aid of St. John's Lutheran Church, Ruma is selling apple butter for \$5 a pint and \$8 a quart. Please call Marlene Ling (618-853-2671) or Pearl May (618-282-2642) to place your order and arrange pick-up.

GERMAN SERVICE:

Holy Cross Lutheran Church of Wartburg (5765 Maeystown Road) will hold its annual Good Friday German Worship Service on April 19 at 10 a.m. Rev. Darwin Schrader as guest preacher and Lyle Buettner as lector. The liturgy and hymns will be in the printed German program. Following the service, the Ladies Aid members of the church will serve a potluck luncheon with a free will offering for the meal. Questions may be directed to the church office at 939-7094 or to Arlene Baum 939-8275.

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.

WOMEN'S RETREAT:

"BOND OF PEACE" is the theme for the 8th annual Women's Mini-Retreat hosted by the women of Immanuel Lutheran Church (522 S. Church St.) in Waterloo. This refreshing and renewing morning will be held on Saturday, April 27 from 9-11 a.m. Our theme scripture is Ephesians 4:1-3. Our guest speaker will be Rosie Adle. There is no cost for the retreat which will include a delicious breakfast, an inspirational message, and beautiful music! Call [618-939-6480](tel:618-939-6480) or visit <http://immanuelwaterloo.org/women/> if you have questions or to reserve your spot. While pre-registrations are appreciated, walk-ins are always welcome, too! Donations will be welcomed for the Bi-County Backpack Program and Christian Friends of New Americans.

CAMP WARTBURG CHICKEN DINNER:

We are invited to attend Camp Wartburg's 50th Annual Chicken Dinner on Sunday, April 28th. Serving will take place from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The cost for adults is \$10 and \$5 for children 5 and over. Children under five eat free.

RED BUD COMMUNITY PRAYER BREAKFAST:

On Thursday, May 2nd at 7 a.m. in the Red Bud Regional Hospital auditorium the National Day of Prayer will be observed with Red Bud Regional Hospital, in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Red Bud, the Red Bud Lions Club, and the Red Bud Chamber of Commerce, hosting a community prayer breakfast. Chaplain Captain George E. Kahl, 375th Air Mobility Wing and Master Sergeant Vanessa Minnick, 375th Comptroller Squadron, both from Scott Air Force Base Illinois, will be the guest speakers. A \$10 suggested donation is requested for the buffet, with all proceeds going to the Human Service Center. Seating is limited, so please RSVP to Julie Hudson at 282-5456 or at julie_hudson@quorumhealth.com by April 26th.

PARISH NURSE NOTE: (from LCMS Better Health)

Sweetened Drinks: A restaurant serving of lemonade typically contains about seven teaspoons of sugar. Bottled brands have 150-180 calories in a 12-ounce setting. Prepackaged chocolate milk can contain 140 to 250 calories, depending on whether its low-fat or whole milk. A bottled 9.5 ounce Starbucks Mocha Frappuccino contains 180 calories. Water is the best replacement drink possible.

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 AM 850, we celebrate Palm Sunday with our listeners as we enter Holy Week. On Good Friday (4/19), hear Sacred Music throughout the day and also hear the Tre Ore Service broadcast 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. from Messiah Lutheran Church in St. Louis. Also Monday-Thursday this week, continue studying Genesis 16-18 on Sharper Iron at 8:00 a.m., hear the final chapters of Ezekiel on Thy Strong Word at 11:00 a.m., and worship with us in Daily Chapel at 10:00 a.m. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org!

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 Schnepel
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

The Annual Student Showcase Gala on the COS campus, Saturday, April 27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The Gala will highlight student activities and feature alumni and their businesses in our community. Lisa's of Prairie du Rocher will cater. Rev. Todd Wilken of Issues, Etc. will be our guest speaker for the evening. No tickets are necessary but a call to 618-853-7300 to RSVP by April 22 is encouraged. An opportunity to make a donation in support of the mission of COSLHS will be presented during the evening. We will join in singing two wonderful songs written by Joan Voges and Chris Bergmann as a musical celebration of the gifts Christ has given us. We are asking choir members from our area churches to join us in making this joyful noise. Please talk with your choir director or contact Michele Christman at 618-853-7300 to get copies of the music and to RSVP. We would love representation from several of our churches.

Track Season: This week you can cheer on the Soldiers at the Rocky Bridges Invitational in Chester on April 16 at 4:00 p.m.

Christ Our Savior is seeking a high school certified teacher for math and/or science for the 2019-2020 school year. Resumes are to be submitted to 810 Soldiers Way, Evansville, IL 62242.

Office Closed: The COS office will be closed for Easter on April 18, 19 and 22.

Workout Equipment Wanted: Our track team could use more free weights and workout mats. If you have any that you would like to donate, please drop them off at school or contact our Athletic Director, Lisa at 713-7125.

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.

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, Terra

Williams, Melissa Schilling, Patricia Brewer, Kristi Martel,

Courtney Schoenbeck, Megan Diercks and Mary Novy

Church Council

Chairman: Bruce Schneider Vice-Chairman: Ray Wagner

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

Elder Chair: Kevin Liefer Parish Education Chair: Miriam Poston

Trustee Chair: John Preston 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: Virginia and Mark Moeller Acolyte: Grant Krack

(8:00 a.m.) Greeters: Ken and Joan Voges; Lisa Quinn

Acolyte: Bruce Quinn

(10:30 a.m.) Greeters: Ron and Donna Burgdorf

Acolyte: Kaci Trost

Flower Servers: Pam Stellhorn and Donna Wetzell

Chancel Paraments: Irma Birkner Communion Cloths: Lynn Langrehr

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Red Bud, Illinois

Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday 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.

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.

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.

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!

"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!

LIFE THOUGHTS: *(from Lutherans for Life)*

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP READINGS

Old Testament- ; Epistle- Gospel-

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