
ST. JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



APRIL 2008

715-423-7788

stjohnslutheranchurch@charterinternet.com

REV. KEVIN K. ADER

www.lutheransonline.com/lo/stjohnkellner

Maturing as Stewards Through Faith, Love, and Hope

Mission Statement

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

Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to our congregation:

- Diann Peotter
- Lee Wood

The theme for this year's stewardship emphasis beginning on April 12 & 13 is titled "Maturing as Stewards through Faith, Love, and Hope."

In Paul's letter to the people in Thessalonica, he wrote, "We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 1:3). God graciously gives us faith, love, and hope—virtues essential for our lives as Christians and as God's stewards. Each week during this three-week program, we will be focusing on one of the triads of faith, love, and hope.

In week one, we are reminded that it is through faith that we have access into God's grace and a new relationship with Him. Not only does faith justify us and give us peace with God (Romans 5:1), we are told by Paul in our theme verse that faith produces works. Faith leads to action. Through faith, we are empowered to fulfill God's purposes. Our deeds as stewards are evidence of our faith.

The second week we will focus on the virtue of love. Love seeks the welfare of others. "...since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us" (1 John 4:11-12). God's love in Christ will compel us to do things that appear foolish to unbelievers. God's love prompts us to give freely of our time, talents, and treasures to help others and extend His kingdom.

The third and final week we will focus on the virtue of hope. Through the resurrection of Jesus, we, as believers, are given the victory over death and the assurance of our salvation. Filled with the hope of eternal life with Jesus, we "give (ourselves) fully to the work of the Lord, because (we) know that our labor in the Lord is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

As your pastor, I pray that each of you will be in worship as we focus on the theme "Maturing as Stewards Through Faith, Love and Hope."



To All Of St. John Congregation Membership

I know that not all of you are aware of changes in our church, so I would like to let you know about a change in our spring election procedure.

Our old process was an election to church board's by a ballot process. We (our counsel) feel that we would like to try a new method of choosing our leaders.

This is a selection process. We would still have a nominating committee to ask for your talents to be leaders in our church. (Much needed)

Please prayerfully consider your talents for our selection! The selection process is to collect all nominees for each board position. During a worship service a prayer for spiritual guidance and blessing is given. A name is drawn for each position and announced followed by a prayer for those who have been drawn. (Selected) Chosen officers shall assume their duties for terms specified by our constitution and by laws.

The spiritual precedent is given in Acts 1:23-26.

So they put forward two men, Joseph called Barsabbas and Matthias.

And they prayed and said, "You Lord, who knows the hearts of all men, show which one of these two you have chosen."

And they drew lots for them, and the lot fell to Matthias; and he was added to the eleven Apostles.

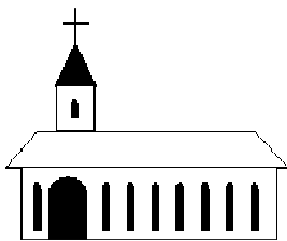
This selection has been approved by our Counsel and at our Voters Annual Meeting.

I hope this process is not confusing and if you have any questions please call your board/counsel leaders or myself.

Thank You! —Jon Sandberg 424-2432



Be Shepherds of the Church of God Acts 20:28



Your church needs a special effort to offset the 2007 shortage of \$5,438.81. Prayerfully consider a donation to lift up your church and give Glory to our Lord through His bride the church. As we give to support our church put your donation into the little church then take

a small stone and place your name on it with marker, if you wish. Place your stone in the basket provided. The stones with your name will be attached to the foundation and as more donations and stones are added you'll see your church raised up!!!

May God Bless you and your family for your sacrifice!

Thank You

Thanks to all who participated in
Hearts For
Jesus
by contributing
canned food and
other
staples for
SWEPS

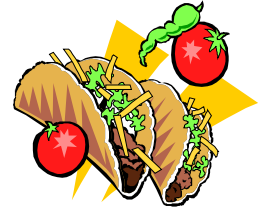
Youth News

One youth helped to make crosses for Palm Sunday. Thank You Annie!!

Saturday, May 10 the Board of Education will be selling Walking Tacos at the Country Affair here at church.

Saturday, June 28 we will be having a one-day Vacation Bible School here at the church.

At this time these are the 2 activities planned for you to help meet the requirements necessary to be able to be confirmed in the fall.



SIGN UP NOW!!!

Sheets are available in the basement along with the acolyte/usher sheets.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday, May 4 Weekday School students will be singing during the service. Bibles and Luther's Small Catechism will be presented. Attendance awards and teacher recognition will also be part of the service.

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME!!

If you are interested in helping with the one-day VBS on Saturday, June 28, please call the church office.

Ladies Aid Guest Speaker

The Ladies Aid will be meeting on:

Thursday, April 3 at 1:30 PM

Dessert will be served by:

Donna Strack & Marge Rumble

Sarah Nordhaugen will be speaking on her trip to China

All ladies of the congregation are invited!

NEW CARPETING

Take a look at our new east back entry way carpet—compliments of the Ladies Aid

Evening Guild

Wal-mart Cookout

April 25

Starting 10:00 AM



We appreciate your support !!

Camp Luther News

Do You Want To Get Away, But Don't Own A Cottage? Camp Luther has 15 modern and comfortable cottages available for rent for one night, a week-end, week, or more through Memorial Day Weekend! Summer cottage rental is also available with optional participation in our Family Camp program; a waiting list currently exists, so sign up now! Each cottage has a fully-equipped kitchen, 2 or 3 bedrooms, private bath, and dock (rowboats available upon request). Use of most of Camp Luther's facilities and recreational equipment is included with the rental. The Three Lakes/Eagle River area also offers a wide variety of activities and attractions including fishing, hunting, biking, shops, dining, museums, a winery, and more! You'll leave re-energized and ready to return home for what God has in store for you! Check your church bulletin board for a "Retreat/Event/Opportunity" brochure or call the camp office: 1.877.264.CAMP.



Camp Luther Needs Your Help! Four FREE upcoming volunteer opportunities require much help for getting Camp Luther ready for summer! We are especially in need of men to help with the Village Project Construction Work Week April 14-20. Workbe Weekends are April 25-27 and May 16-18; Youth Group "Side-by-Side Servant Retreat" is May 2-4. All volunteer opportunities include FREE lodging and meals for your entire group. Please help us plan by letting Mary Ann know if you can attend. Phone: 1.877.264.CAMP.

Quilters . . . Camp Luther Needs Your Help! On July 26th, Camp Luther will be hosting its first ever QUILT AUCTION! All proceeds will be used to support Camp Luther in its goal to build up the body of Christ. Any church quilting guild, LWML group, or individuals interested in donating time and talents to make and donate a quilt is welcome; our goal is to auction off at least 100 quilts! New quilts of any size pattern or color are welcome. Table runners, wall-hangings and baby quilts are also accepted. Quilts need to be donated by June 1st; contact Quik at 1.877.264.CAMP for an information sheet to send along with your donation. Please also mark Saturday, July 26th on your calendar and plan to join us for this special day! Thank you in advance for considering this opportunity to bless Camp Luther and all those who come here to grow in their faith!

How To Thrive In Retirement Seminar

You're invited! Please consider this a personal invitation to a seminar that we will be hosting soon called, "How to Thrive in Retirement." It is a light-hearted look at the longevity revolution and the opportunities and challenges people will encounter in their lives. This seminar will motivate people to reflect on their goals for the future and assess their financial situation to achieve those goals. This seminar is a call to action for participants to create a strategy that combines their financial preparation with family, service, and giving. The Wood County Board will be covering all expenses for Thrivent members and providing refreshments as well. If you are interested, please call Cheryl Lang (Past President) at 715-909-0038 to R.S.V.P. today! On Sunday, April 13, 2008, this seminar will be presented at 2 p.m. in Marshfield (Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-502 W. McMillan Street) and again at 6 p.m. in Wisconsin Rapids (First English Lutheran Church, 440 Garfield).

Bethesda Thrift Store

The new Bethesda Thrift Store in the Rapids Mall is now open for your spring and summer shopping. Thanks to over 50 volunteers and the 8th graders from Immanuel, we were able to move the store across the hall in two days! We now have more shelf space and floor space for your shopping convenience. Thanks also to the Portage County and Wood County Chapters of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for providing supplementary funds to help us with the expenses of the move. Donations are being accepted - including good furniture. We also could use groups of 3-4 to help sort and price donations. Get a group together and call Chuck at 421-3477. Please check out our new store and support Bethesda.

Script Gift Card Additions & Changes

Burger King – seasonal profit increase to **6%**.

Wal-Mart \$250 denomination can now be special ordered

Homestead Golf Course cards are available for **\$10** for nine holes of golf at a **10%** profit.

Cabela's will now be available in the **\$25** and **\$100** denominations at **11%** profit.

I have a limited number of **Sears** gift cards in the **\$25** and **\$100** denominations at a **9%** profit.

Coming in the month of April – **Dairy Queen**.

Dawn Wolf-423-0272

LWML Spring Rally Invitation

Dear Friends in Christ::

The Lutheran Women in Mission at St. Paul Lutheran Church and school in Stevens Point invite you to join us for the Spring LWML Rally of Zone 17. We will focus on the theme "CELEBRATING NEW LIFE". The Rally is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, April 13. Registration (\$5.00) will begin at noon and we will fellowship over lunch. It will be served from noon until 12:45 p.m.

As part of our Christian Growth, we've invited Ann Hatton, First Choice Family Resource Center, to share the story of their ministry to the Stevens Point area. The Christian Growth topic "The Means by Which True Life is Given" will be led by Chris Voelker.

As part of our Christian Service, there will be an ingathering for First Choice Family Resource Center. Also, don't forget to bring your Stamps for Missions.

Childcare is available for the event provided by our youth Group. You must pre-register the number of children care is needed for by calling Sherri Gagas at (715) 344-5664 before Monday, April 7.

We look forward to having you with us on Sunday, April 13, noon to 4:30 p.m.

In Christ,

Esther Gartland, Chair
St. Paul Lutheran
Women in Mission

First Choice Resource Center

Needs for our Mother Matters' Store

For the Mother: Lotions, Hair clips, Bath items, Devotional

For the Baby: Diapers, Bibs, Socks, Clothes-Preemie to 18 months, Baby food, Bath items