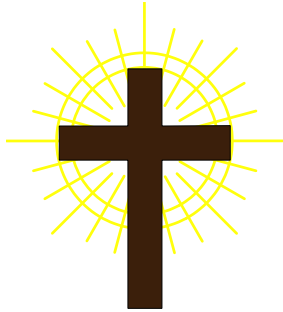


St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

March 2011



REV. KEVIN K. ADER

715-423-7788

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

**Christ In The Strangest Places:
Foreshadowed, Fulfilled, Forever
A Series of Special Services for Lent
By Dr. Reed Lessing**

The Old Testament is chock-full of passion themes, from the serpent being crushed in Genesis 3:15 to Isaiah's Fourth Servant Song. Yet this series looks at some of the lesser-known Old Testament passion themes and focuses on them by means of single words. Two tablets of stone, a few vessels of oil, simple markings, a small army, a remote field, a solemn oath--these are some of the strangest people, places and things through which God revealed himself to his people in the Old Testament. These are just a few of the strange places we will find Christ during this year's Lenten Midweek Series. Once again, pastors from our circuit congregations will be leading us in our journey to the cross of Good Friday and the open tomb of Easter. Lent begins on Wednesday, March 9th. We hope you will be about to journey with us as we encounter "Christ in the Strangest Places".

Ash Wednesday Service

10:30 AM & 6:30 PM

March 9

~ "Mine!" ~ Exodus 20:17

The commandments point out our desire to acquire
Rev. Kevin Ader, St. John – Kellner

Lenten Services 10:30 AM & 6:30 PM

March 16

~ "Marked" ~ Isaiah 44:5

God marks his people

Rev. Roger Moldenhauer,
St. Paul's – Stevens Point

March 23

~ "Enlist" ~ Judges 6:16

Gideon's call

Rev. Thomas Petersen,
St. Paul's – Stevens Point

March 30

~ "Invest" ~ Jeremiah 32:25

Jeremiah buys a field in wartime

Rev. David Ficken,
Beautiful Savior – Plover

April 6

~ "Nothing" ~ 2 Kings 4:1-7

Elisha provides for a widow

Rev. John Grohs,
Immanuel – Wisconsin Rapids

April 13

~ "Finish" ~ 1 Kings 11:3

Solomon can't finish what he started
Rev. Kevin Ader, St. John – Kellner

Lenten Devotionals

The season of Lent is an important one in the life of the Church. This is the period when Christians come in penitent adoration before their Lord Jesus Christ for the once-and-for-all sacrifice of His life on Calvary for their sins. With the end of Jesus' earthly ministry, comes the intrigue and tragedy that led to His murder: the false accusations, the mock trial, the torture at the hands of Roman soldiers and, finally, the supreme anguish of the cross. Death claimed Him, but it could not defeat Him. Three days later Jesus rose from the grave as the victorious Savior of the universe, our Easter Messiah.

For 2011, Lutheran Hour Ministries is offering ***The Light Shines in the Darkness***, which takes the reader through the Gospel of John. It shows the simple truth that when light shines, darkness disappears. Jesus' battle against the powers of hell, the ignorance of unbelief and mankind's blind, murderous hatred marked His day-to-day mission in this world. It was His death, however, and *more to the point*, His resurrection, that sealed our triumph over sin, death and the father of lies.

Copies of *The Light Shines in the Darkness* are available in the narthex.

New Member Welcome

We would like to welcome the following new members to St. John:

Tom & Susan Simons

Jordan Simons

Nickolas Simons

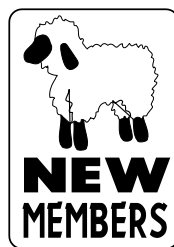
Barret Simons

Curt & Colleen Ruesch

Jacob Ruesch

Donald & Betty Spurlock

Tom & JoLynn Winkels



We look forward to getting to know you better as we worship and work together in serving the Lord.

SWEPS

We will continue to collect non-perishable food items for SWEPS through the end of March. Baskets are provided in the Narthex for your donations. Thank you...The Human Care Board.

Special Voter's Meeting on March 10

The congregation is invited to attend a special voters' meeting at 6:30 PM on Thursday, March 10, to discuss three items of importance for our church. Following the meeting, members of the Church Council are encouraged to stay for a short regular meeting.

During the past year, members of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee have been working very hard updating those two documents for St. John. Copies of the documents were available for review in the past few months. We are asking the congregation to take action on these items. Please contact the church office if you'd like an extra copy. Special thanks to the committee for their excellent work.

The Trustees have been working on various projects including the church's heating system. After professional inspection, it was determined that the furnaces need to be replaced. We are asking the congregation for approval of this project. Bids have been received and a final recommendation will be made to the congregation at the meeting. Thank you to the Trustees for their work.

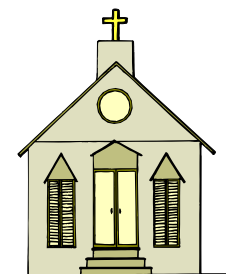
As a related item, the St. John checking account currently has \$5,917.38 designated for foundation repair. We thank all who donated to that project. Since there is no work required at this time, we will be asking the congregation's approval to use those funds as part of the furnace project.

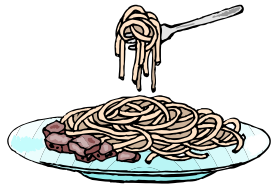
I want to thank all members for their generosity and service to St. John Lutheran Church.

In summary, three items will be on the agenda for March 10:

- Constitution & Bylaws
- Furnace Project
- Approval to Transfer Previously-Donated Funds

Craig Timm
Chairman





Thank You

On February 13th the sun was shining brightly and the temperature was warm for mid-February. The beautiful day brought out a record number of people to dine with us at our annual Spaghetti Supper.

Our basement was beautifully transformed into an “Italian Restaurant” through the efforts of many. As always a very “special thank you” to all of the Evening Guild Auxiliary Members (and other members of our congregation who helped out) for their help on Thursday night, Friday night and Sunday - setting up the tables and chairs, the signage board, decorating, setting the tables for the dinner, cooking, making coffee, washing dishes, waiting tables, bussing tables and whatever else needed to be done. Our event would not be a success without your help. Our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you!!! A very special “Thank You” to our youth helper Emma. You did a GREAT job and we appreciate you being part of the event. Our tables were beautifully decorated with placemats colored by our weekday school children. Thanks Board of Ed for your support and help.

Taylor Funeral Home, Ritchay Funeral Home and Higgins Funeral Home donated the print advertising. Country Tots Child Care Center donated marquee advertising. These businesses are thanked for their generosity and continued support of community events.

Thank you to our “Church Family” for your dining with us. We appreciate your support in making this a special Valentine event. The profits from Spaghetti Supper will be used to benefit our Church and its missions.

Spaghetti Supper Committee - Ladies Evening Guild

Evangelism

We are children of the heavenly father—

A support system for one another.



Our worship service is a family reunion.

We weep with those who weep.

Rejoice with those who rejoice.

We pray for one another and for others.

Burdens are shouldered;

Blessings shared.

—Alma Kern



Pillow Case Dresses

Pillow cases can still be brought in through the end of March. The “pillow case dresses” will be made by the Quilting Group and sent to Haiti through Lutheran World Relief.

Fellowship Sunday

Take a look! We have lots of openings left! The sign up sheet is located on the north bulletin board. Fellowship is after the church services the 2nd Sunday of each month. Please bring bars or cookies and serve coffee. Thank you!

St. John to Host Lutheran Laymen’s League

We will be hosting Lutheran Laymen’s League here at St. John on March 11 at 6:30 PM. Dinner will be Corned Beef & Cabbage. The program will be presented by Cody Kiedrowski on his trip to England, Iceland, Scotland, & Wales. Cost is \$7.50. For reservations call Duane Steinke at 715-423-2716 by Tuesday, March 8.

Bethesda Thrift Shop

During the first two weeks of March (Feb. 28 through March 12) the Bethesda Thrift Shop in the Rapids Mall will have a Clearance Sale featuring a **BAG SALE** - all the clothing and shoes you can get into a grocery bag for one low price. This is the time to stock up on all the clothing you may need for your family. On March 14, we will restock the entire store with spring and summer clothing. Shop early and get the best selections. Also, don't forget to bring your donations to our store. We would like to receive some good clean furniture as well. We appreciate your business as we together help to enhance the lives of people with intellectual and development disabilities through services provided by Bethesda that share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Every Kid to Camp Ministry News

Greetings in the name of Jesus,
The Light of the World!

Camp Luther and the "Every Kid to Camp" Ministry has been blessed with a \$35,000 matching grant for 2011. What a blessing! Any gift that comes in will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$35,000. Your support in the past and in the future is greatly appreciated.

To date, 955 kids, 3rd – 8th graders, who have never been to a week of summer camp at Camp Luther, have participated in the last five years. This summer will see an additional 325 kids going to a summer camp. The stories from the kids and families have been tremendous stories of hope and how kids are strengthened in their faith after a week of camp. From starting Bible studies in their high schools to praying with their friends at home, these kids are being transformed into spiritual champions. Your gifts make a difference in the lives of kids. Thank you very much for all you have done.

If you would like to make a gift to this ministry and have it doubled, please send a check to: Camp Luther + "Every Kid to Camp" + 1889 Koubenic Road + Three Lakes, WI 54562. You may also

make a credit card gift by going to the Camp Luther website: www.campoluther.com or call Mary Ann at 1-715-546-3647.

We are also having another "Every Kid to Camp" auction on Saturday, September 24, 2011, in Wausau. We need silent and live auction items. If you would like to participate by donating an item or two, please let me know. Anything of value is an acceptable item. Silent auction baskets range in value up to \$50. Live auction items go \$50 and higher. Be creative! I hope you will join us for the event! Please let me know by May 15 if you have an item to donate. We'll find a way to pick it up.

That's it from here! Though the world around us changes, the Good News of Jesus Christ never changes. May the Lord bless and keep you in His care, surround you with His love, and assure you of His presence that He is with you always. May God richly bless you and keep you in His grace! Together in His service,

Lee A. Belmas, Assistant to the President
"Every Kid to Camp"/Family/Care/Ministerial
Health
North Wisconsin District-LCMS
3101 Seymour Lane, Wausau, WI 54401
715-845-8241, ext. 16
lee@nwdlcms.org
www.nwdlcms.org

Got Conflict?

You're not alone! Everyone experiences conflict—in the home, in school, in the workplace, and even in church. But God doesn't leave us powerless or alone. Learn from God's Word how to live out your vocation as a peacemaker. Join us for the one-day seminar, Blessed Are the Peacemakers, presented by Ambassadors of Reconciliation, (HisAoR.org), Saturday, March 19, 2011, 8:30 AM-3:30 PM, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 604 S. Chestnut Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449. Cost: \$15.00 per person, which includes lunch. To register pick up a form on the table in the narthex or call 715-384-5121.



SAINT JOHN
LADIES AID
INVITES

THE LADIES EVENING GUILD
AND LADIES OF OUR
CONGREGATION AND FRIENDS
TO COME JOIN US AND HEAR
MR. DAVID BERINGER
KNOWN AS "UNCLE DAVE"
TELL US MANY STORIES
AND ADVENTURES OF HIS
MISSION TRIP TO GHANA, AFRICA

THURSDAY

MARCH 3RD

LUNCH SERVED

AT NOON

HOT DISH
SALAD &
DESSERT

"UNCLE DAVE"
IS AN EXCELLENT
SPEAKER AND VERY
ENTERTAINING

EVERY OTHER YEAR
"UNCLE DAVE" TAKES SEVERAL
STUDENTS WITH HIM TO HELP
SPREAD THE WORD AND
LEARN THE CULTURE AND
TEACH ENGLISH

MR. DAVID BERINGER
IS ADMINISTRATOR AT
WIS. LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL
MOSINEE, WIS.