

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church



February 2012

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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.

Words of Life from the Cross Lenten Mid-Week Services

Mid-Week Lenten Services will once again be held on Wednesdays at 10:30 am and 6:30 pm. We will be rotating pastors from St. Paul Lutheran Church – Stevens Point and Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church – Plover. This year's theme: *Words of Life from the Cross*, will focus on Jesus final words as he suffers on the cross of Calvary for our salvation.

Feb. 22, Ash Wednesday: The Pardoning Word
"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." (Luke 23:34)
Pastor Kevin Ader

Feb. 29, Midweek 2: The Faithful Word
"Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Matthew 27:46)
Pastor David Ficken

Mar. 07, Midweek 3: The Promising Word
"Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise." (Luke 23:43)
Pastor Thomas Petersen

Mar. 14, Midweek 4: The Compassionate Word
"Woman, behold, your son!" . . . "Behold, your mother!" (John 19:26–27)
Pastor Kevin Ader

Mar. 21, Midweek 5: The Dying Word
"Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!" (Luke 23:46)
Pastor David Ficken

Mar. 28, Midweek 6: The Suffering Word
"I thirst." (John 19:28)
Pastor Thomas Petersen



The Trials of Jesus

Join us during our weekend services throughout the Lenten season as we encounter the Trials of Jesus. Like a courtroom drama, a series of witnesses comes forward to give testimony about their experiences with the accused—Jesus Christ. Through their accounts we come to know the truth, that Jesus came to take our place in the defendant's chair.

Feb. 26 ~ The First Sunday in Lent
"The Voice of Satan" • Matthew 4:1-11
Jesus faces the tempter in the wilderness.

Mar. 04 ~ The Second Sunday in Lent
"The Voice of Judas" • Mark 14:16, 32-42
Jesus' betrayer defends his actions.

Mar. 11 ~ The Third Sunday in Lent
"The Voice of Annas" • John 18:12-24
A chief priest discusses Jesus' arrest.
or
"The Voice of Caiaphas" • Matthew 26:57-68
The high priest faces off with the Son of God.

Mar. 18 ~ The Fourth Sunday in Lent
"The Voice of Peter" • Luke 22:54-62
Jesus' bold disciple speaks of his weak faith.

Mar. 25 ~ The Fifth Sunday in Lent
"The Voice of Herod" • Luke 23:1-12
One king of the Jews testifies against another.

Apr. 01 ~ Palm Sunday
"Voices in the Temple" • Mark 11

Apr. 05 ~ Maundy Thursday
"The Voice of Pilate" • John 18:28—19:16

Apr. 06 ~ Good Friday
"The Voice of Innocence" • Seven Last Words

Apr. 08 ~ Easter Sunday
"The Voice of the Tomb" • Luke 24:1-12

Lenten Devotionals

The birth of Jesus Christ into this world was the fulfillment of God's promise to send a Savior. But the sending of His Son was only the beginning of the Father's eternal work of redemption. In *Jesus Christ: Man On A Mission*, Lutheran Hour Ministries' 2012 Lenten Devotions, the earthly life and ministry of Jesus is brought into sharp focus through the powerful words of the Gospel of Mark.

Teaching with authority, performing inconceivable miracles, commanding nature, showing compassion unlike anyone before or since, Jesus' life was an exemplar of divine love in action. His disciples, 12 hand-picked followers, watched Him feed huge crowds with tiny amounts of food. They watched Him heal the sick, restore the lame, open blind eyes and deaf ears and raise people from the dead.

And then they saw Him die—violently crucified in a horrific spectacle. Buried in a tomb, their beloved Leader dead and gone, the disciples' hope seemed lost for good. But three days later in ultimate triumph, God raised His Son from the dead, and His mission was complete.

Follow this Man on a mission, as He conquers the powers of darkness for you—Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior of all!

Copies will be available in the narthex the weekend of February 4 & 5.

Ladies Aid Pie Sale

Delicious homemade pies will be sold by the Ladies Aid after the services on February 18 & 19. Thanks for your support!



Weekday School News

Plans are being made for our Hearts for Jesus project. Watch for more information to come in our Sunday bulletins.

Please join the children on Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 6:30 PM when they will be singing in the service.

Camp Luther joined the Weekday School on January 18 and left materials for all the congregation. If interested copies are available on the tables upstairs in the narthex.

New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members:

Chuck & Gail Bossingham
Steve & Terri Lybeck
Randy & Donna Rae Polansky
Dave & Pam Lutz

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

Church Library News

This month we will begin our library contest. The age groups for February include: Nursery through 1st grade and adults.

We have purchased a lot of new books and DVD's recently and they will be conveniently displayed in the library area for you to check out and get started on.

Two of our new items include:

Coming Back Stronger by Drew Brees This is about a New Orleans Saints quarterback and is a great faith book. He explains his relationship with God and how that relationship influenced his decisions professionally and personally.

I Am in Here is about Elizabeth Bonker who is autistic. She cannot speak but does write inspiring poetry. This is a spiritual journey of a mother and daughter who refuse to give up hope.

Watch for more reviews in upcoming bulletins and newsletters.

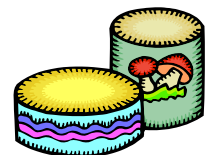
Have fun participating in the library contest and remember, to receive credit record your name and item title on the contest sheet when you bring it back. Winners at the end of each month will receive a prize!

For more information on the contest see the poster included in this newsletter or call Laurel at the church office.

SWEPS

The Human Care Board will be collecting nonperishable food items February through March.

There will be baskets supplied in the narthex.



Looking For Those Who Want To Help Others And Also Have A Fun Time!!!

Hope's Door in Wisconsin Rapids has a continued need for knit/crochet items such as hats, mittens, scarf's and afghan's.

We are inviting all who knit/crochet, and those who want to learn, to join us on Saturday, February 4 from 10 AM to 3 PM to help fill that need. Three knitting machines will be available and instructors to show you how to use them. Others, bring yarn, needles and hooks. We will have patterns, extra yarn and needles available. Sit, relax and share as we work on projects together.

If you are unable to come, please consider purchasing worsted weight yarn (Red Heart yarns are ideal) and donating to our cause. A large basket will be in the Narthex for that purpose. Gently used items will also be accepted.

Please join us for a fun experience! Bring a sack lunch, beverages, snacks and goodies will be provided.

Hopefully this will expand to more than just a one-time event. See you there!

Evangelism

This is the message we have heard from the beginning:

We should love one another! 1 John 3:11

Love is not enough-learn how to demonstrate your love.

Forgiveness is at the heart of love.

Admire and be loyal-it has tremendous dividends

Trade in your car-not your spouse

The Bible says that Jesus willingly "made himself nothing" in order to completely serve those He loved. Philippians 2:7

Bethesda Thrift Shop

In February we will have discounts on Valentine items and towards the end of the month we will begin our clearance sale of winter clothing. We also continue to carry NEW sofas, love seats, recliners, dining table/chair sets, and mattresses (& foundations and frames) for queen, full, and twin sizes. During January we were able to celebrate our millionth dollar in sales since the store opened in 2004. We thank all of you for

helping us meet that goal. We continue to ask for your support for this worthwhile mission to our intellectually and physically handicapped folks at Bethesda.

Compassionate Friends Program

St. John's is in the process of implementing our Compassionate Friends Program.

Our church, as in many others, have members who are shut-ins, living in nursing homes, having long hospital stays, and some that are just lonely. These members need to know that we care about them and can help.

Volunteers are prepared to make monthly visits to shut-ins and nursing homes. Visits to hospitals will be on an "as needed" basis.

Our volunteers are anxious to make new friends or renew old friendships and are prepared to offer encouragement and Christian Care to all in need. If you are aware of anyone that could benefit from a visit, please contact St. John office at 715-423-7788 or office@stjohnkellner.org or fill out a pew card and put in the collection plate.

Thank You

We wish to thank all who have made compassionate friends possible.

Mrs. Starr, who heads a similar program at Immanuel, for providing us with invaluable information and insight.

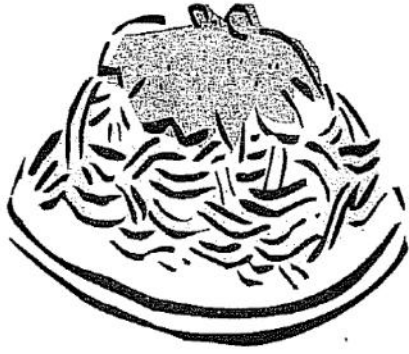
Lois VerVort, who graciously accepted the post of facilitating all volunteers. Lois has previous experience in this area. It was due to her persistence, insight and compassion that this group was formed.

Pastor Ader, for his support, insight and spiritual advise.

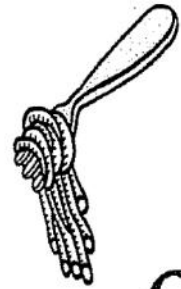
Last, but never least, all the volunteers who accepted the challenge to help others in this manner. Without you we would not exist as a group.

We welcome any others who wish to join this effort and any ideas or suggestions for aiding or improving our compassionate friends group.

There will be a start up meeting at church on January 31 at 6:00 PM. This meeting is open to everyone. Please join us.



Spaghetti Supper



*St. John Lutheran Church
8020 South Park Road*

*Stone Church on the corner of South Park Road
and 80th Steet (Downtown Kellner)*

Sunday, February 12th

Serving 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Adults/Seniors \$ 6.00 Children 6 to 10 \$3.00

Under 6 Free

Dinner served at your candle-lit table includes:

Fresh Garden Salad

Spaghetti with Homemade Meat Sauce

Italian Garlic (or plain) Bread

*Dessert Cart featuring an assortment of homemade
pies, cakes, cookies & other desserts.*

Hot or Cold Beverage



The church library is having a contest which will take place in February, March & April. Each month will have a different age group.

Library Contest



*Month & Age Groups:
February-Nursery—1st Grade & Adults
March-2nd Grade—4th Grade
April-5th Grade—8th Grade*

Adults can receive credit in two ways—on their own or if they read or watch a movie with a younger child. There are sheets by the library card file to record your name and title of item each time you are finished. These can be books, CD's, DVD's and videos. When checking out library items sign and date card found in item pocket and place card in library card file box. When you are finished place book in "return basket." Remember, to receive credit record your name and item title on the contest sheet.



The person that participates with the most items during that month will receive a prize.