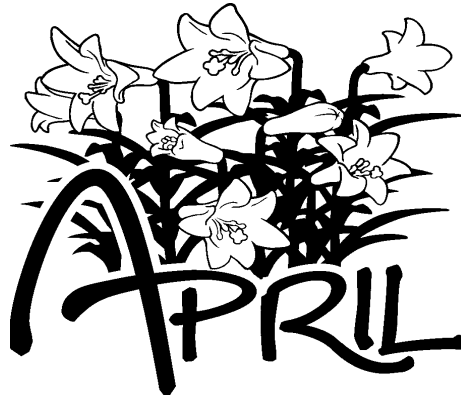


2014



YOUR SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT
FOR YOUR SOUL THROUGH THE WORD

St. John Eagle



SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES THIS MONTH

Wed. April 2nd—12:30 & 7:00 pm Lenten Service

Sat. April 5th—6:00 pm Worship/Questioning

Wed. April 9th—7:00 pm Lenten Service Only
(5:00—6:30 pm a Lenten Supper will be held)

Sun. April 13th—Palm Sunday/Confirmation

Thur. April 17th—7:00 pm Maundy Thur. Service
(with Holy Communion)

Fri. April 18th—7:00 pm Good Friday Service

Sat. April 19th—No evening worship service

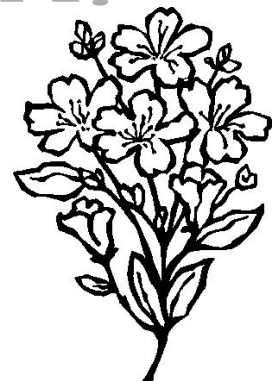
Sun. April 20th—7:00 am Sunrise Service

(7:30—9:00 am Easter Breakfast)

9:00 am Easter Worship with H.C.

Happy
EASTER!

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ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, 402 Lake Ave, Storm Lake, IA.

Phone: 712-732-2400

Email: stjohstormlake@gmail.com

PASTOR:
Rev. Bruce Lesemann
Home: 712-732-0161



MUSIC DIRECTOR:
Suzanne Winterhof

STAFF

SECRETARY:
Celeste Cummins

CUSTODIAN:
Rena Norwood

MONTHLY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday Services

6:00 p.m.

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Holy Communion

1st and 3rd Weekend

of each month

Sunday Services

9:00 a.m.

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Radio Broadcasts...

9:00 a.m. on 2nd Sunday

of each month

KAYL 101.7FM.

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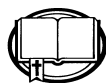
Lutheran Hour Ministries

KAYL 8:00 a.m.

Every Sunday

SUNDAY MORNING— FAITHBUILDERS AND BIBLE CLASSES

Faithbuilders, for ages 3 years thru 8th grade, and the **High School Bible Class** both meet at 10:15 a.m. on the 2nd Floor.



Be in the Word

Adult Bible Classes meet at 10:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room (led by V. Winterhof) and in the Library (led by Pastor Lesemann).

Message from Pastor Lesemann

Spring!

“For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come...” Song of Solomon 2:11-12a

Wasn't that a LONG winter? This winter may have not been the coldest, but it sure was miserable! The new catch phrase was the “polar vortex,” which Wikipedia describes as “a persistent, large-scale cyclone located near either of a planet's geographical poles.” That was news to me! But actually, believe it or not, a polar vortex is not that new and the term has been around since the 1950s. In 1974, the term was used in Time magazine in an article talking about global COOLING, and recently the climate scientists have been using the term when talking about climate change (formerly global warming). Either way, for me what it meant was we simply had COLD WEATHER, and as one meteorologist advised, we should just take it as it was: winter weather from the north!

Why do I bring this up? It is in our human nature to blame someone or something when things don't go our way. Cold weather? Many scientists say it is all because of man's use of fossil fuels. Well, whether (or should I say weather) it is or not is not my point. But it seems that we always try to find someone or something to blame for our problems, whether it is weather or any other problem.

That's the way it was for those who condemned Jesus to the cross. The Jewish religious leaders considered Him a problem and blamed Him for the people's loss of faith in them, so they worked to get rid of Him to the point of having Him crucified. Not that we are any less guilty of His going to the cross than they were. We are just as guilty. Why? You see God had all rights to blame US for our own sin, yet He did not! Rather He focused the punishment for our sin on His Son. Our sin could only be paid for by Jesus' death.

But just as winter is followed by the joy of spring, Jesus' death, His taking the blame for our sins, did not end with His death but with life for Him AND for us! As He was made alive and raised, we too are made alive through faith and will one day rise because Jesus took the punishment we deserved.

I always find it so amazing that Jesus did that for us! That joy makes every day new as spring!

In His grace,

Pastor Bruce H. Lesemann



CHURCH COUNCIL

Parish Planning Council Meeting

Sunday, March 16, 2014

Executive Director Henry Hardt called the meeting to order at 11:15 am.

Pastor Lesemann's devotion was "Hey, Neighbor!" (Mark 12:33). We learn from Jesus' parable about the Samaritan what makes a good neighbor....and from Jesus Himself, the ultimate and perfect one. We know how we can "neighbor" others in our words and deeds.

Board of Trustees – Dave Dose

His printed report explained:

- that the church elevator will be repaired now and inspected yearly by Access Elevator, Inc., from Sioux Falls.
- that the Trustees are visiting with heating contractors and will be looking at other options for installation and prices.
- that the Trustees are discussing Renae's disability.
- that they are looking at another lawn mower for St. John.

Board of Lay Ministers – Harlan Matasovsky

The Lay Ministers are going over the list of delinquent members, and they are working on guidelines for having and lettering or numbering the mailboxes, which the Trustees will be working on.

Treasurer's Report – Karen Fletcher

Karen submitted a printed report. The capital improvement fund stands at \$56,000. In the first three months of 2014 more than \$2,500 was given in Thrivent monies. The balance in the checking account at the end of February was \$13,500. Fletcher expressed thanks to St. John members and asked for continued and much-appreciated and needed support.

Board of Stewardship – Karen Fletcher

Karen has been ordering the 2015 envelopes. She explained that we St. John members should more often express our gratitude for those who volunteer and serve so faithfully. To that end, the board has prepared thank-you cards, which are now available in the church office. They may be used by any and all people of the congregation. If requested, Celeste will even write them for you.

Board of Education and Youth – Jerry Johnson

In absentia, Johnson apprised the congregation:

- that the Easter breakfast will be continental style and that volunteers are needed to provide for, serve, and clean up. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the front entryway.
- that Vacation Bible School will be held in late July at St. John and in conjunction with Grace. It will be a family program this year and held during the evenings from a Sunday through a Wednesday.

Pastor Lesemann

Pastor Kuhn will conduct the fifth Saturday and Sunday services in March.

Pastor Lesemann will be the Camp Okoboji staff counselor from June 15-22 and the senior LWML counselor from June 18-21.

Confirmation will be on Palm Sunday with questioning during the Saturday service on April 5th.

Executive Director – Henry Hardt

Hardt has asked the directors of all boards to provide a list of those members who will continue to serve on them in 2015 so that he can prepare a list of nominees for vacancies thereon.

He encouraged all St. John members who work with youth to attend the child sexual abuse prevention training on March 27 from 6:30-8:30 pm at Grace Lutheran.

Ron and Barb Walters have audited the church books and concluded that the treasurer's report for 2013 is "in order and well documented." A copy of their entire audit is attached to these minutes.

Hardt is again appealing the ruling concerning Renae's health reimbursement account.

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund has decided to return a portion of their annual profit to congregations of the Missouri Synod. It is anticipated that St. John will receive approximately \$500. The money must be used for "seed money to expand [its] mission outpost."

The next parish planning meeting is Sunday, April 27 at 11:15 am.

Hardt adjourned the meeting. We closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Mr. Henry Hardt
Executive Director
St. John Lutheran Church
Storm Lake, IA 50588

We were asked to do an audit of the church books and gladly accepted. Though we are not accountants, Ron has taken accounting and business law in college and founded and operated a Pharmacy business for 30 years. He has experience in payroll, A/P, A/R, quarterly reports, purchasing, investing, management, and miscellaneous activities of running a small business.

The Quickbooks software is a great tool to use though we have not used it. Karen gave us an impressive demo on what can be done and how she does it.

We were impressed with the 2012 annual church report when we were looking into changing churches. The 2013 report is also very impressive. The Finance report is very open to all phased of running a church. Too many members probably don't pay as much attention to this topic as they should.

Several topics of interest we checked out were petty cash funds, gifts, memorials, purchase orders, money handlers, posting of donations to members accounts, filing of quarterly reports, and other reports. Karen does a great job and shows much dedication. She gave us the 2012 Congregational Treasurer's Manual written by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod to review at our leisure. We could hardly believe that running a church has so many rules, forms, tax info, insurance, etc.

In conclusion, we think the Treasurer's Report for 2013 is in order and well documented. We also thought some of the chart of accounts could be updated to make posting and check writing easier with no risk of financial integrity. The treasurer will possibly discuss this with board at a later date.

Respectfully submitted by Ron and Barb Walters

Keep Silent!

By: Celeste Cummins

It was prophesied of Jesus, “He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth” (Isaiah 53:7). This prophecy came true, of course, during Jesus’ trial and crucifixion. When Jesus was before the High Priest, Caiaphas, two members of the Sanhedrin came forward and declared, “This fellow said, ‘I am able to destroy this temple of God and rebuild it in three days.’ Then the high priest stood up and said to Jesus, ‘Are you not going to answer? What is this testimony that these men are bringing against you?’ But Jesus remained silent” (Matthew 26:61-63a). Just four verses later, Jesus does not answer them either after they have spit in His face, struck Him with their fists, slapped Him, and said, “Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?” (Matthew 26:67-68). Jesus’ story continues of the soldiers mocking Him, after He had appeared before Pilate (Matthew 27:27-31) and the chief priests, the teachers of the law, the elders, and the two criminals mocking Him at His crucifixion (Matthew 27:41-44). Yet, in all these situations, Jesus remained silent. He ignored their insults and did not even utter a reply to defend Himself.

Jesus followed these words, “When someone wrongs you, it is a great virtue to ignore it” (Proverbs 19:11b, TEV). Oh, how hard that is!! When we are accused of something, we want to tell the other person off! We want to make sure the truth is known about us. We want to get even at them for what they are saying about us. The last thing we want is for someone to ruin our reputation! How hard it is for us to be like Jesus and not say anything.

Did you notice that Jesus’ story does not end there? While hanging on the cross, He ended His silence, and by doing that, showed us what we ought to do when we are insulted, wronged, ridiculed, and falsely accused by someone. Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34). Jesus asked His Heavenly Father to *forgive them!* Just who was the “them” He was referring to? The criminals hanging beside Him? The chief priests and elders who mocked Him? The soldiers who spit on Him, slapped Him, and put a crown of thorns on His head? Pilate, who sentenced Him to death? YES! He was referring to all of those people – and to each of us!

When we have been wronged, in any way, we not only have to ignore it; we also need to ask God to forgive those who are against us.

LADIES' AID

St. John Ladies' Aid met on March 5 with Renae Norwood as the hostess.

The guest speaker was Lori Dicks, manager of the BV County Recycling Center. She presented interesting statistics on waste and recycling. Over half of what is brought in as waste (which goes to the landfill) could have been recycled.

Laura Bumann led devotions beginning with an Ash Wednesday prayer. Basing comments on Isaiah 53:5, she reminded us of the good news in the Old Testament: through the wounds of Christ, we receive healing.

Eleven members answered roll call by showing an example of a favorite piece of cross jewelry.

Marge Manteufel reported that a load of 50 boxes was taken to Orphan Grain Train. Someone to make school kit bags is needed. President Donna Truelsen reported Marvel Rosdail had resigned due to her move to Ames.



A BIG THANK YOU to the ladies (and men) who furnished food, worked in the kitchen, or served lunch after the funeral service for Junior Oatman. We are so grateful to our church family for your prayers, love, and support. Joann Oatman & family

THANK YOU—The Board for Mission Advancement appreciates the financial contributions that St. John has sent that were shared with Rev. Edmund and Cherie Auger recently (\$800).

A LENTEN SUPPER of sub sandwiches, chips, and bars will be served from 5:00—6:30 pm on Wednesday, April 9th before the final 7:00 pm Lenten service. A free will donation will be collected that will go to the Capital Improvement fund. There will not be a 12:30 service on April 9th.

NOTE CARDS with a picture of the church are available in the office if any individual, group, or organization would like to thank someone for a donation or volunteer work that was done for the church. If you would like some of these cards, give Celeste a call (she will even write them for you, if you'd like).

MAILBOX REMODELING – The Trustees will be remodeling the mailboxes in about two weeks. They plan to take the glass out between every other mailbox, which will allow for a larger mailbox and fewer boxes overall. In order to make this project easier for them, they would like everyone to remove the mail from your mailbox before they begin. If your mailbox is numbered 180 or lower, you should be able to keep your current number, however it will be in a different place (because every other box will be removed). Since the mailboxes in the top rows can be difficult to reach, if you feel this will be a problem for you, please speak to Celeste or one of the Trustees and we can assign you a box that is easier to reach. When the project is complete, the new list of mailbox numbers will be posted on the wall across from the mailboxes.

FLOWER AND VEGETABLE ORDERS – Grace and St. John's Youth will once again be selling some of the best flowers, tomatoes, peppers, etc. Look for the sign up sheet soon on the table in the front entryway. If you have questions, please contact Steve Frank (732-2304).

WALTHER LEAGUE REUNION - Plan to attend the Walther League reunion on May 3rd at Cronk's Restaurant in Denison. Registration begins at 3:30 pm with social hour, business, and get acquainted time. The buffet starts at 5 pm. Cost is \$12. Worship hour at Zion Denison at 6:30 pm. For more information or to RSVP, contact Janet Askew at (641) 740-0200 or (641) 742-3703.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE - Bethesda Lutheran Communities (Watertown, WI) is accepting scholarship applications for Lutheran high school, college, and seminary students with a career objective in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Applications are available at www.BethesdaLutheranCommunities.org or call 800-383-8743 x 4410 for more information.

JUST A REMINDER - There will not be a 12:30 Lenten service on April 9th. A meal will be served from 5:00—6:30 pm that evening with a 7:00 service to follow. (Complete details are on page 8 of this newsletter).

AARON THOMAS, son of Ed Thomas, the beloved football coach in Parkersburg, IA who was fatally shot by a former player, will be the guest speaker at the Storm Lake TeamMates Mentoring Program at Schaller Chapel (BVU) on Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00 pm. Tickets are available for \$10.00 (adults) and \$5.00 (students) at the Storm Lake Community Ed Office (419 Lake Avenue or 732-5711) and at Storm Lake United (119 W 6th St or 732-3780); they can also be purchased that evening at the door. More information about Aaron, his presentation, and the Mentoring program can be found in the flyer on the bulletin board.

EMERITUS U PRESENTATION - Storm Laker and member of Grace, Stan Ullerich, will give the next Emeritus U presentation. The Semester-at-Sea is an academic voyage aboard the MV Explorer. The spring 2013 journey sailed westward from San Diego, CA to Barcelona, Spain stopping at 14 ports in 12 countries. Stan, Nadine, Geoff, and Adam Ullerich were aboard. Dr. Ullerich will share his family's 110 day experience among 630 undergraduates, 40 lifelong learners, 40 faculty/staff members, and the crew of 180 as he served as a visiting professor of economics for the University of Virginia, the ship's academic partner. Plan to attend this special presentation on Monday, April 14th at 3:30 pm at the United Methodist Church Sanctuary.

AN EASTER BREAKFAST will be held between the two services on Easter Sunday (7:30 am – 9:00 am). We would love to see you there!



Your donation of Easter lilies for the Easter services will be very much appreciated. Your Easter lily will be purchased and delivered to the church for a cost of \$10.00 each or you may bring your own. If you decide to supply your own, please bring it to church by Good Friday and (if you would like it returned to you) please write your name on the bottom of the pot. If you purchase one through St. John, please make checks to “St. John Lutheran Church” and write “Easter Lily” in the memo line. You may give them in memory or in honor of someone, or in honor of a particular occasion. Please fill in the form below so the names and occasions are accurately listed (please print).

INSTRUCTIONS...

Please return this form by Friday, April 11, 2014 using one of the following options:

Mail it to the church office or drop it off in the secretary’s mailbox

Email it to stjohnstormlake@gmail.com

Call the church office with the necessary information (732-2400)

JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY IS WON! ALLELUIA!

The Easter lilies are beautiful expressions of praise during our Festival Services of Celebration on Easter Sunday.

ON THIS MOST HOLY DAY OF DAYS
BE LAUD AND JUBILEE AND PRAISE.
TO GOD YOUR HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE.
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

Easter lily given in memory of _____
(Name)

By _____
(Name)

Easter lily given in honor of _____
(Occasion or Name)

By _____
(Name)

Easter lily may also be given in joyful celebration for Jesus’ triumphant resurrection from the dead by _____ (Your Name)



LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

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THROUGH THE WORD.**

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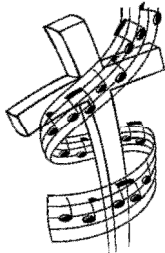
To God be all the Glory.

We're on the Web! Http:
[//www.stjohnstormlake.org](http://www.stjohnstormlake.org)

Special Music

You are invited to share your musical talents in our worship services here at St. John.

The choir rehearses each Wednesday during Lent at 7:45 pm.



April Worship Assistants

Altar Guild: Naomi B, Denise B, & Lloyd B

Greeters: **Saturday**
Renae Norwood
Sunday
Ron & Barb Walters

Bell Ringers: **Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**
Renae Norwood
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
Emily Johnson

Acolytes: **Saturday, 6:00 p.m.**
Grace Jesse
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
Hannah Norwood

The KAYL Broadcast for this month is sponsored by Naomi Benna.

Altar Flowers

6th - Bob & Marleen Otto — Thank You for 55 years of marriage on April 12th.

13th - In memory of Tony & Jackie Mahn by Deb & Kevin Jesse

20th - Easter lilies

27th - Bob & Fonda Sievert - To the Glory of God

**WE WELCOME YOU TO
JOIN US FOR WORSHIP!**