

2016



YOUR SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT
FOR YOUR SOUL THROUGH THE WORD

St. John Eagle



OUR HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- ❖ Palm Sunday (March 20th) 9:00 am w/H.C.
- ❖ Maundy Thur. (March 24th) 7:00 pm w/H.C.
- ❖ Good Friday (March 25th) 7:00 pm Worship
- ❖ Holy Saturday (March 26th) No Service
- ❖ Easter (March 27th) 7:00 am Sunrise Service
- ❖ Easter (March 27th) 9:00 am Worship

Please join us between the Easter Services for a Sprinkled Continental Easter Breakfast sponsored by the Youth. Serving will take place from 8:00 am—9:00 am.



Staff and Special Events	2
From the Pastor	3
Quick Update, Special Services, Youth	4-6
Easter Lily Order Form	7
Sharing Our Scars	8
Observances	9-11
Worship Assistants and Flowers	12



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:
Renaë 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

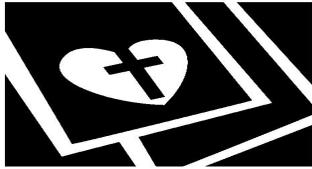
Sunday School and H.S. Bible Class begin at 10:30 am.
In March, the classes will meet at Grace.



Be in the Word

Adult Bible Class meets at 10:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room (led by V. Winterhof). Pastor Lesemann's Bible Study is taking a break while he fills the Newell vacancy.

ST. JOHN EAGLE



FROM THE PASTOR

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Psalms 147:3

When I see something that is broken I really try hard to fix it, whether it be electronic devices, computers, cars, or toys; basically if there's anything that isn't working like it should be working, I'm at it. This reminds me of our van that is presently in the shop getting fixed. Why is it there? Well...because I tried to fix it!

Now I do not believe there was anything wrong with my trying to fix our van. There are many minor problems I am usually able to fix, such as replacing a light bulb, replacing fuse or an air filter, putting in or changing the oil, or other minor problems. Yet sometimes *I think* I can fix something and end up getting in way over my head, like in this case, which is why our van is in the shop. In the process of replacing a part that makes the door lock work on one of the sliding doors, I removed four bolts that I shouldn't have and caused the mechanism to fall apart that makes the window go up and down. Then I proceed to try and get everything apart to fix THAT NEW problem and just ended up causing more problems...which is why the van is now in the shop. It all just lends much credence to the phrase "a man's got to know his limitations" (thank you Clint Eastwood).

We also need to know our limitations when it comes to fixing personal problems as well. We can try to fix each other's problems with "good advice" but the advice of man only goes so far. The latest Peggy Post column or Google search might help in knowing the culturally correct or polite way to handle a relationship problem or difficult situation at work, but if we're not researching the answer in the "life manual" (i.e. the Bible), then we can't be sure we're doing the right thing. If we aren't taking the problem in prayer to the "Expert Mechanic", who can fix the problem at the source, then we are likely to get in over our heads and cause more harm than help. That Expert Mechanic is Jesus.

And while it's best to consult Him while the problem is still small (no problem is too small for Him!), when things fall apart, there is only one Solution. Sure, we can work on avoiding sin in our lives, trying to be better people and helping others do the same, but once we have sinned we have only one way to fix that sin: Jesus the Expert Mechanic is the solution to our problem of sin. He's done all the work, paid the price, and given us the fix for free! That's the reason that God sent Jesus: to heal our broken hearts and bind up the wounds that sin has caused in us. He fixed what we could not.

In His grace,
Pastor Bruce Lesemann

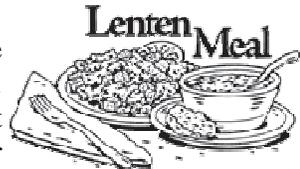


EASTER LILY ORDERS are being taken now. The form has been revised this year, so it looks a little bit different and includes a few more choices. If you have questions about the form or ordering, please contact Lynn Hardt (732-7998) or Celeste in the office (732-2400). The form is



available on page 7 of the March newsletter, from the church office, and as a colored insert in this weekend's bulletin. Cost is still \$10 per plant. **Orders are due at the church on Thursday, March 17, 2016.**

A **LENTEN MEAL** will be served by Parish Relations before the final Midweek Lenten service on March 16th from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. We will be serving chili and a cheesy vegetable soup with an assortment of bars for dessert. A free will donation will be taken to help sponsor future congregational activities.



MYPIE SALE SET FOR PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND: The St. John Youth Banana Bunch will be selling their famous personal pies Saturday and Sunday, March 19th and 20th before and after each church service. MyPie flavors include Homemade Apple Pie and Berry Cherry Pie. Each MyPie is \$3 or 2 pies for \$5. All proceeds will help fund the youth trip to the National Youth Gathering this summer to New Orleans, and will go to mission ministry projects. Questions please contact Jerry Johnson 732-2775 or johnson@bv.u.



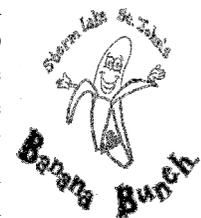
A SPRINKLED CONTINENTAL EASTER BREAKFAST - The St. John Youth will be hosting a Sprinkled Continental Easter Breakfast on Sunday, March 27th from 8:00 am to 9:00 am. Celebrate the joy of Easter with Sprinkles! Sprinkled donuts, baked goods (pastries, coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, and muffins), fresh fruit, and Easter Eggs are on the menu. Come for the fellowship, friendship, and stay for the sprinkles. All proceeds will help fund the youth trip to the National Youth Gathering this summer to New Orleans, and will also go to youth mission and ministry projects. Breakfast is always better with sprinkles!

THANK YOU to the members of St. John for their \$275.00 given to support the mission work of Rev. Clinton and Lolita Hoff. We appreciated your generous gift and willingness to support missionaries to help spread the Good News.

THANKS FOR SUPPORTING THE BANANA BUNCH CHILI SOUPER SUPPER!

The St. John Youth group would like to send a special thank you to those who attended our Chili Souper Supper on Ash Wednesday. Thanks to Anne and Larry Luedtke, Dave and Donna Dose, and Renae for making the chili. We got a lot of compliments on the hearty bowls of Chili. We need to send a tasty thank you to Deb and Kristin Matasovsky for their famous homemade Cinnamon Rolls. They literally were fresh out of the oven. They were warm. Yum! And thanks to all the St. John youth and families who helped serve, bus, and clean up.

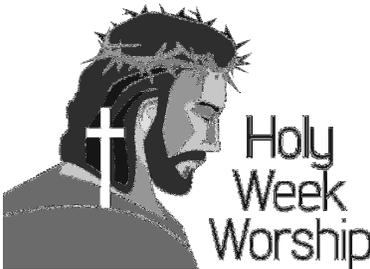
We collected over \$300 for the youth. All proceeds will help fund the youth trip to the National Youth Gathering this summer to New Orleans, and will also go to mission and ministry projects.



SPRING RALLY – The LWML Storm Lake Zone Spring Rally is scheduled for Sunday, April 10th at Zion Lutheran Church in rural Storm Lake. Registration begins at 1:30 pm with the program following at 2:00. The cost is \$5.00 which covers the meal and speaker, who will be from Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School in Spencer. A poster is also on the bulletin board.

ARE YOU ADDICTED TO SHOPPING? - Many of us love to shop and going on a shopping spree every once in a while is not indicative of a shopping addiction. However, according to Ruth Engs, a researcher and professor of health sciences at Indiana University, some people develop shopping addictions because they get addicted to how their brain feels while shopping. As they shop, their brain releases endorphins and dopamine, and over time, these feelings become addictive. Engs claims that 10 to 15 percent of the population may be genetically predisposed to addictive behaviors, especially when combined with other factors such as anxiety, depression, or other substance abuse issues. Shopping addiction can cost a person thousands of dollars in credit card debt. And since money is frequently cited as the #1 cause of arguments between spouses, it's easy to understand how this can affect a marriage/family. To solve this type of problem, you must get to the reasons behind the compulsive shopping and deal with those. If you feel this may be an issue for you or your family, please contact one of the Lutheran Family Service counselors to get help. They can be reached at (515) 573-3138.





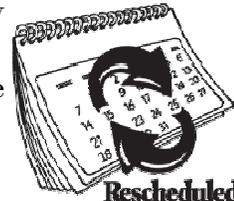
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CALENDAR CORRECTIONS - Please make note of the following changes on the March calendars.

- ◆ March 23rd There will not be choir that evening.
- ◆ March 24th Choir will rehearse at 7:45 pm following the Maundy Thursday service.
- ◆ March 25th Instrumentalists for the Easter services will practice at 7:45 pm following the Good Friday service.
- ◆ March 27th CFS will not meet that evening.



YOUTH LOCK-IN – St. Paul Schaller is organizing a lock-in featuring Swen and Dean! The high school youth from St. Paul will be hosting a lock-in for 6th-8th grade youth. Come rock the night away with Swen and Dean while enjoying games, food, prizes, Bible study, and more - all this for only \$20 per person. The lock-in will be at St. Paul Lutheran Church (402 East 3rd St) beginning Friday, March 11th at 8:00 pm until Saturday at 8:00 am. There will be more details coming as the date gets closer. If any Jr High Youth (6th – 8th grade) are interested, please contact Jerry Johnson (Johnson@bv.edu or 732-2775).

YOUTH RALLY – A rally for middle school through high school youth will be held at St Paul Lutheran Church, 100 7th St in Ida Grove on Saturday, April 9th from 2:00 – 4:00 pm. This youth rally will inspire and motivate youth to acquire and practice good values and to set goals to develop a positive and productive lifestyle by putting your best efforts first. More details about this event are on a poster on the bulletin board.



Thank you for your donation of an Easter lily for our Easter services. Your donation is very much appreciated. Donations can be made in one of the following ways:

To Order from the Church...

By filling out the order form below, your Easter lily will be purchased and delivered to the church for a cost of \$10.00 each. Checks should be made out to "St. John Lutheran Church." In the memo line of your check, please indicate "Easter lily."

Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

In Joyful Celebration of Jesus' Triumphant Resurrection from the Dead _____
(If this is your choice, please put a check mark on the line and fill in your name above)

To Bring Your Own Easter Lily...

If you decide to supply your own, please bring it to church by Good Friday wrapped in gold or purple wrap and please write your name on the bottom of the pot, if you would like the lily returned to you. You will still need to fill out the information above if you would like your Easter lily to be acknowledged in the bulletin.

Orders must be placed by Thursday, March 17, 2016.

Plants May Be Taken Home After the 9:00 am Easter Service.

- ___ I will take my Easter lily home with me following the 9:00 am Easter Service.
- ___ I will pick up my Easter lily before Thursday, March 31, 2016. Lilies left after noon on Thursday will be disposed of.
- ___ I do not want my Easter lily. Please deliver it to a shut in.

Sharing Our Scars

By: Celeste Cummins

Jesus told us, “In this world, you will have trouble” (John 16:33). He did not tell us we *may* have trouble or we *might* have trouble, but we will have trouble. Our troubles are guaranteed as a result of the various sins in the world. The list of troubles we endure are endless, but often include things such as alcoholism, abuse, abortion, affairs/infidelity, homosexuality, job loss, divorce, crime. Yet, there's another problem that often goes along with these. That “secondary” trouble is an unwillingness to talk about the problem. Why do people shy away from talking about what they have experienced? How often have you been struggling with an issue only to reach out to someone who has made it through the same thing, but they do not help you?

Maybe it's human nature to want to hide our problems and not talk about them. We have developed invisible scars from our experiences. Like our physical scars, these emotional scars may be embarrassing to us and we do not want others to see them. But, what does the Bible tell us? We comfort others with the comfort that was given to us (2 Cor 1:4). One of the reasons God has helped us get through that trial was so we could help others when they encounter a similar problem. Yes, these events create scars. Scars deep within us. Scars we'd rather bury and hide, forget about, and never deal with again.

But, what if we shared them instead? Sure, some people will say we are badmouthing, or airing our dirty laundry, or complaining, but are you? In the verse from 2 Corinthians, God has told us we are to comfort others. What better way to comfort them than to share your similar experiences with them!

When we share our scars, we share our pain, our struggles, our experiences. But, we share much more. We share healing. Our scars can bring healing to us and to others. Have you ever been healed through someone else's scars? If you believe in Jesus as your Savior, you have been! Because Jesus shared His scars, His pain, His suffering, His death, and His resurrection, we have been healed! Isaiah 53:4-5 tells us “He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows...by His stripes we are healed.” (KJV).

So, don't worry! Share your scars! It's what Jesus modeled for us. His scars healed us. Our scars may help heal others, too!

o bservance s

Our observances for the March newsletter center around Holy Week and Easter. You are probably aware that the date for Easter changes each year, but why does it do that? Is just a random date chosen each year or how do they arrive at a date?

By the middle of the second century, there were basically two ways that Christians arrived at a date for Easter. Some celebrated the death and resurrection of our Lord according to the “fourteenth day of Nisan”—the day of the Jewish Passover (Lev. 23:5). Since this date was not always on the same day of the week, the celebration did not always fall on a Sunday. The rest of the church, however, celebrated the passion and resurrection of our Lord according to a different formula which always placed Easter on a Sunday.

Needless to say, there was some controversy over this discrepancy, and it wasn't until the Ecumenical Council of Nicea in A.D. 325 that the churches of the world finally got together and agreed on this rule: Easter Day shall always fall on the Sunday after the first full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox. That should have settled it, right? Well, not exactly. You see, there was the little problem of determining when exactly the spring equinox would fall.

Just Not the Same

Since the Eastern Orthodox Churches (Greek, Russian, Romanian, etc.) celebrate Easter according to the spring equinox on the older Julian Calendar, while Lutherans in the Western Church (along with Roman Catholic and Protestant churches) celebrate Easter according to the newer Gregorian Calendar (in effect since 1582), the eastern celebration of Easter can fall anywhere from a week to several weeks after the western celebration. That just didn't seem right. So, how do we settle on just one day every year for Easter? *(You'll have to turn to page 10 to read about that).*

Determining the Date of Easter (continued from page 9)

The 'Easy Way' and the 'Hard Way'

So what's the easiest way to determine the date for Easter? The Commission on Worship has provided the "easy way" and the "hard way." Since the chart in the front of The Lutheran Hymnal (p. 158) has expired, the Commission thought it would provide a new chart through 2025. Those dates are listed below. But if you want to do it the "hard way," see the LCMS website www.lcms.org. Click "About Us," "Frequently Asked Questions," "Worship and Congregational Life," and "How do you determine the date of Easter each year?" An algorithm has been included to calculate the date. (P.S. Good luck!) ☺

Dates of Easter

In the western church, Easter cannot be earlier than March 22 or later than April 25. Here are the dates for Easter beginning in 2016 and ending in 2025.

2016 - March 27	2017 - April 16	2018 - April 1	2019 - April 21
2020 - April 12	2021 - April 4	2022 - April 17	2023 - April 9
2024 - March 31	2025 - April 20	(source: www.lcms.org)	

Now that we know how they determine the date for Easter, let's learn about the Observances from Holy Week through Easter.

Passion Sunday (March 20th) - Traditionally, referred to as Palm Sunday, this is the Sunday before Easter. On this day, we commemorate the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, however the focus shifts to the suffering Jesus endured on our behalf.

Maundy Thursday (March 24th) - From the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning "command." The word is in reference to a verse from the Gospel lesson for the day, John 13:34, "A new command I give you: love one another."

Stripping of the Altar (March 24th) - This is a ceremony that concludes the Maundy Thursday service in many churches. During this time, all candles, vessels, linens, etc are removed (“stripped”) from the altar and sanctuary while Psalm 22 is read. The ceremony is symbolic of the stripping of Jesus’ clothing and honor by His captors, as well as the abandonment by His disciples.

Tenebrae (TEN-uh-bray) (March 25th) - Tenebrae is a Good Friday service in which candles are extinguished following a series of readings and/or Psalms. The candles symbolize the life going out of Christ as He suffered and died for us on the cross.

Triduum (TRIDD-oooh-um) (March 24th -26th) - Triduum is Latin for “three days,” namely, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The Triduum celebrates the saving work of Jesus’ death and resurrection and culminates with the Easter vigil on Saturday evening.

Easter Vigil (March 26th) - Some churches observe an Easter vigil service on the eve of Easter. The service is constructed of four parts: light, Word, Baptism, and Lord’s Supper.

In the midst of these is another observance which is not mentioned much in the Lutheran churches.

Annunciation - This liturgical celebration occurs on March 25th, nine months before the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God (Luke 1:26-38).





St. John is a member of
the Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod (LCMS)

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

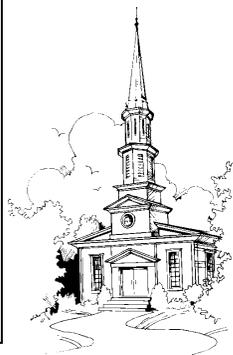
Saturday Evening—6:00 p.m.
Sunday Morning—9:00 a.m.

402 Lake Ave
Storm Lake, Iowa 50588
Phone: 712-732-2400
Email: stjohnstorm-
lake@gmail.com
Web:
www.stjohnstormlake.org



Musicians are encouraged to share their talents during our worship services throughout the year. If you play an instrument or would like to join the choir, please contact our music director, Suzanne Winterhof.

Our choir rehearses each Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm. New members are always welcome anytime.



Altar Flowers

- 6th - In memory of Lowell and Joy Peters by Doug & Sharen Peters
- 13th - In memory of Mark Wiley by Barb Phillips
- 20th - Palm Branches (yet to be sponsored)
- 27th - Easter Lilies

March Worship Assistants

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

Greeters: Saturday

Sunday

Bell Ringers: Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
Lloyd Bumann

Acolytes: Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

Addy Hogrefe
Sunday, 9:00 a.m.
Austin Gaffney

The KAYL Broadcast for this month has been sponsored by Lois Lytle.

