

# March 2023 Newsletter

## Pastor's Message:

Dear Partners in the Gospel,

We're going to try Ash Wednesday x2 (March 1) to get underway with our Lent series *The Way of Love*. The 40 days of Lent are really about getting back to 'the basics.' We are both sinners and saints. God is gracious and merciful. Living Christian lives is something like driving a car down the road-somebody is at the wheel to pay attention and to make all those minor corrections to keep things straight! (I know there are Tesla cars with self-driving capabilities, but...). Our lives and faith always require attention and re-direction!

In Wednesday worship (11am/7pm) we'll explore 7 core practices and re-commit ourselves to them:

- +TURN: Pause, Listen and choose to follow Jesus
- +LEARN: Reflect on scripture each day, especially on Jesus' life and teachings.
- +PRAY: Dwell intentionally with God daily.
- +WORSHIP: Gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and dwell with God.
- +BLESS: Share faith and unselfishly give and serve.
- +GO! Cross boundaries, listen deeply and live like Jesus.

We're using resources created by the Episcopal Church, and a book (available in your library!) by Bishop Michael Curry. It's a good 'read!' You can explore online resources too. Google "The Way of Love" and include "Episcopal Church". (By the way, did you know that since 2000, we in the ELCA have been in 'full communion' fellowship with The Episcopal Church?)

We also invite you to Lent lunches and suppers that will nourish your body and spirit (and might simplify your schedule for one meal!)

Our Lent offerings will be shared with 4 of our regular ministry partners: 1. Our ELCA Hunger Appeal, 2. Our Greater Milwaukee Synod "Outreach for Hope" ministries, 3. All Peoples' Church/Milwaukee, and 4. Ulong'a Parish in Tanzania.

I don't know about you, but Lent is actually my favorite 'season' of the church year and, of course, it leads to Easter joy and resurrection promise! Join in as you are able! And blessings in these 40 days!

-Pastor Paul

Crossways Camping Ministries is our all-ages, all-year 'round place to be to enjoy community, grow faith, and just get away! Lodging is comfortable! Food is great!

1st & 2nd graders can go for 2 nights of camp.

3rd and up can do a 'short week' or the full Sunday-Friday week.

Grandparents' and Grandkids' week is August 6-9 at Pine Lake Camp.

"Piece-Together" week (June 25-28 at Village Camp) is for families with children on the autism spectrum.

Our confirmation students (those finishing 6th-8th) are registering for the week of July 9-14 at Village Camp.

We're looking for families who will commit to a St. John's Weekend at Camp (and will work with you to find a date!)

Check out all the possibilities (including summer jobs for young adults!) at: [www.crosswayscamps.org](http://www.crosswayscamps.org)

## January 2023 - Year to Date

### +YTD General Fund

Receipts: \$ 21,416

Expenses: \$ 20,793

Thank you for your regular offerings and to those who have signed up for electronic giving.

### +YTD Building & Grounds Fund:

Receipts: \$ 2,983 Expenses: \$ 330

### +YTD Missionary Sponsorship:

\$ 611 Goal for 2023: \$6,000

### +YTD ELCA Benevolence:

\$ 1,834 Goal for 2023: \$15,000

### +YTD Good Samaritan

\$ 640 Goal for 2023: \$8000

## Family Promise Thank you!

*Thank you, thank you, thank you!* We provided food for 5 families at Family Promise last month and we had a wonderful group of members that went over and above making meals! Family Promise families were extremely grateful and appreciative! Thank you, again, for your compassion and support!



### Easter Flowers

We will beautify our sanctuary again for Easter with Easter flowers. You can sign up to order flowers in honor or memory of a loved one. You can choose from Lilies \$9, Tulips, Daffodils, & Hyacinths, Lily \$ 8, Easter Egg Mums - \$12. See the sign up and payment envelope at the Welcome and Resource Desk or call the office to sign up.

*Deadline to sign up is March 12<sup>h</sup>.*

## Ruth Circle – Personal Care Kits

You are invited to share your love with our neighbors around the world by providing supplies to Ruth Circle so they can get their hands busy making Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more. Whether a kit helps someone to maintain good hygiene, care well for a newborn baby, keep education going during a crisis or learn a new vocation, LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations. Items needed for kits are: Bars of soap, bath towels (dark colors), toothbrushes, sturdy combs, nail clippers. You can place your items at the altar in the Gathering Space.

## Lutheran Disaster Response

Our ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response has been working in the middle-east long before the recent devastating earthquakes in Syria and Turkey. Here's a note from the webpage:

Lutheran Disaster Response has been active in this region for several years, partnering with ACT Alliance, the Lutheran World Federation and the Middle East Council of Churches to accompany Syrian refugees with food, water, shelter, health services and sanitation support. The epicenter of one earthquake lies near Turkish provinces that host hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugees, which will only exacerbate the refugee crisis in the region.

### **What you can do:**

**Pray** Please pray for people in Türkiye and Syria who have been impacted by the earthquakes. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

**Give** Your gifts designated for "Middle East Crisis" will be used entirely (100%) to provide long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by disasters in the region.

[www.elca.org/disaster](http://www.elca.org/disaster) to give directly, or to St. John's with your current offering.

## New Trees Planted in Winter!

We have 5 new trees planted in the parsonage yard, in loving memory of Linda Plath. Thank you to Duane Plath for the donation and to Skip Bartelt and Keith Heidtke for planting!

## Getting to Know You!

Each month we'll feature a St. John's member so we can get to know each other better.



### Getting to Know You: **The Anders Family**

Life in the fast lane best describes the busy Anders family, with each member – Scott, Heather, Liam, and Erin – involved in some sort of motion-based activity.

Scott, from the western suburbs of Chicago, has worked in the printing business since high school, evolving as the focus shifted to digital. In 2016, he started his own business, PSG Enterprise, specializing in vinyl lettering and vehicle wraps. Being his own boss gives him the flexibility to work as a part-time driving instructor at Road America.

Heather grew up on the north side of Milwaukee with her sister Lee Anne Runnells, who also attends St. John's. After graduating from Valparaiso University, Heather moved to the Chicago area to start her career in bridge engineering. She currently works at HNTB Corp. in downtown Milwaukee and has been involved with the design of many major freeway projects in SE Wisconsin, including the Marquette Interchange, Zoo Interchange, and the I-43 N-S corridor currently under construction.

The two met in 1990 when a co-worker at Heather's first job in Chicago introduced her to his best friend, Scott. They married in 1994 and honeymooned on a motorcycle tour through the Alps. In early 1999, they moved to Wisconsin to be closer to Heather's family and snowmobiling Up North. In 2000, they moved into their Town of Jackson home and in the coming years made their family complete with Liam and Erin.

Motorsports is an Anders family affair. Besides snowmobiling in northern Wisconsin and out west, they love watching F1, Indy car, and IMSA racing, and spend many weekends at go-kart tracks where both Scott and Liam race, spectating at racing events, working track support for others, or driving on the track themselves. They even have a dedicated track car that Scott, Heather, and Liam use for high-performance driving events. Erin is currently less interested in being behind a racing wheel herself and instead is their official news source for all things F1.

And in other news, Liam is in his second year at MSOE, studying mechanical engineering. He'll watch just about any kind of auto racing on TV, which he probably considers research for a future career as an engineer on an auto racing team. Erin is a sophomore at Germantown High School. Most of her waking hours outside of school are devoted to dance – taking classes, competing in many styles, and performing in her dance studio's production of the Nutcracker ballet for the past 11 years.

#### Fun Facts:

- The whole family got to “cozy up,” modeling snowmobile gear and clothing that appeared in a catalog and product videos.
- Speaking of moving, Liam was the last baby baptized in the old STJ's sanctuary (now the Gathering Space). Immediately after the service the pews were taken out and hauled away.
- Talented in more than dance, Erin had a piece of her photography on display at the Milwaukee Art Museum last year as part of the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards.

## **St. John's Veteran's Group**

Our next St. John's Vet's Group Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14th at 9:00am at St. John's Church. We encourage both St. John's members and friends to attend our meetings. This is a great way to get together and share our experiences with other Veterans'.

## Called to Serve

### **Readers**

#### **(8:00 Service)**

3/5 Joel Heidtke  
3/12 Eileen Mack  
3/19 Amy Reid  
3/26 Lee Anne Runnells

#### **(9:45 Service)**

3/5 Sarah Murray  
3/12 Reuben Heidtke  
3/19 Meghan DeChant  
3/26 Sharon Boldt

### **Ushers**

#### **(8:00 Service)**

3/5 Joel Heidtke/Scott Novotny  
3/12 Kelly & Will Strnad

#### **(9:45 Service)**

3/5 Keith Heidtke  
3/12 George & Joe  
Liberatore  
3/19 Judy Henrichs  
3/26 Brennan Family

3/19 Staci Benz/Joel Wolf

3/26 Tim Kiernan/Skip Bartelt

### **Communion Assistants**

3/5 Brennan Family

3/5 Sarah Murray/Brittany  
Moeller

3/12 Eileen Mack/Joel Wolf

3/12 Diane Liberatore/  
Amanda Reinemann

3/19 Darleen Wanta/Staci Bohling

3/19 Scott DeChant/  
George Liberatore

3/26 Lee Anne Runnells/  
Laura Bartelt

3/26 Laura & Jim Hahn

### **Greeters**

3/5 Roger & Donna Lamberg

3/5 Darleen Wanta

3/12 Joel & Wendy Wolf

3/12 Joel & Wendy Wolf

3/19 Tim Kiernan

3/19 Dianne Liberatore

3/26 Staci Bohling

3/26 Brennan Family



## March Anniversaries!

March 6 Bill & Joann Berholtz – 30 years  
March 7 Mark & Susan Brodesser – 31 years  
March 11 John & Annette Szep – 34 years  
March 24 Terry & Maryann Stoecker – 44 years

## March Birthdays (cont'd)

March 26 Traci Brice  
March 27 Lisa Dyson  
John Szep  
Scott Bins  
March 28 Dawn Seltrecht  
Ryan Byrne  
Alyssa Inchaurregui  
March 29 Jim Matenaer  
Sierra Hollister



## **March Birthdays!**

March 1 Ed Eisenhower  
Kelly Luce  
Sawyer Stern  
March 2 Janet Hansen  
Amanda Reinemann  
Don Christianson  
Max Weninger  
March 3 Amanda Novotny  
March 4 Edward Dahly  
March 5 Angela Bins  
March 6 Joel Wolf  
Marin Siegert  
Danielle Friess  
Mara Prost  
Finnegan Goodman  
Declan Goodman  
March 7 Correen Oestreich  
Dillon Canard  
March 8 Jennifer Mack  
Mollie Eisenhower  
Emmeline Eisenhower  
March 10 Todd Reinemann  
March 11 Ryker Siegert  
March 12 Barbara Liebl  
Mike Miller  
Britton Schott  
March 13 Annette Szep  
March 14 Ron Hauser  
March 16 James Ziemer  
Jennifer Binversie  
Cody Boesch  
Mara Prost  
March 17 Staci Bohling  
March 18 William Rudd  
March 20 Gerald Puestow  
Shelly Basing  
Susan Brodesser  
Jason Stoecker  
Scott Moschea  
March 21 Cindy Breest  
March 22 Madden Olson  
March 23 Linda McFadden  
Char Schwieger  
March 25 Pam Adams  
Sandy Lippold  
Katie Schott

If we missed your special day please let us know.

St. John's Lutheran Church  
2881 Division Rd.  
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At St. John's we're privileged and challenged to *Welcome, Worship, and Witness* in Christ's name. Thank you for being part of this faith community and for the serving you do to the glory of God!

Visit us at [www.stjohnsjackson.net](http://www.stjohnsjackson.net)  
Like us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson)  
Pastor Paul Mittermaier – [pastorcarguy@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarguy@gmail.com)  
Office hours: M-F 9:00am-1:00pm 262-677-3176  
[officestjohnsjackson@gmail.com](mailto:officestjohnsjackson@gmail.com)  
Worship Services: Saturday 5:00 pm  
Sunday 8 & 9:45 am with Holy Communion  
Facebook Live at 9:45 am on Sunday



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