

March 2024 Newsletter

Pastor's Message:

Dear Church,

One thing we're always sure of is that life just keeps coming at us! And that is good, and challenging! Sometimes "when it rains-it pours!" Often "it's one thing after another!" I think of Jesus having compassion on that crowd of 5,000+ that followed him because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

So that is one truth-life just keeps coming at us! And here is an equally important truth-God's grace keeps coming to us and at us! "My grace is sufficient for you!" That's the answer that St. Paul received from God when he was feeling overwhelmed by a health issue and everything else that was going on.

During our Wednesdays in Lent, we're invited into the theme "Clothe yourselves with Christ!" (In another place, St. Paul writes about "putting on the whole armor of God"...which are all 'protective' items.) The call to "Clothe ourselves with Christ" is to put on all those qualities that help us live our lives and serve in the world in which God has placed us. Put on compassion, kindness, meekness, humility, patience, forgiveness, and above all, put on love!

For all the opportunities and challenges and demands that life sends our way, these gifts are bound to be useful, and helpful, and life-giving (and maybe even life-saving!).

Grace and peace as we journey through the 40 days of Lent, and into Holy Week, and finally, to Easter joy! -Pastor Paul

Quick summary of our Annual Meeting: *We elected Dan Johnson, Leanne Ports, and Pam Carter to Council; Linda Grosser to Nominating Committee; Joel Heidtke and Amy Reid to Mission Endowment Committee; and Pam Stahl to Audit Committee. We approved a budget that is about 6% higher than last year's, and we celebrated finishing 2023 "in the black" and being able to send more support to our ministry partners this past year.*

We also started (and have continued) conversations about a Prairie/Scattering Garden that would provide some beauty to us and to birds and bees, and which can double as a place to spread ashes (for folks who don't want or need a burial plot.) Eagle Scout candidate Kyle is working on further details, and we'll keep you posted as plans develop!

A Caregivers' Support Group is beginning! They're going to meet monthly at Coffeerville in Jackson, and you (or anyone you know who is in that caregiver role) are welcome to join in. The date is Thursday March 7, the time is 12:30-2:00. Talk to or text Jude Teicher for more info at 608.215.4870

Wednesdays in Lent we worship at 11:00 and 6:30 (6:30 is on Facebook Live!), and we have lunch at noon and a quick supper at 6:00. Our theme is "Clothe Yourselves with Christ", and our theme passage is Colossians 3:12-17 "As God's people, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, meekness, humility, and patience. Forgive one another as Christ has forgiven you. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly!"

Year to Date January 2024

Thank you for your regular offerings and to those who have signed up for electronic giving. We sure did generous giving in 2023!

+YTD General Fund

Receipts: \$ 17,035

Expenses: \$ 22,140

(We bought a bunch of postage before stamps went up!)

+YTD Building & Grounds Fund:

Receipts: \$ 2,238 Expenses: \$ 330

+YTD Missionary Sponsorship:

\$ 435 Goal for 2024 \$8,000

+YTD ELCA Benevolence:

\$ 2,882 Goal for 2024 TBD

+YTD Good Samaritan

\$ 1,160 Goal for 2024 \$ 8,000

Easter flowers may be ordered on the signup sheet in the gathering space. Lilies are \$10, Easter Egg Mums are \$12, and Tulips, Hyacinths and Daffodils are \$8 each. The deadline is March 11th.

Wanted: If you or someone you know is looking for a way to get involved at St. John's, serving as a **tech helper** may be right for you! Choose 8:00 or 9:45 services, scheduling is flexible and training is free! Signup in the gathering space, or call or email Nancy at the church office for more information.



Fitness and Fellowship continues to meet at 9am on Wednesdays. Gather in the lower level. Newcomers and friends are welcome, of course!



Crossways Camps Registration is open! Students finishing 6th, 7th, 8th grades are expected to come to Confirmation Camp the week of July 7-12. Other ages can sign up for a half-week or full week of camp at Imago Dei Village, Pine Lake, or Waypost camps. *If you have a kid who is eager to go, let's find a date and encourage some others to register as well!* www.crosswayscamps.org

Monday Study at 9am meets with Pastor in the Upper Room. We could include you at home via Zoom as well, if you'd like to participate that way! Let Pastor know.

Several of us are thinking it's time for a **Grief Support Group**. If that sounds like something you'd like to be part of, speak with Leanne Ports or Pastor Paul. We can start soon, and we can start simply. Grief is a part of life, and a present reality-for so many folks!

Watch for signup sheets in the Gathering Space to sign up to serve as Holy Week Easter helpers. Many opportunities will be available to help at as we prepare for Easter.

A new Community Engagement Group is forming for those interested in projects and activities that reach out into our area where help is needed, while sharing our message and all we have to offer at St. John's. The group will have their first meeting at 1:00 on Friday March 15th at church. Talk with Leann Ports, if you have ideas or interest.

March Anniversaries - Congratulations!

March 6 years	Bill and Joann Berholtz	31
March 7 years	Mark & Susan Brodesser	32
March 11	John & Annette Szep	35

Those Who Serve in March

Watch for sign-up sheets in the Gathering Space for anyone wishing to prepare for Easter by serving Holy Week!

		3/3/2024	3/10/2024	3/17/2024	3/24/2024
Readers	8:00	Laura Bartelt	Brennan Family	Lee Anne Runnels	Jim Gries
	9:45	Sue Heidtke	Rueben Heidtke	Laura Hahn	Megan DeChant
Communion Assistants	8:00	Laura Bartelt	Brennan Family	Lee Anne Runnels	Joel Wolf
		Staci Bohling	Brennan Family	Jenny Brandt	Wendy Wolf
	9:45	Jamie Reidy	George Liberatore	Jim Hahn	Megan DeChant
		Peter Uhlig	Dianne Liberatore	Laura Hahn	Sarah Stoecker
Ushers	8:00	Skip Bartelt	Brennan Family	Joel Heidtke	Joel Wolf
		Staci Bohling	Brennan Family	Dave Williams	Bukovics
	9:45	Keith Heidtke	George Liberatore	Jamie Reidy	Kelly Strnad
		Duane Plath	Joe Liberatore	Staci Benz	Will Strnad
Greeters	8:00	Lambergs	Brennan Family	Pam Stahl	Nancy Kinter
	9:45	Nancy Kinter	DeChants	Perry Benz	
Power Point	8:00	Wendy Wolf	Wendy Heidtke	Wendy Heidtke	Scott Kinter
	9:45	Darleen Wanta	Scott DeChant	Sam & Ed	Scott DeChant

*Easter
Blessings!*

More Happy Birthdays!

March 25	Pam Adams Sandy Lippold Katie Schott
March 26	Traci Brice
March 27	Scott Bins Lisa Dyson John Szep
March 28	Ryan Bryne Alyssa Inchaurregui Dawn Seltrecht
March 29	Sierra Hollister James Matenaer Jackson Shippen
March 31	Quinn Ferguson

March Birthdays

Happy Birthday!

March 1	Ed Eisenhower Kelly Luce Micayla Meyers Sawyer Stern
March 2	Don Christianson Janet Hansen Amanda Reinemann Max Weninger
March 3	Amanda Novotny Tristan Singer
March 4	Ed Dahly
March 5	Angela Bins
March 6	Danielle Friess Finnegan Goodman Declan Goodman Marin Siegert Adyson Warren Joel Wolf
March 7	Correen Oestreich
March 8	Mollie Eisenhower Emmeline Eisenhower Jennifer Mack
March 10	Aiden Hein Todd Reinemann
March 11	Ryker Siegert
March 12	Barbara Liebl Britton Schott
March 13	Annette Szep
March 14	Ron Hauser
March 16	Jennifer Binversie Cody Boesch Kerry Cefalu Mara Prost James Ziemer
March 17	Staci Bohling
March 18	Bill Rudd
March 20	Shelly Basing Susan Brodesser Scott Moschea Dan Priebe Gerald Puestow Jason Stoecker Trevor Tomaz
March 21	Cindy Breest Helen Kleman
March 22	Holden Blank Madden Olson Pat Ziegelbauer
March 23	Linda McFadden Charlotte Schwieger

St. John's Lutheran Church
2881 Division Road
Jackson, WI 53037



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

Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/stjohnsjackson

Pastor Paul Mittermaier – pastorcarguy@gmail.com

Office hours: M-F 9:00am-1:00pm 262-677-3176

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

