

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 3 MARCH 2024



St. John Lutheran 150th Anniversary

“The Lord’s faithfulness continues through all generations.” Psalm 100:5

Upcoming events

Sunday, April 28 – Recognition of our 65+ generation

Rev. Lyle Hansen as our guest preacher

Sunday, June 30 – Recognition of our 40-65 yr old generation

Rev. John Heckmann as our guest preacher

Rev. Michael Heckmann as our guest liturgist

Sunday, July 28 – Recognition of our 0-13 yr old generation

VBS Sunday

Brunch potluck

Sunday, August 4 – Recognition of our 25-40 yr old generation

Rev. Joshua Hayes as our guest preacher

Sunday, October 13 – Formal Anniversary Celebration

Dr. Rev. Sommerfeld as our guest preacher

Meal following at Hallam Auditorium

Church History

Did You Know...

Building of our current church building began on April 4, 1911 and was dedicated on September 17, 1911. The old church was converted to a school house. A farewell service was held in the old building, and then the congregation proceeded in procession to the new one, singing a German hymn. The bell rang continuously until all were seated. Morning and afternoon sermons were preached in the German language.

Anniversary Committee: Carol Brinkmeyer (chair), Cindy Hoyer, Glen and Verna Louch, Gary and Lynn Meinke,

Marianne (Tesar) Randall, Chris Reetz, Kristi Reitz, Pastor and Shelley Toensing



The Tree of the Cross and Some Trees of the Bible

We have begun our penitential season of Lent. Our Lenten theme will follow Jesus on His way to the cross where He suffered and died for our sins. To help us walk with Jesus to the cross, our midweek services along with Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter, we will follow a tree theme. Some of the trees of the Bible and their associations will assist us as we make connections to the cross—THE most important tree. 1 Peter 2:24 (ESV): “[Jesus] himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.” Please join us for worship on Wednesdays and Holy Week as we look to the Life-giving tree of the cross upon which our Savior hung. In Jesus we are saved.



MARCH
BIRTHDAYS

&

BAPTISMS

BIRTHDAYS

1 Deb Ourada
4 Titus Scholz
6 Jacob Meinke, Conner Slama
8 Deb Nyhoff, Deb Walker
10 Eric Dewey, Addilyn Brethouwer, Willa Hughes
11 Tessa Petereit, Ryan Strufing
13 Butch Mehl
14 Maura Alexander
15 Taylor Ziemann, Chris Williams
17 Andrew Ellingson, Marlow Meinke, Lane Wendelin
19 Larry Pomajzl, Jolene Reetz
20 Bradley Pomajzl, Jr.
21 Sandra Reiss, Steven Toensing

23 Cindy Hoesche, Isaac Meinke, Maggie Wohl
25 Jerry Ferguson, Cathy Hollman
27 Marla Musil, Alice Poole
29 Jaxon Trautman, Rilyn Trautman
31 Cheryl Langfeldt, Kurt Reetz

BAPTISMS

2 Tory Dello
5 Logan Adam
6 Angie Louch
8 Shelley Toensing
9 Ryan Meinke
11 Nick Hollman, Katelyn Novak

12 Dave Eggert, Jerry Ferguson Jr, Dolyn Meinke, Allan Reetz
13 Camryn Adam, Del Reiss
14 Steve Schultz
15 Megan Korbel
16 Jace Ourada
17 Kade Nelson
19 Deb Walker, Arya Thompson
21 Peggy Bojanski
22 Titus Scholz
25 Glen Louch, Jacob Meinke, Blythe Dewey
26 Deb Ourada
29 Matt Ellingson, Willa Hughes
30 Joe Ellingson, Dan Underwood

OUR MISSION Share the Joy of His News by growing inward through God's Word, Sacraments and fellowship and by growing outward through words, actions, and mission outreach.



Save the Date! Vacation Bible School will be **July 21-25**. We're excited to announce our theme: **"Celebrate the Savior"!**

LYF NEWS

LYF SPONSORED EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, March 23 at 10 am

(youth group meets at 8:30 am)

Thank you all for your support by donating candy for this event.



YOUTH UPCOMING EVENTS...

March—collecting, organizing and storing donations for auction

March 17—filling eggs for Easter Egg Hunt

March 23—Easter Egg Hunt, set up 8:30 am, Hunt 10:00 am

March 31—pancakes for Easter Breakfast

April 21—Fundraiser dinner & auction

May 5—Roadside cleanup (tentative)

LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid meeting was called to order on February 28th, 2024 by President Deb Walker. Pastor Toensing led us in opening prayer. Hymn # 740 was sung followed by Bible study entitled, "Why does God Permit Trials in Your Life".

Roll call was taken with 8 members present. The minutes of January meeting were read and approved. The Treasurers report was read.

Marianne Tesar, contact person for funerals, reported that 110 people were served at the funeral of Kenny Kahle. It was suggested that there be a back-up person in charge of funerals should Marianne be unavailable.

The family of JoAnn Renner has requested that memorial funds for JoAnn be used to acquire the needed kitchen ovens.

The Ladies aid will host a Lenten Luncheon for Congregation following the morning service on March 20th. The Ladies Aid will meet following the luncheon.

Discussion was held concerning the Ladies Aid free-will offerings going to the family of Roberto and Katie Weber. Donations will be collected monthly and sent to Mission Central on a quarterly basis.

It was decided that Ladies Aid will serve brisket and pork for the April 28th anniversary luncheon following the service with Pastor Hansen as guest.

Donna and Roger Brunelle celebrated their anniversary in February. We sang the Anniversary song to Donna. A birthday was celebrated by Bonnie Bleich in February. The Birthday song was sung. We closed our meeting with Lord's Prayer and the common Table Prayer.

Secretary, Bonnie Bleich



Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday Worship Service with Communion March 24 at 9:00 am

Children will sing in church as part of the Palm Sunday Service. We will meet downstairs and be part of the processional.

Maundy Thursday Worship Service with Communion March 28 at 7:00 pm

Good Friday Tenebrae Worship Service March 29 at 7:00 pm

Easter Sunrise Worship with Communion March 31 at 6:30 am

Easter Worship with Communion March 31 at 9:00 am



Join Us For Breakfast

Easter breakfast between sunrise service and 9am service. Food provided includes: pancakes, eggs, ham, biscuits and gravy, cinnamon rolls. There will be 2 sign-up sheets in the Narthex. One sheet for side dishes, fruit, and pastries and the second sheet for volunteer shift work 6:00 - 8:00am for set-up and serving and 8:00 - 10:00am for serving and clean-up. Any donations and time volunteered is greatly appreciated. (Sponsored by volunteers— LYF youth will make pancakes.) Freewill donations will be sent to Bryan Bell Fund.

MAIN STREET LIVING updates for March, 2024

“Main Street Living” is a liturgical worship service broadcasting a different local pastor each Sunday morning. It airs along with the classic Lutheran Hour program, “This is the Life”. Both can be viewed on KLKN Channel 8 (Lincoln) & WOWT Channel 6.2 (Omaha) Visit www.mainstreetliving.com/lincoln to view current and past episodes.

March 3, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Jeff Bloom, pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lincoln, presents a message titled “What Did You See?”. This sermon is based on Exodus 20:1-17.

March 10, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Adam Moline, pastor at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lincoln, presents a message titled “Grace not Works”. This sermon is based on Galatians 4:21-31.

March 17, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Kenneth Hessel, pastor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Springfield, presents a message titled “New Covenant”. This sermon is based on Jeremiah 31:31-34.

March 24, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Jesse Baker, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Hardwick, SD presents a message titled “Locked Away”. This sermon is based on Zechariah 9:9-12.

March 31, 10:30 a.m...Rev. Steven Turner, president of Iowa District West, presents an Easter message titled “Jesus lives! What does this mean?”. This sermon is based on Mark 16:1-8.

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN
CHURCH –LCMS**

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**That All May
Know Him**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH

Schedule at a Glance

Worship Service (Sundays) 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday School/LYF/Adult Bible Class (Sundays) 10:30 a.m.
 Midweek Classes (during Lent-Wednesdays) 6:00 pm-6:45 p.m.
 Elders' Meeting (March 4) 7:00 p.m.
 Anniversary Committee (March 5) 6:30 p.m.
 Quilting Group (March 12 and 26) 9:30 am to 12:30 p.m.
 Lutheran Women in Mission (March 19) 10:00 a.m.
 Ladies Aid Luncheon (March 20) following a.m. Worship.

Midweek Lenten Worship Services (Wednesdays)

10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

FROM THE ELDER'S

Greetings in Christ:

As we continue to celebrate 150 years of service to God here at St. John, we had a real treat last month listening to the Concordia Male Chorus. They sang during our service and performed a concert after service. We may not all have the talent to sing as these young men do, but we have the opportunity to sing praises to God every Sunday. We have so many wonderful hymns so why not make a joyful noise to the Lord! If you don't sing, read the words – they are beautiful.

In March we again will commemorate the death and resurrection of our Savior who takes away our sins. Because of God's love for us, we will have eternal life with Him. Thanks be to God!

In His name, The Elders

THOSE SERVING DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH

DUTY	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
Organist/Pianist	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen Miller	Jayne VanAsperen	Ellen M 6:30 am Jayne V 9:00 am
Elders	Todd Hoyer	Troy Henning	Todd Hoyer	Phil Hughes	Troy H. 6:30 am Phil H. 9:00 am
Greeters	Terry & Genie Dittmer	Chris Hollman	Wayne & Linda Eggert	Todd & Cindy Hoyer	Volunteers needed
Acolytes	Paisley Williams		Easton Brethouwer	Cheyenne DuBray	Easton B. 6:30 am Amy H. 9:00 am

PLEASE JOIN US TO HELP AND SUPPORT

BRYAN BELL III

PULLED PORK DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

FREE WILL
DONATION

SUNDAY, APRIL 21
10:30 - 1:30
KRAMER HALL

CARRY OUTS AVAILABLE
SPONSORED BY ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

DIRECT DONATIONS CAN BE MADE AT
PINNACLE BANK - BRYAN BELL, ACCOUNT #1618

ALL DONATIONS WILL GO TO
LITTLE BRYAN'S MEDICAL EXPENSES

We are also accepting items for the silent auction. Items may be dropped off at St. John Lutheran or Crete Lumber. Contact Pastor Toensing at 418-8760 or Terry Dittmer at 641-1261 for further information.



Please help this little member of our Crete Community who has been diagnosed with TANGO2, a rare genetic disorder. Due to the complications that TANGO2 causes, Bryan has spent months at Children's Hospital in Omaha and is currently in rehab at Madonna.

ANYTHING YOU CAN DONATE WILL HELP!