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CHURCH

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

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The Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod

ST JOHN LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by God's Holy Spirit,
we will share our Savior, Jesus,
so our members, our commu-
nity, and all people live and
grow in Biblical Christian Faith.

"SHARE-LIVE-GROW"

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER FEBRUARY

02-06	Boys Scout Sunday
02-13	Church Council
02-14	Valentine's Day
02-21	Presidents' Day



CONGRATULATIONS
TO
LAUREN GRIESE
AND
DYLAN LARSON
ON THEIR RECENT ENGAGEMENT

February is known as the month of "love".

*Share God's love with someone today,
it will make their day,
and yours.*

Valentine Treasurers

*Valentine treasurers are people who
Have often crossed your mind,
Family, friends and others, too,
Who in your life have shined
The warmth of love or a spark of light
That makes you remember them;
No matter how long since you've actually met,
Each one is a luminous gem,
Who gleams and glows in your memory,
Bringing special pleasures,
And that's why this Valentine comes to you:
You're one of those sparkling treasures!*

By Joanna Fuchs

Our Father

*You cannot say the Lord's Prayer
And even once say "I"
You cannot say the Lord's Prayer
And even once say "My"
Nor can you pray the Lord's Prayer
And not pray for one another
For when you ask for daily bread
You must include your brother
For others are included in each and every plea
From beginning to the end of it
It does not once say "Me".*



Dear Members and Friends of St. John,

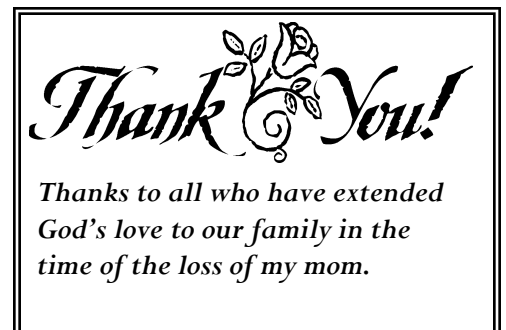
February is the month of Valentine's Day, a month when people think about love. This year February is also part of the church season of "Epiphany" when churches often focus on missions, or sharing God's love. My recent experiences have taught me something. Love is best shown by actions.

As I sat with my mom last month as she was ill and dying and tried to be there for my dad and family, the support we received from one another and from the church was more than just words. People showed God's love to us in actions that included visits, notes, prayers, meals, encouraging words, and loving hugs. God's love was indeed shared, in the actions of God's people.

During pre-marital counseling I always have a Bible Study with the couple who will be married. One of the verses we read is 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, from what is known as "the love chapter." This verse reads, "*Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails. . .*" If you notice (and I point this out to the engaged couples), love is not described as a feeling, nor is love described as specific words. Love is described as **actions** in which a Christian person imitates God's love for us by giving of themselves to another.

I have learned an old lesson again. Love is best shared in actions. May God bless your life with His love, especially from your fellow Christians.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rockey





Christian Growth



SMILE

Draw a circle for a preschooler and say, "Make a happy face."
Without hesitation the child will draw an upturned line. Turn that curve upside down; now the face is sad or grumpy. How much you can tell about a person by the expression on the face!

It takes twenty-six muscles to frown but only five muscles to smile.
Down with frowns. Be kind to your face. Smile!

A smile affects both the sender and the receiver.
It says, "I'm glad to see you. I wish you well." We smile at others when they please us and because we ourselves need to be smiled at. We act as mirrors for one another.

A smile doesn't necessarily mean you feel good or that all's well with your world. A smile may mean that even though you're hurting, you're thinking positively. Your life is under God's control. He is in charge, and you have faith in Him.

A smile is especially important at church. It says you're glad to be in God's house, happy to be singing His praises and hearing His Word.

The grand Designer of heaven and earth made you. He loves you. His precious Son died for you. God laid all your sins on Jesus. You are free. You can be rid of guilt, resentment and worry. Your face can reflect God's goodness so others see how great it is to know the living Lord. If you have the joy of Jesus in your heart, please notify your face. For heaven's sake **smile!!**

Taken from You Are Special by Alma Kern



Official Acts

Baptisms

Weddings

01-11 April Miranda & Travis Bonnet

01-14 Melissa Matthews * Mark Larson

Funerals

Date	Offering	Attendance
01-02-11	\$5,145.19	183
01-09-11	\$14,213.00	191
01-16-11	\$9,675.00	157
01-23-11	\$10,791.00	155
01-30-11	\$8,998.	184



All of God's Children!

Celebrating a



- | | | | |
|-------|--|-------|---|
| 02-03 | Ophie Hart
Denise Larsen | 02-22 | Lenita Deda |
| 02-06 | Lucas Arneson
Kurt Larsen | 02-23 | Elizabeth Kelly
Cameron Rose
Lisa Ziegler |
| 02-09 | Linda Bingham
Matthew Kelly
Duane Odland | 02-24 | Steve Kelly |
| 02-11 | Gladys Kirn
Mary Lutrick | 02-25 | Cassidy Littleton
Willie Pedersen |
| 02-12 | Ann Kelly | 02-27 | Margaret Lane |
| 02-14 | Noah Richards | 02-29 | Jacob Rockey |
| 02-20 | Norma Christiansen
Orion Mannherz-Krino | | |

02-02 Gary and Cheryl Deariso

02-19 George and Dona Hermon



MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES



Choir Rehearsal

SENIOR CHOIR is held each Wednesday from 5:30pm to 6:45pm. New senior choir members **ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!** Sara Guhl serves as Choir Director. Please come and join us!



Bell Choir **ST. JOHN BELL CHOIR** practices on Thursdays at 5:30pm. If you would like more information, contact Sharon Allen.

JOYFUL NOISE worship team practices the Fridays before the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month in the Sanctuary at 5:30pm.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

LENT 2100

LENTEN WORSHIP 2011—Easter is late this year, April 24th. So, Lent does not begin until March 9th with Ash Wednesday.

WEEKLY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICES will be held at 6:30pm each Wednesday which help us to remember Jesus' love shown in the actions of His sacrificial life.

LENTEN MEALS will be held beginning during Lent beginning on Wednesday, March 9th. We ask 3-4 families to join together to fix one of these simple meals. This allows people to come to dinner right from work so they can participate in worship. **A sign up sheet for the Lenten meals will be placed on the counter in the narthex.**



“SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!”

The **Lutheran Women’s Missionary League** (LWML) monthly meeting will be held on February 8th at 7:00pm in the North Fellowship Hall. All ladies of the church are welcome to attend. Cathy Glaser will lead the Bible study on “*Living the Chocolate Life*”. Refreshments will be provided by Linda Harm.

Lutheran World Relief Project will involve collecting and assembling **Health Kits** to be sent with the quilt shipment in October 2011.

February

- 2— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm | Youth Lounge
- 4-6— Feb*Freeze
Friday @ 7p thru Sunday @ 10a
6— Super Bowl Party
2pm @ TBA, Bring snacks!
- 9— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm | Youth Lounge
- 11— Movie Night
7-10pm in the Youth Lounge
- 14— Valentine’s Day! ♥
- 16— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm | Youth Lounge
- 23— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm | Youth Lounge

High School Youth Schedule

All Alaska
HS Youth Gathering
March 4-6, 2011
Cost: \$100

Middle School

Confirmation Classes

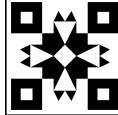
Continue Every
Wednesday @ 2:30-5pm

Parent Meeting

February 20th @ 12:30pm

Confirmation Retreat

February 25-27
Cost: \$100/person
Scholarships available



QUILTING for Lutheran World Relief meets **Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall**. If you can cut fabric or tie a knot, come lend a helping hand. This is a good opportunity to visit with other ladies of the church.

The Widow’s Mite

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put in more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on”.



Jamie L. Walters, DCE
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Look for me on Facebook & Twitter (dcejamie)

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF *THE SR HIGH L.I.G.H.T.*,
CONTACT JAMIE VIA EMAIL

MITES

Another International Mite Grant is: Light of Christ Chinese Lutheran Mission—St. Louis, this grant is for \$75,000. Over 50,000 Asians live in the St. Louis area, many not knowing Jesus and His love for them. The light of Christ Mission serves over 140 Asians on a typical Sunday and dozens more through parenting and citizenship classes, health fairs, and other bridges to the Chinese community. Sixty-five individuals were baptized in past years. Fifteen of those baptized have returned to China and are now witnesses for our Lord in a country that severely restricts missionary work. This grant of \$75,000 enables Light of Christ Chinese Mission to continue to proclaim Jesus.

Health Kits

The **LWML** will be putting together health kits for Lutheran World Relief, to send in with the quilts they are make in Fall 2010 and Spring 2011.

People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack essential items. Health kits can help refugees maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. Items may also contribute to a new start for those who can return home.

Items in the Health Kit include:

- *One hand towel, dark color recommended
- *One washcloth, dark color recommended
- *One bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap, any brand in its original wrapping
- *One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- *One comb, wide tooth preferred, remove packaging
- *One metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached, remove packaging (do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file.
- *Six Band-Aids (or similar brand), preferably 1/2" to 3/4"; secure together with a rubber band.

If you would like to help with the health kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR), contributions of an item or items, as listed above, may be placed in the collection box by the LWML Gift Nook.

All items should be new and in good condition.

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Perhaps you have noticed that we have been communicating the process of discipleship at St. John. We are

- **CALLED by God's grace (his underserved love in Jesus)!**
- **GROWING in God's grace.**
- **SENT TO SHARE God's grace.**

DEVOTONS FOR 2011—This year I am encouraging everyone to use the *Portals of Prayer* for daily devotions. There is a special unity of faith and mission that happens when a whole congregation of God's children study His Word together as a congregation. However, we have received the *Portals of Prayer* for decades, and many St. John members use them for devotions, but we have never used these as our official congregational devotion for the year.

Portals of Prayer devotional booklets are available each quarter on the counter in the back of the church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASSES FOR WINTER 2011

The Following Classes are being offered.

18 months to 3 years old - "Woolly Lambs Sunday School is lead by Carol Gustafson and friends!

3 years through 5th Grade – Sunday School this year will be held in VBS style, with classes attending each of 4 stations. This year, classes focus on Jesus and His work and life.

Middle School and High School Classes – These are held each Sunday. High Schoolers meet in the portable classroom building in the parking lot.

Adult Bible Classes – Three Adult Classes are scheduled for Sundays this year –

- *Philippians* led by Pastor Rockey in the Library.
- *Sermon on the Mount*, from the Friendship Bible Study Series, is a ladies Bible study lead by Mary Jo Lentz.
- *Missions* led by Al Kastar.

WEEKLY GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

PROMISE KEEPERS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER GROUP will meet on Tuesday nights at 7:30 p.m. This group is open to all men of the congregation and provides a time of sharing, support, Bible Study and prayer.

This year's Bible Study will be a new study from Lutheran Hour Ministries Men's Network, "*Working for the Man Upstairs – Your Job*"

All men of the congregation are encouraged to join us for this time of growth and support!

LIFELIGHT BIBLE CLASSES have been held Wednesdays from noon—1:00pm for about 19 years. A group of St. John members and friends meet at noon to study God's Word and share pot luck lunch. This year we will start studying *Proverbs*. Class meets Wednesdays at noon. Come, bring leftovers to share and participate in a fulfilling Bible study.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES for students in grades 6-8. These classes help middle school youth to grow in knowledge, faith, and Christian friendship. Classes are held from 2:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. each Wednesday. **PLEASE REMEMBER THE MENTORING OPPORTUNITY** at 5:00pm.

FRIDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASSES are held twice a month, on the Fridays before the 1st and 3rd Sundays at St. John. This group studies a variety of topics and includes much lively discussion and prayer. Everyone is welcome.



Are you going through, or do you know someone who's going through the pain of divorce or separation? St. John Lutheran Church is offering a Christian-based program called **DIVORCE CARE**. Please contact Bev Dubos @ 745-0514 or Judy in the church office: 745-3338 for more information.

The Jesus Prayer

If you have a friend or family member struggling with a setback, a problem or wounds of the spirit or body, try making the person aware of the Jesus prayer, which has helped many troubled people.

"Lord, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Make haste to help me. Rescue me and save me. Do your will in my life."

One might end the prayer with the words: "I place my entire being into your healing care. Amen."



Have a Heart

Valentines of every size and description adorn store windows and other places of business this time of year. The holiday has become a time for love to be enthroned as a virtue, with the heart symbolizing the romance of our lives.

But the heart symbolizes not only love, but life itself! Without a heart, our bodies cannot survive.

Consider God's words to Samuel: "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7, NRSV).

The heart — that inner countenance — shows what we really are. Samuel was to seek one of the sons of Jesse to be the new king. David, even though he was the weakest physical specimen, was the one selected. His heart was great.

Love looks deeper than outward appearances, and we can thank God for that. Don't be swayed by mere valentines — have a heart!