

THE STAFF OF ST JOHN

Church Office

Judy Stahancyk

jestahancyk@st-john-lutheran.org

Phone: 907-745-3338

Fax: 907-746-6117

Senior Pastor

Rev. Jonathan Rockey

jonathanrokey@st-john-lutheran.org

Home Phone: 907-746-5131

Assistant Pastor

Rev. Richard Allen

richardallen@st-john-lutheran.org

Home Phone: 907-746-3919

D.C.E.

Jamie L Walters

dce@st-john-lutheran.org

Home Phone: 907-355-1456

Music Coordinators

Sara Guhl

guhl@mtaonline.net

Home Phone: 907-745-8097

Marilee Nufer

marleenufer@hotmail.com

Home Phone: 907-745-6528

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE TABLET

VOLUME II ISSUE 2 FEBRUARY 2012

Pastor's Corner

Spiritual Growth

Sunday School News

LWML News

Youth

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Official Acts and Stats

E-mail: stjohn@mtaonline.net

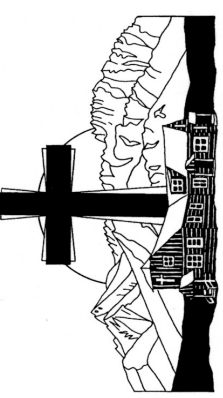
Fax: 907-746-6117
Phone: 907-745-3338

440 East Elmwood
Palmer, AK 99645
P.O. Box 774

CHURCH

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Non-Profit Org.
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 92
Palmer, AK



The Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod

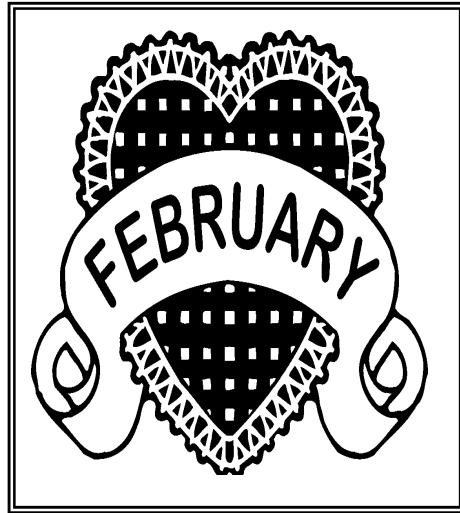
ST JOHN LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT

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"

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page	Item
3.....	Pastor's Corner
4.....	Spiritual Growth
6.....	Opportunities
9.....	LWML
10.....	Youth
13....	Birthdays & Anniversaries
14.....	Official Acts & Stats



February 2012

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

February

- 02-14 Valentine's Day
- 02-20 Presidents' Day
- 02-22 Ash Wednesday
Lent Begins
- 02-29 Lenten Meal
Lenten Worship

Internet
fast food
movies
credit cards
soft drinks
ice cream
smoking
tardiness
shopping
chocolate
twitter
procrastination
MySpace
red meat
TV
candy
Facebook
caffeine
junk food
parties
swearing
coffee
**What
Are You Giving
Up?**

<i>Official Acts</i>	
<i>Baptisms</i>	<i>Regina Sue McDonald</i>
<i>Weddings</i>	
<i>Funerals</i>	

Dear Members and Friends of St. John,

Have you ever just felt drained? I am writing this article on January 10. We have been waiting and watching and praying all day that Pastor Allen would have a good result from his cancer surgery. We hoped and prayed, but maybe we also worried. Honestly, there are no maybes about it; we **were worried** about bad news from the surgery. When we got the phone call that brought good news of the results from Pastor Allen's surgery there were tears, and there were hugs. We shared the good news with others. But . . . I was just drained.

Philippians 2 says of Jesus,

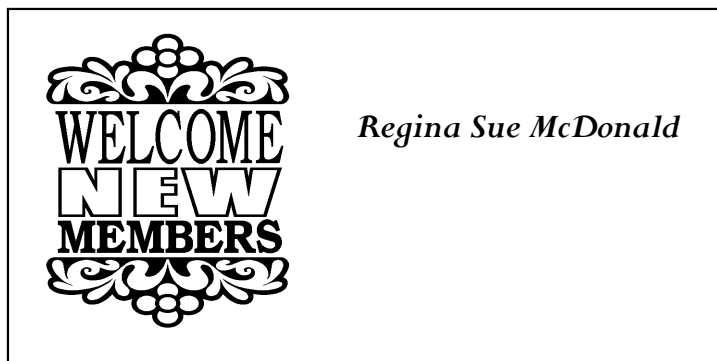
⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

I felt emptied after the emotional day of waiting and praying. What do you think it took for Jesus to save us from our sins????

May the love of Jesus so astound you this Lent that you can't help but serve the Lord with ALL your life.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rockey

Date	Offering	Attendance
01-01	\$5,462.00	136
01-04		14
01-08	\$8,614.00	176
01-11		8
01-15	\$6,185.00	144
01-18		5
01-22	\$10,926.00	139
01-25		
01-29	\$8,401.00	127





Christian Growth



Keep My Lamp Burning

"I love you, O Lord, my strength. (v.1)

*The Lord is my rock
my fortress and
my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. (v.2a)*

*He reached down from o high
and took hold of me ;
He drew me out of deep waters. (v. 16)*

*You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning;
my God turns my darkness into light. (v28)*

*With your help I can advance against a troop;
with my God I can scale a wall. (v.29)*

*As for God, His way is perfect;
The word of the Lord is flawless.
He is a shield for all who take refuge in him.
For who is God besides the Lord?
And who is the Rock except our Gop?
It is God who arms me with strength
And makes my way perfect. (vv.30-32)*

*The Lord lives! Praise e to my Rock!
Exalted be God my Savior!" (v.46)*

From Psalm 18



- | | | | |
|-------|---------------|-------|---------------------|
| 02-01 | Colt Lehman | | |
| 02-02 | Ava Driscoll | | |
| 02-03 | Ophie Hart | | |
| 02-03 | Denise Larsen | | |
| 02-06 | Lucas Arneson | | |
| | Kurt Larsen | | |
| 02-09 | Linda Bingham | | |
| | Matthew Kelly | | |
| | Duane Odland | | |
| 02-11 | Gladys Kirn | | |
| | Mary Lutrick | | |
| 02-12 | Ann Kelly | | |
| | | 02-14 | Noah Richards |
| | | 02-18 | Mary Lee Mulhern |
| | | 02-20 | Norma Christiansen |
| | | | Orion Karino |
| | | 02-22 | Lenita Deda |
| | | 02-23 | Elizabeth Kelly |
| | | | Cameron Rose |
| | | | Lisa Ziegler |
| | | 02-24 | Steve Kelly |
| | | 02-25 | Cassidy Littleton |
| | | | Wilhelmina Pedersen |
| | | 02-27 | Margaret Howes |

02-02 Gary & Cheryl Deariso

02-19 George & Dona Hermon



GO GREEN

*Would you like to help us save
the environment and money?*

Go Green!

*Sign-up with the church office to receive
your monthly newsletter via email!*

REFORMATION HERITAGE TRIP OPPORTUNITY

Kathy and I are seeking to lead a tour to Germany in October 27 - November 7, 2012. The title, "**Reformation Heritage, Music, Art and Culture**" describes well our plans for this trip. **I am wondering if you would be interested in traveling with us.**

Here are some things that excite me about this trip.

- This trip includes many Reformation sites, and time in the cities. **(Actually, I have a poster of a Lutheran Brotherhood stained glass window about the Reformation. All the places on the windows in the poster are represented in our tour.)**
- **We will be in Wittenberg on Reformation Day!** There will be special Reformation worship and music opportunities. (We were there in 2002 also, and really enjoyed the Town Festival atmosphere around the Reformation Celebration.)
- The tour includes some unique tourist and **shopping time** in Rothenberg, Munich, and Salzburg areas.
- This itinerary includes **concerts** (included in the cost) in Wittenberg, Dresden or Leipzig, and Salzburg.
- We spend **two nights in most hotels** so it is not a rushed trip.

I have posted an explanatory flyer for our trip to Germany and a registration form as well. Please feel free to talk to me if you are interested.

I hope you want to join us.

God Bless,
Pastor Jonathan

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES



Choir Rehearsal

SENIOR CHOIR is held each Wednesday from 5:00pm to 5:45pm. 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.



FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



A **MARRIAGE RETREAT** is planned for February 10-12 in Talkeetna. We will be using materials from Chip Ingram. We will even go to see an appropriate play on Saturday night. If you are interested please sign up on the sign up sheet in the back of the church and speak to Linda Griese.



Get Acquainted Potluck A '**GET ACQUAINTED POT LUCK**' is scheduled for Sunday, February 19 after late worship. There are **NO MEETINGS** associated with this Fellowship activity. Everyone is asked to bring a main dish and a side dish *from the church cookbook*. There will be opportunities to get to know one another. Plan now to attend.

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

CONGREGATIONAL DEVOTIONS 2012 –THIS YEAR I AM AGAIN ENCOURAGING US TO USE THE PORTALS OF PRAYER DEVOTIONALS which the church purchases and makes available to members for a daily devotion we all do as a congregation! When we join together and grow in God’s Word, we grow as His family here in Palmer. My hope is that more people may be able to join in these personal devotions and that we may continue to grow together in faith and service of our Lord as we grow together through these devotions.

Kathy and I used the Portals of Prayer in our devotions in the past year. Please join us!

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASSES FOR WINTER 2012

The Following Classes are being offered.

18 months to 3 years old - “Wooly 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 –

WOMEN’S CLASS – Mary Jo Lentz will be teaching a class on “*Verbs of God*”. They will meet in the Cry Room in the Sanctuary.

SCRIPTURE CLASS - Randy Luffberry continues teaching the “*A First Century Faith for the Twenty-First Century Church.*” This book was written by Pastor Waldo Werning, the grandfather of member Aaron Werning. This class is taking an in-depth look at the teaching of God in Scripture, and practical ways God’s teachings impact how Christians can and do live in today’s world. It is helpful and practical direction for St. John as we seek to be God’s people in our community. They will meet in the church library.

Max On Life is led by Al Kastar.

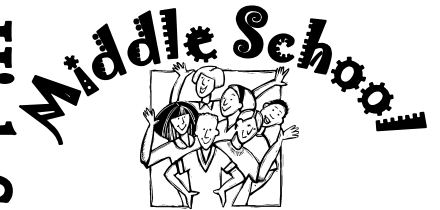




High School Youth Schedule

February Events

- 1– Youth Night & Bible Study
7-8:30pm In Youth Lounge
- 5– Super Bowl Party!
2-6pm @ Quillan’s House
- 8– Youth Night & Bible Study
7-8:30pm In Youth Lounge
- 14– Breakfast Bible Study
6:30a-7:15am in the Kitchen
- 15– Youth Night & Bible Study
7-8:30pm In Youth Lounge
- 17– Video Game Night
6pm-8pm in Youth Lounge
- 19– FISH @ St John’s
3-5pm in the Youth Lounge
- 22– Youth Night & Bible Study
7-8:30pm In Youth Lounge
- 29– Youth Night & Bible Study
7-8:30pm In Youth Lounge

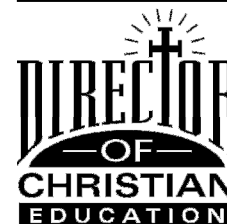


Confirmation Retreat

February 24-26
Victory Bible Camp
Cost: \$100

Mark your calendars for our annual retreat!
We’ll have fun playing games and join together in a topical Bible Study!
Registration Forms will be available soon.

Things to Bring:
Bibles, notebooks,
sleeping bags/blankets,
toiletries, snacks to



Jamie L. Walters, DCE

907-355-1456

dce@st-john-lutheran.org

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

LWML MITES GRANT
Lutheran Braille Workers Plate
Embossing Device
\$100,000

Lutheran Braille Workers is committed to providing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the visually impaired throughout the world. With more than 180 million people around the world who are blind or who have only partial sight, the need is great.

Since 1943, Lutheran Braille Workers has provided Christian materials in more than 30 languages to visually impaired people in more than 120 countries. Each year, Lutheran Braille Workers produces and distributes over 11 million sheets of Braille material throughout the world, as well as large print books of the Bible and other Christian materials.

Lutheran Braille Workers has grown into one of the largest faith-based producers of free Braille Bibles and Christian materials throughout the world. Lutheran Braille Workers currently supports almost 200 work centers with over 5,100 volunteers in the United States and Canada, who punch, emboss, and collate sheets of Braille paper and large print materials for distribution. LWML is providing \$100,000 in funding to help Lutheran Braille Workers purchase a new Plate Embossing Device (PED) to replace worn out zinc plates, as well as create zinc plates for new Braille titles. The PED is the sole device in the United States to emboss Braille plates for the production of Braille books. Without the PED, the ability to produce Braille material would be restricted in the near future as existing plates wear out. Thus, obtaining a new PED would ensure continued production of the zinc plates for many years to come, allowing Lutheran Braille Workers to continue providing Braille Bibles and other Christian resources to visually impaired people worldwide. Lutheran Braille Workers has pledged to commit \$50,000 toward the \$150,000 needed to purchase, ship, and provide supplies for the new PED.

The free Braille and large print Bibles and Christian materials provide the message of salvation through faith in Jesus to individuals who are visually impaired, bringing those on the edge into the Kingdom of God and providing those already with Jesus the comfort of reading His Word. Your mites will aid thousands of people who are not able to see but who want to be with Jesus.

TOPICAL CLASS - Linda Griese will teach a class by *Gary Smalley on "Relationships"*. Gary Smalley is a well known and well-respected teacher who helps Christian families lives under the grace and direction of God. This Class will meet down stairs in the church.

WEEKLY GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

PROMISE KEEPERS MEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER GROUP is held each Tuesday night, 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. We are studying "*Working for the Man Upstairs*," considering how we use our jobs and vocations to serve God.

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

LADIES' QUILTING meets each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. These ladies make quilts to be used in sharing God's love through their distribution by Lutheran World Relief.

LIFELIGHT BIBLE CLASSES have been held on Wednesday noons for about 20 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 study *James and Jude*.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES for students in grades 6-8 are held on Wednesdays from 2:30pm—5:15pm. These classes help middle school youth to grow in knowledge, faith, and Christian friendship.

DIVORCE CARE - Are you going through, or do you know someone who's going through the pain of divorce or separation? St. John Lutheran Church offers a Christian-based program called **DIVORCE CARE**. Please contact Bev Dubos @ 745-0514 or Judy in the church office: 745-3338 for more information. This Christian 13 week video based class and support group has helped Christians around the country, and has been a blessing to many at St. John.

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.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!!!!

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP IS HELD AT 8:15AM AND 11:00AM.

8:15am—Traditional Liturgical Worship with the 11:00am being a Blended Worship Service.

MID WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES are held on Wednesdays, at 6:30pm. The goal for Wednesday worship is to provide an alternate opportunity for those who can't make Sunday worship, and to provide extra opportunities for time with the Lord and His people for people who nevertheless can attend on Sundays.



Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) will hold their February meeting on Tuesday, 14th at 7:00pm in the church Fellowship Hall. All ladies of St. John are welcome to come and be of this wonderful group.

QUILTING for Lutheran World Relief meets Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies of St. John are invited to come join in the fun.

Needed for Quilters: CLEAN OLD BLANKETS to use as fillers between tops and bottoms of quilts. A box is placed in the Gift Nook—to receive old blankets (clean—please). They will be greatly appreciated in making warm quilts. Thanking you from the Quilters!!



LENTEN CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 22

Ash Wednesday

5:30pm Lenten Supper

6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, February 29

5:30pm Lenten Supper

6:30pm Lenten Worship



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 SUPPERS will be held 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 is located on the counter in the narthex.**

Thank You!

Thank you for all your prayers and cards sent during my time of surgery and recovery. I am now moving into the next phase of my treatment.

Pastor Richard Allen

A Special
THANK YOU

The Human Needs Board would like to extend a very special thank you to the wonderful person who has been donating to our board. This generous donation has helped us to care for the needs of not only members of our congregation, but also the needs in our community during these difficult economic times and harsh winter. We are able to give extra assistance to the Palmer Food Bank and the Alaska Family Service's shelter for women and children.