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E-mail: stjohn@mtaonline.net

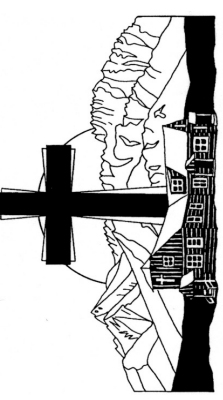
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ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

CHURCH

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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 community, and all people live and grow in Biblical Christian Faith.

"SHARE-LIVE-GROW"

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER MARCH

- 03-09 Ash Wednesday
Lenten Supper
Lenten Worship
- 03-13 **SPRING FORWARD**
Daylight Savings Time Begins
LWML—BAKE SALE
Church Council
- 03-16 Lenten Supper
Lenten Worship
- 03-20 **SPRING BEGINS**
Shane Woods Memorial
Ice Fishing
- 03-23 Lenten Supper
Lenten Worship
- 03-30 Lenten Supper
Lenten Worship




March

- 2— Youth Night & Bible Study
7:00-8:30pm | Youth Lounge
- 4-6— All Alaska Gathering
Friday @ 3p thru Sun @ 1
- 9— Ash Wednesday (Lent)
Meal at 5:30 | Worship at 6:30
- Youth Night & Bible Study
After Lent Worship 'til 8:30p
- 11— Movie Night
7-10pm in the Youth Lounge
- 14— Valentine's Day! ♥
- 16— Youth Night & Bible Study
After Lent Worship 'til 8:30p
- 23— Youth Night & Bible Study
After Lent Worship 'til 8:30p
- 30— Youth Night & Bible Study
After Lent Worship 'til 8:30p

High School Youth Schedule

SPRING
AHEAD
March 12th!



- Confirmation Classes**
Continue Every
Wednesday @ 2:30-5pm
- Overnight lock-in**
March 25-26, 7:30p to 1pm
Registrations Available
- Confirmation Day**
April 17th at 11am



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



Celebrating Our Roots and Growing Our Future

Congratulations and thank you for a great 2010! The year saw some big changes —Thrivent Choice and the congregational advocate role, for example—and some great accomplishments.

Here are some 2010 highlights, you had a part in:

- Introduced 38,000 new members to Thrivent Financial
- Planned and hosted more than 3,300 educational and social events.
- Recruited over 15,000 congregational advocates in 8,500 congregations.
- More the 150,000 members votedsm in the first Thrivent Choice Voting Event.
- More than 16,000 Lutheran organizations received Choice Dollars funding.
- Thrivent Financial distributed \$11 million to Lutheran congregations and organizations through members’ participation in Choice Dollars.
- Helped make 11.5 million hours of volunteer service happen through chapter projects and activities.
- Raised over \$65 million in support of communities, organizations, and families.
- Through the alliance, Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity, 278 houses were built nationally and internationally and 110,000 hours of volunteer work was donated by Thrivent Financial members (out of 340,000 total volunteer hours).

These are truly amazing results! Thank you for your commitment and dedication to our members and this organization. Leaders like you do make a difference and we are grateful for your contributions.



Dear Members and Friends of St. John,

In the early 90’s I read a really good book by Dr. Paul Brand and Philip Yancey. The book was entitled, “*Pain, the Gift that Nobody Wants.*” We look at pain and suffering as curses. And, to a certain extent they are curses. They did not exist until we brought sin into the world.

The amazing thing about God is he can use the bad in this world for good. Did you know that many verses in God’s Word talk about *rejoicing* in suffering?

This year’s Lenten worship help us to rejoice in the power and love of God that He can even use our suffering for good. The Mid-Week Lenten Services will be held on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Ash Wednesday, March 9 Isaiah 52:13-53, Hebrews 2:9-18

The Blessings of Jesus’ suffering

March 16 **Romans 5:1-8,**
The Blessings of spiritual growth in suffering

March 23 **2 Corinthians 1:3-7**
The Blessings of helping others

March 30 **2 Corinthians 1:8-10**
The Blessings of setting priorities and HOPE

April 6 **Hebrews 12**
The Blessings of discipline through Suffering

April 13 **Colossians 1**
The Blessings of witnessing through Suffering

I pray that these help us to see God’s love even in our sufferings and struggles.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rocky



Christian Growth
Jesus Paid the Price



Dear Lord,

You know: I love You.
 I try to be good.
 I try not to hurt anyone.
 I help other people.
 I live a good, clean life.
 I've been baptized and confirmed.
 I'm a good church member.
 I do the best I can under the circumstances.
 I do some wrong things, but
 I try to make up for them.
 I'm not perfect. Nobody is!

What do You expect?

Perfection?

But I can't be perfect!

When I look at the list above, they all start the same:

I...I...I...Too often I put me where You ought to be—in the center of my life.

I need to remind myself: my salvation does not rest on me. It's impossible to save myself.

When I look at Jesus, I see what You are like. You're great and good. You are loving. But You are also just and You demand obedience. When I look at Jesus' faultless life, I see what You expect of me. His goodness arouses in me a sense of my quilt, my shortcomings.

He also awakens in me a spirit of thanksgiving and praise. I thank and praise You, Jesus, for delivering me from the penalty and power of my sin. You did what was impossible for me to do for myself.

Father, You have redeemed me with the precious blood of Jesus. In response to Your love I'll live in a way that brings glory to Your name. Help me in my struggle to love You more, to help others and not hurt them, to live a good, clean life, to be a good church member and always to do the best I can.

Forgive my failures to live up to Your expectations.

I know I'm not perfect, Lord. But I rejoice that I'm forgiven.

Your grateful child.

Taken from: *You Are Special*
 By Alma Kern

<i>Official Acts</i>	
<i>Baptisms</i>	
<i>Weddings</i>	
<i>Funerals</i>	

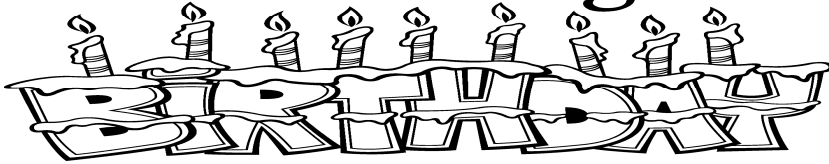
Date	Offering	Attendance
02-06-11	\$ 9,238.21	165
02-13-11	\$10,690.48	156
02-20-11	\$10,795.40	180
02-27-11	\$ 6,829.56	149



**WELCOME
NEW
MEMBERS**

All of God's Children!

Celebrating a



- | | | | |
|-------|--|-------|---|
| 03-02 | Meg Arneson
Corrine Hannam | 03-16 | Melanie Kopperud |
| 03-03 | John Glaser
Makai Probasco | 03-19 | JoAnn Skonberg |
| 03-05 | Miki Anderson
Marilyn Grasser
Rick Luthi | 03-20 | Eleanor Allen
Julie Kolberg |
| 03-06 | Deborah Murphy
Ted Perdue | 03-21 | Dee McNeese
David Nufer
Forrest Rose |
| 03-07 | Valerie Curry
Armand Kolberg
Hope Murphy | 03-22 | Esther Grosz
Micah McDonald
Kyler Moser |
| 03-10 | Kathy Rockey
James Helling | 03-23 | Renate Roster |
| 03-11 | Noah Butcher | 03-26 | Micah Richards |
| 03-12 | Erica Larsen | 03-27 | Sarah Olson |
| 03-13 | Aaron Butcher
Matthew Rustin | 03-28 | Mesa Arneson |
| 03-15 | Hannah Grosz | 03-29 | Kalen Kolberg |
| | | 03-30 | Dennis Knuth |
| | | 03-31 | Rick Dwight
Kirk McNiven |

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.

ICE FISHING – The Shane Woods Memorial Ice Fishing Outing will be



held on Sunday, March 20 in the afternoon. For the past 3 years we have remembered member Shane Woods with an ice-fishing outing for the children of St. John. The last thing Shane did at St. John before going to Iraq was to help St. John children catch fish in a church ice fishing trip. Shane was killed later that year in Iraq.

We are still looking for a place to fish, but mark the date on your calendar as a time for fellowship and enjoying the blessings of creation.

Anniversary Wishes



- | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|
| 03-08 | <i>AJ and Julie Kolberg</i> |
| 03-10 | <i>David and Ellen Bang</i> |
| 03-12 | <i>Dallas and Cassidy Littleton</i> |
| 03-20 | <i>Gary and Raquel Dennis</i> |



Time to
Spring Ahead

SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 2011

REMEMBER!!!

SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD!!

**COME HAVE BREAKFAST AT THE
LWML BAKE SALE!!!**



LENTEN CALENDAR

Wednesday, March 9
Ash Wednesday
5:30pm Lenten Supper
6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, March 16
5:30pm Lenten Supper
6:30pm Lenten Worship

Wednesday, March 23
5:30pm Lenten Supper
6:30pm Lenten Worship

Wednesday, March 30
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.

This year's Lenten Series is entitled "*The Blessings of Suffering.*"



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.**

MITES

Mite Boxes—How They Began

Perhaps inspired by the various "cent" or "mite" societies of the early 1800's, the Womans' Mission to Woman (Baptist) urged members in its first circular letter in 1871 to use their new mite box to raise funds. The entire family was encouraged to contribute. The garnet-colored paper box had an opening on the top and the words, "Woman's Mission to Woman," in gold letters on the side.



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 bath-sized towel, (approx. 52"x27") dark color recommended (lighter weight, not very heavy/plush)
- *Two bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap, any brand in its original wrapping
- *One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging. (Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business envelop; no plastic bags or wrap.
- *One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- *One metal nail clippers, remove packaging

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.

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap all items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.



“SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!”

The **Lutheran Women’s Missionary League** (LWML) monthly meeting will be held on March 8th at 7:00pm in the North Fellowship Hall. Bible study/ devotional titled **“Taking a Stand to Kneel”** will be led by Pastor Allen. All ladies of the church are welcome to attend.

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



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.



BAKE SALE

SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH, AS WE SPRING AHEAD!!! Sponsored by the LWML. No prices on the baked goodies, but a *free will* offering basket will be available. Money raised will be contributed to Mission work—local and world-wide — *Serving our Lord with gladness!!*



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 - “Wooly Lambs Sunday School class.

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

MONDAYS

Cantora Arctica – This is not officially a St. John group. But this women's choir has been practicing at St. John for a number of years on Mondays and brings beautiful music praising the Lord to the Valley community. They practice at 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAYS

Stephen Ministry Class – This class to train new Stephen ministers is being held in a home from 6:30-9:00 p.m. each Tuesday

Divorce Care – This group which helps to bring support and healing is being offered on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Promise Keepers – Promise Keepers men's group meets on Tuesday evenings for sharing and support, Bible study and prayer. We meet in Pastor Rocky's office from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Come and join us.

WEDNESDAYS

Quilting – Our ladies have quilted for decades on Wednesdays and donate the quilts to Lutheran World Relief to share the Lord's love throughout the world. Quilting happens at 9:30 a.m. in the North Fellowship Hall.

Lifelight – This is our 19th year of this noon Bible Study. We are studying *Proverbs* this year from noon to 1:00 p.m. each Wednesday. Bring leftovers to share pot luck.

Confirmation – Classes to help Middle School Children grow in faith are held at St. John on Wednesdays from 2:30 – 5:15 p.m.

Senior Choir – The St. John Senior choir practices on Wednesday evenings beginning at 5:15 p.m.

THURSDAYS

Bell Choir – The St. John Bell Choir practices on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.

Stephen Ministry Supervision happens the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 6:30 P.M.

FRIDAYS

Friday Night Bible Study – This long term small group of interested people meet on the Fridays before the first and third Sunday of each month at 7:00 p.m. (after music group practice.)

SATURDAYS

Lay Ministry – Lay Ministry Classes on Worship are being held at 9:00 a.m.



St. John Pictorial Church Directory – Did you know that St. John will be producing a new Pictorial Church Directory?

Under the leadership of Cheryl Williams and the Fellowship Board, St. John is working with a local company to produce a new directory. The pictures will be taken in the week between Sunday April 3 and Sunday April 10. Everyone who sits for a picture gets a directory and an 8" x 10" picture at no cost. There are also options to buy other pictures.

The photographer, who lives in Palmer and does the work here, says the average people spend on a packet of pictures is about \$70.00.

With new computer technology everything is done in one appointment. The picture can be taken and then viewed immediately on the computer. People can then decide if they want to order pictures. All this will take place in the scheduled times from April 3- April 10. Look for sign-up schedules at the church.



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.



Friday, March 4, 2011
Let's all take a moment to pray for world peace.



Sunday, March 6, 2011