



20165 Heath Ave. Lakeville MN
952-469-4916

Journal April 2025

Kim Kyllo - Senior Pastor
Nathan Lyke - Associate Pastor

Sunday Schedule

8:30am Worship
9:30 Fellowship/Education Hour/
ACE
10:30am Worship
Nursery open from 8:30-11:30am
Communion is served weekly

Wednesday Lenten Schedule

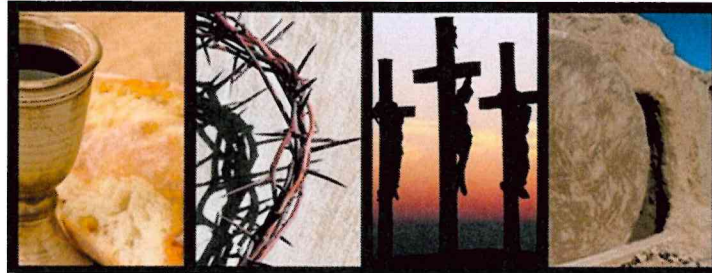
5:15pm-6:15 pm meal
5:30pm-6:00pm Elementary
Choir - Jesus and Me (JAM)
6:00-6:30pm Middle School
Choir (FLY)
6:00-6:30pm HIGHLIGHTS
Sunday School (pre-k-4th
grade)
6:30-7:15pm Lenten Worship
7:15pm-8:30pm Affirm, Ablaze
and Adult Choir
8:00pm-8:30pm Youth Group

Inside this issue:

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And Much More!

More information is available on the
website: www.sjlcl.org

**Submit information
by the 15th of the
month to:
candy@sjlcl.org**



What is Holy Week?

Faith guarantees a life of learning. One of the many reasons I love serving St. John's is the variety of experiences and faith backgrounds represented among our community! Among us, we collectively have been (or still are): Roman Catholic, Missouri Synod or Wisconsin Synod Lutheran, United Methodist, Covenant, Baptist, Non-Denominational, no faith background, and more.

I find this diversity of faith and religious experience fascinating and helpful, because it means that we don't all operate out of the same set of assumptions or expectations about what it means to be a community called "church" together. Because of this variety of prior experiences, we, as a community, ask a lot of really thoughtful questions about meaning and values, which help us to know who we are together as St. John's in this time and place.

Which brings me to Holy Week.

Perhaps you came to St. John's from a different Christian denomination (that may or may not have

observed Holy Week) or perhaps you are a life-long Lutheran and always wondered: Holy Week is a time of prayer and solemnity as we remember Jesus' final days, marking the most significant week in the church year. This includes of special note: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, culminating in the celebration of Easter!

Each of these days mark a distinct moment in Jesus' life, to which we pay special attention: both because of what it meant for Jesus and for what it means for us and how we live in the world today.

Briefly:

Palm Sunday is the day we remember Jesus entering the city of Jerusalem to the cheers of mingled hopes and fears of the crowd, where he would ultimately take on the cross and die.

Maundy Thursday is the day we remember Jesus sharing his Last Supper with his closest disciples and friends, at which meal he also washed their feet, instituting the call for the disciples (including us) to serve others as Jesus served.

Good Friday is the day we watch and bear witness to the horrors of Jesus' arrest, betrayal and crucifixion.

Easter is the day we rejoice that Jesus, who had died, rose from the grave, giving resurrection life to the world!

Of course, each of these days is absolutely essential in our life of faith, and so I implore you to come to all of these worship services, as much as you're

able, to get the fullness of this experience. These worship services are unique from other things we do at St. John's throughout the year, and they are extremely impactful. Each is designed to lead us deeper into the story of Jesus, so that we may wrestle with the work of Jesus' salvation anew this year.

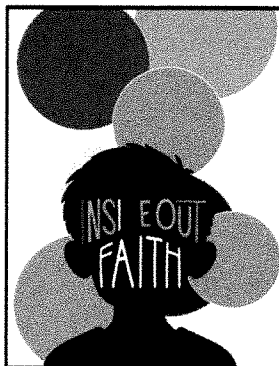
Join us, I pray, as we journey together in faith this Holy Week.

Pastor Kim Kylo

For Your Information

"Inside Out Faith" Wednesday Lenten Series: March 12 - April 9

Join us for Wednesday Lenten Worship at 6:30 pm, as we explore the vibrant landscape of the spiritual and emotional life in "Inside Out Faith." God intentionally designs and creates us in the image of God: with a body, mind, and soul, and equips us with core emotions to help us navigate this life: joy, sadness, fear, anger, and disgust. How are these five core emotions tools that provide information about the world around us and the ways we move through it? Join us as we explore one of these five emotions and how they function in our spiritual lives each week.



April Worship News:

Wednesday, April 2 - *Inside Out: Anger* Lenten Worship at 6:30 pm

Sunday, April 6 - Fifth Sunday in Lent Worship with Holy Communion, First Communion Milestone at 10:30 am

Wednesday, April 9 - *Inside Out Faith: Disgust* Lenten Worship at 6:30 pm

Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday Worship with Sunday School Kids singing at 10:30 am + Pancake Breakfast

Thursday, April 17 - Maundy Thursday *Service of the Upper Room* Worship at 6:30 pm, with Holy Communion & Stripping of the Altar

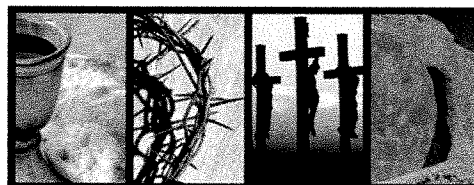
Friday, April 18 - Good Friday Readers' Theater Worship at 6:30 pm

Sunday, April 20 - Easter Worship with Holy Communion & Brass Music

Wednesday, April 23 - Restorative Worship at 6:30 pm

Sunday, April 27 - Second Sunday Easter Worship with Holy Communion, with Affirmation of Baptism at 10:30 am

Wednesday, April 30 - Restorative Worship at 6:30 pm



Holy Week Schedule 2025

Palm Sunday: 8:30 am worship, 9:15 am Pancake Breakfast, 10:30 am worship

Maundy Thursday: 6:30 pm worship

Good Friday: 6:30 pm worship

Easter Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 am worship

Wednesday Lenten Schedule of Events

- 5:15-6:15-Lenten Supper
- 5:30 - 6:30-Youth choirs-JAM (K-4th), FLY (5th-MS)
- 6:00 - 6:30 - Highlights
- 6:30 - 7:15 - Lenten Worship Service
- 7:15 - 8:00 - First Communion Classes, Affirm 6th/7th Lenten mentors, Affirm 8th/9th Discussions
- 7:15 - 8:30 - Chancel Choir HS-Adult
- 8:00 - 8:30 - Youth Group

Worship at Winsor Plaza

Gathers April 3 at 2 pm - St. John's hosts a monthly worship service with Holy Communion in the community room at Winsor Plaza, held on the first Thursday of each month at 2 pm. Come join us for worship!

International Day of Living Together in Peace: Volunteers Wanted

"Together in Peace" is hosting the annual "International Day of Living Together in Peace" at Caspersen Park on **May 17th**, 12-3 pm. This is the third year that St. John's will be hosting a table at this multicultural community event, led by our Membership & Outreach Team. This has been a fantastic opportunity for St. John's to connect with neighbors in the broader Lakeville Community, and we would love to expand our presence at this community event. If you are interested in being part of this event as a friendly face and welcoming neighbor, representing St. John's, please contact the church office to RSVP.



ACE in April

Get To Know the Enneagram

Sunday, April 6, 10:30 am | Sanctuary

The enneagram is more than another set of labels to tag ourselves and others with. It can be a powerful tool for getting unstuck and moving forward. Beth Beaty, who will present on the topic, is a certified enneagram teacher and has been using the enneagram to help people, teams and organizations find expansiveness, compassion and clarity for over 10 years.

Meet Socheat: Chaplain For the Minnesota Vikings

Sunday, April 27, 10:30 am | Sanctuary

Socheat Chum serves as the chaplain for the Minnesota Vikings and will share about his unique ministry call to professional football teams, players, and staff. Come and hear what it's like to pray after a game on the 50-yard line with players from both the Vikings and Packers!

Faith Resources Altar Echo Podcasts

Did you know St. John's creates 2 podcasts? All podcast episodes can be found on St. John's Facebook page and website. Use the QR code for each podcast to access the podcast page, and subscribe to receive new episodes of each!



Altar Echo Text Study Podcast

Altar Echo Text Study

is our weekly deep-dive conversation between two or three pastors on the upcoming focus reading for Sunday. Episodes are released on Tuesday afternoons, and can be a great way to pique your curiosity about the upcoming Sunday's Scripture reading. Because this podcast includes multiple pastors, you get added content of multiple perspectives, questions, and ideas, many of which don't make the cut for the actual Sunday sermon.

Altar Echo Families Podcasts are monthly conversations about faith and parenting in our real lives. How does faith guide our parenting and family values? Pastor Kim, Pastor Nathan and Amanda chat about good questions and practical strategies for raising good humans in this complicated world. Episodes are released on Thursdays, and can be helpful for parents, grandparents, or anyone who cares for children and kids of any age.



Altar Echo Families

Everyday Bible Conversations (EBC's)

Join us as we find God EVERYWHERE! Every week, we look for God in our Everyday Lives with a video and devotions based on the week's Gospel, wherever we happen to be. We've found God in the hilltops above Lisbon, Portugal, at the American Revolution in Boston, MA, in the desert in California, on the shores of the Cook Inlet in Anchorage, AK, and every place and week in between!

Our weekly messages include a 3-5 minute video (available on St. John's YouTube channel, and through the website and app), as well as a one page devotional that summarizes the reading, asks a few questions, and encourages an action step for the week to come. The videos and devotional are both built so that they can be used alone or together, and while the Bible reading is always encouraged, no advance Bible reading or knowledge is needed to enjoy EBC. EBC emphasizes Jesus' love, God's purpose for us, and how we can relate the week's message to our lives in 2024. EBC is a work of joy

and love, driven by the faithful belief that the Bible can be applied to our Everyday Lives all things big and small, all the time, everywhere!

Thank you for all of you who already make EBC a part of their week, and we encourage everyone to enjoy! If you would like to access EBC, but need help, please ask Candy in the church office. And let's go find God!

Garden plots at St. John's

Interested in gardening? We have six garden plots available in the church backyard for congregation members to use this summer for personal gardening. Please contact Amanda amanda@silcl.org or fill out this form if you are interested. Plots will be assigned in the order that requests are received.



St. John's Prayer Chain Ministry

"Are you in need of prayer for yourself or for someone else? The St. John's Prayer Group would be happy to pray for you. Prayers can be requested by:

1. Calling the Church Office at (952) 469-4916
2. Emailing Stacy Stanek at sstanek06@gmail.com

If you would like to be part of St. John's Prayer Chain, new members to this team are welcome.

You can participate on an email team or on a phone team. Please contact Candy in the church office at 952-469-4916, if you would like to join the prayer chain team.



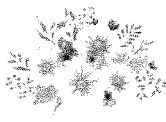
Download St. John's App

St. John's App is a great way to access information, give online, access weekly EBC and podcast resources, and more.



Altar Flower Sponsorship

Reserve a date to sponsor Altar flowers. Each bouquet is \$45 and you can choose one or two bouquets per Sunday. Please review the available slots in the QR code and sign up. Or call the church office and place your order with Candy. Thank you!



Sound Tech Needed

The Sound Tech team is looking for 1 or 2 new individuals to volunteer to run the sound board during Sunday morning worship. Training is provided! Sound Tech volunteers generally serve for one worship service every eight weeks. Contact Danny Barth for more information or to sign up!

Pancake Breakfast Fun!



Children, Youth and Family News

Minneapolis Mission Trip March 15 and 16!

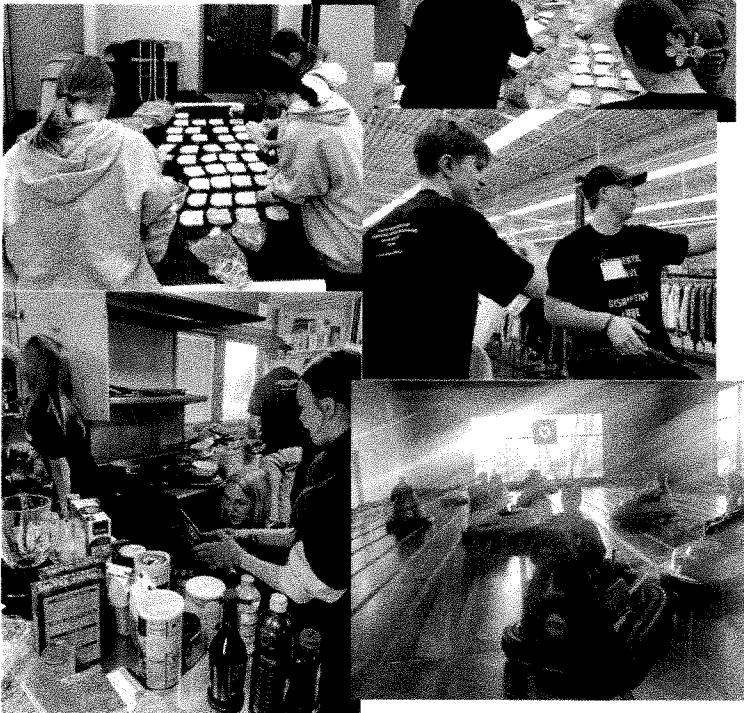
We had a wonderful and meaningful experience. Our team of 20 youth did a great job serving our service partners as well as being attentive and hardworking!

A special thank you to our wonderful chaperones! Their participation on the mission trip made a significant impact!

This group served in these impactful ways:

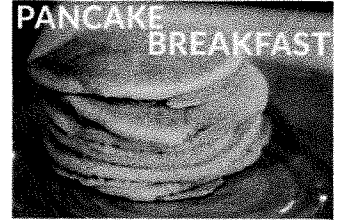
- Served at Feed My Starving Children in Eagan, packed 96 boxes, made 20, 736 meals and fed 57 kids for a year!
- Made 150 Sandwiches for The Minnesota Sandwich Project, delivered to the Harbor Lights Shelter in Minneapolis.
- Served at Arc Value Village in Bloomington, serving here makes a big impact on the organizations they support.
- Served at Lewis House, part of 360 communities. This organization serves women and children in need of a safe home. We cleaned, organized and brought needed supplies including blankets from our Quilting Group.

To celebrate a great day of hard work, we ended the day at Whirly Ball in Bloomington and a great time was had by all!



Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast! April 13 from 9:15am-10:30am

Join us for a special Congregational Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast to support our summer youth programs.



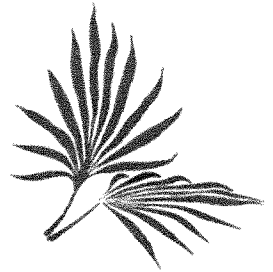
- No Sunday School, we will be all together in the Fellowship Hall for fellowship and pancakes!
- All proceeds for this special pancake breakfast will go toward our summer camp and mission trip youth. (Thanks to a congregation member a Thrivent Action card is sponsoring the cost of food.)

Menu:

- Buttermilk Pancakes and gluten free pancakes
- Special toppings: syrup, whipped cream, berries, butter
- Sausage Links
- Cheesy Hashbrowns
- Orange Juice, milk, coffee

Palm Sunday April 13

Everyone is welcome to join us for the "Procession of Palms" from the back of the sanctuary to the front at both services. Our Sunday School will sing a special Palm Sunday Song at the 10:30am worship



Easter Egg Hunt April 20

Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 20, 11:30am following the second service. All kids are welcome to bring a basket and be ready for some fun! If weather doesn't cooperate, we will be in the Fellowship Hall.



Rite of First Communion April 6, at 10:30am worship

We will celebrate this wonderful group of students as they celebrate their First Communion!

Youth Opportunities to serve

We would love your help filling up our acolyte and crucifer spots for our Sunday morning worships.

A crucifer (cross bearer) carries the cross into worship at the beginning of worship and carries it out at the end of worship. This is an important part of our worship service at St. John's because bringing the cross in signifies a special and intentional invitation to Christ to come into our worship experience.

An acolyte lights the candles at the beginning of worship on each side of the altar and then dims them at the end of worship. This brings extra light into our sanctuary, bringing special significance to the light of Christ among us. In faith, light can also represent hope, peace, and God's promise. As an acolyte you get to remind all of us that Jesus brings that to us every day.

When volunteering for these positions, you arrive 10 minutes before worship begins (8:05am and 10:20am) and then check in with the worship coordinator at the welcome desk. That person, or Amanda will be there to walk the student through all that they need to know.

Jesus empowers us to lead, and these are some of the opportunities your children have to lead us in faith during worship! If your student would like to help us out and fill up these spots, please fill out the sign-up genius link.



Acolyte and Crucifer
Sign Up

High School Youth Group

All 9th-12th grade students are welcome to join our High School Youth group. At youth group, we dive into a Bible verse, story or theme and have a lot of fun learning and strengthening our faith. This group also does various service projects throughout the year. please contact Amanda or join our group me app to get weekly updates.



When? Wednesdays, 8:00pm-8:45pm
Connect? Click here to join:

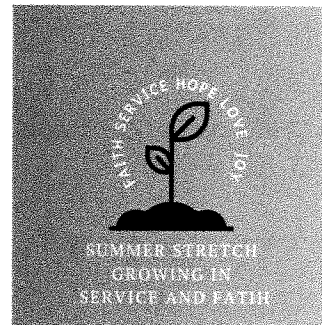
Summer Stretch

What? Participants put their faith into action! They are encouraged to be the light of Christ through participation in service projects for the greater community. Each day includes fun adventures with faith leaders and friends. Yes, friends are welcome as participants and leaders!

Who? St. John's Summer Stretch is a program for Upper Elementary and Middle Schoolers (students entering Grades 4,5, 6, 7 and 8 in Fall 2025)
Volunteer Guides: Students who will be in 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade in the fall of 2025 can apply to be small group guides and adult chaperones will be welcomed.

When?

Dates: June 25, July 9, July 16 and July 24
Times: 9:00am-4:30pm



Summer
Stretch
2025

Butter Braid Sale!

Thank you for your purchases! Pick up your pre-ordered Butter Braids April 14.

More ways to support our Summer Camps and Programs!

We have many opportunities to support our St. John's youth on their summer camps and mission trips! We thank our congregation and community for their support to make these programs possible and affordable for our youth!

- **April 13 Pancake Breakfast Palm Sunday**
- **April 26 and 27 Cub Bagging - 7435 179th street West Lakeville**



Thrivent Members!

Thank you to our Thrivent members! All of our meals and service projects have been sponsored by Thrivent members this year. Sponsoring a fundraiser or service event with an Action Team \$250.00 gift card helps our youth so much! These cards help our fundraiser meals be more profitable for our youth because we can use these cards to purchase the food, allowing all of the proceeds to go to our youth! They can also be used for many of our service projects, allowing us to serve more generously! If you are a Thrivent member and would like to learn more about this program, please contact amanda@sjlcl.org.

Save the date

High School Senior Recognition Day and Scholarship Information!

HS Senior Families:

Save the date:

June 8th Senior Sunday Celebration Worship at 10:00am and breakfast at 9:15am.

The care and compassion team will award \$500.00 Senior Scholarships! The Children, Youth and Family team will award seniors who have shown extraordinary service to our St. John's church community. All students will be celebrated and given a special gift from our congregation. Please submit the following by **Wednesday, May 14th**:



Senior Scholarship Important information



Senior Sunday RSVP:



Senior Sunday 2024

Vacation Bible School Pen Pals

This year for vacation bible school, I am hoping to have a letter/picture exchange between our campers and seniors or other adults in our St. John's community and our assisted living friends in the Lakeville community.

The idea for this project would be, you would write a letter (some tips and topics are included below) that will be given to a VBS camper. They will then read and respond to your letter, either with a letter of their own or a special picture, the week of June 16th. You should receive your letter/special picture, or several of them, the week of June 23rd.

Some tips for writing your letter to our campers:

- Since you won't know who you are writing to, you can address the letter "Dear VBS camper" or "Dear Child of God"
- Write a little bit about yourself: your name, where you live (in general, like "Lakeville" or "Highview Hills", etc.) and some things you like to do (play games, garden, read, watch sports, etc.)
- Tell the campers about a favorite bible story or a favorite Bible verse and why it's your favorite or a story from when you were in Sunday School (or VBS) or how much God means to you.
- To close, wish them well on their week at VBS, hope they have a nice summer or tell them how much you are looking forward to receiving their letters.

If this project sounds like something you would like to do, please submit a half page (approximately) **hand-printed or typed** letter by **May 31st** by email to elisa@sjlcl.org or by regular mail at:

St. John's Lutheran Church
C/O Elisa Brown/VBS letters
20165 Heath Ave.
Lakeville, MN 55044

Thank you so much, in advance, for participating in this very special project!

Elisa Brown, St. John's VBS director

Small Group Ministry

Small Group Ministry

Connect. Grow. Belong.

St. John's offers a variety of small groups to include people of all walks, ages, and experiences of life. Check out our current small group offerings and consider getting connected with one or more of these vibrant spaces of relationship and faith.



Yoga with Clarity

Lynn Coldren, Certified Yoga Instructor offers Yoga Classes.



Wednesday mornings and Friday mornings at 8:45am, for ages 15+.

You will need to bring your own mat and props. Class size is limited, so if you have any questions or are interested please email Lynn at l.coldren63@gmail.com.

Men's Monday Breakfast Small Group

Facilitator: Peter Gudel

(contact: pjgudel@gmail.com)

Meets: 3rd Monday of every month at 8:30 am.

Meets next April 21

Where: Perkins in Lakeville

Would you like to spend time chatting with old friends or get to know other men from St. John's?

Gather with us at Perkins for fellowship and food.



"More Than Just Lunch" Small Group

Facilitator: Ginger Gustafson

Meets: Once/month on Tuesdays

Where: A variety of locations, each to be announced in advance

If you would like to participate in a monthly outing with your church friends, experiencing a variety of unique places to have lunch and entertainment, then this is the small group for you!

More Than Just Lunch will be viewing the new art exhibit at the Thrivent building in downtown Minneapolis on **April 15th**. The new exhibit is The Expression of Awe through Art. This exhibit features objects from the Thrivent Collection of Religious Art as well as a variety of works from the Collection of Contemporary art. The artworks on display span eight centuries, from the 14th century

to present day. Thrivent has had a variety of art works over the past 43 years. After the tour we will have lunch at the East Town Cafe which is in the Thrivent building. We will meet at church at 9:30.

The March group had a great tour of the St. George Greek Orthodox Church in St. Paul. These are a few photos from their day.



Book Group

Facilitator: Kathy Ziller

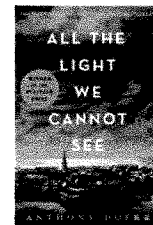
Save the date for the next Book Group

April 9 at 1:00pm

The book group will be reading **"All the Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr.**

Marie Laure lives with her father in Paris near the Museum of Natural History where he works as the master of its thousands of locks. When she is six, Marie-Laure goes blind and her father builds a perfect miniature of their neighborhood so she can memorize it by touch and navigate her way home.

When she is twelve, the Nazis occupy Paris, and father and daughter flee to the walled citadel of Saint-Malo, where Marie-Laure's reclusive great uncle lives in a tall house by the sea. With them they carry what might be the museum's most valuable and dangerous jewel.



Dementia Caregivers Support Group

Facilitators: Pastor Kim Kylo & Ace Yang (of Highview Hills)

Meets: Once/month, 10 -11 am on the 2nd Thursday of each month; **meets next April 10**

Where: Highview Hills

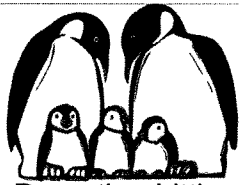
Right now, millions of Americans face the devastation of Alzheimer's. The disease is robbing us of our families, our futures, and our finances. If you are a family member or caregiver to someone experiencing Alzheimer's disease, join us for this small group, where you'll find an open environment for sharing feelings, thoughts, and experiences to better cope with and manage the shared problems of dementia. St. John's and Highview Hills are partnering to provide emotional, social, and educational support to caregivers. This group is open to anyone in our community. No RSVP; simply show up as you are available.

"Parenting Littles" Small Group:

Co-Facilitators: Amanda Boe & Pastor Nathan Lyke

When: 2nd Sunday of each month during Sunday School; **meets next April 13**

Where: St. John's Mark Classroom



Parenting Littles

Parents, grandparents, and caregivers raising children are invited to learn more about and discuss what "mission" means as Christ followers and specifically in our families. The root

word for mission means "sent", and this session offers an opportunity to explore how God might empower families to be sent to bless the lives of those around them.

Paper Crafters Small Group

Facilitator: Jackie Knauf

Meets: 1st Thursday of every month at 9 am - 2pm

Meets next April 3

Where: St. John's

The Paper Crafters Small Group makes cards to send to congregation members.

Quilters Small Group

Facilitator: Ruth Weber

Meets: 2nd & 3rd Thursday of every month at 9am

Meets next April 10 & 17

Where: St. John's

The Quilters Small Group sews and assembles quilts to be donated.

Stitchers Small Group

Facilitator: Kathy Ziller

Meets: 4th Thursdays of every month at 9 am;

Meets next April 24

Where: St. John's

Knitters create Confirmation stoles, baptismal blankets, and prayer shawls. Come when you can; leave when you must!

Mary Breakfast Bunch

Facilitator: Jackie Knauff

Meets: 1st Tuesday of every month at 8:30am

Meets next April 1

Where: Cracker Barrel, Lakeville

Mary Breakfast Bunch is a women's fellowship group open to all women.

Hannah Women's Study Small Group

Facilitator: Ruth Weber

Meets: 1st Wednesdays of every month at 9:30 am from September through June.

Meets next April 2

Where: St. John's

Women's Study is a fellowship group with treats, and open discussion open to all women.

Worship Helpers—and More Ways to Get Involved

We are so thankful to have many volunteers to serve in worship and in other areas at St. John's. It takes many volunteers to support the worship services. Some of the roles available are: readers, communion assistants, ushers, worship coordinators, clickers and running the sound and livestream during worship. We need helpers in these areas weekly, all year around so you have many opportunities to serve!

Outside of worship times, volunteers are needed to assist with Wednesday meals, Sunday School teachers and leaders, Affirm mentors and leaders, chaperone youth trips, serving in-home communion, serving coffee on Sunday mornings, quilting, card making, and the list goes on.

Please consider how you can support worship and ministries at St. John's. Maybe you are willing to try something new. Please contact Candy in the church office (candy@sjlcl.org) and she will help you find the spot that works for you.

Gratitude and Generosity Team News

St. John's Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund

Are you considering ways to make a financial gift that will foster mission in a sustainable way for the future of St. John's?

Over the last few weeks, you may have either read or heard about the creation of the St. John's Lutheran Church Mission Endowment Fund. The creation of this fund allows St. John's families to give a sustaining legacy gift, to be given upon the event of your death or with the help of a Trust or Will. This fund offers a way to provide immediate support and also sustainability for long-term ministry.

Four specific areas of focus have been chosen:

- 1) Feeding Those Who Are Hungry
- 2) Children, Youth and Family Ministry
- 3) Proclaiming the Gospel Globally, and
- 4) Keeping ELCA Seminaries Strong.



You, as the Donor, will be able to designate which of these area (s) you would like to direct your gifts. Gifts to the Mission Endowment Fund are above and beyond your regular giving, thus allowing St. John's to expand our outreach. This is a truly exciting opportunity for St. John's to nurture the vitality of our mission now and for many years to come! If you have any questions, please contact a member of the Gratitude and Generosity Team, who would love to speak with you and offer any clarity you desire as you make decisions around a legacy gift to the Mission Endowment Fund.

The Gratitude & Generosity Team

Charity, Cremains, Costs, Celebrations, Caskets & Concerns

White Funeral invites you to our Lakeville location for a **FREE** program on **Monday April 21 at 6:00-7:30pm**. This program is designed to help educate consumers and to remove some of the burden and doubt that surrounds funeral service.

Relax with your neighbors, enjoy some finger foods, and listen to our guest speaker, Pat Zalusky, owner of Laker Planning Service as he covers a wide range of important topics and answers additional questions you might have.

As part of the program, we're also encouraging (but not requiring) all those who attend to bring a donation or non-perishable food item for the 360 Communities Food Shelf.

Advance registration is required. Please call, text, or email to reserve your spot.

Call: 952-469-2723

Text: 952-2016504

Email: megwheintze@gmail.com



Membership and Outreach Team News



Amy and Eric White & family



Jason and Susan Van Thomme & family



Jennifer and John Bring & family



Nicholas and Katie Pelletier & family



Liam and Rebecca McDonald



Nathan and Becca Lyke and family

Welcome Spring 2025 New Members

Jennifer & John Bring, Emma & Benjamin

Arlene Kyte

Pastor Nathan and Becca Lyke, Ruby, Lucy and Ivy

Liam and Rebecca McDonald

Nick & Katie Pelletier, Henry

Jason and Susan Van Thomme, Paige

Eric & Amy White, Julia & Maren

Thank You•Thank You•Thank You•Thank You•Thank You

St. John's,

Thank you for the exquisite birthday card Duane received from you. It really was nice! I will set it up like I have others from past years.

Thankfully,

Duane and Sandy Meyer

Dear St. John's,

Thank you for opening your doors for our community health screening in your area. It is because of your generosity that Life Line Screening can bring these health screenings into your community and for that, we are very appreciative.

We look forward to working together again!

Sincerely,

Cathy Bush
Health Service Coordinator
Life Line Screening



Hi Candy,

Thank you again so much for having our team out to St. John's Lutheran! You ran another incredible blood drive! From promoting the event, to coordinating a smooth drive day for our team, you executed at a high level. Job well done!

As for results, you exceeded our anticipated goal for the day by 2 pints, collecting an impressive 36 pints of lifesaving blood! In total, the blood collected at Monday's drive has the potential to touch the lives of 108 patients in need, beginning as early as this time next week. How great is that! I attached a flyer showing the drive results if you'd like to share it.

I also wanted to mention that whole blood can be donated every 56 days, and Power Red donations every 112 days.

Thanks again for the fantastic results, Candy! It was a pleasure supporting your efforts and we are so grateful for your support. Let me know if you have any questions or feedback to pass along from Monday's drive, or if you have thoughts on hosting again this summer. We'd certainly love to come back then if it's a good fit for you!

Have a wonderful day!

Katy Keeler, **Account Manager - Donor Recruitment**
American Red Cross Blood Services

Elisa,

We have a lot to thank you and the St. John's Lutheran community for; you all are so appreciated.

The Devotional video idea was fantastic and whether directly or indirectly from it the food, snack packs and \$750 went a long way to helping us support so many families these last few months.

Messiah Community Food Shelf continues to serve 100-125 families every week and we continue to see the need grow. If it weren't for partners like you we could not be there for them. We always appreciate the contributions from St. John's Lutheran Church.

Much appreciation and thanks,
Messiah Community Food Shelf
Kim Mueller/Volunteer

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 8:30am Mary Breakfast Bunch 10:00am Staff Meeting	2 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 9:30 Hannah Wom- en's Study 3pm Worship Planning	3 9am Paper Crafters 2pm Worship at Winsor Plaza	4 8:45am Yoga With Clarity	5
6 8:30am Worship/ Communion 9:30am Sunday School/ Fellowship 10:30am Worship/ Communion	7 7pm Worship Arts Team Meeting 7pm Scouts	8 8:30am Global Missions Team Meeting 10:00am Staff Meeting	9 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 3pm Worship Planning See Wed Schedule Below	10 9am Quilters 10am Dementia Care Givers Sup- port Group	11 8:45am Yoga With Clarity	12
13 8:30am Worship/ Communion 9:30am Pancake Breakfast 9:30 Parenting Littles 10:30am Worship/ Communion	14 7pm Scouts	15 10:00am Staff Meeting	16 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 3pm Worship Planning	17 9am Quilters 11am Worship at Kingsley Shores 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship	18 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 6:30pm Good Friday Worship	19 9:00am Sanctuary Decorating
20 EASTER SUNDAY 8:30am Worship/ Communion 10:30am Worship/ Communion	21 8:30am Men's Breakfast Small Group-Perkins 7pm Scouts	22 10:00am Staff Meeting 5:30 Gratitude and Generosity Meeting 6:30pm Council	23 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 3pm Worship Planning See Wed Schedule Below	24 9am Stitches	25 8:45am Yoga With Clarity	26
27 8:30am Worship/ Communion 9:30am Sunday School/ Fellowship 10:30am Worship/ Communion	28 7pm Scouts	29 10:00am Staff Meeting	30 8:45am Yoga With Clarity 3pm Worship Planning See Wed Schedule Below			

And Jesus came and said to them,
'All authority in heaven and on earth
has been given to me.

GO therefore
and
MAKE DISCIPLES of all nations,
BAPTIZING them in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of
the Holy Spirit
and TEACHING them to obey
everything that I have
commanded you.

And **REMEMBER**

2025 I am with you always, to the end of the age.' 28:18-20

Wednesday Lent Schedule:

- 5:15-6:15-Lenten Supper
- 5:30 - 6:30-Youth choirs-JAM (K-4th), FLY (5th-MS)
- 6:00 - 6:30 - Highlights
- 6:30 - 7:15 - Lenten Worship Service
- 7:15 - 8:00 - Ablaze, Affirm 6th/7th Lenten mentors, Affirm 8th/9th panel Discussions
- 7:15 - 8:30 - Chancel Choir—HS-Adult
- 8:00 - 8:30 - Youth Group

Ministry Finance Team Report

The Ministry Finance Team presents this **Financial Performance Report ("FPR") for February 2025** to the Saint John's Lutheran Church Congregation and Council.

General Fund Report

- *For February 2025:*
- Offering revenue of \$42,670, 93% of the month's budget
- General Fund revenue of \$44,582, 94% of the month's budget
- General Fund expenses of \$56,62, 101% of the month's budget
- General Fund net operating performance was a (loss) for the month of \$12,100

Year to Date 2025:

- General Fund revenue \$85,957, 93% of the annual budget
- General Fund expenses \$106,015, 100% of the annual budget
- General Fund actual net performance vs. Budget is (negative) \$5,184 for 2025
- Net of receipts to expenses for all of 2025 is (negative) \$16,634

Comments & Observations:

2 (two) months for financial results are in line with 2024 results and significantly better than 2021 or 2022. With the Easter season beginning in March, March may receive a slight boost financially. Easter falls in late April, so hopefully better weather will boost April results.

Benevolence Fund Report

The Benevolence Fund is allocated 8% of total offering revenues and 100% of dedicated benevolence contributions. Benevolence Fund expenditures are made according to need and the amounts available from the Benevolence Fund.

For February 2025:

- Benevolence Fund allocations were \$3,710, 93% of budget
- Benevolence Fund contributions were \$305,

242% of budget

- Benevolence Fund distributions were \$4,874, 155% of budget

Year to Date 2025:

- Benevolence Inflows YTD are \$ 9,869
- Benevolence Distributions YTD are \$ 4,874
- Funds Awaiting Distribution: \$ 4,995

Comments and Observations

Funds Awaiting Distribution will be distributed to beneficiaries in the second quarter of 2025

Building Fund Report

For February 2025:

- Building Fund revenues were \$ 8,633
- Building Fund expenses were \$ 10,094
- Building Fund Net is: \$ (1,469)

Year to Date 2025:

- Building Fund Revenue YTD is \$ 16,062
- Building Fund expense YTD is \$ 20,188
- Building Fund YTD net is: \$ (4,139)

Comments and Observations:

Mortgage cash reserve maintained at approximately 8 months of mortgage monthly payments

Ministry Finance Team Members and How to Get Finance Questions Answered

If you have questions about how to give, contact the Church office and we'll get you all you need to support St. John's Lutheran Church. We encourage you to sign up for automated giving. There are many ways you can support St. John's financially, including:

- Contribute cash or by check when you worship at Church
- Drop off or mail your contributions at Church anytime the office is open
- Use the QR Code in the weekly bulletin
- Text "Give" to 218.210.7853
- Go to the St. John's website at www.sjlcl.org,

Click on "Give" at the upper right

- Gifts of stock, bonds, real estate, or other assets are gladly accepted
- Call Tyra at St. John's (612) 469-4916 for assistance with set-up or any gifting Questions

The members of the Ministry Finance Team are always available and willing to answer any financial related questions or provide information about the financial operations of St. John's. Contact the Church office to be put in touch with a Ministry Finance Team member or if you see **Mark Gelle, Mike Sobota, Lisa Drogemuller, Andy Schultz, Mark Renze, Christopher Olson, Joe Stoddard, or Treasurer Barry Fick**, don't hesitate to talk with them for additional information.

We thank you for your ongoing financial support and encourage you to remain faithful in your giving as the year continues and we all experience new challenges.



Lenten Banks

An annual Lenten staple at St. John's, the Global Missions Team will again be handing out paper banks to take home and fill during Lent. Banks are available now. This fundraiser sends all proceeds to our companion church in Muhanga, Tanzania, East Africa. Funds this year are specifically targeted to the Muhanga General Fund. This summer, Pastor Nathan and one other St. John's member together with a group from our Synod, are traveling to Tanzania to learn first-hand about the work in our partner village of Muhanga. Please fill your bank with coins and/or other cash or check (if check, make payable to St. John's Lutheran Church and put "Lenten Bank" on the memo line). Thank you for participating in this important project again this year. All banks are due back by **Palm Sunday, April 13**. After Easter, we will report the result of this fundraiser for the people of Muhanga.

Notes from the Finance Office

Contribution Statements

Quarter 1 2025 contribution statements will be emailed around **April 15**. If you do not receive this email, please check your spam folder or call the office to update your email address. Please call or email Tyra (tyra@sjlcl.org) if you have any questions.

Thank you to all members who directed their Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John's. We greatly appreciate these gifts. If you have a Thrivent account contact your representative to learn about your Choice Dollars.

Pink Envelope Donations:

The pink envelopes in April support St. John's Care and Compassion Team Scholarships which will be awarded to our graduating seniors in June. (See more details on p.7). Pick up a pink donation envelope from the pew rack while at church and place your check or cash inside and place in the offering plate during service. Or you can give on Tithe.ly too, just choose "pink envelopes" from the dropdown menu and write "College Scholarships" in the note box.

Tithe.ly - Did you know?

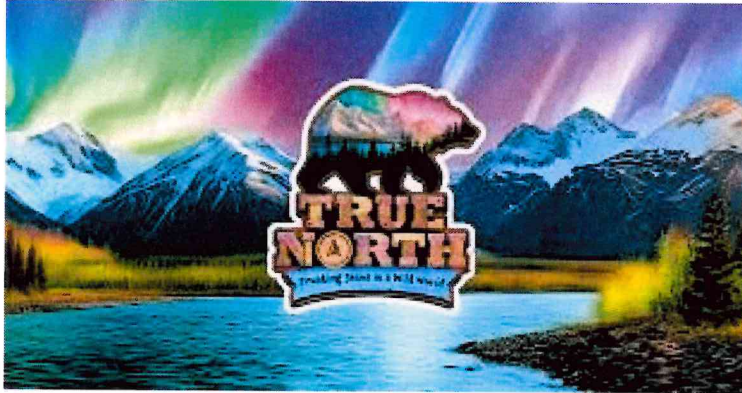
1. Has Auto-recurring giving.
2. Has the option to cover the credit card fees so St. John's receives 100% of your gift.

There are 4 ways to give with Tithe.ly.

- Give on the church website. Click on "Give"
- Give online - go to [Tithe.ly/Give](https://tithe.ly/Give).
- Give with the Tithe.ly App. Want to give to your church using the convenience of your smartphone? No problem! Download the Tithe.ly App from the [App Store](#) (iPhone) or [Google Play Store](#) (Android). Once you've downloaded the app, create an account or log in, locate your church and tap "Give Now" to complete your gift!
- Text to Give – 218-210-7853. On your smartphone send a text to this number and in the message type in "Text to Give". You will receive a link to set up text giving!

Contact Tyra (tyra@sjlcl.org) or 952-469-6322. She will be happy to help you get signed up with this online giving platform.

Save the date for an adventure with Jesus!
June 16-19, 2025 from 9am-12pm
St. John's



Register Here Now

April 2025 Newsletter
20165 Heath Ave
Lakeville, MN 55044

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