



The St John Lutheran Newsletter is a monthly publication of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

Volume 1 Issue 4

Weekly Schedule:

- Service 9:00 am
- Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:15am
- Confirmation 1:45pm
- Monday Ecclesiastes Study
- Wednesday Scripture Study Coffee time 8:30am Study 9am
- 2nd & 4th Thursday Fraternal Friends of Marty @ 7:00 pm
- Women's Bible Study First and Fourth Saturday of Month @ 9am

Special Activities:

- LWML April 13 @ 5:30pm

From Pastor Beltz's Desk

The American Mind Meets the Mind of Christ: Tribulation in Vocation

Bearing the Cross of our vocations is realistic destiny. Our vocations, like the rest of this creation, are under the curse of the wages of our sin. This curse is directed precisely at our marriages, our family and children, and our work (Genesis 3.22-24).

It is not just sin and its curse that we feel in our vocations. We often feel the wrath of God. Those times when God changes all circumstance under our feet and even allows the devil to slither close to us for a time and whisper into our ears. We will face trials, tests, and tribulations within our vocations. We will face utter failure, despair and death.

Two parents bring a child up in the Word of God. They also care for his natural needs of body. They care for him and love him in divinely mandated ways. They pour into him their hearts and souls. They are called to do this. Yet, when the child grows up he rejects everything the parents have loved him with. He rejects their teaching, their morals, their God. They torment themselves; Did we fail as parents? What should we

have done differently? What can we do now to get through to him?

A family constructs a company from the ground up. They employ scores of people from their community and lift many out of poverty while providing a good product to their neighbors. But, the economy turns and global supply snags bog down production. They try, but they cannot maintain workers compensation-- layoffs. They try, but they cannot save the business. Their family is bankrupt. Wasn't this their calling? What is their calling now?

A young and eager pastor arrives in a congregation with his young and growing family. He pours himself into the life and care of the congregation and its members. He preaches sermons, visits the sick and shut-in. He endears himself, not only to the members of the congregation, but also to the members of the community at-large. Nevertheless, the congregation turns. Maybe for a trivial reason. They don't like the hymns he is currently picking. Perhaps it is the fact that a person got their feelings hurt because of a perceived slight. Whatever the case,

in a voter's meeting a motion is made to reduce the pastor's salary by half, and it is unanimously accepted. The pastor is reeling. Aren't I called to be the pastor here? Doesn't God want me here? What am I supposed to do now? What about my family?

Failures and the Wrath of God are what usually drive us into melancholy and torment easier than anything else in our given vocations. Does tribulation within our vocation mean that we are not called to that particular vocation? Certainly not. It is unholy and unhelpful, but tempting, to believe that we should've never had children at all if one goes astray. Tribulation in our vocations is bearing the cross of our vocations. Each vocation has its crosses.

We will not at this time discuss the topic of self-imposed crosses. Some people simply manufacture crosses for themselves. This is not the pattern and shape of the Cross of Christ. The Cross was applied to Jesus by God the Father through Rome and Israel. In a similar way us Christians have our crosses applied to us by God the Father through our mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, spouses, children,

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April Duties:

Elder

Jim Roach

Altar Guild

Myrna Anthony
Betty Mc Williams

Acolyte

Charlotte Beltz

Processional Cross

4/17 Nolan McKain

Hospitality

4/2 Fran Katko & Karen Westercamp

4/16 Marge Roach

Brooklyn Vanderwilt

4/22 John & Lisa Haack

4/29 Lauren McKain & Tamra Van Haaften

Cleaning

Need someone

A big THANK YOU to all members who served as organists, Hospitality servers, and cleaning crew last month. This is just another part of STEWARDSHIP in action at St. John.

LWML NEWS

LWML will be having a business meeting on April 13th at 5:30pm. Please join us for a great time for fellowship. Hostess will be Tamara Van Haaften & Karen Westercamp. All ladies of St. John are



INTAKE FORMS
We are working on updating church files. There is intake forms in the narthex to fill out. Please fill out an intake form for each family member, including children. Please return all intake forms in the basket marked intake forms. My Goal is to have things update so I can do birthday and anniversaries again. This will also help the office update addresses and phone numbers. Thank you for your help.

Mite Bytes

Faith Based Program
Lutheran East Side Mission, Davenport
\$2,500

Lutheran East Side Mission serves an economically disadvantaged area of Davenport that is in desperate need of the Gospel.

The mission has provided after school programs, Children’s “Summer Fun Curriculum, Youth Group events, and Ladies Bible Studies among other events to help spread the Gospel.

This grant will provide funding so that these and other programs could continue to reach those in need in East Davenport.



Please include in your prayers daily

Betty Blessum, Betty Loftsgard, Henry & Dolores Fynaardt, Lynn Karavitas and Ann Ohms;

For those in Ukraine, Russia, Uvalde and other places suffering from acts of senseless violence;

For those serving in our Armed Forces and for our Police Officers and Fire Fighters; may they remain safe in their service;

For the many that continue to struggle with isolation and loneliness; For those directly and in directly affected by the conflict in Ukraine;

For the many who continue to struggle with natural disasters and bad storms;

For our Church, that God would continue to grant us new members and make us a good gift to each other and our community;

For us as a congregation to faithfully receive God’s gifts this day.



Continued from page 1

governments, economies and all the other agents through who God works in this creation. God applies these Crosses to his Children so that we will pray to him and remember him.

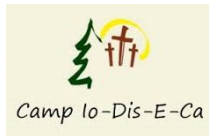
Prayer is the moment when, in tribulation, we plead to God to inject himself into our lives and vocations. Prayer is the door through which God enters into our vocations and labor, families, homes, congregation and world. His hope is that we will remember him as he desires to be known-in Jesus and Jesus alone.

Pastor Beltz

Easter Lilies- sign up on the bulletin board and mark what you would like. There will be lilies and spring flowers available for purchase. The prices below all include tax.

- Lilies - \$14.00
- Begonias - \$18.50
- Daffodils - \$15.00
- Hyacinths - \$15.00
- Dahlias - \$9.00

Please put the money for the lilies and plants in the basket in the back of the church marked Lily money not in the offering plate. Please sign up by Palm Sunday. Any question call or txt Karen Westercamp @ 641-780-7282



Registration is open. Take a look at the different camps at www.campiodiseca.org. The camp does offer scholarship to those in need. Also the church does have some money left from last year for scholarships.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Shirley Stout	4-01
Betty Loftsgard	4-05
MacKenzie Anthony	4-15
Lincoln Duffy	4-25
Laura Nicholson	
Leo King	4-30

These may not be up to date at this time.

Easter Potluck Brunch

Come join us for Easter Potluck Brunch
7:30am

Come enjoy fellowship along with celebrating
the resurrection of Christ our Lord

Holy Week Services

Holy Wednesday @ 5:30pm

Maundy Thursday @ 5:30pm

Good Friday @ 5:30pm

Easter Sunrise 6:30am

Easter Service 9am



April 2023

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>2</p> <p>9am Divine Service with Communion 10:15 Bible Study/ Sunday School 11:00am Choir 1:45pm Confirmation</p> <p>Mite Box Sunday</p>	<p>3 6:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 2pm Scripture Study at Homestead 5:30pm Holy Wednesday Service</p> <p>Bulletin items due</p>	<p>6 Maundy Thursday Service 5:30pm</p>	<p>7 Good Friday Service 5:30pm</p>	<p>1 9am Women's Bible Study</p>
<p>9</p> <p>6:30am Easter Sunrise Service 7:30am Easter Potluck Brunch 9am Divine Service with Communion</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 8:30am Coffee Time 9:00am Scripture Study 2pm Bible Study at Homestead</p> <p>Bulletin items due</p>	<p>13 LWML 5:30PM Friends of Marty 7pm</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9am Divine Service with Communion 10:15 Bible Study/ Sunday School 1:45pm Confirmation</p>	<p>17 5:30pm Monday Night Meal 6:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 8:30am Coffee Time 9:00am Scripture Study 2pm Bible Study at Homestead</p> <p>Bulletin items due</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Newsletter Items Due</p>	<p>22 9am Women's Bible Study</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9am Prayers and Preaching Service 10:15 Bible Study/ Sunday School 1:45PM Confirmation</p>	<p>24 6:00pm Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 8:30am Coffee Time 9:00am Scripture Study 2pm Bible Study at Homestead</p> <p>Bulletin items due</p>	<p>27 Friends of Marty 7pm</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <p>9am Divine Service with Communion 10:15 Bible Study/ Sunday School 1:45pm Confirmation</p>						