

Ushers and Greeters

- 2nd Debra Gilson
Douglas Otten
Ethel Reschke
- 4th Michael Sewell
- 5th Clara Bohrtz
- 6th Clayton Herlache
Raelia Pennenberg
Jon Schmidt
- 7th Kenneth Gilson
- 8th Adeline Bohrtz
Tanya Parrish
- 9th Nichole Myers
- 10th Sue Rosenbaum
Ross Vande Hey
- 12th Amy Bowers
Hattie Juedes
McKenna Leick
- 14th Alexander Sewell
- 17th Don Zittlow
- 18th Timothy Jandrey
Richard Rosenthal
Brenda Van Schyndel
- 19th Mattheah Gehl
Ken Wierschke
- 20th Loree Baumgartener
- 23rd Madeline Clark
Gregory Gutzman
- 24th Virginia Haese
- 26th Lou Ann Gutzman
- 27th Gary Brandt
Andrea Kussow
- 28th Mary Fritsch
- 29th Miranda Gehl
- 31st Terry Sieker
Dominic Tank
Issac Tank

	<u>7:45 a.m.</u>	<u>10:15 a.m.</u>
May 7th Greeters	Michelle Bruecker Becke Pennenberg Ralia Pennenberg	Rozanne Bohrtz Mary Fritsch Nichole Meyers Barb Verbeten
May 7th Ushers	Jacob Bruecker Bryce Herlache Noah Pennenberg Monty Reynolds	Josh Bohrtz Ralph Bohrtz Chris Lemke Kenny Lemke Ryan Lemke Ed Maass

May 14th Greeters	Michelle Bruecker Becke Pennenberg Ralia Pennenberg	Rozanne Bohrtz Mary Fritsch Nichole Meyers Barb Verbeten
May 14th Ushers	Jacob Bruecker Bryce Herlache Noah Pennenberg Monty Reynolds	Josh Bohrtz Ralph Bohrtz Chris Lemke Kenny Lemke Ryan Lemke Ed Maass

May 21st Greeters	Bea Ambrosius Brenda Pohlman Betty Schmidt Pat Vickman	Aura Lee Gehl Carol Just Faye Patoka
May 21st Ushers	Chad Schmidt Jesse Schmidt Kevin Vande Hey Bernie Vickman Steve Wierschke	Lloyd Patoka Richard Patton Bart Reschke Les Schmidt Terry Sieker

May 28th Greeters	Bea Ambrosius Brenda Pohlman Betty Schmidt Pat Vickman	Aura Lee Gehl Carol Just Faye Patoka
May 28th Ushers	Chad Schmidt Jesse Schmidt Kevin Vande Hey Bernie Vickman Steve Wierschke	Lloyd Patoka Richard Patton Bart Reschke Les Schmidt Terry Sieker

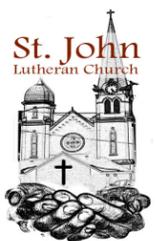
May Altar Guild: Lou Ann Gutzman, Courtney Schisel & Janet Wierschke		

Newsletter

ST JOHN

Evangelical Lutheran Church

437 Turner St, Wrightstown WI 54180
Phone: (920) 532-4865, Email: stjohwrightstown@gmail.com
May 2017



St. John
Lutheran Church

Gather Grow & Go with the Gospel



WORSHIP
SCHEDULE

Bible Classes
9 am Sundays
1st & 3rd Wednesdays
7 am

Sunday Worship
7:45 & 10:15 am

What is it that gets you down? A gloomy day? A strained relationship? A jam-packed schedule or a seemingly endless list of to-dos? A world that seems to be spinning out of control – crime, disease, calamity, immorality? Loneliness or anxiety? Chronic pain or illness? Feeling inadequate or unappreciated? The passing of a loved one?

As we transition from April’s showers to May’s flowers, things are supposed to be looking up. The days are getting longer. The temperature is gradually increasing. Gardens are planted. Birds are chirping. Spring has sprung!

But contrary to appearances, all those things that tend to get us down in life haven’t simply disappeared. They don’t take time off or go on vacation. They constantly nag at us and try to distract us and diminish our joy. And they sure do a pretty good job at it, sometimes, don’t they?

Martin Luther often suffered from bouts of depression. Sometimes it felt as if the whole world was against him – and that feeling wasn’t much off the mark. On one of those days, his wife Katherine put on a black funeral dress and entered his study. “Who died?” he asked. “Well, the way you’ve been acting, God must’ve died, so I wanted to join you in your mourning.”

Of course, Luther knew that God can’t die. And he knew that, although God the Son gave his life on the cross, he’d risen from the dead in triumph. Having gotten the point from his dear and witty wife, he etched into his desk the Latin word *vivit* – “he lives” – as a reminder to himself of the great truth of Easter.

Jesus lives! What trouble or sadness can possibly drown out that reality? None! Jesus lives! The guilt that saddens me has been removed because the debt of sin has been paid in full. Jesus lives! The loneliness is an illusion, because my Savior is ever-present with me and holds me ever so closely. The anxiety is a sham, because he hears and answers my prayers. Jesus lives! Feelings of inadequacy are a lie because Jesus has given me his own righteousness and made me a saint of God and an heir of heaven. Jesus lives! The idea that I can’t handle all the pressure is replaced by the promise that “I can do everything through him who gives me strength.” Jesus lives! “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord!” Jesus lives!

Not only does Jesus live, you do, too. You’re alive with, through, and in Christ. Live in him by living in his Word. Live for him by putting his resurrection on display in your life. *Vivit!* He lives!

Your righteousness, O God, reaches to the heights. You have done great things. God, who is like you, who have made us see many troubles and disasters? You will give us life again. From the depths of the earth you will bring me up again. You will increase my greatness and comfort me once again. (Psalm 71:19-21, EHV)

In Christ’s Service and Yours!
Pastor Mike Gehl

Highlights from the Paperland Circuit LWMS spring rally at Martin Luther Lutheran Church
Neenah April 22:

Mission offerings from the 30 churches in the Paperland circuit totaled just over \$8,600.00. (St. John's offering was \$238.00). One of the projects selected to receive these offerings was the **Nepal Project** for World Missions. Since 2002, WELS has been supplying worker training needs for Christians in Nepal. After seven years of biannual workshops, we have developed an ongoing Bible institute. The next step is to start a seminary where pastors will be trained theologically and vocationally. Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world. Men often leave the country for 2-3 years to earn money for their families where they work 12 hour days, 6-7 days a week. This separation from their family and their church family is especially hard on marriages, children, and churches.

The hope is to teach the men a tent ministry whereby they may support themselves and not have to leave their families or churches. The leaders in Nepal have suggested a dairy farm as a means to this end. If every pastor has two dairy cows, he will have enough milk to support his family at an adequate level. He would not have to leave the country or give up his ministry.

This program is called "Milk for Nepal". Our national leaders want to bring milk to the body and the milk of God's Word to the soul. By teaching pastors the truths of God's Word in greater depth in the seminary, they will feed their own souls and also feed the souls of their members. Monies are needed to establish this farm, purchase cows and other animals. Our national leaders hope to teach many skills on this farm as the men learn how to be a pastor.

The Home Missions project selected was **Vans for Missions**. Some of our mission congregations provide outreach programs that are poorly attended because of a lack of transportation in their communities. This is especially true with our Native American missions and in other areas where public transportation does not exist. Currently, vans funded by this program are used by the Navajo Indians in Colorado and New Mexico, as well as missions in Fresno, CA and Ontario, Canada. Our gifts will assist congregations that need to purchase vans.

Our guest speaker was Andrea Hunter (Martin Luther College graduate and pastor's wife) who worked for two years with Friends of China, teaching English as a second language, and also sharing God's Word. She spent another 2 1/2 years in Hong Kong doing the same. She also shared what life in China was like.

Please keep in your prayers the families of our foreign missionaries. There are currently 18 students of 8 missionaries from Zambia, Malawi, Cameroon, India and St. Lucia attending high school and college in the states. This separation from their families and adjusting to life in America after growing up in a very different culture can be very difficult.

All the attendees were strongly encouraged to attend the National LWMS convention June 21-24, 2018 in Green Bay! This convention is the place to learn first hand about our missionaries and the work being done in their mission fields. It is an incredible heart-filling experience! Watch for more news in the coming year. This national convention is for you, too.

The offering for the day was \$2,539.00.

The fall LWMS rally will be in Algoma on October 14, 2017. Mark your calendar now!

St.
John
Journal
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Labels update

The end of the school year is coming soon, so please send in **ALL** your **Campbell's Labels for Education, Kwik Trip Milk Moola and General Mills Box Tops**.

You may have noticed that Campbell soup cans no longer have the special LFE label. Campbell's announced last year it was ending their program, but continued through this school year until products with the special labels were off the shelves. We earned a \$50 Visa card last year.

Box Tops are worth 10 cents each and are on many products besides cereal. Last year we earned \$119.20.

Our total lifetime earnings are \$2,824.66!

Please continue to save the **Kwik Trip Milk Moola** caps and plastic strips from milk and other juices.

Thank you!



- 5th Monty & Sharon Reynolds
Dawn & Stephen Roder
- 8th Ralph & Rozanne Bohrtz
Lloyd & Faye Patoka
- 15th Don & Ginny Haese
- 22nd Wayne & Leah Cisler
Kenneth & Debra Gilson
Don & Darlene Zittlow
- 31st Dale & Diane Laabs



Calling out to the St. John School Alumni!!!!

We are building an alumni list of everyone who has gone to St. John Ev. Lutheran School. Even if you did not graduate, we still want to hear from you.

We will be sending out newsletters (Cry of the Cardinal), event information, and gatherings that might interest you to come and support the next generation of Cardinals.

Please contact the church office at 920-532-4865 or email at stjohnwrightstown@gmail.com with your contact information, name, and year graduated (if applicable). Talk to you soon!

Logos Bible Crosswords Creatures Great and Small



The pictures to the left are from our **special "fund-raiser."** As you all know, we are hoping to replace several fellowship hall tables with new ones. The complete project is estimated to cost somewhere between \$1,000 and \$2,000. **All members** are invited to contribute as generously as they're willing and able to assist us in reaching our goal. Over the next few weeks, you can place a separate envelope in the offering plate earmarked for "new tables." If you want this contribution to be included in your charitable donations, please make sure your envelope number is on that separate envelope. Thank you.