

APRIL 13/14, 2024



ST. JOHN'S WEEKLY NEWS



JUNE 17-20 • 9 AM-12 PM

This summer St. John's kids will have an out-of-this-world adventure that's light years of faith-building fun—having a blast shining Jesus' light to the world!

For kids ages 5 years through 5th grade.



**VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION
+ CHILD PARTICIPATION**

www.bit.ly/SJ_VBS_24

From Pastor David



I've always been partial to the history book of the New Testament, the book of Acts. This week, we look again at the stories of the early church and how our stories echo theirs as we live in the hope of resurrection.

One way we tell the resurrection story is to join together to do things we can not do as individuals or even individual congregations, no matter their size. Of course, there is the ELCA, our national church body, but then there are smaller regional organizations that we call synods; here at St. John's, we are a part of the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of the ELCA.

To best help and enable sharing the Good News of God in Jesus Christ, the Synod recently kicked off a listening and visioning process across the Synod. I am asking you to participate in this process by completing a survey.

Why should you take the time to do this? Well, I have a bunch of reasons:

1. You'll likely learn things about yourself and the broader church. You may not know how to answer all the questions, but in so doing, we will know where education and communication may need to be improved.
2. Your voice and opinions are essential. No two members of the body of Christ are identical, but we are all called to mission in Jesus's name.
3. Finally, if we get over 500 completed surveys, the synod staff of Bishop Greg Busboom, Pastor Amy Zietlow, and Deacon Jason Fisher will get "pied" in the face.
4. And maybe the best reason of all: a challenge gift of \$2,000 will be made to the ELCA. As I write, we are about 180 short of our goal. You, the people of St. John's, can make this happen! The deadline is April 17. So, visit www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSIS-Survey and take the survey! For more information, visit the synod website: www.csis-elca.org.

I also invite you to become involved by attending an in-person listening event. There are several throughout the synod, but the closest will be at St. Matthew Lutheran, 2200 Philo Road, Urbana, on April 21, starting at 1 PM. The synod asks that you register for these in advance, and you can do so on the synod website.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to share parts of your story as we live into the big story of life in Jesus Christ together.

Next Weekend

Life Stories, Cornerstones—Acts 4:5-12

WORSHIP *gather, praise, pray*

Regular Worship Times

Saturdays, 5 PM / Sundays, 8:30 and 10:30 AM

All worship services are also live-streamed on our Facebook page and YouTube channel (click on the LIVE tab for the latest videos).

LOVE *welcome, care, and share*

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Monday, April 15, 1:30 PM, Gathering Area

If you like to knit or crochet, come to a Prayer Shawl gathering. Enjoy a time of fellowship while creating prayer shawls, prayer squares or chemo caps for St. John's members, cancer centers, etc. New members are always welcome. For more information, contact Lynda Bogue, lsbogue@ilstu.edu or (309) 532-2083.

Pickleball at St. John's

Thursday mornings, 9 AM, Parish Life Center

Interested in playing Pickleball? All skills levels are welcome. Please contact Chris Magnuson, cmagnuson26@yahoo.com or (309) 826-1619, for more information.

New Member Opportunity

On Sunday, April 21, new members will be received during worship services. Interested in learning more about the membership process? Please contact Kerri, kerri@stjblm.org, by Sunday, April 14, to be received with this group.

CPR Courses Offered at St. John's

Saturday, April 27, Junior High Room

- BLS Renewal 11:30 AM–1:45 PM (for healthcare providers)—\$65
- Heartsaver 3–5:30 PM (for non-healthcare providers)—\$65

Tuesday, April 30, Junior High Room

- BLS Renewal 10:30 AM–1PM (for healthcare providers)—\$65
- BLS Renewal 2–5 PM (traditional course)—\$65

St. John's members receive a 20% discount. Please contact Michelle Brown, michelleabrown1985@gmail.com, to register or for more information.

Volunteer TRAINING SESSION

Sunday, April 28, 9:30 AM

Is God calling you to step out and serve? If you would like to help in worship, plan to attend this one-hour session for Guest Services, covering the basics for serving as a Communion Assistant, Usher, Hospitality/Greeter, Lector, and Technology Booth and Coffee Volunteers.

Please register to attend at
www.bit.ly/STJVolunteerTrainingEvent.



GROW *learn, discover, and equip*

Weekend Adult Studies

Saturdays, 4:05-4:55 PM, Gathering Area—discuss weekly scripture lessons

Sunday mornings, 9:30-10:30 AM

Lectionary Study, Loft—discuss the weekly scripture lessons

Video Study, Conference Room—*Trite, Not True*. We are swimming in a culture full of opinions masquerading as wisdom. Much of what passes as wisdom today has the ring of biblical truth. How do you tell the difference? How do we see through half-truths and self-help trends to access the deep wisdom of God's Word and the full life found in Him alone? Jarrett Stephens tackles these statements in this series, exploring six common pop philosophies that influence people's lives. Discover how to decipher superficial insights from the real truth of God's Word, as well as how to apply biblical wisdom to everyday life.

JoyZone Sunday Morning Children's Program

Sunday mornings, during 10:30 AM worship

Age-appropriate lessons, activities, games, and crafts in the Children's Wing.

Faith in Life Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays (except the first of the month), 10 AM, Fellowship Hall

All are invited to this study on the Gospel of Mark.

Thrive Junior High

Wednesdays, 6:30-8 PM, Fellowship Hall

Large- and small-group ministry offering learning, fellowship, and service evenings.

Chaos Senior High

Wednesdays, 6:30-8 PM, Senior High Room

Youth are welcome to a large-group gathering for fellowship, service, and prayer.

Friday Morning Men's Group

Fridays, 7:30-8:30 AM, Loft

The group is studying a new book in the Augsburg Adult Bible study series titled *Examining Our Faith*. Contact David Roehrig, xusaf1@gmail.com, or Kerri, kerri@stjblm.org for more information.

Holy Communion Stepping Stone

Creative Workshop—Sunday, April 14, 1-3:15 PM, Parish Life Center

Learning Workshop #1—Wednesday, April 17, 6:30-7:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Learning Workshop #2—Wednesday, April 24, 6:30-7:30 PM, Fellowship Hall

Celebration Worship—Sunday, April 28, 8:30 and 10:30 AM

This Stepping Stone is an educational program for students and their parents in 4th grade and up who would like to learn more about the sacrament of Holy Communion. Students are welcome to attend the program even if they already take communion during worship. All workshops are for the student and parent. A cake reception will follow the 10:30 AM Celebration Worship service. Please register for this Stepping Stone at www.bit.ly/SJ_Communion24.

PRAYER Workshop

Wednesday, May 1, 6:30-8 PM
Worship Center

Do you desire to have a more vibrant and rich prayer life?

You're invited to this interactive prayer workshop, designed for junior and senior high youth and adults.

Please contact Gudrun Dunt, gudrun@stjblm.org or (309) 827-6121 ext. 214, for more information.

Visit www.bit.ly/SJ_PrayerWorkshop to register.

GIVE *time, treasure, and talents*

JoyZone Volunteers Needed

Volunteers for JoyZone are needed. Students 6th-12th grade and adults are encouraged to help with this ministry—once a month, every week, or as often as you'd like! Please contact Amy, arademacher@stjblm.org, for more information.

Quilters

Tuesdays, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall

Help make quilts for Lutheran World Relief and local charities. Donations of cotton fabric and flat sheets, new or gently used, are needed. New people are welcome on Tuesdays in addition to fellow quilters and sewers who prefer to work from home. Contact Lori Syring, (815) 641-7159 or Vicky Kramer, (309) 530-1604, for more information.

Faith In Action Volunteer Orientations

Tuesday, May 7, 1–2:30 PM, ARC Center, 600 East Willow Street, Normal

Contact Stacey, (309) 827-7780, to learn more or fill out the volunteer interest form at www.bnfia.org/post-3988 and someone will follow up with you.

Thank You

Thank you for your continued support to Carle BroMenn's Compassion Closet. Your donations are helping many individuals in need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.—Carle BroMenn Spiritual Care

Serve in our Community

Serve at Safe Harbor, Midwest Food Bank, or other local agency. Visit www.stjblm.org/local to sign up or learn more about opportunities to give your time and talents.



Financial giving is easy with the QR code!

Scan the code with your phone camera!

Looking for daily readings for the Revised Common Lectionary?

Visit www.bit.ly/3PG0bj for the complete list.

Prayers and Blessings

If you or a loved one will be hospitalized or are undergoing outpatient care, please let us know. Contact Gudrun, gudrun@stjblm.org or (309) 827-6121 ext. 214. If you or a loved one is listed and should be removed, please let Gudrun know.

Hospitalized/In Need of Healing

Bob Fisher, Michele Lynn McComas, Karen McGuire, Irma Milam

Condolence

Carol Waibel and family upon the death of her husband David Waibel

Wedding

Tristan Humbles and Aoife Leahy, married Saturday, April 13

Partners in Ministry and Healing

- The Lutheran Church of Madagascar
- Christ Lutheran Church, Quincy, Illinois
 - Carle BroMenn Patient Access
- Staff and patients of OSF St. Joseph Hospital
- Agape ISU—A partnership of the Lutheran Student Movement and Judson Fellowship

Keep in Prayer

Curt Addicks, Chris Behl, Gary Brandenburg, Jim Caster, George Childers, Andrea Choban, Nancy Clark, Ed Cronic, Karen Duffield, Cyrus Garnett, Janet Hohman, Nola Johnson, Bunker Kuethe, Mark Kuhn, Scott Laughlin, Tom McKenna, Julie Megli, David Milam, Irma Milam, Nicholas Mueller, Terry Rathbun, Kathy Segerstrom, Lois Skillrud, those who live in senior living communities, care facilities, and the homebound

Prayers for Those in the Military

Dustin Ahlschwede, Benjamin Baur, Sara Coakley, Casey Grogg, Jeremy Grogg, Mike Heuer, David Lehr, Jason Lenz, Andrew Mueller, Jason Murphy, Richard Mutari Jr., Tyler Nelson, Zach Poehlman, John Allen Wagner, A.J. Wunderlin

For Our Congregation

We pray for all those here today and those yet to come; may they hear the good news of your love and spread that love throughout our community and beyond.

Altar Flowers

- In loving memory of Kaitlyn Therman, given by her family
 - In loving memory of Harry L. Miller, given by Charlene Miller and Lynda and Dennis Bogue
 - In loving memory of Leola Pietrowiak, given by her daughters, Wendy and Kathy
- In loving memory of our daughter, Jacey Ann Monson, given by Tony and Laura Monson