

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

September 2022



## MEETINGS

- 9/6 Altar Guild 1pm
- Lutheranns 1:30
- 9/8 Elders 6pm
- 9/12 Trustees 5pm
- Education 6pm
- Finance 6:30
- Tech & Com 7pm

## BOWLING

Sunday Sept 11<sup>th</sup>

We will have a bowling day at Country Lanes at 12noon, we will pay for shoes and game fees. Pizza will be available.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. JOHN

### Sundays

Contemporary service 8:30  
Sunday School 9:15  
Traditional service 10:30  
Communion on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

### Tuesdays

Celebrate Recovery 5-8pm

### Wednesdays

Women's Bible Study 5pm

### Saturdays

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat Men's Bible Study

## PRAYER WALK

We have started up our Prayer Walks again. They will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month right after the late service, followed by lunch.

## What God says about Communion/Lord's Supper

### **John6:52–56ESV**

<sup>52</sup> The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" <sup>53</sup> So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. <sup>55</sup> **For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.** <sup>56</sup> **Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.** <sup>57</sup> As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. <sup>58</sup> This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

### **1Corinthians11:23-32ESV**

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "**This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**" <sup>25</sup> In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "**This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.**" <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

<sup>27</sup> **Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.** <sup>28</sup> **Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.** <sup>29</sup> **For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.** <sup>30</sup> That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. <sup>31</sup> **But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged.** <sup>32</sup> **But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.**

### **Matthew26:28ESV**

<sup>28</sup> **for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.**

Most people think that the Lord's Supper is sharing a meal with our Lord Jesus. After you have read "What God says about communion," I hope you now believe you are having a meal of our Lord Jesus who gave His Body and Blood to be food of forgiveness and remembrance of how and why Jesus Christ gave up His Body and Blood for us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ did not die on the cross to just give us food and drink. Christ gave Himself up to suffering and dying on the cross to forgive all of our sins. And this, Christ did out of the love of our God who brings salvation to all whom He calls. Though God calls all to be His adopted children, only those who listen to the Holy Spirit and believe will inherit eternal life. One also has to realize that eternal life is also eternal relationship with our benevolent and loving God.

The question that most people have is, "Why cannot everybody take communion?" First realize that one does not need communion to be saved and have eternal life and relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. There are serious qualifications in God's word before one can take the Lord's Supper. Again Read "What God says about communion."

These qualifications are why we (LCMS) have Catechism for our youth, new members who do not know Christ, and new members who come from different denominations. Not all denominations teach correctly the seriousness of taking the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior.

Without the proper knowledge and teaching of the Lord's Supper we would be allowing people to take it to their judgement. This is not in our hearts to see one be judged. This also brings judgement upon the pastor serving the Lord's Supper.

**James 3:1 ESV** *Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that **we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.***<sup>3</sup>

This is not about us or you, but rather about what our God wants for all believers.

**John 3:17 ESV** <sup>17</sup> **For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.**

## **PASTOR'S PAGE**

### **Sermon from 8-28-22**

*Luke 14:1–4* <sup>1</sup>One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. <sup>2</sup>And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup>And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” <sup>4</sup>But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away.

We practice law every day. Some people follow rules to play a game, rules of the house, orders from our superiors and supervisors, and... some do not. Some pride themselves for following whatever rules and laws that they think makes them look good, and others don't follow rules because they think this makes them look good.

We each follow the laws whether they are the laws of the land, God's laws, or our own personnel laws. We can get carried away or overzealous in following laws and rules to the point that we become merciless to all that is happening around us. At the same time rules and laws help bring and keep order to many situations in life and even in play. However, we should not expect that everything fits in one box as each situation in life may challenge the laws of the land or rules of the game.

Jesus knew the Pharisees would criticize Him, so He immediately challenged them with a question. “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?” The law says you should rest and worship on the sabbath. Healing would be considered as work and could waste the time for worship. To obey this law, if one, then is sick or injured then you should avoid them as did the priest and Levite in the parable of the “Good Samaritan.” Love God first, yes, however loving God means to love one another and if your neighbor is in need on the sabbath then help your neighbor. Showing our love to our neighbor is showing love to God. Read Matthew 25: 35-40.

**Luke 14:5–6** <sup>5</sup>And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” <sup>6</sup>And they could not reply to these things.

If you are so afraid to answer the question, maybe you need to examine your God given morals and knowledge of God. We have a God who is merciful and one of grace, why would one not rescue his son, oxen, or even neighbor on a Sabbath? This situation is probably a no brainer for most, maybe questionable o the overzealous. Or, you could say sorry son, but I will rescue tomorrow.

There are many such questions we ask. Is it ok with God if we break His law to help someone? We get stuck on the question because there is always someone around the corner to judge us. Let them judge, if you are trusting in God’s grace and mercy then do what needs to be done.

Stop!! Unfortunately, mankind in these days have become overzealous in all their unwritten laws and rules. There are always unwritten laws that are made up by many who want to make sure no one can live up to their expectations. These people are usually overzealous to keep these laws from being broken. Though they hold them secret and only tell you of them when you have broken them.

You must ask yourself is it better to suffer the consequences that man will push on you or is it better to let your son, oxen, or neighbor to die in the pit they fell in? I hope and pray that you choose always to save those in need as hard as it may seem to accomplish. God is a God of mercy and a God of grace.

**Luke 14:7–9** <sup>7</sup>Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, <sup>8</sup>“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, <sup>9</sup>and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’

*and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place.*

Being overzealous goes along with thinking too much of yourself. It is good to be zealous for the Lord, just don't overdo it. How much more important do you think you are to this world than the importance of others? God asks us to be humble rather than boast that you are a Christian.

Truth be told no one in this world is more important than another. We all eat, drink, laugh, cry, bleed, bruise, get sick, get injured, and die. And whatever you have now will either be thrown into a landfill, burned, or become someone else's property. Ask yourself this, do you want your heaven right now, or are you willing to receive God's heaven in what we call the afterlife?

***Luke 14:10–11*** <sup>10</sup>*But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. <sup>11</sup>For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."*

We all sin, we all have a sinful nature, we all have turned our back on God, and we all have turned our back on our neighbor. God asks us to stop judging one another and start loving one another. One way to love one another is to approach everything through being humble. Humbleness along with forgiveness, grace, and mercy are the real building blocks of relationships, and community.

One who is humble can usually find the right words to say in all situations, that is, if you are humble in the Lord. There are many situations that the word of God can help us through and towards. God's word speaks to us as Jesus Christ had humbled himself to us as a born child of Mary, a servant rather than one served, and a Savior who gave his life for all.

***Luke 14:12–14*** <sup>12</sup>*He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest*

*they also invite you in return and you be repaid. <sup>13</sup>But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, <sup>14</sup>and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. You will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.”*

Jesus says, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just. This might not mean that you will get some physical reward or a higher standing or vocation in heaven. It means you will receive a resurrection! That should be ok with all of us because none of us deserve the grace and mercy from our God except that He chose to save us through His Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Not that we can boast of ourselves, but that we can boast in our God giving Him the complete glory for our salvation, eternal life, and everlasting relationship with the one who truly saves, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Written by Pastor Curtis A. May

**LWML-** Lutherans will be headed to West Lafayette on Saturday September 17<sup>th</sup> for the fall zone rally hosted by Redeemer Lutheran church. Talk to Junette Price or Michelle Jaeger for details.

### PRAYERS FOR GOD'S CHILDREN

|                                   |   |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Amelia</b>                     | <b>Cleo- going blind</b>                                | <b>Holy Hines</b>  |
| <b>George Meyer</b>               | <b>Curt Henriott-Conner</b>                             | <b>John Cano</b>   |
| <b>Frotzie French- stroke</b>     | <b>Greyson &amp; Oaklyn</b>                             | <b>Ayden Dillie</b>                                      |
| <b>Bob &amp; Deb Sears</b>        | <b>Chris Carter</b>                                     | <b>Mark &amp; Diane Jones</b>                            |
| <b>Kristen Sears</b>              | <b>David Schaffer-cancer</b>                            | <b>Fred Jones</b>  |
| <b>Ellie Langley</b>              | <b>Angie Johnson- cancer</b>                            | <b>Allen May</b>   |
| <b>Sandy Hoover</b>               | <b>Linda Wireman-cancer</b>                             | <b>Sargon</b>  |
| <b>Pastor KC &amp; wife Terri</b> | <b>Nick &amp; Nancy Brown</b>                           | <b>Victor &amp; Diana Waech</b>                          |
| <b>Dennis Grosnickle</b>          | <b>Delores Sorye- Aunt of Jeri</b>                      | <b>Clark Grady</b>                                       |
| <b>Mike Austin</b>                | <b>Braden &amp; Brother- Family</b>                     | <b>Dan Johnson-bike trip</b>                             |
| <b>Tammy-Mike's daughter</b>      | <b>Dave Holderman- cancer</b>                           | <b>For all our Bible studies</b>                         |
| <b>Leonard Brown- COVID</b>       | <b>Tim Curtis</b>                                       | <b>People of Ukraine &amp; Russia</b>                    |
|                                   | <b>Those with mental illness<br/>&amp; disabilities</b> | <b>For teachers, schools,<br/>children &amp; parents</b> |

### PRAYERS FOR OUR HOMEBOUND

|                               |  |                                       |
|-------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Nick &amp; Nancy Brown</b> | <b>Darlene Nelson</b>                      | <b>Victor &amp; Diana Waech</b>       |
| <b>Carol Foreman</b>          | <b>Charlene Schroer</b>                    | <b>Bill &amp; Shirley Willard</b>     |
| <b>Helen Notz</b>             | <b>Pat Shanklin</b>                        | <b>Mary Jo McCool</b>                 |
| <b>Doris Jackson</b>          | <b>Violet Seiwert</b>                      | <b>Norma Murray</b>                   |
| <b>Carole Dale</b>            | <b>Kham &amp; Mani Siyousak</b>            | <b>Fred St. John</b>                  |
|                               | <b>Residents of Winnfield<br/>Crossing</b> | <b>Residents of Hickory<br/>Creek</b> |

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# September 2022

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday                                       | Wednesday                     | Thursday | Friday | Saturday  |
|--|--|---|-------------------------------|----------|--------|---|
|  |  |   |                               | 1        | 2      | 3<br>Men's Bible study 9 am                               |
| 4<br>*Contemp 8:30<br>Sun School 9:15<br>*Traditional 10:30                        | 5<br>Labor day   | 6<br>Altar 1pm<br>Lutheranns 1:30<br>CR 5-8pm | 7<br>Women's Bible study 5pm  | 8        | 9      | 10<br>Yardwork -Waech's                                   |
| 11<br>Contemp 8:30<br>Sun School 9:15<br>Traditional 10:30<br><b>BOWLING</b>       | 12<br>Trustees 5pm<br>Educ 6pm<br>Finance 6:30<br>Tech Com 7pm | 13<br>CR 5-8pm                                | 14<br>Women's Bible study 5pm | 15       | 16     | 17<br>Men's Bible study 9 am<br><br>LWML-<br>W. Lafayette |
| 18<br>*Contemp 8:30<br>Sun School 9:15<br>*Traditional 10:30<br><b>PRAYER WALK</b> | 19   | 20<br>CR 5-8pm                                | 21<br>Women's Bible study 5pm | 22       | 23     | 24  |
| 25<br>Contemp 8:30<br>Sun School 9:15<br>Traditional 10:30<br>+Sacrificial Sun     | 26   | 27<br>CR 5-8pm                                | 28<br>Women's Bible study 5pm | 29       | 30     |   |
| * Communion<br>+ Extra giving opportunity  |  |   |                               |          |        |   |