

The St. John Lutheran Church  
**Volume 64 – Number 06**  
**June 2024 Jottings**

“We lift up Jesus Christ in our lives, our church, and our community.”



**Pastor Michael's Musings**

**June 2024**

So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom of Israel?” He said to them, “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes to you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”  
--- Acts 1: 6 – 8

In the reading from the book of Acts written above, Jesus is about to ascend to the right hand of God the Father. Before he goes, he answers questions that are on the disciple's minds. Just think, Jesus has already been crucified on the cross, he has already risen from the dead, he has appeared to them several times in his resurrected body in which he defies the laws of physics as set down by the ways of the world, and he continues to tell them things that should help them cue in on what God's will is for their lives. The question that they ask above is logical in light of all that has transpired. “...are you at this time going to restore the kingdom of Israel?” That's what it's all about in their minds. Will you take this broken and miserable world and make it whole and healthy as the scriptures prophesy that you will? The Messiah is supposed to issue in a never-ending Golden Age in which sin and pain will be abolished and the capital of Jerusalem, God's chosen city, will be the center of the world to which all nations will come for healing and elucidation on life's problems. Jesus does not give the disciples the message that they want to hear. They are

still holding out hope against hope that Jesus will fulfill all of the Law and the Prophets *in their time in the physical realm of the world*. But, Jesus answers in a way that shows the matters of God are much more complicated and long-reaching than human interpretation would like it to be. “It is not for you to know...” Jesus tells them, and frustratingly enough, tells us as well. His kingdom is not of this world, and his promise of salvation is for all people in all ages.

Father’s Day is coming up on June 16<sup>th</sup>. On that day, we celebrate our father’s lives whether they are still with us here in this world or departed into eternal life. With the role of Father, traditionally, comes the role of being the one who (with mom) has a plan for the structure and future of the family. Perfection is impossible, Father’s Day is not about perfect people doing perfect things, but it is a day in which we are called to respect the place of our Fathers for all they have sacrificed for us whether it be in time, money, attention, and the oftentimes grinding and thankless jobs that come along with the role. In a lot of instances, it isn’t until years later that we understand exactly what it is that our father did for us until we must “take up the slack” and do it ourselves when we are grown. It takes struggle, integrity and commitment to work day-in-and-day-out at a job that we might not even like. It takes a certain level of sacrifice to plan a budget and then stick to it so that there is enough to go around for everyone. It takes a strong character to discipline children properly so that they do not become resentful, but instead realize that there is a better way in growing and living in an oftentimes confrontational world. All these things, if we mature properly as adults ourselves, dawn on us eventually as a slow realization that maybe dad had some things figured out right after all, or suddenly as we learn a valuable life lesson.

Fathers, if they are being good fathers, by necessity, have to keep some things “close to the vest.” The important thing is that we put trust in them to make things right for the family, and trust that they have a plan in mind for the future. Jesus tells us that God the Father has such a plan, and that plan includes us; the plan of eternal salvation.

## Outdoor Worship RETURNS!

By “popular demand” we will once again move our Sunday worship to the great outdoors starting June 2nd and continuing through Labor Day Weekend (Sunday September 1st). During the summer months, we have ONE combined Worship service at 9 am, in the shelter with Sunday School following (inside) at 10:15. Here’s a reminder of how that’ll work:

- ✚ Arrive EARLY! Harold and Juanita will have the coffee pot ready and donuts on a table at the front of the “parking lot” where we hold the services. This gives you a chance to relax and perhaps MEET SOMEONE NEW as you may see unfamiliar faces of members who go to “the other service” and visitors coming to check us out. GREET THEM...BE FRIENDLY...and hope they come again!
- ✚ Park DRIVE-IN Style so you can see the shelter without having to crane your necks for an hour! If you choose to bring your own lawn chairs OR sit on one of the many picnic tables or benches, park wherever you are comfortable for walking to “your seat”.
- ✚ There is no “Prelude” for this service, BUT, after the bell rings at 9 am, Pastor and I will play a “call to worship”, which in most cases, will be songs you recognize...sing -along if you wish!
- ✚ The liturgy is more “fun/up beat” during the summer, as we use ELW Setting 6 rather than the more organ-oriented ones we use inside.
- ✚ We will not “collect the offering” by “passing plates”, but you are encouraged to have your offerings ready in advance so you can hand them to the greeters when you stop at the parking lot entrance. If that doesn’t work for you , there will be another collection basket, bulletins, and communion sets on the table at the front of the parking area. As you pull in, you will receive your bulletins and disposable communion setups. Keep the communion sets handy until Pastor gives you the “OK” to open them as we commune together. With this method of communion, there’s no time to sing songs during distribution.

- ✠ During the “Sharing of the Peace”, you are encouraged to move around and greet people, but if you are watching from your car, we invite you to FLASH your lights and HONK your car horns in a “joyful noise”.
- ✠ In case of RAIN, we will worship in the sanctuary, using the same music and liturgy.
- ✠ Following the service, you are encouraged to help empty the coffee pot and donuts...perhaps bringing your own “travel mug” for ease of use from your lawn chairs, and maybe take a “donut to go”.
- ✠ All the music will be printed in the bulletins; we will not use hymnals.
- ✠ INVITE YOUR FRIENDS! This is the perfect way to get visitors into our midst and perhaps consider JOINING our membership!

We know that this service time is very convenient for many members. The 8:00 crowd gets to sleep in an extra hour (or enjoy a relaxing breakfast) and the 10:30 crowd could easily appreciate having that extra time for their own leisurely or family activities, since the service will be over by 10 am.

**See you there!**

## Happy Father's Day

On Father's Day (June 16th) our men will receive some sort of “special treat” courtesy of our Evangelism Committee. What will it be? Come and see!

### Until Next Month...

Here's a quote from the Father of the Reformation (and our denomination)...Martin Luther about Fathers:

*“Now you tell me, when a father goes ahead and washes diapers or performs some other mean task for his child, and someone ridicules him as an effeminate fool - though that father is acting in the spirit just described and in Christian faith - my dear fellow you tell me, which of the two is most keenly ridiculing the other? God, with all his angels and creatures, is smiling - not because that father is washing diapers, but because he is doing so in Christian faith. Those who sneer at him and see only the task but not the faith are ridiculing God with all his creatures, as the biggest fool on earth. Indeed, they are only ridiculing themselves; with all their cleverness they are nothing but devil's fools.”*

Martin Luther “Estate of Marriage” (1522)  
American Ed, of Luther's Works Vol. 45 p. 41

*Soli Deo Gloria* (To God alone be the Glory)  
*Donald L. Bauer* Director of Music

# **Look what is happening in Sunday School.**

**Beginning Sunday, June 2nd, the time for Sunday School will change to 10:15 a.m. due to summer worship service starting at 9:00 a.m.**

## **There are currently three classrooms:**

<b>3 years old-PreK</b>	<b>Kathy Ellis</b>
<b>Kindergarten-3<sup>rd</sup> grade</b>	<b>Becky &amp; Shannon Sanders</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	<b>Patti Riley</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade</b>	<b>Fred Rosenbohm</b>

Starting Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> and throughout the summer months, we will utilize “How to Read the Bible”. This curriculum created by Jeff White, shows our students how to make the Bible a fun part of their life and why the Bible matters so much to their personal faith journey.

**Middle School aged children are taught from the Augsburg Fortress ECHO curriculum, the SPARK Bible, and Luther’s Catechism. The lessons in this curriculum include topics that are relevant to their age group and prepare them for Confirmation.**

As always, all Sunday School age children are welcome to join. If interested, please contact me to register your child.

John Wetterauer  
691-0434-home  
678-1736-cell

## Homebound List (as of April 01, 2024)

Jim & Nadine Bartell	2705 S. Hilton Ln. Bartonville, Il. 61607	Pat Janssen	12615 Lancaster Rd. Hanna City, Il. 61536
Jay Baumgardner	Swan Special Care Center 109 Kenwood Champaign, Il. 61824	Joyce Jones	Villas of Holly Brook 5301 W. Dirksen Pkwy. Apt. 24 Peoria, Il. 61607
Art Campen % Carrie Campen	4169 King St. Denver, Co. 80211	Debra Look	Timber Ridge 2125 Veterans Rd. Morton, Il. 61550
Jeffrey Campen	Lennox Guest Home 2875 W. 33 <sup>rd</sup> Ave. Denver, Co. 80211	Russ & Jane Look	Hearts Village Peoria 8201 N. Il. Route 91 Peoria, Il. 61615
Millie Carlson	Villas of Holly Brook 5301 W. Dirksen Pkwy. Apt. 48 Peoria, Il. 61607	Don Norvill	Independence Village 1201 N. Northmoor Rd. Rm. 222 Peoria, Il. 61614
Sally Catterall	Villas of Holly Brook 5301 W. Dirksen Pkwy. Apt. 28 Peoria, Il. 61607	Jerry Pitzer	Independence Village 1201 N. Northmoor Rd. Rm. 242 Peoria, Il. 61614
Evelyn Cool	Lutheran Hillside Village 6901 N. Galena Rd. Acorn Way Apt. A1 Peoria, Il. 61614	Sharon Resler	River Crossing 1500 W. Northmoor Room 415 Peoria, Il. 61614
Barb Dickerson	2422 S. Daycor Divide Bartonville, Il. 61607		

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Opening Day of Outdoor Worship Service! June 2, 2024:** Weather permitting, our Summer Outdoor Worship will take place at 9:00am on June 2, 2024. The Spiritual Door to these services is wide open to all! Invite a friend to join us. You may find that you are not able to answer all of his or her questions. You may not be prepared to explain all the claims made about Christ. But you can *invite* the person to church—and then watch what God can accomplish through that simple invitation. It may be the trigger that brings the person into a relationship with Christ. It may be the thing that earns you a heartfelt “thank you for bringing me to hear the gospel” from the person as the two of you ascend to meet Jesus in the air at the time of the rapture! **Stewardship:** Please continue to honor your stewardship pledge during these summer months. Regardless to where church service is held (indoor or outdoor) our church’s monthly operating expenses continue. Your offering may be given to the greeters who will provide you with your communion wafer and wine or you may place your stewardship in the offering basket on the table located in front of the Pastor’s podium.

God Bless Our Congregation

**Synod Convention:** The Synod Convention is being held on Thursday, June 6th through Saturday, June 8th in Decatur, Il. This year, Pastor Michael, Christina, Sandy Behrends and Bonnie Phelps will be attending.

**New Pew Bibles:** The new pew Bibles are in place. The council is asking for donations to help cover the cost of \$12 per Bible. If you’d like to make a donation to help with the expense, please put your check or cash in an envelope and clearly mark it PEW BIBLES.

Thank You

**Help the Pantry Help Others:** It's the traditional time for spring cleaning! As a part of this, many do a deep clean or spring clean of their home. However, cleaning supplies are often costly and families in need may be unable to purchase these items. Cleaning supplies are not able to be purchased with SNAP benefits. All of us can play a part in supporting our neighbors in need by supplying important cleaning products to families. Here's how to participate. Buy a cleaning bucket and fill it with the following items: Paper towels, kitchen cleaner, bathroom and toilet bowl cleaner, toilet brush & holder, laundry detergent & dryer sheets, all-purpose household cleaner, sponges or wash rags, dustpan & brush, dish soap, disinfectant spray. When you have filled the bucket, bring it to church and it will be distributed through the St. John Food Pantry.

**Altar Guild Meeting:** The next Altar Guild Meeting is Sunday, June 2, 2024 after church & this will be our first outdoor church service.

Thank you, Sheryl Bruninga, Secretary

**Church Altar Flowers:** Altar Guild Flowers are \$36. & make checks payable to Becks Florist & give to JoAnn Brooks or the Altar Guild mailbox which is located in the Reception Room by the elevator. Sign up calendar for the flowers on the bulletin board in the West Entrance.

Thank you, Altar Guild

**60th Wedding Anniversary:** You are invited to Ken & Sheryl Bruninga's 60th wedding anniversary on Sunday, June 23 at St. John Lutheran Church Dining Area from 2-4pm. Ken & Sheryl Taylor Bruninga were married at St. John Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 27, 1964. NO gifts Please! Come and join the celebration!



# READERS

**June 02 9:00am Dee Garske**

**June 09 9:00am Pat McGrew**

**June 16 9:00am Jim Rindfleisch**

**June 23 9:00am Jane Rosenbohm**

**June 30 9:00am Sally McGrew**

## USHERS

**June 02 9:00am Roger Shafer**

**June 09 9:00am Teri Sammis**

**June 16 9:00am Lonnie Catterall /  
Marla Kumpf**

**June 23 9:00am Dan & Deb Sammis**

**June 30 9:00am Jodi Miller**

St. John Lutheran Church  
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**Year Round Worship Schedule :**

8:00 a.m. Worship With Holy Communion  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages  
10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

**Summertime Schedule (starting June 2nd):**

9:00 a.m. Worship With Holy Communion  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School

**UPCOMING EVENTS THIS MONTH**

Summer-time Service has arrived. Service will be held at 9:00am with Sunday School at 10:15 and Adult Sunday School at 10:30. Bring your family and friends.

Leisure Group will be Wednesday, June 19th at 12:00 noon.

Sewing Group meets on Thursday morning at 9:00am. Come and sew or cut patterns with them.