



April Newsletter

224 Mary Ave, Springfield, MN 56087 • Phone: (507) 723-5397 • www.sjlcmc.org • Office Hours: Tue - Fri 9am - 2pm CST

As I write this month's newsletter article, I am told that today (March 20th) is the first day of spring. This is somewhat confusing for me as I look outside and see piles of snow and no blooming trees and flowers. Not to mention that the weather forecast is predicting snow later this week. Something or someone must be wrong. Either way, things aren't as they appear to be. Am I to believe that spring is here, although my eyes tell me it is still winter? We Christians often have this same problem with our standing in Christ. Paul writes to the people of Corinth, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come."* 2 Cor 5:17 Paul's words tell us that when we stand covered in the blood of Christ, that is when we confess that Christ is our Lord, we are no longer the person we were before. That old person, filled with mistakes, regret, and brokenness, has passed away. At that very moment in time when we stand in the grace of Jesus Christ, we are a brand-new creation!

Funny, when I look in the mirror, I don't see a brand-new creation. I see that same old person, not only filled with mistakes and regret but wearing the results of many of those mistakes on my outside. Where is this new person that Paul talks about? And since I cannot see this new person, is it real? Much like my discovery of the first day of spring while my eyes tell me that

it is still winter outside, we are often deceived by our eyes. The reason that happens is that we are looking at ourselves and others as the world sees us. The

world tells us to be "new" means to have everything that we desire, to be perfect in body and mind, and to be the most attractive version of ourselves. Yet when God sees us, he sees His child made perfect again. God doesn't look at us with the evaluation that the world uses. He isn't measuring us up to one another, as if life was some big competition. No, God sees each person individually, made perfect by Christ, yet loved as they are. No longer are we the old version of ourselves, lost and seeking the approval of the world and worrying because we can never quite measure up. No. This is true, you are made new in Christ!

Look at yourself as God sees you! Then, when you look upon me, please see me as the loved child of God, the same as yourself, and not the result of many misguided steps. Hopefully, we can share this view with others and see them as the brand-new creation that they are as well. Unlike the weatherman, God's Word is always right!

In Christ's service,

Denton L Bennet Jr.

Denton L. Bennet Jr.
Pastor

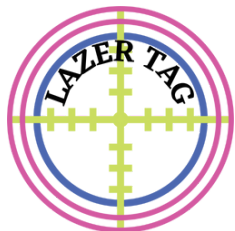
**"Therefore, if
anyone is in
Christ, he is a new
creation. The old
has passed away;
behold, the new
has come."**

-2 Cor 5:17

April Calendar

Palm Sunday, April 2

9:00AM Worship (communion)
10:00AM Coffee & fellowship
10:15AM Sunday Sch./ Bible Study
6:00PM Forward in Faith (Laser Tag)



Sunday April 2, is
Forward in Faith and
Laser Tag is the activity

Tuesday, April 4

9:00AM Quilting
3 - 5:00PM Pro-Kinship for Kids
5:30PM Prayer Time

Wednesday, April 5

7:00PM Choir

Thursday, April 6

9:00AM Bible Study
5:30PM The Kitchen Table Meal
7:00PM Maundy Thursday Service

Friday, April 7

7:00 PM Good Friday Service

Saturday, April 8

9:00 AM LL Set up for Easter Breakfast



Easter Sunday, April 9

6:30AM Sunrise Worship Service
7:30-8:30AM Easter Breakfast
9:00AM Worship
No Coffee & fellowship
No Sunday School
No PM Book Study

Tuesday, April 11

9:00AM Quilting

Wednesday, April 12

No Confirmation
6:15 PM Prayer Time
7:00PM Choir
8:00PM Council Meeting

Thursday, April 13

No Bible Study
5:30PM The Kitchen Table Meal

Sunday, April 16

9:00AM Worship
10:00AM Coffee & fellowship
10:15AM Sunday Sch./ *No Bible Study*
No Book Study

Tuesday, April 18

9:00AM Quilting
3 - 5:00PM Pro-Kinship for Kids

Wednesday, April 19

6:00 PM Confirmation
6:15 PM Prayer Time
7:00PM Choir

Thursday, April 20

Newsletter Deadline

9:00AM Bible Study
5:30PM The Kitchen Table Meal
6:30PM WoW

Sunday, April 23

9:00AM Worship
10:00AM Coffee & fellowship
10:15AM Sunday Sch./ Bible Study
7:00PM Book Study

Tuesday, April 25

9:00AM Quilting

Wednesday, April 26

6:00 PM Confirmation
6:15 PM Prayer Time
7:00PM Choir

Thursday, April 27

9:00AM Bible Study
5:30PM The Kitchen Table Meal

Sunday, April 30

9:00AM Hymn Sing Worship (Noisy Offering)
10:00AM Coffee & fellowship
10:15AM Sunday Sch./ Bible Study
7:00PM Book Study

Worship Helpers

Apr 2 (Holy Communion)

Lay Reader Gilbert Anderson
Com. Asst.....Erika Wells & Jaelyn Batzlaff
Acolytes.....Jaden Hornick & Olivia Milbrath
BD ReaderJaden Hornick

Apr 6 (Maundy Thursday)

Com Asst.....Annie Holles & Gabby Anderson
Acolytes.....Alayna Beyer & Taya Beyer

Apr 9 (Easter Sunday)

Lay Reader: Lori Milbrath (6:30AM)
Lay Reader Marion Thorston (9:00AM)
Com Asst.....Ethan & Blaise Louwagie, Blaise Louwagie
Com Asst..... Ted Anderson & Courtlyn Runck
AcolytesJalyn Louwagie & Brooklyn Petersen
Acolytes Grady Korkemeier & Amaira Brown
BD ReaderTed Anderson

Apr 16 (Holy Communion)

Lay Reader: NA
Com. AstEaston Jensen & Jackckson Hillesheim
Acolytes.....Thomas Beers & Isaac Jensen
BD Reader Easton Jensen

Apr 23

Lay Reader: NA
Acolytes..... Aubree Paplow & Preston Anderson
BD ReaderJackson Hillesheim

Apr 30 (Noisy Offering)

Lay Reader: NA
Acolytes..... Brooklyn Petersen & Katie Thram
BD Reader Katie Thram

LAY READERS ARE NEEDED!!

APRIL USHERS

✝ Josh Anderson

Thank you to the following people who have shared an Easter Flower with all of us on Easter Sunday


In memory of...

- ✝ Dick & Norma Anderson ~ Gilbert & Linda, Glenn & Brenda, Russell & Kim, Laurie & Merle and families
- ✝ Lloyd & Leone Hall & Charlie Hall ~ Gilbert & Linda Anderson & family
- ✝ Lesley Sagedahl & Ken Arnoldi ~ Paul & Lisa Arnoldi family
- ✝ Loved ones ~ Lenny & Janet Groff
- ✝ Jim & Dorothy Wells ~ Todd & Joy Wells
- ✝ Marv Huisman ~ Dave & Lori Milbrath & family
- ✝ Roy, Kurt & Cindy Moe ~ Margaret & Lonn Moe
- ✝ Loved ones ~ James & Susan Anderson
- ✝ Gary Don Hesse ~ Sandy, Sarah & Adam Wenisch, Adam & Samantha Hesse & families
- ✝ Bill & Leola Haseleu and Chuck & Elaine Hoffman ~ Randy & Rose Haseleu, Sandy Hesse & families
- ✝ Derek Haseleu ~ Randy & Rose, Ashley, Rilee & Conner, Brent
- ✝ Francis Jones ~ Gladys, Barbara, Dennis & Peggy & families
- ✝ Paul & honor of family ~ Jim & Carlotta & family
- ✝ Our parents ~ Curt & Diane Thram
- ✝ Loved ones ~ Dennis & Sally Anderson
- ✝ Loved ones ~ Warren & Cathy Hauger
- ✝ David Anderson ~Lynn & Nancy Anderson & family

In Honor of...

- ✝ Our family ~ Todd & Joy Wells
- ✝ Our family ~ Lynn & Nancy Anderson & family

Thank You!!



May God bless you all
with good health, good
fortune and lots of
love on your special day!

April 2

Randy Haseleu
Becky Nielson
Pyper Anderson

April 3

Kaelyn Yokiel

April 4

Emma Wenisch

April 5

Sarah Wenisch

April 7

Kaleb Wenisch
Mariah Anderson

April 9

Don Koopmann
VerJean Luense
Kylee Madsen

April 10

Tabor Runck

April 16

Sally Anderson
Grant Lade

April 17

Jonathan Anderson
Denise Hauger
Brienne Luckman

April 19

Brian Runck
Kristie Yokiel
Aiden Imker



April 22

Collin Ahlness
Becky Wandersee

April 23

Karson Herfurth

April 24

Shawn Anderson

April 26

Paul Anderson
Del Dalsgaard
Rob Hansen

April 28

Ron Kettner
Lucas Milbrath
Easton Jensen

April 30

Blaine Anderson
Janelle Tews



April 2

Steve & Cindy Gewerth

April 5

Glen & Val Graff

April 7

Lynn & Nancy Anderson

April 11

Ivan & Darlene Anderson

April 13

Gregg & Heather Anderson

April 19

Butch & Andrea Guhlke

April 22

Todd & Joy Wells

April 25

Jordan & Jessica Haala

April 27

Nick & Brenda Anderson



Thank you, Lori Milbrath for providing
our birthday and anniversary lists, and to
all our volunteers who help to make St.
John's church the caring place that it is.
We appreciate you!



Nursing Home Bingo is the 3rd Friday of every month. Volunteers can sign up on the lists by the offices.

REMINDER

Please check your mailbox...



There are many unclaimed items.



Watch The Chosen

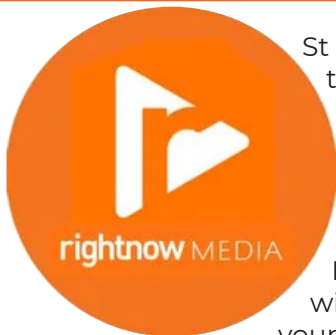
Online TV Series



Help Needed!

Can you help? We need someone willing to take quilts to Sharing Hands in the Twin Cities. Contact Arliss Petersen at 723-6694 or Marion Thorston at 723-5509. Thank you!

A memorial of \$45 has been given in memory of Renee Jensen to the Kitchen Meal.



St Johns Council has decided to continue providing RIGHT NOW MEDIA resource library/videos to our congregation. Have you checked it out? Need a link? Call or email Pastor Bennet or the church. We will send an email to create your free account, and start browsing.

Pastor's Email is: pastordlbennet@gmail.com
Church email: sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com



Youth Mission Trip

July 16-21, 2023

We're heading to St Louis, MO! Grades 7th -12th are eligible to participate. Contact Brenda at 507-920-6570 for additional information.

St. John's Lutheran Church – Church Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 8, 2023

In attendance: April Beyer, Andrew Hauger, Rod Smith, Kayla Moe, Brian Meier, Sue Anderson, Pastor Denton Bennet, Kari Scholtz, Todd Wells, Chris Petersen, Tracie Berg, David Milbrath, and Chad Thram.

Absent: Adam Beers and Brenda Krieger

Called to order by Andrew Hauger at 8:00 pm.

Pastor Bennet opened the meeting with a prayer.

Secretary's Report:

1) Additional thank you was extended to Rod and Alex Smith for the water build-up in the basement.

m/s/c Sue Anderson/Rod Smith

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Kari Scholtz.

1) Bank accounts as of January 31, 2023: General account \$87,566.01; Dedicated account \$87,778.68.

m/s/c David Milbrath/Brian Meier

Board of Education Report: Presented by April Beyer.

1) Jodi Dalsgaard has been working with the Sunday School kids for songs for Palm Sunday.

Board of Trustees' Report: Presented by Andrew Hauger.

1) Reviewed monthly financial statements and disbursements.

2) The carpet by the sanctuary needs to be reglued and will be completed soon.

Board of Deacons' Report:

- 1) Communion assignments for March are: 3/5- Sue Anderson set-up, Rod Smith & Adam Beers to assist.
3/19- Todd Wells set-up, Rod Smith & Brenda Krieger to assist.
- 2) Regarding membership changes for the month of January:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| a. Baptisms- | 1- Elena Bernadette Anderson 12/14/23 |
| b. Transfers in- | 0 |
| c. Transfers out- | 6 - Jon, Ashley, Madisyn, Gracelyn, Noah, and Zoey Keck |
| d. Funerals- | 0 |
| e. Inactive list- | 0 |
| f. Removal- by request- | 10 - Nathan Bloom. Chad, Tanya, Hailey, Ivan, Nolan, Violet, Leo, Sylvia Hovland. Pastor Julie Smith. |
| g. Requested membership - | 0 |

3) Statistic change/events for February 2023

- a. Baptism: February 12, 2023. 11:15 am. Evan Tyrone Anderson and Isaac Theodore Anderson.
b. Baptism: February 25, 2023. 3:00 pm. Chelsea Lisa Ahlness.

Pastor's Report: Presented by Pastor Bennet.

- 1) Augustana District- Steve Paulson?
2) Lenton Meals- Some problems with family's not willing to serve for these services.
3) Randy Freund Update?

Discussions:

- 1) Stewardship & Evangelism: Minutes were presented to council. m/s/c Brian Meier/David Milbrath
2) Worship and Music: Jodi Dalsgaard with members from the congregation on music selection.
3) Children, Youth, and Families: Last Sunday evening there was a good turnout for Game Night.

Old Business:

- 1) Right Now Media- Pastor Bennet presented statistics on use.
a. 58 accounts were set up.

b) Inactive membership plan: 191 possible individuals. It was discussed to send out a letter to help “clear up” inactive membership.

m/s/c Rod Smith/Chris Petersen

c) Pictorial Directory- A committee was considered to spearhead this endeavor.

New Business:

a) St. John’s Lutheran Church Bank of America Credit Card- Tracie Berg needs to be an account owner.

m/s/c Brian Meier/Rod Smith

b) Confirmation Sunday, 6/4/23- Church Council member will be in charge of fellowship snacks and coffee for after service.

c) Council Officer Election:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| i. President- | Andrew Hauger |
| ii. Vice-President- | Rod Smith |
| iii. Secretary- | Adam Beers |

Closing Prayer: All

Adjourn:

Next meeting: March 8th @ 8:00pm.

Secretary, Adam Beers



NEEDED FOOD SHELF ITEMS

Items that are needed at the food shelf are Apple, cranberry combinations, and grape juice in 64 oz. containers, baking products such as brown sugar, frosting, cake/cookie mixes and any other baking items. Breakfast bars, variety of spaghetti sauces, small cans of coffee, instant oatmeal variety packs, fruit snacks for kids, fruit cups for kids and adults, toothpaste, cereals. Anything we receive we will use in the food shelf as long as the expiration date is OK.

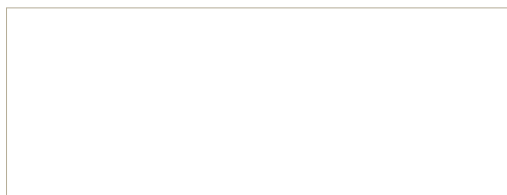
Feel free to contact or call Shari Koll at 507-227-0386 if you have questions. You may also contact Dave Carruthers with questions at 507-276-6679. You may also leave a message on the food shelf phone 507-723-3663, and we will call you back.

If you prefer to make a monetary donation instead of donating food item then drop in an envelope. Send to:

Springfield Area Food Shelf
PO Box 15
Springfield, MN 56087

A heart felt thank You to all who support the local food shelf. Clients really do appreciate all the groceries they receive. We couldn’t do this without your generosity.





place
POSTAGE
Here

ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
214 Mary Ave
Springfield, MN 56087



COME AND JOIN US!

LUTHER LEAGUE'S EASTER BREAKFAST

EGG BAKE, SAUSAGE, FRESH FRUIT,
MUFFINS, MILK, COFFEE

SUNDAY APRIL 9, 2023

SERVING FOLLOWING
SUNRISE SERVICE
UNTIL 8:30AM

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
LUTHER LEAGUE'S VENTURES