

February Newsletter



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

DEVOTIONAL

But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. (Mark 3:27)

Covert operation. Infiltration. Busting down doors. None of these words or phrases are a part of the beautiful and tender birth narrative we all heard again this year from Luke 2. These are words that have the sound of a CIA special-ops spy novel. Yet, I wonder if there is a connection to be made with such words. Of course, no one can get into the mind of God. We can only know what has been revealed by God through his Word and the Holy Spirit regarding the coming of his Son, Jesus, who we celebrate at Christmas. However, Scripture itself paints an interesting and telling picture.

Some of those great Advent texts, as well as the Christ the King text, that precedes Advent, paint a mighty and glorious picture of Christ's return. When He comes again, no one will be able to miss it. His presence will thunder and shake the foundations of the world. Paul summarizes the human reaction well: "Every knee shall bow." What a contrast to Jesus' coming to earth in that little town of Bethlehem. Was it not for a divine tip-off to some scruffy shepherds in the field and three Wise Men from the East, who would have known, that lying in a hidden stall, in a manger, no less, was coming the Lord of the Universe, God with us? Here the hymn says it best: "How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given."

Why did God choose to come this way? No one can fully answer this. But once that child grew up, Jesus himself gave us a clear hint. The situation is dire. It will take a rescue. There is a "strong man," a formidable foe (collectively known as "sin, death and the devil") that threatens and binds God's people. God in Christ must act: "But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered." It is covert. There is infiltration. Doors are broken down. Why? There is a world "God so loves," and people who are indeed loved and need to be saved.

Peace and Joy,
Pastor Randy Freund
Service Coordinator, Augustana District



February Church Calendar

Feb 1, Thursday

9:00 AM Bible Study
10:15 AM Prayer Time

Feb 4, Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 AM Sunday School

Feb 5, Monday

Offices Closed

Feb 6, Tuesday

9:00 AM Quilting

Feb 7, Wednesday

5:15 PM - 6:45 PM Kitchen Table Ministry
6:00 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Feb 8, Thursday

9:00 AM Bible Study
10:15 AM Prayer Time

Feb 11, Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 AM Sunday School

Feb 13, Tuesday

9:00 AM Quilting

Feb 14, Ash Wednesday

5:15 PM - 6:45 PM Kitchen Table Ministry
6:00 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM Choir Practice
7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service
7:30 PM Council Mtg.

Feb 15, Thursday

9:00 AM Bible Study
10:15 AM Prayer Time

Feb 18, Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 AM Sunday School

Feb 20, Tuesday

9:00 AM Quilting

Feb 21, Wednesday

5:15 PM - 6:45 PM Kitchen Table Ministry/Soup Supper
6:00 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM Lenten Service
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Feb 22, Thursday

9:00 AM Bible Study
10:15 AM Prayer Time
6:30 PM WOW

Feb 23, Friday

2:00 PM Bingo @ St. John's

Feb 25, Sunday

9:00 AM Worship Service
10:00 AM Coffee & Fellowship
10:15 AM Sunday School

Feb 26, Tuesday

9:00 AM Quilting

Feb 27, Wednesday

5:15 PM - 6:45 PM Kitchen Table Ministry/Soup Supper
6:00 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM Lenten Service
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Feb 28, Thursday

9:00 AM Bible Study
10:15 AM Prayer Time

Feb 29, Sunday

9:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship Service
11:05 AM Annual Meeting



February Worship Helpers

The New Lay Reader sign up sheet is available in the fellowship hall.

February 4 (Holy Communion)

Lay Readers
Com Asst. Emma Hauger, Erika Wells
Acolytes Camden Guhlke, Logan Shoen
Birthday Reader Emma Hauger

February 11

Lay Reader
Acolytes Alayna Beyer, Conner Schmitt
Birthday Reader Alayna Beyer

February 14 Ash Wednesday (Holy Communion)

Lay Reader
Acolytes Jalyn Louwagie, Paxton Ronck
Communion Asst Taya Beyer, Grad'y Korkemeier

February 18 (Holy Communion)

Lay Reader
Com Asst Liam Eberhard, Amaira Brown
Acolytes Jaelyn Batzlaff, Aubree Paplow
Birthday Reader Jaelyn Batzlaff

February 25

Lay Reader
Acolytes Cole Paplow, Cameron Halvorson
Birthday Reader Cole Paplow

February Ushers

Happy Birthday!

February 1

Russ Anderson

February 2

Kim Louwagie
Madden Lendt

February 3

Darv Voge
Doug Walker Jr.

February 5

Lorie Frederiksen
Andrea Guhlke

February 6

Abe Krueger
Jan Tollefson
Jason Hernandez

February 7

Marian Thorston
Sara Lee

February 8

Carl Anderson
Jacob Menage
Meridith Hollenberger

February 9

Miranda Balbach

February 10

Rachel Bishir
Tanner Petersen

February 11

Michelle Ahlness
Heather Holles
Jenna Frost

February 12

Curt Frederiksen
Reed Korkemeier

February 14

Carlotta Lindeman
Kinze Imker

February 15

Ben Luense

February 17

Yvonne Milbrath

February 18

Hank Kieper
Karley Anderson

February 20

Lisa Arnoldi
Butch Guhlke

February 21

Charles Tews
Kaidree Guhlke
Anders Imker

February 22

Brenda Anderson
(Mrs. Nick)
Tera Ellefson
Warren Hauger

February 23

Jacob Anderson
Mary Hesse
Shirley Clark

February 24

Aveigha Lang
Decklan Yokiel
Olivia Lee

February 26

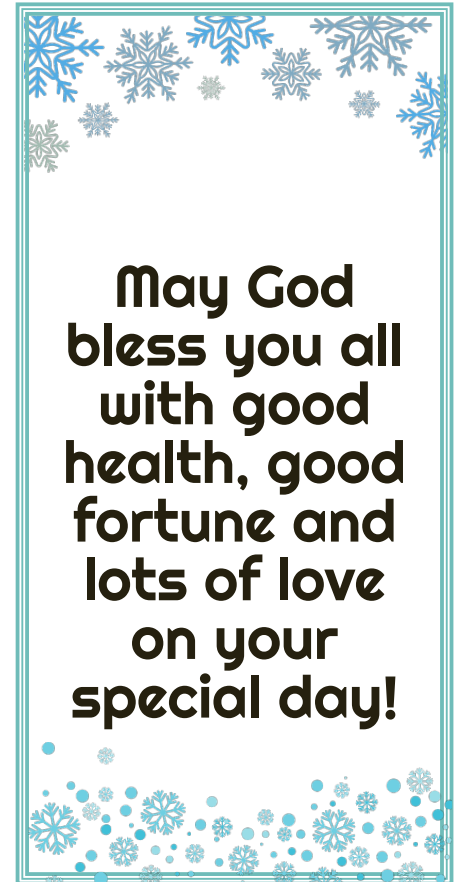
Karen Shiveley
David Wahl
Adam Anderson

February 27

Linda Fredin

February 28

Ashley Schwarzrock



Happy Anniversary!

February 14

Jerome & Linda Mathis

February 28

Ray & Yvonne Milbrath

Please check your
mailbox...



There are
many
unclaimed
items.

THANK
YOU...

... To Lori Milbrath for providing
our birthday and anniversary
lists. Your help is very
appreciated.

UNTIL ALL
HAVE MATT
HEARD HEW
28:19

▶
righnow
MEDIA

St. Johns church offers free access to
RIGHT NOW MEDIA for all our members.
Call or email for a link to start exploring
the amazing resource library. Sign up
today and grow in faith and knowledge in
your walk with God.

Church email:
sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com



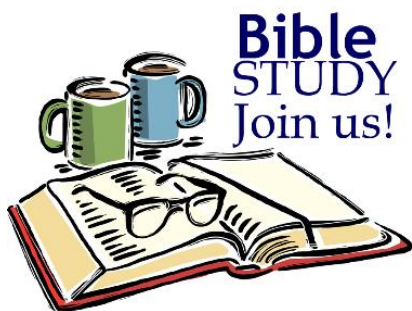
INCLEMENT WEATHER & CANCELLATIONS

Re: Church activities and office hours. If Springfield schools are canceled or dismissed early all activities and the church office will be closed. Church service cancellations will be made as soon as possible then posted on Facebook, and broadcast on KNUJ (AM 860/ 97.3 FM New Ulm) Radio and KLGR (1490 AM Redwood Falls) radio stations.

****When in doubt, or you fear driving because of road conditions please stay safe at home.**



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



Bible STUDY Join us!

Bible study Thursday mornings is now available via Zoom. Contact the church office, and we will need your email address to get you linked in.



Do you wish your St Johns Newsletter came sooner? Get on our email list! Just email us at sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com With the subject line: "I want to have my newsletter emailed to me" and we will subscribe you to receive the newsletter digitally or you can also sign up at the website.

Easter Flower Order Form

ORDERS DUE SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18TH

Enclose check made payable to: **Springfield Floral**. Turn in this sheet with payment to the church office.



| Flower | Cost | Quantity |
|-------------|---------|--|
| Easter Lily | \$17.00 | |
| Hyacinth | \$11.95 | |
| Daffodil | \$11.95 | |
| Begonia | \$16.00 | |
| Mum | \$15.95 | Mum Color: _____ Lavender _____ White |
| Hydrangea | \$28.95 | Hydrangea Color: _____ Blue _____ Pink |
| Total: | | |

Name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

St. John's Lutheran Church – Church Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 10, 2024

In attendance: Andrew Hauger, Tracie Berg, Todd Wells, David Milbrath, Brian Meier, Brenda Krieger, & Adam Beers

Absent: Rod Smith and Sue Anderson

Called to order by Andrew Hauger at 8:10 pm.

Opening Prayer: Brian Meier

Secretary's and Stewardship Reports:

- 1.) There is a correction from the last meeting's Board of Education report that there will be soup/pie meal after the Annual meeting and there still may be Lenten meals, Quake attendance, and a Easter
m/s/c Brian Meier/David Milbrath

Treasurer's Report: Presented by Andrew Hauger

- 1.) Bank accounts as of December 31, 2023: General account \$79,867.52. Dedicated account \$94,585.30.
m/s/c David Milbrath/Brian Meier

Board of Education Report: Presented by Andrew Hauger

- 1.) A request to set the date for confirmation for 5/12/24.
m/s/c Adam Beers/Brian Meier
- 2.) A request to set the date for bachelorette for 5/5/24.
m/s/c David Milbrath/Brenda Krieger
- 3.) Council will default to the Board of Education to decide on the student retreat destination.

Board of Trustees' Report: Presented by Andrew Hauger

- 1.) Reviewed monthly financial statements and disbursements.
- 2.) Finalization of the 2024 budget took place.
- 3.) Projects still pending from 2023 are heating in the Sunday School basement and the Council are waiting from the adjuster from United Prairie Insurance.

Board of Deacons' Report: Presented by Adam Beers

- 1.) Communion assignments for February are:
 - a.) 2/4- Todd Wells set-up, Brenda Krieger & Rod Smith to assist
 - b.) 2/18- Brenda Krieger set-up, Rod Smith & ? to assist.
- 2.) Regarding membership changes for the month of December:
 - a.) Baptisms - 0
 - b.) Transfers in - 1 Micheal McCoy
 - c.) Transfers out - 0
 - d.) Funerals(visitation) - 0
 - e.) Inactive list - 0
 - f.) Removal- by request - 2 Kylee Madsen, Zachary Wells
 - g.) Requested membership - 0
- 3.) Worship Leader
 - a.) 1/7/24 Brian Meier
 - b.) 1/14/24 Rod Smith
 - c.) 1/21/24 Adam Beers
 - d.) 1/28/24 Brian Meier
 - e.) 2/4/24 Possible pulpit supply. Lynn Anderson was going to inquire if there is availability from a candidate he has spoken with.
 - f.) 2/11/24 Brenda Krieger
 - g.) 2/14/24 Gil Anderson??

Pastor's Report: No report provided.

Discussions:

- 1.) Stewardship & Evangelism: No reports provided.
(Continued next page)

- 2.) Worship and Music: Presented by Peggy Martius.
 - a.) Peggy presented considerations from Creative or Sola for Liturgy themes with Lenten sermons and lessons. Peggy and Jodi Dalsgaard will make the decision on which company's liturgy to go with and subsequently the sermons. Costs are approximately \$40.
 - b.) Jeff Krueger will be playing at the 2/18/24 service.
- 3.) Children, Youth, and Families: The Soup and Pie will be held after the Annual Meeting. Confirmation and Sunday School has teacher coverage.

Old Business:

- 1.) Call Committee - They are meeting with candidates.
- 2.) St. Paul's and New Hope Church Partnering Discussion - Still considering candidates to be on the exploratory committee.
- 3.) Credit Card, Kari and Tracie will compare - The credit card change will be through Red Rock Bank. The card elected is the business card, cash back option.

New Business:

- 1.) Letter- Pastor Godfredsen's letter will not be included at the Annual Meeting.
- 2.) Annual Meeting Agenda - The agenda is set.
- 3.) Annual Meeting Ballot- Thanks to everyone that offered to participate in various church roles. All positions are filled except one Board of Education spot.
- 4.) Annual Meeting Budget - 2024 budget is set.
- 5.) Lenten Meals on Wednesday - Tracie will be asking Kayla if the Table Ministry can serve the Lenten meals.

Closing Prayer: All

Adjourn: m/s/c All

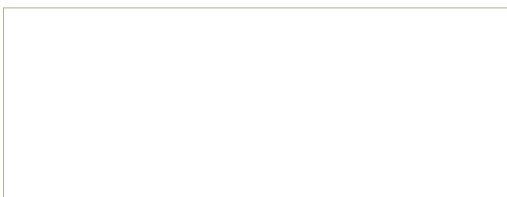
Next meeting: February 14th @ 7:30 pm. Secretary, Adam Beers



Do you play or want to learn how to play 500, Sheep Head or Pinochle? Every Thursday at the Community Center they have senior cards from 1:00 - 3:30 PM.

Winter Fun

St Johns is looking for some Confirmation group photos. These are the missing years: 2011, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2019, and 2020. If you have one of the groups, can you please send the photo to St Johns email: sjlcspringfieldmn@gmail.com along with the names of the kids in the photo.



place
POSTAGE
Here