

March Newsletter

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

DEVOTIONAL

"Woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!" -1 Corinthians 9:16b

This past weekend I preached at my uncle's funeral. In 25+ years of preaching this was, I think, the first time in my life I was tempted to do something other than preach the Gospel at a funeral. My uncle had a complicated relationship with the church and I just wasn't sure what to do with that. I've preached at countless funerals for people who had complicated relationships with the church, or no obvious relationship at all, and wasn't as puzzled about what that meant for preaching as I was this time around.

I suppose part of that being puzzled had to do with having a pretty good idea of what my family wanted to hear. I was more tempted than ever before to eulogize rather than preach. It was just sitting right there for the taking, like a shiny piece of fruit. "Just grab it. It's the easy thing!"

But somewhere in my memory this passage from 1 Corinthians was banging around, or maybe it was the voices of countless teachers and mentors over the years. "Woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel!"

There are all sorts of things the church tries to be in the world. All sorts of roles we try to fill in people's lives or in society. It's easy to forget that there is only one thing that makes the church the church. There is only one thing that is our true calling in the world and that is to make Christ known, to deliver his Word to his beloved. Woe to us if we opt for anything else!

And the truly miraculous thing is that when the gospel is proclaimed, when it breaks through the grip of sin and death, something happens. We who were hungering and thirsting for a different word are taken up into the new life that is given by this Word. While we clamor for something else, anything else, Christ Jesus is doing for us what is needful – forgiving sins, raising the dead, establishing his kingdom. He will not be deterred from this mission and he will not stop until you have been brought to new life.

Pastor Julie Smith

Published in the Augustana Witness Newsletter Feb 2024



**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.

March Church Calendar

March 3

9:00 AM
10:00 AM
10:15 AM

Worship Service
Coffee & Fellowship
Sunday School

March 5

9:00 AM
3-5 :00 PM

Quilting
Prokinship

March 6

5:45 PM - 6:30 PM
7:00 PM
6:15 PM
8:00 PM

Luther League Soup Supper
Lenten Worship Service
Confirmation
Choir Practice

March 7

9:00 AM
10:15 AM

Bible Study
Prayer Time

March 10

9:00 AM
10:00 AM
10:15 AM

Worship Service
Coffee & Fellowship
Sunday School

March 12

9:00 AM

Quilting

March 13

5:45 PM - 6:30 PM
7:00 PM
6:15 PM
8:00 PM
8:00 PM

Luther League Soup Supper
Lenten Worship Service
Confirmation
Choir Practice
Council Mtg

March 14

9:00 AM
10:15 AM

Bible Study
Prayer Time

March 15

2:00 PM

St. John's BINGO

March 17

9:00 AM
10:00 AM
10:15 AM

Worship Service
Coffee & Fellowship
Sunday School

March 19

9:00 AM
3-5 :00 PM

Quilting
Prokinship

March 20

5:45 PM - 6:30 PM
7:00 PM
6:15 PM
8:00 PM

Luther League Soup Supper
Lenten Worship Service
Confirmation
Choir Practice

March 21

9:00 AM
10:15 AM
6:30 PM

Bible Study
Prayer Time
WoW

March 24 Palm Sunday

9:00 AM
10:00 AM
10:15 AM

Worship Service
Coffee & Fellowship
Sunday School

March 26

9:00 AM

Quilting

March 27

7:00 PM

Choir Practice

March 28 Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM

Worship Service

March 29 Good Friday

7:00 PM

Worship Service

March 31 Easter Sunday

Worship Service

March Worship Helpers

Lay Readers are needed. Sign up sheet is in the fellowship hall. The March Usher is Andrew Hauger.

March 3

Acolytes..... Tyler Petersen, Jalyn Louwagie
Communion Asst. Blaise Louwagie
Birthday Reader..... Blaise Louwagie
Reader..... TJ Smith

March 10

Acolyte Preston Anderson, August Saffert
Birthday Reader..... Katie Thram
Reader..... Laurie Krueger

March 17

Acolyte Conner Schmitt, Thomas Beers
Communion Asst Jaden Hornick
Birthday Reader..... Jaden Hornick
Reader..... TBD

March 24

Acolyte Camden- Guhlke, Logan Shoen
Birthday Reader..... Camden Guhlke
Reader..... TBD

March 28

Acolyte Preston Anderson, August Saffert
Birthday Reader Katie Thram
Reader..... TBD

March 29

Acolyte Preston Anderson, August Saffert
Birthday Reader Katie Thram
Reader..... TBD

March 31

Acolyte Cole Paplow, Paxton Runck
Communion Asst Grady Korkemeier, Aubree Paplow
Birthday Reader Grady Korkemeier
Reader..... TBD

Acolyte Alayna Beyer, Oliva Milbrath
Communion Asst Jaelyn Batzlaff, Erika Wells
Birthday Reader Jaelyn Batzlaff
Reader..... TBD



March 1
Leah Swazee

March 2
Sawyer Hesse

March 3
Jim Lindeman
James Streich
Kelly Pierson

March 4
Lisa Streich

March 5
Delbert Pingeon
Andy Scholtz

March 7
Liam Eberhard

March 9
Linda Anderson
Tom Honl

March 11
Scott Johnson
Richard Pierson
Ben Hauger
Erika Wells
Britani Strei

March 12
Natalie Ahlness

March 13
Adam Hesse
Harley Smith

March 16
Carli Menigoz

March 17
Kay Pingeon
Adam Wenisch

March 18
Justin Kieper
DJ Hedstrom

March 19
Jenni Runck
Dorothy Almer

March 20
Wendy Anderson
Abby Moe

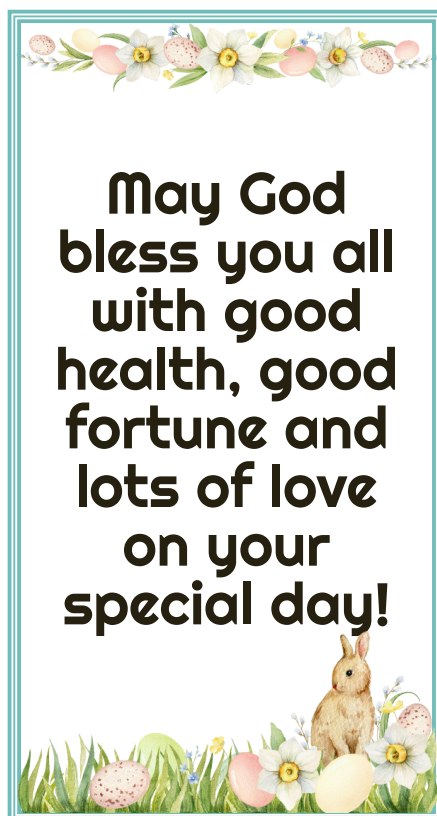
March 24
Jenny Thoreson

March 26
Hallie Meyer

March 27
Jeremy Pierson

March 28
Kelsea Cummins
Dan Eberhard

March 31
Gladys Jones



March 1
Merle & Laurie Krueger

March 2
Dillon & Rachel Imker

March 3
Jim & Carlotta
Lindeman

March 7
Paul & Deb Tews

March 13
Ken & Kayla Moe

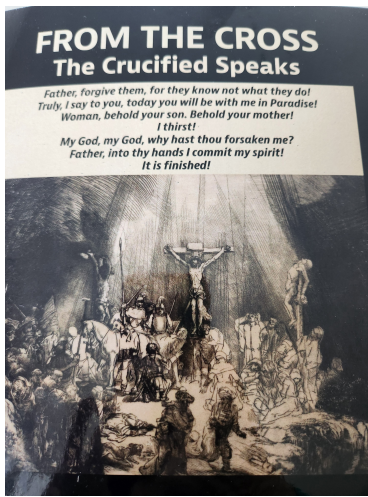
March 14
Steve & Shelly
Anderson

March 17
Keith & Chiloe Kottke

March 20
Tim (TJ) & Kari Smith

March 23
Dan & Lori Herfurth
Brian & Linda Meier





The book "From the Cross, The Crucified Speaks" written by Pastor Engebretson is available. This book is a reflection on Jesus's physical, mental, and spiritual distress, while also interpreting the saving meaning of Jesus's final words from the cross. The book views the horror of Good Friday through the lens of Easter and emphasizes that Jesus's death on the cross was not a pitiful tragedy but a joyous victory. The purpose of the book is to help us appreciate what Jesus has done for us, to increase our faith and gratitude. It is ideal for both the Lenten journey and Holy Week.

The book includes Pastor Engebretson's personal stories, hymns, and illustrations, making it an excellent read. He served at St. John's from 1994-2000.

The book is available for purchase for \$10.00. VerJean will have copies of the book at the church on Sunday and Wednesday evenings, and you can also check the church office. If you have any queries or questions, please talk to VerJean.



Luther League would like to thank everyone who donated money for "Souper Bowl" Sunday on Feb 11. They collected a total of \$161 which will go to Springfield Area Food Emergency. Your donations were appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who helped make out annual Soup and Pie meal a success! And to the congregation for your continued support of Luther League.



Easter Flower Dedications

In Honor of ...

- ... Our family by Cathy & Warren Hauger
- ... Our family by Joy & Todd Wells
- ... Our family by Gilbert & Linda, Glenn & Brenda, Russ & Kim, Laurie & Merle and Families
- ... Our family by Gilbert & Linda Anderson
- ... Our Family by Dennis & Sally Anderson

In Memory of ...

- ... Jeff Manage by Julie, Jake & Jordyn Menage
- ... Jake Shiveley by Karen Shiveley, LeeAnn, Tim & Denisse and Sabrena & John Resman
- ... Jim & Dorothy Wells by Joy & Todd Wells
- ... Dick & Norma Anderson by Gilbert & Linda, Glenn & Brenda, Russ & Kim, Laurie & Merle and Families
- ... Loved Ones by The Thorston's
- ... Lloyd & Leone Hall and Charlie Hall by Gilbert & Linda Anderson
- ... Elton & Nadine Ahlness and Lisa Ahlness by Bruce & Shelly Ahlness and Family

- ... Gary Don Hesse by Sandy, Sarah & Adam, Adam & Samantha and Families
- ... Bill & Lee Haseleu and Chuck & Elaine Hoffman by Randy & Rose Haseleu, Sandy Hesse and Families
- ... David Anderson by Lynn & Nancy Anderson, Joshua, Jacob & Laura, Jonathan and Joseph
- ... Our Parents by Curt & Lorie Frederickson
- ... Jean Youngerberg by Dennis Youngerberg, Mark & Denise Hauger and Family
- ... Grandpa Jim Lindeman by Zachary & Erika Wells, Kylee Madsen, Amanda Blum and Families
- ... Paul and Jim Lindeman by Carlotta Lindeman
- ... Kurt & Cindy Moe and Roy & Margaret Moe by Lonn Moe
- ... Loved Ones by Tracie Berg



COMMITTEES FOR 2024

Board of Deacons – (Pastor) Rod Smith, Brenda Krieger, Todd Wells, Janet Groff, Randy Haseleu

Board of Trustees – Brian Meier, Dave Milbrath, Lynn Anderson, Nick Anderson, Curt Saffert

Board of Ed. - * (Pastor) , Brenda (Mrs.Nick) Anderson, Kari Smith, John Holles, -open-

Treasurer – Gilbert Anderson

Financial Secretary – Lynn Hansen, Nancy Anderson

Auditors - Darcy Hoyt, Brenda Krieger

Mission Endowment –* (Pastor), Curt Fredin, Paul Arnoldi, Charles Tews, Gilbert Anderson, Lynn Hansen.

Stewardship – Darlene Trapp, Lisa Arnoldi, Michelle Anderson, Mae Wenner, Joy Wells, Kayla Moe

Worship Planning –* (Pastor) - Jodi Dalsgaard, Peggy Martius, Jennifer Eberhard, Carlotta Lindeman, Janelle Tews, Marian Thorston, Linda Meier,

Nominating – Arliss Petersen, Ben Luense, Curt Fredriksen

LL Advisors – -open-

Augustana District LCMC Delegate – 1)_____ 2)_____ Alex, MN, April 27

LCMC Annual Gathering Delegate – 1)_____ 2)_____ Marion, IA, Sept 29-
Oct 2

St. Johns NH Delegates – Darwin Voge – (board member -3 yr. term) (Auxiliary Rep),
Sandy Runck, Paul Tews, additional volunteers – Angie Ames, Arliss Petersen.

Flower Committee – Lorie Frederiksen, Sandy Hesse, Carlotta Lindeman, Becky Peters, Kay Pingeon,
Sandy Runck, Crystal Augustin, Marian Thorston, Kristi Yokiell

Altar Committee – Arliss Petersen, Darlene Trapp, Lisa Arnoldi, Mae Wenner

SAFE Board – Jan Anderson, Marian Thorston – congregational representative.

Librarian – Lori Milbrath/Melanie Cook

Church Secretary – Tracie Berg (assistant – Kayla Moe, Laurie Krueger)

Church Maintenance – Steve Lyle

Head Ushers – Ben Luense, Curt Frederiksen, Andrew Hauger, Josh Anderson

Organists – Jodi Dalsgaard, Peggy Martius **Choir Director** – Jen Eberhard

place
POSTAGE
Here



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

CAN YOU HELP?

Missing years of Confirmation: thank you to those who have looked and sent in photos for the missing years. But we are still missing the following years-2011, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. If you have a photo you can share, please send to church email: springfieldmn@gmail.com along with the kid's names.



Did you know you can rewatch the Sunday services on the local Springfield station? The show airs on Sundays at 7PM and Thursdays at 8PM. Check it out!



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.**

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

