

The Epistle



Newsletter of St. John Lutheran Church and School, Defiance, Ohio 43512
Vol. 85 #4

Pastor Luhring and Pastor Mews

FROM PASTOR LUHRING

Hope is in short supply in our world today! Millions are living in despair without a shred of confidence that anything better will be on the horizon tomorrow. Pressures to succeed, fears and doubt and stress are all exacting a heavy price from adults and children alike. According to the National Institute of Mental Health, 129 people die by suicide in this county every day, over 47,000 per year. The Christian knows that the Church has the answers people so desperately need. God wants to use each one of us to reach out to those we come into contact with. Sometimes it can be as simple as taking time to listen and to care about those who are struggling. There has never been a more needful time for the Church to share the message of a “Blessed Hope”.

The Church serves the God of all hope! Hope is found in no one else. The Bible tells us that “we have been born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. The outcome of our faith in Christ is Hope, that He will come again and we will be with Him forever. Nothing is more certain than the coming of Christ. Paul wrote that all believers should be “looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus. (Titus 2:13).

The hope of the Christian is also that he has hope for the here and now. Jesus has promised He will never leave or forsake us. Our hope rests in the reality that Jesus sent His Holy Spirit as a guarantee of all that is to come. God is real and Jesus is alive! The Holy Spirit resides in our hearts so that we may comprehend the blessed hope of knowing that every promise God makes to us, He will keep, now and for eternity.



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CHURCH SERVICE TIMES

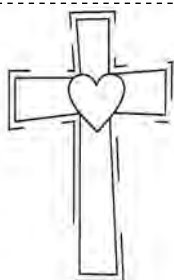
Traditional Services

5:30 p.m. Saturday

8:00 and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday

Contemporary Service

Sunday 11:00 a.m.



HE IS RISEN
alleluia

EASTER CELEBRATION WEEKEND

with HOLY COMMUNION

Saturday, April 11, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 12, 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast from 8:30– 11:00 a.m.

***Schedule of services and other activities are subject to change.
Current updates are on Realm, Facebook and our webpage.**

PASTOR MEWS NEWS



Dear Friends in Christ,

The past few weeks have been worrisome and troublesome to say the least. After many false alarms, it seems like a virus, illness and epidemic has interrupted our routine and comfortable lives and has inflicted many globally. Sport's seasons, Universities, schools and events that gather crowds, public gathering spots like restaurants, zoos and other activities which gathers people have been temporarily closed and more restrictive orders may arrive. These reshape our lives and our focus no matter our age. It is harder to purchase and locate items necessary for our lives and we wonder when might this all end. At times it causes us worry and we wonder what we can do or what may become of us.

The COVID 19 virus is a global pandemic and it can be scary. This isn't the first time since the fall in the garden in which diseases and plagues have caused pain, death and destruction. Dr. Luther lived during one of the deadliest plagues of all times, one that took his dear friend. I'd like to share with you some insights and actions he took and how a reflection on that can be a blessing for us today.

Dr. Martin Luther, "You ought to think this way: 'Very well, by God's decree, the enemy has sent us poison and deadly offal. Therefore, I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine, and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance infect and pollute others, and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me, however, I shall not avoid place or person, but will go freely.'"

Following Dr. Martin Luther's wisdom, here are 5 timely suggestions for you;

USE YOUR GODLY CONSCIENCE: To Dr. Martin Luther, our conscience is a godly thing. Use it! Pray to or not to participate in activities, appointments, events and gatherings as you deem fit.

PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE: Wash hands for 20 seconds or more and dry with a clean towel or air dry them. Disinfect high touch surfaces often, and cover your mouth when you cough.

STAY HOME: Especially if you are ill and avoid contact with people who are sick.

BE HEALTHY: Get adequate sleep and eat well balanced meals.

BE: A little more patient, gentle and understanding as mandates change and this is the first time many leaders, organizations, churches, and care givers had to deal with a health-crises like this.

Finally, "The Lord is our strength and our salvation, His Strong hand has done mighty things, we will rejoice!" God's GLOBAL map is totally covered by His promises, mercy and salvation. We are reminded that nothing can separate us from God's love in Christ Jesus, Peace to you all! In Christ, Pastor Mews.

MINISTRY MATTERS FROM PASTOR MEWS:

1. **YOUTH DIRECTOR/CALL MEETING** with Dr. Debbie Arfsten may be postponed. We will work on having that meeting via Skype. It is scheduled for Tuesday, March 24 at 3:30 p.m.. The face to face meeting may be delayed due to Concordia University, Chicago, travel ban. We will inform you of up to date changes.
2. **SJL** hosted the March, Northwest Circuit Pastor's Meeting, March 10 at our congregation. Thanks to our secretarial staff and Mike Shawley, for their assistance with worship, refreshments and lunch.
3. **BIBLE STUDIES ARE CURRENTLY POSTPONED:** Check with your leader in time to see when it will begin again.

-“Winter Life with God,” Monday Evenings, 6:30-8:30 P.M., will conclude their final 3 weeks and make plans for baptisms, affirmation of faiths and confirmations.

-Tuesday 2:00-3:00 P.M., In Depth, “Law and Gospel” concluded, “Mere Christianity” will begin.

-“Cross Training,” is scheduled to resume on April 8.

-Thursday Morning Bible Study, 10:00-11:30 A.M., “Genesis” Bible Study.”

-“He Chose the Nails” small group will resume. Check with your individual teachers in regards to your study resuming. You may watch “He Chose the Nails,” videos, check out YouTube and a possible search is under “Max Lucado,” the author.

4. **MINISTRY:**

A. Wednesday, 1:00 P.M. Lent, Saturday, 5:30 P.M. (Traditional), Sunday, 11:00 A.M. (Contemporary) are all being ‘Lived streamed.’ Readers, clickers, sound board techs, musicians, and others are still involved. Use the south entrance or the sanctuary door if you need to enter.

B. We will minister to you as best as possible via technology, email, On Realm, Facebook our web site, Twitter, etc. Not all of these are for everyone, pick and choose what you deem best.

C. We are suspending home visits, including shut in calls in response to COVID 19. If you need anything, contact the church office or the pastors.

D. Leaders will continue to gather during this epidemic on Sunday Mornings at 9:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall, to act, pray, decide and discuss the best way to deal with and effectively minister to all at this time.

SEMINARIAN: Chris Walters, supported by Ladies Aid, is a seminarian student at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. Following this crises, his hope is to meet with our Ladies Aid and even preach a sermon before he gets his assignment of where to serve as Vicar this summer. Pastor Mews had lunch with him on March 12 in Antwerp.



LENTEN SERVICES

Lenten Service - April 1—The Voice of Herod
1:00 p.m.—Live Streamed
5:00– 7:00 p.m. Lenten Meal-Cancelled

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday with Holy Communion– April 4 & 5

Wednesday, April 8
1:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Service
with Holy Communion– Thursday, April 9 - 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday with Holy Communion-Friday, April 10- 1:00 p.m.
Tenebrae with Senior Choir - 7:30 p.m.

**EASTER CELEBRATION WEEKEND
with HOLY COMMUNION**

Saturday, April 11 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 12: 8:00 a.m. & 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



Holy Week

HAVE YOU
TALKED
TO GOD
TODAY?

LADIES AID

With Easter fast approaching let us keep in mind the verse, **Acts 3:15** “You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this”. We want to thank everyone that came and enjoyed our Lenten meal on March 11, 2020.

Hope everyone that has purchased Noodles is enjoying them. Don't forget yours before they are all gone.

Our next meeting is on April 30, 2020 with chair hostess Judie Zachrich. Our speaker will be Nate Taylor from Children's Lantern. We will be collecting Kids Socks, Underwear & PJ's size 14 and under for the Children's Lantern.

Please come to the meeting and learn more about this program that benefits foster children.





SCOUTING NEWS APRIL 2020



March is traditionally the month where the Cub Pack holds its annual Pinewood Derby. This event allows Cubs to take a block of wood to shape and paint/decorate as they desire, add wheels and axles, and race the car down a track. Unfortunately due to the COVID-19 virus, this event was postponed and will be rescheduled at a later time. An Easter Egg Hunt at Camp Lakota is on the agenda for April.

Boy Scouts will be completing the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge, one of the 12 merit badges required for Eagle, this month. Plans to attend the Chinquapin District Camporee at Camp Lakota in May have changed as the COVID-19 virus has cancelled that event.

The Cub Pack and Boy Scout Troop would like to thank all those who attended its annual Soup and Sandwich Supper, one of the Lenten meals served on Wednesdays. Over 100 individuals were served and new this year was an opportunity to provide meals to several shut-ins.

Service to others is a very important part of Scouting. Thus, both the Pack and Troop participated in the annual Scouting for Food campaign, a national program of the Boy Scouts of America, in March. Over 400 items were collected by the Pack and Troop and brought to the St. John Food Pantry for distribution.

The Boy Scout Troop has for many years recycled newspapers as a conservation project. Anyone wishing to recycle newspapers can place them in the garage on the east side of the south parking lot. Money made from their sale is used to help pay for Scouts to attend summer camp.

Youth and adults are always welcome to attend pack and troop events to learn more about the program. Questions at any time can be addressed to Mike Saxton, Chartered Organization Representative, at 419-439-2079.

FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is open on
Tuesday and Thursdays
from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

In March, we served 67 families or 218 people.

A total of 365 bags were served at a total of
\$3, 650.00.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT OF THIS MINISTRY!!!**



Hallelujah!
HE IS RISEN

ENDOWMENT NEWS - APRIL 2020

Weathering the Storm

The market has turned nasty. It feels like we're on the tallest roller coaster at Cedar Point. The major equity indices are approaching a 20% decline which is the accepted definition of a bear market. Your Endowment

Fund invests in the stock and bond markets, so how are we doing? You've probably heard the expression, "Don't put your eggs in one basket." The fancier word for this is diversification. We take our donors and bequests very seriously and do our best to apply reasonable diversity techniques. This means holding a variety of large cap, mid cap, and small cap stocks both domestic and internationally. It also means holding a basket of good quality bonds to achieve correlation in the portfolio. The role of correlation is to cushion the equity blows as the two asset classes usually move in opposite directions. This we have done as well as holding some precious metals, gold and silver, in ETF form. Scared money often flows into government bonds and metals so it makes sense to hold these asset classes to offset the equity losses. We have been successful with this strategy as our overall portfolio loss to date is around 6.5% while the equity indices decline is nearly 20%.

I don't believe this corona virus and Saudi-Russia oil war is finished and we certainly expect more volatility ahead. We will continue to ride through it and weather the storm. As an aside we would recommend anyone considering an investment in our Endowment Fund do so now. Buying low has always appealed to me.

We will get through this, God is in charge. Dave Memmer, Chairman SJL Endowment Committee



PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING AT OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL

We would love for you to consider volunteering some time at our church.

We have opportunities available in many areas of the church and school. We are in need of people for many areas of ministry. Food pantry, clothes closet, lay readers, greeters, power point helpers, receptionist, stewardship team, areas within our school and so many more!!!

On Sunday, April 19th at the 11:00 a.m. service we are welcoming all new members and honoring all our volunteers. Lunch will be after the 11:00 a.m. service. Please join us to celebrate. Let us know if you are coming. If this event is cancelled the information will be put on Realm, Facebook and our web page. Thank you for all that you do at church and school!



APRIL 40+ WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- ◇ Bill & Lois Bennett (46) April 11
- ◇ Todd & Linda Thurlwell (35) April 13
- ◇ Jim & Janet Seymour (43) April 17
- ◇ Paul & Dorothy Bockelman (58) April 28
- ◇ Phil & Roza Shasteen (41) April 28
- ◇ Don & Angela Parrish (41) April 29



APRIL 80+ BIRTHDAYS

- ◇ Phyllis Nicely (80) April 10
- ◇ Donnabell Sargeant (89) April 16
- ◇ DiAnn Wichman (81) April 16
- ◇ Virginia Mast (95) April 21
- ◇ Joyce Stork (87) April 24
- ◇ Paul Bockelman (92) April 28
- ◇ Leona Horstman (95) April 28



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***** PASTORAL ACTS*****

Funerals: *Charlie Miller*, funeral on February 28 at St. John Lutheran with Pastor Mews Officiating

PRAYER

changes things

If you have a prayer request, you can call the church office or send an email to csecretary-sjl@defnet.com. Another option is to fill out the form on our web page at www.stjohndefiance.com/contact. This email will go the Pastors and the secretaries. We are here to help and assist you. May God bless you.

The Church Staff



April 2020: Gift Planning Newsletter Article For Gift Planning Counselors and Associates

How much is too much control?

The LCMS Foundation encourages God's people to respond to the presence of God's gifts in one's estate by putting together a gift plan that looks to bless the family we love and the ministries that are close to our hearts. Without planning, such desires are only wishes and may not happen, unless they are spelled out in wills/trusts or detailed in beneficiary designations for investments, IRA's, insurance contracts or even one's house.

The two most important questions you want to answer are:

- 1) How do I want this gift (inheritance) to bless family members? Starting from that goal, you can construct a plan of blessing.
- 2) How do I want this gift (bequest) to bless the ministry or ministries I care about? You might think of placing restrictions on how those gifts will be used.

There is a fine line between Godly planning and trying to become God ourselves. We don't want family to waste God's gifts. We want to make sure that future needs of family are addressed. We want to make sure that gifts to ministry will do more than purchase new bushes for the parking lot. But how do I know when I am getting too restrictive about the gifts I am planning, either withholding family gifts well into the future that could really jumpstart an education or career today or planning gifts for ministry that reflect values that are not widely held by others in that ministry, potentially orphaning my gifts with too many restrictions?

There is no easy answer to these questions. The process begins and ends with prayer, with prayer throughout, as we seek God's will. In a perfect world, a family inheritance will include discussion with children, grandchildren or other heirs. Planned ministry gifts will include discussion with ministry leaders to gain a clear vision for future ministry plans. Connecting gifts with those plans will maximize their effectiveness.

Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can be helpful with all of this, asking you the right questions in your quest to put together the right plan for family and ministry. Most of all, we desire this process to recognize throughout that all of these gifts are the Lord's gifts. Our questions center around the theme, "How can these gifts of the Lord bless others in the best way?" For help with this journey in faith, contact your LCMS Gift Planning Counselor can help.

Contact Eileen Fitzenreiter at Eileen.Fitzenreiter@lfnd.org or 419-822-6461.

Easter is probably a favorite holiday for many because of the significance it holds for us as Christians.

It is the day we remember the rising of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It's the day he triumphed over the grave, saved us from our sins and gave meaning to our world. Without his rising from the grave, all the rest of it would be meaningless. He triumphed over death and gave us life!

To celebrate the day we are sharing quotes about Easter and the resurrection to help make us think as we celebrate with family and friends.

Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone but in every leaf of springtime.

– Martin Luther

God proved His love on the Cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, 'I love you.'

– Billy Graham

Two thousand years ago, in the Middle East, an event occurred that permanently changed the world. Because of that event, history was split. Every time you write a date, you're using the Resurrection of Jesus Christ as the focal point.

– Rick Warren

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else. – C.S. Lewis



He Is RISEN! He is Risen indeed!

APRIL SERMONS

- ⇒ March 28/29 Pastor Luhring "Power to Cope With Doubt"
- ⇒ April 1 Wednesday Pastor Luhring "The Voice of Herod"
- ⇒ April 4/5 Pastor Mews "I Love a Parade"
- ⇒ April 8 Wednesday Pastor Mews "The Voice of the Chief Priests"
- ⇒ April 9 Maundy Thursday Pastor Luhring "This Cross and Friendship"
- ⇒ April 10 1:00PM Good Friday Pastor Mews "The Voice of Soldiers"
- ⇒ April 10 7:30PM Tenebrae Pastor Luhring "Father, Forgive Them."
- ⇒ April 11/12 Easter Pastor Mews "The Voice of Mary"
- ⇒ April 18/19 Pastor Luhring "Message from the Empty Tomb"
- ⇒ April 25/26 Pastor Mews "Worthy Tributes"
- ⇒ May 2/3 Pastor Luhring "Good Marriages Just Don't Happen"



Pastor Mews now has a blog where he writes a message of hope and encouragement for us all. Please go to: <https://www.stjohndefiance.com/rev-kurts-korner/>

He also has a Twitter account at @mews_kurt



To get back into your account on your computer go to: onrealm.org and enter your email address and password to get into your account.

REALM OVERVIEW

Welcome to Realm, the online directory and community for St. John Lutheran Church. If you have not yet received an email invitation to login into Realm or have questions, please contact our church office at sjl@defnet.com. Children under the age of 13 are not allowed to have Realm logins. Parents of children over the age of 18 have their own account. Each login must have a separate email address (they cannot be shared).

If you are having difficulties logging into Realm, please check to ensure that your internet browser is updated or that your mobile device is updated to the current operating system. The best browsers that work with Realm are (e.g. Chrome, Firefox, Safari)

UPDATING YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

Everyone in our church gets a unique profile. Your profile contains everything you want people at St. John Lutheran (SJL) to know about you and helps our staff and group leaders have your current information. Your profile also enables you to track your giving, join a small group, RSVP to events, give online, update your contact information, change family details, set notification preferences (e.g. email or mobile notifications), or replace that old updated family photo.

Your Profile Includes:

- Contact information (e.g. name, address, email, phone)
- Photo (yes, this is your time to take a selfie!)
- Family Members
- Personal Information (e.g. birthday)

You decide what data you want to hide to the SJL community by updating your privacy preferences (See PRIVACY for more info). You can enter in your full birthday (your year and age are **NOT** displayed in the church directory profile).

VIEWING THE DIRECTORY

Find others from St. John in the directory using the DIRECTORY tab on the left-hand side menu. Or, type in a name, or a few of the first few letters of the name you are trying to find to see others who meet that criteria. Photos help in finding peoples' names, so please update your profile with your current photo.

COMMUNICATION

In Realm, under the COMMUNICATIONS tab on the left-hand side, people can see the current information that pertains to the groups they are part of. If you are part of a group, you'll see the most current information that has been shared with your group via Realm. Type of news include:

- A post (e.g. group announcement)
- An event
- A photo

(continued on next page)

In the INBOX, group leaders can email group members. You can view emails from group leaders. To CHAT with someone directly, use this function. This works similar to Facebook Messenger. You may or may not yet be part of the REALM group that you are a part of in the real world. We are working on that! However, if you want to join a group, click on the GROUPS tab on the left-hand side. You can join any one of the groups in Realm at any time, as that sends your request to the group leader. You can choose in your **ACCOUNT SETTINGS** how you would like to receive notifications of new events, posts, etc. in Realm. You can choose to receive emails, mobile notifications, neither...your choice. This is found on the left side by your name in a drop down.

EVENTS

EVENTS, also found on the left-hand side tab, list upcoming events for your groups or for the entire church community. From these events, you can register and pay (if a cost) for specific events (e.g. retreats, classes).

Group leaders can create events for their groups (e.g. SJL Bible Studies) where people in the group can RSVP from Realm, share what items they will bring, and you can add those events to your own electronic calendar, such as Google.

GIVING

Review your giving history or make new donations online or on your mobile phone. Simply sign in to look over your year-to-date giving, check pledge progress, print a contribution statement, or make a new one time or recurring donation. It's always available and kept secure in an easy-to-use-online environment.

No matter how you choose to give toward our ministry, you can review all of your giving history online at any time. Giving online eliminates chances of errors and reduces administrative effort needed to enter manual giving. Recurring giving helps us plan for the future and enables giving even on vacation, snowstorms or pandemics!

WAYS TO GIVE

- Check or Cash
- Online Gifts (one-time or recurring)
- Text Giving
- Pledges
- Mail your offering to the church or set up a bank draft

To view your giving, click on "Giving" from the left-hand menu. One selected, you will see your giving for the current year. Then click on the blue "Give+" button. This will take you to a screen where you manage your online gifts, one time or recurring. (continued on next page)

ANOTHER FEATURE:

Text **73256** AND then type: **sjldefiance** to give a one-time gift or set-up as a recurring donation to St. John, use the email that you sign into Realm. This will connect your gift to your account.

REALM CONNECT APP

Download the “Realm Connect” app on your phone and have information at your fingertips at all times. Go to your app store and download.

**PRIVACY****What is the Online Directory?**

Being in the online directory just means that your privacy settings are such that other Realm users at SJL can see your profile listed when you click Directory in the main left menu. Think of it like being in the printed directory booklet.

What's visible there?

If someone is in the online directory his or her name and photo are always visible to other congregants.

For other contact and personal information, congregants will only be able to see whatever the profile owner chooses to divulge by means of his or her profile privacy choices. In other words, if someone is in the online directory but sets his or her personal or contact information privacy to “Staff Only”, other congregants will not be able to view it.

Other congregants will be able to see what public groups this person is in. Groups are either public, hidden, or staff only. Staff with permissions and group leaders can determine these settings.

Who is/is not in the online directory?

Most congregants with a profile (record) in Realm can be added to the online directory. The following, however, cannot:

- People with a login (because they are automatically added to the directory)
- Anyone with the family position of “Child” who does not have a birthday listed in Realm (their privacy settings cannot be opened even by their parents).
- Inactive profiles
- Profiles of those who have been marked “deceased”.



St. John School News

Message from Mrs. Kosmerchock, Principal: Faith through this time!

It seems strange to be at school with no children around – the laughter, the learning, and the sharing – but at this time it is necessary to help our state, country and the world conquer this virus and win! I know that the coronavirus pandemic is confusing and frightening for hundreds of millions of people. That is not surprising, for the unknown is scary. The situation has to change drastically to stop the spread, which is why the Governor has closed schools.

I know that at times like this I know that people of faith question their faith, their belief in God. Here are a few thoughts I have had:

First of all try to resist panic. This is not to say there is no reason to be concerned, or that we should ignore the sound advice of medical professionals and public health experts. But remember panic and fear are not from God. Calm and hope are. And I believe it is possible to respond to a crisis seriously and deliberately while maintaining an inner sense of calm and hope.

Think of it this way, there are two forces in our lives – one that draws us toward God and the other away from God. The one that draws us away is the “evil one”. He causes us anxiety, saddens and sets up obstacles. These lies lead to panic. Trust what medical experts tell you, not those who fear monger. That is why they call Satan the “Prince of Lies.”

Panic, by confusing and frightening you, pulls you away from the help God wants to give you. It is not coming from God. What is coming from God”? God gives us courage and strength, consolations, inspirations and tranquility. So trust in the calm and hope you feel it. That is the voice I am asking you to listen to God’s voice.

“Do not be afraid!” Jesus said many times.

Remember that even though schools, restaurants, businesses, and so much more have been cancelled, Love has not been!

Do not close your hearts to those that need help. Pray for people in our community, state, country and the world. Remember that we are in this together! We are a community! A family!

Trust that God is with you. You may feel alone, but you are not. We don’t know why this is happening, but we do know God is with us. We need to believe that he knows our fears and He will calm them. Trust in Him and with God’s help we will move through this time together.

May each of you be safe, and know that through all things the Lord is our strength in times of trouble. If you need anything, call and we will help!

Blessings,

Mrs. Kosmerchock,
Principal



Classroom News

Mrs. Wagner's 4-year-old class: Oh...how we are loving the warm sunshine and the fresh air! As we finish up our unit on "Growing Up Healthy," we have learned how important it is to be outside and how important exercise is for our health! April has arrived and we will be learning about "*Nature All Around Us*." Our students will be encouraged to be curious about their environment by watching plant growth, and observing changes they see in the sky,

Mrs. Cavin 3-year-old class

We had a great time with our unit, Let's Move! We learned about different ways animals, people, weather, and even music move. We did some stretching, dancing, and moving to different tempos of music. We also painted while listening to classical music, and talked about how the music made us feel. We are looking forward to spring, and our next unit, Growing and Changing. When we return from our break, we will be learning about how we have changed this year, as well as how much we have changed and grown since we were born. We will be learning about the life cycles of different animals and plants. We will also be planting flowers, and watching them grow from seeds. During Jesus time, we have been learning about the many miracles of Jesus. We are looking forward to celebrating Easter when we return.

Kindergarten Happenings

Mrs. Stottlemyer

The kindergarteners are ready for Spring, but their teacher is not ready for rainy recess days! We have been talking about Spring animals such as ducks who are ready to come back from their Winter homes. We are also talking and experimenting with seeds. We are learning about the lifecycle of a plant and the parts of a plant. I do not have a green thumb, but some of my students sure do! In March we talked about Lent and what Lent is and means. Now we are ready for Easter and celebrate our Lord's amazing love for us.

weather, and seasons. The BIG idea(s) in April will include: *I can plant a seed and watch it grow, I see how the sky is different during the day and night, the weather affects what I wear and do each day, and I notice how the seasons change.* For Jesus Time, we will have a Praise Parade for Jesus, decorate sand crosses, and then put them in our origami Easter baskets for our Easter celebration - *Come along and celebrate, Jesus is alive!*

First Grade News

Mrs. Jan McGhee

Easter blessings from first grade! Jesus' resurrection is the assurance we all have of a wonderful life in heaven following our earthly journey.

Second Grade News

Mrs. Cheryl Yoder

The warmer weather has our class excited for spring days and playing outside without their winter gear. When we return from the extended break we will be creating small resurrection gardens to celebrate the return of Jesus. Easter is such a wonderful time to help students really reflect on all the joys and blessings in our lives. We look forward to everyone returning to school happy and healthy, so we can continue on this blessed journey together.

Third Grade Classroom

Mrs. Tiffany Scheurich

We have been very busy in 3rd grade! We have learned our multiplication facts 0-12! We have been able to complete timed tests in less than 3 minutes for facts 0-8! We even had a competition against 4th grade on our multiplication facts! In religion, we have learned about the Means of Grace. Pastor Mews even came in to talk to us about The Lord's Supper! It was very interesting! We wrote acrostic poems in writing class! We picked out a friend's name and wrote a poem using the letters in their name! We even learned how to use Word Art to make our poems look creative! We also started a research paper on whales to go with our story "Symphony of Whales". In social studies, we learned all about maps and even created a globe

from paper mache as well as a map of Ohio out of salt dough! We started learning about different communities! In science, we finished our natural resource chapter and started to learn about life science! Finally, in math, we have learned about fractions as well as how to calculate area and perimeter!

Fourth Grade Classroom

Miss Carli Rossow

Wow! March just flew away and now we're headed into April. We are so excited to get out into the sunshine and soak up some warmer weather! God is so good and given us so many blessings! We are continually reminded of His great love for us and we are eagerly waiting Easter when we can celebrate that Jesus is ALIVE and our sins are forgiven! We have worked really hard in the world of L O N G D I V I S I O N... and we're gearing up for... fractions! We've learned about the early settlers of Ohio and how our state was once the gateway to the west full of canals and lots of railroads. We'll be headed to the Providence Metro park in May to check out one of last functional locks as we take a canal ride, and maybe they'll let us help grind some corn into commmeal at the Ludwig Mill. We've started discussing Ohio's role during the Civil War and the abolitionist movement. Hmm... Was Ohio part of the Union, the Confederacy, or was it a Border State? Verbs have come and gone and we're ready for Adjectives, Adverbs, Prepositions, and more. Do you remember that song that goes Lolly, lolly, lolly get your adverbs here? We're wondering what it's all about.

Fifth Grade – Miss Mews

Rainy. Soggy. Sunny. Warm. Bright. Is spring finally on its way? These might be some adjectives you would use to describe the days ahead. Students in 5th and 6th grade have been writing various forms of essays and letters and have been encouraged to add some descriptive adjectives as well. The 6th grade class took part in the Great Mail Race, sending letters to other 6th grade classes across all 50 states. The 5th grade class has been learning how to write essays with descriptive and supportive sentences. The 7th grade students have been reading poetry and deciphering figurative language and what it means. As the warmer weather approaches, hopefully P.E. for 5th-8th grade will be

outside more. We pray you will find some time outside too!

Ms. Santo's Classes

Welcome to spring! Fitting that it's finally here as most of my science classes have been learning about plants and photosynthesis. 5th graders were beginning to work with fractions: simplifying them and comparing them. After the extended break, they will be adding and subtracting them. 7th graders are working on angles and their relationships. 6th graders will be returning to equations! Yay for algebra: my favorite branch of mathematics. I hope everyone had a nice and blessed extended break.

Seventh & Eighth Grade – Mrs. Phillips

Spring is finally here! We've been getting tired of seeing snow and having to wear our thick coats to school. It feels nice having to wear a sweatshirt to school now. No more snow boots! In social studies, both classes (7th/8th & 5th/6th) are learning about how a young United States faced several challenges both foreign and domestic. In math, we are diving into volume and surface area. We know there's going to be a lot of memorization for formulas of all sorts of shapes! After this chapter in math, there's only one more left! Will Mrs. Phillips give us a break after? In ELA, we've been learning about different types of essays and which essay would best fit a scenario and why. We've been relearning what makes up an essay and how to write one using descriptive words and citing resources. It's going to be a long journey. In reading, the 8th graders have been finishing up non-fiction books and essays while answering the question, "How much information is enough?"

“THE BIG BAD MUSICAL”

All K – 8 students will be participating in the spring musical April 24th & 25th at 6:30 p.m.

FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED!



YOUTH SCOOP APRIL 2020

All kids going into 6th grade through 12th grade are welcome to join us for all youth activities.

Proverbs 16:9- The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.

This year we will focus on who's we are and how our journey is His journey.



The youth board has disinfected the youth room. Let the fun begin!

Cross Training

We'll be back in session on April 8th! See you then.

Grades 1-5 learn Bible stories and Concepts.
Grades 6-8 are taught catechism and Lutheran principals.



Easter Breakfast Youth will be preparing the meal on Sat., April 11th. On Sunday, they will serve the feast.

Easter Breakfast will be served on Sunday, April 12th, 8:30- 11:00 a.m.



Sunday, April 26th

12:30-4:30p

Passing out blessing bags to those in need first then laser tag, bowling and


video games at Combat Ops.

See bulletin board for more info.



Youth Nites- are held Sundays at 6:30-8:00pm in the basement for grades 6-12th except on holidays or special events. Please see calendar on bulletin board. Copies of calendars and forms can be found next to the board by the gym entrance.

*** ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE*** Please check the social media sources (REALM, facebook, etc.) for any updated information****

◀ Mar 2020	April 2020						May 2020 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1 LENT 1:00p Lenten service- live streamed	2 9:00-4:00p Clothes Closet- closed 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry- closed	3 10:00-2:00p Clothes Closet 6:00p Derby Set-up	4 5:30p Worship- live streamed	
5 11:00a Worship – live streamed	6 GYM CLOSED 3:30-5:00p Musical Rsal GM 4:00-6:20 Girl Scouts AE 6:30p Cub Scouts 6:30p Boy Scouts 6:30 Boy Scouts 6:30p Telecare CO 6:30p Finance 1	7 GYM CLOSED 7:30-8:30a Musical Rehersal GM 9:15 Preschool Chapel- Cavin 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00a Tuesdays @ 10 Bible Study AE 2:00-3:00p In-Depth Bible FR 2:00-4:00p Tuesdays @ 2	8 LENT- GYM CLOSED 9:00a Mom's in Touch at Tim H 11:30a Endowment Mtg @ SS 1:00p Holy Wednesday service 5:30p Handbell practice 6:30p Cross Training 6:30p Adult Bible Study (Rohlf) FR 6:30 Senior Choir LB 7:30 Holy Wednesday Service	9 GYM CLOSED 9:00-4:00p Clothes Closet 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00-11:30a Bible Study FR 3:30-5:00p Musical Rehersal GM 7:00p School Board meeting 7:30p Maundy Thursday Svc	10 Good Friday 6:30a Iron Men's Bible Study AE 10:00-2:00p Clothes Closet 1:00p Good Friday Service 7:30p Good Friday Service NO SCHOOL TIGERS DEN OPEN GYM CLOSED	11 5:30p Worship GYM CLOSED	
12 EASTER 8:00a Worship 8:30 -11:00 a Easter Breakfast 9:30a Worship 11:00a Worship 6:30-8:30p Jr/Sr Hi Youth YR	13 3:30-5:00p Musical Rehersal GM 5:30p Trustees LR 6:30 Cub Scouts LR 6:30p Boy Scouts LR 6:30 Finance 2 NO SCHOOL TIGERS DEN OPEN GYM CLOSED	14 7:30-8:30a Musical Rehersal GM 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00a Tuesdays @ 10 Bible Study AE 2:00-3:00p In-Depth Bible FR	15 Tax Day (Taxes Due) 4:00 Best Practices Mtg AE 5:30p Handbell practice 6:30p Cross Training 6:30p Adult Bible Study (Rohlf) FR 6:30 Senior Choir LB	16 BOOK FAIR 8:55a Chapel- Kaiser 9:00-4:00p Clothes Closet 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00-11:30a Bible Study FR 3:30-5:00p Musical Rehersal GM 7:00p Parish Planning	17 BOOK FAIR 6:30a Iron Men's Bible Study AE 10:00-2:00p Clothes Closet	18 BOOK FAIR 5:30p Worship/Communion GYM CLOSED	
19 BOOK FAIR 8:00a Worship/Communion 9:30a Worship/Communion 11:00a Worship/Communion-preschool sing 12:00p Volunteer Luncheon/New Member Welcome LR 6:30-8:30p Jr/Sr Hi Youth YR GYM CLOSED	20 BOOK FAIR 3:30-5:00p Musical Rehersal GM 4:00-6:20 Girl Scouts AE 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30p Boy Scouts 6:30p Finance 1 GYM CLOSE	21 BOOK FAIR 7:30-8:30a Musical Rehersal GM 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00a Tuesdays @ 10 Bible Study AE 2:00-3:00p In-Depth Bible FR GYM CLOSED	22 BOOK FAIR Administrative Professionals 9:00a Moms In Touch at Tim H 5:30p Handbell practice 6:30p Cross Training 6:30p Adult Bible Study (Rohlf) FR 6:30 Senior Choir LB GYM CLOSED	23 BOOK FAIR 8:55a Chapel- 1st grade Grand/Visitor/ Chapel 9:00-4:00p Clothes Closet 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00-11:30a Bible Study FR 3:30-5:00p Musical Rsal GM 2:00- 4:00p Knit & Study FR GYM CLOSED	24 BOOK FAIR 6:30a Iron Men's Bible Study AE 10:00-2:00p Clothes Closet SPRING MUSICAL 7:30 p.m.	25 COMPASSION SUNDAY TBD Wedding James Fisher & Natalie Porter 5:30p Worship SPRING MUSICAL 7:30 p.m.	
26 COMPASSION SUNDAY 8:00a Worship 9:30a Worship 11:00a Worship 6:30-8:30p Jr/Sr Hi Youth YR	27 6:30 Cub Scouts 6:30p Boy Scouts 6:30p Finance 2	28 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00a Tuesdays @ 10 Bible Study AE 2:00-3:00p In-Depth Bible FR	29 5:30p Handbell practice 6:30p Cross Training 6:30p Adult Bible Study (Rohlf) FR 6:30 Senior Choir LB	30 8:55a Chapel- Luhning 9:00-4:00p Clothes Closet 9:30-11:30a Food Pantry 10:00-11:30a Bible Study FR			