
THE EPISTLE
FEBRUARY 2024
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
655 WAYNE AVENUE
DEFIANCE, OH 43512



CHURCH SERVICES
TRADITIONAL:
5:30 SAT / 8:00 / 9:30 SUNDAY
CONTEMPORARY 11:00

PASTOR
KURT MEWS

Pastor Mews' Epistle, February 2024

"HELP! I'm raising teenagers, young adults and adult children yet in my home" Part II

"Three things amaze me, no, four things, I will never understand- how an eagle flies so high in the sky, how a snake glides over a rock, how a ship navigates the ocean and why adolescents act the way they do." Proverbs 30:18-19 MSG

Last month we spoke about Luther's insight into parenting and some of the spiritual challenges facing parents and their kids. This month, we will look at some specific insight and tips into Christian parenting.

1. PARENTAL ROLES: An overview of what parents are to focus on in their child's life, year to year

0-2 years, Catering

2-10, Controlling

10-14, Coaching

15-18, Consulting

19+, Mentoring

2. Parents need to understand that they are constantly being 'fired,' and that as parents they need to reinvent the relationship. The goal is to look down the road to who we desire our children to be as they grow into adulthood. With that in mind, here are some things that work:

***Tough love**

***Don't bail them out**

***Don't be a one-topic parent**

***The pain of discipline or the pain of regret**

***The reward and joy of "you earned it"**

***Develop an action plan**

****The result of enabling is that we raise entitled children who may not succeed on their own.**

As C.S. Lewis says, "Hardship often prepares an ordinary person for an extraordinary destiny."

3. As our children move from childhood to youth and young adults, there are principles that can bless everyone;

***Teach sexual integrity; remember: 100 one-minute talks, not 1 one-hundred-minute talk.**

***Help shape their behavior without crushing their spirit or their character.**

***Create media-safe homes. Do you check their phones and know what they're watching?**

***The GOAL: Responsible adulthood**

***Move them from dependence to independence.**

***Negotiate boundaries and express expectations.**

"They will never know how far away the town is if you carry them on your back."

4. As children now move from being a youth to young adult or adult, the role of parenting changes. Here are some things that work:

***Experience is a much better teacher than advice. "**

***Ask permission to give advice.**

***Your role changes to coach, consult and mentor. We are no longer in control.**

***Unsolicited advice is usually taken as criticism. When youth or young adults receive advice, they don't hear a lesson, but don't respect that they're grown.**

"But why does she need to go to Europe to find herself when I have all the answers for her life right now?"

One of the greatest gifts that God has given to us is our children. Pray and reflect on these as parents and grandparents as we walk with our Lord in this season of Epiphany, in the light of our newborn King as He makes His way toward Golgotha and our redemption.

In Christ, Pastor KF Mews

Sermons for February

FEB. 3 - 4, "Power and Authority" Isaiah 40:21-31, God's Power to Save
FEB. 10-11, "A Glimpse and a Peek" Mark 9:2-9, Jesus' Divinity and Grace
FEB. 14, ASH WEDNESDAY "Mutual Consideration" Psalm 41:1-2,
Christ's Devotion to Us
FEB. 17-18, "Pressure Blesses" James 1:12-18, Faith and Testing
FEB. 21, "Sustained in Sickness" Psalm 41:3, God's Sustaining / Illness
FEB. 24-25, "Rebranded and Renamed" Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16,
Baptism / Identity
FEB. 28, "I have Sinned" Psalm 41:4, Linked in Baptism



PASTOR'S SERMONS

If you missed a sermon, you can find it on our YouTube channel, on our webpage (www.stjohndefiance.com) and on our Podcast site.

Google search: st john lutheran church defiance ohio youtube. Then subscribe to St. John channel to get notified when we are broadcasting "live".

LINK TO OUR WEBPAGE

<https://www.stjohndefiance.com/sermons-2/>

LINK TO OUR PODCAST

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/54964>

Put your favorite podcast app on your phone and listen to the sermons any time of day.

Our service is broadcast a week later on the radio on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on WONO 1280 AM and on WZOM 105.7 FM at 8:00 a.m.

Bible Study Opportunities Led by Pastor Mews

TRUE FAITH IN THE TRUE GOD!

Written by Dr. Schwarz, Luther Scholar and former professor at the University of Regensburg in Germany, this in-depth class is a practical and engaging look into Luther's life with insight and relevance for our 21st Century lives. Thoughtful topics include faith, life, marriage, parenting, the nature of God and the relationship of faith and reason. Classes gather each Wednesday, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in the fellowship room.

ISAIAH

The book and class theme is "To Keep the people in eager anticipation of Christ!" This Bible study is over the book of Isaiah and it gathers from 10:00-11:30 A.M. in the fellowship hall. Feel free to join us, as all is provided and over 25 people are enrolled. Our outreach ministry is to the Path Center of Defiance.

Winter "Life with God 1" (LWG 1)

This class is for those desiring to become communicant members of St. John Lutheran Church, those desiring to renew their faith, or those who wish to 'check out' the basic teachings of Christianity and Lutheranism. We encourage every member to attend once every five years. The class meets on Monday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m.



BIBLE STUDIES SUNDAY-9:30 A.M.

- **Phil Rohlf – "The Book of Daniel" Lunchroom**
- **Sandy Gyurnek – "Help Is Here: Finding Fresh Strength and Purpose in the Power of the Holy Spirit" by Max Lucado, in the Fellowship Room**
- **Faye Luhring—"Overcoming Strife / Enduring Faith" Lunchroom**
- **Jeff Rohlf – "The Genesis Account of Noah's Ark," by Calvin Smith in Adult Ed A**



CHURCH CARD NOOK

If you need to purchase any cards, we have them available in our Card Nook located in the reception area by the church office. Prices are \$5.00 per box and 3 single cards for \$1.25.



Lamb of God

ACTS (Adult CrossTraining Studies)

Lutheran Hour Lenten Bible Class:

What has being a Christian cost you? What are the blessings? What did it cost Jesus?

In *Lamb of God*, we see Jesus as both human and divine. He is concerned about people's everyday lives and their eternal welfare. As God's beloved Lamb, He intimately joined our lives in the flesh, compassionately healing, teaching, and loving us as our Good Shepherd.

On the cross, He gave His life for our transgressions, and three days later He rose triumphant in victory. Please consider joining us, beginning Ash Wednesday evening, February 14, from 6:30 - 7:30 in Adult Ed Room A. We follow the Cross Training schedule as we prepare our hearts to walk with Jesus through Lent and Holy Week. We have found the Lutheran Hour Devotions to be both thought-provoking and uplifting.



CARE NOTES

Take One - Take Heart

Give One - Give Hope

Working Your Way Through Crisis

New Care Notes have been placed in the rack in the Caring Ministry Resource Room in the Work Room. Please take one for you or give to a friend.

Notes now available:

5 Stages of Grief Series: Denial

5 Stages of Grief Series: Depression

5 Stages of Grief Series: Anger

5 Stages of Grief Series: Bargaining

5 Stages of Grief Series: Acceptance

Feeling Overwhelmed When One Loss Follows Another

What Is Palliative Care - And When Is It Called For?

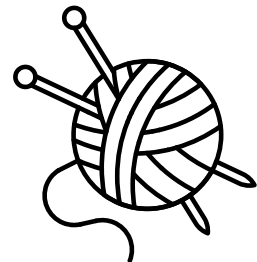
Understanding Thoughts of Suicide and Self-Harm

Angry? Lonely? Anxious? Dealing With Difficult Emotions



MOMS IN TOUCH

Faye Luhning invites to you join a group of ladies who pray for not only our congregation and its members, but also our community and world affairs. They meet every other Monday at 9:00 a.m. at 274 Wilson St. This winter, they meet February 12th and 26th and from 9 - 10 am. For more information, please call Faye at 419-782-0153.

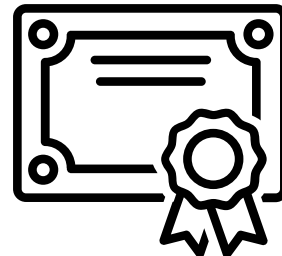


**KNIT 'N STUDY at 1 pm
SECOND AND FOURTH TUESDAY**



Baringer / Wachtman Scholarship

The Baringer / Wachtman Scholarship is available for YOU! If you are currently seeking to further your education on a Christ-Centered campus, please consider attending a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod university. Our church has scholarships available to assist you in your commitment to a degree in the many programs offered at Concordia Universities throughout our United States. You must be a communicant member of St. John Lutheran or Christ Our Savior, Defiance, OH, in order to apply. For more information, contact Rick or Nancy Baldwin, Jan or Mike McGhee, Angie Morris, or Lonnie Warncke.



DEBORAH S. MAXEY SCHOLARSHIP

The Maxey family has created a memorial scholarship to support a high school senior preferably entering the field of education. It is NOT a requirement that the applicant is entering the field of education. The applicant must be accepted into college this fall. To be eligible for the scholarship, the applicant must have attended St. John Lutheran School at least 3 years from kindergarten through eighth grade. Please stop by the church or school office to pick up an application for the scholarship. The application is also available for download on the church website or your high school website. The application deadline for the scholarship is April 6th. College Bound Students Announcement!

Happy
Anniversary

40+ years

Dick & Diane Bonin 2/2 (58)

Howard & Mary Grime 2/5 (58)

Robert & Bonnie Warncke 2/10
(62)

Mark & Kathy Reynolds 2/17 (46)

Pat & Jill McMillen 2/18 (41)

Bernard & Anna Sines 2/20 (70)

Jack & Marie Clark 2/24 (61)



FEBRUARY 2024

80 + BIRTHDAYS

Shirley Groll, February 9 (84)

Martha Tonjes, February 12 (82)

Ed McCray, February 16 (86)

Marilyn Houck, February 26 (92)

Sharon Boehm, February 28 (82)

The Dart Ball season is underway. Anyone interested in joining our team please contact Jeff Buchhop, 419-439-2120. We have recently joined a league with 9 other churches and can't wait for you to join us!

Dates:

February 13 - Trinity Lutheran Bryan

March 5 - Home against St. Peter Florida



Prayer Requests

Please let the church office know of any prayer requests. Call 419.782.5766 or email church.office@stjohntigers.com. For the Prayer Chain, please contact Judy or Penny via phone, text, or email if you have a prayer request, an addition, a correction, or any feedback for the Prayer Chain Warriors to include in their prayers. Judy Detter (detterjudy@gmail.com), text Judy: 419.783.7032. Penny Mueller (pennym41@gmail.com) text Penny: 419.304.5768





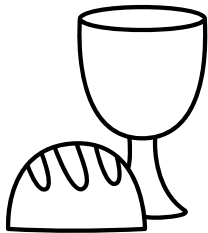
We served 85 families in December or 250 people. A distribution of 345 bags of food worth \$5,175 was distributed. We had 13 new families visit our food pantry. Starting in February, we are changing the hours to 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., and continue to be open on Tuesday and Thursdays.

We are being featured at Meijer for the Simply Give Program. This has been the primary source for keeping our food pantry operational. During the upcoming campaign, the Double Match Day opportunities will be held on Saturday, March 2, and Saturday, March 23, 2024.

For every \$10 Simply Give card purchased on these dates, Meijer will provide an additional contribution of \$20, bringing the total to \$30 for a single customer purchase. Simply Give cards are available at the store at the end of the checkout lane or on the south receptionist desk.



If you like to donate food products, a list will be published in the weekly bulletin. Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry.



PRIVATE COMMUNION

Pastor continues to offer private Communion for anyone who wishes to have Communion. Please call the church office for an appointment.

SHUT-IN CALLS

We have around 30 people who are designated as shut-ins in our congregation. Pastor, Walt & Lorna Smith, and George Kaiser are keeping in contact with our members. If the shut-in person is comfortable having a home visit, arrangements will be made for this visit.



The Clothes Closet

located across the street from the school, continues to provide gently used clothing at an affordable price to our community. The Clothes Closet is open on Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Friday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. If you have a donation, you may drop it off on Monday or Tuesday from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. or during days we are open. Bring donations and come on in and do a little shopping.



Scout News February 2024

After a thrilling Cubanapolis in January, Cubs will be celebrating Boy Scouts of America's 114th birthday this month with its annual Blue and Gold Banquet. Recognitions and advancements will be the focus, along with a Cross-Over when three Webelos Cubs will transfer to the Boy Scout Troop. Cubs will also this month begin preparing their Pinewood Derby cars for the race in March.

The Troop competed in the Klondike Derby at Camp Lakota in January and is exploring the possibility of a Polar Bear, a cold-weather overnight camping experience, this month. In addition, snow tubing at Mad River Mountain is being considered.

Scout Sunday will be held on February 11 at St. John. As such, both Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts will attend the 9:30 service in full uniform. "On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God..." are the opening words to the Scout Oath. "Reverence" is one of the 12 points of the Scout Law. Both are repeated at the beginning of each Scout meeting. Thus, in Scouting, there is incorporated in the character development of our youth a reinforcing of having faith in God. Several Cubs and one Boy Scout will be receiving their religious award for completing the PRAY program, specific to each age group.

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.

***There will be a Vacation Bible School
organizational meeting on Tuesday,
February 20th at 7pm.***



Ladies Aid February 2024

Hopefully God is navigating your new beginning for this year. Our verse for this month is from Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Ladies Aid is doing the Lenten Meal for Ash Wednesday on February 14th. Happy Valentine's Day! We hope to see everyone at the meal. Our meeting for February is on the 29th with Donna Van Vlerah as Chair Hostess. Toilet paper is the suggested item for the Food Pantry. We hope to see everyone at the meeting.

OUTREACH MINISTRY



Outreach Ministry seeks to share the Gospel of Christ within and outside of our walls to proclaim Jesus and the ministry of our church and school locally, nationally and globally.

Two St. John Church and School welcoming signs (4 feet by 8 feet) will be at different prominent locations and have information on both sides so that all who enter or leave the city will be able to view them. One sign has already been set at the junction of highways 15 and 18, where an older sign was replaced. The location for the second sign is yet to be determined but will be on a heavily used route.

A review of 2023 events and plans for 2024 opportunities were discussed at the January meeting. Details regarding 2024 will be forthcoming.

The Outreach Ministry Committee meets monthly to plan additional opportunities to be more welcoming to worshippers and be more visible in the community.

Additional information regarding this ministry is available by contacting Mike Saxton at 419-393-2513 or Pastor Mews at 419-782-5766.

**St John
Lutheran Church**

presents, Family, Friends, & Fellowship Sunday at

Ayersville Community Pool

***Ayersville Community Natatorium
28046 Watson Rd, Defiance***

FREE!

**ALL WELCOME.
OPEN SWIM!**

**Sunday,
February 4th
1:00-4:00 pm**



Call the church
office for questions:
419-782-5766

St. John Lutheran
Church & School
655 Wayne Avenue
Defiance, OH

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Preschool to 4th grade
Bible storytime, crafts, & fun!

Lower hallway classroom
9:30 am Service

January 7
– May 19
9:30 am

Contact Megan with questions at
419director@stjohntigers.com



THE
LIFE
OF
JESUS

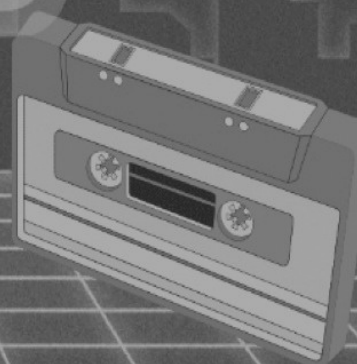


ST JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL

presents

BACK *to* *the* 80's

Trivia *Night*



SATURDAY, MARCH 16

EAGLES, 711 W. 2ND ST., DEFIANCE

FEATURING COMEDIAN AND TRIVIA HOST:

DAN DEIBERT

6:00 TO 9:00 PM

TICKET:\$65 PP - \$500 FOR A TABLE OF 8 - CASH BAR

TACO NIGHT WITH ALL THE FIXIN'S



Sponsorship &
Tickets

St. John Lutheran Christian Day School

655 Wayne Ave., Defiance, OH 43512

419.782.1751 • secretary.sjl@stjohntigers.com

John March, principal.sjl@stjohntigers.com

www.stjohntigers.com

Connected - John 15:1-5



Ms. Ordway's Classroom Activities



St. John Lutheran Christian Day School



Book Blast - December 15

(all students received at least 1 book- some students were able to receive up to 10 books)



3rd/4th Grade- December 18

Champions of Principal Monopoly

Grand Prize- Lunch with principal at Pizza Hut



Christmas Programs – December 17



St. John Lutheran School Grades 5 & 6



We are enjoying some hands-on science, learning about the various simple machines that aid us in our everyday work. The students had an opportunity to construct many of these simple machines through both following instructions and research. In this unit we also discovered many fun things about motion and forces - including demonstrations in Newton's Laws of Motion/gravity and building racers to learn about potential/kinetic energy, along with calculating speed. All this ties in with this year's 5/6th grade 4-H Project: Rocketry!



HELLO February

February 2024

Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday

Lenten Meals Begin Feb. 14th
(from 5-7 pm in the cafeteria)

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

419 BLAST Event Feb. 7th

Monday	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	1 THURSDAY	2 FRIDAY	3 SATURDAY	4 SUNDAY
			Clothes Closet 9:00 am Food Pantry 9:30 am Isaiah Bible St. 10:00 am Elders Meeting 6:00 pm	Clothes Closet 10:00 am	Worship Service w/ Communion @ 5:30 pm	Worship Service with Communion 8:00 / 9:30 / & 11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Studies @ 9:30am
5 Finance 9:30 am Worship Leaders 11:00 am Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Life with God 6:30 pm Tele Care Calling 6:30 pm	6 Food Pantry 9:30 am Tuesday Bible St. 10:00 am Tuesday Book Club 2:00pm Youth Board Mt 6:30 pm Outreach Ministry 6:30 pm	7 True Faith Bible Study 2pm Hand Bells 5:45 pm Senior Choir 6:30 pm BLAST EVENT 6:30 pm Cross Training 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm	8 Clothes Closet 9:00 am Food Pantry 9:30 am Isaiah Bible St. 10:00 am School Board 7:00 pm	9 Clothes Closet 10:00 am	10 Worship Service @ 5:30 pm	11 Worship Service 8:00 / 9:30 / & 11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Studies @ 9:30am
12 Moms In Touch 9:00am Finance 9:30am Boy Scouts 6:30pm Life with God 6:30 pm	13 Food Pantry 9:30 am Tuesday Bible St. 10:00 am Knit & Study 1:00 pm Youth Board Mt 6:30 pm 419 Ministry Mtg. 7:00 pm Dartball 6:30 pm	14 Endowment Mtg. 11:30 am True Faith Bible St. 2:00pm Lenten Meal 5-7 pm Hand Bells 5:45 pm Cross Training 6:30 pm Adult Bible Study 6:30 pm Senior Choir 6:30 pm Lent Services 1:00 & 7:30pm	15 Clothes Closet 9:00 am Food Pantry 9:30 am Isaiah Bible St. 10:00 am Parish Planning 7:00 pm	16 Clothes Closet 10:00 am	17 Worship Service w/ Communion @ 5:30 pm	18 Boy Scout Sunday Worship Service with Communion 8:00 / 9:30 / & 11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Studies @ 9:30am
19 Finance 9:30 am Worship Leaders 11:00 am Boy Scouts 6:30 pm Life with God 6:30 pm	20 Food Pantry 9:30 am Tuesday Bible St. 10:00 am Tuesday Book Club 2:00pm Trustees Meeting 6:30 pm	21 True Faith Bible St. 2:00pm Lenten Meal 5-7 pm Hand Bells 5:45 pm Cross Tr./Adult B.S. 6:30 pm Senior Choir 6:30 pm Lent Services 1:00 & 7:30pm	22 Clothes Closet 9:00 am Food Pantry 9:30 am Isaiah Bible St. 10:00 am	23 Clothes Closet 10:00 am	24 Worship Service @ 5:30 pm	25 Worship Service 8:00 / 9:30 / & 11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Studies @ 9:30am
26 Moms In Touch 9:00am Finance 9:30am Boy Scouts 6:30pm Life with God 6:30 pm	27 Food Pantry 9:30 am Tuesday Bible St. 10:00 am Knit & Study 1:00 pm	28 True Faith Bible St. 2:00pm Lenten Meal 5-7 pm Hand Bells 5:45 pm Cross Tr./Adult B.S. 6:30 pm Senior Choir 6:30 pm Lent Services 1:00 & 7:30pm	29 Clothes Closet 9:00 am Food Pantry 9:30 am Isaiah Bible St. 10:00 am Ladies Aid 2:00 pm	March 1 Clothes Closet 10:00 am	March 2 Worship Service w/ Communion @ 5:30 pm	March 3 Worship Service with Communion 8:00 / 9:30 / & 11:00 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Studies @ 9:30am

