

In the Congregation

March 2024

Monthly Breakfast will be potluck on Sunday, March 10 between services in Luther Hall. Remember this is also daylight saving time, so be sure to spring your clocks ahead an hour the night before so you don't miss out on breakfast and fellowship.

Friendly reminder there will be **no Sound Words Academy on Wednesday, March 13** due to spring break. This means there is no meal, Jr. Lutherans, or Adult Bible Study. However, our Lenten Vespers at 12:00 p.m. and Lenten Compline service at 7:00 p.m. will both be held. During Holy Week, there will not be Sound Words Academy on Wednesday, March 27.

Are you a voting member of St. John's? Our constitution defines "voting member" as one who is 18 years and has been received as a voting member upon application for such privilege and approval of the voters of the assembly. If you would like to become a voting member of our congregation, contact the office, pastor, or any elder to get instructions on how you can become a voter. Our next quarterly voters meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 28.

St. John's 150th Anniversary Committee is holding one last photo opportunity for anyone who has not had their photo taken for the new directory. Our photographer will be at St. John's on April 14 from 9–1 p.m. We hope you will be able to have your photo taken to be part of our 150th Anniversary photo directory of our members. The directory will be given to members during our celebration in September. As you schedule your vacation plans for this fall, we encourage you to mark your calendar for September 14 and 15 to attend our celebration activities.

Annual Church Cleaning will be on Saturday, March 23 starting at 8 a.m. Come to Luther Hall to sign in and decide which "spot" fits your need to clean. All the essential cleaning products and utensils will be there for you to choose. Coffee and donuts will be available.

The 2024 Flower Calendar is up on the bulletin board in the church office. There are several dates available for this spring and summer. If you would like to provide flowers for a particular service this coming year, sign your name next to the date of your choice. The office will notify you a week in advance and you can take your flowers home after the 11:00 Divine Service.

In our prayers: All those who are hospitalized along with our homebound members.

Our focus this year for our Lenten midweek services is on “Spiritual Contemplation of Christ’s Suffering.” The Lutheran fathers found that the most profitable use of our Lord’s Passion was one that involved a focus that this is what Christ has done “for me.” It wasn’t about evoking horrific sighs at gore, or emotional overreactions, but about strengthening faith. This series seeks to do just that. We welcome you to join us for our Lenten services, held Wednesdays March 6, 13 and 20. Our Lenten Vespers begins at 12:00 and Lenten Compline at 7:00 p.m.

Confession and Absolution services available: During Holy Week, we will be offering a few opportunities for Confession and Absolution – either in a group setting and/or privately.

- **On Wednesday, March 27, we will be holding a Corporate Confession and Absolution Service at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.** This service has a general confession of sins, like on Sunday morning, and an individual absolution kneeling at the communion rail.
- **Private confession will be available during Holy Week on March 27 from 11 – 11:45 a.m and 6 – 6:45p.m.** These will be 15 minutes each, and are available by signing up via SignUp Genius through the link found on our website.

Join us Easter for Coffee and Pastries. We look forward to celebrating our Risen Savior with you in fellowship between our Divine Services on Easter Sunday, March 31. Join us for coffee and pastries in Luther Hall around 9:20 a.m. Our Sunday School children will have a shortened lesson before enjoying an easter egg hunt. High school students are encouraged to attend their classes, as they will be helping to hide the eggs.

Choice Dollars Deadline: The quarterly deadline for designating Choice Dollars is March 31. Funds designated to St. John's are used for mission support of Lutherans for Life and to provide matching funds to the LYF Golf Tournament, LWML Bazaar, and Smorgasbord. Funds may also be designated to St. John’s Classical Lutheran School by designating toward St. John’s and then notifying Coleen you want it to be moved to the school. You may designate your Choice Dollars online at Thrivent.com or by calling 800-847-4836.

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." -- 2 Peter 3:18



LWML Topeka Zone Spring Gathering

Saturday, March 9th

Registration/Service Project 9-10 AM

Rally/Event begins at 10 AM

Christ Lutheran Church

3509 SW Burlingame Road, Topeka, KS

Ingathering: Diapers (size 3-6)

Lifeline Women's Resource Center

RSVP your group's attendance numbers by 2/26 to jolenebalch@yahoo.com



March is St. John's Lutheran's Month at Doorstep! How You Can Help...

Volunteer at Doorstep any **Wednesday** during the month of March. You will assist with sorting donations, running dryers, and assisting clients with clothing. (8:45am-1:45pm)

Or volunteer on Monday, March 11th, sorting donations and re-stocking the clothing room. (9am-1pm)

Donate food items for the pantry. We are one of five congregations responsible for stocking the food pantry during the month of March. **Needed items are:**

Corn	Green Beans	Pinto Beans	Powdered Milk
Spaghetti Sauce		Canned Fruit	Oatmeal
Evaporated Milk		Canned Soups	Dry Cereal
Peanut Butter		Tuna Peas	Egg Noodles

Make a monetary donation to Doorstep and note your membership with St. John's Lutheran for credit.

Your Doorstep Contacts are:

Board Member - Cheri Berggren

Coordinator- Chris Graversen

Doorstep Annual Banquet & Quilt Drawing

Watch for information on the Banquet for 2024!

We will be planning the Annual Banquet for April.

At this event we honor our volunteers, and celebrate Doorstep and the work we all do together!

We have several quilts for the drawing!!

Doorstep is very appreciative of those who supported its SouperBowl Sunday event. 132.6 pounds of soup and food was donated for the event.

March is our opportunity to volunteer and focus on our donations for Doorstep. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Cheri Berggren or Chris Graversen. See the flyer for more details on how you can support Doorstep.

ST. JOHN'S CLASSICAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

News & Notes



Enrichment Time

with Mrs. Kosmicki

What is Enrichment? It may sound like an extra time that could easily be skipped, but it is really a valuable learning experience. Our youngest students have Enrichment time each day. This combines literature, science, history, music, poetry, and art. They have a picture book for the week that is used as the guiding force for what they are learning in the other subjects throughout the week.

For example, for Valentine's week, we read "Pickle-Chiffon Pie." This fairy tale involved three princes fighting for the princess's hand. From this sprung the rest of the subjects for the week. We read a picture book biography of St. Valentine, studied Vermeer's "Girl with a Pearl Earring," listened to "Valse" from Swan Lake, and even got to make a lemon pie. Enrichment does a great job tying the arts together into a topical unit each week.



Prayer

Dona Nobis Pacem = Give Us Peace
"Grant peace, we pray, in mercy, Lord;
Peace in our time, O send us!
For there is none on earth but You,
None other to defend us.
You only, Lord, can fight for us. Amen."
LSB 777/778

Join Us

Join us for the Office of Matins at 8:30 a.m. each school day. Please enter the south Luther Hall doors to enter the building.

Join us as we walk through Lententide and meditate on Jesus' suffering.

Join us in memorizing the Table of Duties, specifically, "What Hearers Owe Their Pastors"



Highlights from the Month

- Learning all about the Passover, the Exodus, Mount Sinai, and the Promised Land
- Making Lemon Pie
- Learning lots of grammar from Mrs. Kosmicki and Mrs. Johnson (Latin)
- Learning about carnivores science and U.S. states in Geography
- Learning about the Roman Soldier in Latin and the Ephesians 6 spiritual weapons and armor
- Reading "Charlotte's Web" (3/4 grades)
- Reading "Billy and Blaze" (1st grade)
- Singing during the Ash Wed. noon service
- Learning about Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, and Washington D.C.

St. John's Youth Save the Dates!

Music Camp: Our St. John's Music Academy is helping sponsor the music camp June 10-14. Registration and more information is found:
<https://stjohnlcmstopeka.org/learning/music-camp/>.

VBS: This year's Vacation Bible School will take place June 24-28. More details to come!

Share and pass this along to your friends who might be interested.



St. John's Music Camp

SPONSORED BY
ST. JOHN'S MUSIC ACADEMY



June 10-14

9:00-11:30 a.m.

901 SW Fillmore, Topeka

Ages: entering 1st-5th grades

**Cost: \$30 per child
music, snacks, crafts, & games
gathered around God's Word**



Led by Bethany Johnson and Erin Grass

Questions? Contact Bethany Johnson (bjohnson@stjlcms.org)

Register: stjohnlcmstopeka.org/learning/music-camp/



SJMA Spring Recital

By piano, violin, and voice students

Sunday, April 28 at 4:00 p.m.

St. John's Luther Hall

All are invited and encouraged to attend!

March 2024 St. John's Lutheran Church - Topeka, Kansas

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
OCULI 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE 1pm HOMEBOUND DIVINE SERVICE	4 8:30am MATINS 1pm LWML EXEC	5 8:30am MATINS	6 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm LENTEN VESPERS 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm LENTEN COMPLINE	7 8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	1 8:30am MATINS	2
LAETARE 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE	11 6:30pm SARAH CIRCLE	12 1pm DORCAS CIRCLE	13 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm LENTEN VESPERS 7pm LENTEN COMPLINE	14 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS 7:15pm KANTOREI	15	16
JUDICA 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	18 8:30am MATINS	19 8:30am MATINS 4pm PARISH ED 4:30pm TRUSTEES 5:30pm STEWARDSHIP 6pm MISSIONS/EVANG	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm LENTEN VESPERS 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm LENTEN COMPLINE	21 8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	22 8:30am MATINS	23 8am ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING
PALMARUM 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	ANNUNCIATION 25 OF OUR LORD 8:30am MATINS	26 8:30am MATINS 6:30pm COUNCIL	27 11am PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION 12pm SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION 6pm PRIVATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION 7pm SERVICE OF CORPORATE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY 12pm DIVINE SERVICE 7pm DIVINE SERVICE	29 GOOD FRIDAY 12pm SERVICE 7pm TENEBRAE	VIGIL OF EASTER 8pm VIGIL OF EASTER DIVINE SERVICE
RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am PASTRIES & FELLOWSHIP 11am DIVINE SERVICE	31					

Coming Up

Sun.	8:00	Divine Service
	9:20	Coffee & Fellowship
	9:45	Sunday School
		<i>Pr. Wright, Adult Bible Study, Luther Hall</i> <i>Pr. Belcher, High School, Downstairs Youth Room</i> <i>Mrs. Bartels, Middle School, Room 201</i>
	11:00	Divine Service
	1:00	Homebound Divine Service in Courtyard
Mon.	8:30	Matins
	1:00	LWML Exec
Tues.	8:30	Matins
Wed.	10:00	Women's Bible Study
	12:00	Lenten Vespers
	5:00	Sound Words Academy
		<i>Meal: Potato Bar</i>
	7:00	Lenten Compline
Thurs.	8:30	Matins
	6:15	Ecclesia Bells
	7:15	Kantorei
Fri.	8:30	Matins
Sun.	8:00	Divine Service
	9:20	Monthly Breakfast Potluck
	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Divine Service

St. John's Classical Lutheran School attends Matins Service weekdays at 8:30 a.m. All the congregation is welcome to attend and worship with the students and faculty.
Please use the Luther Hall doors to enter.

Daily Readings...

Monday (3/4): Genesis 29:1-30; Mark 9:14-32
 Tuesday (3/5): Genesis 35:1-29; Mark 9:33-50
 Wednesday (3/6): Genesis 37:1-36; Mark 10:1-12
 Thursday (3/7): Genesis 39:1-23; Mark 10:13-31
 Friday (3/8): Genesis 40:1-23; Mark 10:32-52
 Saturday (3/9): Genesis 41:1-27; Mark 11:1-19
 Sunday (3/10): Genesis 41:28-57; Mark 11:20-33

Prayer of the Week...

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Looking Forward to Next Week...

~Fourth Sunday in Lent – Laetare ~

Exodus 16:2-21 Galatians 4:21-31 John 6:1-15



901 SW Fillmore, Topeka, KS 66606-1445

"CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED"



THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:19–20a)

So that we may obtain faith in Christ, God instituted the ministry of teaching the gospel and administering the sacraments. Through the gospel and sacraments, as through means, God gives the Holy Spirit who produces faith, where and when He wills, in those who hear the gospel. (*Augsburg Confession*, Article 5)