# In the Congregation March 2025

**Monthly Breakfast** will be potluck on Sunday, March 9 between services in Luther Hall. Remember this is also daylight savings time, so be sure to spring your clocks ahead an hour the night before so you don't miss out on breakfast and fellowship.

**Shrove Tuesday:** On Shrove Tuesday, March 4, the pastors will be available for individual confession and absolution. A Signup Genius link is available on our church website. **Ash Wednesday** and the start of Lent begins Wednesday, March 5 with a Divine Service with Imposition of Ashes held in the nave at 12:00 and 7:00.

Friendly reminder there will be **no Sound Words Academy on Wednesday, March 19** 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, April 16.

**Annunciation of Our Lord Divine Service** will be held Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtyard. We welcome you to join us for worship.

Order forms for Easter Lily: Members of St. John's have the opportunity to purchase an Easter lily to be placed in the church for Easter Sunday, April 20. Complete the form found in the Sunday bulletin and return it to the church office by Monday, March 17— with \$12 per lily. You may take your lily home following the 11:00am service on Easter Sunday. For memorials you may list up to 2 names or you may prefer "in memory of loved ones."

Save the Date! Annual Church Cleaning will be on Saturday, April 12 starting at 8 a.m. This is the time we work at preserving all the beautiful woodwork in the church and give the pews their annual treatment. Help is also needed to dust, change batteries, and clean other areas of our church. Many hands make light work! 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.

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 27.

**March is St. John's month at Doorstep.** March is our opportunity to volunteer and focus on our donations for Doorstep. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Cheri or Chris. See the flyer for more details on how you can support Doorstep.

Our focus this year for Lent is on various aspects of Christ's work for our sake. Each week of the service and also the companion devotion will take on one aspect and teach the hearers about it. For example, in the face of our guilt, Christ's work justifies us (declares us righteous). Other weeks will take on less well-known aspects to show the very depth and breadth of Christ's work to be our Lord.

This comes some from the Large Catechism, Second Article of the Creed )(paragraph 27) where Luther says: Now, if you are asked, "What do you believe in the Second Article about Jesus Christ?" answer briefly,

- "I believe that Jesus Christ, God's true Son, has become my Lord."
- "But what does it mean to become Lord?"
- "It is this. He has redeemed me from sin, from the devil, from death, and from all evil. For before I did not have a Lord or King, but was captive under the devil's power, condemned to death, stuck in sin and blindness"

# We welcome you to join us for Lenten Vespers begins at 12:00 and Lenten Compline at 7:00 p.m. held on Wednesdays March 12, 19, 26 and April 2 and 9.

**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 of Holy Week, April 16, 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 Wednesday, April 16, from 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. and 6:00 – 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. As always, you can schedule confession and absolution with a pastor anytime throughout the year.

Monthly	YTD
\$74,354.83	\$74,3254.83
\$59,879.02	\$59,879.02
\$14,475.81	\$14.475.81
\$69,132.26	\$69,132.26
\$65,382.00	\$65,382.00
\$3,750.26	\$3,750.26
	\$74,354.83 \$59,879.02 \$14,475.81 \$69,132.26 \$65,382.00

# Reminder — the church office is now closed on Fridays.

The church office has returned to being closed on Fridays, beginning on February 7. Those who order flowers for the altar are asked to have them delivered on Thursdays. Should you need to contact the office for an emergency on Friday or Saturday, you can call the office and select one of the pastors extensions and it will transfer your call to their cell.

# Save the Date for our Summer Camps

**Music Camp** will take place 9-11:30 a.m. on June 9-13 for children in 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade.

**VBS** will take place 9-12:00 p.m. on June 23-27 for children preK-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Older children are encouraged to volunteer!

# St. John's Youth & Family Events 2025

Date	Event	
Sunday, March 9	Watch <i>The Sound of Music</i> youth edition at Helen Hocker Theater	
Sunday, March 23rd	Zipline at Wildwood Adventure Park	
July 8th - July 11th	Higher Things Conference in Seward, NE (for high schoolers and confirmed youth)	







**The Sound of Music:** This shortened youth edition of the famous musical will be performed at Helen Hocker Theater in Topeka, Sunday, March 9 at 2 PM. Our discounted price is \$2 per ticket. Please sign up early (e-mail or youth board) so we can purchase tickets.





## St. John's Women's League (LWML)

**Sarah Circle's** next meeting will be March 10 at 6:30 p.m. **Dorcas Circle** next meeting will be on March 11 at 1:00. p.m

**Mission Statement** *Led by the Holy Spirit, the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, Kansas District will equip women to proclaim Christ, support missions and serve the Lord with gladness.* 

## **Dates to Remember**

June 26-29, 2025

LWML National Convention in Omaha, NE



If you're curious about the charity, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, or looking for ways to volunteer or just enjoy an opportunity for fellowship at St. John's, mark Sunday, March 23, 2:00 p.m. on your calendar.

Jim Peek, co-founder of Topeka's SHP chapter, will present information and answer questions in Luther Hall regarding this amazing organization. Men, women, and teens are welcome to come and learn how 30-50 twin-sized beds can be built in a day!

The motto of SHP is "No child in our town sleeps on the floor"! Refreshments will be served by St. John's Lutheran Women in Mission.







News & Notes

# The Treasures of Daily Repetition

by Bethany Johnson

The "trivium" in classical education includes three principles: grammar, logic, and rhetoric. The grammar stage is most suited for the elementary grades (although I will assert later that it is an important attribute for all ages and stages of learning). It includes the foundational facts, definitions, and attributes of various studies, so that it aids in making connections in later developmental learning through the logic and rhetoric stages.

The grammar stage in every class involves much memorization and repetition. How is this implemented at our classical school? Within many pockets of the day, the students are immersed daily repetition. First and foremost, they take part in daily chapel, where (yes!) we participate in the same thing every day: the office of Matins, the hymn of the day, recitation of the catechism for the week, and the life of prayer. It is truly a wonderful way to begin each day.

In Latin and choral music, they review various Latin chants and music, along with Latin grammar endings (for the older grades). Throughout the day, they use songs and jingles to memorize math facts, parts of speech, the continents, oceans, the presidents, and parts of the catechism. The higher grades recite states, capitals, postal abbreviations in their geography studies. They are also copying lists of astronomy facts they are learning.

Grammar also includes an important aspect of "question and answer" throughout their studies. While they are immersed in literature, music, and art (along with daily reception of God's Word in chapel and religion), they are asked to describe what is being received. Narration is to say back what is heard, and it is valuable in learning and retaining information.

The grammar stage is important for all of us. The daily habits of learning God's Word, memorizing the catechism and Scripture, praying to God, and singing hymns of prayer, proclamation, and praise (even if it's the same hymn every day!) create such a foundation that enables us in our daily life to meditate on and learn over and over again the principles of our baptized life in this world. It is a good discipline for school children and for all of us as well. May God help us in our walk as Christians in a world that distracts us from what is good, true, and beautiful, to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith.

# Prayer

Heavenly Father, You have gifted us with pastors who, through the stead of Christ, forgive our sins. Help us always to look to you for forgiveness and to listen to our pastors who declare your promises of salvation to us.

In Your name we pray, Amen.

## Join Us

- Memorizing the Office of the Keys from Luther's Small Catechism
- Office of Matins every morning (8:30-9:00 a.m.) during the school year.

  Please enter Luther Hall doors by 8:30
  to enter



# **Highlights**

- Learning about the Baptism of Jesus,
   John's "Agnus Dei," and the temptation of our Lord
- Celebrating the 100th Day of School!
- Reading stories in Greek mythology (4/5)
- Reading Little House in the Big Woods (2)
- Reading Make Way for Ducklings (1)
- Learning about Amelia Earhart and making paper airplanes (2)
- Listening to and analyzing "Handel's Water Music," "The Tortoise and the Hare," "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" and "Bach and the Pipe Organ" in music
- Memorizing all of the Presidents' names (K-2)





# 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 10th, 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 BeansPinto BeansPowdered MilkSpaghetti SauceCanned FruitOatmealEvaporated MilkCanned SoupsDry CerealPeanut ButterTunaPeasEgg Noodles

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

# Your Doorstep Contacts are:

Board Member - Cherri Berggren- 785-249-3192 Coordinator – Chris Graverson- 785-256-1105

# Doorstep Upcoming Events in 2025

Doorstep Appreciation Banquet ~ Tuesday, April 29th St. John's Lutheran will be our hosts this year.

8th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5KRun
Saturday, June 7th @ Lake Shawnee

2nd Annual Putt Out Hunger Golf Tournament Tentatively Friday, October 3rd.

# Doorstep Newsletter Article ~ March 2025

Thank you to everyone who donated soup and crackers during our **Souper Bowl Sunday** weekend collection! Unfortunately, our Kansas City Chiefs did not win this year. But Doorstep did!!! We had a goal of 10,000 pounds, and at this writing after only a few days of donations coming in we have already received **6,350 pounds** of soup and crackers!! And we know more is coming!! A can of soup can be a meal or two, and your generous donations have helped stock our pantry to continue providing meals to our neighbors in need!

# Upcoming Events in 2025 for Doorstep include:

The **Doorstep Appreciation Banguet and Quilt Drawing** will be held on Tuesday, April 29th @ 6:30pm. Our hosts this year are St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. We will have taco bake, chips, salad and dessert, and entertainment by the St. John's Ev Lutheran Brass Quartet. Reservations needed by April 25th. A Love Offering will be taken for Doorstep. The Quilt Drawing will be a little different this year. You can purchase tickets specifically for the KC Chiefs, KU, K-State and KC Royals quilts at \$2 each. You can also purchase tickets for our other quilts at \$1 each. You do not have to be present to win! We are planning to sell tickets online as well this year!

Our 8th Annual Neighbor Helping Neighbor Walk/5K Fun Run will be on Saturday, June 7th at Lake Shawnee with a 9am start time this year! June is Doorstep's anniversary month, and this will kick off a year-long celebration towards our 60th anniversary of Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 7th to walk or run for Doorstep!

The month of July brings Doorstep's annual Christmas in July collection to get a jumpstart on items we will need for 800+ individuals we will adopt in December. Proceeds from the sales of Re-Imagined Jewelry at Café Quetzal will go to Doorstep in July, and we will have Summer Cash Bash tentatively if we can find a family, an individual, a business or foundation who is willing to provide at least \$10,000 matching funds.

Saturday, September 13th – Support Ducks for Doorstep in the Annual Sertoma Duck Race!

Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> (tentatively) is the date set for our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Putt Out Hunger Golf Tournament for Doorstep! (Save the Date!)

# March 2025 St. John's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						-
QUINQUAGESIMA 2 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	3 8:30am MATINS 1pm LWML EXEC	SHROVE TUESDAY 4 8:30am MATINS	ASH WEDNESDAY 5 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm ASH WEDNESDAY NOON 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm ASH WEDNESDAY EVENING	8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	8:30am MATINS	8 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS
INVOCABIT  8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:15am MONTHLY BREAKFAST 9:45am SUNDAY SCHOOL 11am DIVINE SERVICE	8:30am MATINS 6:30pm SARAH CIRCLE	11 8:30am MATINS 1pm DORCAS CIRCLE	12 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm LENTEN VESPERS 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm LENTEN COMPLINE	8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 6:30pm ELDER CALLING 7pm ELDERS 7:15pm KANTOREI	14 8:30am MATINS	15
REMINISCERE 16 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	5:30pm STEWARDSHIP	4pm PARISH ED 4:30pm TRUSTEES 4:30 SJCLS BOARD 6pm MISSONS/EVANG	19 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm LENTEN VESPERS 7pm LENTEN COMPLINE	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	21	22
OCULI 23 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	24 8:30am MATINS 6:30 COUNCIL	ANNUNCIATION 25 OF OUR LORD 8:30am MATINS 7pm DIVINE SERVICE in Courtyard	26 10am WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12pm LENTEN VESPERS 5pm SOUND WORDS ACADEMY 7pm LENTEN COMPLINE	8:30am MATINS 6:15pm ECCLESIA BELLS 7:15pm KANTOREI	28 8:30am MATINS	29
LAETARE 30 8am DIVINE SERVICE 9:20am COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP 9:45am BIBLE CLASS/SS 11am DIVINE SERVICE	31 8:30am MATINS					S

# Coming Up

		Coming vep
Sun.	8:00	Divine Service
	9:20	Coffee & Fellowship
	9:45	Sunday School/Bible Study
	11:00	Divine Service
Mon.	8:30	Matins
	1:00	LWML Exec
	6:00	Adult Catechesis
Tues.	8:30	Matins
Wed.	10:00	Women's Bible Study
	12:00	Ash Wednesday Noon Divine Service
	5:00	Sound Words Academy
	7:00	Ash Wednesday Evening Divine Service
Thur.	8:30	Matins
	6:15	Ecclesia Bells
	7:15	Kantorei
Fri.	8:30	Matins
Sun.	8:00	Divine Service
	9:20	Monthly Breakfast
	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 (3/3): Job 34:10-33; John 11:17-37 Tuesday (3/4): Job 36:1-21; John 11:38-57 Wednesday (3/5): Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 1:1-13 Thursday (3/6): Genesis 1:20—2:3; Mark 1:14-28 Friday (3/7): Genesis 2:4-25; Mark 1:29-45 Saturday (3/8): Genesis 3:1-24; Mark 2:1-17 Sunday (3/9): Genesis 4:1-26; Mark 2:18-28

### *Prayer of the Week*

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; 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.

~ Ash Wednesday ~ Joel 2:12-19

2 Peter 1:2-11

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

 $\sim$  First Sunday in Lent – Invocabit  $\sim$ 

Genesis 3:1–21 2 Corinthians 6:1–10 Matthew 4:1–11



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)