

# March 2024 Newsletter



## ***St. John's Lutheran Church***

1165 County Road D, Almond WI 54909

715-366-2480

<http://www.stjohnsalmond.com>

### ***Our Mission***

*To celebrate the Gospel in Word and Sacrament which challenges us to cultivate ourselves and our community for Christ.*

**Deadline for the April Newsletter is 8:00 pm on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.**

#### **Do you have something for the April edition of the Newsletter?**

If so, there is a box located on the bookcase by the church office door. Simply place your announcement in the file folder labeled "Bulletin/Newsletter Announcements" or send an email to the church with NEWSLETTER in the subject box. [stjohnsalmond@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsalmond@gmail.com)

## **thrivent**

**Congratulations!**  
**St. John's**  
**Lutheran Church**



*In 2023 we received \$1304  
in Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funding!*

One good act leads to another. And the impact grows. Thanks to Thrivent, that's what we've experienced through the Thrivent Choice® program.

Many of you directed Choice Dollars® to our church or made a donation using Thrivent's giving platform. And by doing so, you have helped to make a difference. The outreach funding we receive from both you and Thrivent helps us to continue our important mission. Thank you for your support.

***The deadline for directing your 2023 Choice Dollars is  
March 31, 2024.***

### **In Service to our Lord**

**Elders:** James Johnson, David Marr,  
and Alan Pagel

**Communion Set Up,  
Greet and Usher:**

*"As each has received a gift, use it to  
serve one another, as good stewards of  
God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4: 10*

***Please consider volunteering for any of  
the above positions for the April services  
by contacting Betty Daberkow  
(715) 335-4176. Thank you!***

### **Altar Flowers**

If you have flowers to donate or wish to purchase flowers for the altar, please notify Dianne Schultz by phone (715) 366-8077 or drop a note in the church mailbox located in the fellowship hall.



### **♥ Heart Warmers**

*Live by  
God's Word  
and be Blessed  
in your Faith.*

# March Birthdays

# March Anniversaries

- |      |                  |      |                   |
|------|------------------|------|-------------------|
| 3/1  | Carol Ellie      | 3/19 | Aaron Schulist    |
| 3/5  | Merrick Meddaugh | 3/19 | Bonnie Wellens    |
| 3/8  | Cindy Brandl     | 3/21 | Mazie Bradley     |
| 3/8  | April Stiles     | 3/22 | Nicole Huntington |
| 3/10 | Dorothy Caves    | 3/29 | Jeremy Potts      |
| 3/18 | Dianne Schultz   | 3/30 | Jed Cayce         |

- 3/26 Denise & Chris Anderson  
 3/26 Patti & Randy Wohlfeil  
 3/31 SuAnn Pagel-Rast and Gary Rast



*If your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed or is printed wrong please let us know. Put a note in the folder labeled, "Bulletin/Newsletter Announcements" outside the Church office.*



Please continue to save your post-marked stamps for the LWML Stamps for Missions. Trim the stamp at least ¼ inch around. The perforation on the stamp must be intact to be accepted by our buyer. There is a collection bin on the fellowship hall table to put your used stamps.



## EASTER LILIES

may be ordered for \$10 each. Please fill out an order slip located in the back of the church and give to Diane Fabich or Dianne Schultz by March 24<sup>th</sup>.



Please browse the assorted **RECYCLED CARD** selection.

There are Easter and Sympathy cards, along with general occasion to choose from. 219 cards were made at the last meeting. Free-will donation accepted.

# Thank You



Thank you to everyone who helped get the house/parsonage ready, especially those who volunteered. I really truly appreciate the hard work and labor of love. Thanks to everyone for being so welcoming, Pastor

# We're Hiring!

## CUSTODIAN:

We are looking to fill the paid position of custodian for the church. You will earn extra pay for funerals and weddings. Flexible hours. For more information send an email to the church with CUSTODIAN in the subject box or contact any council member.

## CHURCH SECRETARY:

Job description: provide administrative support to Pastor and St. John's Lutheran Church as a whole. Duties include but are not limited to general clerical, management of church membership, care of items in sanctuary and project-based work. Basic reading, writing and arithmetic skills are required. Basic knowledge of computer use, proficient with Microsoft Office software and PowerChurch software. Duties require proficient typing ability. Part time with flexible hours. For a more detailed description of duties send an email to the church with SECRETARY in the subject box or contact any council member.

church email address: [stjohnsalmond@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsalmond@gmail.com)

## CHERISH WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right, which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

“You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other” (SC I).

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God’s fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God’s purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – [lcms.org/stewardship](http://lcms.org/stewardship)



## Ladies Aid Tidbits :



The Ladies Aid hope you are enjoying the different ethnic-themed Lenten meals as we *Journey Toward The Cross* together with Jesus. See the newsletter calendar and postcard for Easter service information.

March 6 – Asian Night – Orange Chicken and Beef with Broccoli

March 13 – German Night – Bratwurst with Sauerkraut and Pork with Apples and Spaetzle

March 20 – Mexican Night – Ground Beef Taco Meat, Chicken Taco Meat (Hard and Soft Shells)

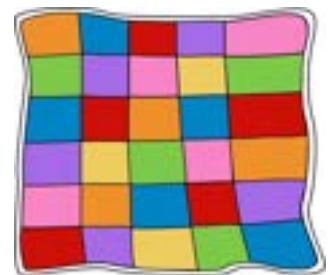
The meals will be served 5:30 to 6:30 pm with the Lenten service to begin at 7:00 pm. Entrees are subject to change.

The Ladies Aid will be asking for donations to accompany the meals. Please try to think of dishes common to each night’s ethnicity.

A free will offering will be taken; all moneys donated will be given to Jon Turzinski for his medical expenses and health insurance premiums.

In order to protect the safety of all – if school is cancelled due to poor weather conditions, the meal will not be served.

**52 QUILTS** were boxed and delivered to Orphan Grain Train, Wisconsin Branch in Westfield. The quilts are dispersed according to the need and circumstance.



Orphan Grain Train – Relief for Human Need Worldwide.

**A MEMORIAL SERVICE** was held on Jan 20 for James Fazen. 37 were served at the luncheon following. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Fazen family.

“Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”  
 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. Acts 4:30-31 (NIV)

*Heavenly Father, we come to you in praise and prayer for courage, grace, faith, and healing within your will for:*

Allan Erdman	Isabel Urban	Bonnie Wellens	Matt Weiss	Eileen Schwanke
Pastor Schwanke	Derek	Bob Kollock	Tony Sibble	Pam Bertotto
David Walkowicz	Rita Walkowicz	Sara	Eric Martinson	Jan Connor
Randy Kalata	Charlene Hartlaub	Dee Erlandson	Dennis Footit	Jon Turzinski
JoRita Willis	Ed	Gene Bula	Scott Boelter	

We also pray for the leadership of St. John’s as they pursue options for our future, a secretary and custodian for our church, and for the missionaries serving God’s Kingdom thru the LCMS:

Ashley Lehr in Puerto Rico  
 David and Rachel Baker in Central Asia



**Please remember our shut-ins throughout the year with a card, note of cheer, or prayers.**

<u>Verna Yonke</u>	Whispering Pines - #108 3450 Bridlewood Drive Plover, WI 54467	Dorothy Caves	Silver Lake Manor N2641 17 <sup>th</sup> Lane Wautoma, WI 54982
<u>Scott Boelter</u>	1180 County Road D, Apt #5 Almond, WI 54909	<u>Isabel Urban</u>	N5480 Mount Morris Road Wild Rose, WI 54984
<u>Allan Erdman</u>	9576 County Road P Plainfield, WI 54966	<u>Bonnie Wellens</u>	Country Terrace 8730 Packing Plant Road, #8 Minocqua, WI 54548

**FOR PRAYER REQUESTS:** If you have a request for the prayer chain team please e-mail or call Bonnie Warzynski. She may be reached at 715-966-3995 or mike-bonnie@hotmail.com.



**Putting the “Ha” in Hallelujah!**

**I LEARNED EVERYTHING FROM NOAH’S ARK...**

1. Don’t miss the boat.
2. Remember that we are all in the same boat.
3. Plan ahead. It wasn’t raining when Noah built the Ark.
4. Stay fit. When you’re 600 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.
5. Don’t listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
6. Build your future on high ground.
7. For safety’s sake, travel in pairs.
8. Speed isn’t always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
9. When you’re stressed, float a while.
10. Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.
11. No matter the storm, when you are with God, there’s always a rainbow.



**Thank you to all who continue to support St. John’s!**

The projected yearly expenses for 2024 is \$93,311.75. This figure has been adjusted for our current pastoral expenses as well as church operational expenses.




**YEARLY GIVINGS THERMOMETER PROGRESS**

- As of February 18th, our balance is \$11,614.66.
- Our givings need to average \$1,794.46 per week.
- This budget was projected to include our current pastor as well as operational expenses.

## March 2024

**Sunday                      Monday   Tuesday                      Wednesday                      Thursday                      Friday                      Saturday**

					1	2
<p>3 <b>Divine Communion Worship</b> 10:00 am</p> <p>Fellowship following Service</p>	4	5	<p>6 Bible Study 10:00 am</p> <p>Asian Night* 5:30 to 6:30 pm</p> <p>Service 7:00 pm</p>	7	8	9
<p>10 Divine Worship 10:00 am</p> <p>Fellowship following Service</p>	11	<p>12 Golden Needle Quilters 9:00 am to 3:00 pm</p>	<p>13 Bible Study 10:00 am</p> <p>German Night* 5:30 to 6:30 pm</p> <p>Service 7:00 pm</p>	14	15	16
<p>17 <b>Divine Communion Worship</b> 10:00 am</p> <p>Fellowship following Service</p>	18	<p>19 Quilting 9:00 am</p>	<p>20 Bible Study 10:00 am</p> <p>Mexican Night* 5:30 to 6:30 pm</p> <p>Service 7:00 pm</p>	21 Ladies Aid 7:00 pm	22	23
<p>24 <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> <b>Divine Communion Worship</b> 10:00 am</p> <p>Fellowship following Service</p>	25	<p>26 Quilting 9:00 am</p>	<p>27 Bible Study 10:00 am</p>	<p>28 <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE</b> 7:00 pm</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p>29 <b>GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE</b> 7:00 pm</p>	30
<p>31 <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b> <b>Divine Communion Worship</b> 10:00 am</p> <p>Fellowship following Service</p>						

\* For more information about each of the Lenten meals see the article inside the Ladies Aid Tidbits in this newsletter.

St. John's Lutheran Church  
1165 County Rd D  
Almond WI, 54909

Return Service Requested



**SUNDAY CHURCH  
SERVICE TIMES  
WILL REMAIN AT  
10:00 A.M.**

