

FROM PASTOR'S DESK



For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

That's right. That's who you are. You are rich. God does not lie. You are rich because Jesus, though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor. Though he is the King of kings and Lord of lords, though he is the glorious majesty, though all things were made by him and through him, though the earth and everything in it belongs to him, the Son of God became poor. But it is more than that he neither was financially wealthy nor had nice things. He sets aside the glory. He gives up his reputation. He gives up the clothes off his back. He gives up his status and relationship with his Father. Jesus gives it all, even his life.

Why? Why would he do something like that? We could never pay him back. He doesn't want you to try either. He knows you do not deserve this. He gives it to you anyway. That's grace. He does it so that we might become rich. That's who you are. Rich. The debt of your sin no longer hangs over your head. Everything is "squared away" between you and God. You are right with him. We know we are. Look, the empty tomb on Easter morning is your receipt of approved payment. You are rich. In baptism he has made you a child of God, so when God looks at you, he sees the perfect life Jesus lived for you! He sees you, his heir of all that belongs to him. On top of that, he has an inheritance waiting and kept for you unaffected by rising and falling stock markets, time and depreciation, and no value lost due to a rise in inflation. It's kept in heaven just for you and he's coming to bring you to him.

Because Jesus already has done all of this for you, of course he is going to give you everything good thing, including all you need for your body and life. Because we know what is waiting for us, because **YOU KNOW** Jesus' grace and that we are already rich in him, we are free. We are free from worrying whether or not I will have enough. We are free from trying to hoard more and keep to ourselves, "Just in case..." We are free to see what I have—all that I have—is a gift from God. Yes, it's a gift for us to enjoy. At the same time, we have the joy of sharing it and using it for the good of those people he places in my life. That includes your family. That includes the people in our community. That means the strangers you have never met. That means supporting your church and her work. And this is what we do, what we want to do, because this is what Jesus has made you: rich.

For the past few weeks during the Sunday services, we have been looking at this new life that Jesus gives. In the upcoming newsletters we are encouraging and challenging each other to live this God-lived life. But what does that look like? Included in your newsletter are "Challenge Cards." As you read over those cards prayerfully consider, "Which one am I going to do this month? How will I, rich in Jesus and his love, respond to the love that he has given to me?" God's Word encourages us to use all of the financial gifts God has given us with an eye on our purpose. Our challenge for the next two months focuses on living shrewdly with the blessings and treasures that God has given us. Fill out the card. Put it in a place where you will see it and remind yourself, "This is what I want to do!" Next month we will remind and encourage each other what we accomplished and then challenge each other to try something different for month two. The second Sunday of April we will put our cards in the offering plate and bring them up to the front of church remembering: we give from God's gifts trusting in his promise that in Jesus we are rich.

May God bless you as you live the God-lived life!

Pastor Flitter

FROM THE CHURCH PRESIDENT

Presidents Report March 2024

As we go through our Lenten services – “God on Trial” consider how you can persevere your own trials?

James 1:12 Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

We all face trials in our lives. Pain, suffering, loss and temptations. Do we put our trust in God or turn to him and ask Him “why are you bringing these troubles and hardship into our lives?”

When there are struggles in our life, I focus on the many blessings the Lord has blessed us with and give him praise. For we know all that we have is from His undeserved Grace.

When trials hit you and your family, don't place blame or worry... place your trust in the one true God and he will help you persevere and give you the crown of life.

1. **Calls retuned**—The Lord has guided Rick Zimmerman and Sarah Marohn to return their calls and continue to serve here at SJSJ. Be sure to thank them for the service they have given and will continue to give to our ministry.
2. **Carpet cleaning**—The carpets will be cleaned on March 12th in the church and meeting rooms. They will start at 8:00am so please plan accordingly.
3. **New councilmen installed**—**Brad Busse** and **Dan Bubolz** were installed as the Worship Committee Chairman and the Stewardship Chairman. What a blessing to have them step forward and offer their time and talents to serve as leaders of our ministry. Thank you to **Randy Denor** and **Scott Skinkis** for their service in these roles.
4. **Loan Retirement**—Stewardship committee put in the time and effort to present a plan to retire our loan before the current interest rate expires. Thank you for your attention to this important issue! Our offerings have been very generous this year and we want to thank all who give so freely to support the financial needs of our ministry!
5. **School 150th Anniversary Fund**—The Anniversary Committee will start a 150th Anniversary Fund to pay for expenses and will ask for contributions from our members to support it.
6. **Church/School Directory**—We are going to do a new church/school picture directory this coming fall. We have an agreement with Harmann Studios to handle the setup of the photo sessions and to create the directory. We want all of our members to be represented in the directory, so look for more information on the dates for photo sessions and how to sign up for one!

Gary Bernhardt, Church President

St. John-St. James School 150th Anniversary

One generation commends Your works to another; they tell of Your mighty acts. Psalm 145: 4

This is our Anniversary theme. Our Anniversary will start with the 2024-2025 school year.

We have several events planned.

1. Our kickoff will begin with the opening service for our school year on one of the Sundays in August. The date has not been set yet. More details will follow.
2. The MLC choir will present a concert in our church in October. We are still awaiting confirmation on the exact date. We hope to know soon.
3. All church Sunday will be held on November 10th. This service will focus on our Anniversary. Following this service, pie and ice cream will be served which was an old German tradition in our church.
4. December 8th will be MLHS Sunday. December 8th is also the 167th anniversary of our first church service in 1857.
5. Our “Big Day” will be on Sunday March 2, 2025. We will have one service at 9:00 in the gym. We expect a very large crowd. Pastor Mark Schroeder, our Synod President, will be the guest preacher. More details will follow.
6. Our school was founded by Pastor Albert Kluge. Pastor Kluge served our congregation from 1866-1880. In 1867 the congregation decided to start a school fund. Each member was requested to contribute 25 cents for the acquisition of school equipment. In 1867, 25 cents was a lot.
7. The Anniversary Committee has decided to have a quarter war to commemorate this offering. We are asking alumni to participate in this offering also. We are going to have 10 jars numbered from 0 to 9. If you graduated from our school in a year that ends in zero, (example, 1950, 1960, etc.) put your quarters in the 0 jar. If the year ends in 1, you contribute to the 1 jar and so on until 9. We will also have a separate jar for our present students and another jar for our Called Workers and our former Called Workers. We want to announce the winner on our big day.
8. The funds from this quarter war will be put in the Building Fund. If you have any questions, please contact a committee member.
9. We will also be selling Anniversary t-shirts, sweatshirts and an Anniversary memento which will be a Christmas ornament. More details on this will be coming.
10. There will be Anniversary expenses. We are starting an Anniversary Fund to cover these expenses. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please mark your envelope “School Anniversary Fund”.
11. The members of the Anniversary committee are: Daniel Duchow, Chairman; Marilyn Lentz, Secretary; Sarah Marohn, Sheri Lau, Amanda Schrubbe, Pastor Aden and Pastor Flitter, ex officio members.



MLC/MLHS Scholarship Fund

We've all heard about the shortage of Pastors and Teachers in our synod. Presently, we have about 160 pastor vacancies and approximately 243 teacher vacancies. Right now the baby boomer generation is retiring. We don't have enough graduates to take the place of these people.

Josh Aden is finishing his emergency call at the end of this school year and will be returning to MLC this fall to finish his final year. The cost of attending MLC for one year is \$30,095. Approximately 75% of our students graduate with debt. This is a concern for our synod.

MLC has a matching Scholarship Fund. If the student's home congregation gives him or her between \$100 to \$1450, MLC will match it. We thank you for your generous contributions.

We put away \$3200 for Josh because he didn't have to use it this year with his emergency call. We want to keep the MLC Scholarship Fund going because it looks like we'll have some more students at MLC in the future.

This year we want to set a goal of \$2000 for the MLC Scholarship Fund for the 2024-2025 school year.

This next school year we will have seven students attending Manitowoc Lutheran High School who would benefit from financial assistance. Tuition at MLHS is \$7400. We are setting a goal of \$14,000 for the MLHS Scholarship Fund which is \$2000 per student.

We will run this special offering from Easter Sunday, March 31st to June 2nd. You can designate which fund you'd like to contribute to. If you wish to make a contribution, mark your envelope either MLC Scholarship Fund or MLHS Scholarship Fund. If you don't designate which fund, it will be split between the two funds. Please make your checks out to St. John-St. James. We cannot cash checks made out to MLC or MLHS. If you have any questions, please contact Dan Duchow at 920-754-4751 or email at dduchow@stjohnstjames.com.



SCHOLARSHIPS



LIVE AUCTION AND PANCAKE FEED

The Lutheran Young Adults will be hosting a Pancake Feed and live auction Sunday, April 14th. Food will be served between the services and after the 10:15 service with a live auction to follow. Proceeds from the auction will help support the Youth Group and those who are planning to go to the Youth Rally In Colorado in June.

We are also looking for auction items. Items could include experiences, i.e. things for people to do, trips somewhere, vacations, things that we can put together as a package. Other items may be from businesses, electronics, housewares, gift baskets, restaurants certificates, tools, etc...pretty much anything! The cutoff date for donations will be March 31st. You can sign-up on the sheet in the West Office or on the table in the corner in the Commons. Or, please speak to Chantel Bastian (920-905-3727), Krista Krepline (920-901-0786), or Pastor Flitter (406-876-4077) about items you would like to donate and questions you have.



March/ April Worship Committee News

Thank you to all the volunteers for ushering and serving midweek Lenten meals. This is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to share fellowship during the Lenten season. Thank You!

Ushers meeting will be held between services on March 10, 2024. All ushers are encouraged to attend. We would ask that all usher team leaders attend. This time will also serve as a time to discuss any questions or concerns for our usher teams moving forward.

Ushers needed: There are usher teams that could use more members for Sundays and Thursday/ Special services. If you are able to serve in this way please contact any Worship Committee member.

AV Booth Coordinator: We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate and create a schedule for AV booth coverage for our services. If interested or questions please contact Gary Bernhardt @ bebehardt@stjohnstjames.com.

Holy Week Service Schedule

March 28, 2024 **Maundy Thursday**—6:30pm (w/communion)

March 29, 2024 **Good Friday**—3:30pm & 6:30pm (w/communion)

March 31, 2024 **Easter Sunday Sunrise**—6:00am

March 31, 2024 **Easter Sunday**—8:00 & 10:15am (w/communion)

Summer service schedule will begin on Thursday, May 9, 2024 with Ascension of our Lord service at 6:30pm. From there moving forward services will be held on Thursday evenings at 6:30pm and Sunday mornings at 9:00am thru September 1, 2024.

Worship Committee welcomes feedback. Committee members are Arlie Olp, Randy Denor, Andrew Bubolz, Dave Hoida, Terry Prochnow, Larry Boettcher and Brad Busse—Worship Committee Chairman.

EASTER

Breakfast

EASTER BREAKFAST

Easter Breakfast will be served on Easter morning (Sunday, March 31st) from 7:00am-9:30am. Please watch the church bulletin for volunteer & donation opportunities. More details will be available soon!

PREP SINGERS CONCERT

The PREP SINGERS from Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, WI will be at St. John - St. James for a concert at 7:00pm on Friday, March 15, 2024. We are in need of volunteers to help with this event: 1) HOUSING - We are in need of housing for 37 students on the evening of Friday, March 15th. 2) DINNER - We are in need of volunteers to coordinate, prepare & serve a meal to the students on Friday, March 15th @ 5:30pm here at SJSJ. If you are willing and able to help in any way, please contact Pastor Aden at (920) 277-0101 or daden@stjohnstjames.com.



SJSJ STUDENTS SINGING—SJSJ students in grades 3K-8 will be invited to the front of church to sing one song with the Prep Singers during the concert.

EASTER FOR KIDS

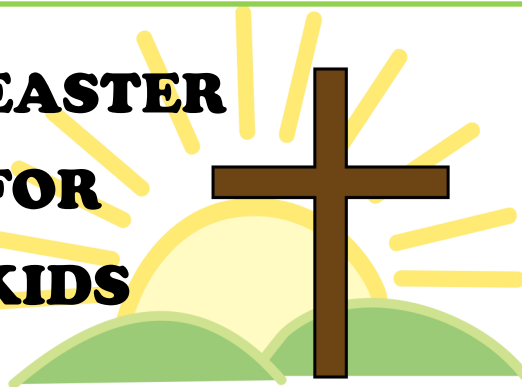
Saturday, March 23, 2024

9:00am-11:00am

**All of God's children
ages 3 through 6th grade are welcome!**

**Please [CLICK HERE](#) to register or visit our website
(stjohnstjames.com).**

EASTER FOR KIDS



COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

March 24, 2024

Join us here at St. John—St. James for:

10:15am –Palm Sunday Service

11:15am—Doughnuts in the Commons Area

11:30am—EGG HUNT! (Bring your own basket)



OFFICE HOURS

The Church/School office will be CLOSED on Friday, March 8th from 8:00am–12:00pm. Voicemails & emails will be monitored during this time. The Church/School office will be closing at noon each day during the week of spring break (March 11–15) & will be CLOSED all day on Monday, April 1st.



OFFICE ASSISTANT POSITION—NOW HIRING!



SJSJ is still looking to fill our part-time Office Assistant position. If you are interested, please pick up a job description and application in the school office or West office in church. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Aden, Pastor Flitter, Gary Bernhardt or Amanda Schrubbe.

DIVINE CALLS

Mr. Rick Zimmerman has returned the call to serve as Principal & Teacher for grades 7-8 at St. John Lutheran School in Bay City, MI. Mrs. Sarah Marohn has returned her call to serve as Kindergarten Teacher at First German Lutheran School in Manitowoc, WI. At our recent call meeting, our voters extended a call to Mr. William Hinz to serve as our Principal & Teacher for grades 6-8. William is currently serving at St. John's Lutheran School in Pardeeville, WI. A part-time call (75%) was also extended to Mrs. Staci Warnecke to teach grades 6-8 (Administrative Release)

& Exceptional Learners. Staci's husband has accepted a call in the area. Please keep Mr. Hinz & Mrs. Warnecke in your prayers as they deliberate what path God has planned for their future. Feel free to contact them with words of encouragement at (920) 222-0867 (William) & (920) 251-0909 (Staci).

PRAISE CHOIR

The St. John - St. James Praise Choir is welcoming new members as they prepare for Easter. Join us Thursday evenings (now through Easter) from 6:00-6:30pm for practice in the church. All confirmed members, 9th grade and above, are welcome!



Serving You in March

Communion Set-Up/Take Down: Karla Aden, Chantel Bastian, Joan Sheahan

Flower Committee: Joann Fischer, Sharie Mack

Church Cleaners:

February 20-March 3—Arlie/Pat Olp, Mary Fenlon

March 4-17—Gary/Deb Bernhardt, Joe/Judy Hoyer

March 18-31—Nancy Hillmann, Sarah Miller, Roger/Judy Hoida

Usher Schedule:

Sunday, March 3 at 8:00am— Dan Duchow, Jeff Herzog, Brad & Jade Busse, Marshall Kirkpatrick

Sunday, March 3 at 10:15am— Paul Kiekhaefer, John Brodtke, Jeremy Foytik, Delton & Nathan Kasten

Wednesday, March 6 at 3:30pm— Volunteers-sign up sheet in West Office

Wednesday, March 6 at 6:30pm— Scott Bubolz, Brian/Susie Bubolz, Bill Voeltz

Sunday, March 10 at 8:00am— Dan Duchow, Jeff Herzog, Brad & Jade Busse, Marshall Kirkpatrick

Sunday, March 10 at 10:15am— Paul Kiekhaefer, John Brodtke, Jeremy Foytik, Delton & Nathan Kasten

Wednesday, March 13 at 3:30pm— Volunteers-sign up sheet in West Office

Wednesday, March 13 at 6:30pm— Jeff/Jellane Schneider, Arlie/Pat Olp

Sunday, March 17 at 8:00am— Jim Matznick, Tom Sebo, Norman Pantzlaff, Gary Bernhardt

Sunday, March 17 at 10:15am— Nick & Jonathan Schrubbe, Ray Bubolz, Adam Bubolz, Bill Hillmann, Matt Hillmann

Wednesday, March 20 at 3:30pm— Volunteers-sign up sheet in West Office

Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30pm— Gary Bernhardt, Randy Denor

Sunday, March 24 at 8:00am— Jim Matznick, Tom Sebo, Norman Pantzlaff, Gary Bernhardt

Sunday, March 24 at 10:15am— Nick & Jonathan Schrubbe, Ray Bubolz, Adam Bubolz, Bill Hillmann, Matt Hillmann

Thursday, March 28 at 6:30pm— Andy, Rebekah, Zac & Joe Bubolz, Jon Winkel

Friday, March 29 at 3:30pm— Scott Bubolz, Brian/Susie Bubolz, Bill Voeltz

Friday, March 29 at 6:30pm— Jeff/Jellane Schneider, Arlie/Pat Olp

Sunday, March 31 at 6:30am— Gary Bernhardt, Randy Denor

Sunday, March 31 at 8:00am— Mel Mangin, Tim Mangin, Jamie Mangin, Gary Waack

Sunday, March 31 at 10:15am— Terry/Karen Prochnow, Randy/Sandy Waack

Serving You In April

Communion Set-Up/Take Down:

Suzanne Bubolz, Amanda Schrubbe, Michaela Bubolz

Flower Committee:

Suzanne Bubolz, Rebekah Bubolz

Church Cleaners:

April 1-14: Yvonne Wenzlaff, Randy/Gail Denor

April 15-28: Rick/Sarah Zimmerman, Carissa Hillmann, Vicky Rolf

April 29-May 12: Shawn/Melissa Behnke, Sheri Lau

Usher Schedule:

Sunday, April 7 at 8:00 am— Mel Mangin, Tim Mangin, Jamie Mangin, Gary Waack

Sunday, April 7 at 10:15 am— Terry/Karen Prochnow, Randy/Sandy Waack

Sunday, April 14 at 8:00am— Dale Barnard, Joe Hoyer, Chuck Kiehn, Bob Baribeau

Sunday, April 14 at 10:15am— Roger/Judy Hoida, Dave Hoida, Deven Krepline, Erick Zimmerman

Sunday, April 21 at 8:00am— Dale Barnard, Joe Hoyer, Chuck Kiehn, Bob Baribeau

Sunday, April 21 at 10:15am— Roger/Judy Hoida, Dave Hoida, Deven Krepline, Erick Zimmerman

Sunday, April 28 at 8:00am— Dan/Paula Bubolz, Gene Wagner, Eugene & Nathan Rosera, Jeff Doemel

Sunday, April 28 at 10:15am— Glen Behnke, Roger Bubolz, Dan Bratz, Jim Bubolz, Alex Bubolz, James Kenneke

a Heartfelt 

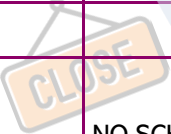


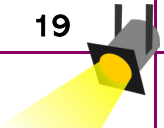


TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!

MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					SJSJ Bingo Night @ 6:00 pm	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○8:00 am Sunday Worship ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship 			Lenten Service 3:30pm Gr. 4-8 Sing Lenten Service 6:30pm	Choir Practice 6:00pm	Church/School Office CLOSED (8:00am-noon) Gr. 7-8 Lancer for a Day	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○8:00 am Sunday Worship w/Communion ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship w/Communion 	No School Church/School Offices Closing @ Noon	No School Church/School Offices Closing @ Noon	Lenten Service 3:30pm Lenten Service 6:30pm No School Church/School Offices Closing @ Noon	No School Church/School Offices Closing @ Noon Choir Practice 6:00pm	Luther Prep Singers @ 7:00pm No School Church/School Offices Closing @ Noon	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○8:00 am Sunday Worship ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship 			Lenten Service 3:30pm Lenten Service 6:30pm	Choir Practice 6:00pm		 Easter for Kids
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○8:00 am Sunday Worship ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship Easter Egg Hunt 	Parent Transport	Parent Transport	Parent Transport	Parent Transport Maundy Thursday Worship w/ Communion 6:30pm	Early Dismissal Parent Transport Good Friday Worship w/Communion 3:30pm & 6:30pm	
31						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○6:00 am Easter Sunrise Service ○7:00am-9:30am Easter Breakfast ○8:00 am Sunday Worship w/Communion ○10:15 am Sunday Worship w/Communion Easter Sunday						

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	 NO SCHOOL Church/School Offices Closed			Bible Study 9:00am 	Forensics Night 	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
○8:00 am Sunday Worship ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship	Church Council Meeting			Bible Study 9:00am	 LLS Music Festival @ MLHS	 LLS Academic Fair @ MLHS
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
○8:00 am Sunday Worship w/ Communion ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship w/ Communion LYA Pancake Meal & Auction				Bible Study 9:00am	 Spring Spotlight @ 6:00 pm Grandparents' Day	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
○8:00 am Sunday Worship ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship— Gr. K-8 Sing				Bible Study 9:00am		
28	29	30				
○8:00 Sunday Worship w/ Communion ○9:15 am Sunday School, Teen Bible Study, Adult Bible Study ○10:15 am Sunday Worship w/ Communion						

COATS FOR A CAUSE

Save the Date
October 2024



The Evangelism team plans to hold a winter clothing drive in the fall of 2024. As this winter comes to an end, we are asking that you hold onto your gently used winter clothing and/or look for end of season sales on new items. When you donate new or used winter outdoor clothing, it will help someone stay warm during the cold winter months.



COATS | GLOVES | BOOTS | SNOW PANTS





St. John—St. James Lutheran Church/School
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March-April Newsletter

Darin Aden, Pastor

Thadeus Flitter, Pastor

St. John—St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

Church Office: 920-754-4568

daden@stjohnstjames.com

tflitter@stjohnstjames.com

Rick Zimmerman, Principal

School Office: 920-754-4432

rzimmerman@stjohnstjames.com

Church/School Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 7:30am to 3:00pm

Worship—Sunday 8:00am and 10:15am