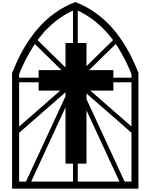


ST. JOHN LUTHERAN LCMS  
11400 WEST PANAMA ROAD, CRETE, NE 68333



Come to the cross and learn of God's great love for all His people. There is friendship, fellowship, and the gift of God's word of forgiveness.

# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 36 ISSUE 4 APRIL 2022**

Dear Sons and Daughters of our Gracious Heavenly Father.

During the Lent 2022 Wednesday services we have been considering a number of Gospel themes for putting together seven-word statements that summarize the Gospel. I have found it interesting and challenging. There are many wonderful Gospel themes to choose from.

The purpose for trying to get the Gospel summarized into seven words is to be prepared to share the good news of salvation in Jesus Christ in a single simple statement. First, so that we can have something memorized about the Gospel. Second, it gives a basic picture for conversation with someone in our witnessing of Christ. Third, it can help us with the outline for witnessing—the bad news of sin and the wonderful news of God's salvation for us from our sin. Every one of us is a witness to Christ. Each one of us is to confess that Jesus is Lord (Rom. 10:9-10; Phil. 2:11; 1 John 1:9)

And we do have wonderful news to share about Jesus. He is God incarnate. He walked the way of life and followed all the will of God and gives us the credit. He suffered for the sins of which we are guilty. He died the death of hell which we deserved. He rose the third day in victory over sin, death, and the devil.

Such a great love for us and the saving acts of our Lord should enliven us and enable us to courage and joy in sharing the Gospel. However, as we look at the world around us, it seems as if being a Christian puts one under the attack of current trends. But this means that it is ever more vital for us to share the saving message of Christ. In fact, in world history, the Church has actually grown more in places where there is persecution. Therefore, we do need to be ready to confess our faith and confess it boldly and confidently.

Jesus knows what we will endure. But, He says this in Matthew 10:32–33 (ESV): “So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.”

So remember this: Romans 5:10 (ESV): “For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.” And this: Romans 6:23 (ESV): “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Our boldness and confidence in our confession comes from the love God has poured into us, and from the Spirit who empowers us through the Word of God. All that we have heard from God's Word comes into our ears, drops into our hearts and creates faith in Jesus, and then spills out in joy from our lips with confession and praise.

I encourage you in the love of God to think about your favorite Gospel theme. Then, create a short statement about sin and grace that you can easily remember. Let that short summary of the Gospel be yours to share when you find yourself in an opportunity to confess Christ Jesus and His work of salvation. God grant you His love and strength to confess the saving name of Jesus. In Jesus' name, Pastor Toensing

**PLEASE HAVE ALL INFORMATION OR ARTICLES FOR THE NEWSLETTER TO CHRIS HOLLMAN BY 25TH, THANK YOU!**

Clothing for Orphan Grain Train: We can once again send used clothing to Orphan Grain Train. When leaving clothes in the drop box outside the church by the back door, please mark them for either OGT or PCM (People's City Mission).

**LYF NEWS**

**UPCOMING LYF SPONSORED EVENTS:**

**JUST FOR KIDS**



**EASTER EGG HUNT**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9 AT 10 am**

(LYF members to be at church by 9 am For setup)

**LYF SPONSORED EASTER BREAKFAST BETWEEN**

**WORSHIP SERVICES EASTER MORNING** (LYF members to be at church Saturday, April 16 at 10 am for setup)



**Join Us For Breakfast**

**LYF SPONSORED ROADSIDE CLEANUP SUNDAY, MAY 1,**

**FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**\*\*please see bulletin board for signup\*\***



*April* BIRTHDAYS & *BAPTISMS*

**BIRTHDAYS**

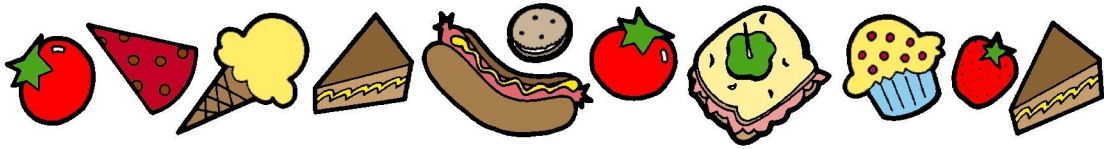
- 1 Kian Morris
- 2 Lilian Underwood
- 3 Jennifer Meinke
- 7 Cari Henning
- 8 Victoria Slama
- 11 Charlie Slama
- 12 Amy Hollman, Lillan Kubicek, Debra Wendelin
- 13 Jessica Trautman
- 14 Kaylie Brethouwer
- 16 Donna Hillgren, Christopher Ladman, Brandee Samples, Sami Weber
- 17 Lee Miller
- 20 James Haufle, Christina Rezac

- 21 Kristi Reetz
- 22 Dean Prochnow
- 23 Dominick Hensley
- 26 Shawna Heusinkvelt
- 27 Dan Underwood
- 28 Kourtlynn Reetz
- 30 Pastor Maynard Toensing

**BAPTISMS**

- 1 Linda Eggert, Verna Schultz
- 2 Jolene Reetz
- 3 Addilyn Brethouwer
- 4 Bradley Jr., Hugo, & Olivia Pomajzl, Susan Vosika
- 7 Cindy Hoesche, Steven Toensing
- 9 Isaac Meinke

- 12 Marla Musil, Kurt Reetz
- 13 Bruce Miller,
- 15 Amy Hollman, Travis Shore
- 16 Cheryl Langfeldt
- 17 Maggie Wohl
- 20 Jerry Ferguson
- 21 Marlow Meinke
- 22 Jordyn Adam
- 24 Donna Hillgren, Drew Trautman
- 26 Kian Morris
- 29 Alice Poole, Jaxon Trautman, Ryllyn Trautman
- 30 Brandee Samples



**A REMINDER FROM THE COOKBOOK COMMITTEE:**

**APRIL IS HERE!  
IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR**

**OH, YES, INDEED  
YOUR RECIPES WE NEED!**

**SO, LOOK THROUGH YOUR STASH  
OF HOW TO MAKE HASH**

**AND SALADS AND CAKES,  
MAIN DISHES AND SHAKES**

**NOW, HURRY—DON'T WAIT  
IT'LL SOON BE TOO LATE!**

**APRIL IS HERE!**

**(DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING RECIPES IS APR. 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2022)**

**ESPECIALLY NEED YOUR RECIPES FOR  
APPETIZERS & BEVERAGES, SOUPS & SALADS,  
VEGGIES & SIDE DISHES, BREADS & ROLLS,  
COOKIES & CANDY AND THIS 'N' THAT**



## PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 10

### ALL MIDWEEK STUDENTS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN



On Palm Sunday, the Midweek students and Sunday School children will sing at the very beginning of worship. Please plan to have your children attend worship on April 10 to be a part of that. Their singing adds so much to a service and it always goes better if there are plenty of children participating. Also, please have them present in Sunday School on **April 3** so that we can help the little ones practice coming in with palms waving. We will practice the songs each week until then. They will sing “Hosanna, Hallelujah” and “We Have a King”. Thanks! Ellen

## LADIES AID MINUTES

St. John Ladies Aid met on March 30, 2022. After the morning Lenten service, we held a covered dish luncheon for the congregation. After the luncheon, we held our regular monthly meeting.

Roll call was taken with 10 members and 1 guest present. The minutes of the February 2022 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer’s report was given.

Dianne Kouba was installed as Vice-President of Ladies Aid.

Dianne Kouba and Janice Reetz reviewed the funeral call list.

The date of our anniversary celebration will be April 23, 2023. We will be thinking about low-key ideas for the celebration.

Bonnie Bleich will put an announcement in the bulletin asking for Easter Lilies to be put on the altar for Easter and will find out if Ladies Aid is supposed to purchase palms for Palm Sunday.

We will be making a push to get members motivated to send in recipes for the cookbook.

Thank you cards were passed around from Pastor & Shelley Toensing for receiving a gift card for Christmas, August Wendelin for his Christmas flower and from the Gerald Reetz family for serving his funeral lunch.

Marianne Tesar will be the hostess for April.

Deb Walker and Jolene Reetz celebrated birthdays in March. The birthday song was sung.

We closed the meeting with the Lord’s Prayer.

Deb Walker, Secretary

**ST. JOHN LUTHERAN  
CHURCH –LCMS**

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www.stjohnkramer.org  
Rev. Maynard Toensing, Jr.  
pastortoensing@gmail.com

**HOLY WEEK WORSHIP**

**Maundy Thursday** (April 14 at  
7:00 p.m.)

**Good Friday Tenabrae** (April 15  
at 7:00 p.m.)

**Easter Sunrise** (April 17 at 6:30  
a.m.)

**Easter Worship** (April 17 at 9 a.m.)

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER GROWTH**

**Schedule at a Glance**

Worship Service (Sundays)	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School/LYF (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Bible Class (Sundays)	10:30 a.m.
Midweek Classes (Wednesdays)	6:30 p.m.
Elder's Meeting (April 4)	6:30 p.m.
Ladies Bible Study (April 9)	10:00 a.m.
Quilting Group (April 12)	9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Church Council Meeting (April 18)	6:30 p.m.
Lutheran Women in Mission (April 19)	10:00 a.m.
Quarterly Voters' Meeting (April 24) following Worship Service	
Ladies Aid Meeting (April 27)	2:00 p.m.

**FROM THE ELDER'S**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,  
Spring is upon us and we are well into the Lenten season so please plan on attending the upcoming services for Holy Week and on Easter Sunday where we will celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and his victory over death. The L.Y.F will be serving a breakfast between the 6:30 A.M Sunrise service and the 9:00 A.M service so please plan on attending to support our youth and receive a great meal. For Holy Communion, the common cup will be reintroduced for use during the services starting in April. As you might have noticed, our youth have begun to usher out on non-communion Sundays and the acolytes will begin in April on communion Sundays. We share this Easter season with our family and friends, and we look to our heavenly Father that so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

God Bless,  
The Elders



*Preparing for Easter*

### NEW AND UPDATED ADDITIONS

- There's a new digital picture frame located in the narthex for all to use. To add pictures of church events simply email pictures to [stjohnkramer@ourskylight.com](mailto:stjohnkramer@ourskylight.com) and they will be available to see. We invite all church groups to send pictures so the congregation can see all the great things you are doing!
- The church library (located in the LYF/Quilters Room) has been renovated. There are books of men and women of the Bible and devotions and other Christian readings. There are many other books donated to the church library that we have put in alphabetical order---there are several series books that are always fun to read. There is no big check out system---just take the books you want to read and return them to the basket when done. Enjoy!

### Lambs of Christ Child Care Updates

Hello everyone and happy April! I definitely love this time of year as the seasons change and the weather warms up. I also love it because it is the lenten season, which is my favorite time of year as it is such a beautiful reminder of Jesus' love for us! I also love being able to watch the children play outside and be so amazed by the new growth of all of the flowers, it reminds me how much they have grown throughout this school year and how much they have changed. It is so crazy to think that we only have a little over a month left of school before we send a majority of our Lambs off to Kindergarten!

We had such a fun March! St. Patrick's Day is always a lot of fun with talks of leprechauns and shamrocks. We had a special sugar cookie treat for snack and then to work off a little bit of the sugar we did a fun find the leprechaun workout! We also read the book "How to Catch a Leprechaun" and then designed our own leprechaun traps! The children really seemed to enjoy it and it was definitely a fun filled afternoon!

We have been continuing our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) lessons and are really working on how to regulate our own emotions. I am currently taking the CHIME class through UNL which is helping me learn some different techniques to not only help the children regulate their emotions, but also help me to navigate through burnout in my position. I feel that this will help me to better teach the children about emotions.

**Summer Child Care enrollment is now open!** If you are needing Full Time, Part Time Child Care for your children for the Summer, please enroll at this link:

<https://form.jotform.com/220745452877060>. If you have any questions about Summer Child Care don't hesitate to reach out to me!

Thank you all for your continued support of Lambs! We wouldn't be able to do it without any of you! Here is to a great April!

Brittany Hovendick, Director

Email: [lambsofchristcrete@gmail.com](mailto:lambsofchristcrete@gmail.com) or [brittany.m.hovendick@gmail.com](mailto:brittany.m.hovendick@gmail.com)