

To know and proclaim Jesus Christ and as disciples reach out in love.

On the inside....

Congregation Council	2
From Pastor Jerry	2
From Pastor David	3
Christian Education News	4
People of Faith Day	5
Reedsburg Relay for Life	5
Youth & Family	6
Calendar	7
Worship Assistants, Lent & Holy Week Schedule	8
Letter from Leta	9
Thank you from Pastor David	9
Parochial Report	10
Meetings & Greetings	10
Scripture Readings for April	10
Stewardship Note	11
Council, Staff & Boards	12
Spiritual Reflections	Insert
Easter Flower Garden	Insert
Angel Food Info	Insert

Worship Times

Saturdays

5:15 p.m.

Sundays

8 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Wednesdays in Lent

Noon & 7:00 p.m.

Education Hour & Coffee Fellowship

Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday

8:30 a.m. to Noon
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 to 12:30 p.m.

The *Evangel* is a monthly publication of St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Office phone numbers:
254-9763 or 524-4516

Email: stjohn@stjohnreedsburg.com

Web Site:
www.stjohnreedsburg.com



Parents of two and three year old children – we are offering an activity during the Sunday school hour for the first three Sundays in May, the 1st, 8th, and 15th. We will meet in the Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m. and proceed to the Little Lambs classroom following music. I will be leading these “practice” Sundays with the goal of incorporating this age group into our Sunday morning education hour in the fall. This is a parent participation group! While children age two and three are eager to learn, they still need the supportive presence of their caregiver in the room or nearby. My hope is we can set up a rotating schedule of parents to host each class. I completely understand the packed schedule of families so each week a lesson, story, craft, and snack will be prepared for you. You just need to use the materials to guide the play of the children. If you have any questions, please call me at the church (254-9763) or e-mail me – beth@stjohnreedsburg.com. I think this will be a wonderful opportunity to introduce our youngest learners to the Sunday school program!

Beth Voigt, CED

Volunteer Appreciation

Sunday, February 27. To send individual “Thank You” notes to each person who gives time and talent so selflessly to St. John would significantly dent the church budget; therefore the staff offers the heartfelt (but still inadequate) collective thank you once a year at Volunteer Appreciation. This year’s theme—Thank You for POPpin in to Help—gave us POPcicles, POPcorn, (soda) POP, Corn POP Trail Mix, and the snap, crackle, POP of Rice Krispies (that may have been a stretch but rice crispy treats are soooo good. Members were treated to POP Culture, a POP Quiz, POPcorn songs and Snap, Crackle, POP commercial songs; and the ever POPular “POP Goes the Weasal” Jack ‘n the Box, and the chance to identify their own personality when they popped bubble wrap. Prizes included POP Tarts, POP Rocks, POPcorn, and LolliPOPs. We tried to provide POPpin good food and fun for all. So once again, from the entire St.

John Staff **Thank YOU for POPpin’ in to help!**



POP Quizzes are serious business!

OUR Pictorial Directory is ONLINE!

Just go to the St. John web site: www.stjohnreedsburg.com, scroll to the middle of the page, click on the link:

St. John's Online Pictorial Directory

Our password is **stjohn**

Because this online directory can be updated, please notify the office with any changes of address or phone numbers.



Congregation Council Meeting

March 8, 2011

Opening devotions were presented by Shirley West.

Pastor Jerry Pribbenow, who is our interim pastor was welcomed, as was Jennifer Kitson who was appointed to take Ryan Hayes' place on the Council.

Administration Board Report

Pastor David shared LeRoy's written report from the Administration Board. The Admin Board has updated board and committee descriptions, approved changes in the wedding policy and handbook, and prioritized maintenance issues. Building and grounds projects already completed include main door railing refurbishing, landscaping efforts for the parking lot (ongoing), refinishing wooden doors and painting of the fascia.

The board explored options for the fall stewardship drive, updated the visual inventory of the church, and LeRoy worked with our custodian, Tim Brown, on budget and equipment needs.

Treasurer's report

Current assets increased by \$2,715.77, which reflected a negative \$80,608.91 in the checking account. Dedicated accounts has a balance of \$290,272.26. Net balance in the bank account is \$209,663.35, an increase over January by \$103,875.94 Much of this increase comes because St. John received a large bequest from Foxy Fischer. Part of the money will go toward educational scholarships, using interest from the fund. The other half has been placed in dedicated accounts.

February Attendance – average of 300 per weekend.

Compared to 306 in 2010 and 299 in 2009.

Council Retreat Scheduled for the 26th of March at Migs Percy's Home. 9 – 12 a.m. Two main topics will be organization and discussion of the call committee, and job descriptions for the pastors.

Pastor David met with Executive Committee for his annual review. Next review will take place in December.

Lent services on Wednesdays Soup, Bread and Pie lunches are being served prior to the noon services in Fellowship hall, and suppers are served beginning at 5:30 p.m., with the worship services beginning at 7p.m.

Month of February Pastor David has conducted three funerals, has four weddings coming up, and numerous baptisms. He is also making a number of visits to a young man in jail in Baraboo.

Synod Assembly Delegates Synod assembly is scheduled for May 14 and 15. We need three people plus Pastor David.

Cemetery Board Report Rich Sorom reported that when a term is up on the board, and the board member has held an office, the newly elected person will take that position. An example is: Jake Steinhorst completes his term this fall and he is currently serving as chair of the board, so the newly elected person will take his place as the chair.

Respectfully submitted,

Migs Percy, Council President



From Pastor Jerry

I am pleased to join the pastoral staff of St John as an interim associate pastor. This past June I celebrated my fiftieth year of ordination. I am a native of Rio, Wisconsin and currently live in McFarland, Wisconsin. I am widowed twice, have six children, sixteen grandchildren and one great grandchild. My mother still lives in Rio and celebrated her 98th birthday in January. Most recently I served as a part time associate pastor at McFarland Lutheran for the past thirteen years. I resigned from there at the end of December to help prepare the way for a new lead pastor. About twenty years of my ministry was in hospital chaplaincy. I served at Milwaukee Lutheran Hospital, Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo, Iowa and the University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison. I have served congregations in Camp Douglas, Cambridge, Milwaukee, Stoughton, Beloit, (all in Wisconsin) and Dixon and Wataga, Illinois. I look forward to becoming a part of St John's and becoming acquainted with the congregation. I plan to worship here weekly and offer some educational opportunities as well as visitation and whatever else is needed to support the ministry of this congregation. I will be in Reedsburg three days a week.

- Pastor Jerry Pribbenow

What is the world coming to?

After the Earthquake and Tsunami that caused so much damage to Japan, and with all the turmoil in governments both foreign and domestic, I have had some pretty interesting conversations lately. Two e-mails, three Facebook messages and a couple of conversations this week have all coalesced around this idea: "Pastor I know Jesus said we wouldn't know the day or time, but don't you think that with all that has been going on that these are the signs of the end times?"

With all that is going on, you can't help but wonder. As we are now in the midst of Lent, and Good Friday is quickly approaching, it can seem that everything is coming unraveled; but the cross is not the end of the story.

Speaking of stories, one of my favorites was told by Tony Campolo, and I first heard it at a youth gathering over 30 years ago! Dr. Campolo tells how he preached the perfect sermon in every way and had taken the congregation to 'the heights of glory'. As he sat down beside his pastor, Dr. Tony patted him on the knee and simply said, "Top that." The older black pastor looked at him and said, "Boy, watch the master." The original sermon lasted over 45 minutes, but this gives you a flavor of it.

It was a simple sermon, starting softly, building in volume and intensity until the entire congregation was completely involved, repeating the phrases in unison. The sermon went something like this.

It's Friday. Jesus is arrested in the garden where He was praying. But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday. The disciples are hiding and Peter's denying that he knows the Lord. But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday. Jesus is standing before the high priest of Israel, silent as a lamb before the slaughter. But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday. Jesus is beaten, mocked, and spit upon. But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday. The Son of Man stands firm as they press the crown of thorns down into his brow. But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday. See Him walking to Calvary, the blood dripping from His body. See the cross crashing down on His back as He stumbles beneath the load. It's Friday; but Sunday's a coming.

It's Friday. See those Roman soldiers driving the nails into the feet and hands of my Lord. Hear my Jesus cry, "Father, forgive them." It's Friday; but Sunday's coming.

It's Friday. The sky grows dark, the earth begins to tremble, and He who knew no sin became sin for us. Holy

God who will not abide with sin pours out His wrath on that perfect sacrificial lamb who cries out, "My God, My God. Why hast thou forsaken me?" What a horrible cry. But Sunday's coming.

It's Friday. Jesus is hanging on the cross, heaven is weeping and hell is partying. But that's because it's Friday, and they don't know it, but Sunday's a coming.

And on that horrible day 2000 years ago, Jesus the Christ, the Lord of glory, the only begotten Son of God, the only perfect man died on the cross of Calvary. Satan thought that he had won the victory. Surely he had destroyed the Son of God. Finally he had disproved the prophecy God had uttered in the Garden and the one who was to crush his head had been destroyed. But that was Friday.

Now it's Sunday. And just about dawn on that first day of the week, there was a great earthquake. But that wasn't the only thing that was shaking because now it's Sunday. And the angel of the Lord is coming down out of heaven and rolling the stone away from the door of the tomb. Yes, it's Sunday, and the angel of the Lord is sitting on that stone and the guards posted at the tomb to keep the body from disappearing were shaking in their boots because it's Sunday; and the lamb that was silent before the slaughter is now the resurrected lion from the tribe of Judah, for He is not here, the angel says. He is risen indeed.

It's Sunday, and the crucified and resurrected Christ has defeated death, hell, sin and the grave. It's Sunday. And now everything has changed. It's the age of grace: God's grace poured out on all who would look to that crucified lamb of Calvary; God's grace freely given to all who would believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross of Calvary, was buried, and rose again. All because it's Sunday.

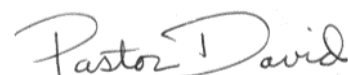
At the end of the message the pastor shouts out:

It's Friidaaaay!

And the whole congregation responds:

But Sunday's Coming!

Amen and Amen...



To hear a snippet from Tony Campolo's sermon type this link into your browser address:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcbKWT10z34>

Christian Education News

This logo represents Christians of mature faith holding the cross, inspiring the growth of others, while creating a shell of love and guidance.



See **Little Lambs Sunday School** article on the front page

Baccalaureate Sunday – May 22, 2011

Calling all seniors. We will be celebrating your achievements during the 10:30 a.m. worship service Sunday May 22nd. We will also recognize the recipients of the St. John scholarships. Your St. John family is proud of you! It is helpful for planning to know if you and your family will be attending the worship service that morning. Please call the church office (254-9763) if you plan to attend. Seniors, if you are interested in helping plan this service, Ben and I would like to take you to lunch Tuesday May 10th. Yes, lunch. But we need to know by Tuesday May 3rd if you wish to participate. Again, call the church office with your intent.

Planning for the fall – seeking Sunday school teachers.

You know you want to do it! This is positive peer pressure. I am already thinking about the fall and our educational programs. We have an awesome group of kids who really enjoy knowing another adult in the congregation. I am positive you would enjoy getting to know them! Members often approach me and ask “How can we attract more young people to church activities?” My answer – “You!” It begins with you. You are the single most effective lure in the attendance tackle box. You do not need to have children in the program, you do not need to have a teaching background, you simply need to be here and open yourself to the experience of children exploring faith. We have a thorough curriculum that provides multiple activities and materials for each Sunday. I would like to promote a team teaching model in our classrooms. Thus I need two teachers per grade level – pre-K through fifth. This is twelve teachers. Piece of cake. Teachers rotate months and also sub for the other teacher should the need arise. Sixth grade will explore a new role – assisting teachers in the classroom with one Sunday a month dedicated to their maturing ideas about belief. Interested? You should be! Call me at church or e-mail me (beth@stjohnreedsburg.com) with questions or your “Yes.”

Summer Bible Camp Brochures available in the Narthex and on bulletin board next to Ben’s office across from Memorial Hall. Also check out Lutheran higher education opportunities in same hall! Many sessions fill early so let’s get the application in the mail!



Let’s play ball!

Monday nights in May I will be offering a light hearted look at America’s favorite pastime and the legendary stories that fill our folklore. We just might take a swing at baseball and theology, as well. Join me Monday May 2nd, 9th, and 16th at 6:30 p.m. to explore this particular “Field of Dreams.”

Vacation Bible School

Monday August 8th – Friday August 12th
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Our theme will be “Feeding the Five Thousand”. This program is for children entering Kindergarten through Fifth grade. We will begin each evening with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. Families are welcome to sup together! Our program will start at 6:00 p.m. and we will end at 8:00 p.m. with a short vesper service. More info and a brochure in May!

JESUS FEEDS



5,000

Library Book of the Month:

Our Hope for Years to Come – by Martin Marty and Micah Marty. Martin Marty is the author of more than forty books, including a National Book Award winner. He is an ordained minister and has taught at the University of Chicago for more than thirty years. This book is part prose, part picture. Each section explores the search for sanctuary, and the architecture that provides the inspiration for a house of faith. In his introduction, Marty paints himself as “someone who is ending a seventh decade of stumbling and being confused along the way; who often gets saddened and lost; who reads the same newspapers as you and has similar reasons for worry that any person who looks at tomorrow might have...yet through it all (has) found that the scriptures we read, the songs we sing, the sanctuaries we visit, and the evidences left by people who designed and built such sanctuaries “for years to come” capture the sense of divine hope.” The call number on this book is 242.34 MA – I encourage you to check it out!

- Beth Voigt, CED

People of Faith United for Justice Advocacy Day

Tuesday, March 15, 2011. This event was sponsored by the Wisconsin Council of Churches, in collaboration with Lutheran Office of Public Policy, Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee, Madison-area Urban Ministries and WISDOM.

The Advocacy day is organized every other year to coincide with the presentation of the biannual state budget, for the express purpose of calling on “our Governor and State Legislature to adopt a balanced approach” to budget decisions. According to Peter Bakken of The Wisconsin Council of Churches there were approximately 400 participants this year, up from approximately 300 two years ago. He added that the organizers were “very happy” with the turnout and with the day’s events.

The day consisted of an inspiring prayer by Rabbi Jonathan Biatch, Temple Beth El, Madison; the Keynote Address by Bishop Bruce Burnside, ELCA South Central Synod of Wisconsin, and an overview of the State Budget by Jon Peacock, Policy Director of Wisconsin Council on Children and Families. Breakout sessions gave participants in depth information to take to their representatives; these included: 1) Faith, Justice and the Budget; 2) The State Budget and Local Communities; and 3) Health Issues.

After lunch, participants marched to the capitol, to “We are Marching in the Name of God” and then met in teams with their assembly people and state senators. If you would like to see video of the speakers and download more information, you can go to www.wichurches.org and follow the link to 2011 Advocacy Day.

Hopefully, there will be a follow up for interested congregation members in the very near future. Watch the announcements for time and location.

Arlo Ketchpaw

The Reedsburg Relay For Life

will be Friday, June 24 through Saturday, June 25, 2011 at Webb Park. Last year St. John’s Relay For Life team raised \$1,300 for the American



Cancer Society. The money raised at the events is used toward research in producing new vaccines and medications for the prevention of and for those people who are currently fighting cancer. One vaccine that was created is the Gardasil vaccine for adolescents and young adults.

Anyone is welcome to be a member of the St. John team. We have members who have been touched with cancer and others who know someone who has had cancer. Members collect donations, which include money and items for the silent and live auctions held on Friday afternoon. During the Relay For Life event, team members walk laps in recognition of the fight against cancer.

Silent auction items are valued at less than \$50. These may include gift certificates to area businesses, homemade jams or canned produce, homemade crafts, themed baskets for children and families; etc. Live auction items are valued at \$50 or more. These may include autographed sports memorabilia, outdoor grill with utensils, homemade furniture, hand-crafted quilts, framed prints, an executive office chair; etc.

The congregation is invited to join us for a potluck dinner at 4:30 pm on Friday, June 24 at Webb Park. Help us celebrate the survivors. Games and activities will be provided at the event for families. All of the children always enjoy the train ride every year! Come join us. Contact Candice Swartz at 608-434-1334 if you have questions or want to join.

Thanks, Sue Johnson

Sunday school Scripture Focus for April

Sunday April 3rd - Pool of Siloam John 9:1-41
 Sunday April 10th - Lazarus John 11:1-45
 Sunday April 17th - Holy Week/ Palm/Passion Matt. 21:1-11; 26:14-27:66
 Sunday April 24th - No Sunday school

Children sing at the 10:30 a.m. service Sunday April 3rd, and don’t forget the Parent Breakfast at 9:30 a.m.

The children are invited to the Palm processional at the beginning of the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. service Sunday April 17th. We do have Sunday school that morning as well.

There will be no Sunday school or adult education on Easter Sunday, April 24th

Reedsburg Helping Hands collects Easter and household items each year to give to area families in need. Please bring any of the following items to the collection box in the Narthex by Monday, April 11.

Household Items

Shampoo
 Conditioner
 Tooth brushes
 Tooth Paste
 Soap
 Combs
 Hair brushes

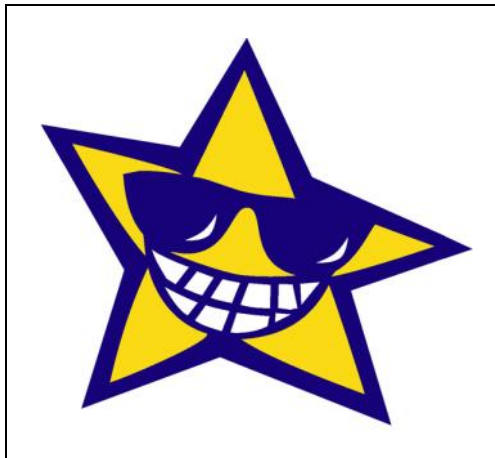
Facial Tissue

Toilet Tissue
 Laundry Detergent

Easter Basket Items

Candy
 Toys & Games





Calendar of Events

King's Kids April 6 & 20

Son Seekers April 13 & 27

MSYG

Game Night April 17, 6—8 p.m.

YG

Wednesday nights at 7:00 in Youth Room! - EXCEPT Wednesday, April 20—instead we will meet Maundy Thursday, April 21, 7 p.m.

Easter Breakfast



When: Sunday April 24th

Time: 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Where: Fellowship Hall

Cost: Free Will Offering

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Pancakes, Sausage, Hash browns, Fruit Coffee, Milk, and Juice



When: Sunday April 3

Where: Fellowship Hall

Who: Parents of Sunday School

Why: Fellowship while your kids are in Sunday School.

Menu: make your own breakfast sandwich, with eggs, sausage, bacon, and cheese, on English muffins, coffee, and juice



SHHHHH

Don't forget to check out the youth silent auction March 30th—April 13th. There are a lot of great items up for bid. We have a 2010 Packers football, some great craft items, and tickets to local attractions. Proceeds from the auction will help fund the high school youth mission and music festival trip this summer.

Thanks for your bids

April

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday			
27	8:00 AM HC Worship 9:15 AM Adult Ed 9:15 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM HC Worship 4:00 PM Open Table	28	6:30 PM Seven Wonders of the Word 7:00 PM Church in Society Bd	29	9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 5:30 PM Yoga 7:00 PM AA	30	Silent Auction 12:00 PM Soup, Bread, Pie 12:00 PM Worship Service 5:00 PM Soup, Bread & Pie 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM NO LIFE 7:00 PM HSYG 7:00 PM Worship 7:30 PM Sr Choir	31	9:00 AM AA 5:30 PM Yoga 7:00 PM AA	1	7:30 AM Men's Breakfast	2	5:15 PM HC Worship 10:00 PM YG Lock-in		
3	8:00 AM HC Worship 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Adult Ed 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM SS Parents' Breakfast 10:30 AM HC Worship 10:30 AM Worship	4	4:00 PM Shepher than Therapy 6:30 PM Seven Wonders of the Word	5	9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 2:00 PM Hannah Circle 5:30 PM Cong Life Bd 5:30 PM Yoga 6:00 PM Education Bd 7:00 PM AA	6	Silent Auction 12:00 PM Soup, Bread, Pie 12:00 PM Worship Service 3:30 PM King's Kids 5:00 PM Soup, Bread & Pie 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM NO LIFE 7:00 PM HSYG 7:00 PM Worship 7:30 PM Sr Choir	7	9:00 AM AA 9:00 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Admin Bd 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM ChristCare	8	6:00 PM Jolan Greenwood & Dakota Berg wed	9	3:00 PM Josh Bernien & Jennifer Davis Wed 5:15 PM HC Worship		
10	8:00 AM HC Worship 9:15 AM Adult Ed 9:15 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM HC Worship	11	9:00 AM Card Ministry 4:00 PM Shepher than Therapy 6:30 PM Seven Wonders of the Word	12	Evangel Articles DUE 9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 5:30 PM Yoga 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Council	13	Silent Auction ends 12:00 PM Soup, Bread, Pie 12:00 PM Worship Service 3:30 PM Son Seekers 5:00 PM Parish Support 5:00 PM Soup, Bread & Pie 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:00 PM NO LIFE 7:00 PM HSYG 7:00 PM Worship Service 7:30 PM Sr Choir	14	9:00 AM AA 1:30 PM Sunshine Circle 5:30 PM Yoga 6:30 PM United Fund Meeting 7:00 PM AA	15	7:30 AM Men's Breakfast 9:00 AM Quilting 9:00 PM LIFE Sacrament Retreat	16	2:30 PM Nate Roloff & Sara Ryan Wed 5:15 PM HC Worship		
17	Palm Sunday 8:00 AM HC Worship 9:15 AM Adult Ed 9:15 AM Coffee Fellowship 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM HC Worship 6:00 PM MSYG	18	4:00 PM Shepher than Therapy 6:30 PM Open Table Core Group 6:30 PM Seven Wonders of the Word	19	9:00 AM AA 10:30 AM Park St Study 11:00 AM Staff meeting 5:30 PM Yoga 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM Worship Bd	20	9:30 AM Dorcas Circle 3:30 PM King's Kids 6:00 PM NO LIFE 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Sr Choir	21	Maundy Thursday 9:00 AM AA 12:00 PM HC Worship 1:00 PM Sarah Circle 5:30 PM Yoga 7:00 PM AA 7:00 PM HSYG 7:00 PM HC Worship	22	Good Friday Noon – Community Service at Presbyterian Church 7:00 PM Worship at St. John	23	5:15 PM Easter Vigil w/ HC	29	3:00 PM Mindy Fry & Dillon Haase Wed 5:15 PM HC Worship
24	Easter Sunday 6:30 AM Sunrise Service 7:00 AM Easter Breakfast 8:00 AM HC Worship 9:15 AM NO Sunday School 10:30 AM HC Worship 4:00 PM Open Table	25	OFFICE CLOSED 7:00 PM Church in Society Bd	26	9:00 AM AA 11:00 AM Staff meeting 5:30 PM Yoga 7:00 PM AA	27	3:30 PM Son Seekers 6:00 PM LIFE 6:30 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM HSYG 7:30 PM Sr Choir	28	9:00 AM AA 4:30 PM Foundation Bd 5:30 PM Yoga 7:00 PM ChristCare 7:00 PM AA	29		30			

Worship Assistants

8:00 a.m.

April 3

Greeters Ken & Shirley West
 Acolytes Dillon Keller, Loren Tock
 Lector Deanna Benish
 Ushers Shawn Foss (H), Jim Knuth
 Beverly Leake, Barb Demaske
 Communion Migs Percy, Pat Lewis

April 10

Greeters JR & Wendy Colvin & Family
 Acolytes Logan Penkwitz, Lexi Hayes
 Lector Shirley Buss
 Ushers Dave Buss (H), Fred Farber
 Tom & Anna Seamonson
 Communion Jeannine Mueller, Sheri Craker

April 17

Greeters 5th Grade Sunday School Class
 Acolytes Jacob Wilbrandt, Mike Olson
 Lector Barb Exner
 Ushers Fred Farber (H), Kathy Finn
 Greg Adelman, Don Erickson
 Communion Deb Adams, Shirley West

April 24, Easter Sunrise

6:30 a.m.

Greeters Alice Vande Water, Lorna Spohnholtz
 Acolyte Caitlyn Voltz
 Lector Arlo Ketchpaw
 Ushers Art Behnke, JR Colvin
 Dan Biermeier, Deb Vanthournout
 Communion Kathy Finn, Darcy Ondersma

April 24 Easter Sunday

Greeters Todd & Jean Polk
 Acolytes Matthew Pfaff, Aly Pfaff
 Lector Jeannine Mueller
 Ushers Glen Weirauch (H), Maggie Andres
 Al & Barb Exner
 Communion Deb Adams, Rich Sorom
 Cheri Newlun

Radio Monitor

Steve Muchow

Videographers

Todd Gardner
 Fred Farber

April Money Counters

Linda White/
 Audrey Throndsen
 Dave Champeau
 Sandy Champeau

Communion Bread Bakers

2 & 3—Carol Schulz
 9 & 10—Virginia Erickson
 16 & 17—Tracy Schmus
 21—Cindy Sandberg
 23 & 24—LaVera Craker
 30—Kristi Behn

10:30 a.m.

April 3

Greeters Diane Douglas, Lynelle Roessler
 Acolytes Andy Matz, Lexi Hayes
 Lector Alice VandeWater
 Ushers Bill Ratajczyk (H), Julie Ratajczyk
 Katie, Sarah, Becky
 Communion Patty Sauey, Teri Senzig

April 10

Greeters Darcy Swisz, Alice Adams
 Acolytes Darcy Ondersma, Hannah Belk
 Lector Derek Horkan
 Ushers Warren Frank (H), Bunny Frank
 Tim & Becky Greenway
 Communion Patty Sauey, Bill Henke

April 17

Greeters 5th Grade Sunday School Class
 Acolytes Rebecca Schwerman,
 Michaela Miller
 Lector Julie Ratajczyk
 Ushers Bob Willis (H), Judy Willis
 Jim Theis, Tami Van Beek
 Communion Patty Sauey, please volunteer



April 24 Easter Sunday

Greeters Warren & Bunny Frank
 Acolytes Haley Templin, Kaylie Polk
 Lector Norma Peters
 Ushers Derek Horkan (H), Lynn Horkan
 Bill & Barb Klang
 Communion Ardell Albers, Bunny Frank
 Arlo Ketchpaw

Note to ushers: If you can, make your own arrangements when you need a substitute. It saves the staff an unbelievable amount of time!

Also, head ushers are responsible for: turning on lights; checking the hymn board and making necessary changes; attendance count and recording; and offering follow-up.

Lent & Holy Week Services

Wednesday Lenten Services continue April 6 & 13 at noon, following lunch, and at 7:00 p.m. following Soup, Bread and Pie. Serving begins at 5:30 p.m.

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday—April 21

Noon—Worship with communion
7 p.m.—Worship with communion
 Greeter Dave & Carol Julius
 Lector Kathy Finn
 Ushers Dan Biermeier
 Deb Vanthournout
 Communion Yvonne Brekke
 (NO soup, bread and pie at either service)

Good Friday—April 22

7 p.m.—Worship

Greeter Dennis Hintz,
 Arlo Ketchpaw &
 James Mummer
 Lector Shirley West
 Ushers Kathy Finn, Louie Voltz

- **Community Good Friday Service—noon** at the Presbyterian Church, corner of North Park & 2nd Street

Easter Vigil—April 23

5:15 p.m.—Worship with communion (not 7 p.m. as previously published)
 Lector Jeannine Mueller
 Yvonne Brekke
 Sandy Champeau
 Ushers Julie & Jenna Brown
 Communion Jim Wheeler

Easter—April 24, join us for the Sunrise Service with Communion at 6:30 a.m. and Easter Services with Communion at 8 and 10:30 a.m. The youth are planning a scrumptious breakfast for Easter morning. Plan to attend!



Acolytes are also asked to find their own substitutes and notify the office of any changes.

Dear St John Members,

I have two purposes for this article.

First, most of you know that last September I was involved in what has been called a major traffic accident. The support I received from this church has been truly Christian. During the first few weeks of hospitalization I received the usual flood of cards, visits, and good wishes. As my stay in the nursing home grew longer and longer and those visible signs of support understandably decreased, I sensed continuing, unspoken feelings of care and concern -- what some would call "prayer support." That feeling of comfort got me through a number of very difficult days.

I truly appreciate that the Congregation Council maintained my health insurance for those first months until I was given temporary disability. That kind of support is rare. I want to thank everyone who sent cards, flowers, who visited, and who provided support during the death of my mother. I also thank those who are continuing to help with my recovery by assisting with errands and household chores; by providing transportation and meals; by continuing "to reach out in love." (Sound familiar?)

Second - You may have noticed that I am again playing for Saturday night worship services and slowly resuming participating in activities around the church. Many people have asked about plans to go back to work in the church office. The original hope was to be back shortly after Christmas. The reality is, that even though I am "out and about," it will be months before I will be capable of any sustained activity. There is no time line as to when or if I'll be able to do what the job requires. This open ended prognosis has led to my decision to take an early retirement.

My employment history is a varied one. I've taught music, worked in an accounting department for a major store in Minneapolis, managed a fishing resort, done newspaper ad production, even "checked toes" at Milwaukee swimming pool. My job as part of the support staff at St. John has been the most rewarding and warmest job imaginable.

Thank you for making me part of your church family..

- Leta Palmer

As you have noticed in Leta's article she will not be returning to St. John as a regular full time staff member. She will still be the music coordinator for our Saturday night services, which is a very good thing!

We hope to do something more formal to recognize Leta following the very busy Lenten season. This will give you as members of St. John an opportunity to say thank you for her years dedicated service to and for the ministry of St John.

I just wanted to make sure that as you received word of Leta's retirement that it was followed with a very big Thank you! The good news is that Leta won't be going away. I have found Leta to be gifted musically and in nearly all ways creative! I have made her promise that she will continue to serve where she can (notice our Lenten banners).

With that being said;

Leta,

Thank you for all you have done that has enabled this congregation to know and proclaim Jesus Christ and as disciples reach out in love. Thank you for your time, energy, creativity and compassion, we are grateful for all you have shared with the people of God in this place.

You have been a blessing and we look forward to the blessings that will yet be!

On behalf of St. John, the staff and each member of this congregation, please, accept our thanks and gratitude for all you are and have done.

Pastor David



Thank You
Leta



Our member, Rex Albers was this month's Resident in Profile (Reedsburg Area Medical Center *Overview*, Spring 2011). In a heartwarming article, LaReta Dischler highlights Rex's life, reintroducing this fine, life-long Reedsburg resident to us. Readers learn of Rex's military service in France during the Korean War and how he met Ardell, a bank customer of his while at the Reedsburg F & M Bank. Rex served the American Legion Post 350 for 58 years. Dischler tells of Rex's love of and talent for growing splendid flowers for all to enjoy; and we learn about his travels and his enjoyment of musicals. If you have not already read the complete article, please do so.

Parochial Report

Baptisms

March 19—Kayleigh Jean Ferguson, daughter of Mike & Sara Ferguson

Marriages—None in February & March

Funerals

Glenda Gnatzig-Fitch died February 28. Her funeral was Friday, March 4

Gifts & Memorials were received in memory of:

Elsie Young by her family and friends

Neah Lohr by Wm Shirer, Helen Ziegler and Evelyn Skinner

Foxy Fisher by Marlene & Steve Natvick, Kathryn Krug, and Ed Wilkinson

Good Samaritan Fund in memory of Neah Lohr by Dorcas Circle; in memory of Richard Kreul and Milton Percy Jr. by Rosemary Fosland; in memory of Helen Ziech by Beverly Hoeg

Sponsorship Calendar— April & May

Altar Flowers (\$30)

April 3, May 8 & 22 are sponsored

April 24 is the Easter Garden—see form on page

Bulletins (\$25) - all weeks are available

Radio Broadcast (\$30, \$60, and \$95)

all weeks available

TV Cable Broadcast (\$40)

all weeks are available.

Coffee Fellowship—Check out the three ring binder in the coffee serving area to sign up for a Sunday to reserve the Sunday you wish to serve.

Meetings & Greetings

Dorcas Circle - 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 20

Hannah Circle - 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 5

Sarah Circle - 1:00 p.m., Thursday, April 21

Sunshine Circle - 1:30 p.m., Thursday, April 14

St. John Quilters - 9 a.m., Thursday, April 7

- 9 a.m., Friday, April 15

Card Ministry - 9 a.m., Monday, April 11

Men's Breakfast—7:30 a.m. the 1st & 3rd Fridays of each month at Marty's

Park Street Study— 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 19, Park Street Apts.

Sheep than Therapy - 4—6 p.m., weekly on Mondays in the Fireside Room.

Women of the ELCA

Baraboo Conference Spring Gathering

Saturday, April 9, 2011

Zion Lutheran Stone Church

E 6787 Stone Church Rd.

Rock Spring, WI 53961

Register 9:00 a.m.

Program 9:30 a.m.

Lunch Noon

The program includes poetry readings by June Paul and a report by Youth Ambassadors on their trip to India.

If you are interested in attending this conference, please contact Carol or Arlo in the church office before April 4, 2011.

Scripture Readings for April

April 2 & 3—1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalm 23; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

April 6—Hosea 11:1-4; John 11:17-27

April 9 & 10 —Ezekiel 37:1-14; Psalm 130; Romans 8:6-11; John 11:1-45

April 13—Deuteronomy 30:11-14; 1 John 3:1-3

April 16 & 17—Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 26:14—27:66

April 21—Maundy Thursday— Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10], 11-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 22—Good Friday—Isaiah 52:13—53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1—19:42

April 23—Easter Vigil—Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1—19:42

April 24—Easter Sunday —Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10



Come enjoy the St. John's Relay for Life Team's Pancake Breakfast Sunday, May 15th. They'll be serving from 9 until 10:30 pancakes, sausage, fruit, cheese, juice, and coffee. The free will offering will support the Reedsburg Relay for Life event being held June 24 and 25.

-Your St. John Team



How Is the Steward Motivated to Give?

As the steward searches the Scriptures, he/she will come upon saint after saint who exemplified selfless giving:

The Widow

"[Jesus] also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. 'I tell you the truth,' He said, 'this poor widow has put in more than all the others . . . she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on'" (Luke 21:2-4).

Faith that God would provide for her needs prompted the widow to give all she had.



The Macedonians

"And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints" (2 Corinthians 8:1,3,4).

It was grace alone that motivated the Macedonians to give so generously, so sacrificially. Having themselves received God's love and mercy, they were moved to respond to the needs of others.

Jesus

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

Out of love for us, Christ gave up His home in glory to give us eternal life.

Men's Breakfast

Men meet— men talk—men pray—men study and
MEN EAT

7:30 a.m. 1st and 3rd Friday of the month

At: Marty's Restaurant

Cost: Whatever you decide to have for breakfast

Reaching Out In Love.

Our mission statement "To know and proclaim Jesus Christ and as disciples reach out in love," inspired a benevolence challenge: St. John will, through various means, seek to raise \$15,000 to be spent on various external ministries: \$5,000 within our community— Safe Harbor, Habitat for Humanity, Touched Twice, Good Samaritan, etc.; \$5,000 nationally—Bible Camps, domestic missions, prison ministries, campus, ministries, LSS, etc.; \$5,000 to global ministries such as Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Relief, missions /work trips to Haiti, etc.

This appeal is for funds over and above normal weekly offerings. So far the funeral luncheon ladies have designated gifts they receive for serving luncheons to this fund, total of \$400 so far in 2011, and Souper Sunday, Feb. 6, 2011 netted \$184.90.



Reach Out In Love



In response to the Japanese Earthquake and Tsunami, ELCA

Disaster Relief is collecting money, Quilts and Lutheran World Relief Kits. Mark monetary donations as Japanese Disaster on your envelopes and on the memo line of your check.

A complete list of kits can be found online at

www.lwr.org or we will have some printed lists available for you to take from the kiosk in the Narthex.

Sheeper than Therapy

Have needles will travel? Join us Monday evenings 4 to 6:15 p.m. as we knit, crochet, (tat?), and enjoy fellowship. All ages and skill levels welcome. This is not a prayer shawl ministry, but if that's what you are working on, by all means bring it. Thanks to Erna Schwartz we have the cutest chicken pattern to knit (a little Easter egg cozy). We just have a great time working on our own projects, and meet in the Fireside



THE EVANGEL

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Reedsburg, WI
Permit No. 56

April 2011

A Publication of
St. John Ev. Lutheran Church

Volume 51, No. 3

307 6th Street
Reedsburg, Wisconsin 53959

This newsletter was especially prepared for:



Congregation Council

Migs Percy, President <i>Administration</i>	524-5150	Patty Sauvey <i>Worship</i>	524-6150
Rich Sorom, Vice President <i>Education, Cemetery Board</i>	524-2720	Lorraine Traeder <i>Education</i>	524-3821
Deb Adams, Secretary <i>Worship</i>	524-8004	Bill Henke <i>Congregational Life</i>	524-8606
Blaine Hedberg, Treasurer <i>Budget Task Force, Foundation</i>	524-2896	Shirley West <i>Congregational Life</i>	524-2942
Jim Wheeler <i>Youth & Family</i>	985-7067	Todd Erdman <i>Church in Society</i>	524-9888
Don Ondersma <i>Administration</i>	415-5259	Jennifer Kitson <i>Youth and Family Board</i>	524-8612

Italics indicates board or committee which the council member serves as liaison

St. John Foundation

Eleanor Luehrsen, <i>Pres.</i>	524-2634
Diane Thieding, <i>Vice-pres.</i>	727-2591
Jane Zuehlke, <i>Sec. Treas.</i>	524-4676
Tom White	985-8076
Blaine Hedberg	524-2896
Terry Penkwitz	524-8638
Bill Weis	524-9875

St. John Cemetery Board

Jake Steinhorst	524-2874
Rich Hahn	524-6609
Barb Demaske	524-3379
Dan Biermeier	547-3435
Rich Sorom	524-2720

St. John Staff

Ministers	Members of St. John	Financial Secretary	Shirley Buss
Pastor	David J. Glesne	Saturday Music Coordinator	Leta Palmer
Interim Pastor	Jerry Pribbenow	Custodian	Tim Brown
Visitation Pastor	Jake Jacobson	Head Organist	Diana McGlynn
Youth & Family Director	Ben Berg	Sr. Choir Director	David Knoble
Christian Ed Director	Beth Voigt	Bell Choir Director	Les Sandberg
Secretary	Carol Julius		
Assistant Secretary	Arlo Ketchpaw		

Chairs of St. John Boards

Administration	LeRoy Petersen
Church in Society	Andrea Holcomb
Congregational Life	Julie Ratajczyk
Education	Kristi Glesne
Worship	Jolene Westerman
Youth & Family	Position open

Pastor David's day off is Friday; Ben Berg's day off is Friday

Web Site: www.stjohnreedburg.com
Email: stjohn@stjohnreedburg.com

Phone: 608-254-9763
Phone: 608-524-4516

Spiritual Reflection for April 2011

Think For Yourself

In the midst of winter's gradual thaw I find myself bouncing back and forth between two topics; each seems to have equal importance. One aligns with the calendar season and one aligns with this season of our life. On which one will I expound? Well, knowing that the seasonal calendar is unpredictable in Wisconsin, I will hold that topic for another time and settle in on the topic addressing this current season of life.

A few weeks ago, while listening to the Christian radio station, a renowned speaker was giving some advice. I have typically agreed with his encouraging words, but this particular day I was not in agreement. I actually (although I don't have too much hair on the back of my neck) felt the hair on the back of my neck stand at attention. In summary, he described a small Bible study group. He asked whether we had ever experienced sitting around discussing a section of the bible with questions about its meaning. He commented that likely there would have been responses such as, "I don't know" or "well, my grandpa used to say" (aren't those common responses when we begin to understand the meaning of anything in life?). Then he went on to imply that this was a bad approach to learning about God and that we should trust our study to those who have completed education around the topic and not waste our time pondering questions. It sounded like he did not want us to think for ourselves. The world seems a little like that right now, in this season of life.

If I would have relied solely on educated theologians for learning about God, I would not have had the depth of experience in developing a relationship with God that I have been blessed with. I would venture to say that my spiritual wellbeing would be stagnant. I would have learned my prayers, settled into a weekly routine of attending church and sat quietly while I was fed the ideas of another person.

What my spirit needed to become healthy was to ask questions, to ask those who have received advanced education in theology, to ask aging relatives, to ask friends, and to ask myself to be open to listening for the voice of God in my everyday life, in my everyday experiences.

I am not willing to pass judgment (as this person was doing) on someone's depth of understanding God's plan for their life being based on their *teacher*. The *teacher* in my mind is God. If I do not think about his word myself, if I rely only on the interpretation of another, I limit my relationship. I believe I distance my relationship. It seems to me that there are too many people in the world today trying to take away our ability to think for ourselves. That is a dangerous place to be. Complacency sets in. We become uncreative. We become unresponsive. We become spiritually bankrupt.

God has something to say to you. He will use many avenues to reach you. He will use education. He will use church services. He will use Bible studies hosted in individual's homes. But, let's not forget that he will use the silence. He will use his word quietly pondered or openly discussed with others. He will provide you with experiences to deepen your inner desire to know more, to have a better understanding, to have a stronger personal relationship with him.

Listen. Read. Ask questions. Listen for answers. Ponder the responses. Think for yourself. Then ask God if you are on the right track; **he** is ready to lead you in the right direction.

May God bless you,

Tammy Koenecke, RN, BSN, MASL

Spiritual Care Coordinator, RAMC



Listen for the messages *God* is sending you...

When Mourning Dawns

This FREE grief support program allows you to identify the seasons of your grief and assists you in your grief walk.

Dates: This 5 session video-based program will meet on Mondays, April 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23

Times: 10:30 a.m.—noon OR 6:30 p.m.—8 p.m.

Place: Reedsburg Area Medical Center Conference Room

Please contact Tammy Koenecke, RN, BSN, MASL, Spiritual Care Coordinator for more information or to sign up for the class. Pre-registration is NOT required. **768-6249**



Angel Food Ministries

Angel Food Ministries is an organization dedicated to providing affordable, high-quality food to those in need, is offering relief and joy to families in 45 states.

Anyone who wishes to learn more about how to utilize Angel Food's services can call 1-608-393-2438 or visit www.angelfoodministries.com.

With that being said, I would like to share with you that we have more than doubled our monthly orders since our opening of this adventure in September 2010.

We look forward to serving you !!

~Stevie

If you order by April 17, at 10:59 p.m. CST, it will be available Saturday, April 23, between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. here at St. John.

Packers Win Super Bowl XLV

AND St. John Youth has a team auto-graphed football available for bid at their Silent Auction that begins March 30 and ends April 13.



A picture is worth a 1000 words. Thought you might like a preview for the upcoming silent auction. Bid on this and many other worthy items.



ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

Living Memorials for our Mission in Christ

Want to shed your additional money (\$\$\$)? Want to get rid of that extra clutter and dust created by money lying around the house? Who doesn't! One way is to give that money to the St. John Foundation, a non-profit, tax exempt, charitable organization that enhances the mission and ministry of St John Evangelical Lutheran Church. All requests for Foundation money is above and beyond budgeted items and must be okayed by the Foundation Board and the Congregation Council. The money is used wisely and judiciously. We will cheerfully accept your money!

Tom White & The St. John Foundation Board

All St. John members are invited to remember or honor loved ones at Easter by contributing to our Easter Flower Garden.

Please do not buy your own plant. The Worship Board will purchase plants, which after Easter, can be taken to loved ones. Donations of any dollar amount are welcome.

Please indicate which wording you wish to use:

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

To the Glory of God

Given by _____

Return this form along with your donation to the church office by April 13, 2011. Check should be made payable to St. John Lutheran Church. Please indicate "Easter Flowers" on the memo line of the check. Please print names.

