

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
201 1st AVE. NW
LE MARS, IA. 51031

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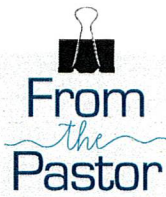


St. John's Lutheran Church



**Welcoming Everyone
Making Disciples
Trusting Jesus
Empowering Leaders**

April 2026



“Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.” – Mark 16:8

Try to imagine the world **before** that first Easter. A man from Nazareth, a carpenter’s son, Jesus, had been crucified on a cross. He was a prophet. He was a healer. He was a great teacher. Some said that He did miracles! But He had also offended almost every religious official that there was and was charged with blasphemy because He had spoken of Himself as equal with God! And then, just when it looked like the whole world had begun to follow after Him, He was captured by Roman soldiers and crucified on a cross while all of His disciples had denied Him and fled.

Then, there were all kinds of stories. The details varied, but the main points stayed the same. Some women who went to prepare Jesus’ dead body three days after His death found His tomb **open!** And His body was no longer there! But it was more than that. There were reports of angels present at His tomb! If you believed that, then get this: these angels were saying that Jesus was no longer dead! He was alive! He had risen from the dead! Can you imagine such a thing happening!?!

That first Easter would have been unimaginable! Someone who died was alive again! In fact, in the book of 1st Corinthians, we hear that after the resurrection, “He appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living though some have fallen asleep.” This meant that you didn’t just have to take the word of some people who thought they heard angels talking to them, but you could ask some of these other living witnesses to corroborate the story. Today, as Christians, we hear the story of the Resurrection of Jesus and we just accept it like it’s no big deal. But it **was** a big deal and it still **is** a big deal! So then, why do we act like it isn’t?

According to the gospel of Mark, the women were so bewildered by the news of the risen Jesus that they said nothing to anyone because they were afraid. Is that why we don’t talk about Jesus? Because we are afraid? And yet, they must have eventually told somebody or else the story of the resurrection would never have gotten out! And imagine what kind of a reception that story must have received! The women probably had **reasons** to be afraid.

According to the account of the resurrection in the gospel of Luke, “When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.” People had seen Jesus die! They saw Him buried! To believe in a resurrection must have seemed impossible! In addition, because of the culture at the time, women were not always considered to be the most trustworthy of sources. And yet the women still told the disciples the amazing news. Why? Because even though they may have been scared, it was still news worth sharing! Isn’t this news **still** worth sharing?

Not everyone is ready to hear about Jesus and how His resurrection can give them the hope of a new life in heaven and the freedom to live a new life here on earth. However, if you know someone who you believe needs to hear it, start praying for the opportunity to share the news with them. We assume that **everyone** has heard about Jesus. But have they? Do they know about a God who loves them and died on the cross for them? Or do they only have a little knowledge about what Christians believe based on movies they have seen, or talk shows or news broadcasts? Remember, you are the only Jesus some people will ever see. And you may be the only person that tells someone about the real Jesus who loves them and wants a new life for them.


Talking about Jesus’ resurrection doesn’t have to be scary and it doesn’t have to be hard either. You just share what Jesus means to you and what a difference He has made in your life. Invite someone to church or to watch church online. Invite them to a small group Bible study with you and, if you can’t answer their questions, seek out some answers in the Bible together. Pray for them so that they might come to know Jesus and, if it seems appropriate, ask to pray for them right where they are so that God would come and make an impact on their lives right then and there!

That first Easter changed the history of the world and yet we know the story so well that we forget how powerful it truly is. However, when you share the story of the resurrection with others, it can still change their lives. I will be praying that no matter how scared you may be, that you still say something. You may know the story, but it is still a story worth sharing with someone else. Amen.

Dear St. John's family,
Many of you know that the past month plus has been a bit of an adventure in the Broers household as we welcomed some of our family to come live with us. We have been incredibly humbled at the way our church family showed-up to support us. We had people who shared advice on how to get our family the care they needed, meals were brought over to help feed our crew, people donated money to help care for our family, people came over to check in on our family when we were gone, people helped to get appointments needed, and so many prayers were lifted on our behalf. We are grateful for each listening ear and offer of support. We haven't been here that long and we are amazed at the way you showed-up for us. From the bottom of our hearts we thank you! We are truly blessed to call St. John's home. God bless!

Pastor & Kristy Broers and family





REMEMBER
OUR
HOMEBOUND
MEMBERS

HOME COMMUNION

If you or someone you know is homebound and would like visits and communion from Pastor Broers and our Visitation Team, please contact the office and let us know. Our phone number is 712-546-8855. Thanks!

WEEKLY MUSIC SCHEDULE

Tuesdays

5:30-6:30 People of Praise

Wednesdays

5:00-5:50 Handbell Choir

6:00-6:30 Wednesday Worship

6:45-7:45 St. John's Choir



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DUO ORGAN CONCERT Thursday, May 28th at 7 pm, St. John's will be hosting a duo organ concert by the following organists:

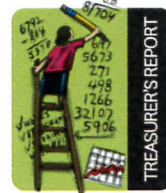
André Knevel is an internationally acclaimed Dutch-Canadian organist and composer. He regularly gives many recitals in Canada, the USA, and the Netherlands. Concert tours have also taken place in such places as South Africa, Germany, Romania, Czech Republic, Finland, Poland, and Russia.

Dr. Michael R. Kearney is Assistant Professor of Communication at Dordt University and an organist, pianist, and composer. His website and YouTube channel URC Psalmody includes more than 600 recordings of psalms, hymns, and organ music.

Treasurer's Report

February 2026

- 1) Our operating checking account decreased \$7,132 in February to \$39,460. Unpaid benevolences of \$9,067 as of month end.
- 2) We continue to be debt free.
- 3) Offerings of \$34,179 in February with year-to-date offerings now at \$83,737. This YTD total compares favorably to 2025 total of \$72,535, 2024 total of \$75,245, and 2023 total of \$76,266.
- 4) February operating expense of \$43,270 as compared to budget of \$46,374. For first two months of 2026 we are \$2,121 over budget. In February, we spent \$1,417 on ceiling tiles and lighting for the lobby.
- 5) Endowment funds total \$700,582 after a February investment gain of \$15,397.



Bill Young
Church Treasurer

Thank you for helping decorate the sanctuary with your Donations of lilies. You may take your flowers home after 10:30 am service on Easter Sunday, or stop by the church the following week and grab your flowers. Thank you.



rightnow MEDIA



RightNow MEDIA

Welcome to "Pastor Steven's Picks." You can find these in the St. John's Lutheran Church Custom Library under "Pastor Steven's Picks" when you login to your RightNow Media account.

1. **Grieving with Purpose: A Journey Through Loss** - Summers Smeaton

Grieving with Purpose: A Journey Through Loss invites viewers into a deeply honest and hope-filled exploration of faith in the midst of grief. Inspired by a true story, this series follows a mother's journey after losing her son, Shiloh, to suicide, sharing how God met her in seasons of sorrow, anger, and unanswered questions. Through her testimony, scripture, and reflective teaching, viewers are gently guided to acknowledge loss without rushing past it and to discover how God's presence remains near, even in the darkest moments. This series offers compassion, biblical grounding, and the reminder that while grief changes us, God can bring healing, purpose, and hope from the ashes.

2. **Easter** – J.D. Greear

The resurrection is the most important moment in history, but it is more than an event we remember on Easter Sunday. Join pastor J.D. Greear as he takes a deeper look at Jesus's life, death, and resurrection in the Gospel of Matthew, revealing the ways we should see ourselves in Jesus's story. Jesus died for us so that he could be alive in us today. Easter changes everything.

3. **The Book of Revelation** – Tony Evans

Visions of the end of the world populate our movie screens and news headlines, causing us anxiety and fear. But, for Christians, the end times are not something to be afraid of. In the book of Revelation, God has provided a preview of what's to come so that we might confidently trust God with our future. In this ten-session series, Dr. Tony Evans will walk through the book of Revelation verse by verse, uncovering God's final plan for human history and our eternal destiny. This is more than a strange book of symbols—it is a call to worship God and live faithfully in the present.

I hope that you will take advantage of these videos and the over 25,000 other videos on all kinds of spiritual topics. They can really help you grow in your faith! – Pastor Broers

Get Access

Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.





FROM THE
CHURCH
OFFICE

Contact us: 712-546-8855 or
stjohns@stjohnslemarsia.org

If you would like to supply
ALTAR FLOWERS
in honor of an occasion or in memory of someone, please call the office to make arrangements. 546-8855



Record Keeping

CHURCH RECORDS FOR MARCH

Baptism: Ilo Jean Erdmann

Service Times for Spring

8:00 am Traditional
9:15 am Study Hour
10:30 am Contemporary
Weds @ 6 pm Contemporary

All services are now Live Streaming to Facebook and YouTube.



Remember These People in Prayer:

Dave Brennan, Tim Lohafer, Jae'cion, Nancy H., Bellamy, Hanna Francksen-Small, Hallie Bunkers, Grace Galles, Brielle Schorg, Nash, Diane K., Denise, Angie, Nancy & Bob P., Bryan Utesch, Dorothy Luschen; **Ongoing Prayers:** Mason Sitzmann, Missy Rarrat, Alex Hines, Taelynn Ortmann, Kendra, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Shirley, Jen, Kathy, and Diane Riediger; **Deployed:** Kylee Britt, Brent Jarvis, Nathan Jester; **Care Facility Residents:** Good Samaritan - Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Ashe; Accura Health - Patty Lubben; Stonebridge Suites - Joanne Klohs, Lynne Bogh, Roger Athens, Dorothy Luschen; Floyd Senior Living - Diane Utesch; Heartland Care Center - Le Ann Hurlbut; Happy Siesta - Eleanor Westhoff, Wade & Betty Thompson

Sympathies to the family of Michael Brennan, who passed away on February 28th. St. John's family include Randy and Evelyn Stream and Dave Brennan family.

Sympathies to the family of Bob Scheitler, who passed away March 22nd. St. John's family includes Jean Heeren.

Prayers of Thanksgiving for the safe return of those recently deployed including: Blake Erdmann, Jaime Koopmans, Mitch Lang, Dale Crabtree, and Jacob Jester. Please continue to uphold in prayer those still serving overseas and their families.



COFFEE IS ON!!! The coffee bar will be ready at 9 am Sunday mornings this fall! Come early or stay after. Grab a cup of coffee and a Lally's donut hole, or two! Free will donations are appreciated. Enjoy!!



Easter Breakfast

Sunday April 5th 7 – 10:30 am

Egg Bake, Pancakes & Fruit,

Milk, Juice & Coffee

Freewill Donations

Thrivent Match Up to \$500.

The freewill offering will go to support the Youth Mission Trip to Chicago this summer. We hope you will plan to join us! Happy Easter!!

2026 Chicago Youth Mission Trip Fundraiser

Flowers in a 10 inch hanging pot for \$25 per pot

Petunia(Mixed colors) Geraniums(Red) Geraniums(Pink)



ORDERS DUE BY APRIL 1ST

Here is another opportunity to support the Youth Mission Trip to Chicago this summer. A Sign up form can be found in the lobby or see one of the youth attending the trip. Thank you for your support!



SAVE THE DATE - APRIL 12TH @ 1 PM St. John's is planning a clean up day for our adopted stretch of Hwy 3, on April 12th at 1 pm. Bring gloves and wear closed toe shoes.

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

**Please turn in your newsletter articles by
April 20.**

**ELEVATOR
CLOSED**

ELEVATOR REPAIR NOTICE

St. John's elevator is on the schedule for repairs this coming April. The date we have been given for work to begin is April 20th, however they may possibly be starting after Easter. We are told, the work will take 2 - 3 weeks. Please keep this in mind, as the elevator will be out of commission during this time. We ask for your cooperation and patience as we make the necessary updates to the elevator. Thank you.



GUIDING STAR

bodies as God intended, foster open communication between parents and children, and learn about puberty and fertility with confidence! To register, email info@guidingstarsiouxland.org or call 712-266-3282.

Guiding Star Siouxland is hosting our Introduction to Womanhood Class on April 27 at 7pm in Orange City! Premenstrual girls aged 9-13 and their mothers or trusted female guardians are welcome to join for this fun and interactive 90 minute workshop where they will learn to cultivate a healthy respect for

Save the date! The Sioux County Oratorio Chorus, under the leadership of Dr. Thomas Holm, will perform Handel's *Messiah* on Saturday, April 25 at 7:30 pm in Christ Chapel at Northwestern College. Using familiar scriptural texts spanning the Old and New Testaments and beautiful word painting, this well-loved oratorio tells the story of Christ's birth, passion, death, resurrection, and glorification in heaven. The chorus will be joined by the Northwestern A Cappella Choir, chamber orchestra, and soloists: soprano Suna Gunther, alto Michelle Monroe, tenor Mackenzie Whitney, and bass Mitchell Widmer. Make plans today to attend! Tickets for adults are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets are available through Northwestern College's Music Department and Windmill Park Jewelers in Orange City, the Dordt University Music Department in Sioux Center, or from any SCOC member.



GROW April Schedule

Apr. 1 - NO GROW - Holy Week

Apr. 8 -

- Lesson 12 NT - Jesus Feeds 5,000
- Scripture - John 6:1-14
- PreK-K Teacher - Micah Broers
- PreK-K Helper - Kaden Royalty, Becca Peyton
- 1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
- 1-2 Helper - Dawn Otto
- 3 Teacher - Anne Jeneary
- 3 Helper - Sophie Pauling
- 4-5 Teacher - Kent Westphal
- 4-5 Helper - Donna Duque
- Greeters - Sonya Hanisch, Kate Braband
- Extra Help - Nicole Jarvis

Apr. 15 -

- Lesson 13 NT - The Transfiguration
- Scripture - Matt. 17:1-13; Mark 9:2-9; Luke 9:28-36
- PreK-K Teacher - Bette Miller
- PreK-K Helper - Brenda Haverhals, Kaden Royalty
- 1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
- 1-2 Helper - Becca Peyton
- 3 Teacher - Nicole Jarvis
- 3 Helper - Donna Duque
- 4-5 Teacher - Sandy LaBahn
- 4-5 Helper - Simon Kern
- Greeters - Kate Braband, Rhonda Justice

Apr. 22 -

- Lesson 14 NT - Lazarus
- Scripture - John 11:1-45
- PreK-K Teacher - Micah Broers
- PreK-K Helper - Pam Roling, Kaden Royalty
- 1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
- 1-2 Helper - Becca Peyton
- 3 Teacher - Kristy Broers
- 3 Helper - Donna Duque
- 4-5 Teacher - Sandy LaBahn
- 4-5 Helper - Cindy Kamies
- Greeters - Sonya Hanisch, Rhonda Justice

Apr. 29 -

- Lesson 15 NT - Jesus the Vine
- Scripture - John 15:1-5, 7-17
- PreK-K Teacher - Bette Miller
- PreK-K Helper - Brenda Haverhals, Kaden Royalty
- 1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
- 1-2 Helper - Becca Peyton
- 3 Teacher - Anne Jeneary
- 3 Helper - Sophie Pauling
- 4-5 Teacher - Kent Westphal
- 4-5 Helper - Simon Kern
- Greeters - Kate Braband, Rhonda Justice
- Extra Help - Nicole Jarvis

May 6 - **LAST GROW**

- Lesson 16 NT - The Ascension
- Scripture - Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:6-14
- PreK-K Teacher - Micah Broers
- PreK-K Helper - Kaden Royalty, Becca Peyton
- 1-2 Teacher - Melissa Utesch
- 1-2 Helper - Dawn Otto
- 3 Teacher - Anne Jeneary
- 3 Helper - Nicole Jarvis
- 4-5 Teacher - Sandy LaBahn
- 4-5 Helper - Sophie Pauling
- Greeters - Sonya Hanisch, Kate Braband



APRIL GROW MEALS

Join us for Wednesday Night Meals
serving 5:00—5:45 pm

April 8

Hot Dogs

April 15

Ham & Cheese Sandwiches

April 22

Mac & Cheese

April 29

Taverns



April 12th – 3:30 - 9 pm
Outreach Event at Okoboji
 (Church vs Church Dodge Ball)
 An Outreach Night is an opportunity for those in High School to join with other youth of all denominations around the area to fellowship, grow in faith, and have fun together! Outreach Night provides a chance for great

ecumenical fellowship for kids and adults. It is also a great opportunity to introduce kids to camp, who might later come to a weekend recharge or summer youth camp. An evening of Outreach Night includes dinner, worship, a message, and of course games! Everyone is welcome. No charge to attend. Students must tell Pastor Broers if they plan to attend by Wednesday March 11 so that arrangements can be made for enough drivers. Parent drivers are needed.

Middle Schoolers be sure to join us in the Youth Room on April 8th for supper & games before church and catechism. 5 - 5:50 pm



THIS COULD BE YOU!!!!

INGHAM OKOBOJI
CAMP COUNSELORS
NEEDED:

College Students...Please consider becoming a Camp Counselor at Ingham Okoboji this summer. St. John's Endowment Team is offering a **\$1000.00 stipend** to help supplement your summer income. Talk to Pastor Broers or Kim in the office to find out more details. Ingham Okoboji is accepting applications now.



April 2: Maundy Thursday Service at 7 pm

April 3: Tenebrae Service at 7 pm

April 5:

Sunrise Service w/Communion (Traditional) at 6:00 am

Easter Breakfast Serving at 7-10:30 am

Easter Service w/Communion (Traditional) at 8:00 am

Easter Service w/Communion (Contemporary) at 10:30 am

April 6: Building Closed



A lot can happen in
seven days.

SAVE THE DATES
CONFIRMATION



Wednesday, April 22nd @ 6:30 pm Faith Statements and Prayer Partner Reveal/Ice Cream Social - Each student has been preparing a faith statement to be presented in front of their small group, parents, guides and prayer partner. Romans 10:9 says, "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." We want to give our young people an opportunity to share their faith in this way to strengthen their trust in God. Families are encouraged to attend this evening to hear their student speak. A time of refreshments and visiting with Prayer Partners will follow in the fellowship hall.

Sunday, April 26th @ 2 pm Confirmation Service - St. John's will be holding the Rite of Confirmation for 23 students that have completed their 3 year Confirmation program. The congregation and Prayer Partners are invited to attend this services.

>>> April 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
		
<i>Easter Sunday</i> 5 6 & 8 am Easter Worship w/Comm-Traditional 10:30 am Easter Worship w/Comm -Contemporary 7 am-10:30 am Easter Breakfast	6 <i>2nd Easter Building Closed</i>	7 10 am Staff Meeting 2 pm Sugar Fast Study L/L 5:30 pm People of Praise 6 pm Youth Ministry Mtg 7 pm Men's Small Group L/L-Walking Barefoot
12 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 1 pm Adopt-A-Hwy Ditch Cleaning 3:30 pm HS Ingham Okoboji Outreach	13 6 pm Outreach Meeting L/L 7 pm Church Council D/R	14 9 am Do-Day 9:30 – 3 pm Unstuck Group Mtg 2 pm Sugar Fast Study L/L 5:30 pm People of Praise 7 pm Men's Small Group L/L-Walking Barefoot
19 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Elevator Project Begins 1:30 pm Anna Circle-L/L	21 9:30 am Hannah Circle L/L 10 am Staff Meeting 2 pm Sugar Fast Study L/L 5:30 pm People of Praise 7 pm Men's Small Group L/L-Walking Barefoot
NOISY OFFERING 26 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 2 pm Confirmation Service	27	28 10 am Staff Meeting 2 pm Sugar Fast Study L/L 5:30 pm People of Praise

>>> April 2026

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 No Activities	2 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Thursday in the Word Small Group L/L 7 pm Maundy Thursday Service	3 <i>Good Friday</i> 2 pm Hearts of Fire 2 L/L 7 pm Good Friday Service	4 9 am Lily Decorators 10:30 Brass Rehearsal
8 Chapel Services at Care Facilities 9:30 – 11am 5:00 pm Bells/Grow Meal/ MS Fun & Games YR 6:00 pm Worship/Comm 6:30 pm Catechism/GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Group	9 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 4:30 – 7 pm LSI Baby Shower F/H 5:30 pm Thursday in the Word Small Group L/L	10 2 pm Hearts of Fire 2 L/L	11
15 Chapel Services at Care Facilities 9:30 – 10:30am 1:30 pm Dorcas Circle L/L 5:00 pm Bells/Grow Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Final Catechism/ GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Group	16 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Thursday in the Word Small Group L/L	17 2 pm Hearts of Fire 2 L/L	18
22 2 pm Elderberries 5:00 pm Bells/Grow Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmands Faith Stnt/PP Reveal/GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Group	23 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Thursday in the Word Small Group L/L	24 2 pm Hearts of Fire 2 L/L	25
29 5:00 pm Bells/Grow Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm GROW 6:45 pm SJ Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Group	30 Flower Fundraiser Delivery 9 – 10 am Prayer Time in Sanctuary 5:30 pm Thursday in the Word Small Group L/L		



Study Hour for ages Pre-K through Adults happens every Sunday, from 9:15 am - 10:15 am.

ENDOWMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE! St. John's Endowment Team will be accepting Grant Applications until April 15th. Students attending higher education, service groups, church groups, special needs throughout the community, are invited to fill out an application. Please use the form found on this page, pick up a form on the bulletin board, or go online to St. John's website. click on "Publications," then click on the button, "Endowment Grant Application."

St. John's Lutheran Church Endowment Grant Request Form

Today's Date: _____ **Application Deadline April 15, 2026**

Name/Group Making Request: _____

Project Title/Scholarship (Lutheran College Name) _____

Contact Phone/Email: _____

Amount Requested: _____

Expected benefit of this request: _____

Date Grant Money is Needed: _____

--- For Endowment Committee Use Only---

Category Request:

Request # _____

Date Acted Upon: _____

Motion By: _____

Second By: _____

Vote: Approve _____; Deny _____

Request Amount: _____; Amount Granted: _____

Chair's Signature: _____

WOMEN'S CIRCLES



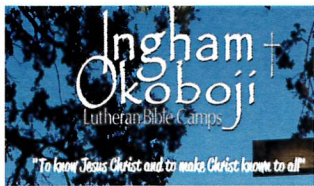
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
1:30 PM Dorcas Circle, Library
MONDAY, APRIL 20
1:30 PM Anna Circle, Library
TUESDAY, APRIL 21
9:30 AM Hannah Circle, Library

All women are welcome to join St. John's Women Circles. Circle meetings are held the 3rd Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday of each month.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14TH DO-DAY 9 AM

Join us from **9 am-3 pm** as we put together quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief and Global Health. If you can iron, sew, tie a knot, or use a scissors, we want you to join us! Please call the church office if you would like more information or pick up a booklet from the information table in the entryway or lobby to learn more about this women's ministry!

Please save your gently used Bibles and canceled postage stamps for Do-Day. These items can be placed in the designated baskets which are



Don't forget to register for **Summer Camp!** St. John's will be covering half of the cost of camp for each St. John's Camper. Don't forget to claim the "member church" discount of \$10. Notify the church office of registration and dates of camp. After your student has attended, St. John's will reimburse you for up to half of the cost of the camp. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more details. Don't delay!!! St. John's wants all children to have this special opportunity to experience camp, and we don't want cost to be the factor that keeps your child from going to camp. Please call Pastor Broers or the church office to speak confidentially about receiving a "Full Campership" for your child. 712-546-8855

Thank you to those serving St. John's this month:

Worship Assistants

**Sunday, April 12:
8:00 AM**

Greeter: Dean Bohlken
Lector: Roma Lancaster
Communion Server: Dianne Baack
Rod LaBahn and Sandy LaBahn

10:30 AM
Greeter: Harold & Tammy Lee
Lector: Tammy Lee
Communion Server: Harold Lee
Tammy Lee and Kyleigh Bohlken

**Sunday, April 19:
8:00 AM**

Greeter: Jay & Vicki Dunn
Lector: Rose Heeren
Communion Server: Ellen Russell
Iris Hemmingson and Joel Johnson

10:30 AM
Greeter: Tony & Cheryl Peyton
Lector: Nicole Jarvis
Communion Server: Denise Anthony
Eliese Hoffman and Journey Keleher

**Sunday, April 26:
8:00 AM**

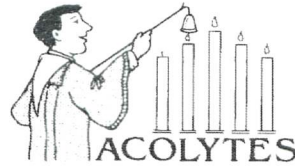
Greeter: Mike & Brenda Haverhals
Lector: Roma Lancaster
Communion Server: Brenda Haverhals
Roma Lancaster and Pam Roling

10:30 AM
Greeter: Brad & Kaylyn Pick Family
Lector: Hope Majeres
Communion Server: Hope Majeres
Dan Albert and Julie Albert

Bible Quiz

According to Matthew's account, something remarkable happened to the earth on the day Jesus was crucified and again on the morning when Mary Magdalene and the other Mary visited the tomb. What occurred on both days?

- A. There was a flood on both days.
- B. There was an earthquake on both days.
- C. There was a huge fire on each day.
- D. There was complete darkness on both days.



Acolyte Schedule

**Sunday, April 12:
8:00 AM**

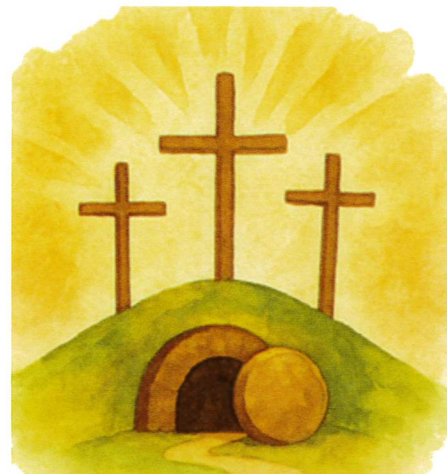
Crucifer: Kemper Davis
Acolytes: Norah Kellen and Mia Petsch
10:30 AM
Acolytes: Keyanna Miller and Ethan Rachuy

**Sunday, April 19:
8:00 AM**

Crucifer: Tim Larson
Acolytes: Audrina Schoenrock
Gavin Rolling
10:30 AM
Acolytes: Autumn Jelken and Aubrey Jelken

**Sunday, April 26:
8:00 AM**

Crucifer: Cameron Pauling
Acolytes: Kylee Den Ouden and Kasen Niehus
10:30 AM
Acolytes: Chesney Keleher and Journey Keleher



Answer: (Matthew 27:51;
Matthew 28:2)

Sound Board Schedule

Holy week services:

Maundy Thursday
7:00 Brenda Haverhals - slides/video/
sound

Good Friday
7:00 Becky DeRuyter - slides/video/
sound

April 5 (Easter):
6:00 Becky DeRuyter - slides
8:00 Megan Brennan - slides
Tim Larson - video/sound

10:30 Becky DeRuyter - slides
Micah Broers - video/sound

April 12:
8:00 Brenda Haverhals - slides
Micah Broers - video/sound

10:30 Megan Jeneary - slides
Jacob Jeneary - video/sound

April 19:
8:00 Keith Westhoff - slides
Carter Westphal - video/sound
(assistance from Keith if needed)

10:30 Sophia Brennan - slides
Micah Broers - video/sound

April 26:
8:00 Brenda Haverhals - slides
Tim Larson - video/sound

10:30 Keith Westhoff - slides
Micah Broers - video/sound

All Wednesdays at 6:00
Todd Zinnel



ELDERBERRIES

Join St. John's fellow seniors 55+ for an
afternoon of fun and fellowship.
April 22nd at 2 pm in the
Fellowship Hall.



Thursday April 2
Rod and Sandy LaBahn
Janice and Dick Milne

April 5 Easter Sunday
6AM Sandy LaBahn
8AM Lynn Breuer & Donna Duque
Please refill candles !!!
10:30 Janet Kolker & Sandy LaBahn

April 8 6PM
Sandy and Rod LaBahn

April 12
8AM Lynn Breuer & Donna Duque
10:30 Kay Powell & E. Brennan

April 19
8AM Jany Schroeder & Janice Milne
10:30 Jany Schroeder & E. Brennan

April 26
8AM Rose Heeren & Janice Milne
10:30 Kay Powell & Janet Kolker

Coffee Bar Schedule

April 12 Sheri Oetken
April 19 Jane Westphal
April 26 Pat Penning



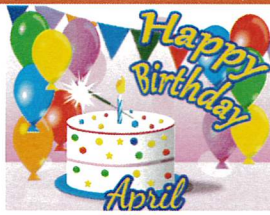
April Usher Schedule

8:00 AM Denny Plugger, Capt.,
Milo Duque Co-Capt., Steve Utesch,
Ron Schulz, Tony Larson,
Neal Oetken

10:30 AM Adam Schmidt, Capt.,
Simon Kern, Dan Albert,
Doug & Karen Carlson

BLESSINGS TO:

- 04/01: Eleanor Westhoff, Heather Stinton,
Emma Michael
- 04/02: Betty Williams, Brady Detloff, Brady Westhoff,
Kelsey Carpenter
- 04/03: Lori Neyens, Ronald Sitzmann, Ben Erdmann
- 04/04: Perry Reinking, Melissa Utesch
- 04/05: Alisha Jelken, Ashley Majeres, Valerie Winecoff
- 04/07: Ashley Neyens, Denise Anthony, Kaitlynn Meier, Bryce Tingwald
- 04/08: Tyler Candor, Zachary Schuett
- 04/09: Joyce Brownmiller
- 04/10: Kyndal Davis, Tracy Anderson, Parker Westphal, Brayden Rowe Nunez
- 04/11: Haley Bogh
- 04/12: Landon Westhoff, Sydney Rand
- 04/13: Bonnie Epling, Caleb Slattery, Lisa Brangwin, Phyllis Hamann
- 04/14: Kylee Den Ouden, Ron Kounkel
- 04/15: Lynne Bogh
- 04/16: Anna Vacura, Connie Kellen, Karla Mott
- 04/17: Tony Chihak, Mariah Husk, Cheryl Rolling
- 04/18: Yashila Permeswaran, Theodore Kern, Joe Strub
- 04/19: Neal Oetken, Lorraine Luksan, Alivia Gengler
- 04/20: Amy Skov, Stacy Hoffman, Bodee Wurth
- 04/21: Jill Kleinhesselink
- 04/22: Danielle Hurt, Lorene Rexwinkel, Nathan Pauling
- 04/23: Leah Volkert, Tristan Hansen, Makenzie Wurth
- 04/24: Cory Niehus, Donald Beck, Isaac Klein, Michael Kowalke, Paul
Schwader
- 04/25: Kevin Durr, Sally Winchester, Marti Meissner
- 04/26: Jaxon Hoffman, Tate Westhoff
- 04/27: Amy Davis, LeighAnne Bohlken, Bill Schilmoeller
- 04/28: Adam Schmidt, Autumn Jelken
- 04/29: Zachary Dimmick, Ronald Schultz
- 04/30: Dan Albert, Megan Hansen, Rebecca Peyton



CONGRATULATIONS!!!



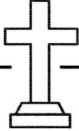

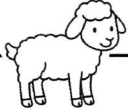
St. John's members, Megan Brennan and Ian DeRuyter, have been selected as the Iowa Governor's Scholars for the LCHS Class of 2026. As the top two academic performers in their class, they will receive their awards from Governor Reynolds at a ceremony in Des Moines on April 26th.


























FIX YOUR EYES ON JESUS

Remembering Jesus' life, death and resurrection
helps us live with gratitude every day.

Use the picture and number code to fill in the blanks for Hebrews 12:2-3, NIV

		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus 2. weary 3. endured 4. opposition 5. cross 6. endured 7. scorning 8. shame 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jesus 2. lose 3. pioneer 4. sinners 5. perfecter 6. him 7. faith 8. hand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. eyes 2. us 3. joy 4. heart 5. right 6. grow 7. God 8. throne

"... fixing our  1 on  1, the  3 and  5 of  7. For the  3 set before  6 he  3 the  5,  7 its  8, and sat down at the  5  8 of the  8 of  7. Consider  6 who  6 such  4 from  4, so that you will not  6  2 and  2  4."

Hebrews 12:2-3 NIV

Answer: "... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."



PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Shampoo/Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
- Deodorant/Lotions
- Hairbrushes and combs
- Towels/washcloths
- New women's underwear
- Women's pajamas/robes
- New women's sweatpants
- Writing journals
- Women's hygiene products

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- Pots/pans
- Paper products
- Coffee and filters
- Canned foods, Pastas
- Laundry soap
- Zip Lock bags/Garbage bags
- Clorox wipes/Bleach
- Dish soap/cleaning supplies
- Luggage
- Dishes/silverware
- Sheets/blankets
- Disposable razors

These are just a few of the ways you can help. For more information go to the website: www.safeplacesiouxland.org

Dear Pastors and Congregational Leaders,
 Thank you for your faithful leadership and participation in the ratification process for the proposed constitutional amendments approved at the Mission Convocation in Pittsburgh last August. As of February 13, 2026, a total of 335 congregations (62%) submitted votes. 50% of NALC congregations (543 as of August 8, 2025) that were members at the time of the Mission Convocation must vote in order for the amendments to be ratified. We are grateful for the time, care, and prayerful discernment your congregations gave to this important work of our church body. Based on the votes received, all 3 Amendments were passed. Thank you again for your partnership, your leadership, and your commitment to the life and future of the North American Lutheran Church. It is a privilege to walk together in this shared work, trusting the Lord's guidance as we move forward. With gratitude,


Pastor Amy Little, General Secretary, NALC



Check out the Bible Camp website: okoboji.org
 There are a lot of fun events happening! For all ages coming up.

Spring Crafting Retreat Apr. 17-19 See the bulletin board for more information about this fun weekend, or go to the website.

Travel Camp to Mackinac Island Oct. 4-10 This would be a great opportunity to travel with some great people to a great location!



MAKE A "JOYFUL NOISE!"

Noisy Offerings will be collected on **April 26th** for "Ministry Money for Mission Trip Chicago 2026." **These funds will help offset costs of mission projects the youth will be helping with in Chicago next Summer.** Remember to mark on your calendars the last Sunday of the month, Noisy Offering Sunday!! Thanks in advance from your Outreach Team!

ST. JOHN'S MINISTRY PARTNERS

St. John's is supporting the following agencies with Benevolence funds in 2026:

- Lutheran Services in Iowa LSIowa.org
- Lutheran World Relief LWR.org
- Ingham Lake Bible Camp www.okoboji.org/ingham
- Global Health Ministries www.ghm.org

We encourage you to go to each of these agencies websites to read more about the good work they do.



If you wish to stay informed on what is happening in the NALC, you can go to: www.thenalc.org/newsletter and subscribe. You will receive informative newsletters by email. Sign up today to receive the "NALC News." You can also go to www.thenalc.org for the main church website.

To stay up to date on what is happening in the LCMC, go to this link to sign up for their e/newsletter. <https://mailchi.mp/ed05627605ee/lcmc> You can also go to www.lcmc.net for the main church website. Printed materials may also be found on the information tables in the lobby and north entryway.



SHARE THE WORD OF GOD BY SPONSORING FORTRESS OF FAITH, a half hour recording of the church service broadcast on 1410 KLEM/AM on Sundays at 1 pm. Your name and reason for sponsoring will be included in the broadcast. The cost to sponsor this is \$25. **SPONSORS ARE NEEDED!**



SPONSOR A RADIO MESSAGE, which airs on Fridays on KLEM, advertising our service information for the upcoming weekend, and costs \$10. **CALL THE CHURCH TO SPONSOR!** You can sponsor either (or both!) of these in memory or in honor of a loved one, in honor of an anniversary or birthday, or you can sponsor anonymously as a friend of St. John's. 712-546-8855 **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**



Watch St. John's worship services on **CABLE CHANNEL 12** on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm, or on the St. John's website, www.stjohnslemarsia.org listed under Video Sermons on the left side of the home page.

A Little Free Pantry always needs donations. No one needs to know, shop for non-perishable items (quick snacks are best) and drop them off at the Pantry. Please keep in mind as the weather warms up, avoid items that may melt or glass that may break. Thanks!

Rejoice! Food Bank Distribution is the 2nd Tuesday of each month from 4-5 pm. If you are in need, please call 548-4430 or email rejoice@hotmail.com.

Sunnybrook Hope Center Food Pantry Distribution is the 3rd Monday each month from 6 - 8 pm by appt. Located West of Le Mars Fareway. Make a reservation through the QR Code or go to www.sunnybrookchurch.churchcenter.com/people/forms/399133



If you have a child between the ages of 3 & 4 years old you may qualify for the **FREE Head Start or Child Development Program** through Mid-Sioux Opportunity. For more information on this free preschool program contact 800-859-2025.

Mid-Sioux Opportunity, Early Head Start is currently taking applications for their **FREE family support and resource program**. Early head Start serves expectant families and children up to the age of three. For more information on this free home based program call 800-859-2025.

Staff & Contact Information

Office Hours: 8-5 Tue-Fri

Telephone: (712)546-8855

Web Home Page: www.stjohnslemarsia.org

Email: stjohns@stjohnslemarsia.org

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven Broers broers@stjohnslemarsia.org

Minister of Music: Michael Rathke mrathke@stjohnslemarsia.org

Office Manager: Kim Lang kim@stjohnslemarsia.org

Part-time Office Assistant: Connie Kellen assistant@stjohnslemarsia.org

Facilities Manager: Todd Oetken custdn@stjohnslemarsia.org

Sunday School Supt.:
Beth Larson elizabethgraf@hotmail.com

Church Council

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Becky DeRuyter - President | Adam Schmidt - V. President |
| Pam Roling - Secretary, Missions | Bill Young-Treasurer |
| Tammy Lee - Spiritual Growth | Dick Milne - Property |
| Joey Posivio - Property | Doug Carlsen - Endowment |
| Cindy Kamies - Outreach | Milo Duque - Spiritual Growth |
| Lisa Erdmann - Inreach | Katie Gerloff - Youth Ministry |
| Hope Majeres - Worship | |
| For contact info call 546-8855 or email stjohns@stjohnslemarsia.org | |

Have you ever been interested in reading the Bible in a Year? You can find a reading schedule on the information table in the lobby to assist you in studying God's word in 2026. Pick up your copy soon and get started!!!

