



St. John's Lutheran Church
Welcoming Everyone
Making Disciples
Trusting Jesus
Empowering Leaders

WELCOME Tim & Terry Matz, Ingham Okoboji Bible Camp Representatives.

NEW MEMBERS Today we welcome our newest St. John's members: Megan Hansen, Bill & Angie Schilmoeller, Troy & Victoria Caswell, and Brett Bennett. Be sure to introduce yourself and say welcome!

CAMPERSHIPS Check the table in the lobby for details on how to get your child signed up for camp and receive a campership from St. John's. Early bird deadline is March 1st.

FORTRESS OF FAITH and **RADIO ADS** are in memory of Tammy Popken by Roma Lancaster.

RADIO AD AND FORTRESS OF FAITH sponsors are needed for this year. Please contact Kim if you would like to honor/memorialize someone. Radio Ads are \$10 a week and Fortress of Faith spots are \$25.00. Thank you!

MISSION TRIP CHICAGO 2026 – KWIK STAR CAR

WASH CARDS FUNDRAISER We have extra cards for sale! See Kim in the office if you would like to purchase a couple. \$36 Thanks for your support of the Mission Trip 2026!

HIGH SCHOOL OKOBOJI OUTREACH NIGHT High School youth will be leaving St. John's at 3:30 pm today to travel to Okoboji for a fun night of "Hoonting." We will return by 9 pm.

GROW MEAL will be hot dogs on Wednesday, February 18th.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE St. John's will be holding an Ash Wednesday service on February 18th at 6 pm. There will be Imposition of Ashes for those who desire.

MAUNDY THURSDAY DRAMA - READERS WANTED

On Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 7pm worship, St. John's will be presenting a Last Supper drama called "The Living Last Supper" by Ruth Elaine Schram. Each of the twelve disciples will sit at the table with Jesus and deliver a short monologue expressing their inner thoughts on that fateful night.

There will be light staging and costumes, but no acting experience is necessary - just being able to read expressively. This would be a great opportunity for adults who enjoy reading for church and students who are involved in speech or drama.

Women are also encouraged to participate. We will need twelve readers, so please sign up in the narthex or let Mike know if you are interested.

LIFEWISE REMINDER!!! When LifeWise is holding classes in the building, we are to limit other activities, especially where they are holding classes. Please plan your schedules accordingly. Check with the office to see times and places in use.

SAFE PLACE SPECIAL COLLECTION Some of the church women are supporting the gathering of items to donate to Safe Place. We have received \$250 from Thrivent to kickstart the project and invite you to donate items from the list on p. 22 in the church newsletter. There is a box labeled Safe Place in the church lobby. Please have items at church by March 18 so we can begin to assist people in our area who are victims of domestic violence. Contact Janet Wiener if you have questions.

NOISY OFFERING Don't forget your loose change next weekend, February 22nd. All donations will help fund the 2026 Chicago Youth Trip mission projects.

Remember These People in Prayer: Alaina, Tim Lohafer, Jae'cion, Nancy H., Bellamy, Hanna Francksen-Small, Hallie Bunkers, Grace Galles, Brielle Schorg, Nash, Diane K., Phyllis Hamann, Denise, and Angie; **Ongoing Prayers:** Mason Sitzmann, Missy Rarrat, Alex Hines, Taelynn Ortmann, Kendra, Norm Nielsen, Sherry Jo Wittkop, Shirley, Kathryn, Jen, and Kathy; **Deployed:** Jaime Koopman, Kylie Britt, Brent Jarvis, Mitch Lang, Dale Crabtree; **Care Facility Residents:** Good Samaritan - Russ Martfeld, Lorraine Luksan, Dennis Asche; 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; Prime Living - Wade & Betty Thompson; Vintage Hills of Indianola - Jane Schultz; Happy Siesta - Eleanor Westhoff

February 15th, 2026 Transfiguration of Our Lord

St. John's Office Hours: 8-5 Tues.-Fri. Building Hours: 8-5 Mon.-Fri.

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St. John's Lutheran Church of Le Mars, IA.

Senior Pastor: Steven Broers

Minister of Music: Mike Rathke

Office Manager: Kim Lang

Part-time Office Assistant: Connie Kellen

Facilities Manager: Todd Oetken

Sunday School Superintendent: Beth Larson

YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN ONE OF THESE SMALL GROUPS:

MEN'S SMALL GROUP STUDY Tuesday's at 7 pm. L/L

THURSDAY'S IN THE WORD Thursday's at 5:30 pm. L/L

HEARTS OF FIRE 2 study group will be meeting weekly on Fridays at 2 pm. L/L

NEW SMALL GROUP: MESSENGERS OF THE GOSPEL

Pastor Broers will be leading a five week small group focused on learning how to share your faith with others. We will watch a twenty minute video each week and discuss how to become disciples who make new disciples. Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30pm at St. John's starting February 24th.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS for 2025 should be directed by March 31st. Please consider choosing St. John's as a recipient of your Thrivent Choice Dollars. This is a gift that helps our ministries throughout the year. Thank you.

ELDERBERRIES will be meeting on Wednesday, February 25th, in the fellowship hall, at 2 pm. If you are 55+, come join us for an afternoon of fellowship. It's game day, so be sure to bring a favorite game to play.

CAMP COUNSELOR STIPENDS St. John's will again be offering a \$1000.00 stipend for St. John's members working at Ingham Okoboji Bible Camp this summer. Talk to Pastor or Kim to find out more about this great opportunity.

ENDOWMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS for 2026 are available on the bulletin board. Students attending higher education, service groups, church groups, or if you know of a special need in the community, fill out an application.

Applications are due April 15th.

REMSEN ST. MARY'S FISH SUPPER Friday, February 20th at St. Mary's HS Cafeteria in Remsen. 4:30 - 6:45 pm

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT MARRIAGE RETREAT

Friday, March 6th and Saturday, March 7th at The Headline Event Space in Le Mars. See the bulletin board for more details.

Thank you to our worship assistants!

8:00 AM

Greeter Gabe Davis Family

Lector Elvira Nielsen

Comm Serv Steve Breuer

Crucifer Lynn Breuer

Acolytes Ellen Russell

ProPresenter Saylix Farmer

Video/Sound Autumn Jelken

Altar Guild Brenda Haverhals

Coffee Bar Keith Westhoff

Ushers Sandy LaBahn

Ushers Rod LaBahn

Ushers Chris Knapp

Ushers Rod LaBahn, Joel

Ushers Johnson, Henry Herrig,

Ushers Mark Kehrberg, Lowell

Ushers Penning

10:30 AM

Greeter Steve/Rhonda Justice

Lector Lauren Forbes

Comm Serv Mary Roder

Crucifer Emma Ryan

Acolytes Krista Plueger

ProPresenter Chesney Keleher

Video/Sound Journey Keleher

Altar Guild Becky DeRuyter

Coffee Bar Micah Broers

Ushers Janet Lohafer

Ushers Cindy Kamies

Ushers Gary Borchers, Harold

Ushers Lee, Jeff Jelken, Levi

Ushers TeBrink

| Sun Feb 15 | Mon Feb 16 | Tues Feb 17 | Wed Feb 18 | Thurs Feb 19 | Fri Feb 20 | Sat Feb 21 | Sun Feb 22 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/ Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 3:30 - 9 pm HS Okoboji Outreach Night | LifeWise 1:30 pm Anna Circle L/L 6 pm Youth Ministry Meeting L/L | LifeWise 9:30 am Hannah Circle L/L 10 am Staff Meeting 1 pm 40 Day Sugar Fast L/L 5:30 pm P.O.P. 7 pm Men's Small Group Y/R | LifeWise Care Facility Services 1:30 pm Dorcas Circle L/L 5 pm Bells/Grow Meal 6 pm Ash Weds. Service 6:30 pm Catechism/ Grow 6:45 pm Sr. Choir 8:15 pm HS Youth Grp | Newsletter Deadline 9 am Prayer Time 5:30 pm Thursday in the Word Small Group L/L | 2 pm Hearts of Fire 2 L/L | | Noisy Offering 8 & 10:30 am Worship w/Comm 9:15 am Study Hour 4 pm HS Movie Night at the Broers |

February 15th, 2026
Transfiguration of Our Lord



First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 ¹The hand of the Lord was on me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the Lord and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. ³He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Sovereign Lord, you alone know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the Lord! ⁵This is what the Sovereign Lord says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. ⁶I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.'" ⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet - a vast army. ¹¹Then he said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' ¹²Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³Then you, my people, will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. ¹⁴I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the Lord have spoken, and I have done it, declares the Lord.'"

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please join in a responsive reading of Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.
¹⁰⁶ **I have taken an oath and confirmed it, that I will follow your righteous laws.**

¹⁰⁷ I have suffered much; preserve my life, Lord, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸ **Accept, Lord, the willing praise of my mouth, and teach me your laws.**

¹⁰⁹ Though I constantly take my life in my hands, I will not forget your law.

¹¹⁰ **The wicked have set a snare for me, but I have not strayed from your precepts.**

¹¹¹ Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

¹¹² **My heart is set on keeping your decrees to the very end.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:1-6 ¹As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ²Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one

Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Please rise for the reading of the holy Gospel.

The holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 4th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 4:1-9, 13-20 ¹Again Jesus began to teach by the lake. The crowd that gathered around him was so large that he got into a boat and sat in it out on the lake, while all the people were along the shore at the water's edge. ²He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said: ³"Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants, so that they did not bear grain. ⁸Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up, grew and produced a crop, some multiplying thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times." ⁹Then Jesus said, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear." ¹³Then Jesus said to them, "Don't you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? ¹⁴The farmer sows the word. ¹⁵Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. ¹⁶Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. ¹⁷But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. ¹⁸Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; ¹⁹but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. ²⁰Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop - some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."

The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.