

ST. JOHN'S JOURNAL

FEBRUARY 2012

Our Monthly Newsletter

www.stjohnpekin.com

(309) 347-2136

pastormiller@centrytel.net

pastornie-

*"Hear me, Levites! Now sanctify yourselves, sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and **carry out the rubbish from the holy place.**" For our fathers have trespassed and done evil in the eyes of the LORD our God; they have forsaken Him, have turned their faces away from the dwelling place of the LORD, and turned their backs on Him.*

(2 Chronicles 29:5-6)

By the time Hezekiah was king of Judah, God's people had made His Temple into something akin to a trash dump. Not many people worshiped there. The priests didn't offer the sacrifices like they were supposed to. There were even false worship services for false gods going on at the Temple! Hezekiah, as the king of Judah, called the priests back to their responsibility to be the givers of God's gifts in His House, in His way, where He caused His Holy Name to dwell.

There's always a danger to make worship into something about the "selfish Trinity:" ME, MY-SELF, and I. **Our Old Adam always has a desire to be entertained** – or, at the least, to not be bored. We want preaching and/or music that gets us excited & emotional, rather than that which teaches & confesses The Faith. We sinfully desire sermons that tell stories to cheer & amuse, rather than clearly present & proclaim God's Word - which forgives us. We want things done in a way so that we can show God how excited we are for Him, rather than in His way, which forgives us.

Time to repent! Clear that rubbish out of the Holy Place!

The only worship that saves us is the kind where The LORD is giving us His gifts – His Divine Service. Sure, we offer Him our prayers and praises, as a "sacrifice" of thanksgiving for all that HE has done & continues to do for us. But what takes away our sins is the preaching of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. What saves us is Water & His

Word. What saves us is our sins declared null and void in The Absolution. What saves us is that Christ puts not rubbish, but His treasure - His own body and blood - into us. **True worship is the worship that clings to Christ & His gifts because nothing else matters, nothing else saves us, and nothing else makes us right with God.**

The people of God sinfully, selfishly tired – grew bored - of The LORD and His gifts. Hezekiah called them to repentance. Christ likewise calls you to repentance for your selfishness, and then brings you to His house where He showers you with His good gifts. What else is The House of the LORD for than for Jesus to give His forgiveness, life and salvation for you?

Yours in His Service,

Pastor Niemann

Preserve, O LORD, Thy Zion,
Bought dearly with Thy blood;
Protect what Thou hast chosen
Against the foes' dread brood.
Be Thou her great Defender
When dangers gather 'round;
E'en tho' the earth be crumbling,
Safe will Thy Church be found.

Amen [TLH #264:3]



Christian Education

Sunday School
Perfect Attendance

December 2011

Second Grade
Addison Oswald

Fourth Grade
Paige Oswald



Feb 1

Joseph Hillman
Edward Hodgkins
Vincent Thomason

Feb 02

Nathan Barth
Katie Bollinger
Edward Gaitros
David Justi
Stephen Webb

Feb 03

Lisa Poole

Feb 04

Gayle Gettman
Ryan Hansen

Feb 06

Richard Jarvis

Feb 07

Jamie Hoover

Feb 09

Loretta Newman
R. Michael Thompson

Feb 10

Sandra Morgan
Sarah Moss
Candice Swift
Barbara Theleritis

Feb 11

Katherine King

Feb 12

Viola Deppert

Feb 13

Charles Diemer
Carrie Schmidgall

Feb 14

Steven Depew
Belinda Frankel
Rebecca Stewart
Barbara Thompson

Feb 15

Nola Berger
Ruth Keil
Lori Segó

Feb 16

Jean Matthews
Karen McCammon
Patricia Proehl

Feb 17

George Andrae

Feb 18

Michael Becker
Jeremy Garmon
Emma Hicks
Rosemary Peacock
Barry Pool
Gregory Swibold

Feb 20

Dean Cooper
Marcille Frevert
Shirley Williamson

Feb 21

Kylee Alexander
Stanley Ehmke
Ronald Garber

Feb 22

Susan Waddell

Feb 23

Alison Burris

Feb 24

Vernice Funk
David Segó

Feb 25

Tyler Widby

Feb 26

LeaAnn Becker

Feb 27

John Zuklic

Feb 28

Carl Beale
Sandra Gay
Carl Whitlatch
Sally Widby
Rose Marie Williamson

Feb 29

Carol Becker





Feb 01

John & Allison Gillespie

Feb 02

Gerald & Paula Norman

Feb 07

Donald & Marjorie Schoedel

Feb 14

Thomas & Cheryl Ivey
James & Julie Widby
Barry & Katherine Wright

Feb 20

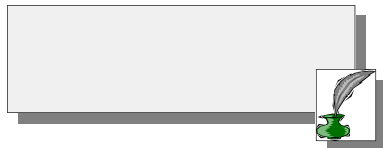
Pastor Glenn & Laura Niemann

Feb 26

Carl & Megan Whitlatch

Feb 27

Elmer & Sally Widby



Church Attendance

	<u>Attend</u>	<u>)(o*</u>
		<u>Services</u>
<u>Dec 2011</u>	129,	1"
<u>Dec 2010</u>	11"!	20
<u>Dec 2009</u>	1!,9	19

Sunday School Attendance

<u>2011</u>	3866
<u>2010</u>	4019
<u>2009</u>	4463

February Videographers

David Woodruff
James Lonergan

February orship Committee

James Lonergan

February Acolytes

<u>Feb 0!</u>	8:00	Abigail Dagit Emily Stewart
	10:30	Nathan Ford
<u>Feb 12</u>	8:00	Garret Kesselmayer Quest Dobbelaire
	10:30	Jolie Andrae
<u>Feb 19</u>	8:00	Robert Whitlach Bayley Driskell
	10:30	Maesyn Theleritis
<u>Feb 22</u>	7:00	Nathan Ford
<u>Feb 2"</u>	8:00	Lauren Bresnahan Rachel Bresnahan
	10:30	Quinn Theleritis
<u>Feb 29</u>	7:00	Quest Dobbelaire

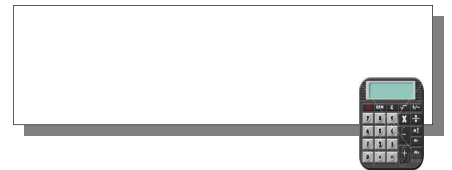


February #shers

8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Gerold Bohannan	Evan Bryan
Zach Ferguson	John Fuelberth
Darrell Hansen	Ross Gould
Nicholas Kesselmayer	Jacob Gould
Steven Kesselmayer	Ray Hall
Terry Norman	Cody Watson
Vincent Tennell	

February Greeters

<u>Feb 0!</u>	8:00	Veva Martin
	10:30	Joel & Jeni Oschwald
<u>Feb 12</u>	8:00	Donna & Darrell Hansen
	10:30	Joel & Jeni Oschwald
<u>Feb 19</u>	8:00	Dave & Nancy Drockelman
<u>Feb 2"</u>	8:00	Wilmadean Habberfield



President Ray Barnes called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Pastor Miller opened with the devotions. The December 2011 Parish Report was presented. Upon motion by Allison Gillespie, seconded by Gregg Swibold, the Parish Report was approved. The minutes for the December 12, 2011 Voter's Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Ron Reising discussed the treasurer's report. Bob Morrison made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Veva Martin, motion carried.

Board of Trustees – Gary Pool thanked David Kessel-mayer and Jeff Theleritis for their faithful and devoted service as Trustees. Gary also welcomed Vince Tennell and Aaron Miller as new Trustees. Officers for 2012 are Vince Tennell, Secretary; Bob Watson, Vice Chairman and Gary Pool will serve as Chairman. Some of the lights over the pews have been replaced so that all the fixtures now have floodlights. Volunteers are welcome to assist the Trustees with disassembling the nativity scene on Saturday, January 14 at 8:00 am. Mr. Mike Holcomb representing Gamers, a youth baseball organization, has signed the rental contract for the Bristow building. Monthly rental payments of \$1,200. will be due on the 15th of each month with an additional one month's rent (\$1,200.) paid up front as a security deposit.

Board of Finance – They will be meeting on January 16, 2012.

Board of Elders – Nothing to report.

Board of Worship – Dan Rees thanked Brian Fuelberth for his devoted service and welcomed Gregg Swibold and Lisa Pool. They will be meeting on January 12, 2012.

Board of Christian Education – Pastor Miller stated they met on January 2, but did not have a quorum. Their next meeting is in February to establish officers.

Board of Stewardship – Allison Gillespie stated that a chairman has not been named. They will be meeting again in April. A total of 28 Time and Talent surveys have been received. The database is finished. Pastor Miller stated that the 2012 envelopes are available in the narthex. Those that have not been picked up by the end of January will be delivered.

Board of Evangelism – Nothing to report.

Long Range Planning – They will be meeting in February and all members are welcome to attend. There is a need for some of the boards to meet for organizational purposes prior to this meeting.

Unfinished Business – A motion was made by Ken Beck to approve Christy and Cody Watson to serve as financial secretaries, seconded by Howie Proehl, motion carried.

A volunteer is needed to serve on the Good Shepherd Lutheran School Board that meets monthly. Bios for potential nominees for District President were distributed. Nominations are due by March 2 and must be formally approved at a voter's meeting. Gary Pool made a motion to nominate Rev. Mark Miller, St. John's Pekin, as our nominee for District President, seconded by Gregg Swibold, motion carried. Pastor Kessel-mayer made a motion to recommend Ross Gould, St. John's Pekin, as our representative for the Tazewell Circuit Forum, seconded by Gary Pool, motion carried. Howie Proehl made a motion to recommend The Rev. Thomas Heren of Our Savior's in Washington to serve as Tazewell Circuit Counselor, seconded by Donna Corso, motion carried.

New Business – Ken Beck stated that he has extra wood and screws if any of the old tables need repaired.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.



Principals Sea the board is be The board's is person with any information school officials.

GSLC Camp basketball team Tournament of feated Trinity Morton on the

Butch's Pizzas Pizzas as the variety of vari due by Februar for order forms support Good per and a tasty

Auction: App the 6th Annual Purchase your be held on St Par-A-Dice Educational menu is delicious meal fabulous items building fund a jects.

SCRIP For e always availabl and other shopp

PTL Meeting: been busy thi v jects. Come vie Thursday, Febru



Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 185

Solomon's Temple

I	R	S	A	N	C	T	U	A	R	Y	P	D	E	I
N	S	C	V	E	S	S	E	L	S	C	I	N	C	H
C	E	L	U	E	S	F	D	H	M	O	L	A	A	E
E	N	R	W	R	L	N	E	O	L	T	L	T	L	Z
N	P	T	U	O	T	W	E	S	A	A	A	S	P	N
S	E	A	W	T	B	A	G	V	P	B	R	P	Y	O
E	E	E	R	R	I	N	I	C	A	E	S	M	L	R
F	R	C	E	T	I	N	H	N	B	R	S	A	O	B
S	I	A	I	R	I	E	R	M	S	N	G	L	H	C
I	D	G	E	F	R	T	A	U	I	A	N	T	D	O
U	N	F	U	U	I	H	I	S	F	C	A	A	R	U
E	F	N	B	R	C	R	A	O	E	L	F	R	O	R
O	R	I	E	E	E	B	C	D	N	E	V	E	K	T
S	M	O	O	R	R	S	A	A	G	O	L	D	E	N
T	A	E	S	Y	C	R	E	M	S	H	C	R	O	P

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| ALTAR | CHAMBERS |
| ARK | CHERUBIM |
| BASINS | CURTAINS |
| BOWLS | FIGURES |
| BRONZE | FLOWERS |
| CEDAR | FURNITURE |
| COURT | HOLYPLACE |
| GOLDEN | INCENSE |
| GRAVEN | LAMPSTAND |
| INNER | MERCYSEAT |
| PALMS | OFFERINGS |
| PILLARS | PARTITION |
| PORCH | SACRIFICES |
| ROOMS | SANCTUARY |
| VESSELS | SHEWBREAD |
| TABERNACLE | |



After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

Prov.27

MORE PUZZLES AT:

-----VED