

# St. John's Journal

*He that descended is the same also that ascended far above all heavens that He might fill all things.*  
~ Ephesians 4:10

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On the fortieth day after His resurrection Christ led His Apostles and many other disciples to Mount Olivet, near Bethany, and spoke to them of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. The account of St. Mark reads, "So, then, after The Lord had spoken unto them, He was received up into heaven ..." [MK 16:19] St. Luke's Gospel account is also brief and simple: "And it came to pass, while He blessed them, He was parted from them and carried into heaven." [LK 24:51] Yet in his book of the Acts of the Apostles, St. Luke adds another bit of information: "And when He had spoken these things, while they [the disciples] beheld, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight." [ACTS 1:9]

Such was the visible part of Jesus' ascension. He did not suddenly disappear, but slowly rose – **ascended** – before the eyes of His astonished apostles – higher and higher, until a cloud enveloped Him, much like at His transfiguration. **A glorious sight, indeed!**

However, the other part – invisible to human eyes – was **far more glorious: He was received into heaven.** He ascended far above all heavens. He ascended to where He had been in the splendor of His deity before He took upon Him our humanity. Thus says The LORD: "The heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool." [ISA 66:1] Just as Christ descended

to the footstool of His Father in His humiliation, so He ascended to the throne of His Father in His exaltation. The same Jesus - who once humbled Himself for us – now entered for us into the glory of His Father.

Yes – **for us!** Just as He said: "I go to prepare a place **for you.**" [JN 14:2] By His holy, precious blood He purchased a place for us in His Father's house of "many mansions;" He won heaven for us, and by His ascension He took possession of heaven for us that we might be with Him in everlasting glory. He says: "Where I am, there shall also My servant be." What comfort! Christ's ascension is a pledge assuring us that all who believe in Jesus shall also reach that same heavenly goal.



THOU HAST RAISED OUR HUMAN NATURE ON THE  
CLOUDS TO GOD'S RIGHT HAND,  
THERE WE SIT IN HEAVENLY PLACES,  
THERE WITH THEE IN GLORY STAND.  
JESUS REIGNS, ADORED BY ANGELS; MAN WITH  
GOD IS ON THE THRONE.  
**MIGHTY LORD, IN THINE ASCENSION**  
**WE BY FAITH BEHOLD OUR OWN.** [TLH #218:5]

**Yours in His Service,**

**Pastor Glenn R. A. Niemann**

*Ascension Day Divine Service with Holy Communion  
is June 2nd, 7 p.m.*

Matthew  
Mark  
Luke  
John

## Christian Education

### Sunday School

#### Perfect Attendance

March 2011

#### Pre-School

Bradley Hoover  
Zachary Webb

#### KINDERGARTEN

Brayden Hoover

#### SECOND GRADE

Emma Norman

#### FOURTH GRADE

Augie Fuelberth

#### FIFTH GRADE

Danielle Watson

#### SEVENTH GRADE

Garret Kesselmayr

#### EIGHTH GRADE

Jacob Kelley  
Dylan Kesselmayr

#### HIGH SCHOOL

Sierra Pool  
Austin Pool

## MAY BIRTHDAYS



#### May 01

Richard Berger  
Lyle Smith  
Thomas Watson

#### May 02

Jayson Memken  
Victoria Ronna

#### May 03

Jaylynn Fahnestock  
Lainey Jensen  
Cory Pfanz  
Julie Wagner

#### May 04

Megan Homan

#### May 05

Sandra Kline

#### May 07

Jordan Ferree  
Leon Tiona

#### May 08

Janelle Hopping  
Tracy Glass

#### May 09

Tyson Norman

#### May 10

JoAnn Aimone  
Breanna Riggins  
Elizabeth Ward  
Emily Ward  
Lori Fricke

#### May 11

Shirley Wendland

#### May 12

Frank Meyer  
Jeremy Winstead

#### May 13

Keith Gleason  
Marilyn Graff  
Diane Lee  
Nancy Swearingen  
Thelma Wagner  
Adeline Weyhrich

#### May 14

Jacob Gould  
Dawn Hoerr  
Ann Wilson  
Pamela Woolsey

#### May 16

Sheryll Hillman  
Katherine Woodruff

#### May 17

Evelyn Hodgkins  
Mary Sipka  
Leann Walsh

#### May 18

Dawn Breaden  
Renee Hayden  
Micaylan McDonald  
Marilyn Mason

#### May 19

Paula Jensen

#### May 20

Matthew Buster

#### May 21

Paul Widby

#### May 22

Marcia Hubbs

#### May 23

Wendy McDonald



May Birthdays (Cont'd)

May 24

Deborah Lakamp

May 25

Alexis Daniels  
Allison Gillespie

May 27

Colleen Gardiner  
Jordan Jensen  
Amanda Webb

May 28

Barbara Rosa

May 29

Dale Schott, Jr.  
Ruthanne Scott  
Kelley Ward

May 30

Joel Bonnette  
Noah Dingerson  
Sharon Ives

**MAY  
ANNIVERSARIES**



May 04

Trent & Jamie Hoover

May 05

John & Norma Kaebel

May 06

Robert & Donna Hurst

May 08

Rick & Lisa Alexander

May 12

Verlyn & Cheryl Williams

May 17

Leon & Eileen Tiona  
William & Mary Wiker

May 18

James & Jackie Allen

May 23

Steve & Jane Heberer

May 24

Earl & Cathie Harkelroad

May 26

Mark & Claudia Reeder  
Philip & Michelle Long

May 28

Eric & Bobbie Jo Smith

May 29

Pastor Mark & Debra Miller

May 30

Rodney & Penny Bollinger

**PARISH NOTES**



Church Attendance

Mar 2011 – 1,291 – 20 services  
Mar 2010 – 1,405 – 20 services  
Mar 2009 – 1,643 – 19 services

Sunday School Attendance

Through Mar 2011: 1,026  
Through Mar 2010: 1,197  
Through Mar 2009: 1,191

Videographers – May

Dave Woodruff/ Steve Depew

Worship Committee – May

Debbie Miller

Visitation Elders – May

May 01 Steve Kesselmayr

May 08 Ross Gould

May 15 Joe Schiavone

May 22 Ron Garber

May 29 Mickey Pitchford

Acolytes – May

May 01 8:00 Dylan Kesselmayr

10:30 Gavin Glass

May 08 8:00 Victoria Tilton

Tyler Stewart

10:30 Jacob Kelley

May 15 8:00 Joseph Woodruff

Noah Dingerson

10:30 George Andrae

May 22 8:00 Noah Kesselmayr

Lauren Bresnahan

10:30 Nathan Ford

May 29 8:00 Dylan Kesselmayr

Garret Kesselmayr

10:30 Joli Andrae

Communion Assistance – May

May 01 8:00 Steve Kesselmayr

10:30 Mickey Pitchford

May 15 8:00 Ron Garber

10:30 Howard Proehl

May 29 8:00 Joseph Schiavone

10:30 Ross Gould



May 31st  
The Day of  
Pentecost

**Parish Notes (Cont'd)**

**Ushers – May**

<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>
Gerold Bohannan	Evan Bryan
Zach Ferguson	John Fuelberth
Darrell Hansen	Jacob Gould
Nicholas Kesselmayer	Ross Gould
Steven Kesselmayer	Ray Hall
Terry Norman	Wayne Liescheidt
Vincent Tennell	Cody Watson

**Greeters – May**

<b><u>May 01</u></b>	8:00	Ken & Mary Beck
	10:30	Howard & Pat Proehl
<b><u>May 08</u></b>	8:00	Gus Knieriem
	10:30	John & Barb Fuelberth
<b><u>May 15</u></b>	8:00	Jerry & Paula Norman
	10:30	Tracy Glass
<b><u>May 22</u></b>	8:00	Terry & Nancy Swearingen
	10:30	Matthew & Beth Ruder
<b><u>May 29</u></b>	8:00	Dan & Kathy Heisel



**TREASURER'S REPORT  
March 2011**

	<u>March</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	34,155.23	101,321.27
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>	32,882.06	98,193.06
<b><u>INCOME-EXPENSES</u></b>	1,273.17	3,128.21
<b><u>LIABILITIES</u></b>		
Note Payable-HVAC/Roof Loan		53,700.40
Payroll Liabilities		651.81
Misc. LCMS Orgs Fund		33.86
<b><u>TOTAL LIABILITIES</u></b>		54,386.07
<b><u>CURRENT CHECKING &amp; LINK MONEY MARKET</u></b>		
General Fund		-22,379.43
Good Shepherd		-29,467.08
Educational Grant Fund		4,286.16
Building Fund		5,525.16
Sunday School Fund		5,572.29
ACT Fund		1,700.00
Full Nesters Fund		540.36
Memorial Fund		21,351.82

Library Fund	180.16
<b><u>TOTAL CHECKING &amp; LINK MONEY MARKET</u></b>	32,068.70
<b><u>CDs &amp; Common Stock</u></b>	
Educational Grant Fund CD #1	94,690.49
Educational Grant Fund CD #2	74,570.29
East Bluff Property Fund CD	102,950.51
Cat Stock at FMV	20,822.45
<b>Total CDs &amp; Common Stock</b>	293,033.74
<b><u>TOTAL ASSETS:</u></b>	325,102.44
Checking Account Balance	12,240.61
Link Account—Cash Portion Only	19,828.09
	32,068.70
<b><u>FUND BALANCE</u></b>	
Funds to pay Note Payable	-133,285.40
Net Income (loss)	3,128.21
Capital Accounts	400,873.56
<b><u>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</u></b>	270,716.37
<b><u>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</u></b>	325,102.44

**MAY LIBRARY CORNER by Eileen Tiona**



*"We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled"*  
(Luke 18:31)

After a long winter, spring is welcomed. The song "April in Paris" describes such "charms of spring" as "chestnuts in blossom" and holiday tables under the trees.

It was spring in the Holy Land when Jesus led His disciples to Jerusalem for Passover. En route to the Holy City, Jewish pilgrims would have seen wildflowers in bloom and fields ready for planting.

But our Lord looked beyond the beauties and foresaw agony and affliction. He knew it was His last Passover celebration and He tried to prepare His disciples for what lay ahead.

Yet Christ's resurrection was also foretold: "After the suffering of His Soul, He will see the light of life" (Isaiah 53:11). Jesus told His disciples that He would rise again on the third day. But the dire prediction—as well as well as the promise of His triumphant resurrection—was beyond the disciples' understanding. When we look at what our Lord and Savior accomplished to give us time and eternity, it is always springtime in our souls.

The library has received a donation from the Wednesday, 7:00 a.m. Bible Study in memory of Dr. Joseph Aimone. Thank you very much for the donation. I will try to find some appropriate books with this donation.

Please come in and check out the many books that are available.

## ORGANIZATIONS

### FELLOWSHIP CLUB By Veva Martin

St. John's Fellowship Club will be going to the Conklin Dinner Theater, **Sunday, May 15th**, to see the play "Cemetery Club". **The doors open at 11:50 A. M.**

### WOMEN'S GUILD By Deb Lakamp

St. John's Ladies Guild will meet on **Thursday, May 26th at 7:00 P. M.** The serving committee for that evening will be JoAnn Aimone (chairperson) and Sue Tisdale. Our program for the night will be a Bible Study led by Pastor Kesselmayr. We will also be reminding our members about the **Guild Bake Sale on Sunday, May 1st**. Please remember to bring a donation of Kleenex, paper towels, or toilet tissue to help out our ongoing project, House of Hope. All ladies of the congregation are encouraged and welcome to attend.

### BETHLEHEM SOCIETY By Addie Weyhrich

Bethlehem Society meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 31st at 1:30 P. M.** The hostess will be Louise Brickner. The program will be a DVD on "Wondrous Europe". All ladies of the congregation are invited to join us.

Also, our Fun(d) Day noon potluck will be held on **Tuesday, May 17th**. The hostess will be Addie Weyhrich.

### EVANGELISM COMMITTEE By Nancy Swearingen

The Evangelism committee met on April 14. Pastor Miller opened the meeting with prayer.

Discussion was held on new member possibilities and updating member information for our church directory.

We can use greeters for first and second service. Greeter sign up sheets are located in the Narthex.

### HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S VOTERS ASSEMBLY April 11, 2011

President Ray Barnes called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Pastor Niemann opened with the devotions.

The March Parish Report was presented. The minutes of the March 14, 2011 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report - Ron Reising discussed the March treasurer's report. Nancy Drockelman made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Joseph Schiavone, motion carried.

Board of Trustees - Dave Kesselmayr stated that the secretary had difficulties with her computer. The Trustees thanked Pastor and Mrs. Kesselmayr who donated money for a new computer system and Tom Ivey who donated a new server for the church computers. The Trustees made a motion to renew the contract with Comcast which would include a 10% increase through July 2016 for a total of \$6,122 a year. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Ivey, motion carried. The Trustees made a motion to tear out the lockers in front of the boiler room, north of the kitchen and to replace them with storage cabinets for church committees to use. They would like to clean and paint the area as well. The motion was seconded by Joseph Schiavone, the motion carried. The Trustees inquired if anyone would like the old cabinets and Ross Gould stated that he could donate metal lockers from his company for the project. The Trustees are going to replace the entrance locks and get new keys for the church. They have only been able to account for half of the old keys so they are changing the locks and getting new keys. There will then be a list of keys and a number system to keep track of them. Finally, the Trustees are going to do some landscaping and they will be removing some dead bushes around the church.

Board of Elders - Ross Gould stated that the 8th grade Confirmation questioning will be Friday, April 15th at 6:00 P. M. with Confirmation this Sunday, April 17th at the 10:30 A. M. service. The 7th grade questioning will be May 20th at 6:30 P. M. The Elders have collected approximately \$1,700 for the church family who had a house fire.

Board of Finance - Nancy Drockelman stated that they are meeting next week.

Board of Christian Education - Nothing to report.

Board of Worship - Dan Rees stated that they are meeting this Thursday.

Board of Evangelism - Pastor Kesselmayr stated that the next meeting is next Thursday.

Board of Stewardship - Allison Gillespie stated that there will a Time and Talent survey distributed over the summer that will also help to update personal contact information.

Long Range Planning - Ross Gould stated that John Fuelberth asked him to pick up the long range planning forms from the members tonight.

Unfinished Business - No unfinished business.

New Business - No new business.





**Confirmands  
Class of 2011**

**KATIE ELIZABETH BOLLINGER**

Daughter of Rod and Penny Bollinger  
Born: February 2, 1997  
Baptized: February 16, 1997

**NOAH TYLER DINGERSON**

Son of Aaron and Amy Dingserson  
Born: May 30, 1997  
Baptized: January 11, 2011

**GAVIN EDWARD GLASS**

Son of James and Tracy Glass  
Born: November 30, 1996  
Baptized: April 26, 1997

**JORDAN ANDREW JENSEN**

Son of Eric and Paula Jensen  
Born: May 27, 1995  
Baptized: May 14, 2000

**JACOB ANTHONY KELLEY**

Son of Sean and Nicole Kelley  
Born: January 29, 1997  
Baptized: September 17, 2006

**DYLAN JEFFREY KESSELMAYER**

Son of David and Jennifer Kesselmayer  
Born: June 12, 1996  
Baptized: July 28, 1996



**Confirmands  
Class of 2011**

**NOAH AARON KESSELMAYER**

Son of Steven and Faye Kesselmayer  
Born: August 21, 1997  
Baptized: September 21, 1997

**NAOMI ALMA NEIMANN**

Daughter of Rev. Glenn and Laura Niemann  
Born: July 29, 1997  
Baptized: August 17, 1997

**GAVIN THOMAS RUDER**

Son of Matthew and Beth Ruder  
Christine nee Engel  
Born: July 10, 1997  
Baptized: February 22, 2009

**TYLER RICHARD STEWART**

Son of E. Scott and Rebecca Stewart  
Born: July 2, 1997  
Baptized: August 8, 1997

**VICTORIA GRACE TILTON**

Daughter of Michael and Toni Hull  
Born: August 17, 1996  
Baptized: May 31, 1997

**JOSEPH DAVID WOODRUFF**

Son of Dr. David and Susan Woodruff  
Born: July 2, 1997  
Baptized: August 24, 1997

**SOFTBALL SCHEDULE SUMMER 2011  
MANAGER: VINCE TENNELL**

<u>Date</u>	<u>St. John's vs.</u>	<u>Time</u>
4/26	Real Life Church	6:00 P.M.
5/3	First Church Nazarene	6:00 P.M.
5/10	Pekin First Church of God	8:00 P.M.
5/17	Living Hope	6:00 P.M.
5/24	Bridgeway Community	6:00 P.M.
5/31	Metro/Peoria Baptist	7:00 P.M.
6/14	Real Life Church	7:00 P.M.
6/21	First Church Nazarene	6:00 P.M.
6/28	Pekin First Church of God	8:00 P.M.
7/5	Living Hope	6:00 P.M.

Transferred to the  
Church Triumphant

Delmar Deiss, Sr.  
December 17, 1931 –  
April 16, 2011

