

St. John's Journal

Volume 46, Issue 2

GOD'S WORD IS OUR GREAT HERITAGE

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*God's Word is our great heritage
And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age
Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way, In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant while worlds endure,
We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations. Amen.*
(The Lutheran Hymnal 283)

This beloved hymn declares the truth. God's Word is the great heritage of Christians, because it is the Word from our Savior and about our Savior, Jesus Christ. It is His gift to us – an inheritance passed down through the church throughout the ages. “Our fathers have told us... the glorious deeds of the Lord. ...He commanded our fathers to teach them to their children, that the next generation might know them.” (from Psalm 78:3-5)

God's Word shall indeed last forever. It shall be our great heritage for as long as people live on this earth. “Heaven and earth shall pass away,” Jesus said, “but My words shall never pass away.” (Matthew 24:35)

Our chief endeavor – the mission of the church – truly is to spread the light of the divine Word from age to age for the salvation of sinners. For God's Word is the saving light of Jesus, who is the Light. “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.” (John 1:4)

God's Word really does guide our way. It teaches us the good precepts of God, which make our lives more pleasant here on earth, and teach us to be more and more like our loving Creator. Most importantly, His Word points us to Jesus, who is our only Way to heaven. “I am the way and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except by Me.” (John 14:6)

God's Word is also our stay in death. It holds before us the happy promise of the resurrection of the dead and life everlasting for those who believe in Jesus. “I died, but behold, I am alive fore evermore, and I have the keys of death and Hades.” (Revelation 1:18) And

our Savior will rescue us from both!

Finally, as we do in this hymn, we should pray regularly that we keep the teachings of God's Word pure. For these are the teachings that bestow life! And when the teachings of God's Word are changed and corrupted, they are no longer the doctrine of God, but of men. And “anyone who goes ahead and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God.” (2 John 9)

As we enter into another Lenten season at the end of this month, (Ash Wednesday is February 26,) let's make it a period of meaningful spiritual renewal by rededicating ourselves to this great heritage of God's Word. You can do so by:

- Attending all the services of God's house you possibly can, including our Wednesday evening Lenten midweek services, to hear God's Word.
- Becoming active or remaining active in one of our Bible studies to grow in God's Word.
- Reading the Bible and good devotional materials (Small Catechism, Hymnal, Portals of Prayer, for example) to be nourished by God's Word also at home.

A heritage unused is a heritage wasted. For your present and everlasting blessing, make full use of God's Word! The more you do, the more you will be thankful for it.

- Pastor Bishop

Christian Education Sunday School

Sunday School
Perfect Attendance
December 2019

7th Grade
Michael Jones

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS



Feb 01
Joseph Hillman
Edward Hodgkins
Vincent Thomason

Feb 02
Nathan Barth
Katie Bollinger
David Justi
Stephen Webb

Feb 04
Joseph Donovan
Ryan Hansen

Feb 06
Richard Jarvis

Feb 07
Jamie Hoover
Danny Jones

Feb 08
Emma Jones

Feb 09
Loretta Newman
R. Michael Thompson

Feb 10
Lorelei Huber
Lia Huber
Sarah Huber
Sandy Morgan
Barb Theleritis

Feb 11
Katherine King

Feb 12
Viola Deppert

Feb 13
Emma Canterbury
Carrie Schmidgall

Feb 14
Steven Depew
Belinda Frankel
Barbara Thompson

Feb 15
Ruth Keil
Lori Sego

Feb 16
Karen McCammon
Patricia Proehl

Feb 17
George Andrae

Feb 18
Michael Becker
Jeremy Garmon
Emma Hicks
Barry Pool
Gregory Swibold
Shantel Tackmann

Feb 20
Dean Cooper
Marcille Frevert
Shirley Williamson

Feb 21
Kylee Alexander
Stanley Ehmke

Feb 22
Susan Waddell

Feb 23
Alison Burris

Feb 24
Vernice Funk
David Sego

Feb 25
Tyler Widby

Feb 26
Lea Ann Becker

Feb 27
Christina Herold
Christine Neumann

Feb 28
Ava Friedinger
Sandra Gay
Linda McGuire
Carl Whitlatch

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES



Feb 02
Gerald & Paula Norman

Feb 14
Colby & Ashley Jones
Thomas & Cheryl Ivey
James & Julie Widby
Barry & Katherine Wright

PARISH NOTES



Church Attendance

Dec 2019—**1,140**—21 services
Dec 2018—**1,315**—21 services
Dec 2017—**1,155**—19 services

Sunday School **Attendance** **Year-to-Date**

Dec 2019:	2,166
Dec 2018:	2,350
Dec 2017:	2,597

Videographers

Jim Lonergan

Worship Committee

Jim Lonergan

Communion Assistance

Feb 02
8:00 Joe Szadowksi
10:30 Del Beideck

Feb 16
8:00 Dave Drockelman
10:30 Del Beideck

February Ushers

8:00

Jerry Bohannon
Randy Couch
Steve Kesselmayr
Noah Kesselmayr
Terry Norman

10:30

Ross Gould
Jacob Gould
Howie Proehl


A big thank you to all our Service Volunteers.
We appreciate the time and dedication you give to our Church community.

CHURCH KEYS:

In going over our list of who has church keys, we are still missing quite a few. Please check your key and let us know the number you have. For those who have called us and let us know the key number you have, thank you and we appreciate it.

Acolytes

Feb 02 8:00 Zachary Webb
10:30 Erin Wilson

Feb 09 8:00
10:30 Ava Friedinger

Feb 16 8:00 Alexis Daniels
10:30 Lilly Daniels

Feb 23 8:00 Bradley Hoover
10:30 Ella Friedinger

Ash Wednesday

Feb 26 7:00 Alexis Daniels

USHERS ARE NEEDED : If you would like to volunteer to be an Usher please let Mike Nauth, 349-5332, or anyone on the Worship Committee know. Thank you.

GREETERS ARE NEEDED: If you would like to greet our members and guests at either the 8:00 or 10:30 a.m. services, please sign the sheets on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Thank you.

The cost of Altar flowers will be increased to \$40 for two vases, beginning February 2.

The Flower Chart for 2020 is posted in the Narthex. Please sign-up for the Sunday(s) that you would like to provide flowers for the altar and **call the church office, 347-2136**, and let us know what you want in the bulletin.

If you would like a special arrangement for your date, please call Artistic Flowers at 347-0022. Let them know you are with St. John's, Pekin. They will bill you directly.

Remember you can pick up your flowers after the 10:30 service (please leave the green liners) or Mon. to Fri. from 8:00 a.m. to 12 Noon.



**TREASURER'S REPORT
DECEMBER, 2019**

	<u>December</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
<u>INCOME</u>	46,272.94	405,538.51
<u>EXPENSES</u>	34,282.28	387,139.66
<u>INCOME-EXPENSES</u>	<u>11,990.66</u>	<u>18,398.85</u>
General Fund		(48,767.32)
General Fund Total		(48,767.32)
Ed Grant Fund Checking	4,727.56	
Ed Grant Fund CD #1	103,371.18	
Ed Grant Fund #2-Vanguard	69,333.67	
Educational Fund Total	177,432.41	
East Bluff Property-Vanguard	42,230.84	
East Bluff Property Fund CD	107,170.96	
Cat Stock at FMV	54,494.92	
East Bluff Property Fund	203,896.72	
Building Fund Checking	50,402.04	
S S Fund Checking	11,409.74	
Memorial Fund Checking	31,040.60	
TOTAL ASSETS	425,414.62	
Checking Account Balance	48,812.62	
TOTAL	48,812.62	
<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
Note Payable	32,017.17	
Payroll Liabilities	1,515.63	
Misc LCMS Orgs Fund	(15.00)	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	33,517.80	
<u>FUND BALANCE</u>		
Building Improvements	-299,680.34	
Net Income (Loss)	18,398.85	
Capital Accounts	673,177.88	
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	391,896.39	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE	\$425,414.62	

**Transferred To The
Church Triumphant**

Gene Goetze
July 2, 1945
January 13, 2020

HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S VOTERS ASSEMBLY

January 13, 2020

President Ron Reising called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Pastor Bishop opened with devotions.

A motion was made by Don Schoedel, seconded by Jack Hall, to approve the December 2019 minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Daryl Dagit presented the December 2019 Treasurer's Report. Nancy Drockelman moved, seconded by Randy Couch, to approve the December 2019 Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Board of Trustees – Gary Pool reported that the Board of Trustees met and elected officers. A check for \$3000 was received for the ground that is farmed. More estimates are wanted for the tuck pointing that needs to be done, hopefully this year. Plans are to have a work day (possibly on 2/15) to remove the curtains. A new quote of \$9640 was received for the pew cushions in the sanctuary. A sample was available for viewing. Gary Pool made a motion to use \$3640 from the Memorial Fund with the rest of the expense covered by one of the church families. Bob Oliverius seconded the motion. Motion passed. Gary also noted that work being done by the city on the East Bluff property for a retention pool to aid with flooding appears to be completed with no noticeable damage to the property.

Board of Elders – Randy Couch reported that money has been approved to assist a family. There are 2 new elders. The communion schedule was set for February.

Board of Finance – Board has not met yet so no update was available.

Board of Christian Education – Laura Dobbelaire indicated that children from Good Shepherd Lutheran School will be singing here on the 26th. Leslie Hauk and Shantel Tackmann will be helping with Sunday School. Next youth group activity is Sunday for Bible baseball.

Board of Worship – Valerie Ferguson noted that the board met on the 2nd of January. John Neumann, Julie Wagner and Jim Lonergan are new members. The committee took down the Christmas decorations this past Saturday. The committee would like to thank Allison Harley, Tracy Glass and Samuel Bishop for filling in on the organ and piano. The committee reached out

to the Organ Guild and sister organizations during their search but found no one interested. It was reported that Kevin Stark has rescinded his offer but would be willing to fill in if needed and he is available. Allison Harley is still interested in pursuing the position. A motion was made by the Worship Committee to hire Allison Harley as the new organist, seconded by Paul Tackmann. Motion passed. An inquiry was made as to the salary and it was noted that those discussions had already taken place and budgeted.

Board of Evangelism – No report.

Board of Stewardship – No report.

Long Range Planning Committee – No report.

Educational Grant Fund Committee – No report.

East Bluff Property Committee – No report.

Constitution By-laws Committee – No report.

Unfinished business – Gary Pool would like to thank Dave Kesselmayer for all his work over the past year. Valerie Ferguson would like to thank Mike Nauth for all his work over the past year.

Discussion took place regarding the new church directory. Sandy Ferguson indicated that she would like to wait until after the Lenten season to discuss.

New business – A motion was made by Nancy Drockelman, seconded by Julie Wagner, to elect Linda Wagner as Secretary. Motion passed.

Pastor Bishop added that if people happen to run into Kevin Stark, please thank him for his consideration of the organist job. Similarly, if you run into Allison please pass along your appreciation and encouragement.

A motion was made by Bob Oliverius, seconded by Don Schoedel, to adjourn the meeting which closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wagner
Secretary



FEBRUARY LIBRARY CORNER

By Eileen Tiona



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favor rests."

I haven't any new books to report on this month, but would like to invite everyone to come into the library and check out all the wonderful books that are available.

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ORGANIZATIONS

FELLOWSHIP CLUB *By Veva Martin*

Fellowship Club will meet Saturday, February 8, 2020 - 6:30 p.m. in the Church basement. It is movie night, and we will be watching "The Secrets of Jonathan Sperry."

Come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and a movie.

THE YOUTH GROUP

will meet on Sunday, February 16 at 4:00 p.m.

This month we will have wacky gym games and enjoy tacos.

Watch bulletins for more information and please bring a friend to enjoy the fellowship.

WOMEN'S GUILD *By Leslie Hauk*

La- Guild will meet on Thursday, February 27 at 6:30 p.m. dies

Vi Deppert and Leslie Hauk will serve.

All ladies of the church are invited.

IN OUR PRAYERS

If you know of anyone who needs to be added, please let the church office know.

All our shut-ins

Adam Jackson—member of Armed Services (grand-nephew of Lila Lisenbee)

Pastor Niemann

Mark Reeder

Bob Watson

Bernice Mack

Stacie Kendall

Tim Johnston

Pat Proehl

Donna Corso

Flo McClure

Sam Kendall

Rick Jarvis

Ken Beck

Herb Groenwald

Shirley Williamson

Debee Pitchford

Joyce Wertz

Peggy Patten

Mary Ashbaker

Ray Barnes

Robert Gregory

Lucille Benker

Pastor Kesselmayr

Lois Becker

Cheryl Williams

Robert Scott

Bob Funk

Donna Bollinger

Billie Jackson

Lynda Adkins

Joe Goodin

Sandy Morgan

Rita Lakamp

Ellen Morrison

Vince "Buzz" Oltman

Wilmadean Habberfield

Ray Pitchford

Christian Bouche

Carolyn Urish

Dee Rees

Larry Turner

Marian McDaniels Allen

Marcille Frevert

Finding Spring Again—An Educational Grief Seminar will be held Thursday, March 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. at the Methodist Atrium, 900 Main St., Conference Room ABC. Call 672-5746 for RSVP by March 10. Free to the public with refreshments provided.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have a few individuals who would like to attend the 10:30 service on Sundays but need a ride to and from church. If you would like to volunteer to help get these individuals to church, please contact the church office 347-2136. If enough people volunteer we might be able to take turns in this endeavor.

TRUSTEES WORK DAY will be Saturday, February 15 beginning at 8:00 a.m. They will be removing the folding partitions in the church basement.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED: We are in need for teachers for the Pre-School/Kindergarten and Elementary grades. If you are interested, please call Leslie Hauk at 265-2759 or Shantel Tackmann at 309-678-9293. Thank you.

**St. John's
Lutheran Women's Missionary League
(LWML)**

St. John's LWML will be Saturday March 1, at 10:00 a.m. in the church basement. All ladies of the congregation are welcome.

During the month of February, we are collecting items for Fabric Kits (see below). Items may be placed in baskets in the Narthex or Annex Addition. We are also collecting Mites (coins/dollar bills that goes for Missions that are supported by LWML). Mites can be put in the Mite boxes located in the Narthex or Annex Addition.

FABRIC KIT

SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Fabric should have no stains or holes.
- Pieces do not need to match in size or color/pattern as long as they fit into one of the three size options.
- Each spool of thread should match one of the pieces of fabric included. Neutral thread is also a good option.
- Please give new items only.
- Please do not donate items with any religious symbols, messages or your group's name.
- Please do not donate any items decorated with a U.S. flag, patriotic or military symbols, or references to the armed forces, including camouflage.
- Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.
- Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN EACH FABRIC KIT

TWO spools of neutral-colored, general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each

TWO pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no knits of 100% polyester). Each piece should match one of the sizes below:

- 2 ¼ yards of 60" wide fabric
- 3 yards of 44" wide fabric
- 4 yards of 36" wide fabric

2020 Illinois Essay Contest—Sponsored by the Council of Federation Presidents, Lutherans for Life. Essay Contest is for students in Grades 6 through 12.

First place is \$100 and \$50 for second place, Grand prize is \$250.

See bulletin board in the gym for more information on this.

GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

Midterms are February 7.

Spaghetti Dinner/Talent Show will be February 7 with more information to follow.

Valentine parties are planned for February 14 with early dismissal @ 12:30 p. m.

Monday, February 17, there is no school in honor of Presidents Day!

School Board Meeting will be Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m.

School choir will sing Sunday, February 23 at St. John's, Sand Prairie at the 10:30 service.

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Reservations may now be made for Good Shepherd Lutheran School's 14th Annual Benefit Auction, Saturday, March 21, 2020, at the Par-A-Dice Hotel! Make a paid reservation prior to February 16th to be entered into a drawing to win \$200 in Auction Bucks that may be used at our baseball-themed "Take Ewe Out to the Ballgame!" evening. Please be certain to select your dinner option and indicate how you would like to receive confirmation. You may contact Ann Fuelberth at bazafuel@gmail.com if you have questions. Reservation forms are available at the SCRIP tables at the churches or at the school office, and invitations have been mailed to prior Auction attendees. If you did not receive an invitation and wish to be included on our mailing list, please email Sue Woodruff at svwoodruff@jtv-3.com so that our committee can update your address/contact information. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Our popular "Purse Game" will return with 100 purses and the \$100 cash prize and a streamlined drawing procedure! Our "Duck Decoy Draw" will return with more super prizes—**4 guns—details will follow in a later announcement**, and more special items! [You will need an FOID card to purchase the decoys.] Sponsorships of \$50—Dinner Table, \$100—Silent Auction, or \$200—Live Auction are excellent ways for businesses or individuals to advertise their services and help the auction to offset costs. The committee is also still accepting donations of Vintage Pekin, or vintage Pekin schools' items, or Cubs or Cardinals items if you would like to donate.

Our first two **Class Projects** to highlight are: Mrs. Ann Fuelberth's 3-and-4-Year-Olds Preschool Class has decorated a Wood Planter Box Centerpiece, and Mrs. Lauren Raddatz's 3-Year-Olds Preschool Class has decorated a Patriotic Milk Can. Other class projects and donations will be announced in weekly church bulletins and on our school's website.

St. John's Lutheran Church
711 Court St.
Pekin, IL 61554

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Bible Wordsearch



Wordsearch 185



Solomon's Temple

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:
<http://biblewordgames.com>

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