

# St. John's Journal

Volume 48, Issue 4

## WE SHOULD BE CERTAIN OF THE RESURRECTION!

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How certain can we be of the resurrection of Jesus Christ? We should be very certain! Do you have that firm certainty? Consider: What if someone were to ask you, "How do you know Jesus really was dead and then came back to life?" How would you answer?

I suspect many Christians would give an answer something like this: "I know Jesus really died and rose back to life from the dead, because the Bible says this is what happened, and the Bible is God's word. And since God never lies, it has to be true." And this is a very good answer. Even so, we can be even more specific, and answer in a way that might be even more helpful to those who are unfamiliar with the inspiration of the Bible and its divine authority.

For the Bible does not present the bodily resurrection of Jesus merely as a story to be accepted on blind faith, but as a factual, historical account to be believed because it is grounded in the Spirit-guided testimony of actual eyewitnesses who were chosen by God! (Acts 10:41) So the resurrection of Jesus is not a matter of mere philosophical or religious or metaphysical speculation. Neither is it a matter of fanciful fiction for gullible and irrational minds to accept because they have been manipulated by self-serving deceivers. Rather, the resurrection is a matter of infallible fact for humble hearts and reasonable minds to believe and rejoice in!

In 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, the apostle Paul makes the historicity of Jesus' resurrection very plain and clear. He wrote: "For I deliver to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then He appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared also to me."

Paul here tells how he based his resurrection preaching, not on some vision someone claimed to have, or on a message allegedly told by angels. Rather, he based it on actual historical events that were verified by many, many eyewitnesses! Hundreds of them were still alive when Paul wrote this, and they could easily corroborate his preaching. In fact, Paul himself was an eyewitness of the risen Lord Jesus, so he knew what he was talking about!

All this gives us very strong reason to be certain of the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ. We have the written account of eyewitnesses – witnesses who were not ordinary and fallible historians, but were guided infallibly by the Holy Spirit to remember and understand rightly what they had seen and heard in Jesus. (John 14:26; 15:26-27) So we should be fully certain of the resurrection of Jesus.

And that means we should likewise be certain of our own bodily resurrection to come! For the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, who rose from the dead in real history, has assured us, "Because I live, you will live also." *John 14:19* The risen Jesus lives *bodily*, and so shall we when He raises us from the dead. Paul proclaimed the same truth: "For if (through Baptism) we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His." *Romans 6:5* He also went on to write, as we will hear this Easter Sunday, "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive, but each in his own order: Christ the Firstfruits, then at His coming those who belong to Christ." *1 Corinthians 15:22-23*

So our own bodily resurrection from the dead on the day of Christ's second coming is just as certain as His resurrection from the dead! When He appears again, He will raise us so that we have an imperishable, glorious body, transformed to be very much like His own glorious body – to the image of the Man of heaven, Jesus Christ! (Phil. 3:21; 1 Cor 15:49)

Let this Easter, then, be a joyous and confidence-building celebration of both Christ's resurrection from the dead and your resurrection to come. For God has given us certainty!

- Pastor Bishop



## Christian Education

### Sunday School

### *Perfect Attendance*

February 2021

**2nd Grade**  
Aiden Harms

## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

### **April 02**

Jeff & Leslie Norman

### **April 05**

Joe & Trina Szadkowski

### **April 10**

Greg & Wendy McDonald

### **April 13**

Eric & Paula Jensen

### **April 17**

John & Althea Geiser

### **April 18**

Jacob & Sarah Adkins

### **April 19**

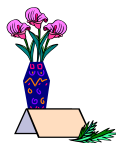
John & Ronda Adkins  
Tim & Sandy Gay

### **April 25**

Don & Valerie Dobbelaire

### **April 30**

Dan & Florence McClure



## APRIL BIRTHDAYS



### **April 01**

Randy Couch  
Dan Rees

### **April 02**

Brittany Allen  
Randi Becker  
Edward Gaitros

### **April 03**

Dave Drockelman  
Iris Gaitros  
Greg Hall

### **April 04**

Lindsey Dixon  
Carter Stevenson

### **April 07**

Lilly Daniels  
Florence McClure

### **April 08**

Darrell Hansen  
Dan Watson

### **April 09**

Edyn Kammeyer  
Jackie Nauth  
Alicia Turner

### **April 10**

Mary Mantovani

### **April 11**

Wilma Garber  
Logan Schoch  
Dane Watson

### **April 13**

Jeff Norman

### **April 15**

Bobby Gregory  
Mark Scott  
Mike Wagner

### **April 16**

Dawn Bohannon  
Jon Bolt

### **April 17**

Alex Schmidgall

### **April 19**

Mike Dixon, Sr.  
Ron Reising  
Doug Vogel

### **April 20**

Cathy Ashbaker



### **April 21**

Dave Becker  
Kevin Dupent  
Addison Nelson

### **April 22**

Jim Buster  
Michelle Gregory

### **April 23**

Bethany Canopy  
Dan Dobbelaire  
Lois Jarvis  
Vanessa Watson

### **April 24**

Lucille Benker  
Peg Booe  
Ray Garber  
Drew Jackson  
Shirley McCoige  
Maxine Oliverius  
Paul Tackmann

### **April 25**

Josh Donovan  
Kingston Hamlet  
Kathy Heisel

### **April 26**

William Wiker III

### **April 27**

Chris Ashbaker

### **April 28**

Elaine Hapke  
Andrea Yergler

### **April 29**

Chris Bitner  
Brinley Meyer  
Mikayla Wilson

### **April 30**

Jon Becker  
Diane Fornoff  
Amy Swibold

## PARISH NOTES



### Church Attendance

Feb 2022	409	12 services
Feb 2021	426	14 services
Feb 2020	652	13 services

### Sunday School Attendance

Feb 2022: 260  
Feb 2021: 291  
Feb 2020: 322

### Videographers - April

Brayden & Bradley Hoover

### Worship Committee - April

Diane Gould

### April Communion Assistance

#### April 3

8:00 a.m. Ray Barnes  
10:30 a.m. Jon Bolt

#### April 14 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Steve Depew

#### April 17 - Easter Sunday

700 a.m. Jon Bolt  
10:30 a.m. Randy Couch

### Acolytes—April

#### April 3

8:00 a.m. Abby Hall  
10:30 a.m.

#### April 6

7:00 p.m. Madison Sego

#### April 10

8:00 a.m. Madison Sego  
10:30 a.m. Briella Hoover

#### April 14 - Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Abby Hall

#### April 15 - Good Friday

7:00 p.m. Briella Hoover

#### April 17 - Easter Sunday

7:00 a.m. Madison Sego  
10:30 a.m.

#### April 24

8:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. Abby Hall

### Ushers - April

8:00 10:30

Jim Lonergan Brian Ford  
Jim Widby Nate Ford  
Merle Wiseman Trent Hoover  
Brian Unbach

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

April 14 - 7:00 p.m.  
Maundy Thursday Service with  
Holy Communion

Sermon: "A Friend Has Lifted Up His  
Heel against Me" Ps. 41-9  
• Judas betrayed Jesus, treating his  
Friend as an enemy.  
• In all this Jesus was treating His  
enemies as friends.

April 15 - 12:00 N & 7:00 p.m.  
Good Friday Service

Sermon: "My God, My God, Why  
Have You Forsaken Me?" Ps 22:1  
• Christ was forsaken by God be-  
cause of our sins.  
• Because of this we will never be  
forsaken by God.

April 17 - 7:00 a.m.  
Easter Sunrise Service with  
Holy Communion

10:30 a.m. - Easter Service with Holy  
Communion

**The Easter Breakfast will be served  
after the 7:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise  
Service.**

**There will be no Sunday School or  
Adult Bible Class on Easter, and no  
7:00 p.m. service.**

### TREASURER'S REPORT

February 2022

	<u>February</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
<b>INCOME</b>	16,353.59	54,593.12
<b>EXPENSES</b>	48,667.27	84,887.13
<b>INCOME- EXPENSES</b>	(\$32,313.68)	(\$30,294.01)

General Fund	(6,827.56)
<b>General Fund Total</b>	<b>(6,827.56)</b>

Ed Grant Fund Checking	2,948.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21	51,928.87
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22	51,982.86
Ed Grant Fund #2-Vanguard	68,039.98
<b>Educational Fund Total</b>	<b>174,846.27</b>

East Bluff Property-Vanguard	41,455.69
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21	53,837.70
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22	53,837.70
Cat Stock at FMV	69,218.02
<b>East Bluff Property Fund</b>	<b>218,349.11</b>

Memorial Fund Checking	46,278.92
Memorial Vanguard	101,864.48
<b>Memorial Fund Total</b>	<b>148,143.40</b>

Building Fund Checking	23,249.19
S S Fund Checking	11,395.03

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>569,155.44</b>
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Checking Account Balance	77,044.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77,044.14</b>

<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Payroll Liabilities	2,403.89
Misc LCMS Orgs Fund	29.68
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,433/57</b>

<u>FUND BALANCE</u>	
Net Income (Loss)	(30,294.01)
Capital Accounts	587,015.88
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>566,721.87</b>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$569,155.44</b>
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Transferred To The  
Church  
Triumphant

Marian  
McDaniels-Allen  
8/24/1928  
3/8/2022

**HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S VOTERS ASSEMBLY**  
**March 14, 2022**

Mike Nauth called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Pastor Bishop opened with devotions.

Mike thanked Sandy Ferguson for filling in last month as secretary in Linda Wagner's absence.

The February Parish report was reviewed. A motion was made by Bob Oliverius, seconded by Ray Barnes, to accept the report. Motion carried.

While reviewing the February minutes, Bob Oliverius questioned the income stated for January under the Treasurer's Report section. After some discussion, a motion was made by Bob Oliverius to strike that line from the minutes. Motion was seconded by Gary Pool. Motion carried. A motion was made by Julie Wagner, seconded by Randy Couch, to approve the amended February meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – No report was presented. Ross Gould questioned the amount of expenses as opposed to the amount shown for bills paid. Mike indicated that he will check with Daryl Dagit on this matter. Motion for this month was tabled and will be revisited at next month's meeting.

Board of Trustees – Gary Pool reported that Vonderheide Floor Covering will begin work on the basement floor on April 4<sup>th</sup>. It is possible that one of the dinners prior to the Lenten services will need to be set up in the gym. Also, work is proceeding on the beams in the basement. Gary reported that we did get an adjustment of \$2513.05 on the wastewater billing. This resulted in a credit of \$261.00 for this month.

Board of Elders – Randy Couch reported the Elders have set up member visits for the month. On March 20<sup>th</sup> the Elders will be meeting with the Worship Committee to discuss usage of the Lutheran Service Book (LSB). This meeting is just an overview discussion. The April 6<sup>th</sup> dinner before the Lenten service will be sponsored by the Elders.

Board of Finance – No report.

Board of Christian Education – Quest Dobbelaire reported that they are still in need of a Sunday School teacher for the 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grades. This person would teach every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. If anyone is interested, please let Quest or Leslie Hauk know.

The youth group met on February 20<sup>th</sup> and it went really well. There were about 14 youth from the 3 churches.

Wacky gym games were played. At the next get together the youth will be playing Bible Baseball. As a reminder the auction for Good Shepherd Lutheran School takes place on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Worship – Diane Gould reported that the committee is meeting with the Elders on March 20<sup>th</sup> to discuss the use of the Lutheran Service Book. The committee also discussed what items needed to be completed for the Easter season (ordering palms, possibly having the brass quartet perform on Easter, etc.).

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 – Mike Nauth noted that we need to consider a second nominee for the CID president position. Mike asked that if anyone knows another person to nominate to please let him know by next month. We have until May 22<sup>nd</sup> to get the nominee form submitted. Pastor Bishop did note that we do not have to have a second nominee listed.

New business – Ross Gould noted that Joel Kilgus will be installed this coming Sunday at St John's Sand Prairie if anyone is interested in attending. Gary Pool noted that they are planning to have an Easter breakfast this year. If anyone has suggestions or is willing to volunteer, please let him or Brian Fuelberth know. Mike Nauth also mentioned the auction coming up on March 26<sup>th</sup> for Good Shepherd as being a great cause to support the kids attending the school.

A motion was made by Bob Oliverius, seconded by Cheryl Ivey, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wagner  
Secretary

**Lutherans for Life:** Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices for Life.

In an age where abortion is called a “right” and a “choice”; where assisted suicide and euthanasia are called “compassion”; where sex outside of marriage is called “natural”; someone needs to boldly counter these lies with the absolute truth of God’s Word. Our message is not so much, “Here’s what you ought to do.” Rather, it is, “Here is what God has done that gives value and dignity to all human life.” The life issues of our time are much more than controversial political issues. They are grave spiritual issues, for they assault the Creator of Life and insult the Lord of Life. We believe that death is not an acceptable, God-pleasing way to deal with the problems of life, and that there is a better way: the Gospel. We call God’s people to compassionate action and foster life-affirming alternatives for those facing difficult situations. We are a growing number across the globe that spread the joyful message that every human life is created and gifted by God, every human life is someone for whom Jesus Christ died, and every human life is someone the Holy Spirit desires to call into an eternal relationship with Him. We believe the Church is compelled by God’s Word to speak and act on behalf of those who are defenseless. Your local LFL meets every fourth Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church, Morton. You may contact your local LFL President, Bob Wegner, at 309-481-4886 if you have any questions.

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**SHUT-INS for the MONTH:** Even though some of our members cannot attend church, we want to keep them in our thoughts and prayers and let them know they are not forgotten. Please send a card or pay a visit to these shut-ins this month.

Shut-ins for April are: Stanley Ehmke, Timbercreek Rehabilitation, 2220 State St., Room C210, Pekin; Marcille Frevert, 1107 S. 4th St., Pekin; Ray & Wilma Garber, 1111 S. 18th St., Pekin and Wilmadean Habberfield, Pekin Estates, 1540 El Camino Dr., Apt. 238, Pekin.

Thank you from your St. John’s Ladies Guild.

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Lutherans for Life sent a thank you letter for our donation to them.

Thank you again for your wonderful support of Concordia Seminary, and may the Lord continue to bless you. Vicki Biggs, Concordia Seminary,

St. Louis.

People of St. John, Your gift helps bring the Life of God’s word to the nations. R. Rahn, Founder of Lutheran Heritage Foundation

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## MARCH LIBRARY CORNER

*By Eileen Tiona*



*"Jesus thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in Him." John 2:11.*

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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### LWGP Upcoming events in May

Do you like to bake? Specifically cookies, bars, homemade candies, small breads, fudge, chocolate covered pretzels, sweet treats of all kinds. LWGP is hosting a bake sale at Lutheran Hillside Village. We ask that items be delivered in containers that you do not need back. Please bring them to the main entrance/ front desk of LHV 6901 N. Galena Road, Peoria before 11am on Thurs, May 5<sup>th</sup>. The *Just Desserts* bake sale is from 8-11am on Fri, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Stop by to shop! Proceeds benefit the benevolent fund for those residents who have outlived their resources.

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church off the square in Washington is hosting the General Membership meeting for LWGP on **Fri, May 13<sup>th</sup>. 9-11am**. Our guest speaker is Karen Henrikson from Walnut, IL. Karen will share her testimony in a cake talk entitled *You Are His Masterpiece*. A continental breakfast will be served along with coffee and a piece of her delicious cake! Please RSVP to Lisa Mack (309) 360-2669 by May 5<sup>th</sup> so that we can plan accordingly. We hope to see you there! Ladies of all ages are welcome.

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## ORGANIZATIONS

### LADIES' GUILD

*By Leslie Hawk*

**ST. JOHN'S LADIES GUILD** will meet on Thursday, April 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement.

All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend our meeting.

### YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group will meet Sunday, April 10, at 4:00 p.m. We will enjoy a bonfire with the Youth Group at St. John's, Sand Prairie. Watch future bulletins for more information on this event.

**Spring  
Cleaning**

In May the Youth Group will help senior members of the congregation with spring cleanup and other helpful chores. So watch for the date and contact us if you would like help with yard work, etc.

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### Camp CILCA Activities for April/May

April 29-May 1 - Women's Scrapbooking Retreat

May 28 - Act Like Men Field Day Competition

May 29 - Annual Hog Roast

10:30 a.m. - Worship

11:30 a.m. - 2:20 p.m. Hog Roast Dinner

May 31 - Junior counselor Training

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. @ camp

### New ACT LIKE MEN EVENTS —

For men of all ages to make connections across generations, learn and sharpen new skills, and grow strong in the Lord.

*More information on Act Like Men on the bulletin board in the gym.*

### IN OUR PRAYERS

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

#### All our shut-ins

Pastor Niemann  
Stacie Kendall  
Billie Jackson  
Joe Goodin  
Peggy Patten  
Rosetta Turner  
Joyce Long  
Brittany Allen  
Robert Rilea  
Stanley Ehmke  
Jill Jennings  
Marlana Montgomery  
Donna Corso  
Paula Jensen  
Joe Schiavone  
Karen McCammon

Robert Scott  
Sandy Morgan  
Flo McClure  
Rick Jarvis  
Larry Turner  
Robert Gregory  
Michelle Watson  
Mary Mantovani  
Keith Gleason  
Rhonda Lappie  
Peggy Farlin  
Anna Knussman  
Jeff Ferree  
Addie Burling  
Gabriella Kesselmayer  
Dan Watson

All those who have been affected by COVID –19.

And with the Ukrainian people.

### GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL

April 7 K-8 Spring Musical at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

April 8 Last day before Easter Break

April 9-18 No School—Easter Break

April 19 School resumes

April 19 School Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

April 24 GSLS Students sing @ St. John's, Pekin @ 10:30 a.m.

April 29 GSLS Carnival, Midterm #4

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**Mowing time at GSLS** is rapidly approaching and we are looking for volunteers to assist. Please call Ross Gould at 309-267-2413 or email me at [rossgould27@gmail.com](mailto:rossgould27@gmail.com). We can work around what is convenient for you. Thanks for your consideration.



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

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## Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 251

Matt.9:33-10:10

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

### Apostles Chosen

AMAZED	ANDREW
FREELY	APOSTLES
HEAL	CLEANSE
HEAVEN	CROWDS
ISRAEL	DISEASE
JAMES	ISCARIOT
JESUS	JOURNEY
JOHN	KINGDOM
JUDAS	PREACH
PETER	MATTHEW
PHILIP	MESSAGE
PRINCE	SANDALS
RAISE	SHEPHERD
SHEEP	TEACHING
SIMON	THOMAS
SPIRITS	ZEBEDEE
SPOKE	TWELVE
TUNIC	ZEALOT
THADDAEUS	

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

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MORE PUZZLES AT:

<http://biblewordgames.com>

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