



The Parish Twine

March, 2019



❖❖❖ St. John's Lutheran Church, St. Donatus, IA

❖❖❖ St. Paul's Lutheran Church, La Motte, IA

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Last month I wrote about the practice of daily prayer, and as promised a prayer guide is included along with this newsletter. Lent is a time when many folks will try some kind of different spiritual practice. Some might go for a kind of fasting, like giving up a particular food. Others might try adding something, like volunteer service with a local organization or a special daily devotion. Those are all worthwhile options. For those seeking a daily devotion, I offer this prayer guide.

Giving credit where credit is due, this prayer guide is based on one from Augustana Lutheran Church in Washington, D.C., where I worshipped when I was a member of the Lutheran Volunteer Corps. I've adapted their model for our congregations, and added a couple of changes of my own. As suggested on the prayer guide itself, it can be helpful to keep the guide in a handy location, so that you will see it each day and remember to pray—maybe on your nightstand, or your kitchen table. I'll probably keep mine next to the comfortable chair in my study where I sit for my morning and evening prayers.

Each week, the prayer guide will follow a similar pattern, with different general sections, and specific items for each day of the week. The first section has to do with the specific ministries of our congregations. After that you will find a section where each member of St. Paul's and St. John's will be listed alphabetically by household over the forty days of Lent. I apologize in advance for any errors or omissions that will certainly be found in this section. It is taken from the phone lists that we have on file in the office, so if you see that the prayer guide has skipped your family, it means that we also don't have your phone number or address on file. Please let Marge know if this is the case. By the time Easter comes, every single member of our two congregations will have been prayed for by their fellow church members. After that section, you'll find the petitions given for that day in the *Prayer Ventures* from the ELCA church wide office. After that is a section of prayers for the wider church: locally, nationally, and the church around the world. Next you'll find our congregations' current prayer list. Following that is the Apostles' Creed and the Lord's prayer, and then finally a short excerpt from one of the scripture readings heard in worship that week.

If you're feeling like that is a lot, you might want to try just praying a section or two at first. Even a little time spent in prayer is worthwhile. This guide is meant as a resource, not a law, so please do not beat yourself up if you find yourself missing a day, or you choose to follow a shortened version of it for yourself. If this sort of devotion just doesn't work for you, that's ok too. Everyone is different, and we don't all have to pray exactly the same way. I like this sort of structure, because I need something to keep me focused and on track!

Finally, please remember that it is *all* about grace. Because we have been reconciled to God through the cross, that is, made right with God because of what Jesus Christ has done for us, we can approach God freely and confidently as one we know and trust. Don't be afraid if you feel like you don't know the right way to pray. God loves you! As we enter into this season of Lent with its special focus on the cross, we remember that God's love is what it is all about.

*In Christ,
Pastor Will*

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Holy Communion:

1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays of each month
plus major festivals

Sunday Worship

St. Paul's—8:30 a.m.
St. John's—10:00 a.m.

Sunday School

St. John's—9:00 a.m.
St. Paul's—9:30 a.m.

Council Meeting

St. John's, March 4
6:30 p.m.

Women of ELCA Bible Study

March 7—1:00 p.m.

Soup Suppers

Mar. 13 & 27, Apr. 10
6:00 p.m.

Sewing Day

Wednesday, March 20

Drivers' Ed. (St. John's)

10:00-1:00 Saturdays
1:00-4:00 Sundays

Council Notes

Worship Attendance:

	<u>St. John's</u>	<u>St. Paul's</u>
Feb. 3	cancelled	20
Feb. 10	38	14
Feb. 17	25	13
Feb. 24	51	Joint Service with Baptism

Joint Council meeting—February 4, 2019:

Called to order by Mark Hueneke at 6:30 p.m.

Present: David Schroeder, Lynn Sanders, Mark Hueneke, Marty Bormann, Bruce Bormann, Ruth Hingtgen, Gloria Heacock, Deb Decker, Chad Uhlenhake, Tracey Hueneke, Pastor Will, Richard Bradley, Doug Clark, Julie Busch, Brianna Busch, Tom Decker, Vanessa Hueneke, Dianne Strickler.

Opened with devotions from Pastor Will.

Pastor's report: On February 24, Pastor Greg Geier will be presiding for the baptism of Lillian Geier. We will have a joint service that day at St. John's at 10:00 with communion.

Old business: Sample of a parish agreement policy was handed out and discussed. Motion carried to discuss more at the next joint meeting. Each council member is asked to bring ideas to their next council meeting in March.

New Business: Discussed Lenten worship times. Motion

carried to stay on the same time schedule as last year

- St. John's will have March 13, 27. and April 10

- St. Paul's will have March 20 and April 3

- There will be three soup supper at St. John's. The March 27th supper will be the youth supper. Volunteers are asked to sign up.

Next meeting: May 6,

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

St. John's Council meeting—February 4, 2019:

The meeting was called to order by Mark at 8:00 p.m.

Members present: Mark Hueneke, Pastor Will, Tracey Hueneke, David Schroeder, Deb Decker, Vanessa Hueneke, Tom Decker, Julie Busch, Brianna Busch, Dianne Strickler

Reports:

- Secretary's report was handed out read and approved.

- Treasurer: BSB Sabbatical \$1620 MIF

- Pastor's report was given at the joint meeting.

Old Business: Water heater in the little sacristy is being replaced.

New Business: Welcome to the new council members and position and responsibilities are being reviewed.

Next meeting March 4.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Baptism

Lillian Rose Geier, daughter of Joel & Rosalyn (Bormann) Geier was baptized February 24th at St. John's. Her sponsors are Terry, Jodi, and Jack Feller. Lillian's grandfather, Pastor Greg Geier, officiated.

Fellowship Hall in Use

Drivers Education class from NICC will again be using St. John's as a meeting place for the next few weeks: March 2-31—Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., and on Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

New Address

Bob Cartigny
2520 Carter Road, #2
Dubuque, IA 52001

Congratulations

- * to Bob Cartigny on the celebration of his 90th birthday on February 22.
- * To Aleeyah Steines whose solo got Top first award and her large groups got Elite Top award and 2nd and 4th overall. Her small groups got Top first award and 4th and 6th overall February 22-24 in regional dance competition in Bettendorf.

Our Sympathy

Donald Berthel of La Motte, a friend to many in the La Motte community, died February 12.

Prayer Concerns

Shirley Busch, Adam Cain, Reese Felderman, Tom Harmon, the Jaeger Family, Lorraine Knief, Joan Koos, Mckayla Martens, Rev. Duane Priebe, Abraham Saraka, Diane Wallace, Rita Wiegert.

Hospitalized in February

Shirley Busch

March Birthdays

Mar. 2 — Mitchell Knief
Mar. 3 — Shonagh Current Giere
Mar. 4 — Adam Busch
Hudson Hueneke
Mar. 6 — Shirley Schroeder
Mar. 10 — Bob Harjehausen
Arlice Heacock
Brett Koehler
Diane Wallace
Mar. 12 — Clinton Bormann
Mar. 15 — Tom Harmon
Mar. 21 — Jan Gill
Jared Hueneke
Mar. 26 — Nolan Keller
Jocelyn Tietjen
Mar. 31 — Memphis Hueneke
Justine Knief

Please let us know of any errors or omissions.

Women ^{of the} ELCA

March Bible Study

Thursday, March 7, 1:00 p.m.

Devotions: Janice Felderman

Bible Study: Pastor Will

We will be using the Bible study in the March *Gather* magazine, p. 24, "Meetings with Jesus," (John 8 thru 17). Please also bring the January/February *Gather*, as we will include part of that study.

There will be sewing in the morning.

Special Stewardship Collection

Our Synodical Women of ELCA invites you to contribute to ELCA World Hunger—the Global Farm Challenge. You will see a God's Global Barnyard coin bank at the back of church. We are using it for donations now through June 1.

Kits for LWR

We will be putting together Baby Care Kits and Personal Care Kits to send to Lutheran World Relief, along with our tied quilts, this spring. See the lists for these projects in your Women's Handbook. We welcome any contributions and have a Thrivent Action Team to help purchase items.

Spring Cluster Gathering

Saturday, May 4, at Zion Lutheran, Clinton

We are on the nominating committee to fill the positions of Coordinator(s) and Community/Justice. We ask for any suggestions in filling these offices.

Synodical Women's Gathering *Love Your Neighbor as Yourself*

June 21 & 22

First Lutheran Church, Keokuk

Rooms have been reserved at the Hampton Inn, 3201 Main Street, phone 310-527-6700, at the rate of \$99 a night (this includes breakfast). Reservations can be made through May 20 at this rate.

Thrivent Financial

Thrivent Financial is a financial services organization that helps Christians be wise with money and live generously, offering a broad range of products and services—including life insurance, annuities and mutual funds—along with guidance in making wise money choices that reflect their values.

St. John's is thankful to our Thrivent members who have directed their Choice Dollars to our church. If you would like your choice dollars to go to St. John's again this year, you must contact Thrivent before March 31.

Thrivent members are invited to come to our belated Christmas get-together at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, March 17, at Brush Creek Winery. Bring a dish to pass.

Easter Lilies

There is a sheet on the back table at St. John's to sign if you wish to share a plant to beautify the sanctuary this Easter. Indicate if yours is in memory or in honor of someone. Note, also, if you are bringing your own rather than having the Altar Committee purchase one for you.

Wartburg College Castle Singers

They are on their regional tour and will perform Friday, March 8, at 12:00 noon at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 1199 Main Street, Dubuque. A free-will donation will be accepted.

St. Catherine Parish Chicken Dinner

Sunday, March 31, 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Happy's Place, Dubuque, featuring Chicken by Kalmes Catering with salads and dessert bar. There will be games, bake sale, raffle items. Adults—\$10.00 (\$9.50 in advance, \$10.50 for take out); Children, 6-12 years, \$4; 5 & under, free. Hot dogs available for kids. For advance tickets, call 556-6880; take-outs, call 563-451-6082 in advance.

*Midweek Lenten Services will be March 13, March 27, & April 10 at St. John's;
March 20 & April 3 at St. Paul's.*



Lenten Soup Suppers are to be held at 6:00 p.m. before each of St. John's midweek services. Freewill offerings will be received. The March 27th supper will be served by the youth. Volunteers are asked to sign up.

Rural Ministry Conference-Wartburg Theological Seminary

Building Resilience Among Leaders & Communities: Where leaders in rural communities and congregations gather to gain insight and inspiration, to network and neighbor that our ministries might be empowered. This ecumenical conference includes worship, keynote speakers, workshops, and Bible study, and offers participants a unique opportunity to network with others who are active in and concerned about rural ministry. March 3-5. [Learn more online](http://www.wartburgseminary.edu/rural-conference/) at www.wartburgseminary.edu/rural-conference/

March is National Professional Social Work Month

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we're grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our community!

Maybe you've never had a social worker involved in your life. Yet, whether you realize it or not, you've had the benefit of their behind-the-scenes work in your community. Social workers help people help themselves in overcoming life's most difficult circumstances or managing challenges of everyday living: poverty, abuse, mental illness, depression, addiction, disability, and many other situations.

Iowa wouldn't be the same without the patience, guidance, and empowerment that social workers provide. Happy National Professional Social Work Month!

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Finding a Support System:

Aubreigh knew something needed to change. She was struggling with substance use and alcohol. She couldn't find a way to take care of her mental health. She was unable to provide a safe home for her son, who needed to move in with his dad. When she finally took a step in the right direction and found a home, all her belongings were stolen.

Through LSI's Family Safety, Risk, and Permanency Services, Aubreigh connected with her worker, Kelsy. Together, the duo is working on budgeting Aubreigh's money, finding a good job, and building a safe home environment for her son.

"I was in a bad situation, and I'm really thankful for LSI," she says. "Without them, who knows where I'd be."

Aubreigh now meets with Kelsy once a week and feels like she is finally on the right path after plenty of hard work. She is working with her son and his father to build a healthy co-parenting relationship, and she knows Kelsy will always be in her corner, ready to cheer her on.

"Kelsy has been an awesome resource. She helps if we have issues co-parenting, and we do a lot better now as a family," Aubreigh says. "If I have any problems, Kelsy is there."



**Turn clocks ahead!
Daylight Saving Time begins March 10.**