

## **From Pastor Dan**

This year, Easter is about as late as it gets; April 21. (By the way, just to refresh your memories; Easter is always the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox.) Therefore, Lent begins with Ash Wednesday later than usual on March 6. Nevertheless, as is the case with many significant times in the church year, it sneaks up on us and is here before you know it. So, by way of preparation allow me to share the following information:

1. Lent suppers begin on Wednesday, March 6, and will be served from 5:15 -6:15 every Wednesday in Lent. A sign-up sheet is available in the narthex giving you an opportunity to participate in these meals. Please consider helping out. This year, the proceeds from the free-will offering will go to support improvement projects at Waypost Camping Ministries; the camps our confirmation students attend.
2. Worship during Lent will begin at 6:30 and this year will again feature a round robin of local ELCA pastors addressing the theme of “Perfect love casts out fear.” The first midweek Lenten service after Ash Wednesday, Pastor Niveen Sarras of Immanuel Lutheran will preside over worship. The following week you will experience Pastor Erik Olson of First English Lutheran. Next, Pastor Jen Dahle of St. Stephen Lutheran will lead worship. The fourth week, Pastor Phil Bogen of Trinity and St. Peter Lutheran churches will be giving you his take on how perfect love casts out fear. On April 10, I will conclude the series as your worship leader and preacher.  
In the past, these round robin worship services have been popular as they give you the chance to experience the perspective and styles of different pastors and see what you are missing out on by hanging on to this grumpy old man of a pastor you have.

Despite the fact that this year Easter is about as late as it gets, Ash Wednesday will soon be upon us. Therefore, I ask you to prepare yourselves. Consider what the penitential nature of Lent will mean for you this year; how you will think and act differently. And consider what you can do by actively participating in supporting the Lenten meals and

by “religiously” attending the midweek worship services. (As a reminder, confirmation students will participate and attend; no choice involved.)

God bless you all,

Pastor Dan

\*\*\*\*\*

*Worship Schedule*

**9:00 a.m. Sunday Mornings**

*Please join us as we worship our Lord!*

.....

**Council Members.** Here is a list of Council Members. Please contact them with any concerns or issues you may have. Council meets once a month and welcomes input from the congregation.

President: Randy Trulen – 715-675-4091; rtrulen@gmail.com

Vice President: Jan Mueller – 715-675-9558; dmjm5455.wau@gmail.com

Treasurer: Curt Cooley – 715-675-8566; 715-571-4057; usfcool@gmail.com

Secretary: Tammi Smith – 715-581-3892; tammism79@gmail.com;

tammism@aspirus.org

Trustees: Lee Sillars – 715-218-5041; rdfx1234@gmail.com

Scott Oestreich – 715-675-4360; scottsmachinellc@gmail.com

Evangelism: Lane Bahr – 715-297-0017; lucylane35@hotmail.com

Fellowship: Mike Preisig – 715-675-4981

Education: Connie Nowak – 715-675-1577; 715-432-3837; bcdenowak@gmail.com

Worship: Heidi Teske – 715-551-4485; heidi.teske2007@gmail.com

---

**Mission Statement:** “We are called to serve God; serve each other; serve the community; serve the wider church.”

**Serve God** through worship, prayer, and the dedication of our lives to His kingdom.

**Serve Each Other** by mutual care and support to encourage everyone to fulfill their God-given potential. **Serve the Community** by making known the good news about Jesus and the love of God by word and deed. **Serve the Wider Church** through prayer and practical support to help spread the good news about Jesus throughout the world.

**Homebound Parishioners.** The following parishioners are no longer able to consistently attend worship services. I visit them to remind them that they are loved by God and loved by their community of faith, St. John. Sometimes it is helpful to hear those reminders from someone in addition to me.

Ann Kieckhafer  
1347 Crystal Avenue  
Room 236-1  
Naperville, IL 60563

Ellen Kruit  
1821 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Room 215  
Wausau, WI 54401

Harriet Wanner  
1240 Merrill Ave.  
Apt. 2  
Wausau, WI 54401

**Sisterhood Fireside Trip.** St. John’s Sisterhood is planning a bus trip to the Fireside Theater on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. We are going to see “Menopause: The Musical.” The cost of the entire event is \$105, which includes the Lamers bus, meal, show and all gratuities. We will also provide a snack, wter and a sandwich lunch. Everyone is welcome. More information is available in the narthex. Please contact Sue Harris at 715-551-6282 or Jeanne Klinger at 715-302-4331 with questions.

**St. John Brotherhood Changes.** After several attempts to re-ignite interest and participation in the St. John Brotherhood by changing meeting times and trying to introduce new meeting topics, we have reluctantly concluded that this means of fellowship has run its course after 73 years. Therefore, there will no longer be monthly meetings of this group. *However*, we were not yet ready to abandon *all* attempts. Our suggestion is to organize meetings on a roughly quarterly basis with special topics or activities, perhaps food, guest speakers, field trips, or other ideas as provided by St. John members of any age or gender. We have tentatively penciled in May 21<sup>st</sup> for the first

such meeting, and September 21<sup>st</sup> for a second. We are seeking input from anyone regarding possible topics or activities to consider. The men will continue to be the driving force in organizing the details. So please provide any input you may have to Mike Kluetz, John Marquardt, or Pastor Dan.

**Thrivent Choice Program.** St. John receives funds through Thrivent Financial's Thrivent Choice program. By directing "Choice Dollars," eligible Thrivent members can designate which nonprofit organizations should receive their "Choice Dollars." If you are an eligible member, please consider designating St. John when directing your Choice Dollars. Call 800-847-4836 or visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice).

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt.** Please join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at 10:15am. Children of all ages are welcome! Not only will we hunt for special treats but we will also read the Easter story, do crafts, and eat snacks while learning about Jesus' sacrifice and love for us!



The Easter Egg is hollow,  
Just like they found the tomb;  
For it is meant to represent,  
Christ has risen for YOU!

**Reminder!** If you are in the hospital and would like Pastor Dan to visit, **PLEASE CALL** and let him know. Because of privacy issues, the hospital will not notify him or the church that you are there.

**Food Pantry.** The food items collected for the food pantry will be donated to Maine School. Your donations are appreciated. If you are able to help out with delivering these items to the school, please contact the church office.

**Council Meeting Minutes.** Copies of the minutes from the most recently held Council meeting are by the mailboxes. Please feel free to pick up a copy. If more are needed, please contact the church office.

**March Birthdays**

3-2 Matthew Rowe  
3-2 Zachary Suliin  
3-3 Jennifer Bronsteatter  
3-3 Tyler Eno  
3-3 Logan Heil  
3-4 Lynn Buchberger  
3-4 Ryan Seubert  
3-5 Carol Prochnow  
3-6 Ashley Bunge  
3-7 Nick Oelke  
3-8 Mariah Marquardt  
3-10 Steven Erdmann  
3-10 Isaac Oelke  
3-10 Henry Welch  
3-11 Caleigh Bahr  
3-12 Heather Gallenberg  
3-12 Kate Saari  
3-13 Don Voelker  
3-15 Jan Mueller  
3-17 Austin Walter  
3-18 Dan Hein  
3-18 Will Rode  
3-19 Stacey Linzmeyer  
3-20 Arden Mikich  
3-21 Trey Buchberger  
3-21 Clifford Knapp  
3-21 Sara Stubbe  
3-22 Jenna Guralski  
3-23 Marlene Bahr

**March Anniversaries**

3-26 Skip & Betty Hoenisch

**March Birthdays (Continued)**

- 3-23 Brenda Knudsen
- 3-23 Nicole Woodmansee
- 3-24 Benjamin Grueneberg
- 3-25 Mike Stubbe
- 3-26 Kay Knapp
- 3-27 Michael La Vake
- 3-29 Betty Hoenisch
- 3-30 Jason Grueneberg
- 3-31 James Haroldson
- 3-31 Bruce Radant
- 3-31 Kylie Stubbe