

Mission Messenger!

Living our faith. Enriching lives.

**APRIL
2020**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

2-6	Hospitality/ Celebration Worship
7-8	Faith Formation
9-10	Mission & Service Worship Hours/ Church Contact Info



**“Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”**

Joshua 1:9

Dear Church, this is our time to shine. Christians have always been the ones to proclaim hope in times of despair and life in the face of death. Our families, our communities and our world need us to do that now, to be light in the darkness.

Make a phone call, send a note, write messages of encouragement on your driveway, sidewalk, or windows. Pray for one another. In this newsletter you will find worship resources to use for personal worship during Holy Week and Easter. We hope to also post worship services for these special days to our YouTube channel- St. John De Pere. Check that resource for updates. Please share all these resources with others. Hold fast to the sure and certain promise of whose we are.

**“But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed
you; I have called you by name, you are mine.”**

Isaiah 43:1

Pastor Cindy

~~Little Library~~



With the regular libraries currently closed, we have seen an increase in the use of the “Little Library” located by the Lost Dauphin Road driveway here.

So... if you have books gathering dust, now would be a great time to bring them over and place them in the “Little Library” to share with our neighbors.

One more way we are “Living our faith. Enriching lives.”

VIRTUAL SOUP SUPPER SHARING!

Send what you prepared, or what you would have prepared for soup supper, and we’ll gather and format the recipes to share with everyone in the May newsletter. Thank you!

Please email them to kristin@stjohndepere.org or call/text Kristin at 920-360-6045.

Soup
Supper



Hospitality & Celebration

Leah Cathryn Schreurs

Baptized on 03/15/20

Parents: Travis & Joanna Schreurs



WE PRAY:

"Praise the Lord:

praise God our savior!

**For each day he carries us in his
arms." Psalm 68:19**

Gerry Bos, John Grom,

Michael Johanek,

Bill Martin and Seth Meinel



SAVE THE DATE
St. John Golf
Outing
June 7th
More
information to
follow at a later
date.



WOMEN'S ELCA SPRING EVENT
HAS BEEN CANCELLED

GIVE ONLINE. IT'S EASY!! And in these times of

**"Safer at Home" it is incredibly
important for sustaining our ministry.**

***Set up and manage recurring donations**

***Make one-time contributions**

***View your online giving history**

***Visit the church website to get started
today @ www.stjohndepere.org**

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

The Thrivent Choice Program allows Thrivent

Financial members to choose where Thrivent
distributes its charitable outreach grant
dollars. Thank you to all who have listed

St. John as a recipient! Remember to contact

Thrivent to indicate where you would like
your Choice Dollars to go. For questions,

more information, or to start designating

Choice Dollars, please contact

Thrivent directly 1-800-THRIVENT.

St. John's Book Club

Postponed until a further date.

TO ALL ST. JOHN'S GARDENERS

This year we would like to establish a raised garden

bed on the church grounds! Before spring arrives

I would like to see us have the raised bed built, it

may be installed and filled with soil in spring.

Spring will be here before we know it!

If interested, please contact Charlie Demske

at 920-360-1981 or

charlesdemske@gmail.com

Check out Living Lutheran –
the magazine of the ELCA online!
www.livinglutheran.org



Palm
Sunday



Maundy
Thursday



Good
Friday



Easter
Sunday

HOLY WEEK AT HOME ~ 2020

*Use this resource for your personal or family devotion and worship time during Holy Week.
As Jesus remembered and promised paradise to the one being crucified with him, Jesus remembers us.
We never walk alone.*

PALM SUNDAY

(IF WE CAN, WE WILL HAVE PALM BRANCHES OUTSIDE FOR PEOPLE TO DRIVE THROUGH AND PICK UP.)

Palm Sunday begins with a processional Gospel to commemorate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Find a leaf, branch, picture, drawing or something representative of the palm branches that were waved and strewn before Jesus as he entered Jerusalem. Hold it your hands and imagine the scene: the sights, the sounds, the smells, the joy.

Christ triumphantly enters our lives. Christ is here with us today. Hosanna! Underlying this deep joy lies a sense of foreboding. Jesus will not survive this journey that ultimately leads to the cross. Joy and pain within the span of the week. As the palms strewn about remain on this pathway, left to wither, be trampled upon and die, so will Jesus. Raise your palm and celebrate life.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest heaven!

Raising palm branches we joyously shout:

Hosanna to the Lord!

Processional Gospel: Matthew 21:1-11

Hymn: All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Refrain

All glory, laud, and honor
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

You are the king of Israel
and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
our King and Blessed One. *Refrain*

Text: Theodulph of Orleans, 760-821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt. Public Domain.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Holy Jesus, we come before you in our brokenness, confessing our sin.

(Pause for silent confession)

In our hearts we seek unity: unity within and without, and above all unity with you. We confess our sins that promote distrust, disunity and disbelief of your promises. We desire to be united and reconciled with you and one another. Hear us as we cry out in confession.

God hears our pleas. God listens to our prayers. God loves us, forgives us and pours out a cup of blessing upon us.

Christ loves us like no other. We are freed and forgiven.

Hymn: Lord Jesus, Think on Me

Lord Jesus, think on me,
and purge away my sin;
from selfish passions set me free
and make me pure within.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
by anxious thoughts oppressed;
let me your loving servant be
and taste your promised rest.

Lord Jesus, think on me,
that, when the flood is past,
I may the eternal brightness see
and share your joy at last.

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375-430; tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt. Public Domain

Gospel: John 13:1–17, 31b–35

Hymn: Ah, Holy Jesus

Ah, holy Jesus, how hast thou offended
that we to judge thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by thine own rejected,
O most afflicted.

Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone thee.
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied thee;
I crucified thee.

Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay thee,
I do adore thee, and will ever pray thee;
think on thy pity and thy love unswerving,
not my deserving.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt. Public Domain.

As you partake in your evening meal tonight, be mindful of the meal that Jesus and the disciples shared.

Imagine Jesus at the table with you and your loved ones who are gathered. How would you respond to Jesus' words and actions? How is Jesus calling you this evening to stay awake?

GOOD FRIDAY: JOURNEY TO THE CROSS

Christian pilgrims in Jerusalem observed the custom of saying prayers at various sites associated with the Passion. While traditions vary these eight are based directly on events of scripture. Prayerfully reflect on these stations as you read these scripture passages:

1: Jesus is Condemned to Death (Read John 19:14-16)

2: Jesus Receives the Cross (Read Mark 15:20)

3: Jesus is Helped by Simon of Cyrene (Read Matthew 27:32)

4: Jesus Meets the Women of Jerusalem (Read Luke 23:27-31)

5: Jesus is Stripped of His Garments (Read Matthew 27:28-31)

6: Jesus is Nailed to the Cross (Read Matthew 27:32-44)

Hymn: Were You There

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?...

Were you there when they pierced him in the side?...

Were you there when the sun refused to shine?...

Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?...

Text: African American spiritual. Public Domain.

7: Jesus Dies on the Cross (Read Matthew 27:45-56)

8: Jesus is Laid in the Tomb (Read Matthew 27:57-61)

Almighty God, thank you for the gift of Jesus. By his death we are called to new life. By his love we have hope and the promise of eternal life. May we be mindful of this glorious gift today and always. Amen

Hymn: The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,

the emblem of suff'ring and shame;

and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners were slain.

Refrain

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,

till my trophies at last I lay down;

I will cling to the old rugged cross,

and exchange it some day for a crown.

Oh, that old rugged cross so despised by the world,

has a wondrous attraction for me;

for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above,

to bear it to dark Calvary. *Refrain*

To the old rugged cross I will ever be true,

its shame and reproach gladly bear;

Christ will call me some day to my home far away,

where his glory forever I'll share. *Refrain*

Text: George Bennard, 1873-1958. Public Domain.

EASTER SUNDAY: CHRIST IS RISEN!

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day that the Lord has made.

We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Easter Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10

Discuss/Reflect: Why does the resurrection matter? If there were no resurrection, how would your life be different?

Hymn: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!

our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!

suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!

praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!

praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!

Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, Lyra Davidica, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4. Public Domain.



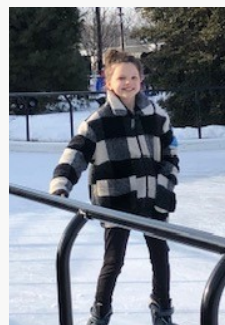
Faith Formation



Trip to Titledown a BLAST!

God blessed us with perfect weather for our Trip to Titledown on Sunday, March 1st.

With more than 20 teens and our awesome parent drivers in attendance, we enjoyed ice skating, tubing and just a ton of fun being together!



SOUP SUPPERS – GATHER AND SERVE!



The first two soup suppers of the year hosted a large number of teenagers... eating, chatting and helping out our community! All involved were happy to enjoy delicious soup, get caught up, and volunteer their time working on two important service projects. The first was cleaning the Metal Easter Cross' for the mission trip fundraiser; and the second was separating plastic silverware for St. John Homeless Shelter. After giving their time, all attended our Lenten service. God is present in our teens, no doubt!



Virtual Youth Group!

Watch your email/text messages for our **Youth Group Google Hangout this Thursday night, March 26th**! We'll have two groups – 6th-8th graders and then 9th-12th graders -who will be invited to participate via Google. We'll check-in, see how everyone is doing, and have a couple of games with prizes (!) to stay connected while we're at home. Bring your snacks, your smile and get ready to socialize!! Looking forward to seeing you all soon! Please let Kristin know if you have any questions at 920-360-6045 or kristin@stjohndepere.org.

*Thanks to Ken and Dina Destiche and their business LaserForm, LLC we have beautiful cross' for your perfect Easter and/or future family celebration. Each cross is \$15 each and all proceeds will be used to support the **2020 Youth Mission Trip**. If you are interested in purchasing during this social distancing/COVID-19 timeframe, please contact Kristin Bouchard directly at 920-360-6045 or at kristin@stjohndepere.org and we can arrange your purchase including doorstep delivery.*



Faith Formation



CHRIST CARE ~ ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

WOW ~ ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

MEN IN MISSION ~ ON HOLD UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



CONFIRMATION UPDATE

At this time class sessions, as well as the actual date for Confirmation, are on hold.

FIRST COMMUNION CELEBRATION

The date(s) for celebrating First Communion for our 3rd grade students is postponed to a date yet to be determined.

THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING



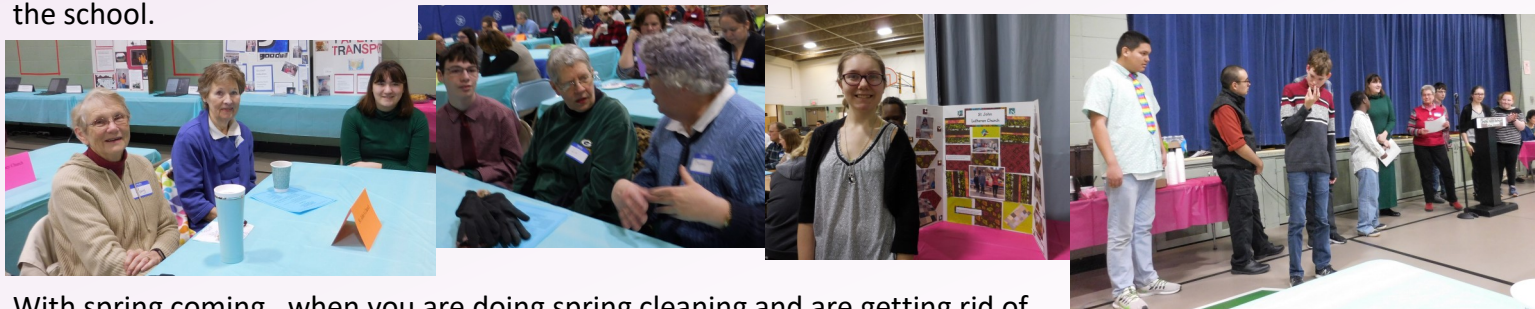
MISSION TRIP 2020 UPDATE (IT'S NOT CANCELLED)

Youthworks has been sending regular communication to all trip leaders with information on their response to changes because of COVID-19. If anything changes with our July trip, you'll be the first to know! Our first mission trip meeting is scheduled for **April 19th** and depending on the situation at that time, we'll adjust to how we "gather" for this meeting. Stay tuned!

Mission & Service

mission sewing

On February 28th the sewing group was invited to attend the Community Partners Appreciation program at Syble Hopp. We were presented with a certificate of recognition by the students who come on Thursdays. We saw some past students that had come on Thursdays and learned what they are doing now and afterwards we had a tour of the school.



With spring coming, when you are doing spring cleaning and are getting rid of sheets or fabric, we will gladly take them to use for our quilts. *Judy Beerntsen*

Mission & Service



If you, a loved one, or a friend would like to have prayers, please call Karen Cota at 920-632-2015 or e-mail Carlyn Cooper at clpdckm@twc.com. We will get your requests out to our faithful prayer warriors. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29

Now is the time to practice faithful Stewardship

Stewardship is the act of being a steward. A steward is a person given responsibility to care for something of value, something we treasure. Stewardship is about taking care of something considered worth caring for and preserving.

Stewardship starts with the Steward. To be good Stewards, we need to first take care of ourselves. That means that when we are going through a stressful health event -- like the current one - we listen to our doctors and health experts and follow their advice.

Remember when you were on an airplane (when we used to fly!) and you heard, "put the mask on yourself first before trying to assist others"? *You are no good to anyone else if you get sick, so wash your hands, get enough sleep, keep yourself safe, practice social distancing.* First things first.

Once we've committed to taking care of the Steward, let's think about the people and communities that are important to us.

Stewardship is about caring for our families, close in and farther out. That includes our church families.

How can we be good Stewards in a time of great anxiety? The specific things you decide to do as a Steward of your church family will vary by the person, but here are a few ideas:

- ✝ This is a great time to check in on each other - especially those who might fall into a higher risk group. Give them a call. Look through your church directory, reach out to those you may not have seen since our last service together. Might they appreciate a call?
- ✝ Maybe there's someone you've meant to thank for the work they do... friends, neighbors, police, medical, hospital, first responders, nurses, nursing home workers... Why not drop a note or email just sharing your appreciation?
- ✝ What about your own financial commitment to the ministry of SJLC? Are you on schedule? In times of anxiety people can forget to continue to support ministry. The truth is bills still need to be paid, and ministries still need to be funded. Visit our web page <http://stjohndepere.org/> to sign up for online giving.
- ✝ Check out and subscribe to our YouTube channel – St John De Pere (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCli1cjRdeaDr3N5fYKeuRUw>) – for Virtual Services and to keep connected!
- ✝ Take time for prayer.
- ✝ Check out and subscribe to our Face Book Page - <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnDePere/> - for information and updates
- ✝ Ensure you are signed up for the Monday Morning E-Blast and or our electronic newsletter – if you are not signed up just email office@stjohndepere.org
- ✝ Caring for the caregivers. Sometimes we expect our clergy to shoulder the worry and anxiety all themselves. But they need self-care and your concern (and prayers) too. Maybe a call or email to let them know you're thinking about them?

We all hope we will get back to some sort of normal soon enough and seeing you "in church." In the meantime, let's practice strengthening our "Stewardship muscles" and "BEING THE CHURCH!"

Stay well,

The SJLC Stewardship Team



Worship & Contact Info


St. John Lutheran Church Council Members

Contact via: office@stjohndepere.org
or office ph (920) 336-1082

Andrew Tobisch	President
Sean Day	Vice President
Jim Johaneck	Secretary
Mike McMullen	Treasurer
Jenna Benjamin	Worship & Music
Gail Ryan	Worship & Music
Dave Broderick	Property
Beth Challe	Faith Formation
Rick Johnson	Mutual Ministry
Kaitlynn Labs	Celebration/Outreach
Dave VanVonderen	Security Ministry

Visit us on the web!

www.stjohndepere.org

and on 

facebook.com/StJohnDePere



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

APRIL 15, 2020

Send submissions to
newsletter@stjohndepere.org

WORSHIP TIMES

Until further notice all services
and activities are suspended.

OFFICE HOURS

8:00am – 3:00pm

Mon-Thurs

Ph. 336-1082

office@stjohndepere.org

Rev. Cindy Warmbier-Meyer

pastorcindy@stjohndepere.org

Office Phone 336-1082 Ext. 103