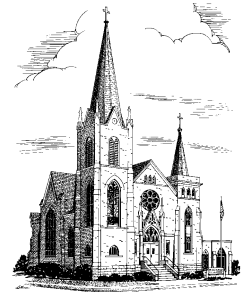


# The St. John's Messenger

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## Peace with God

What do you think of Robin Hood? It is an interesting story. I recently happened to come across some interesting facts about the Robin Hood legend that I hadn't known before. It seems the legend is based on a real person, or on several different people. There was Robert of Loxley who lived in the 1100s A.D., during the reign of King Richard the Lionheart. There was also Robert Hode who took part in a revolt in the 1300s. And there were others.

Whoever he was, the legend of Robin Hood grew out of a time and place where kings and other rulers had far reaching and almost unquestioned authority. Human nature tends to misuse authority, and so some of those rulers used their authority to benefit themselves and oppress the people. You can understand, then, why stories of someone who "robbed from the rich and gave to the poor" would grow and spread quickly.

The authority of the rulers to set laws and carry out punishment is far different than we are familiar with today. Death was a common punishment for many crimes. Even hunting deer in the king's forest was punishable by death.

Can you imagine living in such a place. What if you broke one of the king's laws? In a sense, you would become the king's enemy. Whatever peace you had beforehand would be gone. You could try to argue or fight your way out, but he is the one in power and your chances of escaping punishment would be extremely small. How would you feel? Would you be angry? Afraid of death?

Our country's legal system is not like that, yet we do live under a ruler with complete and unquestionable authority. That ruler is God. But the God that created us and is King over all he created does not give us rules and laws that benefit him. He gives us laws that benefit us. Truly, we would all be blessed if we followed them, but we do not. Therefore, by not following his commands we have destroyed peace with him and rightfully deserve his inescapable punishment.

But God does something amazing. Perhaps some of the kings of England at times let a criminal go free, but none of them ever punished their own son in place of a criminal. Yet, that is what God did for you so that you would no longer be his enemy, but have peace with him. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, you are free from fear of God's punishment. You have peace with God.

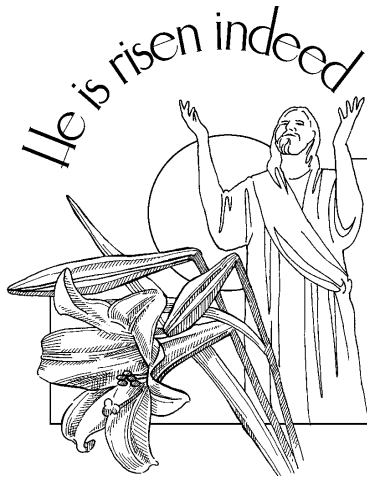
For more information about Robin Hood take a look at [www.robinhoodloxley.net](http://www.robinhoodloxley.net). For more information about peace with God, read God's work on the topic – the Bible. A good place to start is the Gospel of John.

In Christ, our Savior,  
Pastor Draper

### **St. John's Mission statement:**

*The continuing purpose of this congregation is to serve all people in God's world  
with the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.*

**Presidents Report to St Johns Church Council & Congregation  
March 2012**



**He is risen. He is risen indeed.** These are words that we are so familiar with at Easter time. Easter will be here in a few short weeks and we celebrate our salvation in Jesus Christ our Savior. This is a great time to ask others, members or not, to join us at our services. It may be the Wednesday night soup suppers, regular Sunday services, Holy week services or Easter Sunday and the having breakfast and fellowship with our congregation, the opportunities are many for us to share the reason for our happiness at this time of the year.

We are planning a congregational get together on long range planning Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm. We will review what we discussed last year, what has been accomplished since then, along with ideas to continue growth in our work for the Lord. There will be discussion regarding church, outreach, school and more. Please plan on being there to give your input, we are all working together to spread God's Word.

March 20<sup>th</sup> is kindergarten round up. This is another opportunity of outreach for us here at St. Johns. If you know of families with young children looking for a great place to have their children in God's Word and get a great education, this is it. Have them come and check us out!

We were privileged to see a great production of "The Trial of the Big Bad Wolf" by our students here at St Johns. The teachers and staff put together a super cast and play that was very well done. We have some very talented actors and production staff at St Johns. They put on an entertaining show Sunday March 4<sup>th</sup> for the congregation. It was preceded by a tasty pot luck and then the preschooler's production of Tooty Ta. This intro was enjoyed by the audience as much as the actors! Again hats off to everyone involved in this production, it was very well done.

I would ask that we work to get a few more men involved with the leadership of our congregation. Consider that we can use one or two more Elders, a stewardship chairman and a school board member. Leo Derkowski's term is up in June too, so we will need a secretary for the church council at that time. These are opportunities to serve your congregation and do your Lord's work. Think about asking someone to get involved or get involved yourself!

Steve Windschitl  
President, St John's Congregation

## **Church Council Minutes March 12, 2012**

Present: Steve Windschitl, Barry Hillmann, Jim Mielke, Andy Lochner, Jerry Dittbenner, Dan Rick, Mike Crabtree and Pastor Draper.

Pastor Draper opened the meeting with devotion and a prayer.

### **Minutes**

Andy Lochner/Steve Windschitl made a motion to approve the February 2012 minutes. Motion carried.

### **Pastor's Report**

Written report.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Andy Lochner /Jerry Dittbenner made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

### **President's Report**

Written Report.

### **Board of Elders**

A 5 day school week is planned for 2011-2012. Jim Mielke made a motion to transfer out Nick Hacker to Abiding Savior, Elk River, MN from membership. Motion carried. Andy Lochner/Jim Mielke made a motion to transfer out Elisabeth Pottter to Christ Our Rock, Rochester, MN. Motion carried. Jim Mielke/Andy Lochner made a motion to transfer out Brad & Kris Bode & family to Trinity, Nicollet, MN. Motion carried.

### **Principal & Board of Education**

Discussion on Kindergarteners needing more academic time. Jerry Dittbenner/Mike Crabtree made a motion to hire a part-time flexible person to assist Pre-K with a preliminary amount of \$6,000. Motion carried.

Dan Rick stated \$115.00 was collected and sent for this quarter's mission, Africa-Zambia Seminary Campus Teachers. Grades 5-8 will be going to Fine Arts Day on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Basketball was completed in February. The school play was a success. St. John's LES students in grades 5-6<sup>th</sup> grade ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the nation and

and one of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders tied for first place in the MLC Meetmath competition. March 20<sup>th</sup> is Pre-K round-up.

### **Worship Committee**

Holy week services were discussed. A letter will go out reminding everyone when services will be held.

### **Maintenance Committee**

No report.

### **Outreach**

There was discussion regarding internet outreach and a possible nursing outreach program.

### **Stewardship**

No report.

### **MVL/WELS**

No report.

### **Endowment and Trust Fund Committee**

A \$10,000 donation was given to the School Building Fund in December. The next meeting will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

The next scheduled council meeting: 7:30 Tuesday, April 10, 2012.

Andy Lochner/Jerry Dittbenner made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted  
Barry Hillmann, Acting Secretary

## Ladies Aid

The regular monthly meeting of the Ladies Aid was held on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. President Marlys Lochner presided. Our devotion from Ephesians 1:15-23 was led by Pastor Draper. Paul prayed for the Ephesian Christians and asked God to cause them to know him even better.

Ten new gray stacking chairs have arrived. Total cost including shipping was \$557.50. The amount of \$385.00 was taken from the Chair Fund and \$172.50 came from our general account.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$20.00 in scrip for MVL's After Prom Party.

A motion was M/S/P to pay \$75.00 for the LWMS membership dues. The Spring Rally for LWMS will be held at Immanuel's in Owatonna on April 14<sup>th</sup>. The National Convention will be held in Winston Salem, NC. Those intending to go to the convention should contact Marley Kuckhahn.

The Spring Rally of the MLC Auxiliary will be at Zion, Winthrop on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

After a discussion, it was decided to have a Bakeless Bake Sale this Spring. A little Bakeless Bake Sale Fund raising poem follows that we hope will explain our decision.



### Bakeless Bake Sale

Many is the time I heard you say  
I would rather give a "Dollar" than bake today  
And so, we are asking you to help more or less  
To make our Bakeless Bake Sale a big success.

Just send us the money that it would take  
To bake a loaf of bread or a beautiful cake  
Or send in the amount of money it takes to buy  
A dozen rolls or maybe a pie  
We know you can help us if you will but try.

This fundraiser is sponsored by the Ladies Aid. Checks are payable to the Ladies Aid. There will be a basket provided for this cause on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

Block 4 served for the Robert Sucker funeral luncheon. Block 1 is up to serve. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Come join us!

Marilyn Deibele, Secretary



## News from Mrs. Shrum's Classroom Pre-K/K

### PRESCHOOL:

During the month of March the Preschool students have been learning about the letters: U and X. They are growing up so fast! They enjoy work time, where they get the opportunity to interact with the other students and learn through imaginative play.

### KINDERGARTEN:

The Kindergarten class is continuing to enjoy reading, and they are getting better at it every day. They have learned so much in phonics class interacting with the smartboard, and look forward to it every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

### MRS. SHRUM'S CLASS:

Spring is here!! As a whole class we are enjoying March is Reading month! We celebrated Dr. Seuss' Birthday on March 2nd, and have been blessed to have many friends from St. John's come and read to our class! Thanks to all of you who signed up to read and helped us celebrate this important month!

*Thanks*  
for your participation

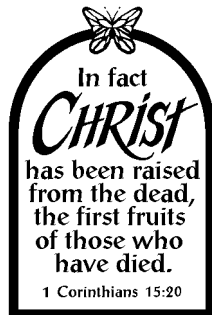
### LOOKING AHEAD:

In April we will celebrate Easter at the beginning of the month. The 4 year old Preschoolers and Kinders will also be visiting Martin Luther College to see a Children's Theater production of "The Emperor's New Clothes". We are looking forward to it!

## News from Mrs. Halvorson's Classroom Grades 1-3

April brings the hope of Spring and the joy of the Resurrection!

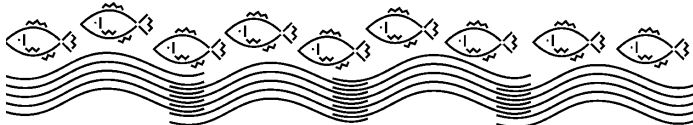
The last quarter of our school year has already begun. The time has flown by with new skills learned and busy days full of learning.



We have followed Jesus to the cross with our mid-week Lenten services, Bible lessons, and special Resurrection Egg devotions.

In our Christ-Light lessons, we are following the Children Of Israel. We see God's undeserved love to His people and to us as well.

We are excited that we have begun our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual school reading challenge. Many hours of reading are being logged to see if we can get Pastor and Mr. Rick dunked in a dunk tank in late May. Stay tuned for the results of the children's efforts!



In Reading class Grade 2 will be doing an author study on children's author

Vera B. Williams this month. First grade will enjoy digging into humorous chapter books such as Mouse Soup and Mouse Tales by Arnold Lobel. Grade 3 will enjoy some mini mysteries this month for a change of pace.

Social Studies class for Grades 3-4 has taken us to the Southwestern states. We have especially enjoyed studying the Grand Canyon so far and marveling at God's awesome world! Through resources like the Smartboard and Learn 360 video clips, the children have gained a better understanding of the material and feel like they have taken a mini trip themselves!

Mathematicians in our room are honing their skills. First graders are counting quarters, identifying and counting hundreds, tens, and ones, and subtracting using doubles plus one addition facts. Second Graders are identifying right angles, locating points on a coordinate graph, and multiplying by three and

four. Grade Three will learn about perpendicular lines and divide by three, six and nine, adding and subtracting fractions, and more!

At the end of April we will enjoy our annual spring field trip to MLC to see the play "The Emperor's New Clothes."

God Bless your Spring!  
Mrs. Halvorson



## News from Mr. Rick's Classroom Grades 4-8

### Computers

In Computer Class the students have been typing using *Typing Web*. They also use *Gamestar Mechanic* to make and play games. *Gamestar Mechanic* is a website that allows students to make their own games, publish them, and play other published games. The students have also been using *Scratch*, an easy to use programming software.

- Ben Draper

### Music

In Music class we are learning fun, melodic songs for the Lenten season! We are preparing songs for Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. For Easter, we are going to be using chimes with "Alleluia! Sing, Christ Is Risen." We are also singing "How Beautiful" for Good Friday. Grades 6-8 will also sing with the adult choir for Palm Sunday. Everyone is enjoying music class with Mrs. Shrum!

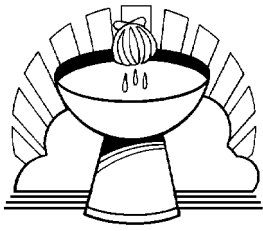
- Abby Maasz

### Physical Education

Recently in Physical Education, grades 4-8 have finished up playing paddleball in the church basement. Since the weather has been extremely warm, we are now playing kickball, field hockey, and alley soccer outside.

- Colten Maas

## Catechism



Currently in Catechism the 8<sup>th</sup> grade is learning about Christian prayer and baptism. We recently studied how a Christian uses God's Word in his or her daily life. We also received a brief history of the world.

- Luke Draper

## Christ Light

In Christ Light grades 5-8 have been learning about Saul, David, and Jonathon. 4<sup>th</sup> grade is also learning about David and Saul and how Saul attempts to kill David. Grades 5-8 are also learning about how Saul is jealous of David, but how Jonathon is a friend to him.

- Kendra Hunt

## Art

In Art class, we have been creating many new things. Our classroom has especially enjoyed the Shape Collages and the Bouncing Christmas Trees. Upcoming in the next weeks, Mrs. Crabtree will be doing a few Art projects with us too.

Chantel Moldan

## Math

Currently in Math class, the 6<sup>th</sup> graders have been learning area of a circle and measuring turns. Meanwhile, 4<sup>th</sup> grade is learning decimal place values, classifying quadrilaterals, and estimating multiplication/division answers. Algebra 1 is learning complex fractions, division of complex fractions, and (most fun of all) substitution axioms while solving simultaneous equations.

- Tim Haag

The month of March has been a wonderful blessing! St. John's school performed wonderfully with their play *The Trial of the Big, Bad Wolf*. They represented their school, family, community, and Savior with their talents of acting. Congratulations on a job well done in the name of your Savior!

The students also finished their 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter mission offering with a total of \$115! Thank you students for your encouragement and prayers as the money will be used to spread God's Word in Africa. Our next mission offering for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter is MVLHS.

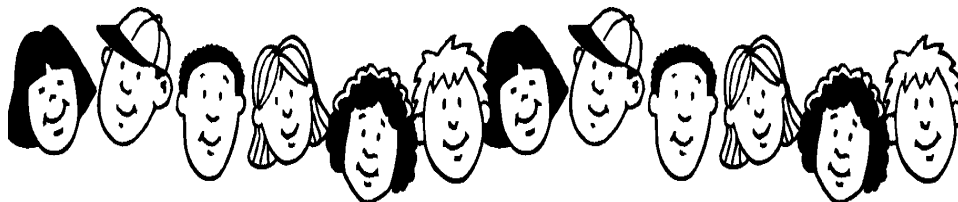
Meet Math also finished in Mr. Rick's classroom and the 5-6 grade team finished 4<sup>th</sup> among 16 teams around the nation competing against schools their size. Way to go Mathletes!

The students have been reading more often recently to reach a goal of 30,000 minutes again this year. We will have a dunk tank if the goal is reached and students will have the opportunity to dunk either Pastor Draper or Mr. Rick. Get those arms warmed up!



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Spring is here and the students have been enjoying the warm weather! It has shown in their faces and performance in the classroom. What blessings we have received early from our Lord. For more information on Mr. Rick's classroom, search our web page!



## **MLC Ladies Auxiliary**

The Spring rally of the local circuit of the MLC Ladies Auxiliary will be held on Monday evening, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at Zion Lutheran Church in Winthrop. It will run from 6:30 to 9:00 pm. All women are very welcome to attend! Come and hear about what is new on campus, what the auxiliary has been doing to support student life and programs, and how you can share in this opportunity to be a blessing to our synod's college of pastoral, teacher and outreach students.

Here is a brief recap of the current year's project list:

- MLC Ladies' Auxiliary Scholarships - \$3,000 - FUNDED.
- Support for the MLC Library - \$1,250 – FUNDED
- Daylight Outreach Opportunities - \$2,500 – FUNDED
- A set of class textbooks for Foundations of History - **\$1,400 – NOT FUNDED YET**
- Landscaping for Chapel of the Christ - **\$2,000 – NOT FUNDED YET**
- Lounge furniture for children's literature section of the library - **\$992 – NOT FUNDED YET**
- Christmas tree for Chapel of the Christ - **\$1,000. NOT FUNDED YET**
- Window treatments for MLC campus house - **\$1,000 NOT FUNDED YET**
- Step Exercise Machine for MLC Fitness Center - **\$2,600- NOT FUNDED YET**
- Marriage Candle for Chapel of the Christ - **\$1,225 – NOT FUNDED YET**

If you wish to contribute to the Auxiliary in support of their projects, you may send it to the address below. **Please remember to clearly indicate “for MLC Ladies Auxiliary” on the memo line so it will get to the auxiliary's funds.** Thank you very much!

Martin Luther College  
1995 Luther Court  
New Ulm, MN 56073