

# *The St. John's Messenger*

St. John's Lutheran Church & School 221 Walnut St. S.E.  
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085  
Church 794-6202 School 794-6200 Pastor 794-4500  
[www.stjohnsse.com](http://www.stjohnsse.com)



**APRIL 2013**

## According to Plan

It happens almost every time. I plan one thing, but something unexpected happens and my plans are put on hold or changed in some way. I planned to get a lot done yesterday but a telephone call I received and a someone who needed help changed my plans. I still got a lot done; it just wasn't what I had planned. Has that ever happened to you – a vacation cut short by an emergency or a project at home costs more than you thought it would? It seems that very little goes exactly according to plan. The change to our plan may only be a minor inconvenience and hardly noticed, but sometimes the change can mean a change in the rest of our lives.

The truth is we are not in control. We can make plans and work toward our goals, but there is a great deal outside of our control. (The older I get the clearer that truth is to me.) As God says in the book of James, "You ought to say, 'If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that'" (James 4:15). The weather, for example, has caused many farmers to change their plans – more than once. Sickness can be another plan changer – from chicken pox to life threatening cancer. I'm sure you have seen your own plans change for a variety of reasons.

Yet, it doesn't matter how our own plans have been derailed because we have a God who promises, "For I know the plans I have for you . . . plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11). God has a plan. God's plan is never derailed or changed. He is in control.

But what are His plans? The hope and the future he has planned for believers is eternal life with him. When the other plans in your life change – the weather prevents you from doing work in the field, unexpected bills change your plans, or cancer has invaded your body – remember the plans God has for you.

God's plans are certain and unchanging. They are based on the one for whom everything went according to plan – Jesus Christ. When Jesus was born, it was according to God's plan. As Jesus lived on this earth, performed miracles, and taught his disciples, it was all according to God's plan. Even when Jesus died on the cross and came back to life – that was God's plan. It was all part of God's plan to save us. We were the ones who deserved to be on that cross, but God had different plans for us.

So go ahead and make your plans. But do it with the confidence of a dear child of God and the trust that the master planner is working out the details.

In Christ, the Master Planner  
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 2013**

At our voters meeting March 3rd we called Lori Soloviyov for our K/Pre K teacher. Keep Mrs. Soloviyov in your prayers as she deliberates the call and continue to pray for our school and our K/ Pre-K program.

Many thanks go to Brad Berkner, Kevin & Chris Leopold and Steve Pottter for doing the snow removal on our church & school grounds this year. It is much appreciated. It will snow when it is least convenient for them but they get it done.

Mike Crabtree has been great with taking care of our building projects and maintenance along with the Leopold's. He wants to continue doing the work but his term is up as maintenance chairman. If you would be interested in being the maintenance chairman you would have a great team helping you. Contact myself, Pastor or Dave Silfies if you would like more information on filling his position.

We continue to look for people to help with the work that needs to be done here at St Johns. At this time our council needs a secretary and the Elders need at least one more to serve on their board. If you cannot help in these positions there are many other projects that can use help. Check with Dave Silfies, myself or Pastor; let us know what you may be interested in and we can suggest things that could be done.

Financial Peace University wraps up March 14<sup>th</sup> with the final lesson on stewardship. The class has been well received and attended by those that signed up. There are 12 families attending ranging from teenagers to young married, to middle age to retired. I heard comments from most of them, no matter the age, on how I wish I would have known more of this sooner in life! The class has been enjoyable for me and Dave to administer, we have learned much also. There was one nonmember couple that joined us for this class and I have had another nonmember request for the next class! We plan to offer it again this fall.

We are over halfway through the Lenten season. Hopefully you have had an opportunity to attend the Wednesday evening services and join us for supper. Lent is a time of repentance and reflection on what God did for us by sending His one & only Son to die for our sins. Because of this we will have eternal life with God.

Palm Sunday & Holy Week will be here in a few short weeks, there will be many opportunities to attend services here at St John's and to receive the Lord's Supper. Plan to take in these times to be with the Lord and invite those that haven't been attending to join us also.

Have a blessed Easter.

In Christ,

Steve Windschitl

President, St John's Congregation

## St. John's Basketball Season Success!



Congratulations to the St. John's basketball team for another successful season! The Warriors completed their season in early February at the Hutchinson tournament and ended with an 18-11 win over St. Paul's, St. James and an 8-13 record overall. This year's players included three 7<sup>th</sup> graders: Parker Landkammer, Colten Maas, and Chantel Landkammer, two 5<sup>th</sup> graders: Matthew Beussman and Dakota Hunt, four 4<sup>th</sup> graders: Molly Landkammer, Colton Moldan, Ella Beussman, and Erin Hinrichs, and one 3<sup>rd</sup> grader: Kaiden Hammerschmidt. Our entire team will be back next year and the improvements made this year will make next year's team fun to watch. Below are this year's results:

### 2012 – 2013 Basketball Season

Dec 8, 2012	Mt. Olive, Mankato	4 – 28	L
Dec 8, 2012	Risen Savior, Mankato	13 – 5	W
Dec 8, 2012	St. Anne's, Wabasso	8 – 26	L
Dec 11, 2012	St. Peter's, St. Peter	30 – 18	W
Dec 11, 2012	Trinity, Nicollet	18 – 9	W
Dec 20, 2012	St. John, Redwood Falls	14 – 22	L
Jan 15, 2013	Prairie, Fairfax	14 – 15	L
Jan 17, 2013	St. Peter's, St. Peter	12 – 10 (OT)	W
Jan 17, 2013	Trinity, Nicollet	23 – 10	W
Jan 18, 2013	St. Michael's, Morgan	15 – 39	L
Jan 26, 2013	NUACS, New Ulm	11 – 36	L
Jan 26, 2013	Sleepy Eye Public	10 – 18	L
Jan 26, 2013	St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye	8 – 40	L
Jan 31, 2013	St. Michael's, Morgan	25 – 26	L
Feb 5, 2013	St. Paul's, St. James	17 – 14	W
Feb 5, 2013	Trinity, Nicollet	28 – 12	W
Feb 9, 2013	St. John, Redwood Falls	8 – 15	L
Feb 9, 2013	Immanual, Gaylord	9 – 10	L
Feb 9, 2013	St. Peter's, St. Peter	11 – 14	L
Feb 9, 2013	Our Savior, Hutchinson	5 – 12	L
Feb 9, 2013	St. Paul's, St. James	18 – 11	W

Regular Season: 6 – 4

Tournament: 2 – 9

Overall: 8 – 13

**Church Council Minutes  
March 12, 2013**

Present: Shorty Haus, Dan Rick, Dave Silfies, Steve Windschitl and Pastor Draper.

Pastor Draper opened the meeting with devotion and a prayer.

**Minutes**

Shorty Haus/Dave Silfies made a motion to approve the February 2013 minutes. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report**

Pastor gave Pastoral conference paper (Is 53 – Exeg/Isagog) in March.

**Treasurer's Report**

No report. Shorty Haus gave his report.

**President's Report**

Written report was presented.

**Board of Elders**

Dave Silfies/Shorty Haus made a motion to accept Glen Kotten into membership by adult Confirmation. Motion carried.

**Principal & Board of Education**

Lutheran Schools Week will be held April 15<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>. Parent's Day will be held Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> and Grandparent's Day will be held Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The presentation of the school play for the congregation will be held Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 1 :00 p.m.

Terra Nova testing will be held April 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Track begins April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The track meet will be held May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Pre-K/K open house will be held March 19<sup>th</sup>.

The student teacher in Mrs. Halvorson's room will be here until May 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Worship Committee**

Holy Week is coming up. Pastor has his LCS sermon ready for Easter.

**Maintenance Committee**

There was water on the school roof. Mike Crabtree, Kevin Leopold and Chris Leopold are taking care of it.

**Outreach**

No report.

**Stewardship**

Dave Silfies reported on the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Univ. stewardship program that is coming to a close. It went very well. We are looking at another class later in the year.

**MVL/WELS**

MVL was planning on cutting a position but the delegates have over ruled it and it won't happen.

**Endowment and Trust Fund Committee**

No report.

**Old Business**

No report.

**New Business**

The next voter's meeting will be held April 28<sup>th</sup>.

The next Church Council meeting will be held Tuesday, April 9th at 7:30 p.m.

Dave Silfies/Shorty Haus made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

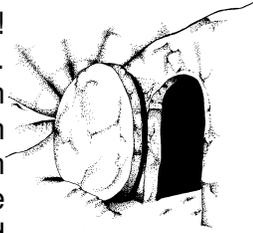
Respectfully submitted

Dave Silfies, Acting Secretary



## Mrs. Shrum's Classroom News

The month of March went by all too quickly! We celebrated Dr. Seuss' birthday, by reading many of his well known books, and St. Patrick's Day by learning about Ireland! March is READING MONTH, so we have enjoyed having quest readers come into our classroom and share some of their favorite books with us! We participated in a "Twin Day" Spirit Day on March 26th by dressing up with a buddy, what fun! We've learned the sounds for the letter's T, U, V, and W this month, and we've learned about good dental health!. In Bible Story we read the New Testament Stories about Peter's Sins, Jesus Before Pilate, Jesus Death on Good Friday, and The Empty Tomb on Easter! We all took a short trip to St. Mary's to see their production of The Wizard of Oz on March 21st, what fun! Even though it doesn't look like Spring yet, we've enjoyed celebrating Jesus' Resurrection and thinking about warmer weather!



The Kinders are continuing to learn about base 10 math, counting coins and telling time to the hour! They only have five more stories left in their reading curriculum, and are doing so well! Take a look at their Pop Corn Word Wall in the ASC room, they've learned how to read so many words!

We've all started working on our school play: Camp Wallaballa, and we look forward to April 21st when we can perform it for all of you! Come and help us learn about God's promises!



## Mrs. Halvorson's Classroom News

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

We have entered the last quarter of our school year. 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 stories, and special Resurrection Egg devotions. We will learn about Jesus' days on earth after his Resurrection and also the early Christian church yet this spring.

In Science Grades 1-4 will learn about the Human Body. We will study the different systems of our body and marvel at how we are "wonderfully and fearfully made" by our God.

April offers additional activities besides academics.....

We will celebrate "Lutheran Schools Week" from April 15<sup>th</sup> - April 19<sup>th</sup>. Movie afternoon, all-school bowling, Parent's Day, and Grandparents' Day complete with a play, will fill this exciting week!



The children will perform their play "Camp Wallaballa" again on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> for anyone who would like to come. You won't want to miss this fun

presentation!

The following week grades 3-8 will have *Terra Nova Testing* every morning. May God bless the children as they take these important tests.

Later in April we will see the MLC Children's Theater play presentation "Who Can Fix The Dragon's Wagon?". We are looking forward to this outing!

God Bless your Spring!

Mrs. Halvorson

We are currently enjoying having a student teacher from MLC. Mrs. Katie Gebert is with us this last quarter of the school year. Below she tells us a bit about herself.

I am from Brookings, SD originally, but I currently live in New Ulm with my husband Josh. Josh is from Austin, Texas and both Josh and I love a good Barbeque.

I also love spending time with my family. We both love to travel, and hope to do quite a bit once we graduate. After graduation, I will be moving to Wisconsin, so my husband can attend Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary. Lord willing, I hope to receive a call.

Katie Gebert

## Mr. Rick's Classroom News

### Physical Education

Grades 5-8 have recently finished up playing hockey in the church basement. We are hoping to move outside soon to play kickball, field hockey, or alley soccer.

### Catechism

Currently in Catechism the 7<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.

### Christ Light

In Christ Light, grades 5-8 have been studying the many parables of Jesus.

### Art

In Art class, we have been creating many new things. Our classroom has especially enjoyed the Torn-Paper Landscapes and Chalk-drawn Tulips. Mrs. Crabtree has also been teaching many art lessons and has done a wonderful job!

### Math

Currently in Math class, the 6<sup>th</sup> graders have been learning area of a circle and measuring turns. Meanwhile, 5<sup>th</sup> grade is learning decimal place values, classifying quadrilaterals, and estimating multiplication/division answers. 7<sup>th</sup> grade is learning complex fractions and division of complex fractions.

The month of March has been a wonderful blessing! All school students are currently practicing for their spring play "Camp Wallaballa." Roles have been selected and every student is performing well.

The students also finished their 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter mission offering with a total of \$150! Thank you students for your encouragement and prayers. The mission money will be used to help continue God's Word be taught at Calvary Lutheran Ministries. Our next mission offering for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter is MLC's Early Childhood Learning Center.

Meet Math also finished in Mr. Rick's classroom and the 7th grade team placed 7<sup>th</sup> among 19 teams around the nation competing against schools their size. In the 7-8 grade division, Ben Draper placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and Colten Maas placed T-26<sup>th</sup> out of about 100 students. In the 5-6 grade division, Matthew Beussman placed T-6<sup>th</sup> and Mary Beussman placed T-13<sup>th</sup> out of 27 students. Way to go Mathletes!



Grades 5-8 traveled to MLC for Fine Arts Day on March 22. All of them participated in choir, drama, and art directed from teachers at MVL or MLC. The students showcased their talents with a performance in the MLC Auditorium at the end of the day.

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!



### Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid held their regular scheduled meeting on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. President Marlys Lochner presided. Our devotion led by Pastor Draper was from Ephesians 5:21-33. Paul encourages husband and wives to live together in a God pleasing way. He compares their relationship to Christ and the church.

The Spring Rally of the LSM will be held at St. John's in St. Claire, MN on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Sharing Our Savior – Faith Journey with God." The National Convention of the LWMS will be held at Lacrosse, WI on June 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>. Check with our local reporter, Paula Windschitl for more details on either of these events. A door collection was held here at St. John's on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> to support the work of the LWMS.

The MLC Ladies Auxiliary Spring Meeting will be held here at St. John's on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. A light meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting to follow.

The Ladies Aid will donate \$20.00 in Scrip for MVL's After Prom Party.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$50.00 to the Jesus Cares Mission. Our donation will be matched up to one half of our donation if given during this Lenten season.



A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$100.00 to Marcia Derkowski towards her mission trip to Thailand on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

Block 2 is up to serve.

Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Come join us!

Marilyn Deibele  
Secretary

## Hosanna Circle

The Hosanna Circle meeting for February was replaced with an informative meeting on Christians Forward Southeast Asia. Anne Press, president and coordinator of the effort, explained the mission of the group, to spread the Word of God and share the gospel. Included is a humanitarian effort to serve the medical needs of people in Thailand and now Africa. Our sister Marcia Derkowski will be one of the volunteers in April, 2013. Some of the projects of CFSA are funding the seminary in Thailand, building a church there and purchasing a van to create a mobile medical unit. Our congregation donated supplies needed and the effort accepts financial contributions at any time.

Our circle did do the food preparation for one of the Lenten service meals served by our youth.

Our next meeting will be April 4th at 6:00 pm. We will be putting final touches on serving a light meal for the MLC Auxiliary meeting to be held here at St. Johns on April 23rd.

Mickey Meyer and Connie Trebesch



## MLC Ladies Auxiliary

Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date of the spring meeting to be held right here at St. John's. A light supper will be served at 6:30 pm (Italian Pasta Salad, bread stick, relishes, and strawberry shortcake.) A brief business meeting will be followed by college highlights presented by Prof. William Pekrul. A student presentation on activities will also be shared.

The meal is being prepared by the Hosanna Circle, but all are welcome to help out. Please contact Paula Windschitl if you are able to lend a hand in any way. Extra church cleaning will be planned before the event also, so if you can help out in that area, we would certainly welcome it.

Everyone – young, old, male, female – you are all invited to attend this meeting. There's a lot of exciting things happening just down the road at MLC. Come, check it out!

Paula Windschitl

## LWMS News

### LWMS is Bursting with Spring Activities

First of all, a big thank you to all who contributed to the collection held in March for the LWMS. One-half of this collection is sent in now, with the remaining portion going in the fall. Contributions help support the projects of the LWMS. It will soon be time to begin voting for next year's projects. Watch for the ballot box to come out within the next month!

Our circuit is busy preparing for the spring rally, to be held on April 13<sup>th</sup> at St. John's Lutheran church in St. Clair. The rally is co-sponsored by the St. Clair church and also the congregation in Alma City. Registration begins at 9 am with coffee hour. The program begins at 10 am. Guest speakers include Janice Rauh, who will speak of her journey with Christ through a liver transplant; and Matthew Rothe, who will share his experience as a vicar in Africa. An offering is accepted for the noon luncheon, and child care is available. (Please RSVP by April 3<sup>rd</sup> to myself.) The location of the rally is:

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

200 Front St. E.

St. Clair, MN 56080

Next, enrollment is under way for the annual convention to be held June 27-30 in LaCrosse, WI. Many thanks to St. John's Ladies Aid, who sent \$50 to help support one woman from our circuit to be able to attend this convention for the first time, through a new program called **Send One Sister**. I cannot encourage each of you strongly to truly consider attending... it is so

close to us this time and the event is tremendously uplifting. See the



## Women's Fellowship

web site at LWMS for complete convention details.

Befriend a Mission- There are no special dates for April. For future months, I will provide address labels of the missions we support so you can just take them as needed for your mailing purposes. Please pray for one of our mission assignments - Dan Myers, who is undergoing cancer treatments in WI and still continues to manage the Cameroon mission field through the help of the National church and also seminary graduate, Jeff Hoff.

Paula Windschitl, Reporter