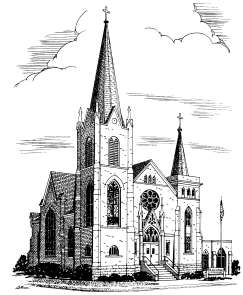


# *The St. John's Messenger*

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)



**MARCH 2013**

## **Presidents Report to St Johns Church Council & Congregation February 2013**

*Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path.*

Psalm 119:105

January is the start of a new year. Having God's word for us to lighten the way is a welcome guidance to where we need to go when we look at the upcoming year. Think about the directions & crossroads you are faced with in your life. Know that God's word will guide you. The same applies to our congregation. We have many decisions to make, but with prayer and God's guidance we are assured He will lead us.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University started Thursday evening January 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm running till 8 pm & goes thru March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013. It is video instruction with group discussion following on handling money God's way & creating an environment of financial peace with the blessings you have been bestowed. Families will get ideas on what is prudent and good stewardship. The class can help anyone and give ideas to any age, any gender, and any income level on handling money wisely. This class is being offered by other WELS churches with very good comments on how it has helped people in their financial life. There are approximately 25 people attending to include one other couple from St James. Interested people can attend any one class without obligation to see if this is something they would like to do.

Unity Sunday was held on Sunday February 3<sup>rd</sup>. We had a communion service, bible study and a meal was served following. It was a great service where we all came together as a family and worshiped God. We then joined in fellowship for lunch, games and reminiscing the previous year. Sallie put together a great program with games and the ladies served a great meal. We acknowledged our newest members from the past year, Brian, Rebecca & Emma Hoffmann. They are pleased to be part of our family.

Unity Sunday is a special service and event that reminds us that we are many members of one body working together to the Glory of God. Thank you to everyone; you help make St John's a great congregation.

Lent starts February 13<sup>th</sup> with Ash Wednesday service. Each Wednesday in Lent we have two services with supper following the 4:30 service. The services are a time to reflect on Jesus' time leading up to his death on the cross and resurrection. The supper can be a time of conversation for us with our fellow believers that have been saved by his death and resurrection. Please join us and invite others to come with you.

The Elders have been working on encouraging those in our congregation that have been lax in attendance to join us for worship and the Lord's Supper. Please pray that these members would appreciate our concern and join us soon.

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.

In Christ,

Steve Windschitl

President, St John's Congregation

**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.*

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**Mission Trip to Thailand**

Christians Forward Southeast Asia (CFSA) is a WELS-sanctioned organization that makes Medical Humanitarian/VBS trips to Thailand twice a year, in April and November. On April 17 I will be joining some 8 or 9 volunteers from around the country to be a part of this year's spring trip.

Because the organization is self-supporting, volunteers who go on the trips pay their own way, and are asked to do fundraising to provide the supplies needed. Toward this end, a collection box will be set up in our church basement during March, ending Palm Sunday, March 24.

The director of CFSA, Anne Press, will be flying in from AZ to speak here at St. John's and also at St. John, Fairfax. Tentative plans include her speaking here on Tuesday evening, March 12, and also speaking to our students one day during the week. Please mark your calendars and try to come hear about this worthy mission project. Watch the bulletin for confirmation of time and day.

Below is the list of most needed items according to nurses who served previously. If anyone would be inclined to make a cash donation instead, that would be gladly received. (If additional supplies are needed during the mission trip, they are purchased in a local village).

Needs List for Thailand Mission Trip:

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Ibuprofen and Tylenol (for all ages) | Hot or cold patches                           |
| Multivitamins (for all ages)         | Gauze (any size)                              |
| Calcium (TUMS, etc)                  | Wound care items                              |
| Anti-diarrhea meds                   | Ace wraps (with extra pins)                   |
| Prilosec                             | Kleenex (small packages)                      |
| Cough medicine (for all ages)        | Toothbrushes                                  |
| Headache medicine (Excedrin type)    | Tooth paste (small)                           |
| Benadryl (pills or cream)            | Infant clothing                               |
| Antibiotic ointment                  | Light children's clothing                     |
| Antifungal cream                     | Socks   |
| Calamine lotion                      | Infant formula (small packets)                |
| Vick's (small containers)            | ***EYEGASSES (especially inexpensive readers) |
| Eye drops (Visine type)              |   |

Thank you for your support of this mission project!

Marcia Derkowski

## Church Council Minutes February 12, 2013

Present: Jerry Dittbenner, Shorty Haus, Barry Hillmann, Andy Lochner, Jim Mielke, Dan Rick, Dave Silfies, Steve Windschitl and Pastor Draper.

Pastor Draper opened the meeting with devotion and a prayer.

### Minutes

Shorty Haud/Andy Lochner made a motion to approve the January 2013 minutes. Motion carried.

### Pastor's Report

Pastor has returned from Israel.

Pastor is giving Bible information classes to an interested individual.

Ashes will be offered to those interested on Ash Wednesday.

### Treasurer's Report

No report.

### President's Report

Written report was presented.

### Board of Elders

No membership changes this month.

Shorty Haus/Dave Silfies made a motion to call a permanent Preschool/Kindergarten teacher. Motion carried.

### Principal & Board of Education

No report.

### Worship Committee

No report.

### Maintenance Committee

Discussion on a 6" trench water main to building.

### Outreach

No report.

### Stewardship

Dave Silfies reported on the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Univ. stewardship program. Twenty-five people have signed up.

### MVL/WELS

No report.

### Endowment and Trust Fund Committee

No report.

### Old Business

No report.

### New Business

Thrivent is expanding to all Christians.

There was discussion on possibly getting a new table for the front of the church for communion/and or display for cremation urns.

The next Church Council meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12th at 7:30 p.m.

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

The meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

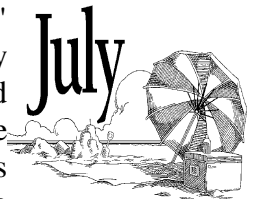
Respectfully submitted

Barry Hillmann, Acting Secretary



### Mrs. Shrum's Classroom News

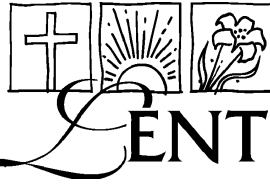
The month of February was filled with many exciting activities! We celebrated Valentine's Day with our classmates and a trip to Ross Park where we shared our Savior's LOVE with the residents there. We participated in a "Beach Day" Spirit Day on February 22nd by wearing our beach clothes and trying to "think warm"! We've learned the sounds for the letter's Q, R, and S this month, and we've learned about Groundhogs Day and our Presidents. In Bible Story we read the New Testament Stories about The Prodigal Son, The Rich Man and Poor Lazarus, Jesus Washing His Disciples Feet, and Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.



The Kinders are learning about base 10 math, counting coins and telling time to the hour! They are reading daily, and learning new word families every week. Take a look at their Pop Corn Word Wall in the ASC room, they've learned how to read so many words!

## Mrs. Halvorson's Classroom News

During Lent, we turn our thoughts to our Savior's great love for us through his suffering and death. We will hear devotions with "Resurrection Eggs." Each of the twelve eggs contains a symbol of Jesus' suffering and death and helps us better understand our Lord's great sacrifice for us.



### SCIENCE

Grades 3-4 will study Weather patterns and the Water Cycle in March. We will be reminded of God's awesome power as he controls all things in our world.

First and Second graders have a Science unit on the Rainforest this month. We will build our own rainforest from the classroom ceiling as we learn about the animals and different layers of our world's disappearing Rainforests. We will become more aware of our part in helping to preserve this awesome earth that God has given to us.

**MATH** will keep us busy this month. Grade One will learn about congruent shapes, trading dimes for pennies, telling time to the half hour, and fourths and halves. Grade Two will learn about subtraction fact families, telling time to 5 minute intervals, estimation, writing numbers in expanded form, and measurement of height and inches. Grade 4 will cover improper fractions and whole and mixed numbers, averaging, and sales tax.

### STUDENT TEACHER

We are excited to welcome our student teacher, Mrs. Katherine Gebert to our classroom on March 4!! She will be with us until May 10<sup>th</sup>. She will be graduating from MLC on May 18<sup>th</sup>.



As the days get longer and move toward Spring, we are reminded of God's constant love and care for us through every season!



## Mr. Rick's Classroom News

Greetings from the upper grades classroom! We hope your winter season has been a blessing! The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter is almost finished and the students are continuing to work hard. Here is a list of what we have been studying in the past weeks: **Christ Light** – (5-7) Jesus Raises Lazarus & Zacchaeus **Math** – (5) Reducing Fractions & Greatest Common Factor, (6) Units of Measure & Proportions, (7) Transformations & Area of a Circle **Science** – (6-7)

Insects and Echinoderms, (5) Landforms & Renewable Resources **Social Studies** – (5-6) The Common Good, (7) Election of 1824, Seminole Wars, & Missouri Compromise **English** – (5-7) Adjectives and Adverbs

February was the start of a very busy month with many student events. MathCounts did a tremendous job in their competitions in New Ulm and Mankato. Thank you team for your hard work! Grades 5-7 have one more Meet Math competition before the final results are posted. Grade 7 as a team is currently in 6<sup>th</sup> place out of 19 teams. Many students in grades 3-7 were involved in a sport this winter season. Ten students played basketball and three students were cheerleaders. The basketball team ended their season



with a victory and an 8-13 record! Many students are also involved in piano and instrument lessons. We are blessed to have many talents in our classroom. To God be the glory!



Students at St. John's are currently preparing for the school play. The performance is the week of April 15-19<sup>th</sup>. Many of them are working hard at their lines and actions. We hope to see you at the show!

For more information about the upper grades, look at our webpage on the school website.



### Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid met on Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. President Marlys Lochner presided. Our devotion led by Pastor Draper was from Ephesians 5:1-20. In these verses Paul encourages Christians to imitate the Lord by staying away from evil and living as children of the light.

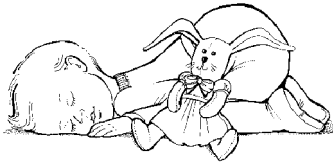
The Spring Rally of the MLC Auxiliary will be held here at St. John's on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Hosanna Circle will be hosting the meeting.

St. John's work day at the Treasurer Haus is the first Friday of the month. Volunteers are encouraged and welcome. The store hours are 10:00 a.m. To 4:00 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$100.00 to the church's scholarship fund.

The latest newsletter from CAMM (Central African Medical Mission) was read. It is always an interesting newsletter.

It was reported there is a need for volunteers to help at Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS). The hours are from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. On the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month at St. Paul's, New Ulm. If interested call 507-227-0920.



Our next meeting will be held Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Come join us!

Marilyn Deibele  
Secretary



### Church Volleyball



All confirmands and older (men and women) are welcome to come play volleyball at Sleepy Eye Public High School the following afternoons from 1-3 p.m. **March 3rd and March 10th.**

Please contact Mr. Rick for questions.



### Hosanna Circle

Hosanna Circle met Tuesday February 5.

Pastor Draper led us in devotion.

*Word of thanks to:*

The front wall in the church basement was painted and the stencil was put on. Thank you to Sallie, Judy and Paula for completing the project. It looks great!

We planned our menus for two Lenten suppers, Ash Wednesday and March 6. Mary Bartz volunteered to cook the pork loins for Ash Wednesday's pork sandwiches. We also planned the meal for the MLC Auxiliary Spring meeting coming up in April.

New Ulm's MOPS (Mothers of preschoolers) group is looking for volunteers to help watch the children during their meetings the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 9 AM to 11 AM. Please contact Miranda Trebesch @ 507-227-0920.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday March 5th.

Hosanna Circle Representatives,  
Mickey Meyer and Connie Trebesch

## MLC Ladies Auxiliary

Save the Date! Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date for the MLC Ladies Auxiliary spring meeting, to be held here at St. John's. The event begins with a light meal at 6:30 p.m.

Highlights from the college will be presented by Prof. William Pekrul. Student activities, auxiliary projects and any brief auxiliary business will be included in the agenda.

It's always interesting to hear what is going on, and how the auxiliary plays a role in student life at our local WELS college of Ministry. Save the date now, and plan to come and enjoy the evening with other like-minded supporters of MLC.

Paula Windschitl



### LWMS News

It is almost time for the annual Spring Rally! Look for the full page announcement for full details of this event to be held on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

And don't forget about this year's National Convention, to be held June 27- 30 in LaCrosse, WI. It is not too late to register at the early discounted rate! See the bulletin board for a reservation form, or go to [www.lwms.org](http://www.lwms.org) for full convention details.

One more item to mention: there will be a door offering for the LWMS on March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. Each year, we take the time to remember the work of the LWMS with contributions from our members. This annual collection is divided and then sent for spring and fall collection dates to our local chapter. Please consider supporting the mission work by participating in this door offering!

Paula Windschitl, Reporter



### Memorials

#### *In Memory of Arleen Seifert*

**St. John's Trust Fund**  
Arleen's Family - \$300

**Ladies Aid**  
Bev Bartz - \$10  
Arleen's Family - \$25