

St. John's Lutheran Church
55203 854 Road / Pierce, NE 68767
402-329-4298

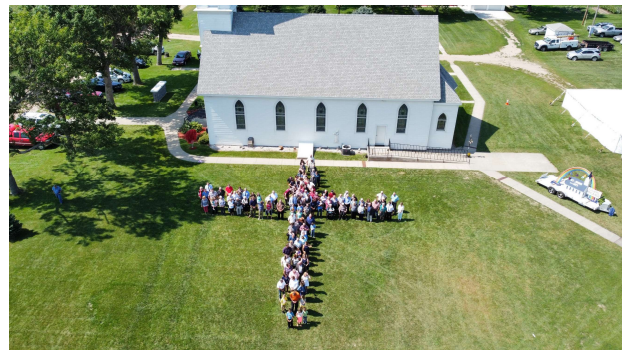
Email: Office@stjohnspierce.org

Pastor Jacob Tuma ** Email: PastorTuma@stjohnspierce.org

Sunday Morning Worship @ 9:00 AM **Bible Study 10:15 AM

Sunday School 10:15 AM (Aug-May)

Newsletter – Issue 26 – April 2022



Prayer Vigil Preparation

Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." Luke 11:1

"Lord, teach us to pray..." This request is likely one to which many of us can relate.

Perhaps we need Jesus to teach us to pray in general. We run through our days, trying as best as we can to make life work, keep ourselves and our families fed, healthy, and safe. We know we should pray to the Lord. After all, His Word commands us to pray. **"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, let your requests be made known to God"** (Philippians 4:6). Not only this, but hear God's Word of promise that comes in the very next verse. We pray not just because that is what we rightly do, but because everything that God says we are supposed to do is ultimately good for us. Prayer reminds us that God is God. He will take care of us. We are not alone to face the challenges of today. He will provide. And further yet, God promises to hear our prayers, and He answers them according to His good will. After all, His Son Jesus, from the cross and empty tomb, has made it very clear that He loves you. And this gives peace. God's Word says this: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, let your requests be made known to God, **and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus**" (Philippians 4:6-7). O Lord, teach us to pray.

Or perhaps when we pray, we do not know what to pray for or what to pray about or the words do not come easily. We want to converse with the Lord in prayer, but words are hard to find. Again, we ask, "Lord, teach us to pray."

This month on **April 9th**, we are going to be holding a prayer vigil at St. John's with the theme "Lord, Teach Us to Pray." The idea is that from **7am to 8pm** we will have members take one hour out of their day to sit at the feet of Jesus in His Word, making their requests made known to God and learning to pray.

When you arrive, a prayer guide and list of prayer requests will be provided on a table. You can take those and find a pew (perhaps your usual pew!) to sit at and read through the prayer guide on your own. As you read through it, the guide will teach you about prayer and give you readings to read, prayers to pray, psalms to pray, and even some hymn verses to pray. Since each participant will be working through this guide individually, you may take your time to reflect on the words and add any personal prayers. There is no rush. This is time between you and the Lord in prayer.

For some people, working through the prayer guide will last the whole hour, but if not, that is good too. At that point, you may pray about any remaining people or matters in your life, use the pray request list that we will provide, or follow a number of other suggestions that will be provided on that day.

God's blessings to you as He teaches us how to pray and as we observe His love in Christ this Lent and Holy Week,
Pastor Tuma

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School – Parents and grandparents, mark your calendar for this year’s Vacation Bible School. Even though it’s only March, summer will be here before we know it. Vacation Bible School will be held Sunday evening, June 12th – Wednesday evening, June 15th during the evening hours of 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM. The VBS program will then be held on Thursday evening, June 16th beginning at 6:00/6:30 PM. This year’s theme is “Zoomerang” and takes us to Australia. Our bible stories will be from the book of Genesis and will remind the children that we were all wonderfully made by God, the creator of the universe. We hope that your

children will be able to attend VBS. If you would like to register your children/grandchildren OR if you would like to teach or help in any way, please contact Deb Zautke at 402-750-5818.

This is such a wonderful time of Christian education for the kids and they all have such a great time learning about Jesus!



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday – 9:00 am Worship w/Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday – 7:00 pm Worship w/Holy Communion
Good Friday – 7:00 pm Worship
Easter Sunrise – 6:30 am Worship w/Holy Communion

Easter Breakfast, by the Sunday School to follow at the Parish Hall

Prayer Vigil Schedule for April 9th

7:00 am – 8:00 pm

Sign-up sheet available at Church

St. John’s Prayer Vigil gives us the opportunity to gather throughout the day to be in prayer for our church family, our community and any prayers that may be requested.



25 ladies attended the March 13, 2022 baby shower to honor Grace Tuma and benefit Bright Horizons of Norfolk. Many more ladies added to the collection. Joy Circle delivered the \$105 in gift cards, 28 taggies, 1 blanket, 16 packages of baby wipes, 29 packages of diapers and pullups, six cans of powder baby formula, one baby lotion and one baby wash to Bright Horizons on March 15. They were overwhelmed by our generosity and the uniqueness of the method we used to provide for their mission. Together we collected \$355 to present to Grace Tuma to use toward photography fees/portrait of her growing family, along with the left-overs of cake for her family to use, a taggie of her choice for the expected baby, a blanket for Lydia and a towel for Micah.



Joy Circle tied four quilts and worked on confirmation banners at the Joy Circle worknight March 15, 2022. The four quilts were donated and delivered to Premier Estates the next day.



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



POPCORN FUNDRAISER

The Sunday School is doing a Popcorn Fundraiser which will run through March 27th. The funds are being raised to help cover costs of our studies and stations showing what Jesus went through leading up to Easter, our end of the year fun day, and crafts. Popcorn will be received and delivered during Holy Week. To place an order, you can contact any Sunday School family or sign up on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary. Flavors include, Caramel, Cheddar, Parmesan Garlic, Colored Corn, Movie Butter and Jalapeno Cheddar. There are about 6 cups of popcorn per bag, except the Movie Butter which is about 12 cups. Cost is \$10 a bag.

EASTER BREAKFAST

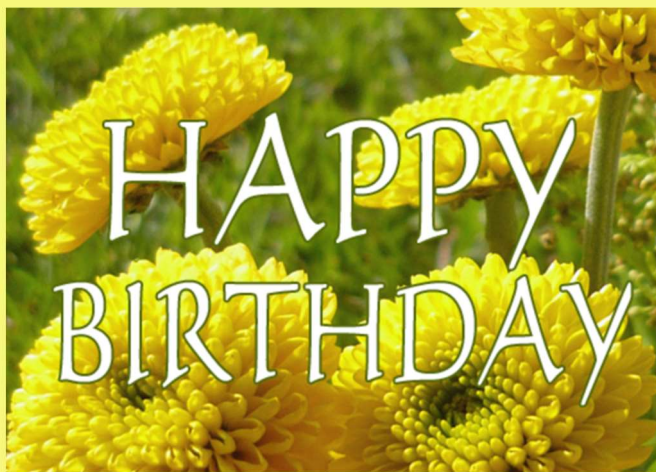
The Sheep for Jesus will be serving their annual Easter Breakfast following services on April 17th. This year's menu includes: Biscuits and gravy, sausage links, fresh fruit, donuts/rolls/muffins. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for anyone willing to donate donuts/rolls/muffins or offer a donation to offset those costs. For any questions, please contact Kristy Rampone at 402-750-4779.



EASTER LILLIES

Anyone wanting to donate an Easter lily for our church sanctuary during the Easter season is encouraged to do just that. We would like them in place for the Easter week.

If you are wanting it printed in the bulletin in memory, honor or a special birthday/anniversary of someone, please let Kelli know in the office by April 6th.



MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4/1: MacKenzie Doerr
 4/6: Alexis Asmus/Krystina Koepke
 4/7: Harold Waterman
 4/9: Stacy Eckstrom
 4/11: Kelli Koepke
 4/13: Grace Tuma
 4/14: Emersyn Doerr/Paulene Laubsch
 4/22: Bryce Eckstrom/LeRoy Sporleder
 4/23: Brookly Ferris/Larry Kesting
 4/25: Christy Scott
 4/29: Lisa Lakin/ Janet Reidel
 4/30: Joyce Compton



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

4/7: Cory & Kristy Bermel
 4/13: Doug & Roxanne Marks
 4/24: Roger & Virginia Koehler
 4/26: Jeramie & Darcy Lippman

April's Church Servants

Elder: Jeff Schulz

Acolytes:

4/3: Blaine Weich
 4/6-Lent: Blaine Weich
 *4/10-Palm Sunday: Beau Bermel
 *4/14-Maundy Thursday: Cailyn Rampone
 4/15-Good Friday: Kyle Kuehler
 *4/17-Easter: Kyle Kuehler
 *4/24: Aspyn Rampone

***denotes Communion Sundays**

Don't forget to call the church office if you have switched with someone.

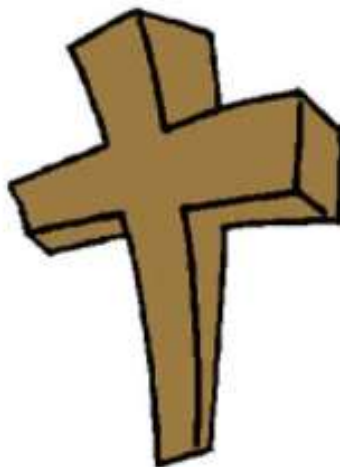
KIDS CORNER



Easter Word Search

B	M	A	L	M	H	B	B	K	I	N	G	R	N	R
N	O	I	T	C	E	R	R	U	S	E	R	E	O	O
A	P	O	S	T	L	E	S	E	Y	S	C	D	I	O
S	E	C	I	F	I	R	C	A	S	H	J	E	T	S
N	S	N	A	M	O	R	O	O	R	R	E	M	A	T
R	C	D	S	G	T	T	R	I	I	K	S	P	V	E
O	Y	R	A	M	B	C	S	S	V	Z	U	T	L	R
H	L	O	V	E	L	T	E	M	M	A	S	I	A	Y
T	C	R	O	W	N	N	Y	L	O	H	S	O	S	Z
X	C	R	U	C	I	F	I	X	I	O	N	N	K	Q

APOSTLES
 CHRIST
 CROSS
 CROWN
 CRUCIFIXION
 HOLY
 JESUS
 KING
 LAMB
 LOVE



MARY
 REDEMPTION
 RESURRECTION
 RISEN
 ROMANS
 ROOSTER
 SACRIFICE
 SALVATION
 SAVIOR
 THORNS