

Lifeline



ST. JOHN
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH ELCA

March
2017

Firmly Rooted in God's Word



You Can
Make a
Difference

**Bring your donations
to church in March**

#SQUASHHUNGER

**SUPPORT 300 FOOD SHELVES
ALL ACROSS MINNESOTA**

JOIN ONLINE www.mnfoodshare.org
FOLLOW US @mnfoodshare



Minnesota FoodShare, a major program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches (GMCC) March Campaign brings together various Minnesota organizations, businesses, and places of worship to help keep 300 food shelves statewide stocked throughout the year. The March Campaign is the largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state.



St John Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement

St. John is a Christian family of disciples alive in a Scripture-based, Spirit-led mission of ministry, worship and play. Disciples at St. John Lutheran Church are expected to pray often, worship regularly, learn from the Scriptures, participate in the serving groups if physically able, offer their time and talent as the spirit calls them, and regularly contribute monetarily to support the mission and ministry of the church.

Photograph by Curt Yess



Anyone that wants to be included on St. John current Homebound Communion list please call the church office at 833-1703.

Prayer Ministers

Prayer teams will be available in the narthex for prayer during all Sunday Communion services. **While communion is being served** you are invited to go to the narthex and a member will be there to hear your request and to pray with you. Please make use of this oppor-



MILITARY SERVICE

Jacob Kuhns, Trevor Morris, Matt Wantoch, Dana Elias, Darren Peterson, Chad Chum, and Jacob Lemmen. Please let us know of others to add to this list.



Men in Mission will serve a Continental-Breakfast following worship on Sunday March 5. We will be honoring all **3rd grade** children.



Hospitalized or ILL?

Pastor John would like to visit you if you have any mental or physical health issues. Therefore if you or a loved one is sick, or if you are in the hospital for a planned surgery or any other reason do contact us! Call 833-1703



Lutheran World Relief

“Fair Trade Coffee” or “Fair Trade Tea” may be purchased the first Sunday of each month before or after services.



Have you checked out Pastor John’s blog, which is the current weeks sermon? <http://stjohnwaseca.wordpress.com/> You can also find it on our website!



Noisy Offering Sunday, March 5 at 9 am. Help the children fill our milk can.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday — Friday
7:30 am —11:30 am
12:30 pm— 4:30 pm
stjohn
@hickorytech.net
507-833-1703

Sunday Bus (Smart Bus)



Complimentary bus Tokens are available for St. John members riding the bus to church. Call the church office 833-1703. You must call DISPATCH 1-855-762-7821 before 3pm Saturday to schedule your pickup and drop-off.



*“So, if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.”
(John 13:14)*

This is a “good news/bad news” kind of verse in the Bible.

The “bad news” in this verse is Jesus' demand for lowly, foot-washing service – which means, service to needy people in the name of Christ. It will mean things like washing dishes, cleaning bathrooms, shoveling snow, visiting people who are sick and shut in, comforting people whose not-so-nice lives are coming apart, loving the unlovely, being ready to see the worst side of others and still be a caring and compassionate presence.

None of this will be easy, of course, but, the gospel isn't supposed to be easy. Dirty feet are dirty feet, but they still must be washed. Needs are needs, but they still must be met. And Jesus' calls us, his disciples, to those acts of serving. That's Jesus' tough word.

The irony, however, is that the toughest word in the story is not this one.

Rather, the really tough word in this story is that, first, before they do anything, the disciples will have to sit still and allow Jesus to wash their feet. Notice that the disciples do not complain when Jesus commands them to wash others' feet; the resistance comes – voiced by Peter – to being washed.

So, the hard message in this text is not that we will have to give. Rather, it is that before we have anything to give, we must receive from Jesus.

This is “bad news” for the tough part of us, the self-reliant and resourceful part.

The fact is we cannot give unless we have first received. Our lives are not vast reservoirs of inexhaustible gifts for others. Instead, our supply of love, caring, helpfulness, patience, mercy, kindness, and of all of the other gifts is limited. And we will exhaust our supply unless we are constantly re-stocking.

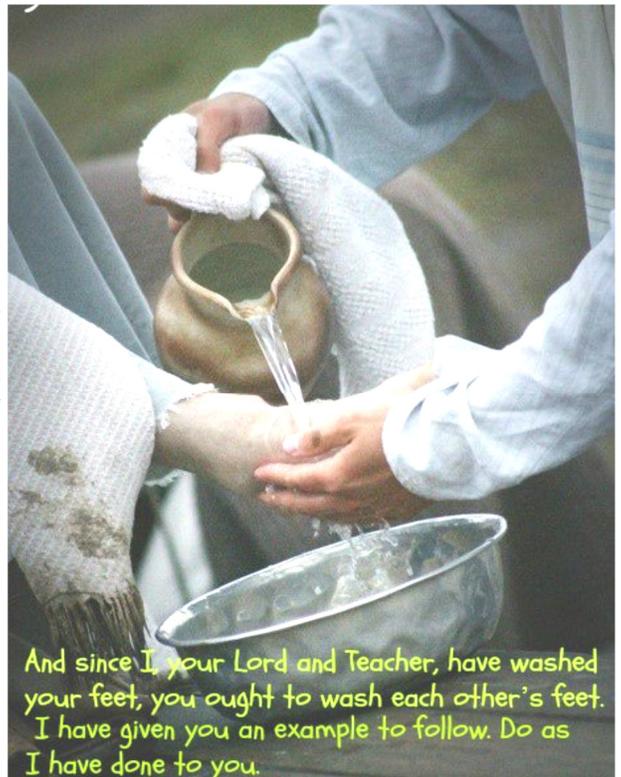
Here's the challenge to us in this gospel text: Unless we stretch out our dirty feet toward the basin of Jesus' grace and allow ourselves to receive from him, we have no gifts to give.

“Unless I wash you,” Jesus said, “you have no share with me.”

So, this story of good news has some “bad news.” We are not able in our own strength and on our own resources to care for others, even those closest to us. But this “bad news” is really the best good news of all, for Jesus takes the basin and the towel and tenderly, mercifully washes our soiled feet and our tarnished souls.

The 40 days of Lent, the days between Ash Wednesday (March 1st) and Easter Sunday are really days for us to receive what Jesus gives – his mercy, his grace, and his forgiveness. Yes, we will still occasionally talk about giving and serving during Lent, but it is best done as we stand secure in the promise that we are washed clean by the redeeming love of our Lord.

Peace – Pastor John Omans



And since I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash each other's feet. I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you.

Lenten Sunday's will have the theme of "God's Mercy: received and shared"

- 3/01/17...Luke 9:51-62
- 3/05/17...Luke 11:1-13
- 3/08/17...Lent suppers begin – series "The Lord's Prayer"
- 3/12/17...Luke 13:1-9
- 3/19/17...Luke 15:1-32
- 3/26/17...Luke 16:19-31
- 4/02/17...Luke 18:9-14



The Theme for our Wednesday nights mid week supper and worship will be:



Once again, we will have a series of Wednesday evening fellowship and worship gatherings. Ash Wednesday will take place in our worship sanctuary. And then, beginning on March 8th we have a series of five Wednesdays with a supper at 5:45-6:45pm, and worship in Trinity Hall at 7:00pm.

**Ash Wednesday
March 1
9:00 am Worship
and Sacrificial
Breakfast
Hosted by the
Women of the
ELCA**

*Join us for this
celebration to the
beginning of the
season of Lent*



Women
of the
**EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
IN AMERICA**

Welca Bible Study

Mary Bible Study
Monday, March 13 1:30 pm
in Trinity Hall

Ruth Bible Study
Tuesday, March 21 7pm at Realife
Leader– Linda Sandborg
Hostess– Nadine Omans

Sarah Bible Study
Wednesday, March 15 9:30 am
Hostess-Phyllis Lewer



ANNUAL Report

Is available to pick up in the Narthex or Trinity Hall.

JANUARY 2017

Monthly

Budget	\$ 18,727
Expense	— 19,835
Diff	(1,108)

NOISY OFFERINGS

\$102.51 was collected on February 5 for missions.



VIDEO VOICE OF ST JOHN

Each Sunday morning the worship service at St. John is videotaped and broadcast on Channel 8 Sundays at 5:00 pm and Mondays at 10:30 am.

The Annual Rummage Sale Returns Saturday, April 22.

Save the Date and tell your family and friends to check out all the bargains. Profits benefit Youth Summer Mission Trips.



Liberating Grace

Liberating Grace: The Power of the Reformation in the World Today

March 31–April 1, 2017
Luther College, Decorah, Iowa
This is a free conference

LUTHER COLLEGE

Lent IS A TIME TO GROW CLOSER TO JESUS

Sunday Service Worship 9:00 am

Traditional Worship
(first and third Sundays)

Contemporary Worship
(second and fourth Sundays)

Lenten Worship Wednesdays
March 8, 15, 22, 29 at 7pm

Holy Communion
Ash Wednesday-
March 1 at 9am and 7pm
March 12
March 19

What do Food Shelves really need?



Cash

Though cash donations take care of bulk-food needs and necessities such as truck maintenance, food donations also play an important role. Food drives can provide more-healthy and higher-quality foods than bulk buys, and provide a greater diversity of foods. Food drives help us get different food, culturally appropriate food. Those donations -- such as pinto beans, corn flour, jalapenos as well as lentils and rice -- can be a big factor in serving the nation's increasingly diverse population, some of which isn't familiar with traditional American staples.

Here are the top foods needed by food banks this year:

Proteins. Canned meats such as tuna, chicken or fish are high in protein and low in saturated fat. Peanut butter is rich in protein and high in monounsaturated and polyunsaturated oils, the "good fats." These are among the most expensive foods -- too expensive for food banks to buy large quantities.

Soups and stews. They are filling, particularly the "chunky" soups, and contain liquid for hydration. In addition, soups can be filled with protein and vegetables.

Rice and pasta. In addition, grain-based foods, such as pasta, are a good source of fiber and complex carbohydrates.

Cereal, including oatmeal. Breakfast cereals can be an additional source of protein, and most cereals today include a variety of vitamins and minerals.

Canned vegetables, including tomatoes and tomato sauce. Studies indicate that canned vegetables have about the same nutritional value as fresh vegetables.

Canned or dried beans and peas. A staple of diets., beans are a low-fat source of protein and fiber.

Canned fruits. Only a small amount of vitamin C is lost in the canning process, making these a healthy choice.

Fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxed). Make sure it's 100% juice.

Food Staples: crackers, Sugar, Flour, Pancake Mix

Prepared box mixes such as macaroni and cheese or Hamburger Helper.

Shelf-stable milk. This includes dehydrated milk, canned evaporated milk and instant breakfasts

Personal Items. Kleenex, toilet paper, bath soap, shampoo, lotion, feminine sanitary supplies, laundry or dish detergent, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant.

Baby Items: Diapers, shampoo. Infant formula, baby oil, bath powder, wipe towels

Special Treats: Cake, cookie, muffin Mix, granola bars, pudding or jello, graham crackers, packaged cookies. -according to Second Harvest/Feeding America

GOOD EARTH VILLAGE SUMMER CAMP



Hey, Kids! Amazing Summer Staff are preparing to bring wild games and adventures, lead a vital mission, and help campers use their gifts to feed people who hunger. There is funding available from the St. John Women of the ELCA to help you be able to GO to Good Earth Bible Camp this summer and learn more about God's love for you. Information about camp and scholarships is available from Pastor John or Nadine Omans at 507-837-9099 or 833-1525. You can also find more detailed information about Good Earth, the various camps and schedules, and their 3 tier pricing by going to the website: goodearthvillage.org





March 1, 9:00 a.m. Ash Wednesday Worship with communion and Sacrificial Breakfast

*Ushers: WELCA
Reader: Shirley Raetz
Acolyte: WELCA*

March 1, 7pm Ash Wednesday Worship with communion

*Ushers: Confirmation Students
Prepare Communion: Jackie Krause
Reader: Pam Grunzke
Acolyte: Josiah Behncke
Church Council: Pam Grunzke*

March 5, 9:00 am First Sunday in Lent Traditional Worship

*Ushers: Duane and Kathy Zabel
Bob and Jean Miller
Reader: Rose Thissen
Acolyte: Lanesha Spies
Church Council: Kevin Dickie
Videographer: Jackie Krause
SCRIP:
Fellowship: Men in Mission*

March 8, 7pm Wednesday Lenten Service in Trinity Hall

*Ushers: Confirmation Students
Reader: Dennis Sommers
Acolyte: Owen Thomas
Church Council: Sam Macklay*

March 12, 9:00 am Second Sunday in Lent Contemporary Worship with Communion Daylight Savings Time Starts

*Ushers: Jody and Teri Wilker
Dennis Sommers, Mark Sommers
Reader: Karen Tlougan
Acolyte: Daniel Kuhns
Prepare Communion: Merrill and Mary Schultz
Prayer Ministers: Sue Erdman, Shirley Raetz
Church Council: Kevin Dickie
Videographer: Curt Yess
SCRIP:*

Fellowship: Congregational Life-caffeinated sunday

March 15, 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Service in Trinity Hall

*Ushers: Confirmation students
Acolyte: Josiah Behncke
Reader: David Oraskovich
Church Council: David Oraskovich*

March 19, 9:00 am Third Sunday in Lent Traditional Worship with Communion

*Ushers: Scott and Shannon Hedberg
Ethan Hedberg, Mary Conway
Reader: Sue Erdman
Acolyte: Lanesha Spies
Prepare Communion: Ann Ruedy, Myra Battenfeld
Prayer Ministers: Dewey and Kathy Zabel
Church Council: Ron Alger
Videographer: Gyles Randall
SCRIP:
Fellowship: Linda Sandborg*

March 22, 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Service in Trinity Hall

*Ushers: Confirmation students
Acolyte: Owen Thomas
Reader:
Church Council:*

March 26, 9:00 am Fourth Sunday in Lent Contemporary Worship

*Ushers: Darwin and Julie Spies
Bruce Boyce, Marvin Dumdei
Reader: Julie Spies
Acolyte: Daniel Kuhns
Church Council: David Oraskovich
Videographer: Dennis Sommers
SCRIP:
Fellowship: Stan and Marv*

March 29, 7 pm Wednesday Lenten Service in Trinity Hall

*Ushers: Confirmation students
Acolyte: Josiah Behncke
Reader:
Church Council: Sam Macklay*

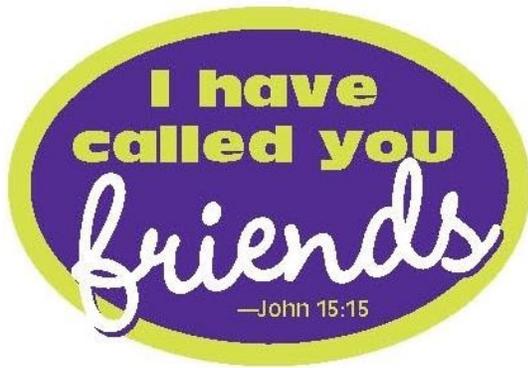


Would you be willing to help?

We are looking for a few people to help serve coffee, rolls, cookies, bars, etc. on Sunday mornings after worship service. There is a sign up sheet in Trinity Hall or call the church office at 833-1703.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Sat
			1 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 9am Worship with Communion and Sacrificial Breakfast 7pm Worship with Communion	2	3 1pm World Day of Prayer at Grace Lutheran	4 
5 9am Traditional Worship SS sings Noisy Offerings 10:15 am Children's Ministry /Men in Mission Continental Breakfast 3rd grade recognition 5pm Video Voice	6 10am Quilters 10:30am Video Voice	7 7:00 pm Commissions	8 12 noon Lenten Lunch Christ Community Church 5:45-6:45pm Lenten Supper Council hosts 7pm Worship TH	9	10	11 11am Darla Haalack funeral 
12 9am Contemp Worship wcommun Highly caffeinated Worship in TH 10:15am Children's Ministry/Fellowship 5 pm Video Voice	13 10am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice 1:30 pm Mary Circle Bible Study Trinity Hall	14 6:30 pm Exec Council 7:00 pm Council Meet	15 9:30am Sarah Bible Study Lewer 12 noon Lenten Lunch Christ Community Church 5:45-6:45pm Lenten Supper 3rd Gear hosts 7pm Worship TH	16 Joint Communion 11:15 am @ Lakeshore 1:00 pm @ Colony Court 5pm ICE	17 	18
19 9am Traditional Worship w/ Communion 10:15am Children's Ministry/Fellowship 5pm Video Voice	20 10am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice 	21 7pm Ruth Bible Study Realife Leader: Linda Sandborg Hostess: Nadine Omans	22 12 noon Lenten Lunch Christ Comm Church St John Hosts 5:45-6:45pm Lenten Supper 7pm Worship TH	23	24 	25
26 9am Contemporary Worship 10:15 am Sunday School/Fellowship 5pm Video Voice	27 10am Quilters 10:30 am Video Voice	28 7 pm Men in Mission Meet Host-Dale W Devotions-Bob S	29 12 noon Lent Lunch Christ Comm Church 5:45-6:45pm Lenten Supper WELCA hosts 7pm Worship TH	30	31 Liberating Grace conference 	Decorah Iowa



Christ-centered community

“I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.” (John 15:15)

“I have called you friends,” is our stewardship emphasis for this year. We are ‘stewards,’ which means that we are ‘care-takers,’ of Jesus’ gifts, Jesus’ mission, and Jesus’ church.

Jesus had a profound impact in the life of people because he embraced a wider community, and he calls his church to that same kind of community. The many Bible stories of Jesus in the middle of a community show Jesus speaking not only with people who are devout but also with those who are seeking, skeptical, and even hostile.

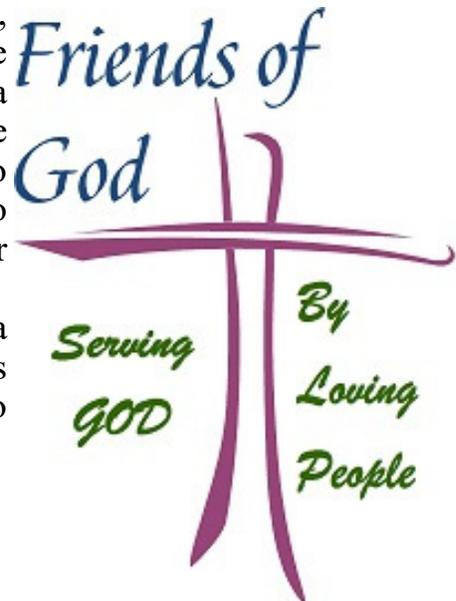
A Lutheran congregation I served that made a commitment to embrace the wider community had this series of events over the course of a few years:

- A businessman wanted access to the church’s membership list because he had something they wanted to promote to people who attend church.
- A young man, seven months clean from drugs and alcohol, started attending worship services.
- Two adults, who had not received baptism, did so in front of the congregation.
- A couple who had been part of the congregation quit the church, because they disagreed with the church’s teaching on a social issue.

How might we, at St. John Lutheran Church, continue to offer the friendship of Jesus in the middle of their varied reactions? Consider how, as a congregation, we might find our “center” in the message and life of Christ, so that each scenario becomes a ministry opportunity – an occasion to engage people no matter where they are in their spiritual development.

It may not be easy for the church to embrace a wider community – I know I have my own struggles in doing this – but doing so is an opportunity to navigate our lives together by faith in our Lord Jesus.

Peace, Pastor John Omans





The Tenth Triennial Gathering will be held July 13-16, 2017, at the Minneapolis Convention Center, in **Minneapolis, MN**

[Register now](#)

Transportation will be provided to the Tenth Triennial Gathering if we have enough response to secure the buses. You will arrive at the Minneapolis Convention Center or the local hotels named by the convention in time to check in at your hotel and the Convention Center in plenty of time for registration and the open events and even time to eat dinner out if you please.

Get your registrations in ASAP. The cost of the gathering goes up the closer it gets. Please talk to Marie Tesch 835-3843 or Linda Sandborg 835-2881



BOLD GATHERING



LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION

July 21-23, 2017 Minneapolis MN. The BOLD GATHERING is a weekend for men to come together to learn to worship, to network and to be empowered to BOLDLY live out their faith.

Every couple of years, men from all over the country gather together for a weekend huddle that is called the BOLD GATHERING!

In 2017, join us in Minneapolis to be encouraged, to worship, and to connect and serve! It is time to register.

If you want to register or any questions about this gathering please contact Russell Tesch 835-3843.



The new Photo Church Directories are available for pickup in the church office if you participated by having your picture taken by Lifetouch they are free.

If you did not get your picture taken but still want a directory they can be purchased in the church office for \$5.00 each.

Back by popular demand
**Wednesday
Lenten Lunches**
March 12 -
April 5 at noon
At Christ



**Community Church
2200 NE 4th St**

Enjoy a warm bowl of soup, fellowship with friends, and a devotional from an area pastor, -just for the cost of a donation.

SCRIP NEWS



●YOU can help support our youth. A percentage of what you purchase in gift cards goes towards the youth programs at St. John.

●I NEED HELP! I'm always hoping to add some team members to help sell Scrip on Sunday mornings. Preferably parents of youth going on mission trips, but I would be grateful for any additional people on the scrip team. Parents, could you commit to helping once every 2-3 months? Call Amy LeCocq, Scrip Coordinator at 837-9733.

If you need a SCRIP order form they can be found on our website and printed off at home.
www.stjohnwaseca.org

←.....→
Are you a Thrivent member? Choice Dollars expire the end of March. Contact your Thrivent representative or call the church office to find out how to designate your Choice Dollars. Make a difference.



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

CHILDREN'S ministries

Children will sing at the worship service Sunday, March 5 at 9am.

On Sunday March 5, all 3rd graders will be honored at the Men in Mission breakfast following worship.

**AVAILABLE
ONLINE**



If you need a copy of the weekly church announcements you can find them on our website at www.stjohnwaseca.org



←.....→
Don Priebe

**\$20 WELCA
\$75 Undesignated
\$50 Men in Mission**



Nonprofit Organization US
Postage Paid Permit No.35
Waseca, MN 56093

St John Evangelical Lutheran Church
401 3rd Avenue NE
Waseca MN 56093
Email: stjohn@hickorytech.net
Website: www.stjohnwaseca.org
Phone: 507-833-1703

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Council Members and Staff

Council President

David Oraskovich, 507-835-7387

Council Vice-President

Kevin Dickie, 507-835-4151

Council Secretary

Cindy Coy, 507-837-9115

Congregational Life

Ron Algers, 763-232-2874

Education Committee

Pam Grunzke, 507-835-3121

Worship and Music

Dianne Bathke, 507-835-3653

Social Ministry and Outreach

Council Members at Large

Building and Grounds

Sam Macklay, 507-835-8706

(cell) 507-720-7680

Financial Secretary

Al Tonn, 507-234-5737

E-mail : stjohn@hickorytech.net

Facebook: St John Lutheran Church ELCA

Pastor John Omans

Church office 507-833-1703 cell 507-201-1103

home 507-833-1525

E-mail faith.worker@hotmail.com

3rd Gear Youth Director

Marty Aberle, 507-461-3552

Email: 3rdgearwaseca@gmail.com

website www.3rdgearwaseca.org

Senior Choir Director

Deb Wantoch-Yess 507-835-3498

Assistant Choir Director

Jan Macklay, 507-835-8706

Organists

Jan Macklay, 507-835-8706

Al Tonn, 507-234-5737

Sunday School Director

Custodian

Cindy Fordham, contact church office 507-833-1703

Parish Nurses

Marcia Bartz, 507-676-0608

Carol Tilney, 507-835-7311

Office Manager

Carrie Lonneman, 507-833-1703

WEBSITE ADDRESS: www.stjohnwaseca.org