



The Informer

April 2022

St. John's Lutheran Church

Volume 63 Issue 8

In this Issue:

Pastor's Letter	1
Vicar's View	2
Serving the Lord This Month	3
Church News	4-10
Calendar	11

Holy Week

4/14– Maundy Thursday
12:00pm & 6:30pm

4/15– Good Friday- 6:30pm

4/16– Easter Vigil-5:00pm
The candlelight Paschal procession will NOT take place on Saturday night. It will be during the Easter Sunrise service.

4/17– Easter Sunrise– 6:30am

4/17– Easter Festival– 9:00am

From Pastor's Pen:

Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen, Indeed!

The truth of Christ's resurrection is at the center of the life and worship of the Christian Church. The early Christians assembled for worship to receive the gifts of the risen Lord and to offer Him their praise and thanksgiving. Their pattern for worship soon adopted the first day of the week, the day of Christ's resurrection, as their time for assembly. Today most congregations continue this same pattern of gathering for worship on Sunday. Every Sunday is, in fact, a little Easter.

All of our hopes and aims find their inspiration and fulfillment in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He came to us full of grace and truth to be the perfect Redeemer. His death paid the full penalty of sin for all people, and His righteousness is credited to all who put their trust in Him. Greatest of all is the certainty of His resurrection. It places heaven's seal on the word of forgiveness, and it offers sure hope to those who find their meaning in it.

St. Paul pointed out that those who do not find their hope and meaning in the resurrection of Jesus Christ are to be the most pitied of all. [cf. 1 Cor. 15:12-19] The truth of his statement is clearly seen in the devastation that has come upon our increasingly Christless population. Depression rates in America are at an all-time high, especially among those who have no religious affiliation. Drug overdoses have become the number one killer of young adults; many of whom struggle to find meaning in life. Young people struggle more than ever with the identity God has given them, including their sexual identity as determined by God. It is no coincidence that there is a correlation between the great falling away from faith and an increasing loss of hope. It is not insignificant that missing out on a regular participation in every Sunday's little Easter, goes hand-in-hand with identity crises and a wholesale loss of meaning for so many.

Christ's resurrection and our participation in it through worship is essential to our being. We were, after all, created to live in fellowship with God. When that fellowship is broken nothing can go right. God sent His Son to restore our relationship so that we can live with hope, identity and meaning through His resurrection.

The hope that participating in Christ's resurrection gives us is this: **"In fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep...in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order; Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ." (1 Cor. 15:20, 22-23)**

The identity that participating in Christ's resurrection gives us is this: **"...you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons...we are children of God, and if children then heirs – heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ..." (Rom. 8:15-17)**

The meaning our life has been given by participating in Christ's resurrection is this: **"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life."**

I encourage you to come this Easter to proclaim with all your fellow saints that glorious truth: **Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen, Indeed!** Then go on to participate in His resurrection every week through our little Easters, so that you may find hope, identity and meaning to live now and forever.

Easter Blessings,

Pastor Umbarger

Vicar's View

“On the third day the friends of Christ coming at daybreak to the place found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways they realized the new wonder; but even they hardly realized that the world had died in the night. What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation, with a new heaven and a new earth; and in a semblance of the gardener God walked again in the garden, in the cool not of the evening but of the dawn.”

(G. K. Chesterton; The Everlasting Man)

Beloved Saints in Christ,
Christ is Risen! What a glorious thing to behold. With Christ's resurrection, everything has changed. I think the quote above captures it perfectly. The old world, the world marred by sin and death just looking forward to the Redeemer, is gone. Instead, we are in a world where, yes, unfortunately, there is still sin and death, but it is not eternal. For Christ lives, and because of that, we will live too. All the struggles we experience in our daily life, all the diagnoses we must contend with, all the hardships, those are all merely mop-up operations in the war that was concluded upon the cross two thousand years ago. As we sit in the light of the glorious resurrection, as we enjoy the forgiveness of sins in his sacraments, may God bless you all. And, one more time (because it never gets old):

Christ is Risen!

In the Trinity,
Vicar Lackey



Serving the Lord This Month:

Saturday, April 2nd

Greeters: Ron & Denise Rogers

Ushers: Chuck Brokaw, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka

Sunday, April 3rd

Greeters: Susan Bowman & Nancy Davis

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Acolyte: Brayden Medinger

Communion Assistant: Dennis Boarts

Saturday, April 9th

Greeters: Sharon DeWulf & Joyce Hoffman

Ushers: Chuck Brokaw, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka

Sunday, April 10th– Palm Sunday

Greeters: Lee Copeland & Carole Krouth

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Acolyte: Alice Schmidt

Communion Assistant: Jonathan Schmidt

Thursday, April 14th– Maundy Thursday– 12:00pm

Greeter: JoAnn Sager

Ushers:

Communion Assistant: Clergy

Thursday, April 14th– Maundy Thursday– 6:30pm

Greeters: Diana Lackey & Karen Schmidt

Ushers:

Acolyte:

Communion Assistant: Glen McMillin

Friday, April 15th– Good Friday– 6:30pm

Greeters: Diana Lackey & JoAnn Sager

Ushers:

Acolyte: Easton Antolik

Saturday, April 16th– Easter Vigil– 5:00pm

Greeters: Larry & Sharon Ripka

Ushers:

Sunday, April 17th, Easter Sunrise– 6:30am

Greeter:

Ushers: Esther Cashion & Evan Antolik

Acolyte: Easton Antolik

Communion Assistant: Clergy

Sunday, April 17th– Easter Festival- 09:00am

Greeters: Diana Lackey & Molly Lackey

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Acolyte: Grace Schmidt

Communion Assistants: Jim Homann & Jonathan Schmidt

Saturday, April 23rd

Greeters: Larry & Sharon Ripka

Ushers: Chuck Brokaw, Todd Miller, Rick Newlon, & Larry Ripka

Sunday, April 24th

Greeters: Carole Krouth & JoAnn Sager

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Acolyte: Kinzlee Antolik

Eternal Candle

April 3: OPEN

April 10: Karen Schmidt for Glory to God

April 17: Gail Massey

April 24: In celebration of Briella Churchill's birthday



Flowers

April 3: LENT

April 10: LENT

April 17: EASTER

April 24: Rod & Noreen Hopkins in celebration of New Baby Hopkins



Altar Guild

Sun, April 10th- PALM SUNDAY: Kathy Ahrens and Rebecca Hinman

Thurs, April 14th- Maundy Thursday:
12:00pm: Marsha Boarts

6:30pm: Flo Moore

Sat, April 16th- Easter Vigil 5:00pm:
Marsha Boarts

Sun, April 17th- Easter Sunrise 6:30am:
Kathy Ahrens & Rebecca Hinman

Sun, April 17th- Easter Festival 9:00am:
Flo Moore & Margie Schaefer

Sat, April 23rd: Marsha Boarts

Sun, April 24th: Marsha Boarts

Church News

Birthdays

Apr. 1 – Dennis Hurley, Mike Murphy, & Bill Vallee

Apr. 2 – Stevee Antolik

Apr. 3 – Patty Ekin

Apr. 4 – Dawn Antolik, Janet Newlon, & Robert Mills

Apr. 5 – Kathleen Ahrens

Apr. 6 – Fred Bonow

Apr. 8 – Lou Ann DeRammelaere, Brandi Erickson, & Adam Schnabel

Apr. 9 – Judy Belan & Elijah Medina

Apr. 10 – Joan Britton

Apr. 11 – Ed Wachs

Apr. 12 – Norm Antolik & Tim Stone

Apr. 14 – Craig Churchill & Christine Engebrecht

Apr. 15 – Kami Sellers

Apr. 16 – Daniel Roberson

Apr. 17 – Tamee Stone

Apr. 18 – Bennett Johnson & Tanner Rusk

Apr. 19 – Zachary Antolik & Lisa Perley

Apr. 20 – Mason Chellew & Benjamin Dosch

Apr. 21 – Evan Antolik, Carol Terronez, & Sandy Young

Apr. 22 – Becky Johnson, Clinton Merritt, & Hannah Umbarger

Apr. 24 – Briella Churchill, Jacob Frankowski, & Nathanael Weber



Apr. 26 – Elijah Stone

Apr. 29 – Bryce Palar & Brian Rossmiller

Apr. 30 – Ben Engebrecht & Brooke Medinger

Weekly Attendance & Offerings

<u>DATE</u>	<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>
2/27/22	149	131
3/6/22	157	130
3/13/22	131	111
3/20/22	137	145

Simply giving Feb. 2022: \$3555.00 Average monthly attendance of St. John's membership 22%

**He is
not here;
he has
risen, just
as he said.
Matthew
28:6**

**By His
power God
raised the Lord
from the dead,
and he will raise
us also.
1 Corinthians
6:14**

**Jesus
Christ is the
same
yesterday,
today, and
forever.
Hebrews
13:8**

Church News

Remember our Shut-Ins by sending a *SPRINGTIME PICK-ME-UP*

Nancy Bonow
1020 38th St.
Moline, 61265

Lois Deal
1800 7th St Apt. 11F
East Moline, IL 61244

MaryAnn Eckert
1455 Hospital Rd #6
Silvis, IL 61282



Hello Spring

Angela Fischer
24690 E. 1680th St.
Geneseo, IL 61254

Peg Heitzman
8027 N 2300 Ave
Geneseo, IL 61254

Lori Hopkins
325 2nd St. Apt. 705
Silvis, IL 61282

Noreen Hopkins
39 Lilac Ct
Geneseo, IL 61254

Marilyn Kupresin
3752 Thunder Ridge Rd.#102
Bettendorf, IA 52722

Wanda Dobrinske
105 Julie Ct.
Colona, IL 61241

Alice Heller
221 11th Ave.
Moline, IL 61265

Ingrid Hodshire
4343 Kennedy Dr.
4102 Bed 2
East Moline, IL 61244

Bill Park
1900 10th St. #193
Silvis, IL 61282

June Sutton
1900 10th St.
Silvis, IL 61282

Nancy Smart
4046 9 1/2 St.
E. Moline, IL 61244

Gloria Burke
510 38th Ave
E. Moline, IL 61244

LWML The next LWML meeting will be on Thursday, April 28th at 1:00pm. Watch the bulletin for more information.



Ladies Luncheon

The ladies of St. John's are all invited to a Ladies Luncheon on Thursday, April 21st, at 11:30am at the Deerfield Family Restaurant.

Call Day 2022

Anticipation is building for Call Day 2022! Join us for two special services Tuesday, April 26, when second-year students receive their vicarage or deaconess internship assignments at 3 p.m. (CDT) and concluding students receive their pastoral and diaconal calls at 7 p.m. (CDT) in the Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus.

Can't make it in person? Watch the services at csl.edu/callday. Everyone is encouraged to share their celebratory comments and photos with the hashtags #CallDay2022 and #CallDayWatchParty on social media.



Church News

Notes from the Balcony

This year, our church spends the first half of April finishing up the season of Lent and the second half in the season of Easter. Let's look at a hymn for Good Friday which falls right in the middle of the month, April 15.

Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle, LSB 454, is a Good Friday hymn that made it on St. John's favorite hymn list. It is also one of our vicar's favorites as well as my son-in-law's. The text for this Good Friday hymn was written long ago by Fortunatus, c. 530-609, but the tune we use in our hymnal was written by a composer, Carl Schalk, who just passed away in 2021.

The horrors, anxiety, courage, and strength needed for battle are front and center this year we pray for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters as they suffer. In this battle hymn, Fortunatus recounts the story leading up to the conflict and finally invites the singer to participate in the triumphant march celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death. The post-war feelings of relief and joy praise our Redeemer who fought in our place. The five stanzas in our hymnal are a condensed version of the eleven originally written, the omitted verses including more of the imagery of Christ's life and passion.

Stanza 4 sums up this song of victory:

Faithful cross, true sign of triumph,
Be for all the noblest tree;
None in foliage, none in blossom,
None in fruit thine equal be;
Symbol of the world's redemption,
For the weight that hung on thee!

As we trudge through the many battles life throws in our path, may we always remember that the greatest, most important battle has already been won. To the Holy Trinity be praise and glory and honor now and evermore.

His servant,
Christine Engebrecht

Anniversary Hymn Sing

Trinity Lutheran in Springfield is hosting a hymn sing to highlight the works of LCMS composers and lyricists in celebration of the 175th anniversary of the LCMS. All are invited to come on **Sunday, May 1st at 3:30pm to Trinity Lutheran Church at 220 S. Second St. Springfield, IL**. We will raise our voices to praise God and hear from the Trinity Wind Ensemble for musical interludes between hymns.



Church News

Rite of Confirmation

This year's Rite of Confirmation will take place on Sunday, April 10th. There will be a cake reception to follow in the gym.



Kinzlee Antolik

"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

Jackson Merritt

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death. (Revelation 2:11)

Grace Schmidt

But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (Matthew 6:33)

From the CID– News You Can Use

Sin: A Hole In Our Boat!

"There but for the grace of God go I," said 16th century reformer and martyr, John Bradford. God graciously leads us around temptation and delivers us from evil. In response to our humble repentance in Christ, our sins are washed away and our just punishment is placed on Christ.

However, no one is less a sinner or more deserving of temporal and eternal punishment than any of us. Jesus warns all who think they deserve God's favor. "Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish." (Luke 13:4-5) We dare never become like the prodigal son's elder brother who harbored sinful pride in his heart. He sinned as greatly as his brother!

Sin is like a hole in our boat. If I were in the middle of a large, deep lake and had a hole in my boat I would need to fix it or get rescued. The size of the hole is not an important point. With no means to fix it and no one to rescue me, I am going to sink. It would make no sense for me to imagine that if my hole is smaller than someone else's I am safe. God tells us in James 2:10 "Whoever keeps the whole Law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it." Our good deeds cannot fix the hole. In fact, if we depend on them to fix the hole our situation becomes even worse! St. Paul warns us in Galatians 5:4 "You who are trying to be justified by law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen from grace."

So, what shall we do? We must recognize by faith that Jesus is in the boat with us. Jesus repairs the hole by his grace. He bails out the stagnant water of sin. He steadies our boat and keeps it afloat during the most violent storm. We can look to our destination of heaven and confidently say, "There, by the grace of God, go!" And we can sing: "When at last I near the shore And the fearful breakers roar Twixt me and the peaceful rest, Then, while leaning on Thy breast, May I hear Thee say to me, 'Fear not, I will pilot thee.'"

God bless!!
Rev. Jeff Harter



Church News

New Bible Study Coming Soon!

This Study will begin after Easter (April 20, 2022) on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Kyle Room and will meet for 8 weeks.

The History of Christianity in America

There are many ways to tell the story of a people or a region...In this course we will be looking at the story of America through the lens of the predominant religious belief system of those who would form the government and culture of the United States of America.

During this study, videos by Dr. Daniel van Voorhis—Historian, Author, and Host of The Christian History Almanac Podcast—will lead us in the exploration of the surprising history of Christianity in America.

Topics Covered in the Course:

The early colonies and their European backgrounds

The first and second great Awakening

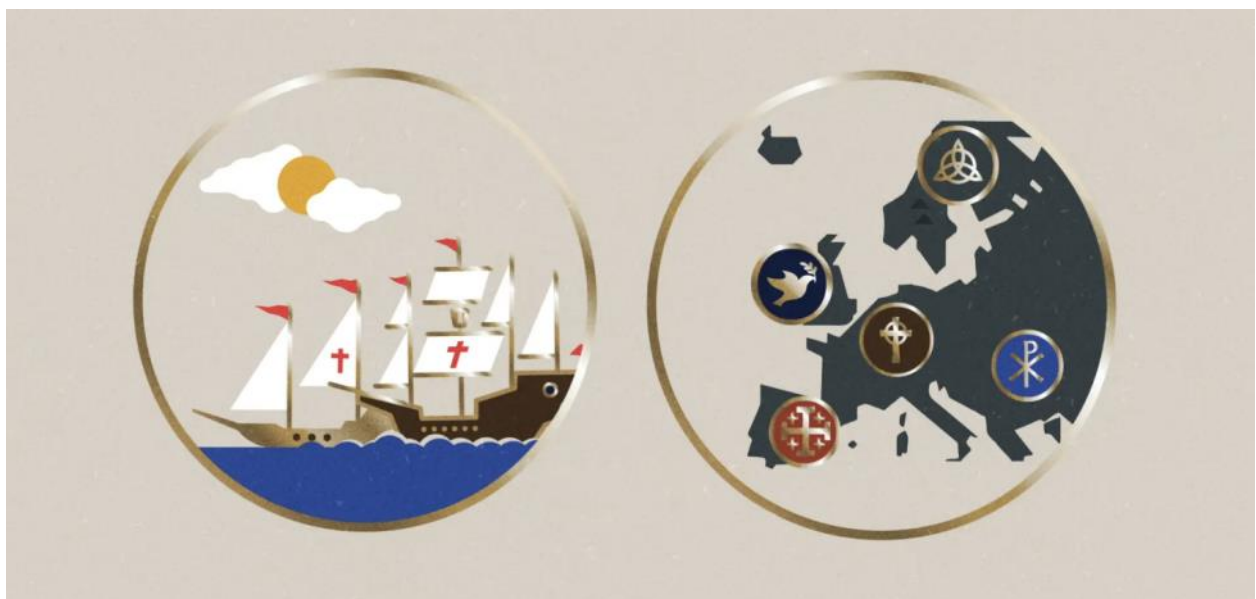
A Distinctly American Theology

Christianity and the Courts

The Fundamentalist/Modernist Controversy

"Evangelicals" and the Modern Megachurch

And more...



Voters Meeting Minutes

13 March 2022- Voters Meeting

1. Devotion: Pastor Umbarger
2. Acceptance of new voting members- Baleriana Guerrero
3. Approval of last Voter's meeting minutes as printed in the informer – Motion made by Kay Iwen; 2nd by Ed Wachs. Motion passed.
4. Old Business- No old business to report.
5. Board Reports

Executive- No report

Treasurer's report- Norm Anotlik. Norm went over the financials, all looks good right now.

Reviewed the Constitution and Executive Board responsibilities to include goal setting and Treasurer and Financial Secretary term limits. We've had one goal setting meeting with another to follow with a Synod representative.

The Security Committee met to discuss adding additional church security measures. Cameras have been purchased. Implementation is forthcoming. Door access and protocols were also discussed.

The board will be forming a committee to expand the Subsplash content and add potential additional websites.

Board of Elders- Jim Homann- See Attached Report.

Discussed Congregational Assessment of Development/Decline Status results.

The Board of Elders sent out letters to 20 members stating their release if no response. No responses were received. Motion to remove 20 members made by Rod Hopkins with a 2nd by Larry Dodge. Motion Passed.

Board of Youth and Family Ministry- See Attached Report.

Youth Lock up- March 18 7-11pm

Church Project- encourage non attending members to return

Need Sunday School volunteers- encourage families to return to Sunday School

Rod Hopkins shared his and the congregations appreciation of all the volunteers that assisted with the Preschool cleanout.

Board of Outreach Ministry- Charlie Britton

There is a sign up sheet for fellowship callers to assist the board, need 3 or 4 more.

Looking to purchase an outside digital sign- this is a long-term goal.

Voters Meeting Minutes

The board would like to set up the visitor welcome area and have a member there

Board of Human Care Ministry- Carrie Homann

Board developing a map of congregants.

Parish Nurse, Judy Dugan, has updated all the first aid kits around the building

Camp Cilca work weekend is upcoming in April. All are welcome to attend.

Board has available flood buckets for those who need help, supplies

Spring blood drive is taking place, but due to staffing issues, it will not happen until October.

If anyone is available to help on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, help is needed to unload the food pantry truck.

Board of Trustees- Evan Antolik

The church office is under renovation. Painting, flooring starting the week of the 28th

There has been discussion on the digital sign- getting bids for new sign and then work from there.

Preliminary steps

Lot resurfacing is still in the works. Move and shift parking spots to make room for additional handicap spots

Childs World will continue to rent our facility over the summer

6. Pastor's Report- Pastor Umbarger

See Pastor's attached report

7. New Business

District Convention – Get 2 votes, Pastor and one lay. Date is 17-19 July, need lay delegate for the district meeting. Both Rod Hopkins and Jim Homann volunteered to attend. Discussion about having Jim Homann attend as the delegate/voting member this year since he has previously attended with Rod Hopkins attending as an alternate and to observe for next year. The motion to have Jim Homann attend as voting member with Rod Hopkins as the observer was made by Dennis Boarts with a 2nd by Kay Iwen. Motion passed.

8. Move to Adjourn- Motion made by Marsha Boarts; 2nd Larry Dodge. Motion passed.

9. End with Lord's Prayer-11:15am

Very much appreciated to all members who attended the Voter's meeting!

Respectively submitted by Val McDonald 18 March 2022.

Church Calendar

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 9:00a Worship w/ Communion 10:15a Bible Study / Sunday School	4 9:00a Morning Prayer 1:00p Staff Mtg. 6:30p Heavenly Ringers 6:30p Men's Reunion	5 10:00a Food Pantry 2:00p ASL 6:30p Guitar Jam	6 9:00a TOPS 10:00a Bible Study 5:30p Mid-week Lenten Supper 6:00p Cherub Chimers 6:30p Mid-week Lent Worship 7:00p Confirmation Classes	7 6:30p Board Meetings	8 9:00a Altar Guild Cleaning	2 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:00a Altar Guild Cleaning 9:30a Choir Practice 5:00p Worship w/ Communion
10 9:00a Worship w/ Communion 10:15a Bible Study / Sunday School	11 1:00p Staff Mtg. 6:30p Heavenly Ringers 6:30p Men's Reunion	12 10:00a Food Pantry 6:30p Guitar Jam	13 9:00a TOPS 6:00p Cherub Chimers	14 12:00p Maundy Thursday Worship w/ Communion 6:30p Maundy Thursday Worship w/ Communion	15 12:00p Tre Ore Worship @ Holy Cross - Moline 6:30p Good Friday Worship	16 9:30a Choir Practice 5:00p Easter Eve
17 6:30a Easter Sunrise w/ Communion 7:30a Easter Breakfast 9:00a Easter Festival	18 9:00a Informer Deadline 6:30p Morning Prayer 6:30p Heavenly Ringers 6:30p Men's Reunion	19 10:00a Food Pantry 2:00p ASL 6:30p Guitar Jam	20 9:00a TOPS 10:00a Bible Study 6:00p Cherub Chimers 6:30p Confirmation Class	21 11:30a Ladies Luncheon	22 Camp Citea Service Weekend	23 8:00a Camp Citea Service Weekend 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Choir Practice 5:00p Worship
24 Camp Citea Service Weekend 9:00a Worship 10:15a Bible Study / Sunday School	25 9:00a Morning Prayer 1:00p Staff Mtg. 6:30p Heavenly Ringers 6:30p Men's Reunion	26 10:00a Food Pantry 6:30p Guitar Jam	27 9:00a TOPS 10:00a Bible Study 6:00p Cherub Chimers 6:30p Confirmation Class	28 1:00p LWMML	29	30 8:00a Men's Bible Study 9:30a Choir Practice 5:00p Worship w/ Communion

St. John's Lutheran Church of East Moline, IL

1450-30th Avenue
East Moline, IL 61244

Phone (309)792-0755
Fax (309)792- 0776
Email: office@stjohnsem.org

Walking in the



Light of Christ!



Inside our Sanctuary.

Worship Times

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 9:00am

Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:15am

