



The Informer

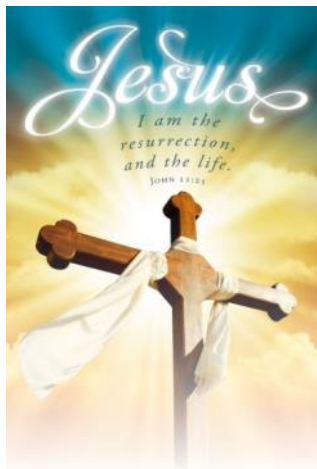
April 2023

St. John's Lutheran Church

Volume 64 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

- 4/02– Palm Sunday
- 4/06– Maundy Thursday
12:00pm & 6:30pm
- 4/07– Good Friday- 6:30pm
- 4/08– Easter Eve-5:00pm
The candlelight Paschal procession will NOT take place on Saturday night. It will be during the Easter Sunrise service.
- 4/09– Easter Sunrise– 6:30am
4/09– Easter Festival– 9:00am

From Pastor's Pen:

"Now on the first day of the week Mary Madalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb." (John 20:1)

Dearly blessed of the risen Savior,

For the past year we have received daily reports of the war in Ukraine; the mass murder of innocent civilians, the devastation and destruction of their communities and the bravery and fortitude of their people who seek to cast out an invading army. So many of our fellow Christians will soon be celebrating Easter on the battlefield or in their bombed out homes and places of worship. Yet, they have a valuable lesson to teach us.

You may not have known this, but many Ukrainian Easter cards portray gardens with beautiful flowers. An easily overlooked detail is that in every picture the gate to the garden is left ajar. The gate is left open in order to signify that during the season of Easter doors are opened.

This was what Mary Magdalene discovered when she arrived at the tomb that first Easter morning. In fact the much misunderstood hymn, "In the Garden" truly applies only to Mary. She came to the garden alone, while it was still dark and the dew was still on the roses. Yet, upon coming to the tomb she discovered that the stone had been taken away. It was open. At first she did not understand. She even asked Jesus, whom she mistook for a gardener, where they had taken her Lord's lifeless body. That is when, as the hymn declares, she heard a voice falling on her ear, and that voice called her by name. She recognized that sweet voice of Jesus as the Son of God disclosed to her the meaning of the open tomb.

On that first Easter morning our Savior opened what was locked. The seal to the grave was broken, the door to everlasting life was opened and the gate to heaven was left ajar so that all who would put their trust in Him could enter in. We celebrate this regularly in our worship, our weekly Easter. We hear and respond to the preface: "Jesus Christ our Lord... on this day overcame death and the grave and opened to us the way of everlasting life, therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify His glorious name, evermore praising Him and saying, Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Sabaoth..."

Through our Savior's resurrection doors have opened for us! And through our regular attendance in the Divine Service our Lord continues to open doors! He opens the doors to our hearts through His means of grace. In Word and Sacrament He opens the door for the Holy Spirit to enter in with His gifts of faith, life, salvation and much more. Praise God for all the doors He opens for us, because He first opened the door to the tomb in the garden.

Let us learn from, and celebrate with, our Ukrainian brothers and sisters the wonderful blessings of the open doors of Easter. The door to our once fearful and sorrowful hearts is open! The door to everlasting life and heaven is open! And it is all because, Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

In Christ's love,

Pastor Umbarger

Vicar's View

When Did Jesus Die?

For my informer article, I wanted to focus on a rare coincidence about this Easter season that I didn't want to let pass without remarking on it: I believe that this year, Good Friday and Easter happen to fall on the same dates that Jesus actually died and rose again: April 7 and April 9.

Why do I think that? There is various information that can help determine when Jesus died. The most obvious factor to start with is that Jesus was crucified under the authority of Pontius Pilate, who reigned from A.D. 26 to A.D. 37. So Jesus must have died sometime in those years. We can narrow things down much more than that though. All four Gospels agree that Jesus was crucified and died on a Friday afternoon, right before the Sabbath (Mark 15:42, Matt. 27:62, Luke 23:54, John 19:31). But John's Gospel especially points out that Jesus was crucified on the day when the Passover meal would be eaten at sunset, Nisan 14 in the Jewish calendar (see John 18:28; 19:29 and 19:36 connect Jesus with the Passover lamb sacrificed on that day). There are only two years that Nisan 14 fell on a Friday in that time period: A.D. 30 and A.D. 33.

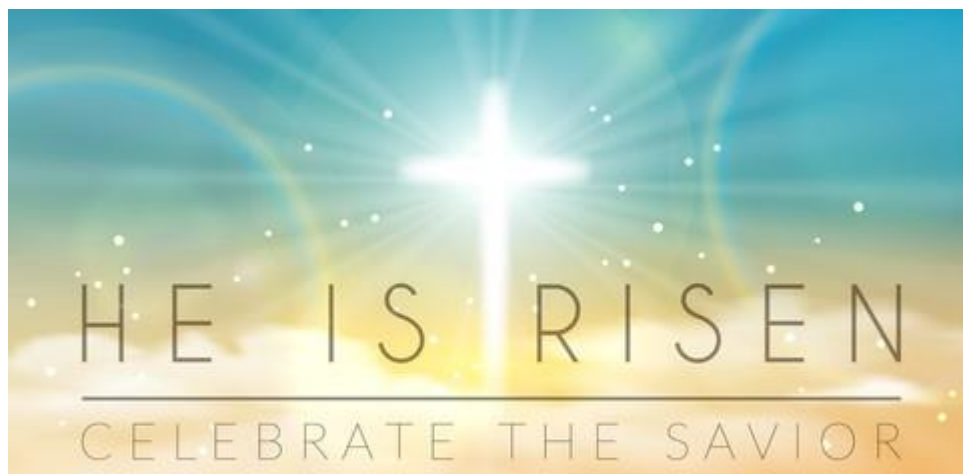
To determine which date is more likely, we can turn to some other information. Luke 3:1 indicates that Jesus started his ministry in the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar or shortly thereafter. It's not exactly clear how Luke counts those years, but this would be somewhere between A.D. 27-29. This also agrees with a comment made in John 2:20 that the temple had been under construction for 46 years toward the beginning of Jesus' ministry, which would put it at A.D. 27-28. On the other side of things, historical information from Acts indicates that Paul's conversion on the Damascus road must have occurred around A.D. 34, and we know that this was after he had been persecuting Christians for some period of time. Therefore, since it isn't likely that Jesus' ministry was longer than about three years, A.D. 33 would likely make Jesus' ministry too long and put his death and resurrection too close to Paul's conversion. Thus Jesus most likely died in A.D. 30, and in that year, Passover began on April 7. That is 1993 years to the day before Good Friday 2023!

Of course, there is nothing magical about that. The celebration of Christ's death and his victorious resurrection has the same joyful meaning every single year: Christ has defeated death by his death and brought immortality to light in his resurrection! That is no more or less true based on what day we celebrate. But I hope that this "fun fact" will help you to appreciate a little more this season that Christ's work for us happened on a very real Friday at a very real time in our human history. And that is worth celebrating.

¹ Ben Witherington, *New Testament History: A Narrative Account* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2003), 132.

² Leon Morris, *Luke: An Introduction and Commentary*, vol. 3, Tyndale New Testament Commentaries (InterVarsity Press, 1988), 110.

³ Raymond E. Brown, *The Gospel According to John (I–XII): Introduction, Translation, and Notes*, vol. 29, Anchor Yale Bible (Yale University Press, 2008), 115.



Serving the Lord This Month:

Saturday, April 1st

Greeters:

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

Sunday, April 2nd– Palm Sunday

Greeters: Lucille Perley

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Communion Assistant: Glen McMillin

Thursday, April 6th– Maundy Thursday– 12:00pm

Ushers: Evan Antolik, Dave & Esther Cashion

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

Greeters:

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

Friday, April 7th– Good Friday– 6:30pm

Greeters:

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

Saturday, April 8th– Easter Vigil– 5:00pm

Greeters:

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

Sunday, April 9th, Easter Sunrise– 6:30am

Greeter:

Ushers: Esther Cashion & Evan Antolik

Sunday, April 9th– Easter Festival- 09:00am

Greeters: Lucille Perley

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Communion Assistants: Jim Homann & Jonathan Schmidt

Saturday, April 15th

Greeters: Marlene Fellows & JoAnn Sager

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

Sunday, April 16th

Greeters:

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Communion Assistant: Kevin McAnally

Saturday, April 22nd

Greeters:

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

Sunday, April 23rd

Greeters: George Aukee & Penny Schreck

Ushers: Evan Antolik & family

Saturday, April 29th

Greeters:

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

Sunday, April 30th

Greeters: Dennis & Marsha Boarts

Ushers: Evan Antolik and family

Communion Assistant: Dennis Boarts

Eternal Candle

April 2: In honor of the Rite of Confirmation

April 9: Gail Massey

April 16: In honor of Zach Antolik's
baptismal birthday

April 23: In honor of Briella Churchill's birth-
day

April 30: OPEN



Flowers

April 2: LENT

April 9: EASTER LILIES

April 16: Janet Wachs; in memory
of Ed

April 23: In Loving Memory of Terry
Dugan

April 30: OPEN



Acolytes

April 2: Sloane Churchill

April 9, Sunrise: Easton Antolik

April 9, Festival: Alice Schmidt

April 16: Bentley Orton

April 23: Aubree Medinger

April 30: Joel Duffy

Altar Guild

Sun, April 2nd- Palm Sunday: Marsha Boarts

Thurs, April 6th- Maundy Thursday:

12:00pm: Margie Schaefer

6:30pm: Marsha Boarts

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

Monica Scheer

Sun, April 9th- Easter Sunrise 6:30am:

Kathy Ahrens & Rebecca Hinman

Sun, April 9th- 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

April 7 – Kassy Caldwell & Ben Martinez

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

Apr. 9 – Judy Belan, Ben Frankowski, Lyndsie McCoy & Elijah Medina

Apr. 10 – Joan Britton

April 11 – Emmelynn Wilson

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, Alexandria Parker & Lisa Perley

Apr. 20 – Mason Chellev & Benjamin Dosch

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

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

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

Apr. 26 – Elijah Stone

April 27 – Mialada Fauser

Apr. 29 – Bryce Palar & Brian Rossmiller

Apr. 30 – Ben Engebrecht & Brooke Medinger



Weekly Attendance

<u>DATE</u>	<u>THIS YEAR</u>	<u>LAST YEAR</u>
02/26/23	134	149
03/05/23	182	157
03/12/23	119	131
03/19/23	143	137
03/26/23	125	144

Average monthly attendance of St. John's membership 34%

Ladies Luncheon

The ladies of St. John's are all invited to a Ladies Luncheon on Thursday, April 20th, at 11:30am at the Deerfield Family Restaurant.



**BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE ON THURSDAY, APRIL 13TH
THIS MONTH DUE TO HOLY WEEK.**

Church News

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

Nancy Bonow
1020 38th St.
Moline, 61265

Lois Deal
3650 41st St. #506
Moline, IL 61265

MaryAnn Eckert
1455 Hospital Rd #6
Silvis, IL 61282

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

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



Rite of Confirmation

This year's Rite of Confirmation will take place on Sunday, April 2nd.
There will be a cake reception to follow in the gym.

Easton Antolik

"Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'
(John 8:12)

Payton Braddy

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:14,15b)

Stratton Churchill

"Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6)

Aubree Medinger

"Jesus said to them, I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst." (John 6:35)

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



Notes from the Balcony

A little Easter game for you this month:

What is the next phrase of these Easter hymns?

Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
 Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands
 I know that my Redeemer lives
 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
 The strife is o're the battle done;
 Awake my heart with gladness, see what today is done
 O sons and daughters of the king
 The day of resurrection
 This joyful Eastertide
 Jesus lives! The victory's won!

Answers:

Death no longer can appall me
 Away with sin and sorrow
 Earth tell it out abroad
 Who heav'nly hosts in glory sing
 rious sun.
 Now after gloom and sadness, comes forth the glo-
 Now is the victor's triumph won
 Christians hasten on your way; Alleluia!
 What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
 For our offenses given
 Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!



LWML NEWS

LWML will not be meeting in April.

The 78th Annual Lutheran Women's Missionary League Central Illinois District Convention will be held April 28-29 in Quincy Illinois.

During this convention officers will be elected and mite recipients determined. Speakers will include Rev. Dale Meyer; Cindy Steinwedel, Regional Coordinator, of the Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT), CID; David Ward, District Life Coordinator; and Melissa Kearney, Reaching out to the Deaf.

The following items are being collected for the Illinois Veteran's Home in Quincy. A box will be in the concourse. Items will be collected until April 26th.

Any questions or if you are interested in attending the convention contact Diana Lackey, 309-373-1862 for more information.

Men's & Women's Body washes (Old Spice, Dial, etc.)
 Lotions
 Electric Toothbrushes
 Aftershave
 Candy bars (miniature/fun size)
 Individual bags chips or cookies
 Little Debbie or Hostess snacks
 Hard candies
 Sugar free candies
 Sweatpants & sweatshirts, L-2X
 Croc Shoes (generic), L or XL
 Magazines (outdoor/animals, farming, cars, Reminiscing
 Small, medium & large white boards
 Universal TV remotes (with big buttons)

Thank you for helping our veterans!

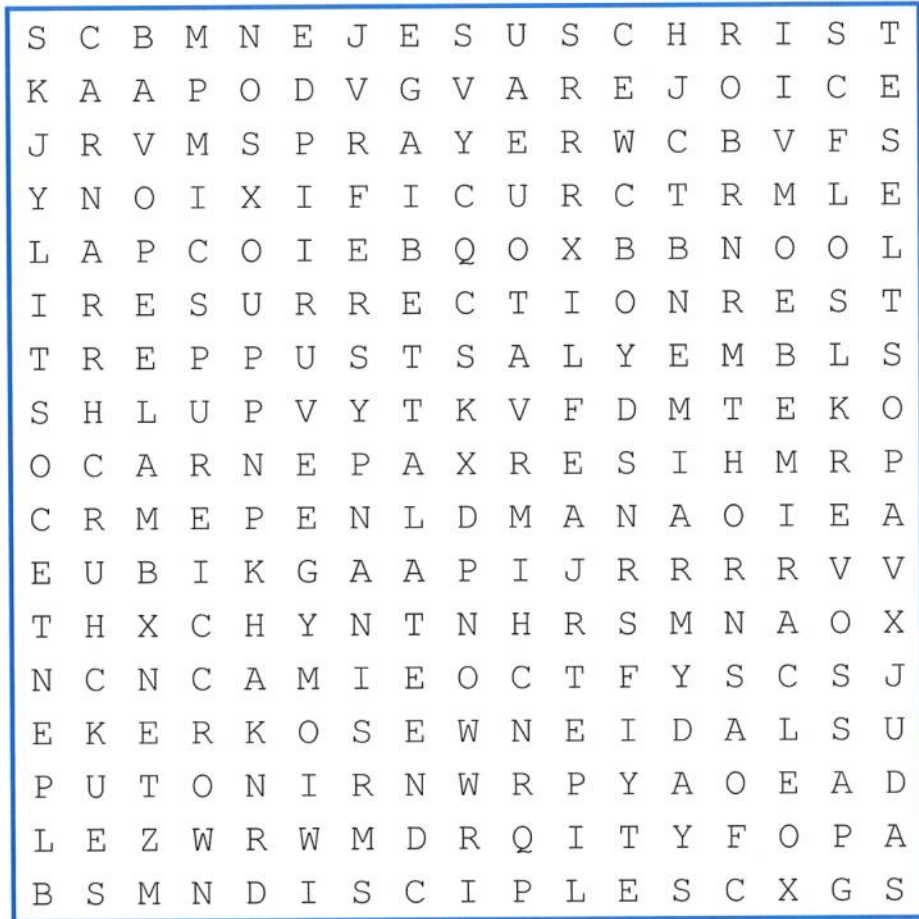




Easter Story

WORD SEARCH

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.



APOSTLES
BETRAYAL
CAVE
CHURCH
CROSS
CROWN
CRUCIFIXION
DISCIPLES
FAITH
GOOD FRIDAY

JESUS CHRIST
JUDAS
LAMB
LAST SUPPER
LENT
MARY
MIRACLE
PASSOVER
PENANCE
PENTECOST

PRAYER
REDEMPTION
REJOICE
RESURRECTION
RISEN
SAVIOR
SON
THORNS
TOMB



Church News

BLOOD DRIVE – Saturday, May 6, 8-11:30am

Did you know that 4.5 million people in the U.S. need a blood transfusion each year? Our local blood bank, Impact Life, is currently in short supply of ALL blood types! Join us Saturday, May 6, 8-11:30am for a blood drive. There are a few ways to sign up:

1. In the concourse on the display
2. Go to our Facebook page and click on the link in the Blood Drive event, this will take you right to the current schedule
3. Or pick up a flyer with a scannable QR code. This will also lead you to the online schedule.
4. Contact Carrie Homann for assistance signing up

Who can donate?

- Anyone age 17 and up (16 with parental consent)
- At least 110 pounds
- Feeling well on the day of donation
- Haven't taken aspirin products 48 hours before donating.
- Be sure that your last donation date was no sooner than March 11, 2023

Have you been deferred for visiting or living in a European country because of Mad Cow Disease?

- Don't worry if you have been previously denied for giving blood because of living or visiting European countries in the 80s and 90s. The FDA has lifted this previously stated restriction for this large group of people because Mad Cow disease is no longer an issue.

How to prepare for your donations.

- Drink lots of water to be well hydrated
- Eat before you come
- Bring your photo ID
- Some people who have been deferred in the past for low hemoglobin take an iron supplement (everyday or every other day) to prepare.

Sign up today!!!



Voters Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2023

1. Devotion: Pastor Umbarger
2. Acceptance of new voting members: None
3. Approval of last Voters Meeting minutes as printed in the Informer
Motion made by Glenn McMillan; seconded by Kevin McAnally
Motion Passed.
4. Old Business: No old business
5. Board Reports:
 - A. Executive Board – Rod Hopkins
Brian Engebrecht is the Vice President of the Board and a member of the Endowment Committee.
Diana Lackey is the Recording Secretary for the Executive Board.
Rod Hopkins and Howard Williams will be on the Financial Review Committee.
Special Voter's Meeting was January 29 to nominate candidates for LCMS President, 1st Vice President and Regional President.
A review of compliance of the Food Pantry was completed and everything is in order.
Board completed a vision statement and submitted to Vicar.
Fort Wayne Seminary is holding a Christ Academy: Family Institute in June.
Working with Music Director to make sure we are in compliance with copy rights for streaming music
 - B. Treasurers report – Norm Antolik
Handed out treasurer's report. Everything looked normal for February.
Also handed out a report on monies we have received from Thrivent Choice over the years. Encourage members who have Thrivent Choice dollars to designate funds by the end of March.
 - C. Board of Elders – Jim Homann
Elders urged members to make sure the office had their correct address, phone number and email. The information can be unpublished if requested.
Elders are reaching out to members who do not have a recorded attendance in 6 months.
Love in Action Binder will be available to congregation on members who have not attended and members are encouraged to reach out to them.
A list of members who haven't attended church for 7 years and also those with unknown addresses was handed out. Discussion on removing them from the membership followed. A motion was made by Kevin McAnally to remove them from church membership except for Donna Ratliff. Seconded by Brian Engebrecht. Motion passed with one opposed.
 - D. Board of Family and Youth Ministry – Kevin McAnally for Kris McAnally
March 18th bowling at QC Family 12:30-2:30 with Immanuel Lutheran.
Serving Easter Breakfast April 9 at 7:30. Signup sheet will be out soon for donations.
Around April 15th an outreach program for local high schoolers for Prom dresses is being planned.
 - E. Board of Outreach Ministry – Pastor Umbarger for Charlie Britton
The Central Illinois District encourages its members to contribute one dollar per member per week for missions, in addition to their ordinary offerings. This kind of over-and-above giving is called "A Dollar for Missions". A wooden church will be in the concourse to accept member dollars for missions.
 - F. Board of Human Care Ministry – Carrie Homan
Chili Cook-Off held Feb. 26 with matching funds raised \$4,774 for the Food Pantry. Three community judges chose 1st place Jonathan Schmidt, 2nd place Greg Burke, and 3rd place Rachel Duffy. Fan favorite was Aliza Stone.
Spring Blood Drive - May 6, 8-11:30. Signup sheet available on our Facebook page and sheet will soon be on the library counter.

Voters Meeting Minutes

G. Board of Trustees – Evan Antolik

The sign is up in front of the church.

Also working to get information regarding work needed in the parking lot.

6. Pastor's Report – Pastor Umbarger

Challenge: Over 50% Americans claim no church affiliation. We are in a post-Christian society. He encouraged members to devote ourselves to worship, devotion and Bible study in order to be the light and salt the Lord has called his people to be.

Blessing: We continue to be a strongly biblical and confessional congregation. Though our numbers are lower we have a congregation committed to worship and service. Encouraged members to engage in planned giving to benefit the church so ministry may continue even when membership declines.

7. New Business

Concern from members over lack of light in the parking lot.

Board of Trustees reported that they are working with MidAmerican to get more lighting in the parking lot.

8. Move to Adjourn

Motion made by Evan Antolik; seconded by Larry Dodge. Motion Passed

9. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:10 a.m.

Respectively submitted by Diana Lackey, Date: March 16, 2023

SJLC Voters Meeting on March 12, 2023 Attendance Record

	Print Name
1.	Rob. Hopkins
2.	Kevin McAnally
3.	Larry C. DODGE
4.	Bernie Kern
5.	Marsha Bearts
6.	Dennis Bearts
7.	Curtis Homann
8.	Adam Homann
9.	Caleb Engbrecht
10.	Drian Engbrecht
11.	Vicar Moellenhoff
12.	GLENN McMILLIN
13.	ANN CHURCHILL
14.	Jamee Stone
15.	KAY IWEN

16.	John Iwen
17.	Margie Schaefer
18.	Dennis Schaefer
19.	Jenny Jody
20.	EVAN ANTOLIK
21.	Dennis Boantz
22.	Judy Dugan
23.	Karen Schmidt
24.	Kent Umbarger
25.	HOWARD WILLIAMS
26.	Norman Antolik
27.	Diana Lackey
28.	
29.	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 9am - Palm Sunday 10am - Cake reception 10:15am - Bible Study /	27 9am - Morning Prayer @ 1pm - Staff Mtg. 6:30pm - Heavenly	28 10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	29 9am - TOPS 6pm - Chimes	30 12pm - Holy Thursday 6:30pm - Holy Thursday	31 6:30pm - Good Friday	1 8am - Mens Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Worship w/
2 9am - Morning Prayer @ 1pm - Staff Mtg. 6:30pm - Heavenly	3 10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	4 9am - TOPS 6pm - Chimes	5 12pm - Holy Thursday 6:30pm - Holy Thursday	6 6:30pm - Good Friday	7 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Easter Eve	8
9 6:30am - Easter Sunrise 9am - Easter Festival 11am - McDonald Easter	10 9am - Morning Prayer @ 1pm - Staff Mtg. 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	11 9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible 6pm - Chimes 6:30pm - Confirmation	12 6:30pm - Board Meetings	13 8am - Mens Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 1pm - Prom Closet 5pm - Worship	14	15
16 9am - Worship w/ 10:15am - Bible Study /	17 Informers Deadline 9am - Morning Prayer @ 1pm - Staff Mtg. 6:30pm - Heavenly	18 10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	19 9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible 6pm - Chimes 6:30pm - Confirmation	20 11:30am - Ladies	21	22 8am - Mens Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Worship
23 9am - Worship 10:15am - Bible Study /	24 9am - Morning Prayer @ 1pm - Staff Mtg. 6:30pm - Heavenly	25 10am - Food Pantry 6:30pm - Guitar Jam	26 9am - TOPS 10am - Midweek Bible 6pm - Chimes	27 1pm - LWML	28	29 8am - Mens Bible Study 9:30am - Adult Choir 5pm - Worship w/
30 9am - Worship 10:30am - Bible Study /	1	2	3	4	5	6

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.



Worship Times

Saturday 5:00pm

Sunday 9:00am

Sunday School/ Bible Study 10:15am

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday- 8:30am-2:00pm



Inside our Sanctuary.