Established 1900

ST. JOHNS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

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VOLUME 1 APRIL 2025 ISSUE 77

Established 1893

Easter Sunday is a day of joy and celebration, but the resurrection of Jesus is not just a one day event. It is the foundation of our faith and a way of life. As followers of Christ, we are called to live as Easter people, embracing the hope, victory, and transformation that the resurrection brings every day.

The early church understood this deeply. After Jesus' resurrection, His disciples were forever changed. No longer fearful and uncertain, they became bold witnesses of His power and love. The resurrection was not just a historical event for them, it was the reality that shaped everything they did. It gave them courage in the face of persecution and strength to spread the gospel to the ends of the earth. They knew that because Jesus had conquered death, nothing could truly defeat them.

Paul reminds us of this in his letter to the Corinthians: "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NRSV). This verse speaks to the transformation that comes from knowing the risen Christ. Because He lives, we are given new life, new purpose, and a new identity as God's redeemed people. We are not bound by our past mistakes or fears, but instead, we are set free to walk in the fullness of God's grace and truth.

Living as Easter people means carrying the joy and hope of Christ's victory into our daily lives. It means choosing faith over fear, hope over despair, and love over division. It means seeing the world through the lens of resurrection and knowing that no matter how dark things may seem, light has overcome the darkness. When we live in this truth, we experience a peace that surpasses understanding and a confidence that nothing. Not even death can separate us from God's love. It also calls us to extend grace to others, just as we have received it, fostering reconciliation and unity in a world so often divided.

One of the simplest yet most powerful ways we can live out the resurrection is by sharing it with others. Just as the women at the tomb ran to tell the disciples that Jesus was alive, we are called to share the good news. Whether through acts of kindness, words of encouragement, or simply the way we love one another, we reflect the risen Christ to the world. In a world that often feels weighed down by hardship and uncertainty, our role as Easter people is to be beacons of light, pointing others toward the everlasting hope we have in Jesus. This can happen in our families, our workplaces, our communities, and even in the small, everyday interactions we have with strangers. The power of the resurrection is not just something we talk about it is something we live.

This Easter season, let us not simply celebrate an empty tomb, but live in the power of the resurrection. Let us be people of joy, people of hope, and people of love. May we, like the first disciples, carry the light of Christ into every corner of our lives, proclaiming with confidence: *Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!* And may that truth not just be something we profess on Easter morning but something we live out every single day. By doing so, we become living testimonies of God's unending love and the transformative power of the resurrection, ensuring that the message of Easter continues to shine brightly in the world.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Jeremy

FARMERSBURG

CHURCH COUNCIL Pres: Bill Scherf III. (25) V. Pres: Bruce Glawe (25) Sec: Loretta Weipert (26) Treas: Linda Schoulte (26) Council Members: Ken Erickson (27), Crystal Goltz (27) & Dave Hageman (25)

CHURCH SECRETARY: Kelly Shaw

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Kelly Shaw

OUTSIDE JANITOR: Loren Scherf

INSIDE JANITOR: Mary Beth Tielbar

WELCA:

Pres: Shirley Marmann V. Pres: Velma Kuehl Sec: Nancy Moon Treas: Becky Fuelling Mission Action: Bev Moon, Nancy Moon, Marlene Glawe

MEN'S GROUP:

Pres: Ryan Moon V. Pres: Brad Hoth Sec/Treas: Dan Moon

ALTAR GUILD: Directress: Cheryl Bossard Sec: Heather Crogan Treas: Velma Kuehl

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26) Secretary: Vicki Baade (27) Members: Janelle Smith (25) Becky Fuelling (25) Aaron Smith (26) Amanda Goltz (27)

NEWSLETTER EDITORS;

Cheryl Bossard & Tammy Muller

Church Website: <u>http://www.stjohn-farmersburg.org</u>

Remember to like St. John Facebook Page.

FARMERSBURG NEWS



Order your Easter Lilys by calling Cheryl Bossard @ 536-2369. Cost is \$10.00. Deadline was March 30th, but I reserve a certain number of Lilies for our church. So if you still want one call ASAP. I will need to order immediately in order to get more lilies.



Jackson Dean Glawe the son of Wyatt & Olivia Glawe was baptized on February 23, 2025. Megan Klink and Jeramiah Bailey are sponsors. We welcome Jackson into the body of Christ and the mission we serve.

KNOWN April BAPTISMS

- 4 Ryan Moon
- 6 Becky Fuelling
- 8 William Robert Scherf V
- 10 Zachary Radloff
- 13 Cierra Weipert
- 15 Emery Jean Rodas
- , 15 – Wyatt, Martyn, Jay Geick
- 19 Dominic Schoulte
- 20 Kris Wikner



When you are garage sell shopping, remember to look for items for the Layette Kits. Our supply of items is gone. We need the following: Bar Soap, Socks, Small Dark colored Hand Towels Cotton T-shirts or Onesies Long or Short sleeve Gowns or Sleepers Receiving <u>Lightweight</u> Blankets Cloth Diapers Baby Cap Jacket, Sweater or Sweatshirts

Diaper Pins Clothes should be <u>size 6– 24</u> Months

Thank you—Marlene, Nancy & Bev



<u>April Wedding Anniversaries</u> 15 Kenneth & Velma Kuehl 21 Mark & Beth Bries

FARMERSBURG NEWS



April 6, April 13 & April 18 (Good Friday 6:30pm) Captain Don Bossard Martyn Geick Ken Crogan Don Erickson

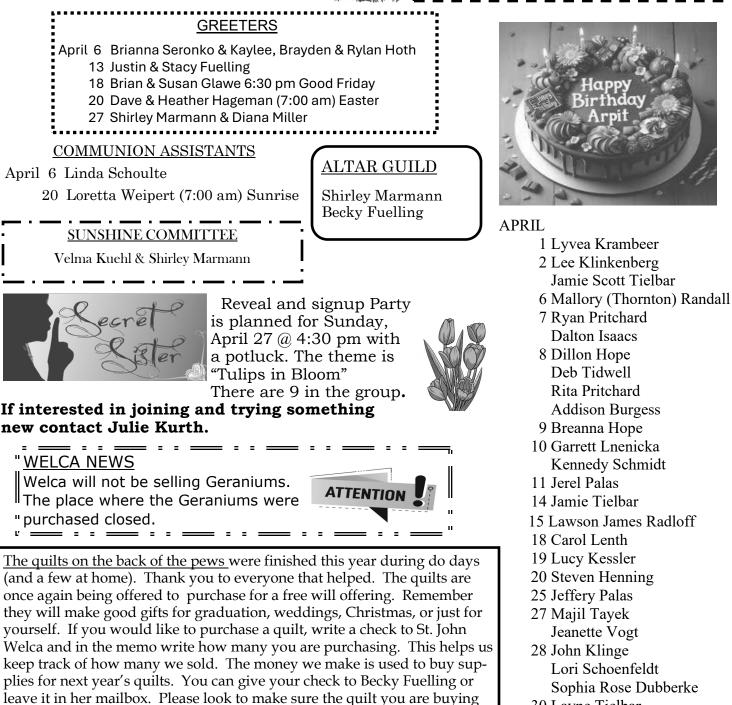
does not already have a name on it. Thank you.



April Acolytes

- 6 Brayden Hoth
- 13 Carsen Kirby
- 18 Connor Kirby 6:30 pm Good Friday
- 20 Brayden Hoth 7:00 am Easter Sunrise
- 27 Carsen Kirby

April 20 (Easter Sunrise 7:00 am) & April 27 Captain John Fuelling Jeff Klinge



30 Layne Tielbar

As you work on your spring cleaning, keep us in mind for your extra sheets, pillow cases, curtains, or new fabric. We are able to use most anything. If you have doubts, bring it to us and we will sort through it. We use it for tops, middles, and backs. Even though sheets may not be perfect, we can still cut squares from them. We appreciate any and all donations that we receive. Thanks

3

ST. JOHN FARMERSBURG COUNCIL MINUTES Date: March 9, 2025

Present: Bill Scherf, Loretta Weipert, Ken Erickson, Bruce Glawe, Crystal Goltz and Jeremy Wolfe. Absent: Linda Schoulte and Dave Hageman.

Meeting called to order by President Bill at 1124 am. Opening devotions given by Jeremy.

Loretta moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Bruce. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the minutes of February 9, 2025 meeting made by Crystal. Second by Ken. Motion carried. Bruce moved to approve the treasurer's report, second by Ken. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

*Updated us on Lenten services and P.E.E.P.S. program

*Working on a digital music project

*Working on a video channel project

*Will start doing door to door visits for both churches in near future.

*For 125th celebrations Pastor Tielbar and Erickson confirmed, working on Pastor Edinger and Edwards still.

Old Business:

*Copier coming tomorrow, Jemery will be present.

New Business:

*Discussed Easter Sunrise Breakfast. Council has decided to provide a simple breakfast with coffee, milk, OJ and donuts/etc. At the April council meeting each individual will sign up for what they are bringing for breakfast. *No trespassing sign put in front of the schoolhouse to prevent vehicle tracks in the yard, has been effective.

Committee Reports:

Evangelism - No report.

Parish Education - Will start planning for an end of the year bowling party for Sunday School and confirmation. Confirmation May 4th. Brayden Hoth getting confirmed from Farmersburg.

Property - Ken has been busy cleaning up leaves and branches. Cleaned bell tower. Plans to spray for box Elder bugs.

Stewardship - No report.

Worship - After confirmation there will only be 2 acolytes (Kirby twins). The plan will be for volunteers or Jeremy to acolyte. Discussed the 125th Anniversary, which will have a full menu. Congregation to Bring drinks/ desserts Trudy Kessler is willing to make a cake for free if the church supplies the eggs.

Memorial - No report.

Men's Group - This Spring will complete cement work & paint new boards at the bottom of the schoolhouse. Women's Group - No report.

Motion to adjourn by Ken, second by Loretta. Motion carried. Next meeting is April 13th which is Palm Sunday. Respectively submitted by Loretta Weipert, secretary



FARMERSBURG NEWS

February 2025 – Treasurer's Report Income:

43.00 (Thrivent Choice Dollars) 476.00 915.00 1259.00 1396.00 446.45 (PayPal Offering)



Missions:

NE Iowa Synod:	270.00
SOTH:	232.00
Food Shelf:	122.00
St. Pt. Home:	35.00
LSI:	50.00
EWALU:	35.00

Staff Compensation:

 Pastor:
 2636.37 + 308.72+ 363.61 (Portico) (Housing from different Account: 707.58)

 Inside Cust.:
 215.48

 Outside Cust.:
 126.98

 Organists:
 129.28

Expenses:

)

Total Income:4555.45Total Expenses:6340.31

General Checking Balance – Feb. 1, 2025: 3636.14 Feb 28, 2025: 1851.28

Kelly Shaw, Treasurer

2-	28
9-	29
16-	29
23-	52



LUANA NEWS

LUANA CHURCH SECRETARY &

FINANCIAL TREAS.: Karla Schrader

CHURCH COUNCIL:

President: Jerry Schroeder (26) V. Pres: Aaron Smith (25) Sec: Vicky Baade (27) Cur. Treas: Diane Kraus (25) Bene. Treas: Stan Dull (26) Financial Counters: Council DEACONS:

Jerry Schroeder (26) Tim Donlon (26) Loren Lenth (27) **TRUSTEES:**

Diane Kraus (25) Aaron Smith (25) Heath Landt (26) Vicky Baade (27) Luke Steege (27)

WELCA:

Leaders: January—March: Karla Schrader April—June Mel: Lenth July—September: Lisa Meyer Oct.—December: Vicky Baade

ALTAR GUILD:

Pres: Sherri Johnson (26) Sec: Darci Engelhardt (26) Banners/Linens/Candles: Lisa Meyer (25) Mary Schroeder (27) Special Services/Flowers: Diane Kraus (25) Betty Handke (27) Bapt./Comm.: Sherri Johnson Darci Engelhardt Seasonal Banners:

Mary Schroeder

ST. JOHN MINISTRY TEAM

Chairperson: Linda Schoulte (26) Secretary: Vicki Baade (27) Members: Janelle Smith (25) Becky Fuelling (25) Aaron Smith (26) Amanda Goltz (27)

St. John's Luana website www.stjohn-luana.org

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Jerry & Mary Schroeder

Linda Davis Read Lessons & Prayers: Apr. 6 HAPPY Mary Schroeder Karla Schrader Ápr. 13 FASTFR Apr. 20 Apr. 27 Mel Lenth Acolyte: Apr. 6 Emme Wikner Apr. 13 Ty Wikner Maundy Thursday Apr. 17 Karsten Steege Apr. 20 Dayne Anderson Easter Apr. 27 Josh Schierholz Communion Servers: Apr. 6 - Jerry Schroeder and Vicky Baade Maundy Thursday Apr. 17 – Loren Lenth and Luke Steege Easter Apr. 20 – Tim Donlon and Stan Dull Altar Guild: Lisa Meyer Flowers: Mel Lenth 1 - Sherri Johnson 4 - Jean Wolter - 90 APRIL 5 – Connie Schlein 7 – Cyrus Landt 19 - Robert & Betty Handke Anna Schroeder 29 - Jim & Lisa Meyer 14 – Janelle Smith 19 - Avrev Smith 28 - Myah Davis Let Karla know if you are bringing an Easter Lily for Easter. WORSHIP ATTENDANCE WELCA Meeting 5:30 pm Att. Comm April 24, 2025 Feb. 23 37 Mar. 2 47 39 39 Mar. 9 Mar. 16 38 161

<u>LUANA NEWS</u>

St. John Council Minutes March 9, 2025

Present were: Pastor Jeremy, Diane Kraus, Stan Dull, Jerry Schroeder, Loren Lenth, Aaron Smith, Tim Donlon, Luke Steege and Vicky Baade. Heath Landt was absent. Meeting was called to order by President, Jerry Schroeder.

Pastor led devotions.

Vicky read the minutes of the February 9 meeting. Tim moved to accept the minutes, Loren seconded, approved.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Luke moved to accept the report, Stan seconded, approved.

Church insurance – Jeremy reported that the committee has been working on gathering information and will hopefully have a recommendation soon. Tim Donlon and Keith Hanson are also on the committee.

Aaron gave a report on the Building Committee activities. The committee did a thorough walkthrough of the church and parsonage yesterday.

<u>Parsonage</u> - Stanley Thomas completed the basement wall repairs and did a very nice job. There was still some leakage because the sidewalk has settled, sloping toward the house. The committee will work on that when the weather warms up. The front steps need leveling and new smoke detectors are needed. The basement windows still need replacing.

<u>Church</u> – The committee found spots where the plaster of the interior walls needs attention, especially the east wall of the balcony. They want to hide the cable for video equipment. On the exterior, the window wells need to be dug out and new rock installed. Aaron had asked Brenen Steele for a bid on painting all of the white trim on the outside of the church. Brenen's plan would be to wash the trim, treat it with an anti-mildew product, use primer and then enamel paint for \$5850. He would also stain the small deck on the north side for about \$250 more. He could start in April. Diane moved to hire Brenen for the job, Luke seconded. Approved. A big thank you to the Building Committee for all they have been doing.

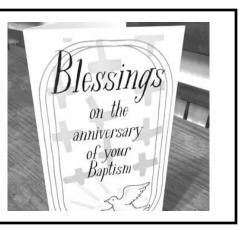
Jerry adjourned the meeting. Members prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be April 13 at 7:30am.



Respectfully submitted by Vicky Baade, Council Secretary

Known Baptismal Anniversaries April 2 – Keisha Formanek 6 – Erma Swenson 7 – Tristan Meyer 13 – Jay Schroeder 14 – Wyatt Landt Ryker Lindner 18 – Candice Schlein 22 – Connie Schlein 25 – Sherri Johnson



7

LUANA NEWS FEBRUARY REPORT

EXPENSES

Black Hills Utilities –Nat. Gas	463.42
Alliant - Electricity	627.99
Karla Schrader – Secretary	500.24
Cindy Landt – Custodian	461.50
NEITEL	119.61
Jeremy Wolfe- salary	2,636.46
Jeremy Wolfe – housing	707.58
Jeremy Wolfe – Jan. mileage	369.60
IRS	159.37
Portico – Feb.	727.21
Church Mutual – Prop. Ins.	1,114.26
Brian Brincks – Parsonage	561.85
Times-Register -Xmas advertising	141.60
Schiller Law – w-2's	35.00
Church Budget – Envelopes	181.65
Plunkett's – exterminating	57.25
	8,864.59

SPECIAL FUNDS

St John Scholarship Fund CD	42,223.05
Ruby Breitsprecher CD	5,676.58
Willard & Anne Kamin CD	4,690.04

	CURRENT FUND			
	Envelopes	Plate	Init.	Total
Feb. 2	1,440.00	20.00	20.00	1,480.00
Feb. 9	1,127.00			1,127.00
Feb. 16	787.00	11.00		798.00
Feb. 23	927.00	81.00		1,008.00
	4,281.00	112.00	20.00	4,413.00

BENEVOLENCE REPORT INCOME

Feb.2	Offering	90.00
Feb. 9	Offering	70.00
	FoodShelf	60.00
Feb. 16	Offering	20.00
	Food Shelf	20.00
	Souper Bowl	380.00
Feb. 23	Offering	35.00
	Food Shelf	10.00
	SOTH Oper.	50.00
		725.00

INCOME

In to official	
Feb. 2	1,480.00
Feb. 9	1,127.00
Feb. 16	798.00
Feb. 23	1,008.00
	4,413.00
Davis Dep	933.46
Thrivent	30.00
Fmbrg – Portico	1,417.66
(Dec. Nov. Jan. Feb)	
Trfr Repair Fund	2,500.00
-	9,294.12
Bal. Jan. 31, 2025	2,188.20
Income	9,294.12
	11,482.32
Less Expense	<u>8,864.59</u>
Bal. Feb 28, 2025	2,667.73

RENT/REPAIR FUND

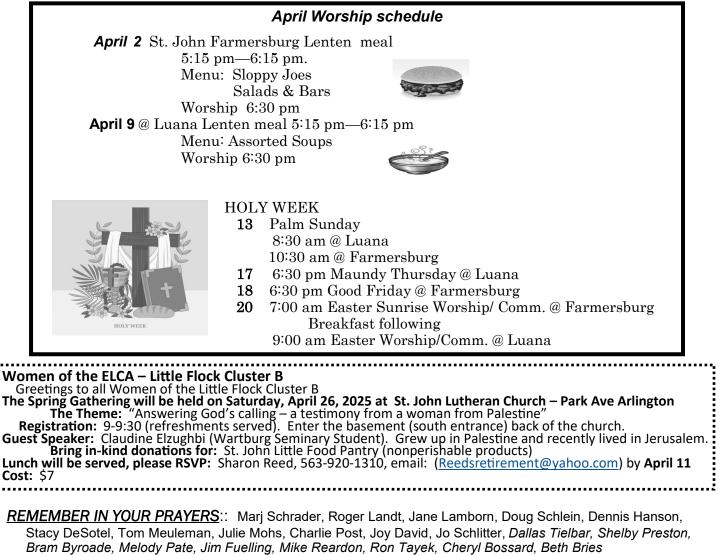
Bal. 1-31-25	\$22,757.31
Dep. 2-3	700.00
Interest	50.49
To current fund	2,500.00
Bal. 2-28-25	\$20,957.31

THRIVENT BALANCE

Bal. Feb.	28.	2025	310,290.82
Dan 1 00.	<u> </u>		510,270.02

EXPEN	NSES
SOTH	130.00
SOTH Op.	50.00
Food Shelf	80.00
Souper Supper	380.00
Synod	85.00
	725.00

Both Churches News



MILITARY: Avrey Smith, Andrew Rodas & Beth Rodas

ELKADER CARE CENTER: Grace Doerring GARDEN VIEW PLACE: Juanita Mohs, Darlene Moon GUTTENBERG CARE CENTER: Harold & Jeanette Vogt TOWER LIVING CENTER: Lendall Schievelbein SAMARITAN BETHANY ROCHESTER, MN 55901: Dorothy Kluth KENSINGTON ASSISTED LIVING: Mary Russett WAUKON GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER: Rita Pritchard

HOMEBOUND: Glenda Henkes, Lee Klinkenberg, Jeanette Krambeer, Jim Fuelling, Shirley Wagner



Easter's date varies each year because it's calculated based on the lunar cycle and the spring equinox, specifically as the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox, which can fall on different dates each year.

The date of Easter is determined by finding the first full moon after the spring equinox, and then the following Sunday is declared Easter Sunday.

Because of the lunar cycle and the variable date of the spring equinox, Easter can fall anywhere between March 22 and April 25.

Easter is April 20, 2025.

Shepherd of the Hills Ministries NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2025

Our year is not starting out as great as we had hoped. Our furnace quit working and therefore we had to replace and upgraded to a more efficient unit with central air. It is something that was unforeseen and needed to be taken care of immediately. We remained open with no heat for 11 days. Because Shepherd of the Hills operates from donations, we really could use your support to help with this big expense. All donations sent should be noted on the memo line "Furnace repair". We are very blessed to have communities and churches support Shepherd of the Hills, specially NOW!

<u>Clothing Center Updates:</u>

We will be doing a season change over (Winter to Spring) so we will not be taking any winter items past <u>March 28th.</u> Please be patient as this process takes time. Remember that we would love to take all of your donations but there are some items that is impossible to keep. Really worn clothing, stained, holes, non-working zippers/snaps and rusty utensils will not be kept. Appointments are still required so I can staff accordingly. Thank you for thinking of us when it comes to donations. Theses items are needed in our area and bringing it here, they generally stay in the area.

Shepherd Conference News:

Confest will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Monona on April 30th from 5:45-7:45pm. Please RSVP to Pastor Erika by April 23rd. This event is open to all conference churches with confirmation students and chaperones. There will be fun activities, worship and lunch served. All churches are encouraged to attend along with Pastors.

Please remember during this Lenten season to support your church with joining in worship and fellowship. Lenten meals are happening all around us and they do need your support as well. Not to mention the food is great too!

The <u>Operating Fund</u> pays the utilities, insurance on the building, supplies, salaries and Lawn/Snow Care. The <u>Crisis Fund</u> is used to help families with emergency rent or utilities and our sponsored events throughout the year Please utilize the <u>MEMO LINE</u> on your check to specify <u>Crisis</u> or <u>Operating</u> Fund! Please indicate what church you are from as well to provide better bookkeeping.

IMPORTANT EVENTS/DATES:

Confest- April 30. 2025

Ascension Day Service- May 29th, 2025

> NE Iowa Synod Assembly June 6-7, 2025

*Any event may be subject to change

Shepherd of the Hills:

Heather Hageman 100 W. Hill Street, PO Box 36, St. Olaf, IA 52072 **Telephone: 563-783-2409** Fax: 563-783-2428 E-mail: <u>shephill@neitel.net</u> **Business Hours: Monday-Friday** 9am-12pm and 1pm-4 pm