



The St. John's Communicator

January 10, 2020

Roser's Reflection . . .

Dear Friends,

The other day, as I was composing an email to our prayer team in which I informed them of three recent deaths, it occurred to me that I needed to include a word of encouragement to them. The first priority of the Church is devotion to our Lord and the second is caring for His people. It is important that we work hard to care for those who care for others. When those who serve in the Church become burned-out it is because we have failed to provide them with the appropriate support and care needed for their work. I want to share with you the encouragement that I offered our prayer team, as you may benefit from some encouragement as well. What follows is taken directly from that email.

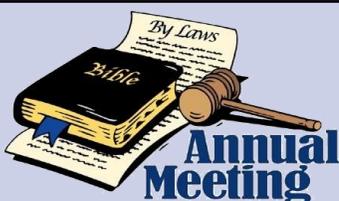
I sometimes think about the impact that these updates have on you who receive them. I am always sorry to deliver difficult news to you. Much of my work involves sorrow and loss, and this is to be expected when we minister to people in a fallen world. However, let us recognize the tremendous privilege that our Lord gives to us to have our hearts broken for others.

It is no secret that I believe that people will be distinguished from the world because they are Christian. A quick way to see my face flush red is to repeat to me the oft-quoted saying that "Christians are no different from anyone else - we just know that we are forgiven." That ignorant sentiment was developed by someone who had no intention of repenting and reveling in the joy of Christ's forgiveness - and it is routinely picked up and celebrated by those in the Church who would withhold themselves from Christ. One of the most profound ways in which Christians are distinguished in our age is the urge to be involved in the pain of others and the capacity to be broken for them. This is not something that we do but something that Christ does through us. In Romans 12, Paul exhorts us to "Rejoice with those who are rejoicing; weep with those who are weeping." (Romans 12:15). This is a holy calling to be truly present with those around us. It flows from the incarnation of our Lord Jesus who took up our frail flesh and lived deeply among us.

It's fun to rejoice with those who are rejoicing, but perhaps not quite as glamorous to weep with those who are weeping. However, if we consider this for a moment - who needs us more? Let us not despair from the sorrow around us, but instead take comfort in knowing that the Lord is using us mightily to care for those who weep. As we weep now, may our tears never keep our eyes from seeing in the distance that Day when "[t]here will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain, because the former things have passed away." (Revelation 21:4b).

In Christ Jesus,

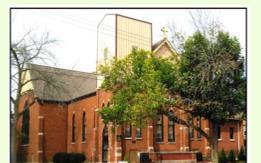
Pastor



Annual Voters' Meeting

Our annual voters' meeting will be held next week, Sunday, January 19, beginning at 2:00 pm.

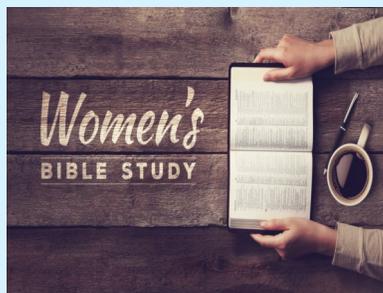
Copies of the St. John's Lutheran Church Annual Report are available for your review prior to the Congregation Voters' Meeting. Please take one per family, and bring it with you to the meeting on Sunday January 19, 2020. Thank you.



St. John's Lutheran Church
Iglesia Luterana San Juan
2019 Annual Report
do not to bring this report to the annual meeting
Voters' Meeting
December 22, 2019

Please be aware, the Stateline Youth event at St. John's for this Sunday, January 12th, has been cancelled.

The Tuesday Women's Bible



Study will
begin again
January 21st
at 9:30 a.m.



If someone has a coat rack they aren't using, I would very much appreciate having one in our Church Office.

Thank you.
Berta Eddy
Administrative Assistant

In the Event of Inclement Weather

Snowy days and other winter weather conditions can present motorists with risks that should be avoided whenever possible. To that end, we urge our members to exercise caution when choosing to attend worship and other parish activities during such conditions. Since we have no way of alerting all worshipers of cancellations, I do not cancel worship services. Of course, exceptions to this policy will be made when there is a safety concern in the building, itself. However, I do not want worshipers and worship leaders to "gamble" with their safety, and perhaps their lives, in order to attend worship when roadway conditions advise against it. This is to say, regardless of the weather, I will always be present to offer worshipers God's Word through Scripture reading and preaching, and the Lord's Supper. This does not mean that anyone else is expected to be present when weather conditions present serious challenges to your safe arrival. In terms of other activities, we will make every possible effort to inform members of cancellations.



LUMIN Schools
St. John's Lutheran

OPEN HOUSE

Friday, February 7th, 2020
4:00p.m.-6:00p.m.

FOR DETAILS

(608) 713 1400

www.luminschools.org

Free Food Raffle and Prizes School Tour



The new year is upon us! In preparation for that, the 2020 CD Ministry and Altar Flower sign up sheets are in the Narthex. As always, PLEASE PRINT, and be specific about how you would like your sponsorship acknowledged. Thank you.

Those serving the Lord and His people this week:

Elder: Ron Kassal
Acolyte: Collin Gill
Music: Bill Cunningham
Communion: Ron Kassal, Wally Prins
Altar Guild: Debbie Niman
Greeters: Chuck and Kathy Gruber
Ushers: Mahlon Hemerley, Levi Bartz, Harold Bauling, Kevin & Richard Rindfleisch, and David Koebernick
Counters: Beulah Knutson, Sandy Saunders
Sound Technicians: David Koebernick, Chris Peterson, and Justin Behm

Those serving the Lord and His people next week:

Elder: Bill Pearson
Acolyte: Kayla Thompson
Music: Bill Cunningham
Communion: Bill Pearsonm Jeff Crall
Altar Guild: Doris Rindfleisch
Greeters: Beulah Knutson and Sandy Saunders
Ushers: Mahlon Hemerley, Levi Bartz, Harold Bauling, Kevin & Richard Rindfleisch, and David Koebernick
Counters: Beulah Knutson, Sandy Saunders
Sound Technicians: David Koebernick, Chris Peterson, and Justin Behm

Ash Wednesday

February 26, 2020

Worship Service 6:30 p.m.