St. John's Messenger

Sharing the good news of forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ.





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From the Pastor's Study

Dear Friends,

We have begun our online book club, but there is still time for you to join us. We will continue studying our current book - Thank, Praise, Serve, and Obey -throughout the month of February.

The book club occurs within a private group on Facebook called "St. John's Online Book Club." You can reach the site by going to https://www.facebook.com/groups/955846788127886 and then clicking on the blue button which reads "+ Join Group." You are also encouraged to invite your friends to join us!

During the next several months, we will be exploring the following titles from our publishing house:

Jan/Feb 2020 - Thank, Praise, Serve, and Obey: Recover the Joys of Piety by William Weedon

Mar 2020 - 5 Things You Can Do to Have a Faithful Prayer Life by Robert Hiller Apr/May 2020 - How to Read the Bible with Understanding by Lane Burgland Jun/Jul 2020 - Hope When Your Heart Breaks: Navigating Grief and Loss, by Michael Newman

Members are invited to join in for reading all of the books or certain ones that catch their interest. Joining the group does not obligate one to read every book that we examine. Additionally, one does not need to comment within the Facebook group discussions in order to be a full participant of the group. While we would love to have everyone's input, reading the book and following the discussions as they unfold will be just as beneficial for those who would rather not comment. In fact, parishioners are often surprised that when we attend a meeting or learning opportunity outside of our congregation that I rarely offer any comments. My preferred learning style is to listen to others and absorb what is being shared. At St. John's, where I have been

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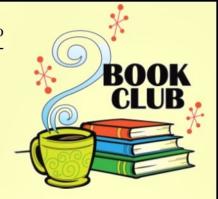
called to be a teacher of God's Word it is my responsibility to offer my commentary. The point that I want to make is that no one will judge anyone else for the number of their online interactions within our group.

Please consider joining us!

In Christ Jesus,

Pastor

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Oscar and Mildred Wedel and their 📚 B members of St. John's to a celebration of Oscar's birthday. God has blessed Oscar with a long life; he will turn 100 on February 17. There will be an "open house" with a light lunch from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on Saturday, February 15

(snow date is February 16) in the church basement. Come help us celebrate!

Youth Events Sunday, Feb 9 & 23 12:30 p.m. Our Savior, Roscoe

Ash Wednesday February 26, 2020 Worship Service 6:30 p.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

February Birthdays

- 1 Bill Cunningham
 - Daniel Giannone
- 2 Daniel F. Bottom
- 8 Sidney Roser
- 11 Brian Giannone
- 14 Mindee Larson
 - Sheila Combs
- 16 Dorothy Smith
- 17 Oscar Wendel

Pam Levan

18 Mike Monroe

- 21 Bey GeRue
- 22 Ashley Peterson

Bob Bue

25 Dave Carter

Sandy Buresh

- 27 Kayla Thompson
- 28 Malrene Nolta

Annika Gill

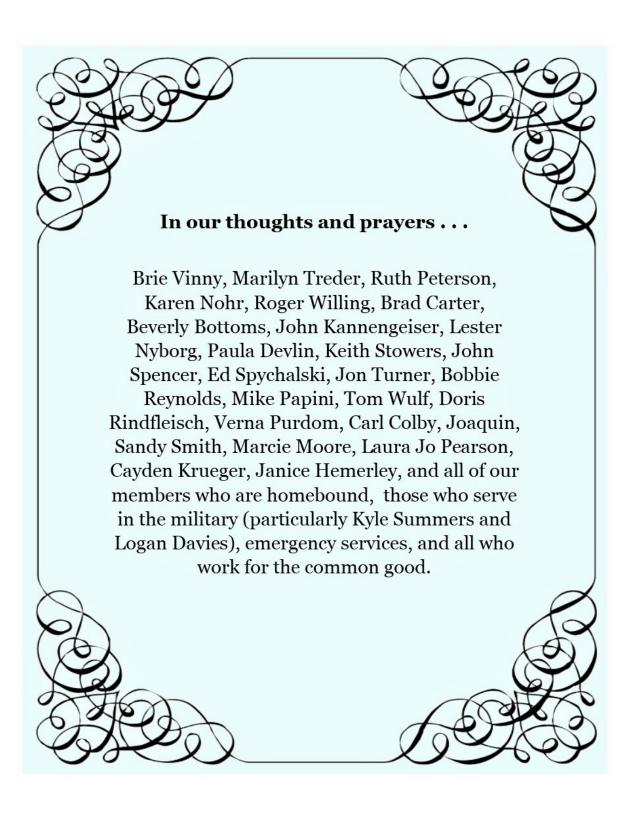
Kyle Thompson





Wedding Anniversaries

14 Valentine's Day—Celebrate with your spouse!



Our Homebound Members

Beverly Bingham, Rock Bay Harbor Apts.

Dan Burrows, Alden Meadow Park, Clinton

Carol Gusk, Home

Donna Hall, Willowick, Clinton

Janice Hemerley, Autumn Lake, Beloit

John Kannengeiser, Home

John Marquardt, Home

Shirley Mathewson, Beloit Sr. Living

Vallie Nolta, Fair Oaks Rehab. & Health Care

Katherine Petitt, Green Knolls at Beloit

Ione Reetz, Home

Christine Ruckert, Autumn Lake, Beloit

Ed Spychalski, Home

Elinor Swain, Alden Meadow Park

Marilyn Treder, Suites at Beloit

Oscar & Mildred Wedel, Home

Roger Willing, Alden Meadow Park, Clinton

"And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up." (James 5:15 ESV)

Women's Guild News Respectfully submitted by Betty Pearson



The Women's Guild met on January 9, 2020 with 11 members attending.

The devotion was given by Betty Pearson titled The Gift of Friendship.

Thank you notes for Christmas cookies and monetary gifts were read.

It was unanimously voted to sponsor the C D Ministry for January 1st, February 2nd and 23rd.

Following a discussion, it was unanimously voted to help purchase audio equipment for the church.

Jeanne Ludeman led us in prayer for peace and comfort for Neil Walter and his family for the accidental death of his daughter.

Hostesses Beth Schmuck and Gloria Hereford served delicious desserts and coffee.

Living in the Spirit...Leads Me to God's Word

In the Word "Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens." (Psalm 119:89)

Of the Word

"Do I actually have to READ the Bible?" "I read the Bible once so I know it." "My Bible has old-fashioned words in it and I don't understand them." "I'm not a good reader." "I don't have time to read the Bible."

Would the persons who made the above comments say the same thing about food? "Do I actually have to eat? I ate once; I know what it's like." "I'm not a good eater." "I don't have time to eat." We would laugh at that kind of reasoning, but the same kinds of excuses are often used for neglecting the reading of God's Word. It is the Word that provides spiritual nourishment for daily life.

God wants us to READ the Bible so we can learn of His grace. Reading it just once is not enough. Contemporary English versions, Bible tapes, CDs, or DVDs make reading easier. Is time the issue? Ask God to slow you down so that you make time for Him in your busy schedule. Time with God may just become the best part of your day.

Walking with My Lord

Father God, Your Word tells me Jesus opened the minds of His followers so they could understand the scriptures. Please fill me with Your Spirit of understanding and give me a burning desire to read Your Word. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

(Mustard Seed: Living in the Spirit Authors: Marcia Gomulka, Dcs. Betty Knapp, Myrna Lou Meyer. www.lwml.org)

Notice: The Sewing Guild is in need of used sheets of any size to use for quilt making. Please bring your donations to the sewing room in the church basement.

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 cancelations, 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 cancelations.



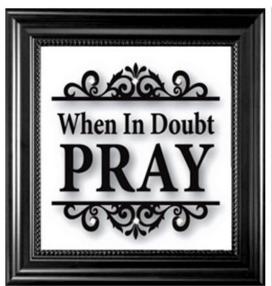
Who Wants to Win a Culver's Gift Card?

We have a number of avenues we use to keep you apprised of the opportunities and events here at St. John's: The monthly Messenger, the weekly Communicator, the Facebook page, the Web page, the Sunday Bulletin, and (first and foremost) the Worship

service. Many times we will repeat the information in more than one of the venues in an effort to make sure the information is reaching everyone. But how can we tell if the announcements we're providing are getting through and being remembered?

How about by playing a little game each month!

The last weekend of the month, watch for a list of four questions whose answers can be found in the one or more of the Messenger, Communicator, Sunday Bulletin, Facebook page, Web page, or during the Worship Service during that month. Submit the answers either in writing or by email to the church's Administrative Assistant by noon the following Friday, and a winner will be drawn from the entries with the correct answers. The winner gets a gift card for some delicious Culver's food!









We gather for worship every Sunday morning at 9 am, and everyone is welcome!

You have a savior who is Christ the Lord, and we invite you to join us in receiving the gifts which God delights in giving you through His Son.



God loves all people. His Son died in the place of everyone and answered for all of our sins - including yours. Everyone who trusts in his death for the forgiveness of their sins will receive the free gift of eternal life with God. We would love to have the opportunity to tell you more about this good news.

Where everyone is invited, and Jesus is Lord!

Did you know if you miss a regular Sunday Worship Service, you can watch it in

its entirety on YouTube!



Just use this link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCw9-9SrlBpZwdB2bPj-7Stg



If you would like see links to Pastor Roser's blog, uplifting posts, occasional humorous posts, and reminders of upcoming events, check out the St. John's Facebook page. The posts are public, so you don't even have to be a

Facebook member to see what's happening.

Staff and Contact Information

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www.youtube.com/channel/UCw9-9SrlBpZwdB2bPj-7Stg



