



# St. John Lutheran Church

## Caring Connections

### Pastor's Message

**April 2025**

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Saints of God,

Last week I shared the results of a study done at Harvard University. It conducted interviews with many people and discovered that close relationships are the biggest factor in predicting happiness and health. It stated that if we surround ourselves with the right people, we'll likely experience a deeper sense of joy.

It seems that as we all seek that kind of joy in our lives we need to follow St Paul's example to look for it in friends in Christ who share in God's grace. And those kinds of friends can be found right here at St John Lutheran Church.

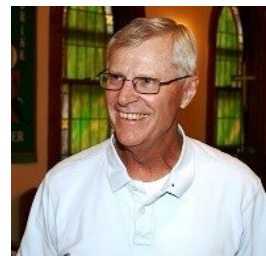
Relationships are important. Church can be one of those safe places to seek and build relationships. For here we are all forgiven sinners who struggle with our faith and our walk with the Lord. Here we get to accept one another and encourage one another in our service of others.

I desire that our relationships here at church are such that we miss people when we aren't together. St Paul says he found a true fellowship in God's love and the Gospel in the church at Philippi. I pray that you see that as an important part of belonging to St John.

There is joy in Jesus and in one another.

See you in worship,

Pastor Holling



## 2025 St. John April Activity Calendar

Date	Time	Activity	Hosts	Charity	Menu
April 2nd	5:45-6:30pm	Lenten Dinner	The Men	TBD	Burgers & Dogs
April 12th	9:00am	Church Clean Up	Trustees		
April 17th Maundy Thursday	5:45-6:30pm	Lenten Dinner	Fellowship	Project Hope	Potluck
April 20th	10:30am	Easter Breakfast	Fellowship Committee	Project Hope	Pastries Casseroles

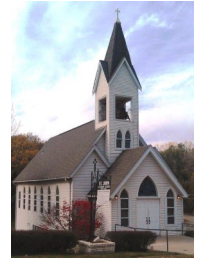
### **STEWARDSHIP NOTES FOR APRIL, 2025:**

I am sure you have noticed that in the past several years we have been able to meet our Budget without much trouble. But recently we have fallen behind more than we have met those goals. And part of that is connected to our worship attendance. We have two more families who have chosen not to attend regularly for one reason or another. It used to be that if people did not attend they still sent in their offering because they knew the church had obligations to meet. But today the rule of thumb has become that if you are not in worship then your offering does not end up in the budget. You are encouraged to think about this.

### **PRAYER NOTES FOR APRIL, 2025:**

Prayer continues to be an important part of our life as God's people. If prayer was important to the Son of God, then it needs to be important to us. How many times does it say that Jesus got up early and went out to a lonely place in order to pray? Even though He was the very Son of God He felt a need to be in constant communication with His heavenly Father. You and I need to feel that need also. If God continues to be an important part of our lives, then we need to make sure we are in constant communication with Him as well. Yes, He knows our needs, but you and I have a need to voice those needs before Him. Please pray unceasingly...

Holy Week at St. John's Lutheran Church  
11120 Calhoun Rd.  
Omaha, Nebraska



*"The little Country Church on the Highway"*

**You are cordially invited to Worship with us and Celebrate the Victory of our Risen Lord!**



**Palm Sunday, April 13th**

Worship at 9:00am w/Communion  
Service of Palms & The Passion according to Luke

**Maundy Thursday, April 17th**

Potluck Dinner @ 5:45pm—Hosted by Fellowship Committee  
Free will Proceeds to **Project Hope**  
Worship at 7:00pm with **Communion** and the Stripping of the Altar

\*\*\*\*

**Good Friday, April 18th**

*NO DINNER*  
Worship at 7:00pm; Good Friday Tenebrae  
No Communion

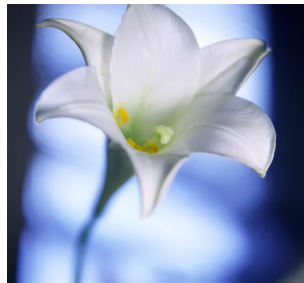
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**EASTER SUNDAY, April 20th**

9:00am Worship: The Resurrection of Our Lord  
**Holy Communion**  
10:15am EASTER BREAKFAST  
Hosted by the Fellowship Committee  
Free will Proceeds to **Project Hope**  
Breakfast Casseroles and Pastries  
NO Education Hour Today.

**HE IS RISEN!**



## April Celebrations

<u>BIRTHDAY</u>		<u>ANNIVERSARY</u>	
<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
Bill Caster	1	Leslie & Charlie Brown	5
Harold Hodges	1		6
Ian Steyskal	2		17
Leslie Brown	19		21
Izabel Pilant	23		26
Wesson Pane	26		26
			

### Listing of ALL Meetings & Study Groups, Events, etc

April 2nd, LAST LENT; Wednesday; 5:45 Dinner; Worship @ 7:00pm

April 6th, Sunday-Worship w/Communion; Adult Bible Study after Fellowship

April 8th, Tuesday-**Elder's Meeting**; 5:00pm @ 9910 Building

April 12th, Saturday; 9:00am Church Clean up Hosted by the Trustee's

April 13th, Sunday-9:00am **Palm Sunday Worship**; Adult Bible Study after Worship

April 15th, Tuesday-5:00PM; **Board Meeting** @ 9910 Bldg. Conference Room

April 17th, **Maundy Thursday**: 5:45pm Dinner; 7:00pm Worship w/Communion; Menu: **Potluck**

April 18th, **Good Friday**—7:00pm Worship; **NO DINNER**

April 20th, Easter Sunday-Worship w/Communion 9:00am; Easter Breakfast 10:15am in the Fellowship Hall

**\*\*No Adult Bible Study on Easter Sunday**

April 27th, Sunday, Worship—9:00am; Adult Bible Study after Fellowship



**Easter Lilies** will be placed on the Altar by The St. John Memorial Fund in Memory of those who have passed. Please feel free to take one home on a first come first serve basis after worship on Easter Sunday!

# February Financial Report

## General Income

Offerings & Tithes	\$6,945.00
Rental Income	\$1,400.00
Interest Income	\$892.00
Other Income	\$107.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,344.00</b>

## Expenses

General Operating Expenses	\$9,847.00
January Net Operating Income	<b>\$-503.00</b>

## 2025 Budget/Monthly Essential Projected:

**\$10,000.00 per month**  
**\$6,945.00 February Offerings & Tithes**  
**-\$3,055.00 Short Fall for February**

**\*\*The Church Budget is based solely on Offerings & Tithes.**

**Doug Murray, Treasurer**

## Designated Offerings for February:

Building Fund: \$20.00

*Designated Offerings are distributed when received.*

## Year to Date:

2 months of 2025 Budget/Essential Projected:	\$20,000.00	
2 months of 2025 Offerings & Tithes:	\$16,138.00	<b>-\$3,862.00 Budget Short Fall</b>



welcome  
*April*



## Attendance for February

Date	Total
2/02 .....	34
2/09 .....	39
2/16 .....	22
2/23 .....	24

**2025 Weekly Average: 30**  
**2023 Weekly Average: 43**  
**2022 Weekly Average: 42**



## Project Hope Monthly needs:

The greatest food needs for **Right Now:**

- Food: non-expired, non-perishable items, especially cereal and canned beans
- Clothing: in all sizes, from newborn to adult
- Baby needs: diapers, sizes 4,5 & 6, rash cream, tear free shampoo
- Personal Care: shampoo, deodorant, tooth-paste & tooth brushes, soap, conditioner, bar soap, feminine hygiene products
- Paper Products: dish liquid, toilet paper, paper towels, Kleenex
- Household Items: pots, pans, dishes, books, videos, toys

FYI: A donation of only \$10.00 will feed a family of six for one week.



**Enjoy Donuts, Coffee and Fellowship After Worship in the Narthex or weather permitting Outside!**

**Adult Bible Study and Sunday School will also be available after Wordship.**

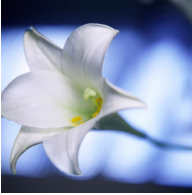

# Those who Serve for the month of April

Date	Elder/Acolyte	Usher/Greeter	Reader	Altar Guild
April 2nd Wednesday Last Lent Worship 7:00pm	/ TBD	Dan Lindblad Susie Lindblad	Dan Lindblad	
April 6th Sunday; Worship w/Communion 9:00am	Randy Woosley / Lily Swinarski	Jerry Wilson Dan Lindblad	Tim Steyskal	Sue Ketzler
April 13th Palm Sunday Worship 9:00am	/ Jaydon Foote	Julie Allen Doug Murray	Deb Woosley	
April 17th Maundy Thurs- day Worship w/Communion 7:00pm	Jerry Wilson / TBD	Dan Lindblad Julie Allen	Dan Lindblad	Sue Ketzler
April 18th Good Friday Worship 7:00pm	/ TBD	Randy Woosley Jerry Wilson	Susie Lindblad	
April 20th Easter Sunday Worship w/Communion; 9am	Jerry Wilson / Sarah Murray	Dan Lindblad Susie Lindblad	Tim Steyskal	Sue Ketzler
Sun. April 27th Worship; 9:00am	/ Edgar Swinarski	Julie Allen Doug Murray	Sue Ketzler	



# April 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Last Lent Pre-Service Dinner Hosted by the Men At 5:45pm; Wor- ship @ 7:00pm	3	4	5
6 Worship w/ Communion; 9am Adult Bible Study after Worship	7	8 Elders Mtg. 5:00pm	9	10	11	12 Church Clean Up 9:00am; Hosted by the Trustee's
13 Palm Sunday Worship; 9:00am Adult Bible Study after Worship	14	15 Board Mtg. 5:00pm	16	17 Maundy Thursday Worship; 7:00pm Pre-Service Potluck Dinner @ 5:45pm	18 Good Friday Wor- ship; 7:00pm NO Dinner	19
20 Easter Sun- day! Worship w/ Communion; 9:00am Easter Breakfast after Worship	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Worship; 9am Adult Bible Study after Worship	28	29	30			



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Pastor Holling:  
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**Forgiven by Christ**  
**Growing in His Grace**  
**Reaching out with HIS LOVE**

**Coming in May:**



**May 10th: Florence Days Parade**

**May 11th: Mother's Day**

**Sunday, May 18th: Quarterly Voters Meeting**

**May 26th: Memorial Day**

