



St. John's Lutheran Church

Called to Fill the Hungry with Good Things

The Messenger

(a monthly publication)

April 2024



WISHING
YOU A
BLESSED
EASTER!

HOLY WEEK 2024

Maunder Thursday
Worship

5:30 pm at St. John's

Good Friday Worship
Noon– Community
Worship Service at
First United Church of
Christ sponsored by
the Jamestown
Ministerial Association

5:30 pm Good Friday
at St. John's

Easter Sunday
9 am Worship at St.
John's

Worship services at St.
John's will be live-
streamed through the
church website at
www.st-johnslutheran.org

Please take your Lilly home after Easter Worship.
Reminder: the Church Office is closed Monday April 1st



We Are Lutheran

We are Gil and Pat Everding, residents of Medina, and members of English Lutheran Church. Pat grew up and was confirmed at the Ypsilanti Lutheran Church. Gil grew up closer to Montpelier, but his family attended the congregation in Millarton with WW Keller. He remembers traveling every Saturday up to Jamestown for confirmation class at St. John's, where he was confirmed. The old Millarton Church building is the building that now stands at the Frontier Village in Jamestown. Gil and Pat married at St. John's, which was where their children were baptized. Work took them to many different places before they settled in Medina in 1966 and joined English Lutheran.

Both Gil and Pat are retired now. For a time, Gil worked with heavy equipment and moved often. Once their children got to school age, they wanted to settle down for the school years. They opened and ran Gil's Bar in Medina (now the Decoy Bar) for 32 years. Although they don't miss the bar, they do miss the people. "You can't believe some of the things that you hear [in a bar]." Gil says that he believes that 99% of people are good and decent, but then you watch the news and are reminded of the bad ones. He believes that there were bad people before, in the old west, and in more recent times, but that there are so many more people today that more things happen.

Pat prays that everyone remains healthy and both remember their community in prayer. They remember how they trusted the whole community when they were raising their children. Everybody looked out for everybody, and those eyes kept tabs on all the community youth.

One of the things that is a struggle these days is the recognition that they used to know everybody, but don't anymore. The appearance of the community is important and it is sad to see the ways that some yards and buildings are not maintained. There used to be more pride in the way things looked in Medina. Gil served as mayor for four years and Pat spent many years on the Beautification Committee and the Parade Committee. Pat recalls the year that flowers were planted for blocks along Main Street and the way that they brightened up the town. It took a lot of work and it was a challenge finding committed volunteers to water them and protect the new plants from a late spring frost. It was worth it for that year. People are really helpful, but there are fewer people and businesses to support some of the ideas that people have.

Both Gil and Pat say that they wouldn't change anything- that they are happy with the way that they have lived their lives. Gil says, "I hunted, I fished, I worked, and I took a few trips." People are sometimes surprised to find out that they finished their own home. As a CAP home, the foundation and walls were built and windows installed, and then the rest of the work was up to them. Gil started with the shingles, but went on to side the whole house, do the plumbing, the electrical, the drywall, and then the finishing work. On the plus side, he knows every inch of the house when something goes wrong. In 1968, there were a few old bachelor farmers in Medina who convinced Gil to drive them to Alaska, if they paid his expenses (except for his hunting license). The Alaskan landscape was so beautiful that he and Pat returned with their own camper in later years. They have also enjoyed touring the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, and Canyon Lands.

One of the realities of life today, Pat says, is not being able to do the things that she once could, but that is true of everyone my age. Gil adds that the mind tells you that you can do things, but the body and heart- they say no.



We Are Witnesses to all that Jesus Did

“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that Jesus did...” [Acts 10:38-39]

Acts of the Apostles has been my go to book of the Bible for 2024. In January, many in our Synod joined in a “read a chapter of Acts each day” reading plan. Lent began February 14 and continued through March. Our congregations in Christians in Action joined others from our Synod in a series: “Altered by the Holy Spirit” as we heard from Acts either in our personal devotions or on Wednesdays for afternoon Bible study or evening worship. Now as we enter the Easter season in April and most of May, we have another opportunity to hear more from the book of Acts.

There is so much in Acts that reminds us that the Holy Spirit goes ahead of us. Before Philip spoke to the Ethiopian eunuch, the Holy Spirit had already inspired this Ethiopian court official to read the prophet Isaiah and to ask questions. Then the Holy Spirit moved him to ask, “what is to prevent me from being baptized?” [Acts 8:36]

Before Peter speaks to Cornelius, an angel appeared to Cornelius and told him to send for Peter. Meanwhile, the Holy Spirit told Peter to go with the people who were searching for him, because the Spirit had sent them. [Acts 10:3-6, 17-20]

Now as we enter the Easter season, we’ll hear several times when Peter tells different groups of people a summary of Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection. Whether you have also been diving deep into Acts in 2024 or whether you are just dipping your toe into these stories of faith, I invite you to reflect on these passages that will accompany us in worship in April and May.

Acts 10:34-43 Peter speaks to the people gathered in Cornelius’ home

Acts 4:32-35 The believers care for one another

Acts 3:12-19 Peter speaks to people amazed that a man can walk

Acts 4:5-12 Peter speaks to those questioning how he healed the man

Acts 8:26-40 Philip baptizes the Ethiopian court eunuch

Acts 10:44-48 Peter baptizes Cornelius’ household

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Matthias is added as an apostle

Acts 2:1-21 The Holy Spirit gives the Christian community a mission

May the Holy Spirit go ahead of you, open you to the changes that faith in Jesus Christ will bring to your life, and give you the boldness to be a witness to all that Jesus does.

In Peace,

Pastor Kristi Weber

Christians in Action Ministry



On Saturday March 9th, the Leadership Team of Christians in Action along with council members, rostered leaders, synod lay ministers, and our intern pastor gathered for a retreat at Emmanuel Lutheran in Gackle. Over the course of the day, intentional time was spent reviewing and reflecting on the activities of Christians in Action since February 2021. Think back...

- February 2021- 19 congregations gathered to consider the possibility of working together in some way.
- November 2021- Eight congregations began a discernment process with a consultant and began intentional sharing of ministry resources for Advent and Lent.
- September 2022- Christians in Action formally launches with a Name, website, coordinated preaching schedule and appointed congregational coordinators.
- February 2024- All eight congregations approved the creation of a new legal corporation "Christians in Action Ministry" to facilitate our growing mission.

Additional time was spent reviewing our organizational structure, reflecting on our past goals and refining them for the coming year, and visiting with each other about the blessings and challenges of ministry in our communities today.

Each Congregation leadership team also spent time working together to refine a congregational goal for the year.

Congregations participating in Christians in Action Ministry:
Atonement, Jamestown, Christ the King, Ellendale, Emmanuel, Gackle, English, Medina Montpelier, Montpelier, St. John's, Jamestown, Trinity, Jamestown, Zion, Kulm



UJ FINALS WEEK CARE PACKAGES

In partnership; Atonement, Immanuel, St. John's, and Trinity Lutheran Churches will be putting together Spring Finals Week Care Packages for UJ students. Spring versions of the care packages are smaller and more portable as students finish their work for the year, pack-up, and head out for the summer. These packages are meant to bolster their spirits heading into finals or give them refreshment afterward. Here's how you can help: In the coming weeks look for tags to pick-up at your church for the items we need; cases of Mt. Dew, Coke, or Dr. Pepper, boxes of microwave popcorn, and monetary donations toward purchasing can koozies. All items will be collected at each individual church by Sunday, April 14th. Then Confirmation Students will assemble them and we will deliver them in time for Finals!

Help us show the UJ students some love! Take some tags home and bring your donations back by April 14th. Thank you for your generosity!



Sunday Van Ride to Church

Plans are in motion to begin running the St. John's Van on Sunday mornings for people who want to worship but don't drive. Building a volunteer driver schedule will take some time, as will getting the routes developed. This service may not be available every Sunday at first. If you would like to ride in the van, please contact the church office at 252-1198 and discuss it with Gem.



Youth News

On Sunday February 25th, Deacon Tara led a youth event at Emmanuel Gackle for the Emmanuel Gackle youth. We participated in a Lenten art project and talked about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

On Friday May 3rd, English Medina will be hosting their CIA event at the new skating rink in Steele. The event will begin at 7 pm. Please contact your youth person to find out what time you will be leaving for Steele and returning home. Hope to see you there!

Save the Date for Jamestown VBS 2024
June 16-21st
Watch for more information coming soon!



Vacation Bible School

Save the Date: June 16-20

Registration Information Available Soon!

The NEW Christians in Action Book Club Needs Readers!

Do you love to read? Do you like to have conversations about the books you read? Has a book (other than the Bible) strengthened your faith? One of the hopes we have for Christians in Action Ministry is to build relationships across our congregations. With this in mind the CIA Book Club is forming. The first meeting(s) will be during the last week of April / first week of May and we will be discussing the book "Ask Me for a Blessing (You Know You Need One)" by Adrian Dannhauser. There will be options to meet in person or over Zoom depending on your preference. Each month we will pick another book to read and discuss. Everyone is welcome! More about "Ask Me for a Blessing (You Know You Need One)" by Adrian Dannhauser

"Once a week Episcopal priest Adrian Dannhauser stands outside her Manhattan church beside a chalkboard sign that reads "Ask me for a blessing (because God knows you need one)." Passersby stop, chat, and ask for prayer: for a sick friend, an addicted son, an upcoming job interview, the state of our nation, or the grief of our world. Half of those who stop are in crisis. Someone always cries. A few are simply curious.

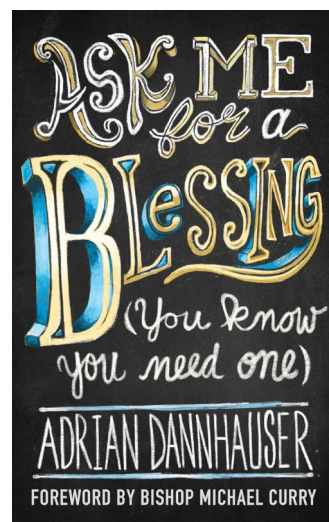
Through the heartfelt, frank, and sincere stories of her unique ministry, Dannhauser offers glimpses into the tender, holy, and sometimes hilarious moments of sidewalk prayers. What is a blessing? Do you have to believe to receive one? Can you doubt while you pray? And can you extend grace to others while still desperately in need of it yourself?"

Here's how you can join the CIA Book Club: Go to www.ndchristiansact.org

Click on the Resources Tab and choose "Book Club" Fill out the form with your information by Wednesday April 10th—Read the book!

You will be contacted by April 14th with information about meeting options! Come online or in person to the meeting that works best for you and talk about your faith and a great book!

If you have any questions contact Pr. Susan Haukaas:
Call / Text: (701) 320-1446 OR email: pastorsusan@ndchristiansact.org



Ministerial Acts



Baptisms

† none



Weddings

† none



Funerals

† none

Thank you to all who volunteer and make my job a little bit easier. I might not remember to thank you in person, but this is my chance to say thank you for everything you do, for stopping by to say hi and check how I am doing. I am sure Pr. Erik and Pr. Stephine share the same feeling.

Thanks to Our Volunteers

St. John's Closed on the Loan March 14th

Final paperwork has been signed and accepted to borrow up to \$350,000 for the kitchen project. St. John's will pay interest on money borrowed until November 1st at which point we will begin principal and Interest payments. Thank you to the loan repayment participants, we are counting on everyone to pitch in.

Council Highlight

The St. John's Council met on March 12th. The first order of business was appointing 3 members to the council until the next congregational meeting. Todd Sjostrom, Amy Everson, and Josie Walton were appointed to council member at large positions.

The January and February minutes and the February Pastor Reports and Financials were reviewed. The council was updated on the progress of the Kitchen project. Construction still anticipated to begin in mid-May. The council approved a request for an easement by Ottetail Power at the Eldridge Cemetery.

The most time was spent as a council introduction/orientation as we read through the St. John's Constitutional duties of the Church Council and discussed what our own expectations are for the coming year. The council will continue to try to have it's monthly meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

The council was updated that the Financial Review (Audit) team has met twice and is continuing their work.

All council members were invited to come forward at worship on 3/17 for the council installation.

Kitchen/Fellowship Hall Transition

As construction gets closer, you will start to see some changes in the fellowship hall as we get ready for the Kitchen Project. Photos, art and shades will come down from the walls. Needed supplies will be relocated to other parts of the building for easy access. Tables and chairs will be taken down and stored. Everything in the Kitchen will be removed.

Anytime after April 8th is fair game for packing, and disruption beginning. We want to be ready for workers by May 13th. (It could still be sooner or later depending on the construction schedule and the weather)



UJ Concert Choir and Men's Choir

Chose St. John's as the first stop on their Spring tour and offered music at a special service on March 3rd

Thank you to all who came and support these young talented group We hope that they will join us again



Zenker Family



Darin Fisher



Chris Flann

District, Region, and State basketball in Jamestown brought Christians in Action folks together as fans, event support staff, and public voices.

Congratulations to all communities cheering on their teams!



Gavin Kutz



In Memory of: Sandy Franke
Given by: Carl Franke

Giving Matters

ATTENDANCE

	In Person
March 3	180
March 10	71
March 17	93
March 24	
February Income	\$ 24,165
February expenses:	\$ 31,539

Special thank you From the funeral and co-op leaders

Thank you to all who provided baked goods and helped serve when there is a funeral. They are still looking for volunteers to serve and bake. If this is something you like to do, please contact the office 252-1198

2023 SPONSORSHIP UPDATES

Radio broadcast and Altar flower sponsorships for 2023 will cost \$40 for altar flowers and \$190 for the radio broadcast. It is a nice way to honor or memorialize a loved one. Contact the church office at 252-1198 to check on availability.

April 2024 Radio

April 7	Russ & Gwen Geiszler
April 14	Available
April 21	Gerald & Marjorie Lippert
April 28	Paulette Schumacker

Flowers

April 7	Russ & Gwen Geiszler
April 14	Carl Franke
April 21	Darwin & Pauline Roeske
April 28	Carl Franke

For Dates available for Altar Flowers and Radio, please contact the church office 252-1198

Radio Broadcast and Altar Flowers available dates 2024

Please contact the church office 252-1198 to check the dates and sponsor either flowers or Radio broadcast. Thank you.





Child in Our Hands



PRESCHOOL AND CHILD CARE



Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
31	Easter Sunday No Sunday School 9:00am Worship - St. John's	1	Church Offices Closed 12:30pm Eventide Assisted Living Communion and Bible Study	2	10:00am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal	3	3:30pm Confirmation	4		5		6	
7	9:00am Worship - St. John's 10:30am Rock of Ages	8	9:00am Jamestown Conference 10:30am Pre-School Chapel 1:30pm Pre-School Chapel 5:30pm CIOH Board Meeting	9	10:00am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 5:30pm Council Meeting	10	3:30pm Confirmation	11	Jamestown Ministerial Meeting	12	Creative Fellowship Jamestown Chorales - Spring Concert JHS Auditorium	13	Creative Fellowship Jamestown Chorales - Spring Concert JHS Auditorium
14	9:00am Worship - St. John's	15	News Letter Deadline 10:30am Pre-School Chapel 1:30pm Pre-School Chapel 11:00pm JACST	16	10:00am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:30pm Chief Support Meeting	17	3:30pm Confirmation	18	Joint Theological Day	19		20	
21	9:00am Worship - St. John's	22	10:30am Pre-School Chapel 1:30pm Pre-School Chapel	23	10:00am Staff Meeting 4:00pm Altar Guild Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:30pm Chief Support Meeting	24	3:30pm Confirmation	25		26		27	
28	9:00am Worship - St. John's	29	10:30am Pre-School Chapel 1:30pm Pre-School Chapel	30	10:00am Staff Meeting 5:00pm Come to the Table Meal 6:30pm Chief Support Meeting	1	3:30pm Confirmation	2	National Day of Prayer	3		4	



St. John's Lutheran Church
424 1st Ave S
Jamestown, ND 58401
Change Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 1
Jamestown, ND
58401

Worship Services

Sunday

~ 9:00 am

Wednesday Confirmation

~ 4:00 pm

Holy Communion

All Worship Services

Church Office 701-252-1198

Preschool/Child Care 701-252-1903

Website: www.ndchristiansact.org

email: stjohns@st-johnslutheran.org

STAFF OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN

Senior Pastor
Erik Weber

Associate Pastor
Stephanie Gossett

Admin Secretary/bookkeeper
Gem Saied

Custodian
Robin Vasquez

Child In Our Hands
Valerie Ford - Interim

Choir Accompanist/Pianist
Connie Wells

HAPPY EASTER CHRIST IS RISEN!!

Maundy Thursday Worship

5:30 pm at St. John's

Good Friday Worship

5:30 pm at St. John's

Easter Sunday Worship

9 am at St. John's