



St. John's Lutheran Church

A Lutheran Congregation in Mission for Christ

News & Notes ~ July 2023



The little boy put on his clothes for the cold and then told his father: "Ok dad I'm ready". His dad, the pastor said, "Ready for what?" "Dad, it's time to go outside and distribute our flyers." Dad replied, " Son, it's very cold outside and it's drizzling." The child looked surprised at his father and said: "But dad, people need to know about God even on rainy days." Dad replied, " Son, I'm not going outside in this weather." With despair, the child said, " Dad, can I go alone? Please! His father waited for a moment and then said: "Son, you can go. Here's the flyers, be careful." "Thank you dad!"

And with this, the son went out into the rain. The 11 year old walked all the streets of the village, handing out the flyers to the people he saw. After 2 hours walking in the rain and cold and with his last flyer in his hand, he stopped at a corner to see if he saw someone to give the flyer to, but the streets were totally deserted. Then he turned to the first house he saw, walked to the front door, rang the bell several times and waited, but no one came out. Finally the boy turned to leave....but something stopped him. The child turned back to the door and began to ring the bell and pound the door strongly with his knuckles. He kept waiting. Finally the door was opened gently. A lady came out with a very sad look and gently asked: "What can I do for you, son? With radiant eyes and a bright smile the child said: "Lady, I'm sorry if I upset you, but I just want to tell you that God really loves you and that I came to give you my last flyer, which talks about God and His great love. Then the boy gave her the flyer. She just said, "thank you, son, God bless you!" Well, next Sunday morning, the pastor was in the pulpit and when the service began he asked: "Does anyone have a testimony or something they want to share?" Gently, in the back row of the church, an older lady stood up. When she started talking, a radiant and glorious look sprouted from her eyes: "Nobody in this church knows me. I have never been here, even last Sunday I was not a Christian. My husband died a while ago leaving me totally alone in this world. Last Sunday was a particularly cold and rainy day, and it was also in my heart: that on that day I came to the end of the road, since I had no hope and didn't want to live anymore. Then I took a chair and a rope and went up to the attic of my house. I tied a noose and the other end of the rope to the rafters of the roof: then I climbed onto the chair and put the rope around my neck. I then stood on the chair, so alone and heartbroken, I was about to throw myself off the chair, when suddenly I heard the loud sound of the door being knocked. So I thought, " I'll wait for a minute and whoever it is will go." I waited and waited, but the door knocking was getting louder and louder every time. It got so loud that I couldn't ignore it anymore. So I wondered, who could it be? No one ever comes close to my door or comes to visit me! I released the rope from my neck and went to the door, while the bell was still ringing and the door was still being knocked on. When I opened the door, I couldn't believe what my eyes saw, in front of my door was the most radiant and angelic child I've ever seen. His smile, ohhhh, I can never describe it! The words that came out of his mouth made my heart, dead so long ago, come back to life, when he said with the VOICE OF CHERUB: "Lady, I just want to tell you that God really loves you." "When the little angel disappeared between the cold and the rain, I closed my door and read every word of the flyer. Then I went to the attic to remove the chair and rope. I didn't need them anymore. As you see, now I am a happy daughter of the King. Since the direction of the boy, when he left, was to this church, I came personally say thank you to that little angel of God who came just in time and, in fact, to rescue my

life from an eternity in hell. And replaced it with an eternity in God's presence." Everyone cried in the church.

The Pastor came down from the pulpit to the first bench of the front, where the little angel was sitting: he took his son in his arms and cried uncontrollably.

****Remember, God's message can make a big difference in someone's life, never be afraid to spread it.



THE BEAR FACTS

Well, I am back to my crazy self. Got my stitches out of my butt and I was a little sore the next day. I am soooo glad they are done playing with my butt. Doctor called mom with the biopsy report and it came back negative NO CANCER (whatever that means but I know mom was soooo happy). I think she thought she only had a little time left with me, but let me tell you I have a few good years left. I was so good that when we left the doctors office mom went through drive thru at Starbucks and I got my puppacino. The people there always laugh cause when I hear them on the speaker I start barking giving my order. I had that gone by the time we pulled out. No more doctor till November when I go for my 6 month check up. Yippee. Hope you all have a nice summer, I know I will now and thank you all for your prayers, emails and phone calls asking about me. Love you all!!!!!!

Hugs & Puppy Kisses,
Bear



REFRESHING SUMMER DRINKS

Cherry Berry Slush

½ cup frozen cherries
½ cup frozen raspberries
1 cup coconut milk
Ice

Add all to blender until smooth & thick.
ENJOY!!!!!!!

Watermelon Lime Slushie

1 cup watermelon cubed
1 Lime, squeezed
½ cup water
2 cups ice

Pour all in blender until smooth
ENJOY!!!!!!!

Bible Study & Prayer Time

Please join us every Tuesday @ 10am for Bible Study. We are studying "The Chosen".
Prayer time with Paul is every 3rd Wednesday @ 10am in the Chapel.

Sewing get together

Stitches in Time for sewing meet every Tuesday evening from 6pm-8:30pm. What a great way to make things and have some great fellowship.

Preaching schedule for July

July 2- Pastor Strunk
July 9- Pastor Strunk
July 16-
July 23-
July 30-

July Grass Cutting

July 1- Fred & Carmella
July 8 – Fred Ross
July 15- Bob Ferry
July 22- Mark Blaho
July 29- Fred & Carmella

July Greeters

July 2-Jennifer Lindgren
July 9- Gerrie Meister
July 16- Tammy Slavik
July 23- Jennifer Lindgren
July 30- Rick Mercadante

Lectors for July

July 2- Paul Kamzelski
July 9- Tom Lindgren
July 16- Paul Kamzelski
July 23- Fred Kolenda
July 30- Tom Lindgren

Communion Assistants for July

July 2- Fred Kolenda & Mark Blaho

Usher Captains for July

July 2- Mark Blaho

July 9- Fred Kolenda

July 16- Fred Kolenda

July 23- Mark Blaho

July 30- Fred Ross

Can't Make it to Church

No worries. Watch us on Facebook live on Sundays @ 10:30am

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsLutheranAmbridge>

Save the dates

August 6- Congregational Picnic @ Old Economy Park Barn

September 23- Festival of Churches @ the park on 11th St.

October 7- Erntedankfest, Food Sale and Bake Sale

November 19- Thanksgiving luncheon

December 2- Live Nativity & Food Sale and Bake Sale

Keep in Prayer

Call Committee and the NALC- as they work together in finding us a new pastor.

Albert Stauch- pray for God's mercy as Albert is dealing with some medical issues.

The Morrison family on the loss of Kevin. Pray for healing and strength through their time of sorrow.

The Board of Trustees- prayers as they get the pastor's office ready with cleaning, painting, new carpet, new furniture, et.

Prayer for America

Dear God, we thank you for the bountiful blessings you have bestowed on us. Guide us in being good stewards of these gifts. Let us care for all of your beautiful creation, from the redwood forests to the gulfstream waters. Make us instruments of your peace in order to put an end to rockets' red glare and bombs bursting in air.

Help us to love and care for all of our neighbors - locally and globally - so that we might be truly crowned with brotherhood from sea to shining sea. Amen.

