

St. John's Parish Paper

March 2013

2013 #3

St. John's Lutheran Church – Morgan
 3374 Highway C, Oconto Falls, WI 54154 (920)846-3453
 The Rev. Paul F. Heykes – Pastor – Email: stjohnsmorgan@gmail.com
 On the Web at: <http://stjohns.pfjenterprises.org> – Facebook users: "Like our FB page!"

Holy Week & Easter

The holiest season of the church year is just around the corner. Our Wednesday evening Lenten gatherings continue until March 20 with the soup supper at 6:00pm and worship at 7:00pm. Holy Week begins on March 24 with Palm Sunday worship at 8:00am and 10:30am (and Sunday school at 9:15am). As the week continues we gather at 7:00pm on March 28 for our Maundy Thursday Worship and on Friday, March 29 at 7:00pm for Good Friday services. Holy Week wraps up on Easter Sunday, March 31 with the Sunrise Service at 6:30am, a continental style Easter breakfast at 7:30am, and the Festival of the Resurrection Service at 10:30am. There is no Sunday school on Easter.

The theme for Lent, Holy Week and Easter 2013 is *Facing the Cross*. Leading up to Easter we face aspects of human life which are not always in line with the cross—including sin, temptation, fear, denial, and death. Then, on Easter, we turn one-hundred-eighty degrees to face the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the glorious future that the Lord has planned for us and all of his faithful children.

Technology upgrades at St. John's

St. John's now has high speed internet service. And with this service we are upgrading our technology to better serve the congregation and community in this ever expanding digital age. The new service enables:

Email – We have a new email account dedicated 100% to church business. The address is stjohnsmorgan@gmail.com. Previously all church email was directed to Pastor's personal account. Going forward, update your address books so when you need to communicate with the church you can direct your emails to our new e-mailbox.

Credit & Debit Card Services – Effective immediately you can use your credit or debit card to make an offering to the church, or to purchase items at events such as the youth group pizza sale or the Thrivent Christmas Bazaar. Contact Pastor or Sherry Stender to make a donation by card. At fund raising events you can use your card when you "check out" and pay for your purchases.

WIFI – We now have a wireless internet connection servicing the entire building. If you need to connect your device to access materials for church related business (such as downloading Sunday school materials or audio visual media), contact Pastor for the password. Because we have monthly data limits on our service we cannot provide free access for non church business at this time. (However, in the future we may "sell" access for a donation that would cover the cost of any data overages incurred.)

Scan Code – Use your smart phone or tablet to link directly to our web page, our Facebook page, our email, and special event web pages, by scanning a square composed of black dots (like the ones now printed in each bulletin and newsletter). A scanning app is available as free download from <http://scan.me>.

Lent, Holy Week & Easter 2013 Facing the Cross

Lent 3

March 6 – 7:00pm
Facing Our Worldliness

Lent 4

March 13 – 7:00pm
Facing One Another

Lent 5

March 20 – 7:00pm
Facing Suffering

Palm Sunday

March 24 – 8:00am & 10:30am
Facing the Road

Maundy Thursday

March 28 – 7:00pm
Facing Denial

Good Friday

March 29 – 7:00pm
Facing Death

Easter Sunday

March 31 – 6:30am & 10:30am
Facing the Future

March 2013

Lent & Holy Week Worship
 Wednesday Midweek Services at 7:00 P.M.
 Maundy Thursday – March 28 at 7:00 P.M.
 Good Friday Worship – March 29 at 7:00 P.M.

10:30 World Day
 of Prayer - ORLC
 in Suring

10:00 Prep
 Kitchen for
 La Jeunesse

8:00 Pancake
 Breakfast @ GLC in
 Oconto Falls
 8:00am Ruby's
 Pantry - Gillett High

10:30 Morgan
 Historical Society

3	4	5
Monthly Fellowship La Jeunesse 8:00 Worship 9:15 Fellowship & Educational Hour 10:30 Worship 5:00 La Jeunesse	6:00 4H Club Meeting	Communion Calls 5:00 Confirmation 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Worship
10 Lent 4 8:00 Worship 9:15 Educational Hour 10:30 Worship	6:00 4H Club Meeting	5:00 Confirmation 6:00 Soup Supper 7:00 Worship 7:45 Council
17 Lent 5 8:00 Worship 9:15 Educational Hour 10:30 Worship 11:30 Thrivent Mtg.	7:30 Choir Practice	9:00 Nursing Home Worship 5:00 Confirmation 6:00 Soup Supper 6:30 WELCA Mtg. 7:00 Worship 7:45 WELCA Bible Study
<i>Palm Sunday</i>		
8:00 Worship 9:15 Educational Hour 10:30 Worship	7:30 Choir Practice	NO Adult Class 7:00 Worship w/ Communion
<i>Maundy Thursday</i>		
<i>Good Friday</i>		
6:30 Sunrise Worship 7:30 Easter Breakfast No Education Hour 10:30 Worship	7:00 Worship	

• Newsletter Material due

No Confirmation Class - Holy Week Break



March Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 1	Deb Wijas	March 18	Mike McCabe
March 2	Andrew Gohr	March 19	Charles O'Harrow
March 4	Lauren Wijas	March 20	Luke Van Donsel
March 5	Connie Aprill		Jason Stender
	Gloria Schindel		Alexandria Clark
March 6	Donna Gussert	March 21	Kathy Gohr
March 7	Millie Gohr		Jane Gohr
March 8	Kurt Delzer		Miguel Green-Prokopovitz
	Damon Winkler	March 22	Rod & Ann Sievert
	Nicholas Lee Robert Sell		Ryan Hudson
March 9	Linda Aprill		Allen Brantley
	Timothy Bulger	March 26	Dolores Schroeder
March 10	Nanette Aprill		Madison Uelmen
	Amanda Bulger	March 27	Elliot Hytinen
	Kari Dunst	March 28	Calvin Gohr
March 11	Lance Arneson		Ethan Drella
	Keith & Sherry Druckrey	March 29	JGabrielle Winkler
March 12	Jeffrey Steichen		Cara Dunst
March 13	Mark Seitz	March 30	Harold Delzer
March 14	Cade Gohr	March 31	Jackie Wawiorka
March 15	Matthew Stueber		Derric Drella
March 16	Jarod Busch		Emily Winkler

Important changes to the Thrivent Choice program – action required

If you are a member of Thrivent with a qualifying product (such as life insurance), and if you want to designate St. John's of Morgan as the recipient of your Thrivent Choice Dollars in 2013— *You must visit the Thrivent web site (or call their 800 number) to make or renew your commitment to St. John's.* If you do not do this your dollars *will not* be distributed to St. John's (or any other Lutheran organization) but will be retained by Thrivent. All funds received through the Thrivent Choice program will be used for projects above and beyond our general budget.

New in March: “Get in shape program”

Do you have the desire to lose a few pounds and to get in shape for spring and summer—but find it hard to get motivated to do it on your own? Then why not join up with the new exercise group that will be forming here at St. John's. For a small investment of time and effort (and a few bucks for a worthy cause) a huge reward awaits.

Under the leadership of **Chris Drella**, the exercise group will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00am to 10:00am beginning on March 5. It's a simple program—no equipment, no gimmicks and no excuses—all you need is the desire to get healthy, have fun and feel better.

The program will run for four weeks. Each participant will donate \$20 to join. As an incentive, everyone will get a dollar back for every pound lost. Any remaining funds will be donated to a worthy cause (which could be selected by the group).

Chris has many years of experience as an exercise leader and fitness center manager and she knows how to tailor an exercise program to the needs and capabilities of a variety of ages and ability levels.

To register, call Chris at 920-865-7328 (or the church office at 846-3453), or just show up to the first session. All participants must sign a liability waiver prior to beginning their first session.

WELCA News

The Shawano Conference WELCA Spring Gathering is on Saturday, April 20 at Bethel in Green Valley. James Lonick of Thrivent is the featured speaker. Everyone in attendance is asked to bring a large or extra-large cotton T-shirt for the day's special project. If you plan to attend please contact one of the WELCA officers to be added to our delegation.

Choir rehearsals resume on March 14

Our choir begins preparing for Holy Week, Easter and Confirmation on Thursday, March 14 at 7:00pm. Subsequent rehearsals will be held on Mondays, March 18 and 25, Also at 7:00pm. Please note the changes in days and time for these rehearsals.

Serving this Month

Communion Helpers

March 3 – **8:00 Steve Gohr**
10:30 Charles O'Harrow
 March 10 – **8:00 Kathy Gohr**
10:30 Randy Konkle
 March 17 – **8:00am Mary Jane Dunst**
10:30am Brenda Clark
 March 24 – **8:00 Ken Pott**
10:30 Sherry Stender
 March 28 – **7:00pm Volunteer needed**
 March 31 – **6:30 Herb Aprill**
10:30 Elaine Thomas
 April 7 – **8:00 Amy Winkler**
10:30 Jeremy Konkle

Greeters

March 3 – **8:00 Lorraine Sell**
10:30 The Konkles
 March 10 – **8:00 Cathy Runge**
10:30 Verna Peterson
 March 17 – **8:00am Bill & Amy Winkler**
10:30am Dorothy Petka
 March 24 – **8:00 The Kesler Family**
10:30 Diane Schliep
 March 28 – **7:00pm Volunteer Needed**
 March 31 – **8:00 Joyce Winkler**
10:30 Sonny & Alvina Sievert
 April 7 – **8:00 Jim & Becky Baranczyk**
10:30 Dick & Joann Mueller

Lectors

March 3 – **Linda Rowell**
 March 10 – **Amy Winkler**
 March 17 – **Cathy Runge**
 March 24 – **David Dunst**
 March 31 – **Sherry Stender**
 April 7 – **Toni Hudson**

Monthly Fellowship

March 4 – **Open**
 April 1 – **Thrivent Group**

Confirmation Snack

March 6 – **Soup Supper**
 March 13 – **Soup Supper**
 March 20 – **Soup Supper**
 March 27 – **No Class**
 April 3 – **Manny Green-Prokopovitz**

St. John's Leadership

President – **Tim Birrs** – 846-8199
 Vice President – **Brian Siech** – 848-3337
 Secretary – **Brenda Clark** - 848-8323
 Treasurer – **Sherry Stender** - 899-3354
 Council Member – **Burt Dunst** - 920-676-7679
 Council Member – **Diane Schliep** - 826-5799
 Sunday Sch. Sup. – **Melissa Winkler** – 846-4273
 Sun. Sch. Sup. Elect – **Tammy Birr** - 846-8199
 WELCA President – **Velma Aprill** - 846-2315
 Sexton – **Sue Steinfeldt** - 619-7075
 Groundskeeper – **Dennis Delzer**
 Choir Director – **Carolyn Van Donsel** – 639-3498
 Organist – **Helen Gohr** – 899-3884
 Pastor – **Rev. Paul F. Heykes** – 899-8742
 Cell – 920-858-6650

Pastoral Acts and Notes



Funeral services for **Corrine A. Block** were held here at St. John's on Friday, February 8. Corrine died unexpectedly at a Green Bay Hospital on Friday, February 1. We express our deepest condolences to her children **Savannah** and **Brennan**, her parents **John & Mavis Leitzke**, her sister **Kim Leitzke** (all members of St. John's) as well as the rest of her family and friends. May the promise of resurrection to eternal life sustain all who grieve her death.

Owen James Dowker was baptized into the body of Christ at our worship service on February 17. Own is the child of **Lucas & Jessica Dowker** and brother of **Malia**. His sponsors are **Kimberly & Joseph Riegert**. May the Lord bless Owen with a faith that grows stronger every day of his life.

Congratulations to **Robert & Jenny Hudson** upon the birth of a daughter named **Kloe** on February 4. We join them in giving thanks to the Lord for the gift of new life.

Please remember the following members and friends of St. John's in your prayers. **Beatrice Kennin, Jessica Athey, Beatrice Rehn, Dolores Schroeder, Cindy Gentz, Rita Wagner, Robert Sponenburg, Barbara Hudson, Savannah Block, Connie McDermid, Marvin Schlorf, Carol Rasmussen, Florence Baranczyk, Betty Hudson, John & Mavis Leitzke, Perry Pautz, Gene Albers, Jake Towne, Ron Wagner.** Also keep **Joshua Aprill** in prayer as he deploys to Afghanistan.

Both new and continuing members of the church council and WELCA leadership team were installed at our worship services on Sunday, February 3. They include: **Tim Birr** – president, **Brian Siech** – vice-president, **Brenda Clark** – secretary, **Sherry Stender** – treasurer, **Burt Dunst** – council member, **Diane Schliep** – council member, **Tammy Birr** – Sunday school superintendent, **Velma Aprill** – WELCA president, **Sherry Stender** – WELCA vice-president, **Verna Peterson** – WELCA secretary, and **Becky Baranczyk** – WELCA treasurer. May God empower them all for their term of service, that they may fulfill the duties of the office to which they were elected.

Florence Havlik Baranczyk thanks everyone for the birthday cards and greetings that you sent to her last month on the occasion of her 92nd birthday.

Members of the Women of the ELCA group and other members of the congregation gathered to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief on Friday, February 15. The ten women in attendance assembled twenty quilts. The quilts they made that day, along with their production from several other work days, will be shipped out this coming October.

Thanks to everyone for supporting the Souper Bowl of Caring collection for World Hunger on February 3. All the offerings received for the Souper Bowl will be forwarded on to the ELCA Hunger Appeal and in turn will be used to assist the hungry both at home and abroad. Since Souper bowl offerings will be accepted and tabulated through to the end of February, we will report the total collected in the next newsletter.

On Sunday, February 10 our Sunday school students created hand made Valentines cards for our elderly and homebound members of the parish, and for the residents of Sharpe Care in Oconto Falls. The cards were mailed to our members and hand delivered to the residents of the nursing home by several of our high school students. A number of the homebound called the church to express their thanks, and we know that the nursing home residents appreciated being remembered on the holiday.

Ruby's Pantry will be distributing food on Saturday, March 9 at Gillett High School. Volunteers check in by 7:30am, registration begins at 8:00am and distribution begins at 9:00am. There are *no restrictions* as to who may receive food. For \$15 you will get the equivalent of two wash baskets or large boxes full of food (bring your own baskets or boxes). You may come to get food for yourself, family members, neighbors or friends. Food for Ruby's Pantry comes directly from food processors, distributors and retailers and may include overstocked items, mis-labeled items, and items nearing the “sell by” date (not the “use by” date).

Between now and the middle of March please join together in contributing to the “Help for the Homeless Hygiene Products Collection.” Items needed include • Soaps (laundry, dish, bars, shower gel, shampoo), • Diapers (size 3 & pull-ups), • Deodorant (unscented please), • Wet Wipes (for changing babies), • Toilet Paper, • Tooth Brushes & Toothpaste, • Paper Towels, • Disposable Razors, • Tampons. Place your donation in the special box located near our pantry collection baskets. This collection is jointly sponsored by a number of organizations including Thrivent. All items collected will be distributed by NEWCAP to shelters and programs for at risk persons in Oconto and Marinette Counties.

Mission Statement - St. John's of Morgan

As baptized members of the body of Christ, called by Jesus to "Let our light shine," it is our mission and purpose to share the Gospel and serve everyone who lives near St. John's of Morgan through worship, witness, hospitality, education, service, fellowship and love.