

Lutheran Schools Week

February 27—March 6



Come check out the Book Fair set up all week in the Narthex!

St. John Adult Fellowship

will be serving their annual fish fry on Friday, March 26, 2010 4:30-7:30 pm in the gymnasium.
 Beer battered fish fry \$8
 Baked fish \$8
 Child fish fry \$4
 Dessert \$1.50
 Pop, water or coffee \$1.00
 Chocolate or White Milk 50¢

There will be no phone-in take out orders this year. Take out orders will be taken in person in the gymnasium.

Lenten Worship Schedule

Thursdays at 7:00 pm
 Holy Week Worship Schedule
 Palm Sunday 7:45 and 10:15 am
 Maundy Thursday 7:00 pm
 Good Friday 1:00 & 7:00 pm
 Easter Sunday
 Sunrise Worship 6:30 am
 Late Worship 9:30 am



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Saints Alive

March 2010

Connecting People to Jesus



The Unchanging Word of God in A Changing World

The unchanging Word of God has always been spoken into a changing world. God went from speaking on a mountain, to sending His word through His prophets, to collecting that word in a book. We have seen the Bible translated into the language of the people, the Bible mass produced that people and cultures in every corner of the world have access to the unchanging word of God. Books on tape, CD, projection technology, computers, and MP3 players allow us to give an unchanging message to a constantly changing cultural audience.

St. John has been a place where change has been, thankfully, guardedly welcomed. We have not changed for the sake of change, but have not been against using the created tools, techniques, and media to convey the unchanging Word of God.

The elders of St. John have been discussing a somewhat new way of making sure our congregation is bringing that Word of God to the community, and also strengthening the membership. I felt that I might take an opportunity to share those thoughts with you in this March issue of Saints Alive.

Through the years, life and ministry in the church has revolved around five areas: worship, nurture, fellowship, witness, and service. These are usually described in our congregation as: worship, evangelism, stewardship/discipleship. While these descriptions are meet, right, and salutary, they are very broad, vague, and general. This can create a lack of clarity of a task. When a task is not clear, and time able to be given to a task is short, problems arise.

As our elders are conscientious about their work, it is their nature to "dig into" the task at hand and just do it. While commendable, it is not the best use of time, nor does it develop leadership qualities in other congregational members. We find that desired outcomes are not met, elders and congregation members alike may feel as if their "wheels are spinning" and time is spent simply "putting out fires". Frustration can often be the result. We would like to try a new elder ministry model in an effort to undertake the task of the elders more efficiently.

Through the use a new ministry model for the elders, we hope to achieve the following objectives: Promote the message of the Gospel; Make clear to the elder's the responsibility given to them; Make clear the elder's responsibility to

(Continued on page 6)

CHURCH AND SCHOOL

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
E10723 COUNTY ROAD Z
WAUSAU, WI 54403
842-5212—CHURCH
845-7031—SCHOOL

stjohnluth1@verizon.net

MISSION STATEMENT

St. John Lutheran Church and School is dedicated to worship, love, teach, reach out and care through the love of Christ Jesus.

Boards and Elected Leaders

President - Myron Block
Vice-Pres - Neal Schalow
Secretary - Jerome Prah
Treasurer - Kyle Borchardt
Finance Co-Chairpersons -
Acct. Chairman - Rick Borchardt

Board of Elders
Virgil Wenzel - **Chairman**
Gerry Marquardt, Cliff Prah,
Earl Ramthun,
Bob Prah, Terry Peterson

School Board
Alan Breitenfeldt – **Chairman**
Kim Borchardt-Treasurer
Angela Wenzel-Secretary
Cathy Benz—Vice Chair
Sherry Leitz—Appointed
Michele Jome—Appointed

Board of Christian Education
Lyle Kunze – **Chairman**

Youth Ministry
Amy Wells

Care Ministry Chairperson
June Dittbrender

Trustee Chairman
Tom Swenson

Head Usher
Roger Tesch

Pastor
Rev. Timothy Coppersmith

Principal
Don Abel

You are invited to Financial Peace University!!

What is Financial Peace University?

FPU is the most important step to changing your financial future. It is your Total Money Make-over Program. It takes the knowledge from God and turns it into real action in our lives through a step-by-step process taught by best-selling author and financial counselor Dave Ramsey.

FPU is a 13-week life-changing program that empowers and teaches you how to make the right money decisions to achieve your financial goals and God's plan for your life. The course includes practical lessons on eliminating debt, building wealth, giving like never before, and much, much more!

Classes will be held here at St. John's Lutheran Church.

When: Sundays, beginning March 21st, from 6-8pm.

FREE Preview: Sunday, February 28th at 8:45am and Wednesday March 3rd at 6:45pm.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this preview to learn more about Financial Peace University.

For more information please contact John or Carol Raczek at 715-571-4244 or raczeks@netzero.com.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Who benefits from this program?

Everyone truly benefits from this program!

- Regardless of your age.
- Regardless of your income.
- Regardless of being single, married, or a single parent.

What is included in the FPU Membership Kit?

As part of your enrollment package, you will receive:

- All 13 lessons in an audio CD library.
- Dave Ramsey's personal testimony on CD.
- Three months of zero based monthly budgeting forms on CD.
- A financial snapshot progress form.
- A complete set of financial management forms, including samples.
- All 13 fill-in-the-blank FPU lessons to work through with Dave during the classes.
- Dave Ramsey's *Financial Peace Revisited* book.
- The envelope system.
- Two debit card holders.
- Access to the Member Resource Center online, where you will find helpful financial tools.
- A graduation certificate upon completion of the class.

How much does this program cost?

Materials retail for \$199. Church families pay \$99.51.

Who can attend with my Financial Peace membership?

Your spouse and teens living in the home.



Worship Life at St. John

Thursday ~ 7:00 P.M. Sunday ~ 7:45 & 10:15 A.M.
Sunday School and Bible Study ~ 9:00 A.M.

School Board News

Where do you see yourself in 5 years, 10 years, or in 20 years? Many people are asked this in performance review or in job interviews – it seems we should always know where we are going and how we are going to get there! The principal and the school board are looking at visions for St. John Lutheran School – we want to make sure St. John continues to be the place where learning is happening.

School Siding

We have two ideas that we would like to share with you – the first being the actual vision of the school or the actual way the building looks. The white building for the school needs to be re-sided and the soffits need to be replaced. A member of our congregation has agreed to work on this project this summer. We have already received some funding for this project, but are in need of more funds. If you would like to contribute to the school siding project, please put your contribution in an envelope and mark it – School Siding Project. The money is going to go into a newly created trustee account. The approximate cost of the project is \$3,000.00. We will also need volunteers to help with this project, if this sounds like something you wouldn't mind doing – keep watching the bulletin for updates as to when this is going to be happening.

School Library and Computer Lab –

The next “vision” for the school is a combined computer lab and library learning center. If you haven't been in the school in awhile, the computer lab is in the room that used to be the church office/Pastor's office. The library is in the room next to the computer room. Mr. Abel is looking at the “what if's” or the vision of St. John. What if St. John continues to grow and our numbers continue to increase? And what if (and wouldn't this be a blessing) if the numbers of students increased so much we needed to add another teacher? Now let me start by saying this – we are not requesting another teacher, we are just hoping that maybe someday this will happen – if we are going to dream we are going to dream big.

The way the school is set up now – we don't have a specific room for another teacher. Mr. Abel has a vision of a combined room for the computers and the library. This would take a significant amount of planning and financial support. If you think this is a task you would like to see happen or are interested in

There will be a New Liturgy from the hymnal taught following Easter.

There are 13 students in Confirmation instruction with 3 to be confirmed this year.

Pastor said that we need to start planning what we are going to do regarding our DCE Intern Ginny Golchert.

*Elders Report: Virgil Wenzel thanked Pastor for his day to day work. He said that the Elders are working on church services, inactives, the budget, and DCE proposals.

*Trustees: Tom Swensen noted that snow removal costs have been down this year.

He said that Tammy Koenig requested that Tom build a storage shelf for her in the church. He told her that he would if she threw out a lot of old, unused stuff. This will be done with some consultation with others regarding what to toss. There was an incident this past week in which a student pulled a Fire Alarm. They learned that no one at the church or school knew how to turn it off. Also it was noted that the alarm is not connected directly to a Fire Department. Someone needs to call 911 in the event of an actual fire.

*Board of Christian Ed.: Lyle Kunze reported that there were about 250 people at this year's Wild Game Feed. That was down a little from last year. Dr. Tom Rakow gave a very interesting talk.

There will be a marriage bible study beginning the Sunday after Easter. Lyle thanked members for their input to the Lenten Devotional. VBS will be the 2nd to last week in July and they still need a superintendant. There will be a family movie night coming up soon.

20-30 kids come to Thursday night basketball in the gym.

*Care Ministry: June Dittbrender had numerous events to report including doing a “PACK” event in January, food items were given to a friend of a church member in need, food pantry items were also given to a church family, money was given to a church member who was out of work for 2 weeks, meals were coordinated for two families that had babies, a ride was coordinated for a church member to & from St. Joseph's Hospital in Marshfield, \$50.00 gas scrip was given to Gary Zimmermann to help pay for his transportation to Madison, \$75.00 was given to a friend of a church member for a fund raiser for a family that has multiple medical bills, \$50.00 was sent to Food For The Poor to go to Haiti Earthquake victims, they are making plans with neighboring congregations to do a weekly community meal. Helping Hearts for Victory Lutheran Church is taking place in February with items being donated to take up to them. Care is supporting John & Carol Raczek in presenting a 13 week Financial Management Course.

*School Board: Alan Breitenfeldt said that enrollment at St. John School is up to 52 students. The PTL will be buying T shirts for all students in the school.

They are looking into fundraising events to pay for about \$3000.00 in siding improvements to the white school addition.

*New Business: Mike Block asked for nominations for Synodical Officers. These must be submitted by March 10th.

Dar Ramthun encouraged us to evangelize new neighbors.

*Dave Zimmermann moved & it was 2nd “To destroy the ballots” Passed.

Gerry Marquardt moved & it was 2nd “To adjourn the meeting.” Passed. 12:43 PM.

Pastor Coppersmith had the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted Jerome Prahll Congregational Secretary

Chairman Mike Block called the meeting to order at 11:25 AM.

There were 56 voting members who signed in plus Paula Kurth observing.

*Gerry Marquardt had the opening devotion.

*The Secretary's Report was approved as printed.

Gerry Marquardt presented the "Proposed Amendments to the Constitution". He then moved and Bob Prah 2nd "That we vote to accept the proposed changes."

Discussion: Sylvia Collins asked for an explanation of the proposed changes. A brief summary of the changes and the reasons for them was given.

A ballot vote was taken with the motion passing 50 – Yes and 6 – No.

*Youth Report: Ginny Golchert said that Ryan Prah and his fiancée' Lindsey are willing to be Youth Group leaders after they get married later this year. She also reported on some of the activities that the Youth Group has been involved in, and are planning.

*Tom Swensen presented the Proposed Building Use Policy. It was presented in its' original form with the addition of a paragraph that would be added to the bottom of the 3rd page. It states "The Trustees, in consultation with the Pastor, are authorized on an individual item basis to approve minor variations to the Building Use Policy and update names, addresses and phone numbers as necessary."

Tom then moved and Bob Prah 2nd "That we vote in favor of the Proposed Building Use Policy." A ballot vote was taken and the motion passed 46 – Yes and 8 – No.

*DCE Intern Report: Ginny Golchert said that there are usually 8-10 mothers at the IMOMs breakfast meetings. They have expressed an interest in getting some high school kids to do things with their children at some meetings so that the mothers can do some things together.

Other activities that Ginny is involved in include looking for a VBS supervisor, helping with midweek school, helping with the Wild Game Feed, and helping at the school when they are short a teacher.

*Financial Report: Kyle Borchardt handed out a sheet showing our Profit and Loss Performance. He added that money is being given to our 4% and 6% missions.

*Pastors' Report: Pastor Coppersmith said that Official Acts included the Baptism of Bryce Neal Schalow on Jan. 17th. The Deaths on Dec. 31st and Burials on Jan. 6th of Adeline Hahn and Pauline Valent.

There were 6 members names presented to be released who have moved away or are no longer active in St. John Congregation. They are: Harold Helvey, Seth Lerch, Brian and Paula Olson, Phillip Prah, and Julie Steiner. Bob Prah moved and Dave Zimmermann 2nd "That we release these 6 people." The motion passed on a voice vote.

Pastor then encouraged us to us the Lenten Devotional booklet that was put together by members of our congregation.

He said that there will be a new Elder emphasis to encourage church members to take a more active role in a number of things including reaching out to new members of the community. They are hoping to find more time for the Elders to get involved in outreach.

hearing more about it – please see Mr. Abel, Kim Borchardt, or Sherry Leitza. We are in need of additional committee members to talk about how to make this happen. This is a project that will need to detail how the two rooms can merge into one and how to raise financing to have this completed. BUT – when this is completed it would free up a room for the possibility of growth.

Get involved and Pray

Maybe as a member you can't financially contribute to the either of the projects because of your own personal financial situation, maybe you can't commit to more meetings to be on the committee to start looking at the library/computer learning center, but we would like to ask you to pray for all of the things going at the school. Please pray that whatever God's purpose is for St. John Lutheran Church and School we do HIS will.

The other day Mrs. Stuplich's 2nd graders talked about what they wanted to be when they grow up - one stated an FBI Agent and another child wanted to be a Veterinarian. Even the kids at St. John are thinking about where they want to be in 10 years, and so is the school board!

St. John Lutheran School Board

Cleaning Team News



Welcome and Thank you to our latest volunteers to our cleaning teams:

- Greg, Amy, Briana, Logan & Emma Lund
- Joshua, Nicole, Ben, Kindal & Emily Parker
- Luke, Wendy, Grayce Schulta & Ethan Graper
- Renee, Winter & Ahrieonna Carlson & Devin Wadzinski
- Travis Knoblock & Nicole Osswald, Tristan, Tyler & Braden Knoblock
- Tracy Marten
- Dean & Kathy Kunze

We look forward to serving the Lord here at St. John by keeping His house clean and neat.

(Continued from page 1)

ensure the functions of a church are carried out by all of the saints of the church, not just 6 elders and a pastor; Use time more economically; Promote and enable brevity, clarity, and completeness of intra-congregational communication; Develop involvement and leadership qualities of the members of the congregation; minimize elder administrative tasks; Maximize “one-on-one” ministry time; Help members experience the joy of utilizing their God given gifts across the full spectrum of the functions of the church; Maximize the gifts of the members as they participate not just in their own area, but are active and have ownership in many aspects of ministry; Instill a deeper appreciation for God’s means of grace: the word of God and His Sacraments; Communicate the importance of each member as an integral part of the congregation and that member’s opportunity to participate in the Mission of the Church.

All church sponsored ministries will be assigned to an elder of the congregation. The spiritual activities of each board or committee/group shall be overseen by an elder to whom that group is assigned. The elders will encourage workers/helpers from among the congregation to carry out the tasks over which those members have been assigned or volunteered. As always the final authority in all temporal matters is the voter’s assembly.

All groups will be encouraged and reminded of the mission of the entire congregation; however, each group may deal more with evangelism and less with stewardship as it relates to those to whom they minister (i.e. each group should be good stewards, but care committee will deal more with witness, service, and nurture, than the stewardship committee, who will deal primarily with worship and nurture).

It will be suggested that each group present a list of activities through the use of a calendar, minutes of a meeting, or other type of communication. The elders will be asked and equipped to review those activities and work to follow-up with the chair of that group with encouragement, public acknowledgement and resourcing the group as needed. According to the constitution, they will be responsible to deal with issues relating to Matthew 18.

It is our prayerful hope that the elders will have a greater personal understanding of the groups they assist and a better understanding of those challenges that face groups and the challenges that members face in day-to-day challenges. Through this type of oversight, the general spiritual welfare will be of greater concentration which will translate in assimilating members, mentoring leaders and preventing “back-door” loses.

In this world of changing cultures, technologies, and polity, the elders and I wish to use all of the tools God gives for the most efficient work of the Gospel. I can vouch for the sincere efforts of the elders. All of us have a desire to serve this congregation as we deal with our own sinful weaknesses. We ask your continued prayers and support in times of agreement and even in times of disagreement. If there are additional questions on this plan, please feel free to ask any of the elders.

In Christ, Pastor Tim

Financial Report

	YTD Actual 2009-2010 <u>7-1-09 to 2-23-10</u>	YTD Budget 2009-2010 <u>7-1-09 to 2-23-10</u>	YTD Actual 2008-2009 <u>7-1-08 to 2-23-09</u>
Income			
Total Income	250,927	266,885	233,023
Expenses			
Total Expenses	264,121	259,816	230,631
Net			
Net Income	(13,194)	7,069	2,392

<u>Income</u>	<u>Oct. 09</u>	<u>Nov. 09</u>	<u>Dec. 09</u>	<u>Jan. 10</u>
Envelopes & Plate Offerings	12,403	20,978	16,654	20,295

Income – Envelopes & Plate Offerings

YTD Actual for 2009-2010	111,122
YTD Budget for 2009-2010	133,275
YTD Actual for 2008-2009	110,562

GENERAL FUND - The finances are going pretty good at St. John. We need to keep up the good work at giving to the Lords mission on a daily basis so we can keep our budget on the right path. We are steadily trying to pay on the Line of Credit, and the 4% and 6% missions. We are not paying to aggressive on these so we don't run out of money and have to end up borrowing more in the long run. Hopefully when the heating season is over we can start to get ahead and make more payments. Thank the Lord for Blessing us with a great church family.

St John Church Budget numbers in the newsletter this month it will show a loss of \$10,103.87 which should really be a positive net income of \$9,528.37. This is because the Trustee accounts are being reported in with our general budget. The general budget is running ~\$9000 ahead right now. This year the Trustee accounts have spent ~\$20,000 more then they have taken in. The trustee's are active and making improvements. We have had the money in trustee accounts and they are now doing these projects and spending money that was in savings for these projects. But on paper it looks like the trustees are pulling the general budget negative, which is really not the case. The trustee accounts are separate from the general budget. But right now, the way the reports are running, it looks like the trustee accounts and general budget are combined. We are working to correct this issue.

MEMORIALS

St. John Building Fund

In memory of Esther Pilz
From: Jon & Karen Roble

In memory of Pauline Valent

From: Myron Block
Sylvia Colins
Doris Strehlow
Arnie Baumann & Family

In memory of Adeline Hahn

From: Fred & Sharon Borchardt
Arnie Baumann & Family
Ken & Rita Utzinger

Jesus' Lambs Scholarship Fund

In memory of Esther Pilz
From: Leon & Lori Seliger

Musical Instruments

In memory of Adeline Hahn
From: Kyle & Susie Borchardt

St. John Lutheran School gift

In memory of Irene Hitt and Grandma Leitza
(Great-aunt of Tony & Sherry Leitza and
Grandmother of Tony & Sherry Leitza)
From: Tammy, David, Melani &
Jazmin Landwehr.

In memory of Rose Prah, who would have
been 79 years old February 17th. Rose died
September 26, 1986.

From: Harvey Prah

St. John Living Foundation

In memory of Pauline Valent
From: Joanne Woodrich

GREETING CARDS

Greeting cards are available throughout the year as an on going fundraiser for the Kitchen Cabinet.

You will find a wide assortment of greeting cards for most all occasions, including Confirmation, Get Well, Thinking of You, Happy Birthday, Sympathy and more. Cards are available individually for \$.50 each.

Holiday cards will be available for the Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

Your suggestions and comments are always welcome and as your interest in our display grows . . . so will our display of items grow.

Thank you for checking out our display as you consider your greeting card needs.

Thoughts from our DCE Intern:



Roots

Spring is one of my favorite seasons of the year. Trees start to turn green, flowers begin to grow, and everything seems to begin to grow again. I can remember being at my Grandma's house one time when she was moving her flowers around so they could grow better. Later on in the week, while watering them, we noticed that some of the leaves had turned brown and the flower didn't look so good. However, as the roots took hold the flowers grew like crazy and, by the end of the summer, were twice as big as they were in their original spot.

In Colossians 2:6-7 Paul says, "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

Like my Grandma's flowers, we need to be rooted down where we may best grow. Sometimes, this may mean that we need to make a bigger change in what we see as important. Other times it may be something smaller, but just as important. Over all, we are to be rooted in God's love so that we may be strengthened and nourished by Him. Thus being able to help others learn and grow in their faith in God as well.

Ginny



LWML Mite Boxes

Take a mite box from the narthex table. Mite boxes are used to collect money for missions. Mite money is used to further God's kingdom through the mission projects selected by delegates at district and at international LWML conventions. Return your filled mite box to a member of St. John Ladies Aid or LWML Society.

March 2010
Board of Christian Education Notices

Faith Café Bible Study: This is where it is happening every Sunday morning between services. You are invited to taste and see, to drink and be refreshed. By reflecting and exploring, by examining and investigating, by meditating and applying, you just might discover a way to know God more and to get closer to the person he created you to be. Please join us in the gymnasium from 9:10 to 10:00 AM for coffee, treats and refreshment for the soul.

Family Movie Night: Sunday, February 28, there will be an outreach event that has an emphasis on our entire community surrounding St. John. A family movie will be selected that will be exciting for all ages along with some special goodies to eat and drink. Encourage your neighbors and friends to join us.

Camp Luther Workbee Weekend: The workbee weekend has been selected for Apr 23rd thru Apr 25th. Please watch for the sign up sheet and complete details. There is free lodging and meals in exchange for some muscle and passion for Camp. Plan on being there.

Starting after Easter - Marriage Bible study: A marriage bible study program is in the process of being selected and will follow the Faith Café bible study. More details to come.

Vacation Bible School: Vacation Bible School will be held July 26th through the 30th. Currently the Board of Christian Ed is looking for someone to seize the opportunity to serve as superintendent. Talk to anyone on the Board or Pastor Coppersmith for more details.

Changeable Sign Coordinator: If you would like to participate in reaching literally hundreds of people each day in spreading the Good News of Jesus and what is happening at St. John, please call Lyle @ 581-9803. He has an opportunity for you!

"Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path" (Ps. 119:105).

Those Serving in the Lord's House during March

Elders:
Altar Guild:

Date	Time	Acolytes	Ushers	Nursery
March 4	7:00 pm	Casey Wesenick		
March 7	7:45 am	Katie Koenig Jessica Wenzel	Arlo & Audrey Schlund, Mike Schlund Ben Schlund, John Christensen	
	10:15 am	Hannah Bangart Eric Breitenfeldt	Lyle, Trevor & Caleb Kunze Jerrod Radosta	Kay Ramthun
March 11	7:00 pm	Jordan Hansen		
March 14	7:45 am	Wyatt Thompson Logan Seliger	Lisa Brost & Brandon Brost Dan, Sara, Josh & Matthew Lemke	
	10:15 am	Aidan Coppersmith Brett Breitenfeldt	Wayne Breitenfeldt, Steve Jome Rick Borchardt, Kyle Marquardt	Becky Hamell
March 18	7:00 pm	Callie Wesenick		
March 21	7:45 am	Helen Thompson Jessica Wenzel	Kyle Borchardt Scott, Sean & Seth Baumann	
	10:15 am	Jimmy Flees Eric Breitenfeldt	Steve & Carol Kunze Scott & Matthew Hansen	Laura Ramthun
March 25	7:00 pm	Casey Wesenick		
March 28 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	7:45 am	Katie Koenig Wyatt Thompson	Roger & Beverly Tesch John Glynn, Seth & Jordan Abt	
	10:15 am	Lauren Hamell Hannah Bangart	Neal & Cindi Schalow Randy, Lisa, Travis & Cody Fritz	Michelle Coppersmith
April 1 <i>Maundy Thurs.</i>	7:00 pm	Jordan Hansen		
April 2 <i>Good Friday</i>	1:00 pm 7:00 pm	Callie Wesenick		
April 4 <i>Easter</i>	6:30	Jessica Wenzel Helen Thompson	Cliff & Kris Prah Jon & Steve Roble	Diane Schultz
	9:30	Katie Koenig Logan Seliger	Vern Block Grant Coppersmith	