

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

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Sullivan, WI 53178

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St. John's Messenger
January/February 2011





St. John's

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011

Messenger

Ask not what your church...



By: Pastor Dean

50 years ago this month John F. Kennedy became the 35th president of the United States. At his inaugural address on January 20, 1961 President Kennedy said: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but ask what you can do for your country."

Could we say the same for the church?

Certainly there is much a church may do for an individual. The church is where one comes ...

- To hear God's grace of forgiveness
- To grow in faith and fellowship with other believers
- To receive the Lord's Supper
- To receive support and encouragement from others
- To grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God's Word tells us that the only way a believer will flourish spiritually is by being planted in a church for worship and its teachings. Psalm 92:13-14 says: **"They are planted in the Lord's house. They blossom in our God's courtyards. Even when they are old, they still bear fruit. They are always healthy and fresh."**

Church Events

- January 27 – Ladies Aid
- January 29 – Movie Night
- February 2 – Elder Meeting
- February 3 – Choir Practice
- February 5 – Rock & Worship Road Show
- February 8 – Council Meeting
- February 10 – Choir Practice
- February 17 – Choir Practice
- February 24 – Ladies Aid
- February 24 – Choir Practice
- February 27 – Youth Group Game Day

(Ask not what your church...cont.)

We are meant to be planted and to have roots in a local church.

The word “planted” means becoming stabilized and made permanent in a specific field or place. When something is planted, it is rooted in a fixed location. By being committed to a healthy local church, we will experience many benefits promised in God’s Word.

Believers who have a diet of God’s Word gain strength by the Spirit to be active in various ministries: teaching, discipling, evangelizing, leading, giving spiritual care, ushering or doing handiwork around the church.

We receive God’s grace and strength along with the fellowship of other believers by being “planted” in a local church.

But, what can I do for my church?

1. I will protect the unit of my church

- By acting in love toward other members
- By refusing to gossip
- By following the leaders

2. I will share the responsibility of my church

- By praying for its growth
- By inviting the un-churched to attend
- By warmly welcoming those who visit

3. I will serve the ministry of my church

- By discovering my gifts and talents
- By being equipped to serve
- By developing a servant’s heart

4. I will support the testimony of my church

- By attending faithfully
- By living for the Lord Jesus
- By giving of the blessings the Lord has put in my possession

What will motivate me?

“He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all --- how will He not also, along with Him graciously give us all things?” Romans 8:32

Church phone:

262-593-8630

Office hours:

Wed., Fri.: 9am-2pm

Pastor Dean phone:

cell: 920-723-6955

home: 262-593-8624



Pastor Dean e-mail:

dzemple@hotmail.com



Church e-mail:

stjohnssullivan@centurytel.net



Church web address:

www.stjohns-sullivan.com



Worship Times:

Wednesday: 7:00pm

Sunday: 8:00am & 10:15am

Thursday: Bible Study – 7pm



Sept. - May

Sunday School - 9:15am

Adult Bible Study – 9:15am

High School Bible Study-

9:15am

Children’s Church – 10:15am

**Membership
Changes
for 2010**

Baptisms - 7

Funerals - 8

Weddings - 6

Membership gains - 17

Membership losses - 1

The Believer and Sin

By: Pastor Dean

Sin is a problem we all share.

The Apostle John wrote: “No one who lives in God keeps on sinning. No one who continues to sin has either seen God or known God...No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God’s seed remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God.”

If I am a believer, why do I still sin?

- All of us were sinful from the moment of our conception. Psalm 51:5
- Sin is defined in the Bible as...
 - Missing the mark of God’s perfection
 - Withholding from God
 - Disobedience to God
 - Overstepping the limits of God
- The Bible says in Proverbs 24:9 that “a fool is one who does not listen to God.”

All of us have been bought by the Savior - I Peter 1:18-19

- Our sins are not counted against us II Corinthians 5:19 and 21
- We all are declared innocent before the judge Romans 5:18
- We all have life through Jesus Romans 6:2

Yet, we still struggle between the old nature of sin and the new nature of the Christian

The Apostle Paul wrote: **“I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out....And if I do what I do not want to do...it is not longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me.”**

- Romans 6:6; 7:16-17

One Christian once said: “My sin is full of life.”

We all struggle with temptation and sin.

- The devil prowls around looking for someone to devour
- “Bad company corrupts good character” - I Corinthians 15:34
- In regard to evil be like infants - innocent and not knowing evil. I Corinthians 14:20

Our cleansing - “If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” I John 1:9

Un-confessed sin in our lives will spiritually harm us...

- The sin invades our life
- We yield to it
- We lose our desire for spiritual things - ie Worship, prayer, fellowship with believers
- We become spiritually listless and irritable

What is the antidote?

1. Confess our sins

(Believer and Sin cont.)

2. Trust in Jesus
3. Remain in God's Word
4. Turn away from our sinful thoughts and practices

Paul says in Romans 13:14 **“Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.”**

Paul says: “Train yourselves to be godly...”

I Timothy 4:7

Jesus said: “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him and we will come to him and make our home with him.” John 14:23



Up-coming Sermon Texts and Themes

January 19 & 23: An Appeal for Unity ~ I Corinthians 1:10-18

January 26 & 30: Who's In Control? ~ I Corinthians 1:26-31

February 2 & 6: What Does God Expect? ~ I Corinthians 2:1-5

February 16 & 20: God's Greatest Secret ~ I Corinthians 2:6-13

February 23 & 27: Watch How You Build ~ I Corinthians 3:10-23

March 2 & 6: Being Aware of the Lord's Return ~ II Peter 1:16-19

Ash Wednesday - March 9

Sunday School News

By: Jayne Jenks



Thank you to all the parents who supplied snacks and brought their children to practice for the Christmas program. Many very nice compliments were given for a program well done!

On Wednesday April 6th, the Sunday School will be hosting the lenten dinner. Also on that night, the Sunday School kids will be taking part in a special musical service in honor of our 150th anniversary. So we will need help not only with the dinner, but we will need kids that can come and sing as part of the service. Understanding that there are many school activities, please try and bring your child to this special service if at all possible--150th anniversaries don't happen very often and this will be a special event.

Did you ever wonder why the Sunday School collects an offering from the children? Even though most children don't have a lot of money, most children do have some money. The Bible tells us to train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old, he will not depart from it. If we don't offer the kids a chance to bring an offering to Jesus now—how will they know to do it when they are grown up? Children love to bring their gift for Jesus. Please make sure they know that their gift is used for the work of the church. Specifically, the children's offerings are going to help our seminary student, Matthias. Their gifts are helping a young man become trained to be a Pastor to work in God's church. *How cool is that?!?*

Youth News

By: Jayne Jenks



Kudos to the kids! What a great crew we had show up to bake goods for the bake sale. Even though the weather put a crimp in our plans, we still raised over \$100 dollars and combined with the advent dinner, well over \$200 was given to the fund for Matthias.

Way to go!!

Now for upcoming events. We will be showing the movie "The Blind Side" at church on January 29th at 7:00 pm. If you haven't seen this movie—you should. It's based on true events and is a really powerful story. So invite your friends. Popcorn is free and soda is 50 cents—what a deal! **(FOR ALL YOU FOOTBALL FANS IN WITHDRAWAL, THE MOVIE IS ABOUT FOOTBALL!)**

In February, get ready to rock at the Rock and Worship Road Show! This concert features MercyME, Jars of Clay, the Afters, Thousand Foot Krutch and more. It will be a great time. Tickets are \$10 at the door and the concert is in Madison. We'll be looking for numbers pretty soon so we can figure out transportation, so start figuring out if you can come. We will also have a "game" day on Sunday February 27th. No couch potato games here—we'll play volleyball and/or basketball and any other active games you want to bring (Twister?)

In March, we will be hosting the March 30th Lenten supper. We'll figure out the menu and details later, so just put it on your calendar for now. In April, we host the Easter breakfast on April 24th. We are also going to be setting up a date to go to the movie "Soul Surfer" in April. The movie opens in theatres on April 15th. This is the real life story of Bethany Hamilton, a teen-age surfer who lost her arm in a shark attack and went on to return to championship surfing. And finally, our spring roadside clean up is tentatively set for Sunday, May 15th.

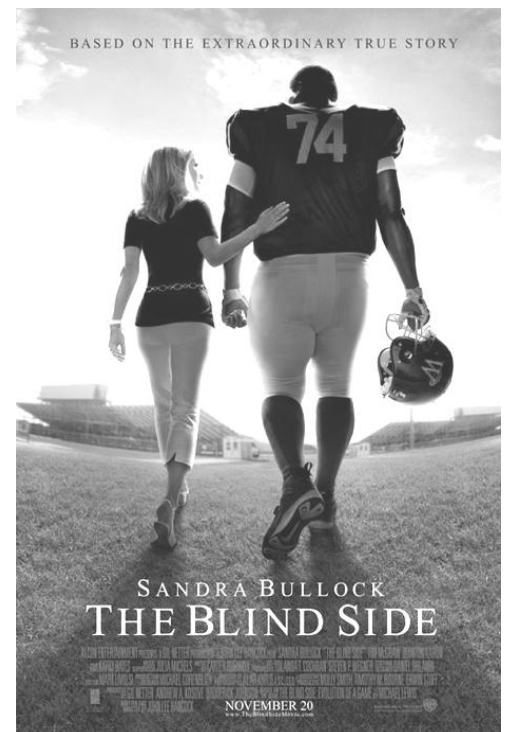
The Blind Side

FREE POPCORN

Starring: Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw, Kathy Bates & Quinton Aaron as Michael.

PG-13

Based on the true story of Leigh Anne and Sean Tuohy who take in a homeless teenage African-American, Michael "Big Mike" Oher. Michael has no idea who his father is and his mother is a drug addict. Michael has had little formal education and few skills to help him learn. Leigh Anne soon takes charge however, as is her nature, ensuring that the young man has every opportunity to succeed. When he expresses an interest in football, she goes all out to help him, including giving the coach a few ideas on how best to use Michael's skills.



**JANUARY FREE MOVIE NIGHT AT ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
1.5 MI. EAST OF SULLIVAN ON HWY 18 ~ 262-593-8630**

JANUARY/FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

ELDERS SCHEDULE:

1/16@8:00am – Jim Jurgella
1/16@10:15am – Bob Saeger & Dennis Linse
1/19 Keith Pogantsch
1/23 @ 8am – Bob Gartzke
1/23 @ 10:15am – Dave Hellekson & Jim Jurgella
1/26 Bob Saeger
1/30 @ 8am – Dennis Linse
1/30 @ 10:15am - Keith Pogantsch & Bob Gartzke
2/2 Dave Hellekson
2/6 @ 8am - Jim Jurgella
2/6 @ 10:15am - Bob Saeger & Dennis Linse
2/9 Keith Pogantsch
2/13 @ 8am - Bob Gartzke
2/13 @ 10:15am - Dave Hellekson & Jim Jurgella
2/16 Bob Saeger
2/20 @ 8am - Dennis Linse
2/20 @ 10:15am - Keith Pogantsch & Bob Gartzke
2/23 Dave Hellekson
2/27 @ 8am - Jim Jurgella
2/27 @ 10:15am - Bob Saeger & Dennis Linse
3/2 Keith Pogantsch

USHER/GREETER

1/16 Kim & Kaitlin Hellekson
1/19 Chuck & Ann Holzhueter
1/23 Joyce & Emma Lewandowski
1/26 David & Cindy Nelson
1/30 Nick Burrows & Jim Gudmundson
2/2 Paul & Sherri Brigowatz
2/6 Mark & Caleb Jenks
2/9 Larry & Beverly Kramer
2/13 Tony & Marge Kokan
2/16 Jim & Jerry Adsit
2/20 Julie & Hannah Pogantsch
2/23 Eugene Pagel & Paul Brigowatz
2/27 Ron Dueterbeck & Bob Chaveriat
3/2 Pam & Wes Jones

AV TECH:

1/16 Kim & Sarah Gudmundson
1/19 John & Lynn Ritter
1/23 Peter & Chris Martin
1/26 Sherri & Paul Brigowatz
1/30 Kim Hellekson & Julie P.
2/2 Pam & Wes Jones
2/6 Brad & Me Bechtel
2/9 John & Lynn Ritter
2/13 Kim & Sarah Gudmundson
2/16 Sherri & Paul Brigowatz
2/20 Peter & Chris Martin
2/23 Pam & Wes Jones
2/27 Kim Hellekson & Julie P.
3/2 John & Lynn Ritter

ORGANIST: TBA

ACOLYTE:

1/16 Samantha Tabat
1/23 Greg Buth
1/30 Pauline Schlais
2/6 Abby Jenks
2/13 Kyle Hellekson
2/20 Samantha Tabat
2/27 Greg Buth
3/6 Pauline Schlais

Thank you for serving!

God is not unjust; He will not forget your work or the love you have shown Him as you have helped His people and continue to help them. Hebrews 6:10

Opportunities to Serve in your Church

- † USHER/GREETER
- † A/V TECH
- † ALTAR GUILD †CHOIR
- † SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS
- † CHILDREN'S CHURCH VOLUNTEERS
- † SUNDAY MORNING SNACK PROVIDERS
- † LADIES AID †PRAYER CHAIN
- † COUNCIL/BOARD OF ELDERS
- † EVANGELISM BOARD
- † YOUTH GROUP
- † GROUNDS & LANDSCAPING
- † MARQUEE SIGN BOARD
- † ALTAR LINENS
- † ALTAR CANDLES
- † SHUT IN MINISTRY
- † THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS

Lot's Wife
The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once when she was driving' he said triumphantly, 'and turned into a telephone pole!'

If you feel you could serve your Lord and your church in any of the above please let Pastor or Julie in the office know. If you are interested but would like to know more about any of the above listed opportunities you can contact Julie Bechtel. 262-593-8630 Thanks!



Altar Guild

By: Jean Gaugert

I have decided to re-organize the Altar Guild and try to get things back on track.

We need more volunteers! It is not a complicated task to do. You are not required to work a full month. You can choose several times throughout the year; whatever works best for you. There are things that are not being taken care of, and I would like to hold an informational/training meeting on Feb.13th, after the church service. Please consider helping us. The more women that volunteer means the less time you will be assigned to help. You can pair up with someone if you want. This arrangement works nicely if one or the other is out of town, on vacation, or sick. If you are unable to make the Feb.13th meeting contact me and I would be willing to personally teach you what needs to be done. You can contact me at 262-593-5372 or 262-490-5372. Thank you, Jean Gaugert

GOOD SAMARITAN

A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

Choir

By: Julie Pogantsch

Choir will resume practice on Thursday, February 3rd at 7:00pm.

New people are always invited to join!

We are really in need of some male voices to sing with us. Please consider joining choir.

Donations to Our Military *By: Lynn Ritter*

Happy New Year! Thank you for your generosity this past year. Over the year we collected enough items to ship out 31 large flat rate boxes overseas. I want to also thank those of you that have made cash donations to help with shipping. It is great to be a member of such a generous congregation.

Thank you for being so willing to share the gifts God has given you with others in need.

As a small church, it is great to see boxes for the local food pantry, quilts, Christmas neighbors and more that is collected throughout the year for others!

May God continue to bless our church and its members.

Ice Cream Social *By: Jean Gaugert*

I'm looking for someone to help me with the planning of the Ice Cream Social, usually held in July. After 1 year of working with me, I would like to let this responsibility be taken over by whomever comes forward. I will be available to help with anything, but would like to not be responsible for all of the planning and organizing of this event. Please see me, or call anytime and let me know if you think this is something you would like to do.

Thank you, Jean Gaugert: 262-593-5372 cell # 262-490-5372

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January:

- 3- Rick Kramer
- 4- Dennis Scheid & Lorraine Reich
- 5- Bob Gartzke, Elsa Luebke, Jeanette Weidner
- 6- Natalie Burrows
- 7- Samson Unke
- 8- Jean Gaugert
- 11- Joyce Lewandowski
- 12- Alma King
- 13- Roni Zautner
- 15- Kathy McDonald, Cory Schellinger
- 18- Brian Mattke, Robert Gleaser
- 19- Peter Martin, Myrtle Sell
- 22- Helen Kueht
- 23- Laura Linse
- 24- Katrina Heimrel
- 28- Ruth Koch

February:

- 2- Larry Kramer
- 3- Grace Milbrath
- 6- Dave Hellekson
- 11- Rachel Lewandowski
- 13- Ann Schultz
- 14- Russ Buth
- 15- Chris Burrows
- 17- Dave Meyer
- 20- Max Unke, Dorothy Wergin, Jim Jurgella
- 22- LeVera Kloss
- 23- Chris Zemple
- 24- Brody Pogantsch
- 25- Kyle Meyer
- 27- Sue Tabat
- 28- Peter Linse

Anniversaries

- 1/25 – Brad & Julie Bechtel
- 2/10 – Cory & Amanda Schellinger
- 2/14 – Bill & Jean Gaugert
- 2/20 – Dave & Beverly Mueller

Proverbs 21:16

*A man who strays from
the path of
understanding comes
to rest in the company
of the dead*

AWESOME!

When you carry the Bible,
Satan gets a headache....

When you open it, he
collapses....

When he sees you reading
it he faints....

when he sees that you are
living what you read, he
flees....

And when you are about
to re-post this message, he
will try to discourage
you....


I just defeated... him!!!

*God Bless Your
Special Day!*

January 2011
St. John's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<i>1</i> New Year's Day
<i>2</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service w/comm. 9:15 AM Bible Study 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Communion Service	<i>3</i> 1:00 PM Quilting Rick Kramer	<i>4</i> Dennis Scheid Lorraine Reich	<i>5</i> 7:00 PM Worship Service 8:00 PM Elder Meeting Elsa Luebke Jeanette Weidner Robert Gartzke	<i>6</i> 7:00 PM Bible Study Natalie Burrows	<i>7</i> Samson Unke	<i>8</i> Jean Gaugert
<i>9</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Worship Service	<i>10</i> 1:00 PM Quilting	<i>11</i> 7:00 PM Council/Elder Meeting Joyce Lewandowski	<i>12</i> 7:00 PM Communion Service Alma King	<i>13</i> 7:00 PM Bible Study Roni Zautner	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i> Kathleen McDonald
<i>16</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service w/comm. 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Communion Service	<i>17</i> 1:00 PM Quilting <i>Martin Luther King, Jr.</i>	<i>18</i> Brian Mattke Robert Gleaser	<i>19</i> 7:00 PM Worship Service Myrtle Sell	<i>20</i> 7:00 PM Bible Study	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> Helen Kueht
<i>23</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Worship Service Laura Linse	<i>24</i> 1:00 PM Quilting	<i>25</i> Brad & Julie Bechtel	<i>26</i> 7:00 PM Worship Service	<i>27</i> 1:00 PM Ladies Aid 7:00 PM Bible Study	<i>28</i> Ruth Koch	<i>29</i> 7:00 PM FREE MOVIE NIGHT The Blind Side
<i>30</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Worship Service	<i>31</i> 1:00 PM Quilting					

February 2011
St. John's Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<i>1</i>	<i>2</i> 7:00 PM Communion Service 8:00 PM Elder Meeting Groundhog Day Lamy Kramer	<i>3</i> 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice Grace Milbrath	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i> YOUTH GROUP Rock & Worship Road Show 
<i>6</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service w/comm. 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Communion Service Dave Hellekson	<i>7</i> 1:00 PM Quilting	<i>8</i> 7:00 PM Council/Elder Meeting	<i>9</i> 7:00 PM Worship Service	<i>10</i> 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice	<i>11</i> Rachel Lewandowski	<i>12</i> <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i>
<i>13</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Worship Service Ann Schultz	<i>14</i> 1:00 PM Quilting Bill & Jean Gaugert Russ Buth <i>Valentine's</i> 	<i>15</i> Chris Burrows Corine Meyer	<i>16</i> 7:00 PM Communion Service	<i>17</i> 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice Dave Meyer	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service w/comm. 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Communion Service Dave & Bev Mueller Dorothy Wergin James Jurgella Max Unke	<i>21</i> 1:00 PM Quilting <i>President's Day</i>	<i>22</i> <i>Washington's Birthday</i>	<i>23</i> 7:00 PM Worship Service Chris Zemple	<i>24</i> 1:00 PM Ladies Aid 7:00 PM Bible Study 7:00 PM Choir Practice Brody Pogantsch	<i>25</i> Kyle Meyer	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i> 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Children's Church 10:15 AM Worship Service Sue Tabat <i>Youth Group Game Day!</i>	<i>28</i> 1:00 PM Quilting Peter Linse					