



The EAGLE CALL

Volume 44, Number 3
March, 2012

Worship

Saturday
5:00 pm

Sunday
7:45 am
8:45 am
11:00 am

Radio Broadcast
KRNT 1350 AM
Sunday Mornings
8:30 am

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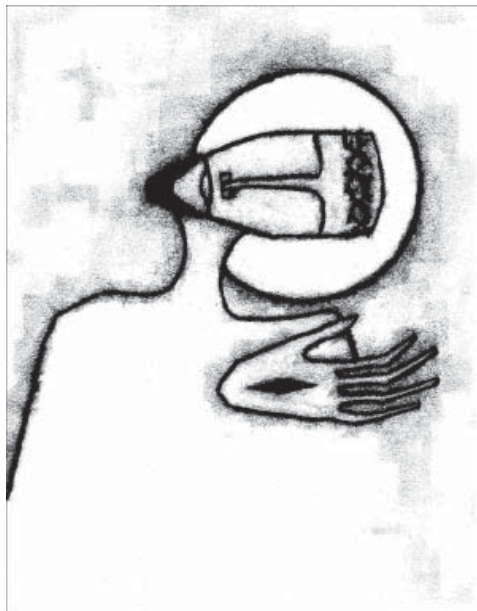
www.stjohnsdsm.org

The Eagle Call is published monthly by St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA 600 6th Ave, Des Moines, Iowa 50309-1606.

Keep Lent

When silence must suffice as praise...
human suffering & the love of God

As people of faith we confess a God of love; yet, we also know that the world is filled with suffering. How do we live in the tension provoked by such knowledge?...During mid-week worship this Lent we will speak candidly of this struggle. Scripture will light our path as we voice questions and fears, pray together, and give thanks that suffering does not have the last word over the people of God.



The Wounded Word © Jan L. Richardson.
janrichardson.com.

Our Lenten topics will include:

- *Putting words to the pain*
- *To be human is to suffer*
- *Sin & suffering*
- *The suffering of God*
- *The community of suffering and hope*

There are two worship opportunities every Wednesday during Lent: 12:05pm and 7pm. The mid-day service is designed so that people who work downtown can participate during their lunch-hour. The evening service is held after our Beloved Community meal at 5:30 and abbreviated classes and choirs at 6:15. Both worship opportunities will be held in the sanctuary, and the evening service includes the use of *Holden Evening Prayer*.

You are encouraged to "keep Lent" with your St. John's community this year – and invite a friend or co-worker to participate, as well.

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St. John's Lutheran Church
In the City for Good!
Phone 515.243.7691

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Office Hours:
Monday – Thursday
9:00 am – 5:00 p.m.,
4:00 p.m. Friday
Saturday
9:00 am – 12:00 p.m.

Next Eagle Call Deadline
March 19 at 12 p.m.



A Word from Our Pastors

Pastor Bob Speirs

**In the morning while it was still very dark, he got up
and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed.**

Mark 1:35

Throughout the Gospels there are numerous passages in which we read that Jesus went off to a lonely or deserted place to pray. These quiet times for Jesus were occasions for reflection, seeking his Father's wisdom and blessing in his own ministry, asking that his disciples be strengthened in their faith and steadfastness, as Jesus knew that the road ahead of them, as Apostles, would be challenging and dangerous. Praying, for Jesus, was not only an expression of the confidence and the love that Jesus had for his Father, but an example for his followers to emulate as well. Jesus did not only pray alone, but prayed quite often in public as well, before meals, before and after his acts of healing, prayed for those he loved and even those who hated him. And Jesus prayed even as he hung on the Cross.

Jesus prayed because he knew that he was dependent on God and wanted to give God all the glory. In John 5:30 we read, "I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me." One writer has suggested that the phrase we hear so often, "What would Jesus do," should instead be "What did Jesus do." Asking the question in this way is essentially to turn the subjectivity of what we think Jesus would do into the objectivity of following the example of what Jesus did. He prayed for, loved and cared for the sinners, the outcast, the poor and sick – loved them so much that he willingly gave his life for their salvation, and ours, too.

We are once again immersed in the season of Lent. It is a time in which we prayerfully reflect on our lives and how we are living in relationship to God and our neighbors around us. In its original form, beginning in the 4th Century, the purpose of Lent was a time set aside for study, preparation and prayer for those who were to be baptized – usually on Easter Sunday – as well as restoration to the community of faith for those who had fallen away. In recent times, Lent has become a time of introspection, penitential prayer and, for many traditions, a focus on self-sacrifice and benevolent giving. Lent is a time for prayer, a time to confess, to admit our vulnerability to the powers of this world and its demands that lead us away from a loving, trusting and dependent relationship with God. It is a time and an opportunity to repent and turn back to God, who always meets us unconditionally, with open and grace-filled arms.

Lent is also the time, as writer and Biblical scholar Walter Brueggemann states, "when we in the church do our heavy lifting and our hard work." It is a time that we follow along with Jesus as he approaches Jerusalem and the powers of evil and darkness that will confront him, as he faces uncertainty and betrayal by his own disciples, the last supper, the interrogation by Pilate, the demands of the people for his crucifixion, the Cross of Good Friday – and ultimately the astonishing and wonderful resurrection of Easter, in which God offers to us his reconciliation, mercy, grace and a life-restoring and eternal relationship with Him. I invite you to take part with us in this Lenten experience as we walk with Jesus through these difficult, yet Holy, days to the joyful and life-changing event of Easter. I hope to see you in church.

Blessings and Peace,
Pastor Bob

Women of the ELCA



Monthly WELCA Meetings

Women of the ELCA will hold their monthly meetings by attending the noon Lenten services on the dates referred to below:

Lois Group will attend the noon Lenten service and lunch together on Wednesday, Feb. 29, with a short business meeting afterward.

Sarah Group will meet at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 7, for its business meeting and then will attend the noon Lenten service and lunch.

Noon Lenten Luncheons to be Served

Lunches are being offered to all who attend Wednesday noon services during Lent. A light lunch of beef-burger or egg-salad sandwich, soup, salad, cookie and drink will be served for \$6 immediately following the service in Weertz Fellowship Hall.

The March outreach for the Women of the ELCA will be for the Des Moines Area Religious Council's food pantry. As always, the congregation is invited to participate. As you may already know, the needs are growing much faster than the available food supply. Cash donations specifically are much appreciated because that allows them to buy needed food at a discounted price (because they can buy in bulk quantities).



We thank ALL of those large-hearted ones who contributed items for the New Directions Center (women's and children's shelter) last month!

Financials

A statement of our financial position can now be obtained in the weekly bulletin or by contacting the church office.

NOTICE: All who give stock or other types of investments to St. John's, please be advised that St. John's has moved its investment portfolio from Ameritrade to Morgan Stanley Smith Barney (MSSB). When gifting please use the following information to make transfers to MSSB: MSSB's DTC number is: 0418. MSSB's account number is: 461-00524-1-9-013. The name on the MSSB account is: St. John's Lutheran Church. Those making a contribution of stocks or other equities, please notify the finance office at financeoffice@stjohnsdsm.org or call 515-243-7691. New rules do not allow brokers to identify donors without prior approval from the donor.

Thank you for your generous and continued support of the ministries of St. John's Lutheran Church.

New Visitation Pastor



Meet Our New Visitation Pastor,
The Rev. Gene Anderson

As you know, Pastor Ramon Runkel retired at the end of 2011 after serving 10 years as St. John's visitation pastor. Upon his retirement, we began to seek a new visitation pastor with a similar passion for pastoral care of those who are confined to their homes or living in care facilities, as well as those hospitalized or in hospice care. I believe that we have found that person in The Rev. Gene Anderson, who began work as our visitation pastor on Feb. 8.

Pastor Anderson recently retired after serving as the senior pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Indianola for 25 years. Born and raised in western Minnesota, Pastor Anderson served congregations in Sioux Falls, SD, and Ackley, IA, prior to his tenure at Redeemer in Indianola. Following retirement, Pastor Anderson began serving as part-time interim pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ottumwa.

We have contracted with Pastor Anderson for 15 hours per week, the same contract that we had with Pastor Runkel. Because of his current commitment in Ottumwa, Pastor Anderson will be working at St. John's on Wednesdays and Thursdays, although his schedule may change once his interim work in Ottumwa comes to an end.

Pastor Anderson may be reached by calling St. John's at 243-7691 or via e-mail at pastorgene@stjohnsdsm.org.

Prepare for Worship

Sunday, March 4, Second Sunday in Lent

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

The readings are Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16, Psalm 22:23-31, Romans 4:13-25 and Mark 8:31-38. The processional litany, "Lord, Save Your People," will be used every Sunday in Lent. The other hymns for March 4 will be ELW 802, "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus," offertory ELW 483, "Here Is Bread," and ELW 325, "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me." Offering and communion music will be provided at 8:45 a.m. by Cantorei and at 11 a.m. by Cathedral Choir.

Sunday, March 11, Third Sunday in Lent

The third covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the central one of Israel's history: the gift of the law to those God freed from slavery. The Ten Commandments are one of the chief parts of Luther's catechism, a core piece of baptism instruction. They begin with the statement that because God alone has freed us from the powers that oppressed us, we are to let nothing else claim first place in our lives. When Jesus throws the merchants out of the temple, he is defending the worship of God alone and rejecting the ways commerce and profit-making can become our gods.

The readings are Exodus 20:1-17, Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 and John 2:13-22. The hymns will be ELW 637, "Holy God, Holy and Glorious," offertory ELW 483, "Here Is Bread" and ELW 722, "Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways." At 8:45 a.m. Kiasa Choristers will provide the offering music, and a flute trio of Ann Strom, Kat and Carol Lunde will play during communion.

Sunday, March 18, Fourth Sunday in Lent

The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: Those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel, Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith, for healing, for restored relationship with God, for hope when we are dying.

The readings are Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22, Ephesians 2:1-10 and John 3:14-21. The hymns will be ELW 666, "What Wondrous Love Is This," offertory ELW 483, "Here Is Bread" and

ELW 342, "There in God's Garden." Offering and communion music at 8:45 a.m. will be provided by Cantorei and Cathedral Choir.

Sunday, March 25, Fifth Sunday in Lent

God promises Jeremiah that a *new covenant* will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's light and truth into our hearts. We see God's heart most clearly in the way Jesus shares human suffering, in an agony both the John and Hebrews readings describe.

The readings are Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 51:1-12, Hebrews 5:5-10 and John 12:20-33. The hymns will be ELW 506, "The Word of God is Source and Seed," offertory ELW 483, "Here Is Bread," and ELW 880, "O God Beyond All Praising." Offering and communion music at 8:45 a.m. will be provided by Asphalt & Stained Glass and at 11 a.m. by Cathedral Choir.

Giving Voice



photo by Scott LaBlanc

LUTHERAN DAY ON THE HILL 3.12.12

Join Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) on March 12, 2012 for Lutheran Day on the Hill in Des Moines. This day is essential in giving a voice to those who are not heard, for seeking social justice and for empowering people to exercise their right and responsibility to be part of the legislative process.

Be part of seeking social justice. Come learn more about advocacy, hear from LSI clients and have the opportunity to talk to your legislators about making sure critical human services are available for children, families and individuals. A representative from ELCA World Hunger will also be present to bring a global perspective to advocacy.

Lutheran Day on the Hill begins at 9:30 a.m. at Elim Christian Fellowship and participants will make their way to the Iowa State Capitol Building after lunch to meet with their legislators. The day typically ends between 2 and 3 p.m.

Bon Ton Roule Recapped



Photos by Jacque Warming

Transfiguration Sunday



Small Groups

Questions? Contact Darla Stiles, Small Groups Coordinator
243.7691 or darlastiles@stjohnsdsm.org

CALENDAR

WIRED Yoga: Thursday, March 1, 5:45 p.m., Fireside Lounge at church. Contact Corinne Lambert, callingwisdom1@hotmail.com (556-3679).

St. John's Social Club (formerly known as Couples/Singles): A Night at the Museum youth auction, Friday, March 2, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., Iowa State Historical Building.

Saturday Morning Bible Study: Saturdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 8:30 a.m. Location to be announced. Contact Ellen Fisher, ellenfisher123@yahoo.com or Rod Snavelly, rsnavely@aol.com.

Quilting: Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m., Room 308 at church.

EAGLES: Monday, March 12 (time to be announced). Meet at church for a tour of local churches.

St. John's Networking Group: Monday, March 12, 5:30 p.m., Gateway Market. Contact Ellen Fisher, ellenfisher123@yahoo.com (274-5236).

WIRED Night Out: Monday, March 12, 7 p.m., Jacque Warming's house. Party theme: "My Favorite Things."

Hardanger: Wednesdays, March 14 and 28, 9 a.m., Neumann Hall at church.

Lunch Bunch I: Thursday, March 15, 11:30 a.m.

3D: Wednesday, March 21, 10 a.m.

Lunch Bunch II: Wednesday, March 21, 12:30 a.m.

Scrapbooking: Saturday, March 24, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Room 8 at church.

Photography: Sunday, March 25, 10 a.m., Neumann Hall at church. Theme: architecture.

Recreational Reading: Wednesday, March 28, 4:30 p.m., Rose Holm at church.

Keep up to date with all events by subscribing to our weekly email newsletter (sign up on the homepage of our website) or keep an eye on www.stjohnsdsm.org

Coming up:

St. John's Social Club (formerly Couples/Singles) will support the youth by attending A Night at the Museum youth auction on March 2 as their activity this month. It will be held Friday, March 2, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Iowa State Historical Building.

Quilting Group meets on Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m. in Room 308 at church. Anyone interested in quilting, tying or learning how is welcome.

Saturday Morning Bible Study will meet Saturdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, at 8:30 a.m. Contact one of the facilitators for the location: Ellen Fisher at ellenfisher123@yahoo.com or 250-9916 or Rod Snavelly at rsnavely@aol.com.

EAGLES will meet at church Monday, March 12 (time to be announced later), to carpool to area churches for a tour of churches. At this point, the churches to visit are Plymouth Congregational, First Unitarian, First Federated and

Corinthian Baptist. Lunch plans will be announced later. RSVP to Janie Clemenson at curtjane@mchsi.com or 274-0924.

St. John's Networking Group will meet Monday, March 12, 5:30 p.m. at Gateway Market. The Networking Group is open to all — those who have a job, those who are looking for a job or people who just want to enjoy some good conversation! Contact is Ellen Fisher at ellenfisher123@yahoo.com or 274-5236.

Hardanger will meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, March 14 and 28, at 9 a.m. in Neumann Hall. If you have questions, contact Arlene Field at 964-3363 or fjeldt@q.com.

Lunch Bunch I will meet Thursday, March 15, at 11:30 a.m. Anyone who is interested in joining the group should call Margaret Roby at 288-6304 to reserve a space. New members are most welcome!

Lunch Bunch II will meet Wednesday, March 21, at 12:30 a.m. If you are interested in joining this group, call Janet Figg at 279-6326.

3D will meet Wednesday, March 21, at 10 a.m.

Scrapbooking will meet Saturday, March 24, at 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Room 8 at church. Bring pictures and materials to scrap. Anyone who is interested in scrapbooking is welcome.

Photography will meet Sunday, March 25, at 10 a.m. in Neumann Hall at church. Bring a couple of photos depicting architecture.

Recreational Reading will meet Wednesday, March 28, at 4:30 p.m. in Rose Holm at church. We will read and discuss Still Alice, by Lisa Genova. If you have questions, contact Carol MacDonald at macpac00@mchsi.com.

DID YOU KNOW?

St. John's offers Wi-Fi from Weertz to DDI. Just look for the STJOHNS wireless network and use 'inthecity' for the passcode.



Get WIRED!

WIRED Small Groups activities are currently being planned. Watch the bulletin for more information.

WIRED Women's Night Out will meet Monday, March 12, at 7 p.m. for a "My Favorite Things" party at Jacque Warming's house. If you are interested or have a question, call or e-mail Jacque Warming at 225-7534 or jrwarming@msn.com or Darla Stiles at 243-7691 or darlastiles@stjohnsdsm.org.

WIRED Yoga will continue with the last night of the current session on Thursday, March 1, at 5:45 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge. If you have questions, contact instructor Corinne Lambert at callingwisdom1@hotmail.com or 556-3679.



March Artist



Our March Artist of the Month is **Martha Rhoades**, a watercolor and pastel artist living on the south side of Des Moines. For many years she considered herself primarily a portrait painter, always working hard to capture the essences of the person in her paintings. You will note in her paintings now on display in Weertz Fellowship Hall that she has expanded her interests and now also enjoys painting vivid florals and landscapes.

Spring Cleaning



March 24 is the date set for our annual spring cleaning to prepare for our Easter celebration. As we continue to be fiscally conservative, we ask members to step up and assist in periodic projects. For many years, the same (wonderfully!) reliable people have offered their services. Please consider giving of your time on that March morning. It is a great

opportunity for families to serve together and sets a great example for the children.

We will begin at 9:00 a.m. The more who help, the faster it goes; last year it took about two hours. All supplies (and food incentives!) are provided. To offer your assistance, please call Katie at 243-7691 or send an email, katiel@stjohnsdsm.org. Thank you!

Benefit Concert

Benefit Concert for Japan: Earthquake & Tsunami Relief

The Friends of the Arts at St. John's ministry team will sponsor a special benefit concert here for victims of the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster in northeast Japan on Sunday, March 11, at 4 p.m. It has been over a year since this catastrophe, and yet thousands are still without homes.

The concert will feature the *Drake String Ensemble* conducted by Akira Mori. Guest soprano soloist for the concert is Momoko Tanno accompanied by trumpeter Takako Seimiya Senn. The concert will include Japanese folk songs arranged by Professor Mori as well as some Bach. There is no admission charge; there will be an opportunity for a free-will offering.

Although gone from the headlines, the human suffering in Japan goes on. Whole towns have disappeared or are uninhabitable. People are still living in school gymnasiums and other large spaces with only cardboard for privacy. Livelihoods, neighborhoods, family businesses, relationships and loved ones vanished in minutes never to be replaced.

Our need to show compassion and solidarity with our brothers and sisters on the other side of the globe also continues; it should include our prayers and support as well as our financial donations.



Children's Ministries

March Sunday School Schedule

March 4 - Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Discuss these questions with your child:

- Have you ever shown kindness to someone who wasn't very nice to you? What happened?
- Why do you think Jesus started talking to Zacchaeus?
- How do you think the other people felt when Jesus talked with Zacchaeus?

March 11 - The Last Supper (John 13:1-20)

Talk about these questions with your child:

- How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus told them he would be gone soon?
- How do you feel when you see or receive communion?
- What other promises did God make with his people in the Bible?

March 18 - Paying Taxes (Matthew 22:15-22)

Multi-Age Sunday School in Room 205 - Steve King will create an illustration while the "paying taxes" Bible story is told. This special Sunday School will include singing, stories and active learning for all ages.

Discuss these questions with your child:

- If we look like God, does that mean we are God?
- How can each of us look like God when we all look so different?
- Why would it be nice to know what God looks like?

March 25 - Be Humble (Matthew 23:1-12)

Multi-Age Sunday School in Room 205 - This special Sunday School will include singing, stories and active learning for all ages.

Talk about these questions with your child:

- Is it okay to be noticed for the right reasons?
- Why do we want to be noticed?
- How does it feel when someone else gets all the attention?

Youth Ministries

Thanks to Supporters of Youth Fundraiser

Thank you to EVERYONE who supported the youth fundraising auction in some way! Specific details about the event will be provided in next month's Eagle Call!

Ready for a Week of Crazy Fun?

Attention all middle school students (sixth through eighth graders)! We will be attending Lutheran Lakeside Camp in Spirit Lake, IA, on East Lake Okoboji the week of June 24 to 29. We would like all St. John's middle school students to attend, if possible. There will not be a middle school mission trip this summer due to the timing of the ELCA National Youth Gathering, so please take this opportunity to attend camp. For more information, contact Megan Clausen at meganc@stjohnsdsm.org or Pastor Bob Speirs at pastorbob@stjohnsdsm.org.

St. John's Plant Sale

Yes, it's that time again! Be sure to place your orders for the St. John's youth plant sale. All plants are purchased from Central Iowa Floral. Order forms are available at the reception desk in St. John's front office and on the next page. The plants will be available for pick-up on Saturday, May 5, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the north parking lot at St. John's. Contact Megan Clausen with any questions meganc@stjohnsdsm.org or 243-7691.

Cookie Fundraiser



St. John's Lutheran Church Plant Sale 2012



Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Please prepay orders. Make checks available to **St. John's Lutheran Church with Plant Sale in the memo line**
ALL ORDERS ARE DUE BY SUNDAY APRIL 1st. Plants will be available for pick-up from 10am – 12pm in the north parking lot at St. John's on Saturday, May 5th, 2012.

Bedding Plants	Red	White	Pink	Blue	Mixed	# of plants	Price	Total
Petunias - Flat							\$18.00	
Petunias - 4 Pak							\$2.00	
Impatiens - Flat							\$18.00	
Impatiens - 4 Pak							\$2.00	
Wax Begonias - Flat							\$18.00	
Wax Begonias - 4 Pak							\$2.00	
Pansy - Flat							\$18.00	
Pansy - 4 Pak							\$2.00	
Bedding Plants	Yellow	Orange	2 Tone			# of plants	Price	Total
Dwarf Marigolds - Flat							\$18.00	
Dwarf Marigolds - 4 Pak							\$2.00	
Pots	Red	White	Pink	Salmon	Violet	# of plants	Price	Total
Geraniums 4 1/2"							\$4.50	
Geraniums 7"							\$12.00	
Pots	Red	White	Pink	Orange	Lilac	# of plants	Price	Total
Hybrid Impatiens 4 1/2"							\$4.50	
Hybrid Impatiens 6" (terra cotta pot w/ saucer)							\$8.00	
Hybrid Impatiens 10" (terra cotta pot w/ saucer)							\$20.00	
Accent Plants						# of plants	Price	Total
Sweet Potato Vine - Dark Purple 4 1/2" pot							\$5.00	
Sweet Potato Vine - Lime Green 4 1/2" pot							\$5.00	
Hosta - Green 6" pot							\$8.00	
Hosta - Variegated 6" pot							\$8.00	
Purple Plume Grass 6" pot							\$8.00	
Spikes 3" pot							\$2.50	
Vinca Vine 3" pot							\$2.50	
Asparagus Fern 3" pot							\$2.50	
Hanging Baskets						# of plants	Price	Total
	Red	Pink	Orange	White	Lilac			
Hybrid Impatiens							\$21.00	
	Red	Pink	Purple	White				
Ivy Geranium							\$21.00	
	Red	Pink	Dk Blue					
Mini Petunia							\$21.00	
	Pink	Purple						
Wavy Petunia							\$21.00	
Asparagus Fern							\$21.00	
Fuchsia							\$21.00	
						# of plants	Grand Total	
Order Total								

Hospitality & Outreach



Welcome to St. John's
Newest Members:

What a Friendly Group
They Are!

We are pleased to welcome the January class of new St. John's members. Their pictures are below, and information is provided to help us all get to know them. Current members – please introduce yourselves! Take the initiative: Invite them to join your favorite outreach ministry, social gathering, educational group or weekend service. Help introduce them around and make them feel welcome!



Olga Beglet and Brian Reding reside in Des Moines and are to be married at St. John's this fall. Olga comes to our area from Moldova, a small country near Romania and the Ukraine. She is

an executive mortgage specialist at Wells Fargo Home Mortgage. For relaxation and fun, she is into running, drawing, painting and photography. Olga was attracted to St. John's by the community and the location. Brian is also joining our faith community.



Kelly Hill is also employed by Wells Fargo Home Mortgage as a home preservation specialist. To fulfill her creative side, she is owner and a photographer for RKK Photography. Kelly

lives in Urbandale and is interested in travel, photography and golf. Her significant other is in the military and currently stationed in Alaska. She visited there in October and is possibly considering a move. (Let's try to convince her to stay!) She came to St. John's from Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines and has found a spirit of community at St. John's.

Katie and Tanner Whipple basically joined St. John's before they joined! They serve as Sunday School teachers for Children's Ministry. Katie is employed at Central College as a coordinator for a



federal grant program entitled Educational Talent Search. She enjoys running, cooking, reading and family. Pleasant Hill is home to Katie and Tanner where he works for Life-Line Resources as an in-home counselor geared toward skill-building. Tanner's interests include sports, being outdoors and active, cooking and working with kids and families. Katie feels St. John's is very welcoming and appreciates the opportunities for involvement. Tanner said, "I felt wanted and loved from the first time I stepped in the door!"



Dan O'Donnell, a long-time Des Moines resident, joined St. John's because his wife, Kris, is an involved member. Dan is operations manager at O'Donnell Ace Hardware and enjoys sports and woodworking.



Carrie Schinstock makes her home in West Des Moines with her son, Robbie. Originally from southeast Iowa, Carrie moved here from Rochester, Minn., this past July. She is a doctor with Iowa Kidney Physicians. In her free time (what free time?!), she enjoys cooking, reading and gardening. She was attracted to St. John's by the welcoming atmosphere and traditional worship service. She is looking forward to getting involved with Social Ministry.



Kevin and Mona Ulmer come to us from a Presbyterian background. Kevin is a retired banker who enjoys running, reading, current events and family – although not necessarily in that order! Mona is a retired nurse who takes pleasure in family, reading and crafts. They started listening to the St. John's radio broadcasts and now worship with us at the 8:45 a.m. Sunday service. They make their home in Pleasant Hill.

What a compliment to St. John's spirit of community.

Keep up the spirit of hospitality!



SEND US YOUR PHOTOS

Do you have photos from a St. John's event or group activity? Do you have a photo that says "St. John's"?

If so, send them to scottl@stjohnsdsm.org or drop them off at the church office. You never know, you may end up in the next issue of the Eagle Call.

In the City (and World) for Good!



This month we want to share information from the ELCA regarding our special Lenten offering opportunity, the ELCA Malaria Campaign...

Malaria is a leading cause of death in Africa. It claims the life of a child every 45 seconds. The 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly voted to approve the ELCA Malaria Campaign to help eliminate deaths from this disease—for good.

Why malaria? Just one bite from an infected mosquito is all it takes for a person to come down with malaria. Almost 800,000 people die of malaria each year. But it shouldn't be this way. We know what it takes to stop malaria. The disease is completely preventable and treatable.

Why us? Working as a church, through churches in Africa, we already have the structure in place to reach individuals and communities that other organizations cannot reach. We already have health care providers trained to make a difference.

Why now? Ending deaths from malaria is now a goal within our reach, thanks to a global movement of governments and international organizations. The ELCA and Lutheran churches in Africa are now part of this historic effort.

What's next? We need your help. Your prayers, your leadership and your generous donations are needed to meet our fundraising goal of \$15 million by 2015. Learn more at www.elca.org/malaria.

Your contributions, when combined with those of other ELCA congregations and our companion churches in Africa, will provide mosquito nets, insecticides, medication, mosquito control and comprehensive health education to help fight malaria.

There are offering envelopes available to you for your Lenten gift to the ELCA Malaria Campaign. You will find them throughout the narthex. You may make your check out to St. John's and write "malaria" in the memo line. Our goal for St. John's participation in this campaign is \$3,000.

LSI Update

A passion for changing lives

National Social Work Month is a time to celebrate social workers and the services they provide to children, families and individuals. The men and women in this field of work are unsung heroes in our society. They bring hope to people in their darkest times and help make our communities better places to live: one person, one child and one family at a time.



Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) is proud to have so many dedicated workers who bring life changing services to people in need. Without the dedication, passion and commitment of its social workers, LSI could not carry out its mission of responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. Your valued partnership in support and prayer is what ensures LSI and its devoted employees can continue to help change lives for the better.

For more information on LSI, visit www.LSIowa.org. Join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

"I had no idea they would do so much"

Jean Goodman has always been an independent-minded woman.

But after using a wheelchair for four years and dealing with ongoing health issues, she knew she needed an extra hand.

"I knew I couldn't do it all," she said. "I had to have some help."

After a poor experience with her first home health care agency, Jean decided to call LSI, being familiar with the agency through her Lutheran roots.

"When I got LSI, it was almost a miracle," she said. "It was so different I couldn't believe it. I had no idea they would do so much."

"It just means so much to me that I have someone I can depend on."

Once a week, Jean's home health aide Kim comes to assist her with homemaking. An LSI nurse also visits Jean regularly for skilled nursing, sometimes as often as twice a week if needed. When Jean was in and out of the hospital, LSI checked in with her regularly.

"Some people just do what they have to do. These people always go beyond that," Jean said.

Jean recently moved to a new cottage this past autumn, and LSI's home health care team is right beside her to help her make a smooth transition.

"I don't know what I'd do without it," Jean said. "I'm so thankful I have it every day."



WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE EAGLE CALL? E-mail businessoffice@stjohnsdsm.org and request the eEagle Call. Help us save on the cost of postage, use less paper, and see each issue in **FULL COLOR**.

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A NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

4TH ANNUAL YOUTH FUNDRAISING AUCTION

march 2nd, 2012 | 6:30pm | state historical building

MORE INFORMATION AT WWW.STJOHNSDSM.ORG

APRIL EAGLE CALL DEADLINE

The deadline for all Eagle Call information is **Tuesday, March 19, 2012**. *This is one week earlier than normal.* Please send information or articles in digital format if possible, to Scott LaBlanc, scottl@stjohnsdsm.org. If you cannot send it by e-mail, drop it off at the church office. Thank you!