

THE VOICE

St. John is called by Christ to be a Sanctuary That Welcomes and Serves All

March 2022

The season of Lent is an opportunity to reflect on our lives and our relationships with others. You might have noticed that I made no mention of God within the first sentence. With that said who are the relationships that you might focus on? Spouse, family members, friends, neighbors, the deceased, clients, those at St. John?

Would you consider strangers or those you might see but not really know? Would you consider the folks in war torn areas like Ukraine, Algeria, Chad, Mozambique or Tunisia? Would you consider including those living in poverty and or suffering from oppression here at home?

As you reflect on this list does your attitude shift? If so how and why?

What and whom have I missed? Please don't say God.

Beyond these relationships, how do you want the world to see you? Is there only one you or are there many different faces of you that might be shared with different groups or situations? If so, why?

In the end, in that time between dust and dust, our life is a measure of the quality of relationships we experience with those mentioned above. Now, where is God in all of this? I would suggest, God is everywhere in all of this.

Can we see God's presence in all that has been stated? If not, why or why not? If it is hard to see God in everything just mentioned, pray for the very eyes to see. Every person every where is worthy of God's love though the power of shalom.

So, all of this starts with you. Do you know that you are loved beyond measure? Do you know that you have been gifted with the power to experience God's peace and share it with others? Do you know that as you travel into the depths of God's peace that you are protected?

Before any great journey of ministry Jesus would always say to his disciples, "Fear Not." If you choose to explore this journey, know that you are in my prayers. If you would like to talk, please do not hesitate to give me a call at 248-207-1312. If now is not the time to take this journey of reflection, the right time will come, or maybe you have already taken this journey.

In any event, I am so grateful to be your pastor and pray, during this season of Lent that you will be uniquely blessed by the various gifts that can be found in a life of faith.

Peace be with you,

Pastor Mark



Welcome to the season of Lent. You are invited to journey with Jesus, to be encouraged and challenged by his ministry and teaching, and to be renewed through his "passover" from death to life through a variety of offerings here at St. John.

Throughout the season of Lent, MONDAY MIDDAY MEDITATION AND PRAYER, a unique, intimate weekday opportunity to worship in the Taizé tradition, will be offered. Each gathering will focus on one of the divine attributes drawn from the Sunday gospel texts for Lent, namely, faithfulness, mercy, compassion, forgiveness, and love, and will include devotional readings, prayer and silence as well as hymns of the passion and the chants of the Taizé community.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS WHEREVER will host conversations about selected passages of scripture each week using a practice called *Lectio Divina* ("Divine Reading"). Traditionally, *Lectio Divina* has four separate steps: read, meditate, pray, and contemplate. Repeated readings of a scriptural passage will focus on the following questions: 1) What word or phrase jumped out? 2) What thought or reflection came to mind? 3) How will I respond in prayer? 4) In reflective silence, what else might God be saying to me?

In addition, THURSDAY BIBLE STUDIES will focus on the scripture readings for the Sundays that follow.

May the Holy Spirit guide each of us on our journey.

Michael Burkhardt
Director of Worship and Music



Prayer Shawls for All!

Did you know that it takes approximately 600 yards of yarn to make a prayer shawl? That's a lot of yarn! Members of our Prayer Shawl Ministry get together from 1:00-3:00 pm on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month for fellowship and to create the warm shawls for anyone who would like one.

If you knit or crochet, the group would welcome your company and talent. If you've never done either but think you'd like to give one (or both!) a try, they'll happily show you how. If you're not much for handiwork but would still like to help,

you might consider participating by donating yarn. (Yarn must be made of acrylic.)

If you or someone you know would find comfort in wrapping up in a shawl made with love and prayers, it's yours for the asking. To request a shawl or for more information on the ministry, please contact Catherine Federspill at 248-476-3895 or cfederspill@mi.rr.com.





The Journey Begins

Lent is here and St. John offers many opportunities for you to worship, pray, reflect and learn on the journey. Pick up your **"Prayers for the Journey"** booklet at church or use the link in the eNews or at stjohn-elca.org to print your own.

Ash Wednesday

March 2 @ 7:00 pm

- Worship with Imposition of Ashes
- in the sanctuary, on Zoom and Facebook

Sundays in Lent

March 6-April 10 @ 10:00 am

- Worship with Children's Message series
- in the sanctuary, on Zoom and Facebook



Mondays

March 7-April 4 @ 1:00 pm

- Monday Mid-day Meditation and Prayer (Worship) in the Taizé Tradition
- in the sanctuary chancel

Wednesdays

March 9-April 6 @ 7:00 pm

- Wednesday Nights Wherever: A Look at Stories from the Gospel of Luke
- on Zoom

Thursdays

March 3-April 7 @ 10:30 a.m.

- Thursday Bible Study: A look at the scripture readings for upcoming Sunday Worship
- in the conference room

COFFEE HOUR HOST/HOESSTESS NEEDED

We have resumed Coffee Hour and we would like to have more volunteers be a host/hostess. If you are interested but don't want to host alone, perhaps you could ask a friend to help you. We will show you where the supplies are kept and how to set up and clean up.

If you would like to volunteer or need more information, please call me at

248-474-8521

Joanne Hagen



\$6

Pasty Making and Sales Saturday March 12

To place your order or for more information Contact Donna Bosanko @tbosanko1@hotmail.com



\$6

God's Garden March Schedule

Winter is winding down, the time has come to get to work in the garden once again. We will be building a bin for compost, re-configuring and installing garden beds, sowing some seeds....

Monday Afternoons

weather permitting

3:00 - 5:00

March 14th

March 21st

March 28th

Additional work days to be scheduled as needed.

Many garden tools available (including quality kid sized tools). Please bring your own gloves and a water bottle. Dress appropriately for the weather and wear sunscreen.



A growing ministry of St. John Lutheran Church, Farmington Hills. The God's Garden ministry focuses on **care for others** - by growing produce to share with local organizations addressing food security, **care for creation** - by focusing on and teaching growing practices that sustain and support life rather than harm, and **care of self** - by exploring and promoting the therapeutic benefits of gardening.

Other ways to get involved:

Start some seeds

Check the February Voice for details.

Spread the word

Tell your friends, neighbors, acquaintances about what's going on at God's Garden. Like and share the God's Garden Facebook page.

Sponsor the garden

As little as \$5 can buy hundreds of seeds!
\$25 can buy some starter plants, like strawberries!
\$50 can help us enrich the soil with compost!
\$100 can fund a whole bed for the season!

March

3/2 Andy Kurmas

3/4 Joe Casaroll

3/5 Theodore Barrett

3/10 Amanda Blaker

3/11 Nancy Musat

3/13 Marlou Grudt

3/14 John Dresden III

Linda Marshall

3/21 Pat Gransee

3/21 Lillian Niemi

Don Stauffer

3/22 Chris Fischer

Larry Urevig

3/23 Mary Galloway

3/24 Barbara Eskelinen

3/25 Michael Burkhardt

3/31 Virginia Moore



Pastor Mark and Ashleigh will host a conversation about selected passages of scripture each week of Lent, using a method called Lectio Divina. What might sound scary or too mystical is really pretty simple. A passage of scripture will be read each week, four times, each with a different focus:

First Reading - What word or phrase caught your attention?

Second Reading - What thought or reflection came to mind?

Third Reading - What prayer might you have that expresses your feelings about the passage?

Fourth Reading - In your silence is there anything else that comes to mind?

This approach creates wonderful conversation and interesting personal insights that lead to a stronger appreciation of scripture and each other.

Get the link in the eNews or on the St. John webpage.



**Join us for
discussion
and
fellowship on
Zoom,
Wednesday
nights at 7:00.**



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

Members:

Eugene Kohli; Beverly Gerhardt; Don Stauffer; Toni Lewis; Diane Stanton; Janet Caudle; Lois Makee; Earl Hagen; Mary Galloway; Marlou & Jim Grudt; Chris Janik; Diana Canup; Ward Varns; Eva Paulson; Dick Rudorffer; Audrey Riley; Ellen Zatolokin; Delores Winquist; Carol Sterling; Selma Ballach; Eunice Gould; Tammy Kilpatrick; Lillian Niemi; Jodi Oulette.

Friends, and Family:

Piper Ellis, Kristin Stoneback, Jane Borsvold, Cindy & Mark Borsvold (Sailus); Erin Cameron; Zach Taylor; Patty & Pete Herman, (Brundage); Kyle Soderlund, (Fisher); Loretta Zahn (Oates); Marshall & Jessie Anderson (Bosanko); Steve Kramer;

Barry Shiek (Henkel); Judy Wiessbock, Courtney Dimiceli (Wiessbock); Val Blanchett (Fisher); Jaden Henkel; Mark Copp (Fisher); Pr. Lauren Kirsh-Carr; Virginia Kincaide (Kincaide); Sue Jennings (Fisher); Jean Nelson (Nieysto); Cheryl Cottongin; Mardee Thomas, (Galloway); Rosalind McLendan (Dale); Mary Rellinger (Switzer); Nancy Kowalski (Niesyto); Carol Collins (sister of Earl Hagen); Jeffrey Wetzel (Merrell).



Serving in the Military including overseas:

Jacob Stanton

Please send prayer list updates to the church office at om@stjohn-elca.org. Many Thanks to Pat Gransee for sending out cards to the people on our prayer concerns list. If you have someone on the list to whom you would like a card sent,

REGISTRATION OPEN

hearts, hands and voices
Worship and Fine Arts
SUMMER CAMP
August 8-11, 2022
9 a. m. – 3 p.m.



St. John Lutheran Church
23225 Gill Rd
Farmington Hills, MI

info@heartshandsvoices.org
www.heartshandsvoices.org

M A R C H 2 0 2 2

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Church Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9:30am—3:30pm</p> <p>For most to date calendar information see online calendar at http://www.stjohn-elca.org/calendar</p>		<p>1</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p> <p>6p Farmington Soccer</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>10:30p SJ Staff Meeting</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>5p Ash Wednesday Service</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p> <p>10:30a Bible Academy</p> <p>6p Chancel Bells</p> <p>7p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9a WAZA Track</p>
<p>6</p> <p>10a Worship</p> <p>12p Succoth Church</p> <p>4p AA</p>	<p>7</p> <p>1p Mid day Meditation and Prayer</p> <p>4:30p HHAV</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p> <p>1p Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>6p Leadership Team mtg</p> <p>6p Farmington Soccer</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>10:30p SJ Staff Meeting</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p WNW</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p> <p>10:30a Bible Academy</p> <p>6p Chancel Bells</p> <p>7p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>11</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>4p Pasty set up</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7a Pasty Making</p> <p>9a WAZA Track</p>
<p>13</p> <p>10a Worship</p> <p>12:30p Succoth Church</p> <p>4p AA</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11a Calling Team Meeting</p> <p>1p Mid day Meditation and Prayer</p> <p>3p Gods Garden</p> <p>4:30p HHAV</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>10:30p SJ Staff Meeting</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p WNW</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p> <p>10:30a Bible Academy</p> <p>6p Chancel Bells</p> <p>7p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9a WAZA Track</p>
<p>20</p> <p>10a Worship</p> <p>12:30p Succoth Church</p> <p>4p AA</p>	<p>21</p> <p>1p Mid day Meditation and Prayer</p> <p>3p Gods Garden</p> <p>4:30p HHAV</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p> <p>1p Prayer Shawl Ministry</p> <p>7p St John Board</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>10:30p SJ Staff Meeting</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p WNW</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8a RA Hybrid</p> <p>10:30a Bible Academy</p> <p>6p Chancel Bells</p> <p>7p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Voice Articles due!</p> <p>8a RHG</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9a WAZA Track</p>
<p>27</p> <p>10a Worship</p> <p>12:30p Succoth Church</p> <p>4p AA</p>	<p>28</p> <p>1p Mid day Meditation and Prayer</p> <p>3p Gods Garden</p> <p>4:30p HHAV</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>10:30p SJ Staff Meeting</p> <p>6p WAZA Track</p> <p>7p WNW</p> <p>7p Succoth Church</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8a Men's Breakfast</p> <p>10:30a Bible Academy</p> <p>6p Chancel Bells</p> <p>7p Chancel Choir</p>	<p>Calendar key: WNW = Wednesday Nights Wherever' RA = Renaissance Academy; RHG = Renaissance Home-school Group; HHAV =Hearts, Hands, and Voices; BAC= Bethlehem Activity Center Bold Print= St John activities</p>	



ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN CHURCH

23225 Gill Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48335
248-474-0584 email: om@stjohn-elca.org
www.stjohn-elca.org

STAFF

Pastor
Office Manager
Director of Mission Advancement
Director of Worship and Music
Handbell Choir

Rev. Dr. Mark Fisher
Marie Cook
Ashleigh Altemann
Dr. Michael Burkhardt
JoAnn Adams

BOARD MEMBERS

Gilda Bingham
Tom Bosanko
John Dresden
Nancy Janik
Glen Ming
Mark Switzer

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Worship and Music
Spiritual Development and Outreach
Mission Advancement
Member Care
Young Families and Children
Stewardship Of Resources
Facility Needs
Communications

Dr. Michael Burkhardt
Kevin O'Brien
Ashleigh Altemann
Kris O'Brien
Karen Boczkaja
Dave Androvich
Wolfgang Henkel
Elaine Pearson

The Staff at St. John is here to serve you. If you have questions or concerns, please give us a call; we will be happy to talk to you

This issue was mailed on March 3, 2022

Non-Profit Org.
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
Farmington Hills, MI
Permit No. 220

And / or Current resident