

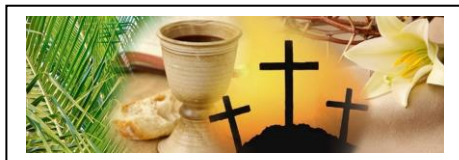


THE VINE

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church & School Newsletter

APRIL 2022

"Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ, His followers, and His world."



Holy Week as St. John's

During Holy Week (April 10-17), we follow Jesus from His arrival in Jerusalem to His rising from the grave. These are the events by which we are saved, and are the source of our hope. May God bless our St. John's community as we journey to the cross and empty tomb!

Palm Sunday (April 10, 9:30 AM)

We celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We will begin worship in the Faith Chapel (weather permitting) and process with palm branches into the sanctuary. As the service continues, our attention shifts from the entry into Jerusalem to the upcoming Passion of our Lord, culminating in the cross. The Gospel of the Passion will be read in Dramatic Narrative format. The Choraliers will be singing a Palm Sunday anthem as well as a choral benediction. This will be a Communion service.

Maundy Thursday (April 14, 7:00 PM)

We join Jesus and His disciples in the upper room as they gather to celebrate the Passover. During the course of this meal, Jesus will transform the Passover to what we celebrate today as Holy Communion. The service will conclude with the "stripping of the altar," a symbolic commemoration of Jesus' humiliation on His way to the cross. We will also be celebrating with eight young people who will be making their First Communion.

Good Friday (April 15, 7:00 PM)

We celebrate the death of our Savior. This will be a Tenebrae service, the gradual darkening of the sanctuary as we anticipate Jesus' death. We will journey with Jesus to the cross and tomb through readings from the Gospels, songs and hymns.

Easter Vigil (April 16, 8:00 PM)

We wait outside the tomb, waiting for the announcement of resurrection, reviewing the story of salvation from the creation to the resurrection. The service begins in the Faith Chapel with the service of light, and then processes into the sanctuary by candlelight. We conclude with the church fully lighted as we celebrate the resurrection.

Easter Sunday (April 17, 8:30 and 10:30 AM)

We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. There will be two Communion services on Easter with Pastor Mark Heine as our guest preacher. The 8:30 service will be a traditional service in the Sanctuary with choir and organ. The 10:30 service will be in the Faith Chapel with the band. ***Please note that only the 8:30 Easter service will be streamed.***

Please Join Us For Easter Breakfast!

Where: St. John's Lutheran Parish Hall
When: 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Sunday, April 17, 2020
Sponsored by: St. John's Lutheran Youth

Our Menu:

Egg Bake Casserole
Assorted Pastries
Fresh Fruit
Assorted Juices
Milk, Coffee and Tea



Free Will Donation:

All proceeds from this year's breakfast will support our youth budget including the LCMS National Youth Gathering & the CNH Jr. District Youth Gathering.

"Give what you have decided in your hearts to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."



This year is also a LCMS National Youth Gathering year. We have a few high school youth heading to Houston, Texas in July. Please join us in praying for them as we prepare for our trip. There will also be some opportunities for financial support of this trip.

Since the NYG is only available for those in High School we have an opportunity, sponsored by our CNH District, to attend a District Youth Gathering with our middle school students. This event will take place on June 24-26th for 7th & 8th graders.

VBS IS BACK!!

This year we will be hitting the Rocky Railway as we find that God's power pulls us through. St. John's will host VBS here on our campus June 20-24th. We can't wait to share the good news of Jesus with all of the kids that come, but we can't do it without help from y'all. **Volunteers are much needed to make this ministry possible. VBS will take place June 20-24 from 9am- Noon. [Click here to Register!](https://www.myvbs.org/stjohnslutherannapa)**

<https://www.myvbs.org/stjohnslutherannapa>

For anything youth ministry related please contact Kevin Mathison.



OFFERING UPDATE

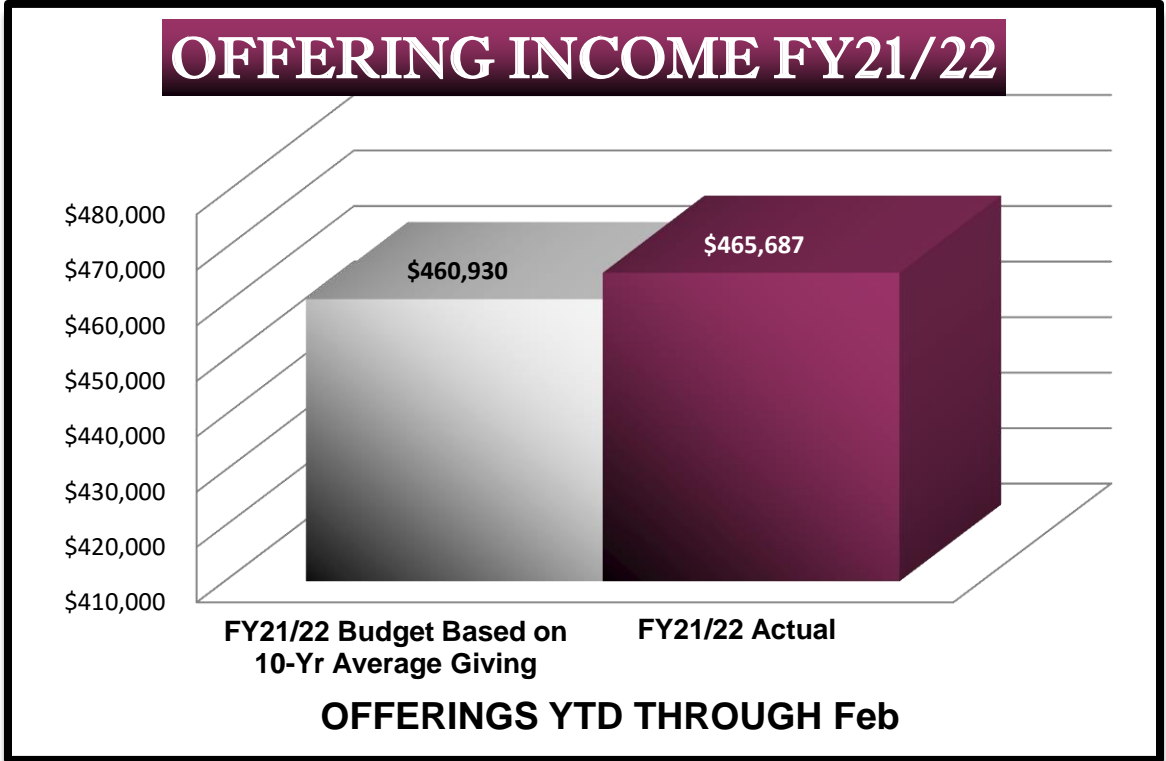
Actual Offering Income for Feb:

\$48,330.

Total Offerings for FY21/22 (as of 28 Feb 22):

\$465,687 which is **1.03%** or **\$4,757** over our budgeted offering income.

Total expenses are in line with our budget and we paid all bills received. *The budget amount shown below is based on the ten-year average offering received for that time period.



Meditation:

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.” (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)(ESV)

Our Savior

On Easter Sunday, we celebrate and rejoice in the resurrection from the dead of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. On our behalf, Jesus willingly went to the cross to redeem us from sin and death. *“Greater love has no one than this shown that He lay down His life for His friends”* (John 15:13). With the suffering and agony of the crucifixion, Jesus has

“destroyed the devil’s work” (1 John 3:8). In His resurrection, He has given us victory over sin and death. Alleluia, He is Risen!

As we consider all that the Lord Jesus Christ did for us on the cross of Calvary and in His resurrection, we are compelled to love, honor, and serve Him. The Apostle Paul wrote, *“And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him Who died for them and was raised again”* (2 Corinthians 5:15). In the words of Martin Luther, “Christ has redeemed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil in order that I might be His own and serve Him.” As stewards, we respond to the love shown on Calvary because “love so amazing, so divine—demands my soul, my life, my all.”

When we give faithfully of our time, talents, and treasures, we demonstrate our love for our Heavenly Father. *“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”* (Romans 5:8).

On Easter Sunday, we consider the best gift given to us by our Redeemer and we praise Jesus for our salvation. Alleluia, He is risen indeed!

Prayer:

Dear Lord, You have taken away the sting of death through Your death and resurrection. You have given me a new victorious life to live in You each day. Keep me steadfast in faith until the end and use me to spread the Good News of victory in Jesus. In His name I pray. Amen.

Adapted from *“12 Months of Congregational Stewardship”* by Ronald J. and Phyllis J. Chewning, Stewardship Advisors, Inc.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, New International Version*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1984.

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LCC K-9 COMFORT DOG MINISTRY UPDATE

To God be the Glory!



For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Now that Spring has officially sprung, Gomer and I are enjoying more time outside, exploring all the new sights and smells of the season. We are also excited that more and more places are re-opening and we are able to resume visits in many of the schools and assisted living centers. It was nice seeing people when we were doing window visits, but there is nothing like spending time with them in person.

Last month I returned to Brookdale Senior Living Center. It had been almost two years since we last visited residents inside and it felt so great to be back! Immediately we ran into some old friends in the living room who were happy to see me and offer ear scratches. I also met some new staff members and residents during my visit. I am really looking forward to going back and getting to know them better.

Later this month our team will be once again participating (virtually) in the "Run for Respect" 5K race sponsored by the special needs class at Pontiac High School. The purpose of this race is to raise awareness and replace the r-word with the new r-word "Respect." I always enjoy this event and am especially excited this year to be able to race alongside my good friend, Gomer. (We'll see who's faster!) This race is special to both of us since we participated in it at the Pontiac Township high school in Illinois when we were comfort dogs in training. We are honored to be a part of this special event.

Have a safe, blessed Easter!

Thanks for your support and prayers! Please check out Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and our website for all the latest news. napavalleycomfortdogs.org

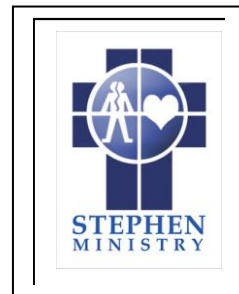
Aaron and Gomer Comfort Dogs



Stephen Ministry: The Power of Hope

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” (Hebrews 11:1 NIV)

Hope from God is one of the most powerful sources of comfort. The uniqueness of Christian hope is that it comes directly from God. Having Christian hope means that we don't have to place our trust solely in human capacities, institutions, or ideals. Instead, our hope is in God, who is actively at work in both the caregiver (Stephen Minister) and the care receiver. God brings true healing and wholeness.



Stephen Ministers can be instruments through which Christian hope flows into care receivers. The following are eight practical ways they can provide care:

1. **Be consistently supportive** by words and actions, through good times and bad.
2. **Be available** when the care receiver needs to reach out, especially in an emergency.
3. **Empathize**, see the care receiver's situation from his or her point of view.
4. **Acceptance** of the care receiver, without criticism or judgement.
5. **Encourage** the care receiver to look beyond perceived flaws and negatives, to see the good in him- or herself.
6. **Point out opportunities for growth** to help the care receiver recognize where he or she might grow and get stronger.
7. **Acknowledge Jesus presence** by verbalizing how God is with us in a moment-by-moment basis.
8. **Be distinctively Christian**, remembering that we offer care in God's name, and that Christ is at work in and through Stephen Ministry to bring healing.

None of us can make someone else hopeful – only God can produce that divine reassurance, faith, and confidence that we call hope. God's compassionate presence is evident in the relationship between the Stephen Minister and care receiver.

Please know that YOU matter to God and to the people at St. John's Lutheran Church. God carries you and your problems in His loving hands, and He provides hands-on help through Stephen Ministers. By God's grace we can trust and confide in a Stephen Minister, start to heal, and become whole again.

If you, or someone you know, would like to learn more about connecting with a Stephen Minister, please contact Penni Cremen (707-483-9321) or Pastor Mike in the church office (707-255-0119).

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Budget your monthly expenses; purchase your gift cards to use for your shopping. Whenever you shop you have a visual of what you have left and you can shop accordingly. If you have not yet used Scrip, please read below on how easy it is.

Join the program online or Scrip is always available in the school office...We love seeing you!

- Download the RaiseRight mobile app from the app store using your smartphone or tablet.
 - Enter the enrollment code to join: **912E7L6F9161**
 - **Buy gift cards and earn for your organization**
 - Browse bonuses, search for a specific brand, shop categories, and more.
 - When you're ready to check out, sign up for secure online payments. You can link a bank account, add a credit card, or both.**
 - The brand gives back to your organization the moment you buy a gift card—at no extra cost to you.
 - **Get and use your gift cards**
 - e-cards are delivered to the app within minutes—view them in your Wallet.
 - Physical gift cards are mailed to your coordinator or now to you directly. Many are reloadable so you can keep earning with the ones you have.
 - Use both types in-store and online.
- ** 15 cent charge per order for checking/debit purchase or 2.6% for credit card purchase.

Scrip is sold in the school office M-F during regular school hours.

St. John's Facebook Group

Are you on Facebook? Have you joined the St. John's Facebook Family Group? Please click here to join and participate in Facebook Live events, discussion and more.

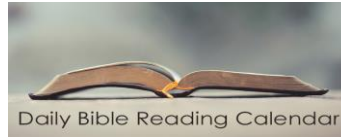
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsfamilynapa>

Why join our Facebook Group? We are planning live devotional events, prayer times, as well as other interactive events. Our group is a great place to encourage one another and walk together as a family of God. In this time when gathering in person is so difficult, this is an option to fellowship together.

Also, if you have something you'd like to see us talk about or promote on social media, please use the same contact info.



For APRIL



	Psalm	Old Testament	New Testament
1	Psalm 42	Exodus 36	Matthew 27:11-31
2	Psalm 43	Exodus 37	Matthew 27:32-44
3	Psalm 126	Isaiah 43:16-21	Philippians 3:4b-14; John 12:1-8
4	Psalm 44:1-8	Exodus 38	Matthew 27:45-56
5	Psalm 44:9-16	Exodus 39:1-31	Matthew 27:57-66
6	Psalm 44:17-26	Exodus 39:32-40:23	Matthew 28
7	Psalm 45:1-9	Exodus 40:24-Leviticus 1:17	Mark 1:1-8
8	Psalm 45:10-17	Leviticus 2, 3	Mark 1:9-20
9	Psalm 46	Leviticus 4	Mark 1:21-34
10	Psalm 118:1-2,19-29	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 19:28-40
11	Psalm 47	Leviticus 5:1-6:13	Mark 1:35-45
12	Psalm 48	Leviticus 6:14-7:21	Mark 2:1-12
13	Psalm 49:1-12	Leviticus 7:22-8:17	Mark 2:13-28
14	Psalm 49:13-20	Leviticus 8:18-9:11	Mark 3:1-12
15	Psalm 50:1-6	Leviticus 9:12-10:20	Mark 3:13-19
16	Psalm 50:7-15	Leviticus 11:1-28	Mark 3:20-35
17	Psalm 118:1-2,14-24		Acts 10:34-43; 1 Cor. 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12
18	Psalm 50:16-23	Leviticus 11:29-13:8	Mark 4:1-20
19	Psalm 51:1-6	Leviticus 13:9-46	Mark 4:21-29
20	Psalm 51:7-12	Leviticus 13:47-14:18	Mark 4:30-41
21	Psalm 51:13-19	Leviticus 14:19-57	Mark 5:1-20
22	Psalm 52	Leviticus 15:1-24	Mark 5:21-43
23	Psalm 53	Leviticus 15:25-16:25	Mark 6:1-6
24	Psalm 150		Acts 5:27-32; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31
25	Psalm 54	Leviticus 16:26-18:5	Mark 6:7-13
26	Psalm 55:1-8	Leviticus 18:6-19:11	Mark 6:14-29
27	Psalm 55:9-15	Leviticus 19:12-20:8	Mark 6:30-44
28	Psalm 55:16-19	Leviticus 20:9-21:12	Mark 6:45-56
29	Psalm 55:20-23	Leviticus 21:13-22:16	Mark 7:1-8
30	Psalm 56:1-8	Leviticus 22:17-23:22	Mark 7:9-23

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



1	Neill Barker
2	Clint Mason
5	Kaden Kennedy
6	J.T. Mason
8	Emily Peterson
9	Rachel Carey, Travis Goodrich
10	Christopher Newman, Elizabeth Robertis Smith
11	Adleigh Koen, Eva Winkler, Danielle Irwin, Colt Lawrence-Maloney
12	Courtnee Gingras
13	Christine Commander
18	Robert De Young, Sean Johnson
19	Grace Walter, Samuel Smith
20	Pamela Watkins, Gina Brady
21	Rex Schluter, Michael Edmeyer
22	Peter Santora, Yvette Morgenlaender, Karol Bruechert, Eliana Rollin
23	Justine Rollin, Hailey Regan
24	Christy Wood, Nathan Luna
25	Trent Mooers, Gerald Schweiger
26	Ella Eisberg
30	Joshua Wright

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



DATE	COUPLE	YEARS
8	Jason & Diedre Newton	5
8	Kyle & Rebecca McAhren	33
29	Dick & Marilyn Lemin	5

SHOPPING ON AMAZON?

Please consider using “Amazon Smile” when placing your orders, designating St. John’s Lutheran Church fund. (There is no additional cost to you!) Just go directly to: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-6001864>



Check us out on Social Media!



St. John's and its ministries stay in contact with the community in many ways, including Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and our own websites. It takes a lot of effort to keep the websites up to date and to keep the communication current and flowing on social media.

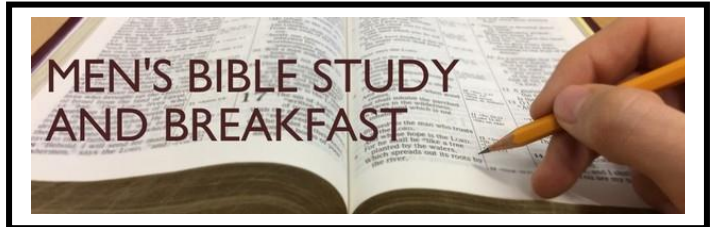
The social media team is all-volunteer, and we could use a few more tech-savvy people to help us out. If you are a fan of social media and would like to help us communicate to our members, parents, students, and community, we could use your help.

Contact us by email: sjlcsocialmedia@gmail.com

Thank you!

MEN, JOIN US EVERY SATURDAY MORNING FOR FELLOWSHIP AT 7:30 AM AND BIBLE STUDY AT 8:00 - 9:00 AM

CALL RON JOHNSON
FOR INFORMATION.



New
VANCO Mobile
Giving Appl



The Give+ Mobile App from VANCO shut down 1 Oct 21 and will no longer be available for download as a mobile app. The new app is called **VANCO Mobile**. Giving through Vanco Moblie is easy! Just download the new app and create a new user profile in VANCO Mobile.



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Our weekly sermons are available on the St. John's website at: www.stjohnslutheran.net.

Visit our school website at: www.stjohnsnapa.org

Facilities Calendar Link: <https://teamup.com/ks059311afd6a21c57>



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<https://www.instagram.com/explore/locations/248942728988437/st-johns-lutheran-church/>

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Email: churchoffice@stjohnslutheran.net

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Mr. Tim Kramer, Business Administrator (ext. 121)

Mrs. Christy Kramer, Church Office Manager, (ext. 120)

Mr. Kevin Mathison, Dir. of Youth Ministry (ext. 106) or 255-7451

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Dr. Christy Wood, Principal (ext. 103)

Mrs. Cindy Zeller, School Office Manager (ext. 101)

Mrs. Joy Dahl, Director of Preschool (107)