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NEXT HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE NEXT SUNDAY

We celebrated the Sacrament of Holy Communion on both Maundy Thursday and again on Easter Sunday. Moving forward, we will celebrate it every first Sunday of the month as long as we are still gathering remotely. Please see your April newsletter for more details on how to prepare on your end.

REMOTE FELLOWSHIP TIME

In addition to utilizing Facebook for our remote worship, there will be an opportunity for remote fellowship before and after our 10 am service time, starting at 9:15 am and ending at 11:45 am. This opportunity will be offered through Zoom, a remote meeting app you can download in your smartphone's App Store or at the Zoom website (Zoom.us) for your computer. All you will need is the app, an internet connection and the meeting number, which is 878 097 321. Go to the website or open the app and look for a link called, "Join a Meeting."

Enter the meeting # and click 'Join.' It should take you right to the "St. John Sunday morning FELLOWSHIP" meeting where other St. John members will be joining remotely. You can now say hi to folk as we gather prior to or after worship similarly to how many of us usually gather. The only major drawback? No donuts!

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHIES

Christian sympathies to the family of Charlotte Laisure who passed away on Monday, April 20. There will be a private graveside service with a celebration of life at a later date. May the sure and certain hope of resurrection and reunion with those who have died be a source of comfort to all who grieve.

#TIREDOFLEADINGWORSHIPINANEMPTYCHURCH

So how do we get around it? With a sense of humor, of course! You probably don't realize that you're attending church even as you read this. As can be seen in the May newsletter, we have placed pictures of a bunch of the 'regulars' in their 'usual' pews around the sanctuary to add some life to our worship space. It's so nice to see your bright and shining faces while we're leading worship and until you can be here for real, this will have to do! When we can come back together for worship, your picture will be waiting for you to remind you where "your" seat is - just in case you forget in the meantime!

Would you like to volunteer or respond to an announcement? How about requesting a favorite hymn? Let us know by emailing the church at sjluth@stjohnluth.com or calling 426-5751 and leaving a voicemail.

PRAYER CONCERNS



Dan Combs
Those affected by the Coronavirus
Richard Flaugh (healing)
Nancy Gebfert (health)
Danielle Geels (healing)
Heidi (healing)
The family of Charlotte Laisure
Olivia Jane McCanless
Ruth Miers (health)
Christy Miller
Karen Yaegler (ER Nurse/Sister of Chris Heidegger)
CONTINUING CONCERNS:
Clarence Bush (health/Vickie Brown's father)
David Drake
Lucy Graham
Jeremy Gray
Esther Helmke
Alma Kable (health)
Rose Ellen Marquart
Jermarcus Jones
THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY:
Aaron (relative of the Cobb/Johnson

family)
Anthony Cutino (Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, GA/nephew of Fran Gull)
Nicolas Cutino (Fort Benning, GA/nephew of Fran Gull)
Vince Cutino (Ft. Bragg, NC/nephew of Fran Gull)
Cody Gull (Army/Fort Benning, GA)
Lucas Kirkwood (Hawaii/Mike & Sherry Mommer's grandson)
Matt McGahey (Scott Air Force Base, IL)
Warren Rockett, (McConnell AFB, Wichita, KS/nephew of Fran Gull)
Jonathon Strait (nephew of Linda McGahey/Fort Huachuca, AZ)
Carter Vanworth USAF-Washington DC/Julia Rieck's nephew)
CHURCH OF THE WEEK
Emmaus Lutheran Church
8626 Covington Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46804
Pr Ray Olsen

We invite you to share your prayer concerns by calling the church office, 426.5751, or by filling out a green Prayer Request Card (found in the pew-card holder) and giving it to an usher, placing it in the offering plate or by placing it on the desk in the church office. Please indicate what you would like listed for prayers if you would like it to be listed. If you or a family member goes into the hospital, please call the church office so we are made aware of it as the privacy laws for hospitals do not always allow them to notify us thanks.

NOISY OFFERINGS

April's Noisy Offering will be collected for Necessities, Inc./Hope in a Handbag. You may mail a check to the office with "April Noisy Offering" in the memo line.

INSPIRE. IGNITE. INVITE.

What is this, you might be asking yourself? A recent goal established by our Indiana-Kentucky Synod is that it will grow into a people of God who:

- Clearly identify the presence of the Spirit
Eagerly tell our shared story as the body of Christ

Follow the Spirit to new frontiers
Does participating in the above steps excite you? Make you a bit nervous? Then perhaps you would like to learn more by serving as one of St. John's lay people to attend the first Zoom meeting with leaders from other Synod congregations around Indiana and Kentucky. If you'd like to learn more, email point person Sam Starrick at sam.starrick@gmail.com ASAP so he can get you the information about the Zoom meeting this coming Tuesday, 4 - 5:30 pm. Thanks!

LENT COIN FOLDERS may be returned to the church either after we return to public worship gatherings or by calling the office (260-426-5751) to schedule a time to drop them off, most likely on a Monday or Friday, which is when Jamie spends some of her work day in the office. Thank you!

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Name _____
Address _____
Best Contact Phone _____
Email _____
Service Attended _____



COFFEE HOUSE UPDATE

As you can imagine, COVID-19 has thrown a huge wrench in our plans to open West Central Coffee on April 17. Just like a full celebration of Easter as a publicly gathered community, our Grand Opening has also been postponed “until a later date.” This doesn’t mean nothing is happening. The WCC Advisory Board continues to meet remotely every Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. to make all the necessary preparations for an opening that we hope will come within a couple weeks of the “All Clear” – whenever that turns out to be. Until then, read on for one way you can do your part to make West Central Coffee a warm and welcoming place for our West Central neighbors when it DOES open . . . eventually.

A MIGHTY HOST . . . OF HOSPITALITY!

How can West Central Coffee be a warm and welcoming place for all who enter its doors when it opens after the COVID-19 “All Clear” is sounded? And what can YOU do to be a part of it? So glad you asked! We want to form a Hospitality Team of St. John members and West Central neighbors who will function a little like the friendly Wal-Mart greeter we’ve all encountered when we enter that store: friendly, welcoming and helpful. For at least the first month we are open, and hopefully beyond, we want to schedule folk in shifts of whatever hours they want to serve. We will be setting up an online sign up forum using Sign Up Genius, the same forum we used last August to sign up for slots in the West Central Home and Garden Tour and Artsfest. In the meantime, if you’re interested in joining the team, email wcchospitality@stjohnluth.com and we will get back to you within the next few weeks with more information. Thanks!

LOOKING FOR HELP ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS (WHEN WE START BACK UP)

“Sharing the Joy,” our free meal ministry on Wednesday nights from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m., is looking for ‘fresh faces’ to add to our ranks of servants. Tasks include food prep, food service and clean up following. We are hoping to have enough folk so we can multiple our current group into two teams, enabling our servants to serve every other month rather than all the time. A ‘try out month’ would precede any longer commitment, so for now we are asking you to consider just one month, with the possibility of an ongoing commitment afterwards, depending on how you feel about your experience. Interested in learning more? Contact Pastor Paul through the office at 426-5751, extension 101. Thanks!

ONE WAY TO SET UP ELECTRONIC GIVING TO ST. JOHN

See elsewhere in the Weekly for information on “Remote Giving,” if you haven’t already. In addition to that information, should you want to take advantage of St. John’s “Simply Giving” electronic giving program, you may email our Financial Secretary, Steve Rieck, at srieck0520@gmail.com, and request he email you a PDF form you can then print, complete and either mail to the church (Attn: Steve Rieck) or email back to Steve. The form grants permission to set up your Simply Giving account, from which you can make weekly, monthly, etc. deposits to St. John. Email Steve with any questions.



OUR LIFE TOGETHER AT ST. JOHN April 19 through April 26

SUN 26	Third Sunday of Easter	10 am	Worship Service of the Word (Remote)
TUE 28		6 pm	WCC Board Mtg. (Remote)
WED 29		6:20 pm	Casual Gathering (Remote)
THU 30		1 pm	Brown Bag Bible Study (Zoom/Remote)
SUN 3	Fourth Sunday of Easter	10 am	Worship Service of the Word (Remote)

PAY IT FORWARD . . . ONE CUP OF COFFEE AT A TIME

So what if someone comes into West Central Coffee and can’t afford even a basic Cup o’Joe? *There’s grace for that.* Specifically, we are collecting donations specifically towards growing a ‘Grace Jar’ of sorts to provide a small ‘token’ of kindness toward anyone in exactly such a situation. Every \$2 that you donate will purchase a WCC ‘wooden nickel’ (see picture below) that will go in our Grace Jar.



Instead of turning someone away, staff will transfer one of these tokens from the Grace Jar into the cash register as payment for a 12 oz. cup of coffee. How’s THAT for hospitality?

Be sure to indicate “Grace Jar” on any donations you wish to be used for this purpose. May grace abound! (Romans 5:20)

. . . but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more

IT’S STARTING!

Although it’s three months away, garage sale prep and collection has begun! With school not returning for session this year, we’ve been able to set up early and have started collecting donations already. Bored from sitting around your house during this isolation period? It might be a perfect time to clean out that closet, spare room, basement, or attic and get things ready to drop off for the garage sale. We ARE taking donations. Just call or e-mail Jay Heare (260.249.8229 / jay.heare@stjohnluth.com) to arrange a time. To protect our sorting/pricing team, we’ll be letting all donations sit for 5 days before we open any boxes or bags and do any sorting and pricing. Any pre-sorting you can do would be extremely helpful, i.e. kitchen items in one box, dishes in a separate box, Christmas items in a separate box, etc. If you can’t do separate boxes, even separate bags in a box would be helpful. Even more help would be donating your clothing on the hangers! If you haven’t already received a phone call or had a conversation about how you can help during the garage sale, say “Yes!” when you do. Or contact Jay Heare or one of the following people about how you can help:

- Windy Cobb-Johnson – Kids’ Room
- Susan Steele/Hannah Starrick – Book/Media Room
- Susan Benesh – Holiday Pricing/Cashiers
- Jane Porter Gresham – Adult Clothing
- Wade & Pauline Prentice – Antiques/Collectibles
- Cheryl Kienzle – Concessions
- Chris & Julie Walda – Tools/Sporting Goods/Garden/ Medical Supplies/Pet Supplies
- Sam Starrick – Electronics