MARCH 2023

## **NEWSLETTER**

St. John's & Emmanuel Lutheran Churches



His Final Steps Midweek Lenten Worship Series at St. John's: page 3

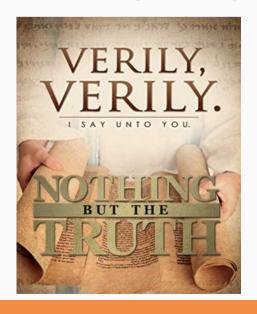
#### LENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

EMMANUEL: WEDNESDAYS 3:30 P.M.

LENTEN SUPPER: WEDNESDAYS ST. JOHN'S 4:30-6:00 P.M.

St. John's: Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH
MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES
AT EMMANUEL: PAGE 3



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I have the sense of being a bad person.

## Can God help me understand what's wrong with me?

No, I am not the parent on the nightly news—the mother arrested for badly mistreating her children. But sometimes I am irritated when my baby wakes me up four times in one night, when my toddler throws a tantrum in the grocery store, when my teen defiantly shatters the curfew.

No, I am not the high-profile executive under investigation for embezzling millions from his company's pension fund. But I am also not the philanthropist donating millions to a children's hospital. I am easily irritated by co-workers constantly begging me to buy candy bars to support their children's soccer team. I admit I envy the latest lottery winner from our state.

What is wrong with me? I scan the latest "self-help" books in the library and read "self-esteem" articles in my magazines, but I still do not feel like the "good" person I want to be.

Friend, is your conscience kicking you? We often try to silence that voice of "right" and "wrong" because it condemns us for not living up to God's expectations. We are supposed to be as good as God! But we are not good, not good enough for God.

The truth is that all people fail to live perfect lives.

Unfortunately, everyone else's failures will not excuse me for becoming angry, for being greedy, for failing to keep all of God's commands. Fortunately, God has loved all people so much that he sent his Son, Jesus, to save us from the punishment we deserve for all our failures.

How did Jesus save us? Throughout his life, Jesus perfectly obeyed every one of his Father's commands. Despite his absolutely innocent life, Jesus was put to death on a cross, where God punished his Son for our sins. Jesus suffered the death we deserved for our disobedience. Amazingly, God now considers us "perfect" because Jesus lived perfectly as our substitute. Mercifully, because Jesus died as our substitute, God declares us "forgiven."

The Bible tells us, "When our hearts condemn us"—if we sense that we are not as good as we should be—"God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything." God knows "Jesus Christ laid down his life for us." God knows he traded Jesus' goodness for our not being good enough. God knows he put Jesus to death to give us life—life that will last forever. Now, whenever our mistakes get us down, we can turn to God, who assures us that through Jesus, we are forgiven and perfect.

## Midweek Lenten Worship Series St. John's: His Final Steps

MARCH 1ST: PASTOR NICK HAASCH
"HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO A DINNER CELEBRATION"

MARCH 8TH: PASTOR BRUCE HANNEMAN "HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO HIS ENEMIES"

MARCH 15TH: VICAR ROBERT READ "HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO SOME GREEKS"

MARCH 22ND: PASTOR JOHN STELTER "HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO A TOMB"

MARCH 29TH: PASTOR MIKE SHEPPARD
"HIS FINAL STEPS LED TO HIS FATHER'S HOUSE"

# MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP SERIES EMMANUEL: NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH

MARCH 1ST: THE TRUTH IS...ANYONE WHO SINS IS A SLAVE TO SIN

MARCH 8TH: THE TRUTH IS...FAITH CAN MOVE MOUNTAINS

MARCH 15TH: THE TRUTH IS...FRITS OF FAITH WILL BE REMEMBERED

MARCH 22ND: THE TRUTH IS...YOU WILL DISOWN ME

MARCH 29TH: THE TRUTH IS...IF ONE DIES, IT PRODUCES LIFE FOR MANY

# ST. JOHN'S SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: 19 MINUTE BIBLE STUDIES: VERY IMPORTANT CHAPTERS (VIC'S)

March 5th: Psalm 121, "The Hills Psalm"

March 12th: Isaiah 53, "Christ Our Substitute"

March 19th: John 17, "Jesus' High Priestly Prayer"

March 26th: Luke 19, "Palm Sunday"

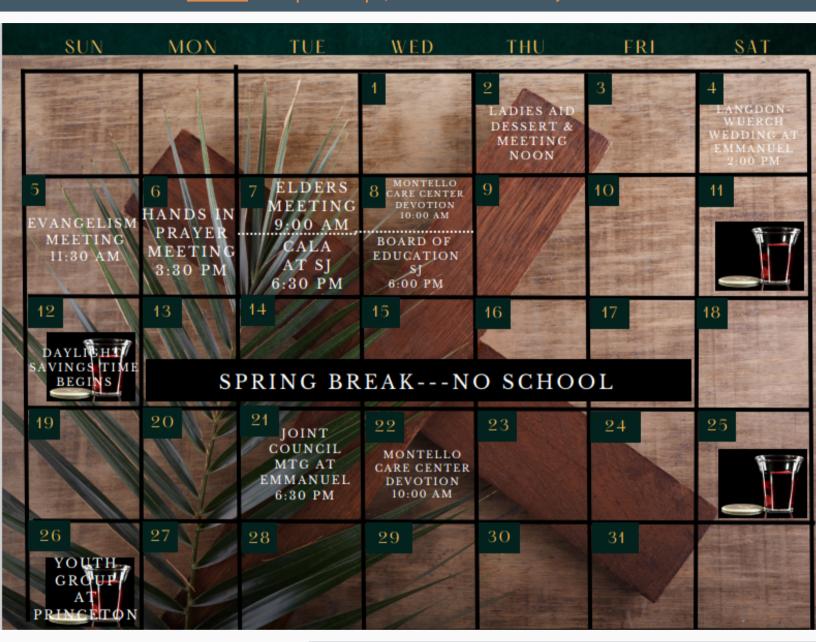
April 2nd: Luke 22-23 "Maundy Thursday/Good Friday"

### **Church Calendar**

#### **Regular Worship Times:**

Emmanuel: Sunday Worship 8:00am--Bible Study 9:00am

St. John's: Worship Sat. 4:30pm, Sun. 10:00am--Bible Study Sun 8:30am



MONDAYS: CHOIR 6:30 PM ST. JOHN'S
BIBLE STUDY 7:30 PM ST JOHN'S
WEDNESDAYS: BIBLE STUDY 10:30 AM ST. JOHN'S
PUBLIC SCHOOL CATECHISM 2:15 PM ST JOHN'S

THURSDAYS: GRIEFSHARE 6:00 PM ST. JOHN'S

#### <u>Changes in Membership</u>:

<u>Releases:</u> Dan & Kathy Loveland & daughter Autumn; Josh & Rachel Pekowsky & daughter Grace; Michelle Peterson & son Matthew; Tabitha Stelter.

<u>Transfers Out</u>: Steve Kasten & Sally Kasten to Emmanuel; Hether (nee Boelk) Seymor to St. John's-Baraboo; Myles & Ashley Wegner & sons Easton, Bruchs & Connor to St. John's-Pardeeville; Transfers In: Chad & Jenee Hunter & children Drake, Geneva & Vera from Zion-Kingston.

Adult Confirmation: Clay Campbell & children Cayden, Collette & Mason; Kay Nelson.

Call for Second Pastor: Approved 50/50 split with Emmanuel to pay a second pastor.

Election of New Officers: Trustees: Jerre Duerr & Martin Schmanke. St. John's Board of Education: Mark Emond

### **Emmanuel**

President: Tom Kuenn\*

Trustees: Don Stelter, Brian Ninneman, Paul Dahlke,

Jim Kirschbaum\*

Treasurer: Wayne Stelter

Elders: Darrell Buchholz, Gary Wegner

Secretary: Lucas Stelter

Cemetery Committee: Keith Heller, Gary Wegner, Bruce Stelter\*

\*Denotes Recently Elected

### **Members in the Community News**

THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF EMMANUEL/ST. JOHN'S ARE REGULARLY IN THE LOCAL NEWS. HERE'S A SHOUT OUT TO THOSE WHO MADE IT THIS PAST MONTH. LET US KNOW IF WE MISSED SOMEONE!!

Ken Borsack often appears on the pages of the Tribune in his role as the Marquette County Board chairman. On behalf of the county, he thanked the retiring deputy Steven Kemnitz for 29 years of service with the sheriff's office.



Randy and Sarah Polk of the Walker Agency Insurance were recognized for their service in the Montello office

Lucas Stelter has been noticeably busy on the Montello City Council.



The Mann family and their recently acquired Montello Theater has been making quite a local impact. Sold out showings are not uncommon, and the popcorn is even available on a carry-out basis.

(Be sure to ask for extra butter. Mmmm!).

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS MAKING A SPLASH IN THE COMMUNITY. LOOK AT THESE EXAMPLES FROM THE MONTH PAST: JOSHUA SCHWOCKERT AND EMMA MANN WERE REPRESENTATIVES ON THE SNOWBALL COURT FOR THE WINTER SNOWBALL DANCE AT MONTELLO HIGH SCHOOL. JOSH IS A SENIOR AND EMMA A FRESHMAN...JOE VOTE CONTINUES TO POUND THE HARDWOODS FOR THE MONTELLO BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM AND HAS ACQUITTED HIMSELF QUITE WELL. KALEB SCHUMANN HAS ALSO SHOWN UP IN THE BOXSCORE EMMA STEUCK WAS FEATURED IN THE YOUTH APPRENTICE SPOTLIGHT FOR HER WORK AT THE MONTELLO CANDY STORE. BRODY HENKE, JOSH SCHWOCHERT, AND OLIVIA ZUEHLS WERE STANDOUTS IN THE MONTELLO AND WESTFIELD FFA SPEAKING CONTESTS. BE SURE TO ALWAYS CHECK OUT THE HONOR ROLLS OF OUR AREA SCHOOLS. OUR STUDENTS ARE ALWAYS

Carol Dolan recently reported a sighting of the now infamous Johnny the Ripon Turkey at a Hwy 23 intersection in Ripon.. In the 1/26/23 Tribune reporter Kathleen Mcguinn wrote the story about this bird who ran afoul of the Ripon authorities. The final fate of the bird is unknown, but at the time of this sighting Johnny the Turkey was still on the lam.



Finally, the tribune camera caught Pat Henning eyeing up some yummy goodies at the Montello Historical Preservation society Valentine Day Sale! Way to go, Pat, and Thank you for supporting local History.

#### From an Ex-Pastor's Perch

For me the six weeks of Lent have always been special. Growing up in a church-going family, as a young boy, attending midweek Lenten worship was an automatic thing. It's what we did. It's what most of the people in our congregation did.

As a youngster what sticks out in my memory is my pastor reading the Passion History. The events of the suffering and death of Jesus never changed, but each year was like the first time I heard it. As a pastor and worship leader I

still enjoy reading that history today.

Also, as a pastor, I looked forward to preaching in Lent. Rather than being part of a pulpit exchange with other area pastors (I playfully called it "musical pulpit"), I liked to preach each week, at home, with my flock. You could take a focused Lenten theme and develop it over the six weeks. It was a big deal for me, and I hoped it might rub off a little bit and become a big deal for others. A side benefit that was realized over the years was that as busy as the Lenten season got, it went by very fast. Before you knew it, it was over. When it was over, there was the awesome solemnity and hallelujahs of Holy Week and Easter. An extra bonus was that spring was not far away.

Now it's 2023. The reality is that many do not have the same positive Lenten memories I have. Lent and midweek Lenten worship is not a big deal. In fact, for too many, it's just another Wednesday. That's too bad. I can't help thinking that folks are missing something – for themselves and their families, and for the church. Not only that, observing Lent is a God-pleasing thing. It's something he would expect his redeemed children to naturally do. Lent has begun. There are two different midweek Lenten worship opportunities available to you - at Emmanuel and St. Johns. Why not make some Lenten memories of your own. At any rate, somehow, someway, observe Lent.





#### GRIEFSHARE

GRIEFSHARE SESSIONS ARE BEING
OFFERED IN MONTELLO,
PRINCETON, AND GREEN LAKE.
ALL SESSIONS WILL BEGIN AT 6:00PM.
GREEN LAKE ON MONDAYS
PRINCETON ON TUESDAYS
MONTELLO ON THURSDAYS
ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CALL OR TEXT
MARK EMOND 608-697-1600.



MARCH 1 GR. 3-8, SJ MONTELLO
MARCH 8 LITTLE LAMBS-2ND GR., SJ PRINCETON

MARCH 19 SUNDAY SCHOOL, SJ MONTELLO

MARCH 22 LITTLE LAMBS-2ND GR., EMMANUEL

APRIL 2 LITTLE LAMBS-8TH GR., SJ MONTELLO

APRIL 7 GOOD FRIDAY GR. 3-8 & CHIMES, SJ PRINCETON

APRIL 9 EASTER LITTLE LAMBS-8TH GR., SJ PRINCETON

MAY 7 SUNDAY SCHOOL, SJ MONTELLO

MAY 18 ASCENSION K-8TH GR.,?

MAY 21 SUNDAY SCHOOL, SJ MONTELLO

MAY 25 GRADUATION K-8TH GR., SJ PRINCETON

## Birthdays & **Anniversaries**

#### **BIRTHDAYS:**

Friday 3rd: Korbin Breiwa (SJ), Patricia Fritsche (EM) Sunday 5th: Rebecca Jahr (SJ) Monday 6th: Jeffery Badciong (SJ) Friday 10th: Maverick Finger (SJ), Sandra Klapper (SJ), Lyla Roush (SJ) Saturday 11th: Russell Rainey (SJ) Sunday 12th: Kashton Schumann (SJ) Monday 13th: Laurie Becker (SJ), Matt Borzick (SJ), Emma Steuck (SJ) Tuesday 14th: Rowena Thoms (SJ) Wednesday 15th: Jessica Ampeh (SJ), Carol Dolan (SJ) Thursday 16th: Brian Kaul (SJ), Lily Mann (SJ), Thomas Wojtalewicz (SJ) Friday 17th: Karen Radke (EM) Sunday 19th: Jady Steuck (SJ) Monday 20th: Florence Dahlke (SJ), Gretchen Schultz (SJ) Tuesday 21st: Gordon Krause (SJ) Wednesday 22nd: Landen Witt (SJ) Thursday 23rd: Ashley Henke (SJ) Saturday 25th: Mark Emond (SJ), Ciara Neuhauser (SJ), Keith Heller (EM) Sunday 26th: Ethen Neuhauser (SJ), Lisa Fitzgerald (EM) Monday 27th: Del Henke (SJ) Tuesday 28th: Lisa Alexander (SJ), Michael Beahm (SJ), Michael Brown (SJ), Rodney Kratz (SJ) Wednesday 29th: Heidi Stelter (SJ) Thursday 30th: Valorie Schable (SJ), Peggy Wegner (SJ), Marlene Buchholz (EM) Friday 31st: Kiley Lloyd (SJ), Scott Ritz (SJ), Sanjuanita Schwartz (SJ), Michael Zellmer (SJ) **ANNIVERSARIES:** Friday 3rd: Ken & Cindy Hunter (SJ)

Tuesday 7th: Rebecca & Andrew Jahr (SJ), Jennie & Darren Utke (SJ)

Friday 17th: Steven & Debra Parrish (SJ)

Saturday 18th: Warren & Jeanne Buchholz (EM)

Tuesday 21st: Gordon & Linda Krause (SJ)

Friday 24th: Michael & Susan Brown (SJ)

Saturday 25th: Heather & Kurt Schwochert (EM) Wednesday 29th: Randel & Kathleen Brock (SJ)

Friday 31st: John & Elaine Kelm

MARCH NEWSLETTER



### Holy Week Worship Schedule:

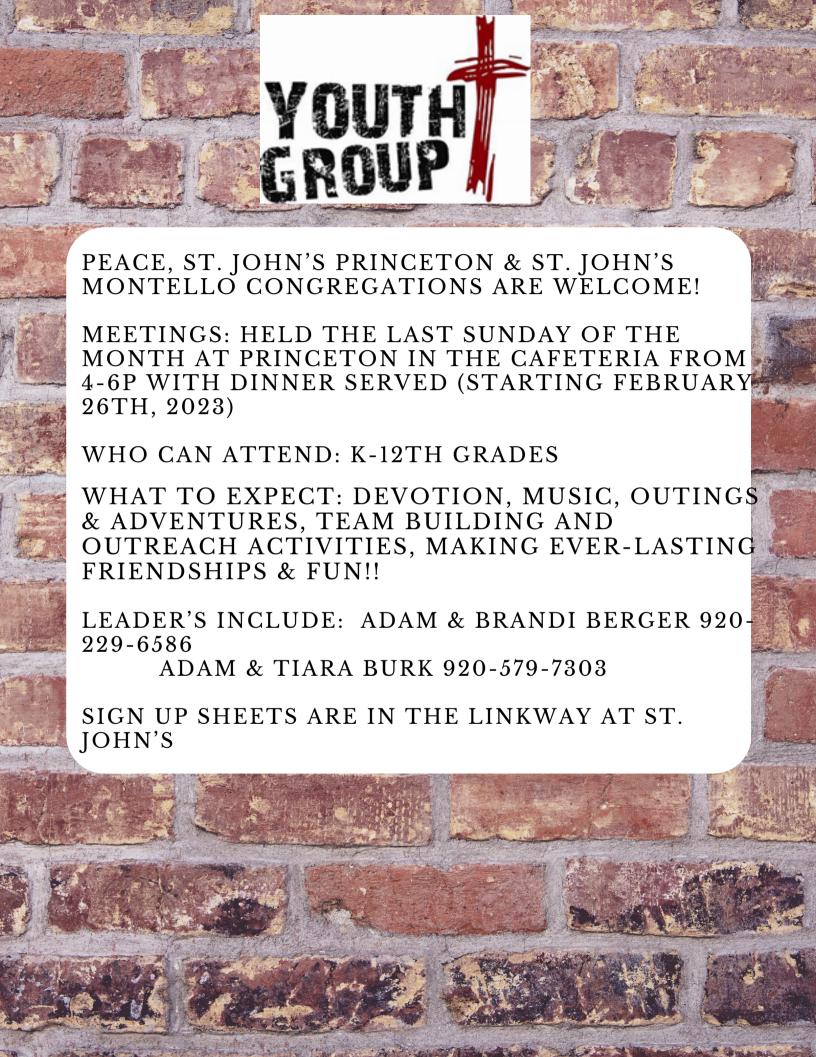
Sunday, April 2nd, Palm Sunday: Emmanuel 8am, St. John's 10am CALA Sings at St. John's

Thursday, April 6th, Maundy Thursday: Emmanuel with Holy Communion 6:30pm

Friday, April 7th, Good Friday: St. John's with Holy Communion 1pm

Saturday, April 8th: NO WORSHIP SERVICES

Easter Sunday, April 9th: Emmanuel 8am with Holy Communion St. John's 10am with Holy Communion





FIND & LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: WWW.STJOHNSMONTELLO.ORG

PASTOR PETE ZIETLOW: 608-408-7830, EMAIL: ZIETLOWPL6@HOTMAIL.COM

PRINCIPAL & 6-8 GRADE TEACHER: LARRY SELLNOW: 616-822-6689 EMAIL: PRINCIPAL@CHRISTALONELUTHERANACADEMY.NET

3-5 GRADE TEACHER: KATLYNN TINDALL: 262-352-7021

1-2 GRADE TEACHER: SHELLEY MYERS: 920-285-7554

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER: LYNN SELLNOW: 616-826-0816

LITTLE LAMBS DIRECTOR: BARBARA STELTER: 816-853-9029

CALA SECRETARY/OFFICE: CIARA NEUHAUSER: 920-481-9002

CHURCH OFFICE: MATTHEW KATH 608-297-2866/608-494-0167

CHURCH/SCHOOL ADDRESS:
313 E MONTELLO ST. MONTELLO, WI 53949
CHURCH EMAIL: SCSECRETARY@STJOHNSMONTELLO.ORG

SCHOOL EMAIL: SECRETARY@CHRISTALONELUTHERANACADEMY.NET