

St. John's Journal

Volume 45, Issue 4

WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT GOOD FRIDAY?

711 Court Street, Pekin, Illinois 61554-4735
www.stjohnpekin.com
Email: stjohndec@grics.net
(309) 347-2136

The 19th of this month is Good Friday. We Christians call it that – *Good* Friday – yet to the ears of the uninformed that must sound very unusual, perhaps downright strange. They might wonder, “Why would people commemorate the day on which their hero and master, the one they claim to love and worship, died? And why on earth would they call that day 'good'? It seems like they would want to call it '*Bad* Friday'.”

And to observe the way we Christians celebrate Good Friday, one might well think the uninformed make a pretty good point – that it should be called *bad*. For without question, the services of Good Friday are very solemn, the church is barren of many of its festive furnishings and decorations, and the chancel fixtures are draped in black. The entire environment suggest that a *sad* event is being remembered – that it really is *Bad* Friday.

To be sure, Good Friday does commemorate a sad event. We are deeply saddened that the Son of God had to die. It is without doubt the most tragic event of history. Our sorrow becomes even greater as we comprehend that our sins caused His death – that we are personally responsible for the death of the only truly and fully innocent Man who ever lived. All that is surely very bad.

Yet Good Friday is just as surely very good! The sad death of the Son of God brought about the greatest good. We can see this great goodness in Matthew's account of Jesus' death, as recorded in chapter 27 of his Gospel. From the Lord's apostle we learn that:

Good Friday effected the Atonement. Verse 51 tells us that at the moment of Jesus' death “the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.” The curtain in the temple separated the Holy Place from the Most Holy Place, the dwelling place of God. Its tearing symbolized the removal of the barrier between God and man. Jesus had died. All sins are forgiven. The Atonement is complete. Nothing is left to separate God and man. This is surely very good!

Good Friday brought life. Verses 52-53 tell us how at Jesus' death “the tombs broke open, and the bodies of many saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection, they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.” This Good Friday “mini-resurrection” was a sneak preview, if you will, of the great resurrection that will come on the last day. It signified that Jesus' death has conquered death. Jesus has died. Sin is wiped away. And since sin is the sting of death, death's sting is also wiped out. Death has given way to life. This is surely very good!

Good Friday confirmed Jesus as the Son of God. Verse 54 tells us that “when the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they were filled with awe and said, 'Truly, this was the Son of God!'" As even pagan soldiers could plainly perceive, the supernatural events of Good Friday boldly validated Jesus' claim to Deity. Jesus has died. Darkness has been over the land. An earthquake has split rocks and broken open tombs. This was no ordinary death. This was the death of the Son of God! This death has meaning: the salvation of the world! This too is surely very good!

Sad, yet good. Very, very good! The commemoration of Jesus' death is rightly called *Good* Friday! May this goodness be your comfort, joy, and hope this Holy Week and always.

- Pastor Bishop



Christian Education

Sunday School

Perfect Attendance

February 2019

Pre-School/Kindergarten

Elyse Hopping

1st/2nd Grade

Zander Hopping

6th/7th/8th Grade

Zachary Webb

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 02

Jeff & Leslie Norman

April 05

Joe & Trina Szadkowski

April 09

Ken & LaDonna Memken

April 10

Greg & Wendy McDonald

April 13

Eric & Paula Jensen

April 17

John & Althea Geiser

April 18

Jacob & Sarah Adkins

April 19

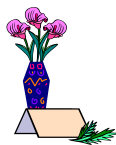
John & Ronda Adkins
Tim & Sandy Gay

April 25

Don & Valerie Dobbelaire

April 30

Dan & Florence McClure



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



April 01

Randall Couch
Daniel Rees

April 02

Brittany Allen
Randi Becker
Edward Gaitros

April 03

David Drockelman
Iris Gaitros
Gregory Hall

April 04

Lindsey Dixon
Carter Stevenson

April 07

Lillian Daniels
Florence McClure

April 08

Darrell Hansen
Daniel Watson

April 09

Edyn Kammeyer
Jackie Nauth
Alicia Turner



April 10

Christal Dagit
Mary Hall

April 11

Logan Schoch
Dane Watson

April 12

George Mason

April 13

Jeffery Norman

April 15

Mark Scott
Michael Wagner

April 16

Dawn Bohannon
Jonathan Bolt

April 17

Alex Schmidgall

April 18

Linda Norman

April 19

Michael Dixon, Sr.
Kelen McDaniels
Mark Reeder

April 20

Cathryn Ashbaker

April 21

David Becker
Kevin Dupent
Addison Nelson

April 22

James Buster
Michelle Gregory

April 23

Daniel Dobbelaire
Lois Jarvis
Bethany Meyer
Vanessa Watson

April 24

Lucille Benker
Peg Booe
Ray Garber
Drew Jackson
Shirley McCoige
Maxine Oliverius
Paul Tackmann

April 25

Joshua Donovan
Kingston Hamlet
Kathryn Heisel

April 26

William Wiker III

April 27

Christopher Ashbaker

April 28

Elaine Hapke
Andrea Yergler

April 29

Christopher Bitner
Brinley Meyer
Mikayla Wilson

April 30

Jonathan Becker
Diane Fornoff
Amy Swibold
Eric Thompson

PARISH NOTES

Church Attendance

Feb 2019 **612** 12 services
Feb 2018 **883** 15 services
Feb 2017 **739** 12 services

Sunday School Attendance

Feb 2019: **384**
Feb 2018: **385**
Feb 2017: **521**

Videographers - April

Trina/Ethan Szadkowski

Worship Committee - April

Diane Gould

April Communion Assistance

April 7

7:00 a.m. Tom Ivey
10:30 a.m. Steve Depew

April 18

7:00 p.m. Dave Drockelman

April 21

8:00 a.m. Randy Couch
10:30 a.m. Aaron Miller

Acolytes—April

April 3

7:00 p.m. Zachary Webb

April 7

8:00 a.m. Zachary Webb
10:30 a.m. Alexis Daniels

April 10

7:00 p.m. Erin Wilson

April 14

8:00 a.m. Jaylah Dalton
10:30 a.m. Macey Dalton

April 18

7:00 p.m. Cody Wilson

April 19

7:00 p.m. Alexis Daniels

April 21

7:00 a.m. Brayden Hoover
10:30 a.m. Bradley Hoover

April 28

8:00 a.m. Cody Wilson
10:30 a.m. Alexis Daniels

April Greeters

April 7

8:00 a.m. Vince & Sandy Tennell
10:30 a.m. Deanna Bishop

April 14

8:00 a.m. Dan & Laura Dobbelaire
10:30 a.m. Trent & Jamie Hoover

April 21

7:00 a.m. Jerry & Paula Norman
10:30 a.m. Sandy & Valerie Ferguson

April 28

8:00 a.m. Ron Reising
10:30 a.m. Debby Dant & Sydney Webb

Some husbands know all the answers because they have been listening for years.

Ushers - April

8:00

Dave Drockelman Brian Ford
Jim Lonergan Nate Ford
Jim Widby Trent Hoover
Merle Wiseman Brian Unbach

10:30

KEYS TO THE CHURCH



The Trustees are still conducting an audit of our church keys. These are the numbers that we do not have names for Nos: 1, 4, 5, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 30, 36, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 52 & 53.

Would you please check to see if you have any of these numbers and let the church office (347-2136) know. Thank you.

CHURCH DOORS: If you unlock one of the doors to the church, please check to see if it is locked before you leave. Thank you.

TREASURER'S REPORT

February 2019

	<u>February</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
INCOME	31,532.78	83,623.37
EXPENSES	33,326.40	67,429.62
INCOME-EXPENSES	(1,793.62)	16,193.75

ASSETS

General Fund Checking (54,090.51)
Schwab Cash Account 1.00
Cat Stock at FMV 50,678.46
General Fund Total (3,411.05)

Ed Grant Fund Checking 4,727.56
Ed Grant Fund CD #1 103,371.18
Ed Grant Fund #2-Vanguard 67,226.35
Educational Fund Total 175,325.09

East Bluff Property-Vanguard 91,119.34
East Bluff Property Fund CD 107,170.96
East Bluff Property Fund 198,290.30

Building Fund Checking 50,589.30
S.S. Fund Checking 10,751.07
Memorial Fund Checking 26,765.30

TOTAL ASSETS \$458,310.31

Checking Account Balance 38,743.02

LIABILITIES

Note Payable 66,677.22
Payroll Liabilities 1,919.78
Misc LCMS Orgs Fund 22.02
Total Liabilities 68,619.02

FUND BALANCE

Building Improvements (299,680.34)
Net Income (Loss) 16,193.75
Capital Accounts 673,177.88
Total Fund Balance 389,691.29

TOTAL LIABILITIES &

FUND BALANCE \$458,310.31

WVEL BROADCAST

If you are interested in helping with our weekly broadcast on WVEL, please contact the Church office or Debby Dant. The payment is made out to the Church with a notation that it's used for the radio broadcasts.

Thank you to everyone who has participated in helping us with this broadcast since we started in 2017.

HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S VOTERS ASSEMBLY March 17, 2019

President Ron Reising called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Pastor Bishop opened with prayer.

A motion was made by Lori Schiavone, seconded by Randy Couch, to approve the February 2019 Parish Report. Motion carried.

In the motion to approve the January 2019 minutes and under New Business, Gary's last name is spelled Pool. Dave Drockelman moved, seconded by Randy Couch, to approve the February 2019 minutes as amended – motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Daryl Dagit presented the February 2019 Treasurer's Report. Nancy Drockelman moved, seconded by Ray Barnes, to approve the February 2019 Treasurer's Report – motion carried.

Board of Trustees – Dave Kesselmayr reported that Jack Steger showed interest in buying the parsonage and property from St. John's for \$70,000. A consultant completed an evaluation and valued the two properties at \$70,000. The Trustees decided that the properties would not be sold at this time, but Steger's will be given first priority when the Board of Trustees decides to sell the properties.

The lights in the gym will be installed this week.

A church member has again donated lawn services from Spring Green.

Board of Elders – Randy Couch reported that the Elders met last month and discussed the recently purchased defibulator and plans for installation in the newer church area. Gary Pool will report next month on training opportunities from the Red Cross for either ushers and/or other interested members of the congregation. Training would include both CPR and AED training.

Board of Finance – The Board of Finance met recently and Nancy Drockelman was elected Chairman.

Board of Christian Education – A movie and popcorn bar will be provided for the Youth Group today. The Youth Group recently made \$130 to apply to the Higher Things Conference.

The Tenderloin Tuesday is scheduled for March 26, and the GSLS Auction will be held on Saturday, March 23rd at the Paradise Hotel. A Vacation Bible School representative is needed from St. John's.

Board of Worship – Mike Nauth reported that ushers are still needed for the 10:30a.m. service and also new

and the GSLS Auction will be held on Saturday, March 23rd at the Paradise Hotel. A Vacation Bible School representative is needed from St. John's.

Board of Worship – Mike Nauth reported that ushers are still needed for the 10:30 a.m. service and also new members of the choir are needed. Thanks to all the ushers who have assisted with ushering for the Lenten services.

Board of Evangelism – No report.

Board of Stewardship – Darla Schorr reported that the Board has not met yet this year, and Share Baskets will be distributed on Palm Sunday.

Long Range Planning Committee – The Long Range Planning Committee will meet on Monday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. It is requested that the Chairman of each Board noted above or their representative attend this meeting.

Educational Grant Fund Committee – No report.

East Bluff Property Committee – No report.

Constitution By-laws Committee – Ray Barnes stated that any changes recommended should be given to him.

Unfinished Business – No report.

New Business – The date of the April Voter's Meeting has been changed to April 28 at 11:30 a.m. on a motion by Tom Ivey, seconded by Ross Gould – motion carried. The change was necessitated by Easter falling on the third Sunday.

Daryl Dagit noted that for the last several years the church has a line of credit with Busey Bank in the amount of \$25,000. There is no charge for this line of credit unless we would use it. A motion was made by Randy Couch, seconded by Steve Depew, to approve this line of credit and that the Trustees sign all required documentation – motion carried.

Daryl Dagit also recommended that the church obtain a Visa credit card from Busey Bank for use by the church office to purchase items that require using a credit card for payment. A motion was made by Steve Depew, seconded by Ray Barnes, that the church obtain this Visa credit card with a credit limit of \$2,500 which will be paid in full each month – motion carried.

A motion was made by Tom Ivey, seconded by Randy Couch, to adjourn the meeting which closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Ivey
Secretary

LIBRARY CORNER

By Eileen Tiona



" No one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ."
1 Corinthians 3:11

I have some new books to tell you about. Addie Weyhrich has donated the following 6 books. Each book has a different author, but are all about the same story.

Join Maggie Watson in the charming town of Somerset Harbor on the coast of Maine as she unearths a treasure trove of antiques and adventure after inheriting the Carriage House Antiques shop and Sedwick Manor, a nineteenth-century Colonial Revival. She understands exactly what her beloved aunt meant when she said, "antiques are filled with stories--secrets just waiting to be discovered.

- Book 1 - Strangers in the Looking Glass by Jan Fields
- Book 2 - The Secret Letter by Mary Blount Christian
- Book 3 - The Christmas Riddle by Susan Sleeman
- Book 4 - Pieces from the Past by Elizabeth Penney
- Book 5 - Ring of Deception by DeAnna Julie Dodson
- Book 6 - Loom and Doom by Susan Sleeman

Also St. John's Fellowship Club has donated two books in memory of Leon Tiona and Ed Gaitros.

The book donated for Leon is "The Magnolia Story" by Chip and Joanna Gaines. With the help of their hit TV Show, Fixer Upper, the husband and wife team of Chip and Joanna Gaines have transformed the seemingly everyday work of renovating homes in Waco, Texas into something much more.

The book donated for Ed is "This Is The Day" by Tim Tebow. In This Is The Day, Tim Tebow challenges you to stop putting off until tomorrow what God is calling you to do today. Whether you need to get in shape, change your career, or reach out to someone in need, This Is The Day inspires you to not delay, but to seek after God's purposes now.

Thanks to the Fellowship Club and Addie Weyhrich for you donations. Please come in and check out these books and all the other wonderful book that are available to St. John's members.

ORGANIZATIONS

FELLOWSHIP CLUB

By Veva Martin

St. John's Lutheran Fellowship Club will be meeting Saturday, April 13, 2019, at 6:30 pm in the church basement.

Pastor Bruce Lakamp will be presenting a video on "The Handywork of God". The committee for the evening is Pastor & Deb LaKamp and Pastor & Deanna Bishop. We look forward to seeing you!

LADIES' GUILD

By Jackie Nauth

Ladies' Guild will meet on Thursday, April 25, for our annual baby shower to benefit Living Alternatives. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. with Deb Lakamp and Trina Szadkowski serving.

On Sunday, April 28, the Guild will host a dinner honoring our senior members age 75 and over, immediately following the second service.

YOUTH GROUP

Our Youth Group will assist with the Easter breakfast after the 7:00 a.m. Easter Festival Communion service.

In May the Youth Group will help senior members of the congregation with spring cleanup and other helpful chores. So watch for the date and contact us if you would like help with yard work, etc.



The Easter Breakfast Committee will be serving breakfast after the sunrise service on April 21st. We will be serving scrambled eggs, bacon, ham, sausage links, hash browns, pancakes, fruit cocktail, cereal and biscuits & gravy. We are requesting anyone interested in donating rolls or pastries to drop them off in the kitchen on Saturday or Sunday morning.



Also

The Easter Breakfast Committee is reaching out for individuals that would like to join us in preparing the best breakfast in town Easter morning. We can also use help Saturday morning before Easter to set up and decorate. Please call Daryl Dagit at 620-1867 or Brian Fuelberth at 267-2134 for additional information.

SHUT-INS of the MONTH: Even though some of our members cannot attend church, we want to keep them in our thoughts and prayers and let them know they are not forgotten. Please send a card or pay a visit to these shut-ins this month.

Shut-ins for April are
 Robert Scott, 1123 Newcastle Rd. Washington, 61571
 Addie Weyhrich, Pekin Estates, 1540 El Camino Dr., Rm 111, Pekin
 Sharill Andrae, Pekin Manor, 1520 El Camino Dr., Rm 206, Pekin
 Lois Becker, Pekin Estates, 1540 El Camino Dr., Rm 108, Pekin

Thank you from your St. John's Ladies Guild.

GOOD SHEPHERD NEWS

April 5 Midterm
 April 11 K-5th Spring Musical @ 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
 April 15-22 No School—Easter Break
 April 16 Classes Resume
 School Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
 April 26 School Carnival @ 5:00 p.m./Midterms
 April 28 GSLS Choir sings at Trinity @ 10:45 a.m.

Its Carnival time again and the committee is seeking out donations for our big raffle item this year! If anyone would like to donate, please call the school at 309-347-2020 or mail it in to Good Shepherd Lutheran School 3201 Court St. Pekin, IL 61554. We thank you for your support!

We received a note from Concordia Seminary, Ft. Wayne: To the Saints of St. John! Thank you for your generosity! As spring roars in, we at Concordia Theological Seminary, expect about 40 men to receive calls to the church. May the Lord bless you all. Rev. Paul Hopkins.

Lutherans for Life sent a thank you letter for our donation to them.

Received thank you letter from Lutheran Heritage Foundation.

Received a thank you letter from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis for our donation.

Received a thank you letter from Lutheran Hillside Village for our donation.

I would like to thank Pastor Bishop for all the hospital and home visits during my illness and recovery. I would also thank the congregation for the prayers and well wishes during the same time. Thank you, May God bless you all, Mark Reeder.

LENTEN VESPERS AND HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Lenten Vespers Services,
Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Pastor Bishop and Pastor Raddatz from Trinity, Pekin will be in a preaching rotation for these services. Our sermon series will be "Zechariah Foretells the Savior's Passion."

April 3 Zech. 12:10 "Lamentation over the Pierced One" - Pastor Bishop

April 10 Zech. 13:1 "A Cleansing Fountain Flows from His Side - Pastor Raddatz

Holy Week Services

April 18 - 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion

April 19 - 12:00 N Good Friday Service
 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

April 21 **7:00 a.m.** Easter Sunrise Service with Holy Communion
 10:30 a.m. Festival Communion Service

*Note: The **Easter Sunrise Service** will be at **7:00 a.m.** with Easter Breakfast at 8:15.*

There will be no Sunday School or Adult Bible Class on Easter, and no 7:00 p.m. service.

IN OUR PRAYERS

If you know of anyone who needs to be added, please let the church office know.

All our shut-ins

Adam Jackson—member of Armed Services (grand-nephew of Lila Lisenbee)

Pastor Niemann

Sonny Mack

Mark Reeder

Bob Watson

Bernice Mack

Stacie Kendall

Bob Funk

Sam Kendall

Tim Johnston

Pat Proehl

Donna Corso

Honor Deiss

Joyce Wertz

Joe Goodin

George Mason

Ed Knussman

Pastor Kesselmayer

Lois Becker

Cheryl Williams

Robert Scott

Leia Stewart

Bill Hall

Sandy Morgan

Donna Bollinger

Billie Jackson

Dale Ehmke

Brian Tucker

Flo McClure

Rick Jarvis

Herb Gronewold

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Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 283

Matt.22:23-46

B	S	E	E	S	I	R	A	H	P	B	O	C	A	J
R	W	T	P	R	L	C	N	L	T	I	R	I	P	S
I	I	E	O	O	G	E	A	E	R	R	O	R	T	U
G	F	A	W	B	W	R	G	A	R	M	E	N	O	S
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S	S	D	S	G	I	O	N	S	N	A	M	O	W	S

Questions from the Sadducees

CHRIST	ANGELS
DARED	BROTHER
ERROR	CHILDREN
FEET	CROWDS
HEART	ENEMIES
ISAAC	EXPERT
JACOB	GREATEST
JESUS	HEAVEN
LIVING	MARRIAGE
MIND	NEIGHBOR
READ	PHARISEES
REPLY	PROPHETS
RIGHT	QUESTION
SEVEN	SPEAKING
SOUL	TEACHER
SPIRIT	MOSES
WIDOW	PEOPLE
WIFE	POWER
WORD	WOMAN

After you find all the hidden words the left over letters spell out a
Bible verse reading from the top left to the bottom right

MORE PUZZLES AT:
<http://biblewordgames.com>

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