

# St. John's Journal

Volume 48, Issue 5

## CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY

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How long has it been since you last read the “Table of Duties” section of Luther's Small Catechism? It's the third main section of the Catechism, following the “Six Chief Parts” and the “Daily Prayers.” If you come to church regularly, you get to review the Six Chief Parts in their entirety each year as we read them before the Scripture readings on the non-Communion Sundays. But we don't read the other parts of the Catechism in church, so it's a good practice to review them regularly at home.

The Table of Duties is very helpful for us, because it conveniently organizes relevant Bible passages that teach us our Christian responsibility according to our various positions in life (church members, citizens, family members, workers, etc.). On account of this, the Table of Duties has the fitting subtitle:

“Certain passages of Scripture for various holy orders and positions, admonishing them about their duties and responsibilities.”

In this newsletter and the next two editions, we will be reviewing the Table of Duties to remind us what our Lord says concerning our various responsibilities as Christians. We will begin with the duties of pastors and their hearers. But before we do that, there is an important preliminary matter we should briefly note:

Did you notice how the subtitle refers to “various *holy* orders and positions”? The concept that every Christian's position in life is holy needed to be emphasized, because the Roman church had badly obscured this truth. Under the papacy, the positions of bishops, priests, monks, and nuns were viewed as higher and holier than the “nonreligious” callings of everyone else. The Scriptures, however, teach that every Christian's calling in life – whether man or woman, boy or girl, governor or citizen, boss or employee, clergy or layman – every calling is holy. Every Christian, regardless of occupation, serves the Lord in a holy calling, for Christ Himself has declared every Christian holy in His sight. Moreover, every Christian, out of faith and love, serves his or her neighbor in one way or another. Such service is a truly holy and acceptable thank-offering to the Lord.

So throughout this entire discussion, keep in mind the wondrous truth that no matter who you are, your position in life is high and holy and important and precious in the eyes of your Lord Jesus Christ. That being said, let's get on to the actual text of the Table of Duties:

“To Bishops\*, Pastors, and Preachers

“The overseer must be above reproach, the husband of but one wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him with proper respect. *1 Timothy 3:2-4*

“He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil. *1 Timothy 3:6*

“He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it. *Titus 1:9*”

\*“Bishop” here is used in the Biblical sense of the word. It means “overseer” – a man who watches over a Christian congregation. Bishop, pastor, elder, and teacher are interchangeable in the New Testament; all are titles for the one office of the holy ministry. “Bishop” in this context involves no thought of a higher position within some ecclesiastical hierarchy. (continued on page 4)

## Christian Education

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

### Sunday School Perfect Attendance March 2022

None

## MAY BIRTHDAYS



### May 01

Lyle Smith

### May 02

Jayson Memken

### May 03

Jaylynn Fahnestock

Lainey Jensen

Cory Pfanz

Julie Wagner

### May 07

Jordan Snoble

### May 08

Janelle Hopping

Tracy Glass

### May 09

Shana Friedinger

### May 10

Elizabeth Ward

Emily Ward

Lori Fricke Schiavone

### May 11

Shirley Wendland

### May 12

Jeremy Winstead

### May 13

Keith Gleason

Diane Lee

Nancy Swearingen

Adeline Weyhrich

### May 14

Jacob Gould

Trevor Rodriguez

Ann Wilson

Pamela Woolsey

### May 15

Lennon Blome

### May 16

Sheryll Hillman

### May 17

LeeAnn Walsh

### May 18

Del Beideck

Renee Hayden

Micaylan McDonald

### May 19

Lance Anderson

Paula Jensen

### May 20

Matthew Buster

### May 21

Paul Widby

### May 22

Marcia Hubbs

### May 23

Wendy McDonald

### May 24

Debra Pitchford

### May 25

Alexis Daniels

### May 26

Cailin Wilson

### May 27

Melissa Flatley

Colleen Gardiner

Jordan Jensen

Amanda Webb

### May 28

Barbara Rosa

### May 29

Dale Schott, Jr.

Ruthanne Scott

Kelley Ward

### May 30

Joel Bonnette

Noah Dingerson

Sharon Ives

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

### May 04

Trent & Jamie Hoover

### May 06

Robert & Donna Hurst

Jeff & Susan Jackson

### May 14

Paul & Shantel Tackmann

### May 23

Steve & Jane Heberer

### May 26

Philip & Michelle Long

Jim & Sheri McCann

### May 30

Rodney & Penny Bollinger

## PARISH NOTES



### Church Attendance

Mar 2022 - **708** - 17 services  
 Mar 2021 - **578** - 17 services  
 Mar 2020 - **506** - 9 services

### Sunday School Attendance

Through Mar 2022: 377  
 Through Mar 2021: 431  
 Through Mar 2020: 393

### Videographers — May

Rod Bollinger

### Worship Committee— May

Julie Wagner

### Elders Communion Assistance

#### May 1

8:00 a.m. Steve Depew  
 10:30 a.m. Tom Ivey

#### May 15

8:00 a.m. Ray Barnes  
 10:30 a.m. Jon Bolt

#### May 26

7:00 p.m. John Bolt

#### May 29

8:00 a.m. Randy Couch  
 10:30 a.m. Tom Ivey

### Ushers — May

#### 8:00

Jerry Bohannon  
 Randy Couch  
 Noah Kesselmayr  
 Steven Kesselmayr

#### 10:30

Jacob Gould  
 Ross Gould

### Acolytes—May

#### May 1

8:00 a.m. Briella Hoover  
 10:30 a.m. Madison Sego

#### May 8

8:00 a.m. Abby Hall  
 10:30 a.m.

#### May 15

8:00 a.m. Madison Sego  
 10:30 a.m. Briella Hoover

#### May 22

8:00 a.m.  
 10:30 a.m. Abby Hall

#### May 26

7:00 p.m. Madison Sego

#### May 29

8:00 a.m. Briella Hoover  
 10:30 a.m. Madison Sego

(continued from front page)

The qualifications and responsibilities listed above apply directly to me as a pastor. The next section of the Table of Duties apply to all of you, as well:

“What the Hearers Owe Their Pastors

“The Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel. *1 Corinthians 9:14*

“Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. *Galatians 6:6-7*

“The elders who direct the affairs of the church well are worthy of double honor, especially those whose work is preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'Do not muzzle the ox while it is treading out the grain,' and 'The worker deserves his wages.' *1 Timothy 5:17-18*

“We ask you, brothers, to respect those who work among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other. *1 Thessalonians 5:12-13*

“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you. *Hebrews 13:17*”

May the Lord of the church bless us abundantly as we seek faithfully to live out our Christian responsibility as pastor and hearers!

- Pastor Bishop



### THE ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

The Festival falls on Thursday, May 26, this year.

### Transferred To The Church Triumphant

Stanley P. Ehmke  
 February 21, 1947  
 April 4, 2022

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### March, 2022

<u>March</u>		<u>Y-T-D</u>
<b>INCOME</b>	35,962.72	90,555.84
<b>EXPENSES</b>	22,275.43	107,162.56
<b>INCOME- EXPENSES</b>	<u>\$ 13,687.29</u>	<u>(\$16,606.72)</u>

General Fund	(2,676.38)
<b>General Fund Total</b>	<b>(2,676.38)</b>

Ed Grant Fund Checking	2,948.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21	51,928.87
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22	51,982.86
Ed Grant Fund #2-Vanguard	66,468.10
<b>Educational Fund Total</b>	<b>173,274.39</b>

East Bluff Property-Vanguard	40,494.12
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21	53,837.70
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22	53,837.70
Cat Stock at FMV	82,221.58
<b>East Bluff Property Fund</b>	<b>230,391.10</b>

<b>Memorial</b>	
Memorial Fund Checking	46,688.92
Memorial Vanguard	99,606.31
<b>Memorial Fund Total</b>	<b>146,295.23</b>

Building Fund Checking	16,604.19
S.S. Fund Checking	11,272.35

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>582,981.31</b>
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Checking Account Balance	82,658.07
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>82,658.07</b>

<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Payroll Liabilities	2,545.13
Misc LCMS Orgs Fund	27.02
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,572.15</b>

<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	
Net Income (Loss)	(16,606.72)
Capital Accounts	597,015.88
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>580,409.16</b>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$582,981.31</b>
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to all our grade school, high school and college graduates.

## ST. JOHNS'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

### VOTERS ASSEMBLY MINUTES

### April 11, 2022

Ross Gould called the meeting to order. A quorum was not present so all motions will be carried over to the May meeting. Pastor Bishop opened with devotions.

The March Parish report was reviewed.

The March meeting minutes were reviewed. Daryl Dagit explained that the question raised in last month's meeting about the differences in the expenses versus the amount of bills paid was due to the payment for the insurance on the church being made on-line as opposed to being paid with a check. Therefore, the payment was not displayed with the other checks for the month.

Treasurer's Report – Daryl Dagit presented the February and March reports. Large expenses during the month of February included payments for the yearly insurance on the church and for the flooring for the basement remodel. Daryl noted that the money that was received for the sale of the parsonage was moved into a Vanguard fund instead of leaving it in the Memorial Fund checking account. Daryl also noted that the CD's in the Educational Fund and East Bluff Property accounts were renewed at the end of the year and would be renewed again at the end of this year. For the month of March income exceeded expenses. A question was asked about the higher amount of income for the month and Daryl noted that there was not one specific reason for the increase. Gary Pool indicated that it appeared that the payment for the flooring in the basement was made from the general fund but the motion that was approved indicated the funds would be taken from the Memorial Fund. Daryl indicated that he would look into this.

Board of Trustees – Gary Pool reported that the basement floor was installed last week. Vonderheide Floor Covering was short a few boxes of flooring but should be able to complete the flooring within a couple of weeks (area by stairway is not complete). Gary also extended a big thank you to Dave Kesselmayer, Dan Heisel and Jerry Norman for taking up and removing the old floor tiles on Monday so work could begin on the new flooring the next morning.

Two water heaters were replaced last week, one in the kitchen and a smaller one for the restrooms near the main entrance.

Also, Simple Green Lawn Care has been contracted to treat the lawn here at the church this season. Gary thanked John Neumann for donating the funds for this service for the past few years.

Gary also reported that the cleaning service for the church, Professional Cleaning Service of Central Illinois, will have a price increase beginning this month. The monthly rate will increase from \$677.83 to \$747.83. This is the first increase in price for their services since we began using them in January of 2011.

Gary also noted that work continues on the beams for the basement area. Valerie Ferguson thanked Gary for all the work that has been done on the remodel. Gary also thanked Garrett Kesselmayer for his work on the beams.

Board of Elders – Randy Couch reported the Elders are continuing to do home visitations. Randy indicated that they are having problems getting ahold of some members to schedule visits.

Board of Finance – No report.

Board of Christian Education – No report.

Board of Worship – Diane Gould reported that she passed around some pamphlets before the meeting. Diane also noted that the committee discussed ways to reduce the amount of paper that is used during the service for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. Diane indicated that the committee had met with the Elders and proposed purchasing the Lutheran Service Builder software. The committee has received an offer from a member to pay for the initial purchase of \$450.00. In subsequent years the price would be \$200 a year for the license. In the future if we want to try an additional Sunday service from the Lutheran Service Book, we could print the service from the software. Pastor Bishop clarified that everything in the new hymnal is in the software. The service along with the Introit and all the readings could be printed as one folder instead of using 2 different folders, as is the current format. It was noted that if hymns were used from the new service book, those could also be printed in the folder for ease of use. This would make things easier for Sandy Ferguson to prepare and for the congregation to following during the service.

Board of Evangelism – The board will be meeting tomorrow morning, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Stewardship – Brian Ford reported that the committee met tonight. He noted that 4 families received boxes from the food share program. At the current time the pantry's stock is okay but watch for updates in future bulletins. Brian also indicated that they talked about the LCMS program that is associated with the teachings of Dave Ramsey regarding handling financial matters. The committee also talked about electronic giving and looking at ACH processing. A few months ago, Janet Lawson volunteered to write thank you notes to those who had made memorial donations to the church. Janet has been following through on this and it was noted that this is appreciated.

Long Range Planning Committee – Ross Gould noted that the committee has not started to meet yet.

Educational Grant Fund Committee – No report

East Bluff Property Committee – Gary Pool reported that we have contracted with Lawns are Us to complete the mowing of the lawn at the cemetery. The fee for this service has increased this year from \$125 to \$150 for each mowing. Gary noted that currently they do not mow the ditch, which the county should actually mow. Gary asked for a quote to add that service. Mr. Weyhrich will continue to farm the land this year. The cable company has put up a fence around the property to keep people out since they have dumpsters on the property.

Constitution By-laws Committee – No report.

Unfinished business – NA

New business – There was no new business.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wagner  
Secretary

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### LIBRARY CORNER *By Eileen Tiona*



*"God saved us through the washing of  
rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit"*  
Titus 3:5

I haven't any new books to report on this month, but you are welcome to come into the Library and check out all the wonderful books that are available for your enjoyment.

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**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 May are: Elaine Hapke, McLean Co. Nursing Home, 43 Boardwalk Circle, Bloomington, 61701-1458; Ruth Hillman, 204 E. Franklin, Tremont 61568; Billie Jackson, 315 Lincoln Road, Marquette Heights and Rick & Jean Jarvis, 1101 N. 15<sup>th</sup> St., Pekin.

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

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Received thank you notes from the following:



Please receive our gratitude for your gift of \$104.17. Your fellowship and encouragement affirm that life issues involve real people, precious treasures, and not simply political controversy or personal choice. Lutherans for Life.

**THANK YOU** for your gift of \$187.50 to Concordia Seminary. Vicki Biggs, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO

Rev. Bishop & People of St. John's, your gift helps share the Passion story in 128 languages. Easter peace & joy, R. Rahm, Founder of Lutheran Heritage Foundation

## ORGANIZATIONS

### LADIES' GUILD

*By Leslie Hauk*

The St. John's Ladies Guild will hold a bake sale on Sunday, May 1 between services in the gym.

The St. John's Ladies Guild will meet on Thursday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement.

### YOUTH GROUP



Spring Clean Up Day—May 15, 2022

The Youth Group will do yard work, window washing, or other chores for seniors or other members of the congregation who could use our help.

Contact Pastor Bishop if you would like the Youth Group to help out around your home.

After we're done, we will come back to the church for pizza.

**St. John's  
Lutheran Women's Missionary League  
(LWML)**

St. John's LWML will meet June 4 at 10 a.m. in the church basement.

All ladies of the congregation are welcome.

## Good Shepherd Lutheran School Capital Campaign Update

**CAMPAIGN UPDATE** — The current Capital Campaign will officially end in May, 2023. Initial pledges were \$574,516.67, and we have currently received \$580,358.76 (not including corporate matching funds). Proceeds from these CC pledges were used to reduce our mortgage and set aside reserve funds for future mortgage payments. Our mortgage balance has been reduced from over \$1,600,000 to approximately \$1,400,000. Because this campaign ends in May, 2023, the school board will make a determination on how they wish to proceed.

**YOU MAY STILL PLEDGE!** — If you were unable to make a pledge when our Campaign began in 2018, but would still like to do so now through May, 2023, please contact our Financial Director, Christie Martis, at 309-264-4978 or [martis.c@comcast.net](mailto:martis.c@comcast.net) who will handle your pledge with the utmost privacy. We also encourage donors to use any matching programs provided by their employers. Please note that the building mortgage can ONLY be paid off through Capital Campaign donations. The school's operating funds may not be used for this purpose.

**WORK CONTINUES** — In October, 2018, an anonymous donor blessed us with the gift of the land adjacent to the school. Over the last four years, the land was cleared of the house, barn, and other outbuildings/shelters, and a new storage shed was constructed to house the lawn equipment, etc. The students are enjoying the extra green space for outside learning areas, PE space, and other recreational areas

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**GSLS** is looking for a full time Jr. High Teacher for the 2022/2023 school year. If you are an Illinois Licensed Teacher and are interested in learning more, please contact Mr. Kilgus. If you know someone who may be interested, please have them contact the school.

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### Diaper Shower

Sponsored by Peoria Area Lutherans for Life

### Mother's Day

Sunday, May 8, 2022

Please bring disposable diapers of any size to church (infant or adult).

Diapers collected will be donated to groups such as:

Esther House  
Lutheran Hillside Village  
Women's Pregnancy Center  
Washington Christian Village  
Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center



### IN OUR PRAYERS

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

#### All our shut-ins:

Pastor Niemann	Robert Scott
Stacie Kendall	Sandy Morgan
Billie Jackson	Flo McClure
Joe Goodin	Rick Jarvis
Peggy Patten	Larry Turner
Rosetta Turner	Robert Gregory
Joyce Long	Michelle Watson
Brittany Allen	Mary Mantovani
Robert Rilea	Keith Gleason
Rhonda Lappie	Jill Jennings
Peggy Farlin	Caralee Bohannon
Marlana Montgomery	Pat Flatley
Anna Knussman	Mary Beck
Donna Corso	Mae Houge
Jeff Ferree	Debee Pitchford
Paula Jensen	Butch Williams
Addie Burling	Jeff Sayles
Julie Rilea	Joe Schiavone
Susan Waddell	Lila Lisenbee
Gabriella Kesselmayr	Karen McCammon
Dan Watson	Darrell Hansen
Nancy Drockelman	Don Schoedel
Bernice Mack	

And all those who have been affected by COVID-19.

### GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL

- May 13 Early dismissal PreK @ Noon / K-8th @ 12:30 p.m.
- May 16 Sports Awards Evening @ 6:00 p.m.
- May 17 School Board Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- May 19 PTL Meeting and Fine Arts Fair @ 6:30 p.m.
- May 24 Last day for Preschool, Closing Ceremony @ 6:30 p.m.
- May 23 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony @ 6:30 p.m.
- May 26 Last Day - Early dismissal @ 11:30 a.m.

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#### SHARE PROGRAM

We would like to replenish the following items: toilet tissue, dishwashing liquid, instant mashed potatoes, cereal, hamburger helper, vegetable soup, apple sauce, canned fruit, peanut butter, pasta sauce, Gatorade (all flavors other than lemon-lime), Ensure or Boost (or generic equivalent). Monetary donations are always accepted.

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#### **Camp CILCA**

##### **May 28 Act Like Men Field Day Competition**

This event will combine work and/or play with food and sessions of teaching from God's Word on being Christian men.

##### **May 29 Annual Hog Roast**

10:30am ~ Worship  
11:30-2:30 ~ Hog Roast Dinner

##### **May 31 Junior Counselor Training**

10 am to 2 pm at Camp

##### **June 1 to July 29 Summer Camp Program**

##### **July 30 Homecoming**

Food, music, games, more!

##### **July 31 to August 5 Act Like Men Camp**

For any man who has complete high school

##### **September 4 Chicken Fry & Auction**

10:30 am Worship  
11:30-2:30 pm Chicken Fry dinner  
1 pm Live Auction Begins

**CID Scholarship Sunday is May 1st.** Four undergraduates, thirteen seminarians and one deaconess, all from our Central Illinois District, are in great financial need to help them continue their studies. Please make a generous gift on May 1<sup>st</sup> using a "Will They Always Be There?" envelope provided by your congregation, or mail your gift to:

Scholarship Sunday Gift  
Central Illinois District - LCMS  
1850 N. Grand Avenue West  
Springfield, IL 62702-1626

You may write your check payable to the "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund", which will be invested and the annual proceeds used to assist students for years to come, or to the "CID Scholarship Fund", where your gift will be used to aid students in the 2022-2023 school year. Since the need for called workers is so great, we also ask you to encourage those who are qualified to serve to consider pursuing a called church-worker vocation. Thank you for your support of our present and future pastors, teachers, and full-time church workers.

#####

Dear Fellow Redeemed:

You have my tremendous thanks for the generosity you've expressed for the people suffering from the war and violence in Ukraine. As the pain and suffering continue in eastern Europe, your Synod has been and is responding — by God's immeasurable grace.

Below is a report outlining how charitable contributions have been used already.

- More than \$45,000 has been dispatched to a congregation in Odesa, Ukraine, that is affiliated with our German Lutheran partner church body (SELK). That funding has been used to aid refugees in Lviv, Lutskfor, Vinnysia, eastern parts of Ukraine and other locales. The assistance has been used **primarily for food, medicine, travel accommodations, documents and clothes. We are positioned to provide ongoing similar grants to Ukraine upon request.**
- As Lutheran pastors in Ukraine have pivoted from the “everyday functions” of the ministry, to providing spiritual care to a war-torn people, **your Synod is using charitable donations to compensate these under-shepherds for meeting critical spiritual needs of their communities.**
- Nearly \$68,000 has been dispatched to Lutheran churches outside of Ukraine, in Latvia, Lithuania and Romania. These funds have been used for **food, housing, transportation, medicine and items for personal hygiene and care for displaced persons.** These funds are also being used to help transport fleeing Ukrainians across the border and **provide spiritual and pastoral care** in places like Riga, Saldus and other towns. We are also about to send funds to Slovakia for use at a primary (K-8) Lutheran school taking in refugees.
- Your Synod is collaborating with SELK to **support and increase the church's capacity to serve displaced peoples by providing spiritual care and physical aid** to those seeking safety and shelter in Germany.

Right now, we are contemplating and discussing what our long-term response will be in this situation, given God's abundant blessings. We are setting aside a meaningful amount of the funds we've already received **to help rebuild and assist Lutheran congregations, and to continue supporting those congregations that are caring for refugees, when the war has ended.** We are also considering the **construction of an LCMS mercy center in Romania** — strategically placed to help women and children impacted by this war. This likely will be a six-figure, long-term goal.

It's difficult to believe that this war began only a little over a month ago! **Because you care what happens to the people in Ukraine,** our response has been immediate and will last for the long haul. Contributions from God's people like you are primarily being used to provide immediate spiritual care and physical relief, and likely will be used in those fashions for some time. But there is much thought being invested into orchestrating our response, well past immediate needs.

We are able to feed and care for body and soul of those affected by this situation. You have played a significant role in expanding that ability.

As we reflect on the death and resurrection of Christ our Savior, I reflect on these words in 1 John 4:

*“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.*

*By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. **We love because he first loved us**” (1 John 4:7-19).*

**You have indeed demonstrated and continue to demonstrate Christ's love for the people of Ukraine — because you know of His deep love for you. Thank you.**

In service to our Lord Jesus, and to you,

Mark Hofman  
Executive Director for LCMS Mission Advancement  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



St. John's Lutheran Church  
711 Court St.  
Pekin, IL 61554

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## Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 259

Matt. 12:29-40

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

## Sign of Jonah

BELLY	ACCOUNT
BRINGS	AGAINST
BROOD	ANSWERED
CARRY	ANYONE
DAYS	ANYTHING
EARTH	CARELESS
EITHER	FORGIVEN
EVERY	GATHER
EXCEPT	JUDGMENT
FRUIT	OVERFLOW
JONAH	PHARISEES
MOUTH	PROPHET
SPEAKS	SPOKEN
SPIRIT	STORED
UNLESS	STRONG
VIPERS	TEACHER
WICKED	SCATTERS

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

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MORE PUZZLES AT:  
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