

# St. John's Journal

## A MEANINGFUL FATHER'S DAY

Volume 49, Issue 6

On the Third Sunday of June many Americans will observe Father's Day. This holiday, like Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, etc., is a civic observance and therefore does not find a place in the Church Year. Christian observance, of course, is determined by the life and teachings of our Lord Jesus, not by any secular agenda.

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

Nevertheless, we Christians are part of our secular society as well as Christ's kingdom. And since Christ has given us freedom with regard to such matters, we are at liberty to observe such days in our homes with our families and friends. And, undoubtedly, many of us will choose to do so.

If we do choose to observe Father's Day, why not make our observance truly meaningful? Why not take some time to reflect seriously on fatherhood? After all, God created fathers and has given instructions concerning fatherhood. If more people would take His teaching to heart, Father's Day could actually benefit more than just our nation's retail and restaurant industries; it could benefit the very fabric of our society! The following considerations from God's Word can guide you in some meaningful reflection for Father's Day.

**Fatherhood comes from God, who is Father.** To call God our "Father" is not a mere metaphor. It is not a figure of speech, but a reality. We do not call God "Father" simply because in certain respects He reminds us of our human fathers, but because He *is* Father. "Is He not your Father, who bought you, who made you and established you?" (Deut. 32:6) Human fatherhood is derived from God as Father, not vice versa. Human fatherhood is therefore a dim reflection of God's Fatherhood. Sin has greatly obscured this reflection, as we all know both from the Bible and from experience. Yet the origin of fatherhood within the very being of God is still important. From this truth flow two other important truths:

**Fathers are to be honored and respected as God's representatives in the family.** This, of course, is true also of mothers. The Fourth Commandment is "Honor your father and your mother." (Ex. 20:12) Both parents occupy divinely established and honorable offices. Yet the office of father derives from God's essence in a way that the office of mother does not. As the Father is Head within the community of the Holy Trinity, so human fathers are the head within the communities of their families. Thus, the apostle writes, "Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord." (Col. 3:18) So both children and wife ought to honor the father of the family.

**Fathers ought to reflect the chief attribute of the heavenly Father especially brightly, namely, love.** Since fatherhood derives from God the Father, human fathers ought to be like Him to the extent this is possible. Since God's premier attribute is love (1 John 4:8), fathers should be particularly loving, both to their children and wives. "Fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord." (Eph. 6:4) "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it." (Eph. 5:25) "Husbands, love your wives, and do not behave bitterly toward them." (Col 3:19) "Husbands, in the same way be understanding as you live with your wives, as with a weaker vessel, showing her honor as a co-heir of the grace of life." (1 Pet. 3:7)

Sadly, too many people today neither understand nor pay attention to these Biblical truths. Too many children dishonor their fathers. Too many wives do not live in the God-given ordering of the family, with proper respect toward their husbands. And perhaps worst of all, too many fathers are unloving to both their children and wives, failing to provide for them and sacrifice for them and discipline them and to be the spiritual leaders of their households. Some of them never even marry the mother of their children, or they abandon their wives and children altogether, which greatly harms their families and communities. If only everyone in the land would listen to what God says about this, and honor His Word!

We know most of the world will continue to ignore most of this. But we, the children of God, can and should take His Word concerning fatherhood to heart. By His grace and power, let's listen to our Father, act on His Word, and thereby benefit from it in our families and our whole society. Then Father's Day might actually make a difference!

- Pastor Bishop

Matthew  
Mark  
Luke  
John

## Christian Education

### Sunday School

*Perfect Attendance*

April 2022

None

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS



#### June 01

Nate Ford

#### June 02

Terri Grimm

#### June 03

Jennifer Decker

#### June 04

Jody Benson  
Brian Johnson

#### June 05

Molly Hicks  
Robert Hurst

#### June 06

Lois Becker  
Rachel Glassey

#### June 07

Horst Hupke  
Derrick Norman

#### June 08

Joli Andrae  
Eric Jensen  
Shelly Justi  
Parker Ruder



#### June 09

Vera Bozdech

#### June 10

Aiden Harms  
Tisha Harms

#### June 11

Austin Walls

#### June 12

Alissa Heisel  
Dylan Kesselmayr

#### June 14

Donna Hurst

#### June 15

Shane Beeney  
Elizabeth Ford  
Madison Segó

#### June 16

Opal Henry  
Martin Matthews  
Ellen Morrison

#### June 17

Joshua Hillman  
Tracy Lundeen

#### June 18

Nancy Brown  
Gregory Burris

#### June 19

Nona Buster  
Briella Hoover  
Stephanie Lundberg

#### June 20

Roman Harley

#### June 21

Alexander Jackson  
Annelize Johnson

#### June 22

Nichelle Gauger  
Jim McCann  
Ashley O'Brien  
Mickey Pitchford

#### June 23

Willa Hinkley

#### June 24

Jennifer Leach

#### June 25

Zachary Ferguson  
Olivia Theleritis

#### June 26

Stephanie Edmiston  
Janie Spelbring  
William Wiker III

#### June 27

Joy Rusk

#### June 29

Jennifer Neal

#### June 30

Marty Bohannan  
Paula Norman  
Ryann Wilson  
Carson Winstead

### JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

#### June 03

Greg & Tonya Burris

#### June 06

Jerry & Caralee  
Bohannan

#### June 12

Tim & Denise Adkins  
John & Vera Bozdech

#### June 13

Daniel & Jennifer Leach

#### June 16

Jeremy & Lena Otey

#### June 17

Dave & Jennifer  
Kesselmayr

#### June 18

Wallace & Julie  
Hammond

#### June 19

Cody & Vanessa Watson

#### June 21

Joseph & Ricki Belcher

#### June 23

Dean & Linda Cooper

#### June 24

Ray & Wilma Garber

#### June 27

Alan & Kim Gudzinskas

#### June 29

Dylan & Hannah  
Kesselmayr  
Dave & Kathleen Miller

# PARISH NOTES



## Church Attendance

April 2023— **818** —17 serv.  
 April 2022— **716** —15 serv.  
 April 2021— **684** —14 serv.

## Sunday School Attendance Year-to-Date

April 2023: **559**  
 April 2022: **508**  
 April 2021: **519**

## Videographer— June

Quest/Zane Dobbelaire

## Worship Committee— June

Paul Tackmann

## Acolytes—June

**June 4**  
 8:00 Elizabeth Sayles  
 10:30

**June 18**  
 8:00  
 10:30 Elizabeth Sayles

## Ushers—June

### 8:00

Ray Barnes  
 Daryl Dagit  
 Dave Kesselmayer  
 Garret Kesselmayer  
 Dan Rees

### 10:30

Brian Lundeen  
 Mike Nauth  
 Dan Watson  
 Mike Wilson

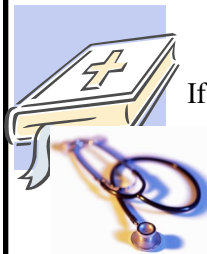
## Elders Communion Assistance

**June 4**  
 8:00 a.m. Randy Couch  
 10:30 a.m. Steve Depew

**June 18**  
 8:00 a.m. Randy Couch  
 10:30 a.m. Ross Gould

#####

## HOSPITALIZATIONS AND HOME COMMUNION VISITS



If you or someone from your family is hospitalized or scheduled to go into the hospital, please contact the church office, so that Pastor Bishop knows

about it and can visit you in the hospital. The hospitals do not contact us. Sandy calls the hospitals on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to find out if there are any St. John's members there. If you tell them when you are admitted that you are a St. John's member, you will likely be on their list. So please help us stay informed so Pastor can serve you.

If you or someone else you know in the congregation has difficulty getting to church and needs to be on the Home Communion list, even if just for a while, please contact the church office, so that Pastor Bishop can visit you. This is an important part of his pastoral work, and he wants to do his best to serve everyone in need.

Thank you for your help with this.

## TREASURER'S REPORT April, 2023



	April	Y-T-D
<b>INCOME</b>	34,421.48	124,790.48
<b>EXPENSES</b>	40,363.68	132,414.64
<b>INCOME-EXPENSES</b>	\$ (5,942.20)	\$ (7,624.16)

General Fund	9,713.61
<b>General Fund Total</b>	<b>9,713.61</b>

Ed Grant Fund Checking	2,948.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21	51,928.87
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22	51,900.80
Ed Grant Fund #2-Vanguard	63,618.38
<b>Educational Fund Total</b>	<b>170,396.61</b>

East Bluff Property-Vanguard	38,742.98
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21	53,808.61
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22	53,837.70
Cat Stock at FMV	80,738.22
<b>East Bluff Property Fund</b>	<b>227,127.51</b>

<b>Memorial</b>	
Memorial Fund Checking	29,439.43
Memorial Vanguard	98,140.52
<b>Memorial Fund Total</b>	<b>128,102.44</b>

Building Fund Checking	23,439.43
S.S. Fund Checking	12,401.91

**TOTAL ASSETS \$571,181.51**

Checking Account Balance	78,465.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>78,464.43</b>

<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Payroll Liabilities	2,726.41
Misc LCMS Orgs Fund	212.72
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,030.13</b>

<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	
Net Income (Loss)	(12,452.88)
Capital Accounts	580,695.26
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>568,242.38</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE \$571,181.51**

## Recycling Do's:

- Do recycle all empty bottles (no glass)
- Do keep food and liquid out of recycling.
- Do keep plastic bags and film out of recycling.

**HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S  
VOTERS ASSEMBLY  
May 8, 2023**

Mike Nauth called the meeting to order. A quorum was not present so all motions will be carried over to the June meeting. Pastor Bishop opened with devotions.

The April Parish Report was reviewed.

The April meeting minutes were reviewed.

Treasurer's Report – Rod Bollinger presented the April Treasurer's Report. Rod noted that we made 2 payments to Good Shepherd School during the month of April as it was thought that we were behind in payments. Rod does not believe this to be the case. This is impacting the year-to-date loss that is being reported.

Board of Trustees – Gary Pool reported that there will be a work day at the church on Saturday June, 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Trustees are hoping to get some painting and cleaning done. Volunteers are welcome! Gary reported that a group of volunteers came out to the cemetery to help clear some brush. In a previous meeting it was reported that our insurance on the church had gone up 18%. Due to some of the remodeling done at the church, we did get a credit applied to the premium. If we increase the deductible from \$5,000 to \$10,000, we could save another \$1226 annually. Gary asked for people's opinions. The Trustees will discuss raising the deductible at their next meeting.

Board of Elders – Tom Ivey reported that the Elders have been working with one family on requests for assistance. The Elders are limited in the amount of financial support they can give and, if the situation continues, may need to see how the congregation wants to proceed. Tom has been investigating ways that the family could get some assistance from the state.

Board of Finance – No report.

Board of Christian Education – No report. Mike Nauth did note that the auction was Saturday night and it went well. The 'Fund and Item' this year was to help pay down the mortgage debt. At the next school board meeting, the board will discuss how they go forward. Mike thanked everyone who participated in helping to make the auction a success.

Board of Worship – Julie Wagner reported that the Worship Committee will meet this Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>.

Board of Evangelism – Pastor Bishop reported that the committee did meet last month. The board is planning to have a booth this year at the Marigold Festival. In addition, the committee is working on having another musical program to benefit the Music for Missions program later this year.

Board of Stewardship – No report.

Long Range Planning Committee – No report. Ross Gould noted that a brief meeting was held after the April Voters Assembly meeting. Ross indicated that committees were asked to have plans by the September meeting so a Long-Range Plan can be started and then updated on a quarterly basis.

Educational Grant Fund Committee – Ross Gould indicated that a brief meeting was held after the April Voters Assembly meeting. It was indicated that we are thinking about donating the interest earned from the funds in the Educational Grant Fund to be used to offset tuition costs for students of Good Shepherd School. The interest currently goes into the General Fund. Ross read the updated purpose and eligibility requirements that are proposed for the fund. Ross and Rod Bollinger will discuss how the funds should work.

East Bluff Property Committee – No report.

Constitution By-laws Committee – No report.

Unfinished business – NA

New business – Mike Nauth indicated that Rod Bollinger has been filling in as treasurer for the school for some time. Anyone interested in taking over for Rod, please let Mike or one of the other board members know.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wagner  
Secretary

**JUNE'S LIBRARY CORNER**  
by Eileen Tiona

*You have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God." 1 Peter 1:23*

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 other wonderful books that are available for your enjoyment.

**ORGANIZATIONS**

**YOUTH GROUP**

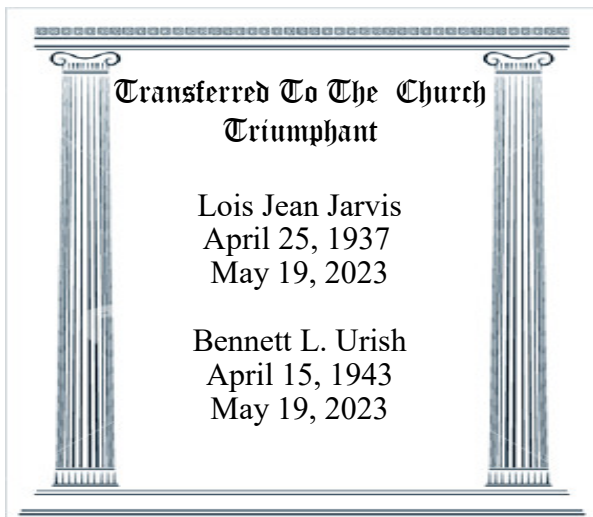
**YOUTH GROUP SIX FLAGS TRIP:** Our Youth Group will be happy to organize a trip, probably in June, if there are families who wish to go. If you are interested, please contact Tisha Harms or the church office.

*St. John's Women in Faith  
(LWML)*

will meet Saturday, June 4, for their quarterly meeting. After their meeting they will be tying quilts for their project.

All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend.

#####



The Board of Elders needs your help updating our shut-in list. If you know of anyone who should be on the list, please call the church office (347-2136) and provide their name and as much contact information as you can.

Thank you for your help in this endeavor.

**MISSING COAT** – Someone may have mistakenly taken a men's XL black Docker's coat with gloves in the pocket, probably from the coat rack by the elevator, sometime in the last couple months. If you find you have the wrong coat at home, please bring it to the church office, and you can claim the coat that is likely yours. Thank you.

Two coats have been returned to church office. One is a Dickies - 4XL and the other is Sonoma - XL.

#####

**LCMSFoundation:**

Twenty-three years ago, Frieda and Herman put their estate plan together with their attorney, right when Herman retired. Last month, the Lord called Herman home and now Frieda has an appointment next month to go to the attorney to have her will redrafted. The thought of taking Herman's name out of her will pains her. Yet, she is confident that he lives on in Jesus. She is working through that change.

The second thing she is pondering is that in her last will, it referenced all three of their children. Frederick died as a hero in Afghanistan fifteen years ago. As with Herman, Frieda clings to the resurrection hope in Jesus about Frederick as well.

In recent days, she has been considering that in the past, their estate was to be equally divided in three parts to their three children. Frederick passed without a wife or children. Frieda has a desire to make his share become a personal endowment to offer support to her congregation to assist those going through grief, all to make sure people can find their comfort in Jesus, just as she has. Her congregation is talking about a new Stephens ministry program, part of which will be directly focused on grief care. She wonders if her endowment could pay for her congregation enrolling in that program.

She scheduled an appointment with her LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor for tomorrow to discuss this. For the first time in weeks, she is feeling great energy and joy about her life, working toward this goal.

Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you too. Contact Scott Radden by emailing [scott.radden@lfnf.org](mailto:scott.radden@lfnf.org) or calling his cell phone at 618-977-4049.

**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 June are: Lois Becker, Lacon Rehab & Nursing, 401 9th St., Lacon, IL 61540; Lucille Benker, 2741 Village Ct., Pekin; Louise Brickner, 420 Capri, Pekin and Viola Deppert, Cedar Hurst of Pekin, 2700 S. 14th St., Rm. 120, Pekin.

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

#####

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

*June 4 to June 8  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Please arrive at 5:45 pm.*

*Rainforest Explorers  
Jesus Leads the Way.*

#####

**A DOLLAR FOR MISSIONS:** A Dollar for Missions invites each of us to contribute one extra dollar per week for designated mission projects in our Central Illinois District. The current project is to help one of our campus ministries, University Lutheran Church in Champaign, to purchase a 12-passenger van. Project cost: \$35,000. [See the short video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aTJMriQtV8>]

**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        | Sandy Morgan      |
| Billie Jackson        | Flo McClure       |
| Robert Rilea          | Rhonda Lappie     |
| Peggy Farlin          | Jeff Ferree       |
| Marlana Montgomery    | Paula Jensen      |
| Addie Burling         | Julie Rilea       |
| Gabriella Kesselmayer | Eileen Tiona      |
| Lois Becker           | Virginia Tackmann |
| Debi Thome            | Pat Proehl        |
| Suzanne Reising       | Kellen Norman     |
| Mark Reising          | Joyce Barnes      |
| Lee Morgan            | Carol Long        |
| Wilmadean Habberfield | Carl Hauk         |
| Diane Gould           | Danny Englebright |



Received a thank you letter for our donation from Lutherans for Life.

Received a thank you letter for Lutheran Heritage Foundation for our donation.

**The family of Lois "Jean" Jarvis** would like to thank Pastor Bishop for his many visits with our Mom. She truly enjoyed seeing and visiting with Pastor Bishop. We also thank Samuel Bishop, and the congregation for all the cards, flowers, calls, food and donations to our church and to GSLS. Many blessings.

**The Family of Eugene Woolsey** would like to thank Pastor Bishop for the many prayers and home visits and visits at Richard Owens Hospice Home. We would also like to thank the congregation for your prayers, cards, flowers and donations to St. John's and Good Shepherd Lutheran School in his name. We are very touched by all of your kindness and prayers, during a very difficult time.

*Corrections to the directory:*

**Change of address:**

- Gary Allan, 6605 Westland Rd., Casper, WY 82604
- Shane Beeney, 2215 Crestview Dr., Pekin
- Geirfridur Byers, 2739 Vista Grande, Pekin
- Wilmadean Habberfield, Pekin Manor, 1520 El Camino Dr., Rm 403, Pekin
- Jack Hall, Cedar Hurst of Pekin, 2700 S. 14th St., Rm 227, Pekin
- Billie Jackson, Cedar Hurst of Pekin, 2700 S. 14th St., Rm 217, Pekin
- Dorothy Sheckler, 1030 Audubon Dr., Unit 3, Pekin

**Transferred out:**

Laura Shadle

**Released:**

Lisa & Kylee Alexander  
Judy Erxleben

#####


**Did You Know?**

- Hummingbirds can't walk, they can only fly.
- Before rubber erasers, people used bread to remove written pencil mistakes on paper.
- Workers used 10 million bricks to construct the Empire State Building.
- Lightning strikes men about seven times more often than it does women.

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

Non-Profit Organization  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
Pekin, IL  
Permit No. 146

(Address Service Requested)

<b>Bible Wordsearch</b> 															<b>Jesus the Healer 6</b>				
WORDSEARCH 257										MATT.12:1-12									
K	N	O	W	N	H	U	N	G	R	Y	L	O	G	N	ASKED	ACCUSE			
A	N	S	W	E	R	E	D	H	E	A	L	N	S	A	BREAD	ANSWERED			
P	I	N	O	S	A	E	R	C	C	G	I	H	R	E	DAVID	CONDEMNED			
I	A	O	D	E	K	S	A	C	R	K	R	D	D	M	DESIRE	DESECRATE			
C	R	I	E	C	O	L	U	E	O	I	D	I	P	L	FALLS	DISCIPLES			
K	G	N	S	D	P	S	A	O	V	E	I	S	R	U	GOD	ENTERED			
T	D	A	I	S	E	T	L	E	N	M	V	C	I	F	GRAIN	GREATER			
E	E	P	R	Q	E	S	L	M	S	U	A	I	E	W	HEADS	HUNGRY			
B	R	M	E	R	L	E	E	H	H	D	D	P	S	A	HEAL	INNOCENT			
R	E	O	P	L	D	D	S	C	T	O	A	L	T	L	HOUSE	KNOWN			
E	T	C	A	L	N	R	P	I	R	A	U	E	S	J	JESUS	LAWFUL			
A	N	F	I	O	E	C	O	E	R	A	B	S	H	E	LORD	LOOKING			
D	E	Y	C	R	E	M	K	L	E	A	T	B	E	S	MEAN	PHARISEES			
L	S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	H	H	E	A	U	MERCY	PRIESTS			
G	O	D	T	N	E	C	O	N	N	I	S	P	Y	S	PICK	REASON			
															SHEEP	SABBATH			
															PLACE	SACRIFICE			
															TEMPLE	SHRIVELED			
																COMPANIONS			

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>      COPYRIGHT 2017      ALL RIGHTS RESERVED