

St. John's Journal

Volume 51, Issue 4

LUTHERAN DISTINCTIVES

V. Lutherans believe that God works through the Means of Grace. Part 6

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As we review Biblical teachings that are distinctive of the Lutheran Church, we remember that we recognize the preaching office as instituted by God for the preaching and teaching of His Word, and the administration of His Sacraments. Lutherans believe the office of the holy ministry is a divine institution, not an arrangement established by man for convenience, efficiency, good order, and so forth.

As with all the articles of our teaching, we receive this one also from God Himself in the Holy Scriptures. The following are some of the passages that show the office of the ministry has been established by God. In John 20:21 we hear how Jesus said to His disciples, "As the Father has sent Me, I am sending you." And then He gave them the authority to forgive and retain sins. Jesus Himself sent them to do what is properly His own work. So this is a *divine* authorization and commission, not an arrangement of human origin.

In Acts 20:28 we hear how Paul addressed the ministers of the church of Ephesus to take heed to themselves and to all the flock, "among which *the Holy Spirit* has made you overseers." Though placed into office by human instrumentality, it was God the Holy Spirit who had made them pastors.

And in 1 Corinthians 4:1 we hear how Paul taught the Christians to regard him and his associates. "Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God." The ministers are *Christ's* servants and stewards – caretakers and dispensers of *His* mysteries. These mysteries are God's gospel treasures: His Word and Sacraments.

The fact that this office was to be passed on to other men is shown in the teaching of Jesus and the actual practice of the apostles. Jesus commissioned the Eleven to make disciples of all nations by baptizing them and teaching them what He commanded them. This required them to teach more men to do what they were doing: baptizing and teaching. Otherwise they would not be able to make disciples of all nations. So this is what the apostles actually did. They taught and appointed pastors for the various churches. You may see Acts 14:23 and Titus 1:5 for examples of this. They also enlisted and trained other men to help them in their apostolic work, men such as Barnabas, Silas, Timothy, Titus, Mark, Luke, etc.

The central duty of the holy ministry is divinely established, as well. Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My sheep." *John 21:17* In love for Jesus, Peter was to feed the Lord's sheep literally with His Holy Supper, and figuratively with His Word, which is spiritual "food." Jesus also told the Eleven to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." *Mark 16:15* Paul instructed his apostolic associate Timothy to "preach the Word!" *2 Timothy 4:2* By the Lord's command, His ministers are to be occupied in the ministry of the Word, not all sorts of extraneous duties.

Based upon these and other portions of Scripture, our Lutheran Confessions state, "To obtain such faith, God has instituted the preaching office, has given the gospel and sacraments." *Augsburg Confession V:1* Again, "It is taught among us that nobody should publicly teach or preach or administer the sacraments in the church without a regular call." *Augsburg Confession XIV* Yet again, "Thus priests... are called to preach the gospel and administer the sacraments to the people." *Apology (Defense) of the Augsburg Confession XIII:9* The larger context of this passage from the Apology would be helpful to read, as well as the Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope 60-62. As always, you may borrow a copy of the Book of Concord from our church library to take home and read.

We praise God for instituting the preaching office, so that we have qualified men with God-given responsibility and authority to serve us with the Means of Grace, His Word and Sacraments. For through these gifts, God Himself works in us to create and preserve saving faith in Jesus Christ for our everlasting life!

- Pastor Bishop



Christian Education

Sunday School

Perfect Attendance

February 2025

None

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

April 02

Jeff & Leslie Norman

April 05

Joe & Trina Szadkowski

April 10

Greg & Wendy McDonald

April 13

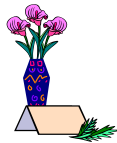
Eric & Paula Jensen

April 17

John & Althea Geiser

April 19

John & Ronda Adkins
Tim & Sandy Gay



April 25

Don & Valerie Dobbelaire

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



April 01

Randy Couch
Dan Rees

April 02

Brittany Allen
Randi Becker
Edward Gaitros
Collins Norman
Garry Slabaugh

April 03

Dave Drockelman
Iris Gaitros
Greg Hall

April 04

Lindsey Dixon
Carter Stevenson

April 07

Lilly Daniels

April 08

Darrell Hansen
Dan Watson

April 09

Edyn Kammeyer
Alicia Turner

April 11

Logan Schoch
Dane Watson

April 12

Larkin Hinkley

April 13

Jeff Norman

April 14

Shayla Kesselmayer

April 15

Bobby Gregory
Mark Scott
Mike Wagner



April 16

Dawn Bohannon
Jon Bolt

April 17

Alex Schmidgall

April 18

Dave Christy

April 19

Max Dixon, Sr.

April 19 cont.

Ron Reising
Doug Vogel

April 20

Cathy Ashbaker

April 21

Dave Becker
Kevin Dupent
Addison Nelson

April 22

Jim Buster
Michelle Gregory

April 23

Dan Dobbelaire
Lisa Oller
Vanessa Watson

April 24

Lucille Benker
Ray Garber
Drew Jackson
Maxine Oliverius
Paul Tackmann

April 25

Josh Donovan
Kingston Hamlet
Kathy Heisel

April 26

William Wiker III

April 27

Chris Ashbaker

April 28

Elaine Hapke
Andrea Yergler

April 29

Chris Bitner
Mikayla Wilson

April 30

Diane Fornoff
Amy Swibold

If you know of someone in one of the Carle Health hospitals, please contact the church office. They are not able to tell us who is in the hospital unless we have a name to check on. Thank you.

WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE

STUDY resumes Wednesday, April 23, at 7:00 in the basement classroom. We will continue our reading and discussion (section by section) of the Gospel of Luke. Everyone is welcome.

PARISH NOTES

Church Attendance

Feb 2025 420 12 services
 Feb 2024 615 15 services
 Feb 2023 561 13 services

Sunday School Attendance

Feb 2025: 219
 Feb 2024: 252
 Feb 2023: 293

Videographers - April

Lexi & Lilly Daniels

Worship Committee - April

Diane Gould

April Communion Assistance

April 6

8:00 a.m. Vince Tennell
 10:30 a.m. Brian Ford

April 17

7:00 p.m. Dave Drockelman

April 20

8:00 a.m. Jon Bolt
 10:30 a.m. Ross Gould

Ushers - April

8:00

Jim Lonergan
 Scott Stalter
 Merle Wiseman

10:30

Brian Ford
 Nate Ford
 Trent Hoover

Acolytes—April

April 2

7:00 p.m. Silas Gould

April 6

10:30 a.m. Silas Gould

April 9

7:00 p.m. Kenna Donovan

April 13

10:30 a.m. Kenna Donovan

April 17

7:00 p.m. Silas Gould

April 18

7:00 p.m. Kenna Donovan

April 20

10:30 a.m. Silas Gould

April 27

10:30 a.m. Kenna Donovan

LENT AND HOLY WEEK

Preaching Series:

"Meditations from St. John's Passion"

Apr 2:

Sermon: "Jesus Was Crucified as the Innocent Son of God" John 19:6-7

Apr 9:

Sermon: "Jesus Was Crucified in the Middle" John 19:17-18

Apr 17: Maundy Thursday

Sermon: "Jesus Loved His Own to the End" John 13:1

Apr 18: Good Friday

Sermon: "Jesus Was Pierced that We May Believe" John 19:34-36a, 37b

ABOUT THE SERMON SERIES:

The Holy Spirit blessed His church with the gift of four Gospel books. Each is unique, presenting its own emphases on the meaning of the words and works of Jesus Christ. For this reason each Gospel is complementary to the other three. This is true also, and one might assert, especially in the Passion narratives. In these short Meditations from St. John's Passion we hear some of the unique accents of the Gospel of John. His Passion account leads us to see Jesus fully in control throughout, deliberately and lovingly taking action for the salvation of the world. God bless us all as we hear and ponder the word of Christ!

TREASURER'S REPORT

February 2025

	February	Y-T-D
INCOME	23,481.73	46,727.63
EXPENSES	32,004.55	68,622.73
INCOME-EXPENSES	(\$ 8,522.82)	(\$21,895.73)

General Fund	10,488.12
General Fund Total	10,488.12

Ed Grant Fund Checking	1,948.56
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/21	51,863.96
Ed Grant CD LCMS 12/22	51,835.93
Ed Grant Fund #2-Vanguard	64,691.95
Educational Fund Total	170,340.40

East Bluff Property-Vanguard	39,386.51
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/21	53,741.35
East Bluff CD LCMS 12/22	53,770.40
Cat Stock at FMV	126,918.65
East Bluff Property Fund	273,816.91

Memorial Fund Checking	40,747.12
Memorial Vanguard	96,823.24
Memorial Fund Total	137,570.36

Building Fund Checking	23,223.33
S S Fund Checking	11,750.89

TOTAL ASSETS \$627,190.01

Checking Account Balance	88,158.02
TOTAL	88,158.02

LIABILITIES

Payroll Liabilities	2,882.50
Misc LCMS Orgs Fund	103.13
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,985.63

FUND BALANCE

Net Income (Loss)	(21,212.73)
Capital Accounts	645,417.11
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	624,204.38

TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE \$627,190.01

EASTER LILIES: If you would like to provide an Easter Lily for our Easter services, please call Joyce Lonergan at 309-267-5286 or the church office (309-347-2136). The cost is \$17.00. Thank you.

HI-LITES OF ST. JOHN'S VOTERS ASSEMBLY
March 10, 2025

Ross Gould called the meeting to order. A quorum was present. Pastor Bishop opened with devotions.

The February Parish Report was reviewed. A motion was made by Dave Kesselmayer, seconded by Julie Wagner, to approve the February Parish Report. Motion carried.

The February meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Brian Ford, seconded by Cheryl Ivey, to approve the February meeting minutes. Motion carried

Treasurer's Report – Rod Bollinger reviewed the February Treasurer's Report. Income for the month was \$23,481.73 with expenses of \$32,004.55 for a net loss of \$8,522.82. Year-to-date, we are sitting at a deficit of \$21,895.10. Rod indicated that we can't sustain many more negative months. He is waiting for results for March as some people give on a quarterly basis. Rod indicated that our expenses for the committees, except for the Finance Committee, are running below budget at this point so it doesn't seem to be a spending issue by the committees but more so increased costs and lower income. Most expenses on the check register were normal. It was indicated that the insurance premium payment has not appeared on the check register yet. John Neumann motioned, seconded by Dodie Sheckler, to approve the February Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Board of Trustees – Dave Kesselmayer reported that they met with Johnson Mechanical regarding the coffee machine, and it has been ordered. The price is a little cheaper than we thought as money was deducted for a water filter. Dave thanked Steve and Faye Kesselmayer for donating a cabinet and countertop for the coffee machine. The new coffee machine is 110 volts so it should be more efficient than the old machine. The last day for the current cleaning crew is March 15th. Dave will continue to look for other companies to hire for the cleaning of the church. Dave provided a follow-up on the insurance for the church. We thought that we had a choice of 2 bids but one fell through. We have gotten insurance through Gearhart (Brotherhood Mutual) with a premium of \$21,000.00. Dave indicated that they made suggestions as to ways to reduce that premium. We will still have to have work done on the electrical panels and the roof. The Trustees are looking at 3 electrical companies and at Kreiling Roofing to make the repairs.

Board of Elders – Ross reported that the board met and elected officers. They discussed the next quarterly dinner. Discussions continue regarding contacting

members who haven't been to church in a while. There was one request for assistance with a utility bill. The Elders will serve the dinner before the April 2nd Lenten service.

Board of Finance – No report.

Board of Christian Education – Laura Dobbelaire reported that the board met last week. The next youth activity is a film and pizza this coming Sunday. The committee is still looking for a superintendent. If you are interested, please let Laura know. Also, the committee is looking for someone to help with Vacation Bible School this summer. If interested, once again, please let Laura know. The auction is coming up at the end of the month. There are still tickets available.

John Neumann reported for Good Shepherd Lutheran School. They are in the process of trying to finalize the budget for the coming year. They hope to have final figures in April. The goal is to be done by May. The balance on the mortgage loan currently stands at around \$488,700.00. John indicated that it will probably be down to \$476,000.00 at the end of March. John indicated there will be an announcement at the auction regarding the capital campaign. The school association insures the school, the Ewe's Treasures building, and the rental property behind Ewe's Treasures. They are looking into adding insurance for Ewe's Home Furnishings onto that policy. If the insurance is moved to that policy, it would reduce what Ewe's Home Furnishings pays the church for rent.

Board of Worship – Julie Wagner reported that the committee met prior to the Lenten service on the 5th. Dodie Sheckler has joined the committee. Julie is not having any luck finding a pianist to accompany the choir. The committee would like to purchase altar cloths for the chapel as we currently don't have any. Jim Lonergan investigated and to get the 5 cloths (red, green, white, purple, and blue) and a white runner cloth would cost a total of \$4,502.50. The Worship Committee motioned, seconded by Diane Gould, to use \$4,502.50 from the Memorial Fund to pay for the altar cloths. Motion carried.

Board of Evangelism – Jennifer Kesselmayer indicated that the committee is discussing a potluck to take place in May. They will discuss this more at the next meeting. Val Ferguson, Dave Drockelman, and Dave and Jennifer Kesselmayer attended the Small Church Summit at Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 22nd. Val indicated there were members there from Sand Prairie, Trinity, and several other churches. The topic of the summit was 'Witnessing Helps'. Following are Val's notes along with links for free materials:

- There are four posters displayed in the gym about this for reference
- Dr. Ken Schurb, Evangelism Executive CID (has preached here at St. John's and was also on the Martin Luther video series we watched in Bible Class during the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation), presented the information at the summit
- Witnessing areas discussed were:
 - Beginning an Evangelistic Conversation
 - Listening Discerningly to a Non-churched Person
 - Making a Simple Statement of the Gospel

Defending the Resurrection

The materials he discussed can be found at <https://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-witness-ministry.html>

- ◆ After lunch there were breakout sessions for more discussion and information sharing

We learned a lot about many valuable resources provided free of charge by our own Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod <https://www.cidlcms.org/outreach-witness-ministry.html>

We got particularly excited about several tools and training modules available to us in the category of revitalization <https://www.cidlcms.org/ministry-revitalization.html>

We have already shared and talked about this with Pastor Bishop and the Evangelism Committee and Dave Drockelman will be sharing with the Elders at their next meeting later this month

We hope to have more information to share at upcoming Voter's Meetings about potential ways for St. John's to take advantage of these helpful resources

In the meantime, please feel free to check them out yourselves via the links provided and feel free to ask questions or share your thoughts with any of us who attended, the Evangelism Committee, and/or the Elders.

Board of Stewardship – No report.

Long Range Planning Committee – Ross Gould indicated that the last meeting of this committee took place sometime in 2018. Ross gathered 3 sets of notes and will compile them so the committee can move forward.

Educational Grant Fund Committee – Ross Gould indicated in the past there was some discussion as to what to do with the proceeds of these investments. Last year we made about \$6,500.00 in interest. Ross is open to discussion as to what to do with the proceeds. A question was asked as to whether we were losing any students due to their inability to pay tuition. John Neumann indicated that no we were not. Ross indicated that we could discuss it further if there were ideas as to what to do with the money. There is money at the school in the scholarship fund that can be used. A question was asked as to whether we could use this money to reimburse the scholarship fund. Ross stated that he thought that the Fund-An-Item at the auction was also going to help benefit the scholarship fund.

East Bluff Property Committee – No report.

Constitution By-laws Committee – No report.

Unfinished business – No unfinished business.

New business – An inquiry was made as to whether some of the funds in the Memorial Fund were restricted for a particular use. Rod Bollinger indicated that to his knowledge there are no restrictions. It was noted that a large part of the money in the fund is from the sale of the parsonage. A question was asked about setting up an endowment. Ross indicated that if there was interest in this it could be explored further.

A motion was made by Bob Oliverius, seconded by Brian Ford, to close the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Wagner
Secretary



The family of Verlyn L. "Butch" Williams would like to THANK Pastor Bishop and the congregation for the many visits and calls that Dad received during his hospitalizations and shut-ins at home over the past 2-3 years! We know Dad really enjoyed seeing everyone as well! We would also like to thank the congregation for the many cards, flowers and donations to the Wounded Warrior Project and the Paul Towne Memorial Amvets and your thoughts and prayers during the last difficult 4 years! Edward, Tina & Harold Williams.

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

Thank you again for your wonderful gift and also for keeping the Seminar and its future servants of Christ in your prayers. Vicki Biggs, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis.

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

MARCH LIBRARY CORNER

By Eileen Tiona



"Jesus thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in Him." John 2:11.

I haven't any new books to report on this month, but would like to invite everyone to come into the library and check out all the wonderful books that are available.



St. John's Church Rummage & Bake Sale will be held April 25 & 26 from 8:00 to 2:00.

Members only can shop on Thursday, April 24 from 8:00 to 2:00.

If you still have donations, please have them at the church by Noon Wednesday, April 16. If you have questions, please call Kathy Heisel (309) 346-7066

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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.

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St. John's LWML
Women in Faith

will be collecting items for the You are Loved project. You are Love collect items to put in bags to give to residents at Pekin nursing homes.

Items are: large print word search, pens/pencils, snacks (also diabetic friendly ones), lip balm, tissues, and lotions (scent free or regular).

Thank you.

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SHUT-INS for 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: Adam Miller, 2007 Willow, Pekin; Loretta Newman, Sunset Rehab & Health Care, 129 S. 1st Ave., Canton 61520 and Hazel Nichols, 1106 S. 8th St., Pekin.

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

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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 |
| Robert Rilea | Jeff Ferree |
| Peggy Farlin | Debbie Miller |
| Addie Burling | Julie Rilea |
| Eileen Tiona | Keith Gleason |
| Gabriella Kesselmayr | Paula Jensen |
| Pat Proehl | Kellen Norman |
| Joyce Barnes | Lee Morgan |
| Ray Garber | John Durdle |
| Rosetta Turner | Melvyn Gentry |
| Kathy Daly-Unfricht | Bob Hurst |
| Michelle Watson | Pam Woolsey |
| Shirley Gentry | Tom Lappie |
| Cameron Conway | Bobby Gregory |
| Donna Pool | Honor Deiss |
| Marcille Frevort | Tina Williams |

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL

- April 2 - 9 School Book Fair
- April 4 School Improvement Day, Early Dismissal
- April 10 K-8 Spring Musical 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.
- April 12 - 21 Spring Break -No School
- April 22 Students & Staff return/classes resume
- April 27 GSLS All School Choir to sing at St. John's, Pekin @ 10:30 service

The GSLS Board had Trip Rodgers, LCMS Central Illinois District Education Rep, talk to them about Lutheran School Accreditation. This is something we are going to seriously move forward with. Mr. Kilgus just returned from an Accreditation for Zion Lincoln. He learned some things that GSLS needs to do to get things started on this. A big thing is building the church/school, school/church connection and making sure everyone is "school purpose" driven. Mr. Kilgus also learned that this is a long process and multiple members, including the Pastors, from each church need to be involved



PASTORAL MATTERS AND CONCERNS

If anyone is in need of visits from your Pastor, please let us know. Leave a message with the secretary and the Pastor will return your call.

If someone needs to be placed on the Shut-in list, please contact the office. Pastor Bishop visits our shut-ins monthly.

If you know of someone entering the hospital, please contact the office so Pastor will be able to visit the individual.

Help your pastor to serve you better! Keep him informed as to your needs. *"Ask and you shall receive!"*

GREETERS: It is always nice to have someone greet us as we come into church. So, we have placed sign-up sheets for April and May on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Please consider being a greeter.

REQUEST FOR PHOTOS: The Board of Evangelism wants to collect photos that could be used in a future church directory. If you have any high-quality photos from the past couple of years that you can share, please email those to the church office email inbox: stjohnsec@grics.net (put "Church Photos" in the subject line). The Board especially welcomes photos that depict the following activities:

- o Choir
- o Handbells
- o Youth activities
- o Sunday School openings
- o Adult Bible classes
- o Volunteers working on landscaping
- o Annual rummage sale
- o Christmas caroling
- o Church potlucks

Also, please help capture NEW photos in the coming months. Your assistance will be much appreciated!

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT WANTED – Our Board of Christian Education is seeking a volunteer for this position. Primary duties are taking and recording attendance for Sunday School and Bible Class, taking care of the Sunday School offering, helping to coordinate teachers and their schedules, and communicating to Sandy the materials that need to be ordered. If you might be interested, please contact Laura Dobbelaire at 309-349-5822.

CHRISTIAN BOARD OF EDUCATION is looking for a liaison to help with VBS this summer, June 8-12th? This person would help with kitchen and snack duties. We need someone ASAP. You can contact **Laura Dobbelaire** at 347-6214.

JELLY BEAN PRAYER

Red is for the blood He gave.
Green is for the grass He made.
Yellow is for the sun so bright.
Orange is for the edge of night.
Black is for the sins we made.
White is for the grace He gave.
Purple is for His hour of sorrow.
Pink is for our new tomorrow.
A bag of jelly beans, colorful and sweet.
Is a prayer- -a promise- -an Easter treat.

Friends are a very rare jewel, indeed.
They make you smile and encourage you to succeed.
They lend an ear, share a word of praise and they always open their hearts to us.

CORRECTIONS Please notify Sandy Ferguson, our church secretary, of any corrections that need to be made in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, birthday or wedding anniversary lists, etc. If a date or something else is wrong, or if anybody has been omitted from something, we want to get it right. Also, if you are not in the rotation of Greeters, but would like to be, please let us know that, too. We want to have all our information fully accurate and as up to date as possible. Thank you for your help. You may phone the church office with your information at 347-2136, send a note in the mail, or e-mail Sandy at: stjohnsec@grics.net.

Camp CILCA's Spring Work Day will be Saturday, April 5 from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Lots of fun things to do:

- Sweep out buildings
- Rake leaves
- Open beach shed
- Lunch will be provided

4124 Camp CILA Road, Cantrall, IL
 Email address is camp@cilca.org

Camp CILCA Homecoming is August 2. This will be CILCA's only fundraiser for the year (replacing the Hog Roast and Chicken Fry). There will be live music, a vendor fair, great food, swimming, square dancing, face painting, wagon rides and more. Mark your calendar to celebrate CILCA's 75th anniversary in style!



“Did You Know?”
 by Peoria Area Lutherans for Life:
 Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel motivated voices for life.

By week 6, a baby's nose, mouth, fingers, toes, and ears are forming. Bones replace cartilage and the baby's teeth begin to form. Some of the many milestones in the miracle of life.

LCMS Foundation:

As we continue to think about the tensions involved in Christian estate planning, this month we focus on how differences in opinion among family can create enough roadblocks to keep a plan from moving forward.

Imagine a husband and wife who have children, who have wandered into difficulties in their lives. Dad is the softy, just wanting to make their children's lives easier. Mom is stricter, demanding the children take responsibility for their behaviors. At times, this difference has created strain on their marital relationship.

Now imagine this same couple trying to jointly decide on a solid Christian estate plan. Dad wants to evenly divide the estate as lump sum inheritance between their three children. Mom wants to spread inheritance over time. She also believes that her children will waste resources given to them, so she is motivated to support gifts for ministry. You can imagine that the typical response to this tension is avoidance. As a result, their last estate documents are forty years old, created before their children were born.

For this couple, the key will be to have open, prayerful discussion about their goals, looking to create a consensus about what is the Lord's will for use of His things.

Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can assist in a situation like this. While they aren't a marriage counselor, they can safely ask some questions that the couple has been avoiding. They can remind about the safe place we have in the grace of God. To get started in this faith journey, contact Scott Radden, Gift Planning Counselor at (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org. (618) 977-4049 or Scott.Radden@lfnd.org.

A mom texts her teenage son while he's out with friends: "Hi! What do IDK and TTYL mean?" He texts back, "I don't know, love you & talk to you later." The mom replies, "It's okay, don't worry about it. I'll ask you sister. Love you!"

Transferred To The Church Triumphant		
Butch Williams 7/25/1946 1/31/2025	Terry Adkins 1/13/1942 2/12/2025	Veva Martin 7/13/1942 2/14/2025
Donald Schoedel 5/18/1939 3/7/2025	Helen Burden 2/12/1925 3/8/2025	Viola Deppert 3/29/1933 3/8?2025

(Address Service Requested)

Bible Wordsearch

Wordsearch 259

Matt. 12:29-40

Sign of Jonah

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

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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