

FEBRUARY 2019 REPORTER

St. John Lutheran Church

Fruit

Read Ephesians 5:1-10 and Psalm 119:153-160

Walk in love, as Christ loved us.
Ephesians 5:2

Faith alone saves, but faith is never alone. Love is the fruit of faith; it always follows faith, so do the Lord's Christians -- those who believe in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit -- always abound in works of love toward their neighbors.

We love only because Jesus first loved us. His love gives pattern and shape to our love for others. As the Holy Spirit

sanctifies us -- makes us holy and renews us in the image of Christ -- Christ's love is made manifest in our own lives. As we are sanctified, we are given to love as Christ loved.

And yet, as Christians, we still need to hear the Law. We need the Law because we still have in us the old Adam, who persists in sin and rebellion against God. We need the Law to curb our desires, show us our own sin, and bring us to repentance. After all, we haven't loved as Christ loved us.

Yet, even as the Law accuses us, we still rejoice in it. It is the Lord's will for our life and our guide for how to serve God and our neighbor; it shows us how God has created us to be. And we rejoice in knowing that the Holy Spirit is bringing His work in us to completion. At Christ's coming, we will finally love perfectly, even as we have been perfectly loved by Him.

Jesus, help me to love others as You have loved me. Amen.

[taken from Portals of Prayer,
February 14, 2019]



LWML highlights for December ...

“Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Colossians 3:17

A quote from Hopeful Living Devotions ... “There’s a difference between generosity and hospitality. Generosity is centered on giving things; hospitality is centered on giving self. Many of us find it easier to be generous than hospitable.” My prayer is that we will continue to be

generous but also learn what it means to be truly hospitable as we follow Jesus example.

\$350 has been sent to Mission Central to help support Missionary Michael Schempf as he leaves the states this week to begin the Lord’s work at the Seminary in Uganda.

Several activities coming up but not fully planned ... “Serving Hands Day” in February for any adult or child to help with various projects, preparing a Lenten supper in March or April, and visiting disabled members in April. Please look for details in the bulletin and on Facebook.

St. John LWML invites all ladies to join us in the New Year and experience the Christian fellowship and spiritual growth that will be

yours!! May God bless you and your families with His love, comfort and peace in 2019!

For a more detailed report of LWML activities please see the monthly publication of the *Going Round in Circles* available at a circle meeting or the church office.

UPCOMING DATES ...

→ **Tues. Feb. 5, 7 p.m.** Joy Circle (church basement)

→ **Wed. Feb. 6, 1:00 p.m.** Hope/Love Circles (church basement)

Bible Study - “Lord, I Can’t Handle This” is on page 22 of the new Winter Quarterly.

→ **Tues., Feb. 26,** LWML Board meeting

Serving the Lord with gladness,
Rosalie Neumeyer

CLS Update

- Chapel is Wednesdays, 8:30-9:00 a.m. -- join us!
- 4th graders go to West-ridge each month to visit with residents
- CLS recently finished our NLSA visit for our reac-creditation
- Sunday, Feb. 3, 16th Annual German Dinner & Silent Auction at CLS. The dinner (free will donation) is a benefit for the operational expenses of the education ministry of CLS. Call Mrs. Marcum 542.3657 to make reservations - 11:00-1:00
- Prayer Warrior Team; a monthly email prayer tree. If you want to be a part of this team or have questions contact Mrs. Gosa at kgosa@cls.k12.ia.us or call the school at 542.3657 and leave a message for her
- We're collecting cans to raise money for the 7th & 8th grade students upcoming Washington D.C. trip; drop off cans at any time; the can cage is located just past the garbage dumpster
- "Adopt-a-student" tuition program; if you want to donate to this program, please contact Mr. Gosa.

Upcoming Events:

- ♦ Sunday, **Jan. 27** - K-3 Choir singing at St. John
- ♦ Sunday, **Feb. 3** - German Dinner
- ♦ **Feb. 7-8** - NO SCHOOL - winter break
- ♦ Tuesday, **Feb. 12** - Page County Spelling Bee 6:30 p.m. at CLS

- ♦ Thursday, **Feb. 21** - Mathletics in St. Joseph
- ♦ Friday, **March 13** - Grandparents Day

Noah's Ark



Greetings!

Thank you always for your gracious giving hearts and all of your prayers for the families and staff at Noah's Ark. We are so very blessed to work with some of the most treasured gifts that God has given us; children. Our little one's are constantly growing and changing, which makes for some challenges, but the blessings and laughter truly out weigh the challenging days. We have a few little one's who are learning to walk and getting faster each and everyday. Many of our 1 and 2 year old's are finding their voices and words, which is so very exciting for them and for us as communication becomes easier. The three year old's are learning social skills, patience, sitting still, taking turns, learning ABC's, shapes and colors. Our four and five year old's are working on letter sounds and putting letters together to make words, soon to be reading.

It is so amazing to watch these little one's go through each

stage of development as confident and independent learners. But, nothing blesses my heart more than to hear them singing Jesus Loves Me while playing and wanting to say every prayer at meal time! They talk about Jesus and reflect that learning in every day activities. The mission of Noah's Ark truly is a blessing to so many families, in fact, we serve 62 children ages 6 weeks to 10 years of age through the childcare and preschool program.

Along with the learning that takes place at Noah's Ark, we are very pleased with the decision to vendor with Clarinda Regional Medical Center for lunch. This has been a wonderful change to our program and the meals are excellent. We are thankful for the hospital cooking staff and all that they do to prepare healthy lunches for our children.

If you are wanting to donating to Noah's Ark, we are always in need of snack foods for the children's morning and afternoon snack. Snack items that can be donated include: Ritz Crackers, goldfish, Triscuits, Whole Wheat Saltine Crackers, Graham Crackers, cups of unsweetened fruit, unsweetened applesauce string cheese, pretzels. Other items or supplies that are always welcome: napkins, paper towels, plastic silverware, Kleenex, Dawn soap and ALL laundry detergent.

God's Blessings,
Melinda Norton - Director

Grandma's Bible

study meets bi-monthly at 5:00 p.m. with the 1st Tuesday at Lois Wagoner's and the 2nd Tuesday at Clythia Brown's.

If you want to know more, contact Clythia at 542.2828.



Christian stewards are generous with all that God has entrusted to their care.

[from The Center for Stewardship, Concordia Seminary]

Porters Lake Reminders

- Family skating is held the 1st & 3rd Fridays of the month from 6-9 PM. Skating is open to the public and cost is \$4 per skater.
- Volunteers are needed to assist with skating parties. If you are interested or have questions please call Ron Eichhorst, 542.5436.



The Lutheran Hour is aired every Sunday. Area station listings: 7:00 a.m. KOIL (1290 AM), Omaha, NE; 7:30 a.m. WHO (1040 AM), Des Moines, IA; 7:30 a.m. KMA (960 AM); 8:00 a.m. KCMO (710 AM), Mission, KS; 8:30 a.m. KFEQ (680 AM), St. Joseph, MO; 9:30 a.m. KJAN (1220 AM), Atlantic, IA.

STAY CONNECTED!

We want to know ...

Did you move?

Change your email?

Disconnect the landline?

Need someone to pray for you?

Keep us updated so we can keep in touch!

712.542.3708

stjohnlcms@mediacombb.net

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE:

9:15 a.m. Preschool thru Grade 12 (Sept.-May); 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Class

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Saturdays at 6:00 p.m. Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

COMMUNION CELEBRATION:

1st & 3rd Sundays of each month and the Saturdays before these Sundays

WEBSITE: www.stjohnclarinda.org

EMAIL: stjohnlcms@mediacombb.net

FACEBOOK: St. John Lutheran Church-Clarinda

YOUTH FACEBOOK: St. John's Lutheran Youth Group

Bell tower ... There are moisture issues in the bell tower that need repaired. Cost for repair is \$23,800.00. To donate directly to this project, please make checks payable to St. John and indicate "capital project" on the memo line.

Food Pantry Sunday is the fourth Sunday of each month



There are baskets in the narthex and the education hallway for donations -- paper products, cleaning supplies, personal care items, and non-perishable food items collected are taken to the Clarinda Community Center.