

# MESSENGER

St. Johns Lutheran Church  
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St. Louis, MO 63116  
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MAY 2016

SAVED TO SHARE  
CALLED TO CARE



## Stranger Things Can Happen

So this guy comes into the church parking lot and yells from his car, "I can fix that for you right now, \$175," as he looks at my rusted gas tank and scrape on the left front bumper. Sounds like one of those things too good to be true. So after our conversation where he does all the talking, we agree. Well, if you have seen my car lately it looks a little different now. Strange thing it doesn't look better. It began with the whole issue of time. "Fine," I said, "after I get



back from my visit." Thinking he had to get the stuff to do it. He was thinking now, this moment in time. Everything is in the car, he said. I guess stranger things can happen, if he has the right color of paint to match my car's color, a miracle. It was obvious I was getting into the car to leave, but made no sense to him. We both had a



The Church Picnic has been postponed at this time. More details to come!!



Executive Council Meeting  
Sunday, May 15 11:30am.

*"Truth is stranger than fiction, but because Fiction is obliged to stick to possibilities; Truth isn't."*

*-Mark Twain*

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different understanding of what now meant. But stranger things have happened. We set the time later, 3:00 pm. Strange he didn't show up. He calls, I come out to watch him do his magic. Strange, I thought, he did the work before I could watch. Strange, he left it unfinished and not painted. I knew it would take longer. "All done," he says. Strange I thought he said he would fix it. That part was not in the price. "Well, do it now," I said, strange but the compound is still wet, "I'll do it later, tomorrow but I need my money," I wrote him a check for the unfinished work. Strange, he could not accept it, "only cash" he said. "What's wrong with my check, I'm good for it," Stranger things can happen. I went to the bank, paid him \$140. Looking at me strangely, he said "I thought we agreed on \$175," "yeah when the work is done." He accepted the money, promising me he would be back to finish the job and receive the other \$45. Strange I thought we agreed on \$175 not \$185, "the price went up," he said, because he has to buy the paint. Strange two weeks later, work not complete. Strange the car looks worse that when it was rusted.

Philip asks Jesus, Show us the Father, and it is enough for us. Strange you ask, Philip you have already seen the Father, if you have seen me. For Philip stranger things can happen. You think all is understood and Philip who has been with Jesus for three years thinks it strange that Jesus and the Father can be one. He looks like a rabbi, teacher even a prophet, but strangely enough He claims to be God. When it comes to our knowing Jesus we think He is as familiar as the back of our hand. Then out of nowhere He says the strangest things like "I am in the Father and the Father is in me." Or "you will do works that I do; and greater works!" Or try this strange verse, "whatever you ask in my name, I'll do it." Stranger things can happen especially if you believe in Jesus. Get ready, Ascension is upon us, for stranger things are gonna happen. One last question Jesus before you go, "Will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" Listen to the strange answer, "it is not for you to know the times... but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you." The great thing about Jesus communication with us is though strange, is true as he speaks. Believe it, or not.

Field Workers Justin Kumfer, Mark Harris and Jordan Tomesch received their calls on April 26



Justin called to  
Our Savior Way Lutheran Church  
Ashburn, VA  
Assistant Pastor



Mark called to Grace Lutheran  
Church Winter Haven, FL  
Associate Pastor



Jordan called to Germany with  
LCMS Office for International  
Mission

## Social Ministry

**Mother's Day food drive will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup>.** Grocery bags, with a list of suggested grocery items attached, will be given out on Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>. On Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup> (Mother's Day), return the grocery bags with the food you purchased to church and place in the food bin in the back of church.

We give God all the glory for tending to all of our personal needs, and especially for continuing to bless the food pantry with all the provisions that are needed to function. Families continue to iterate how blessed they are by the help they receive from us.

The Food Pantry will be CLOSED, Saturday, May 28.

**Jesus said to His disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on." (Luke 12:22)**

## Mother's Day Food Drive

### Needed:

Jelly, Peanut butter, Cereal  
Canned Vegetables: Green  
Beans- Corn – Peas – Tomatoes  
Mixed Vegetables – Potatoes –  
Pork & Beans  
Canned Meats: Tuna – Vienna  
Sausages – Stew – Canned Spaghetti/Ravioli  
Chicken – Ham – Salmon etc.  
Canned Fruits  
Mac & Cheese  
Noodles  
Canned Soups - Chili  
Spaghetti and Spaghetti Sauce  
Boxed pasta of any kind  
Box Dinners  
Muffin Mixes – Cake Mixes etc.  
Juice  
Toilet paper  
Bar Soap – Soap powder – Dish Washing Liquid –  
Shampoo



Lutheran Foundations and The Nine Network have teamed up to help area Lutheran Churches create 3-5 minute documentaries on how their church serves the community. The Nine Lab is providing digital storytelling classes and the equipment to create the documentaries.

St. Johns Food Pantry is a great resource to our community and is the main focus of our story.

Thank you to the Food Pantry volunteers and patrons for allowing us to video over the last several weeks. A special thanks to Karl, James, and Pastor for their personal interviews!

Stay tuned for an opportunity to view St. Johns' story and other Lutheran organization's stories at the Nine Network and on YouTube!

Cheryl and Matt Hennkens

# Parish Health

## EARTHQUAKE PROTECTION:

The catastrophic earthquake in Ecuador is a reminder to all of us to be prepared if this type of event happens here.



What should you do during and after earthquake? During earthquakes, drop to the floor; take cover under a sturdy desk or table, and hold on to it firmly. Be prepared to move with it until the shaking stops. The area near the exterior walls of a building is the most dangerous place to be. Windows, facades and architectural details are often the first parts of the building to collapse. To stay away from this danger zone, stay inside if you are inside and outside if you are outside.

### If you are...

**INDOORS:** Drop, cover, and hold on. If you are not near a desk or table, drop to the floor against the interior wall and protect your head and neck with your arms. Avoid exterior walls, windows, hanging objects, mirrors, tall furniture, large appliances, and kitchen cabinets with heavy objects or glass. Do not go outside! **IN BED:** If you are in bed, hold on and stay there, protecting your head with a pillow. You are less likely to be injured staying where you are. Broken glass on the floor has caused injury to those who have rolled to the floor or tried to get to doorways. **IN A HIGH-RISE:** Drop, cover and hold on. Avoid windows and other hazards. Do not use elevators. Do not be surprised if sprinkler systems or fire alarms activate. **OUTDOORS:** Move to a clear area if you can safely do so; avoid power lines, trees, signs, buildings, vehicles, and other hazards. **DRIVING:** Pull over to the side of the road, stop, and set the parking brake. Avoid overpasses, bridges, power lines, signs and other hazards. Stay inside the vehicle until the shaking is over. If a power line falls on the car, stay inside until a trained person removes the wire. **IN A STADIUM OR THEATER:** Stay at your seat and protect your head and neck with your arms. Don't try to leave until the shaking is over. Then walk slowly watching for anything that could fall in the aftershocks.

*Blood pressures are taken on the third Sunday of the month at 10:15 A.M.*

*If you have any medical problems or questions call the church office or  
Maureen Rehmer at 352-6266*

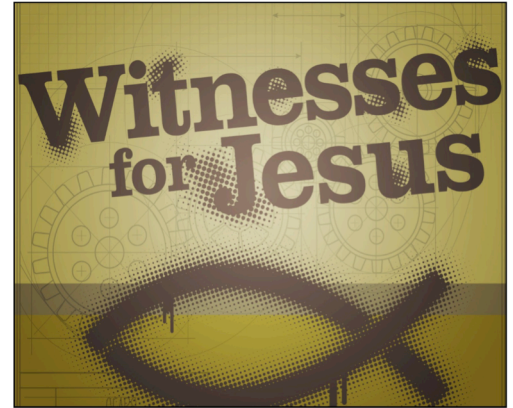
Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding."



## Evangelism

### “Who are we?”

We often connect the Ministry of Evangelism with the word “witness.” Indeed, that is the goal of our evangelism efforts. But witnessing our faith-the faith in knowing that Jesus died for us and therefore assures us or our eternal home in heaven-is not just the job of the Evangelism Board.



Witnessing does not require “special training” or being a member of a board. Each of us witnesses everyday. Everything we do daily is an example of “who we are.”

Each Sunday we have the opportunity to invite others to attend church and Bible Study. If they see us attending, then we are witnessing “who we are.”

Our generous and awesome God surrounds us with His love everyday. He presents us with opportunities to witness that love as Ephesians 5:15-16 tell us, “Be very careful then, how you live-not as unwise, but as wise, making the most of every opportunity...”

Pray that God will use you to witness for Him as you seize the opportunities He places before you and others may see “who you are!”

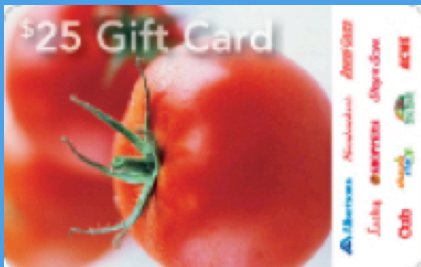
“Live in such a way that those who know you-but don’t know God-will come to know God because they know you.” (Guideposts, January 2011)



THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2016  
7:00 pm  
at  
Ascension Lutheran Church  
5347 Donovan Avenue  
Saint Louis, Missouri 63109

### Shop & Save

Gift Cards are available for purchase. Ask Karl on Sunday or Cheryl in the Church office!  
314-773-0126





5/3 Sue Hampel  
5/8 Jonah Drush  
5/15 Thanhthao Nguyen  
5/27 Ayden Bohannon  
5/30 Carol Carr

## 2016 Meetings

### Voters

June 26  
September 18  
November 20  
December 18

### Executive Council

May 15  
October 16  
December 18

### Budget Meeting

July 17

### New Address:

Diana Carter  
9988 Meadow Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63125

### Temporary Address

John Hobson  
Eunice Smith Nursing Home  
1251 College Ave.  
Alton, IL 62002

May 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Class	<b>2</b> 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Elders	<b>3</b> 2:00pm Nelapelse Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	<b>4</b> 8:00am Eagle Coffee & Conversation 10:00am Confirmation 3:30pm Compass	<b>5</b> 10:30am Preschool Chapel 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Ascension Service at Ascension Lutheran	<b>6</b> 8:00 Bible Study 1:00PM Compass	<b>7</b> 8:00am Social Ministry 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>8</b> Mother's Day 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Class	<b>9</b> 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm WOW 7:00pm Trustees	<b>10</b> 2:00pm Nelapelse Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	<b>11</b> 10:30am Avalon Nursing Home 1:00pm Confirmation 3:30pm Compass	<b>12</b> 10:30am Preschool Chapel 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	<b>13</b> 8:00 Bible Study 1:00PM Compass	<b>14</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>15</b> 9:00am Worship 10:15am Blood Pressure 10:30am Bible Class 11:30am Executive Council	<b>16</b> 6:30pm Evangelism	<b>17</b> 2:00pm Nelapelse Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	<b>18</b> 10:00am Confirmation 3:30pm Compass	<b>19</b> 10:30am Preschool Chapel 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	<b>20</b> 8:00 Bible Study 1:00PM Compass 7:00PM Seminary Graduation	<b>21</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>22</b> 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Class	<b>23</b> 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Ushers	<b>24</b> 2:00pm Nelapelse Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	<b>25</b> 10:00am Confirmation 3:30pm Compass	<b>26</b> 10:30am Preschool Chapel 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	<b>27</b> 8:00 Bible Study 1:00PM Compass	<b>28</b> No Food Pantry
<b>29</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Class	<b>30</b> Memorial Day Church Office Closed Eagle Closed	<b>31</b> 2:00pm Nelapelse Bible Study 3:30pm Compass				