

Messenger

Saved to Share
Called to Care

From the Desk of Pastor

I want to thank all those who took the time out of their schedules to participate in the Retreat last Saturday. Everyone made it even though the weather was not at it's best. It was cold inside and rainy outside and sometimes a loud thunder would make us aware of God's presence.

We were presented with a lot of information in a short time. I'm looking at my notes. There are a few things I would like to share on what I believe we all heard.

Change is inevitable. Our history has a history of change. It took an alien to come to earth at different times to see how much the Christian Church had changed. From mostly Jewish to Gentile.



From languages originally Aramaic to Greek to Latin etc. The centers of Christianity from Jerusalem to London to Nigeria. Change is happening faster than ever before. In the last 50 years we have seen more change than the last 2000 years.

Change in culture has changed from a predominantly Christian culture to a culture which is hostile to the Christian religion.

Outreach and evangelism has not kept up with cultural change. It is no longer effective the way we have gone about bringing people into the church. At the same time we must begin thinking everyone is a missionary, knowing the culture, making friends of our neighbors. It will be hard, messy, risky for there is no past experience to help us navigate the future.

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Kidz Matter!



Join us as we share
ideas to encourage and bless
our children

Wednesdays in May
(May 10, May 17, May 24, May 31)

FREE PIZZA!!!!!!
served 5:30pm-6:00pm
St. Johns Fellowship Hall

St. Johns Lutheran Church
3738 Morgan Ford Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63116
314-773-0126
stjohnslcstl@gmail.com
stjohnslutheranstlouis.org

The Big question is not so much to debate whether things are changing but, how we will respond to change? What are we willing to give up for the sake of the Gospel? How will we love people so different from us?

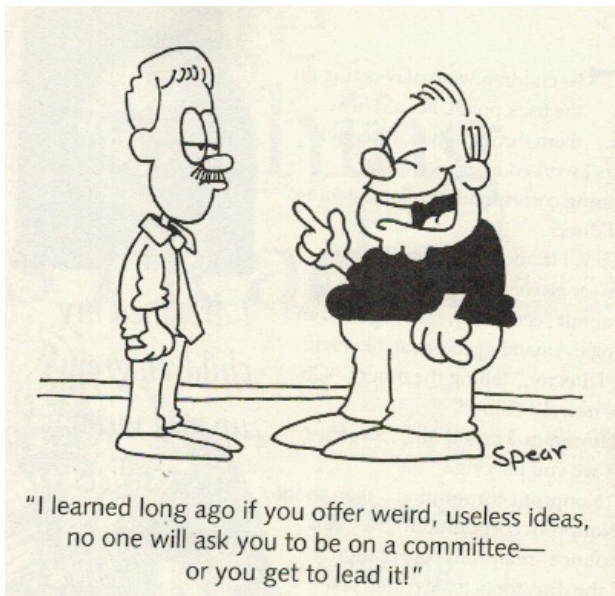
Important factors our presenters want us to keep in mind were: don't ignore what God has done, celebrate joyful memories, try to navigate the change, keep our identity, (We are the church of Jesus Christ), relationships will be more important than events and programs, and you can't do this by yourself.

Finally, we were guided to contemplate questions about our community, our church, and our identity and giving honest answers on issues that in some way intersect so that we begin to go from serving others to loving others.

I'm sure others from the group took home many other ideas, which I hope we can find a safe place to continue the discussion on the issues and go deeper.

One Bible verse that stood out to me was the one presented by Pastor David Lewis from St. Trinity:

For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. 1 Corinthians 9:19-23



Serve Boldly Amidst Change: An Evening of Possibilities

Join Send Me St. Louis on *Tuesday, May 9th* 7:00-9:00pm for the 3rd Annual "Evening of Possibilities" at CRAVE Coffeehouse. (1304 Caroline Ave) Five unique churches and organizations (including our church presented by Pastor Tanney) who are doing innovative ministry in St. Louis. Light appetizers and specialty ice cream by IcesPlain&Fancy! Space is limited, so register online at SendMeStLouis.org



Summer Camp

Registration is open for Compass Summer Camp at Messiah Lutheran Church (2846 S. Grand Ave.) Serving children who have completed Kindergarten to 6th grade. Cost is \$100 per week beginning June 5 - August 4. Camp hours are 7:00am-6:00pm daily. For more information call 314-376-3436 or go to compasseducationalprograms.org

Stewardship

“It is more blessed to give than to receive,” said St. Paul, quoting our Lord (Acts 20:35). How can this be?



Jesus and His disciples withdrew to a mountain by the shore of the Sea of Galilee. The crowds followed them, for the Lord had just showered upon them the gift of His teaching, the gift of His Word. But the day was waning; the sun was setting, and it was getting late. Looking upon the crowds, Jesus had compassion on them and asked, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat” (John 6:5)? Philip said that two hundred denarii (a day’s wages for two hundred men) could not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.

But Andrew, Peter’s brother, brought a young boy forward, who had five barley loaves and two small fish. “But,” Andrew asked, “what are they for so many” (John 6:9). Jesus replied, “Have the people sit down” (John 6:10).

Then Jesus, the Son of God, gave them a second gift, a gift from what only He could give—a gift from above. He took the bread and the fish, gave thanks, blessed them, and distributed them to the crowd. Then came the miracle. As these five loaves and two fish were given out, they multiplied. He fed the hungry crowd until they were all full. And twelve baskets full were left over.

But Jesus was not the only one who gave that day. There is one person who also gave from what he had. It was the boy with the five loaves and the two fish. All the others, including the boy, received the gift of a



miraculous feast. And they would look back on it with wonder. But the boy, when he would look back on it, would look back and remember not just what he received. He would look back with wonder and delight when the Son of God made his gift into something miraculous. For it is more blessed to give than to receive.

This our Lord does for each of us. He presses our gifts, no matter how big or how small, into His service and works wonders with

them. He provides through what we give: water for baptism, bread and wine for the Lord’s Supper, a man called and sent for the preaching of the Gospel and Absolution. He provides a building in which we can gather as His children, lights so that we might not gather in darkness. He provides funds for the care of the poor and struggling, for missionaries who preach and teach beyond our borders. He makes Christians, disciples of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in our midst by bringing them to faith and nurturing them in that faith. ***He takes our gifts and turns them into something miraculous.***

Indeed, it is more blessed to give than to receive. Thus we give. We give of what we have. And the Lord works His wonders.



Salem Lutheran Church
(8343 Gravois Rd)
Women’s Guild invites you
to their Spring Rummage &
Bake Sale, Wednesday,
May 17 8:00am-3:00pm
located in their Fellowship
Hall. For more information
and if you would like to
donate items, call
314-352-4454.

Social Ministry

Evangelism



Mother's Day food drive will be held on May 14th. Grocery bags, with a list of suggested grocery items attached, will be given out on Sunday, May 7th. On Sunday, May 14th (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.

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)

Special Education Teaching Positions Available

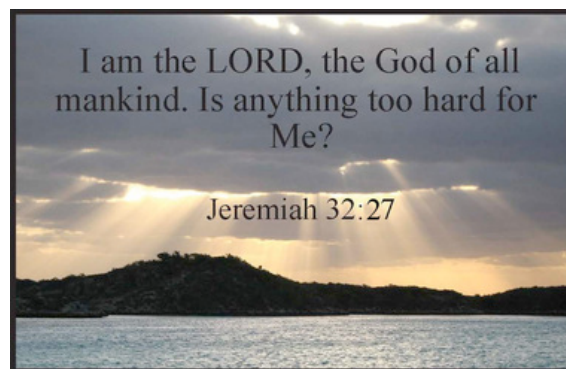
Lutheran Association for Special Education (LASE) is growing! LASE is seeking vibrant, collaborative, and versatile part-time certified special education teachers for the 2017-18 school year. Candidates should be individuals who love God, love children and have a passion for Lutheran education. Please send a cover letter and resume to info@lutheranspecial.org.

Jesus--Our Forever Friend. That was the theme for Friendship Sunday and it is one that continues, because it is FOREVER. We encourage one another to know that truth and to share it. The best way we can do that is to continue to worship at church and to study God's Word privately and together in a Bible class.

Recently, in some of my studies, similar passages were part of the study. Basically, the Bible says "Is anything too hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14, Jeremiah 32:37) Speaking of the promise to Abraham and Sarah to have a son in their old age; promise of Mary to be the mother of our Savior; the Resurrection of Jesus and the

list goes on.

God's power and miracles are endless. So the answer to that question is "No, nothing is too hard for the Lord!"



If we really concentrate and digest that truth, our lives will result in a more positive and loving attitude. We stand in awe of God's plan for our lives. He wants everyone to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth (I Timothy 2:4) EVERYONE. He died and rose for everyone. He has prepared and a beautiful life for all believers in eternity--forever.

That's why St. Johns was established more than 150 years ago. That's why we still need to share that message. The Board of Evangelism wishes to encourage all of our members to thank God and ask Him for guidance to share His saving grace with our families, friends, visitors and all with whom we come into contact. Nothing is too hard for our Awesome God!



May 3 Susan Hampel
 May 8 Jonah Drush
 May 12 Danielle Govero (Gentz)
 May 15 Thanhthao Nguyen
 May 27 Ayden Bohannon
 May 30 Carol Carr

Our Mission

St. Johns Lutheran Church is a diverse family of saved sinners, walking together in forgiveness. Motivated by Christ's love, we will share the Gospel and care for the needs of all people.

Our Vision
 St. Johns, partnering with Open Sky Education will do Christ-centered community outreach that engages our community with worship

Meetings 2017

Voters

May 21
 October 15
 December 3

Executive Council

September 17
 November 19



*Worship
in the Park*

Sunday, June 4
Carondelet Park
*more information
coming soon!*

May 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00am-11am Eagle OT Fellowship Hall 3:30pm Compass 6:00pm Boys Scouts 7:00pm Elders	2 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	3 9:30am Preschool Chapel 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm ESOL 6:30pm Choir	4 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study Secretary on Vacation	5 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Compass Secretary on Vacation	6 9:30am-2pm Eagle Car Wash Upper Parking Lot 8:00am Social Ministry 8:30am Food Pantry 9:00am Confirmation 10:00am Confirmation
7 9:00am Contemporary Worship 10:30am Bible Class	8 9:00am-11am Eagle OT Fellowship Hall 3:30pm Compass 6:30am WOW 6:00pm Boy Scouts	9 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Serving Bodly Admist Change at Crave	10 9:30am Preschool Chapel 10:30am Avalon Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Kidz Matter 6:30pm ESOL 6:30pm Choir	11 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	12 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Compass	13 8:30am Food Pantry 9:00am Confirmation 10:00am Confirmation
14 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9:00am Worship w/ Communion Mother's Day Food Drive 10:30am Bible Class	15 9:00am-11am Eagle OT Fellowship Hall 3:30pm Compass 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Evangelism	16 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	17 9:30am Preschool Chapel 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Kidz Matter 6:30pm ESOL 6:30pm Choir	18 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	19 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Compass	20 8:30am Food Pantry 9:00am Confirmation 10:00am Confirmation
21 9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Class 11:30am Voters	22 9:00am-11am Eagle OT Fellowship Hall 3:30pm Compass 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm Ushers	23 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	24 9:30am Preschool Chapel 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Kidz Matter 6:30pm ESOL 6:30pm Choir	25 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	26 8:00am Bible Study 1:00pm Compass 6:00pm Family Fun Night w/ Compass	27 8:30am Food Pantry 9:00am Confirmation 10:00am Confirmation
28 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Class	29 <i>Memorial Day</i> Church Office Closed Eagle Closed	30 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass	31 9:30am Preschool Chapel 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Kidz Matter 6:30pm ESOL 6:30pm Choir			