

# Messenger

Saved to Share  
Called to Care

## *From the Desk of Pastor Tanney* **How Then Shall We Live?**

Pastor Robinson before the Pilgrims sought out a new land to practice their Christian Religion in freedom, inspired his fellow congregants to touch the heart of God, trained them to think the thoughts of God, and helped them practice the government of God in their homes, churches, and civil compacts. Pastor Robinson “the Founding Shepherd of America” exhorted the Pilgrims to search the Scriptures and use the Bible as the primary source for wisdom. He taught them to never stop growing, never stop listening,

and never stop seeking. This advice would guide them in the months and years to follow.

In July 1620 sensing the call of God to go to the New World, they sold everything

they had in Holland and poured everything into the trip. Two ships the Speedwell and the Mayflower were leased from London for transport. Some families were split up. Additional passengers called the “strangers” were added to the number. They set out August 5, but twice they were forced back to return to

England. It was rumored that the Speedwell was untrustworthy and had reported leaks. They sold it for half of what they bought it for. Now only of the 121 combined passengers, 102 were chosen. They finally set sail on September 6, 1620.

It was a terrible trip. Non-Christian seamen outnumbered the pilgrims. Terrible weather, cramped lodging arrangements, seasick travelers and a main beam cracked. Sixty-six storm-tossed days, blown off course they landed at Cape Cod. The

charter granted them land North of Virginia. But they had no authority or charter to step off the ship and establish a legitimate settlement.

So how then shall we live? Was a question put to the pilgrims, seamen and merchants. They needed to clearly set out who they were, why they were there,

and agree upon some rules by which they were going to live. With their principles of self-government firmly in hand, they wrote up their own governing document, known as the “Mayflower Compact”. It was for Christian and non-Christians. They learned that liberty with little self-government led to



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tyranny and destroyed freedom. It opens with: "In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are underwritten..." What is so different about this charter was the power flow: God, the people, and then the king a civil government operating by covenant, to live together in a committed relationship to fulfill a common purpose. It would be a government based on the rule of law rather than the rule of men.

How then shall we live? Whatever pleases us? By the moral law of God, by the law of the land? Our founding fathers believed that the government of Christ begins in the heart of the individual, practiced in the home, extended in the church and finally in civil society. The Mayflower Compact had a purpose, a mission. "Having undertaken for the Glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith... a voyage to plant the first colony..."

In our Lenten journey, which may be filled with many tribulations, conflicts and misfortunes, let us not turn back or give up. Let us not forget our religious freedom, who we are, and why we are here. Look to the cross and practice what we believe the greater purpose - God's will in our lives and live accordingly to Him.

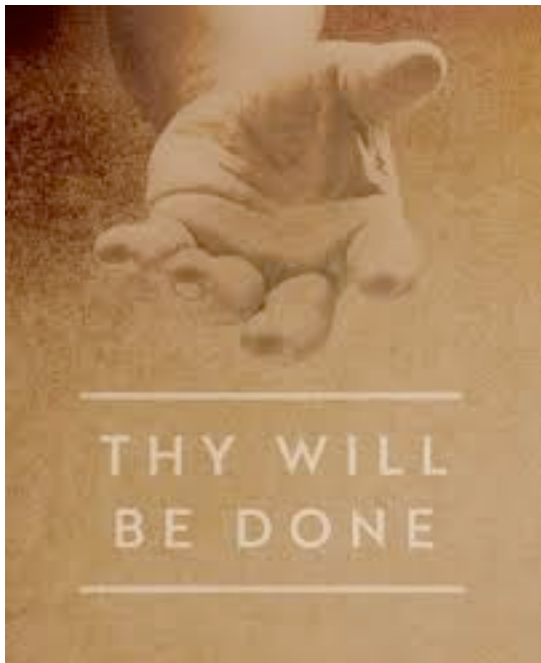
Half of the pilgrims died that winter, most of the women died protecting their children from the harsh weather and sickness. The captain pleaded with the

remaining to return with him. Yet not one of them went back. Everyone stayed, believing that they had come for a great cause and purpose. Live the legacy!

*"Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or fault-finding or finger-pointing but because he wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things he now has in store." N.T. Wright*



"Okay, I'll be nice, but they'd better not stay long."



### **Mid Week Lenten Services**

**10:00am and 7:00pm**

**Wednesdays, March 7- March 21**

### **Holy Week**

**Palm Sunday, March 25 at 9:00am**

**Maundy Thursday, March 29 at 7:00pm**

**Good Friday Tre Ore Service 12:00-3:00pm**

*at Ascension Lutheran Church*

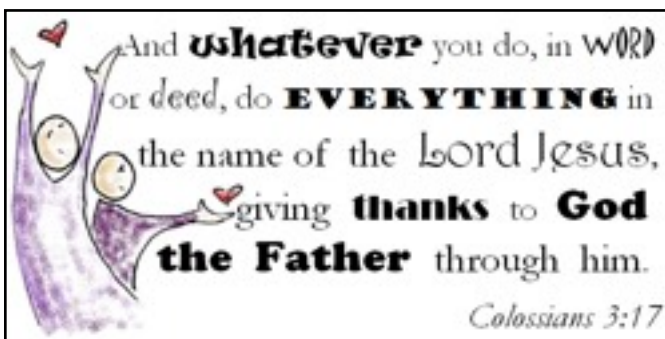
*5347 Donovan Ave*

**Good Friday Service, March 30 at 7:00pm**

**Easter Sunday, April 1 9:00am**

## Social Ministry

Many people have lived in various places, from the Midwest to the East Coast, which are probably nice places to reside. It's not hard to see, however, millions of people don't live in good places: neighborhoods with poverty and violent crimes, cities torn by war, and refugees who have no place at all. But God has given each of us places and unique opportunities to help those who are less fortunate. Tutoring? House Repairs? Volunteering at a food bank? Big or small, the ways to share the Love of Jesus are available right now. Thanks to God who has blessed us with many willing workers at our food pantry.



We are very grateful for all the support our church members have given us. Currently, we have two members interviewing clients to determine if we can meet their needs in other ways than just food.



## Evangelism



*There are many blessings,  
that each new Spring brings  
you can see it bloom about  
and hear the song it sings.*

*With winters bleakness over,  
and brighter days ahead  
comes promises of new life  
Springtime loves to spread.*

*As God unfolds the flowers,  
and their buds begin to show  
He gives to us the assurance  
grace in our hearts will grow.*

*He sends us the robin's song,  
with the promise to provide  
a shelter under His mighty wing  
where in His love we can abide.*

*He melts the snowy covers,  
and sends the refreshing rain  
sprinkling us with His mercies  
to heal winter's ache and pain.*

*God's given to all His Son,  
to shed upon us a new light  
and the real blessing of Spring . . .  
is keeping Jesus in our sight!*

by Debra Ann Belka



## Stewardship

Hudson Taylor, a Nineteenth Century British missionary to China, is reported to have said,



“God’s work, done in God’s way, will not lack God’s supply.” To know God’s way, we need to know His Holy Word.

Or to say it another way: you need to know your Bible.

St. Paul, before he spends two chapters on giving, wrote that every thought is to be taken captive to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5).

Doctrine matters. And doctrine matters because the Scriptures matter. And the Scriptures matter because this is where we learn the teaching of Christ. Our thoughts must be brought into line with the teaching of Scripture so that our work is what God wants done and so that we do this work in His way.

A good tree bears good fruit. A bad tree bears bad fruit. We have been made good trees in holy baptism. We are fertilized and pruned for bearing good fruit by constantly hearing God’s Word preached and taught in sermon and Bible Class and in receiving the life-giving, faith-sustaining food of the Lord’s Supper. Remember your doctrine, hold on to the Lord’s teaching, and your thoughts will be taken captive to the obedience of Christ.

Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is recognizing that God does provide. The Lord’s Prayer teaches us to pray for daily bread. Praying this day in and day out reminds us that the Lord is the giver of our daily bread, and that we are to give thanks for His daily provision of it

God is rarely early and never late in His work, as Abraham learned, “on the mount of the Lord it will be provided” (Gen. 22:14). The Lord’s generosity forms our generosity in return. Thus, we set aside for the work of God a generous, first-fruits, proportion of the daily bread that God has given to us. This act of trust in the Lord’s provision is the working out of our faith in Him.

When budgetary discussions pop up, our natural reaction is to point fingers. But remember your doctrine, and what your mother taught about pointing fingers. Our first natural reaction is not always right. In fact, when our thoughts are brought into captivity of Christ, our first reaction should be repentance.

It should raise questions in our own lives. As good trees in Christ who are to bear good fruit, we should ask whether our thoughts are taken captive by obedience to Christ. Have we given generously? Have we given our first-fruits? You know. And God knows. “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him” (2 Chron. 16:9).



God will provide. He always has and He always will. He gives His meat in due season. He has not left you as orphans, but has grafted you into His own family. You belong to Him. Remember this, letting this thought dwell in you richly. And you will then be rich toward others.

*LCMS Stewardship Ministry*



Saturday, April 14, 2018

6 PM - 10 PM

*6 PM Cocktails | 7 PM Dinner*

Intersect Arts Center

[3636 Texas Ave.](#)

[St. Louis, MO 63118](#)

## **TICKETS**

Per Person - \$100 | Table of 10 - \$1,000

RSVP by March 9, 2018

If you are not able to attend but would like to support the EAGLE Celebration, please consider making a \$100 ticket donation for a teacher to attend, or sponsoring a table for ten teachers.

For more information contact Amber Kraus

[314-240-0323](tel:314-240-0323)

[amber.kraus@openskyeducation.org](mailto:amber.kraus@openskyeducation.org)

[eagleprep.org/gala/2018](http://eagleprep.org/gala/2018)



**DINE IN, CARRY OUT, OR DELIVERY** (WITH 4 OR MORE ORDERS)

**MENU INCLUDES:**

RIBS, PORK STEAKS, CHICKEN, BRATWURST & HOT DOGS  
DINNERS INCLUDE BREAD, DESSERT AND CHOICE OF 2 SIDES  
\$3.00-\$18.50

**3738 MORGAN FORD RD.  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63116  
314-773-0126**

**EMAIL ORDERS TO: [stjohnslcstl@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslcstl@gmail.com) by Friday, April 5**

***PROCEEDS SUPPORT ST. JOHNS FOOD PANTRY AND CUB SCOUT TROOP #125***



**March 2**     *Lydia Hampel*  
                   *Don Osiek*

**March 5**     *Quentin Bohannon*

**March 6**     *Louis Meyer*

**March 13**    *Carol Cool*



Voters Meeting

Sunday, March 18  
 11:30am

**Our Vision**

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

**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.

March 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	<b>2</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>3</b> 8:00am Social Ministry 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>4</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Bible Class and Sunday School	<b>5</b> 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Elders	<b>6</b> 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Vietnamese Bible Study	<b>7</b> 9:30am Preschool Chapel 10:00am Lenten Service 3:30pm Compass 4:00pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Lenten Service	<b>8</b> 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	<b>9</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>10</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>11</b> 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Class and Sunday School	<b>12</b> Eagle Spring Break 6:00pm Boy Scouts 7:00pm WOW	<b>13</b> Eagle Spring Break 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 7:00pm Vietnamese Bible Study	<b>14</b> Eagle Spring Break 10:00am Lenten Service 11:00am Avalon Bible Study 7:00pm Lenten Service	<b>15</b> Eagle Spring Break 2:00pm Home Bible Study 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	<b>16</b> Eagle Spring Break 8:00am Bible Study	<b>17</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>18</b> 9:00am Worship Servant Recognition 10:30am Bible Class and Sunday School <b>Voters 11:30am</b>	<b>19</b> 6:00pm Boy Scouts 6:30pm Evangelism	<b>20</b> 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Vietnamese Bible Study	<b>21</b> 9:30am Preschool Chapel 10:00am Lenten Service 3:30pm Compass 4:00pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Lenten Service	<b>22</b> 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study	<b>23</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>24</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>25</b> Palm Sunday 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Bible Class and Sunday School	<b>26</b> 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Ushers	<b>27</b> 2:00pm Nepalese Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Vietnamese Bible Study	<b>28</b> 9:30am Preschool Chapel 3:30pm Compass 4:00pm Compass Chapel	<b>29</b> Maundy Thursday 2:00pm Home Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service	<b>30</b> Good Friday Eagle Closed Church Office Closed 8:00am Bible Study 12:00pm-3:00pm TreOre Service at Ascension Good Friday Service 7:00pm	<b>31</b> Food Pantry Closed