

# MESSENGER

SAVED TO SHARE CALLED TO CARE

## From the Desk of Pastor Tanney



### A Member of St. Johns says "Thank You"

Well it has been awhile since my last article. The last one done by Cheryl. (We will miss her dearly.) So Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

### New Secretary:

As you know we have a new Secretary and he has really taken on the job seriously. I have enjoyed how quickly he has adapted to the position. What a surprise to see a boy I confirmed now stand as a man serving the church. (while at the same time going to school.) Some were not too sure how he would manage because they knew Jonah when he was young. One of the things he does well is fill my desk with post-notes and reminders of what I need to do. (And I thought I was the one to give him what-to-do orders)

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### Plan to Attend

Sunday, February 23  
**Executive Council Meeting**  
*Immediately following bible class*

Wednesday, February 26  
**Ash Wednesday Service**  
*6:30pm*

Wednesday, March 4  
**Eyes on Jesus  
Lenten Service**  
*6:30pm*

Wednesday, March 11  
**Eyes on Jesus  
Lenten Service**  
*6:30pm*

Wednesday, March 18  
**Eyes on Jesus  
Lenten Service**  
*6:30pm*

Wednesday, March 25  
**Eyes on Jesus  
Lenten Service**  
*6:30pm*

Sunday, March 29  
**Friendship Sunday**  
*9:00am*

## What Comes Across My Desk?

It is so hard to keep my desk clean because of catalogs, magazines, letters from people and organizations asking for money, donations and offerings. Boy! There sure are a lot people wanting money. I assume you get the same kind of mailing at home not to mention phone calls. But once in awhile there is a gift, a donation for us! I know, right we ask why? We didn't ask for it, we don't solicit it and the crazy thing is sometimes we don't even know or have a personal relationship with them. Out of their hearts they just give because they have been blessed by God and in thanksgiving want to pass on the blessing. For the most part we try to remember to say "thank you" in a letter. Some examples are the \$5000 we received from Lutheran Foundation, last summer for the VBS. \$5000 we received from Messiah Lutheran Church to host the VBS here. \$2000 from CPH for the food pantry. I don't want to exclude the gift of time volunteers spend as a gift to us out of their kind hearts. The three churches that sent volunteers to run the VBS program including the director Linda. But one gift this month had me praising the Lord!

but had fond memories of St. Johns. I passed it onto the counters, they almost fainted. (lucky they were sitting down). The counters cashed it in two weeks ago. The bookkeeper noted it in his financial report and the voters saw the amount Sunday. They voted that it should be deposited in the soda account. (Just kidding) But before we just use it for ourselves, I'd like to suggest a Biblical reaction to the gift and any gifts we receive.

One, we give thanks to the Lord,

Two, be a blessing to others by giving some of it away,

Three, invest or save part of it for some time in the future and

Fourth, spend the rest responsibly.

By now you might be wondering what the amount was, well you could ask the counters, corner Jonah, call Terry our bookkeeper, ask a voting member at the meeting or get your hands on the financial report handed at the voters meeting. What I'll do is pray you take it to heart these stewardship principles seriously.

*The person who thinks the money he makes is meant mainly to increase his comforts on earth is a fool, Jesus says. Wise people know that all their money belongs to God and should be used to show that God, and not money, is their treasure, their comfort, their joy, and their security. ~ John Piper, Theologian, Preacher and Author*

### A Gift in a Letter:

Before I tell you about it, I want to ask: What do we do with a gift? Well, humanly speaking we take them for granted, spend it, or we use it just on us, some are easy because we know what it is for, and sometimes we think we were entitled to it and assume it's all for us. "After all they have much we have little." (we reason) That kind of thinking gets us in trouble – spiritually. The letter I opened recently was accompanied with a check from someone I don't know,



*"Are we glad to hear that you don't know where you'll get the money for the building fund! For a minute there we were afraid you wanted to get it from us."*





*This years theme for Lent is  
"Eyes on Jesus"*

*"Fix your eyes on Jesus."*

When the people in the Passion narrative looked at Jesus, what did they see?

*Eyes on Jesus* asks us to look at Jesus through various Biblical character's viewpoints, learning how they saw Jesus. Did they misunderstand Him? Did they recognize Him as the Son of God? Using Scripture passages from the Gospel of Mark, challenge yourself to consider what you see when you look at Jesus.

**Ash Wednesday** Misjudging Eyes (Mark 14:1–9)

**Midweek 1** Betraying Eyes

(Mark 14:10–21, 32, 41–46)

**Midweek 2** Sleepy Eyes (Mark 14:32–42)

**Midweek 3** Denying Eyes (Mark 14:26–31, 66–72)

**Midweek 4** Murderous Eyes (Mark 14:1–2, 53–65)

**Midweek 5** Worldly Eyes (Mark 15:1–20)

**Maundy Thursday** More Than Meets the Eye (Mark 14:22–25)

**Good Friday** God's Eyes (Mark 15:21–39)

**Easter** Angel Eyes (Mark 16:1–8)



**Basketball practice with Pastor Tanney**



## Social Ministry

As 2020 has approached, we are certainly looking back to 2019 and thanking God for all of our blessings.

Christ Memorial Church provided us with Christmas gifts to give out at the food pantry with an abundance of presents and gift cards. Thanks to all of our regular food pantry staff for their assistance in the distribution of the presents, for other members who helped, and for keeping the food pantry running smoothly. We also want to thank all of you who provided gifts for the "Giving Tree".

Our St. Johns Lutheran Church, other Lutheran churches, Eagle prep. Schools, Girl Scouts, Thrivent Insurance Co., and CPH have been so supportive of our food pantry that we are once again finishing the year with grateful hearts and funds to continue through the new year. We average serving 40 families a week in the food pantry. Our last quarterly report from 2019 revealed we served over 500 families, and a total of about 1400 people.

Thanks also to all of our members who contributed to the Thanksgiving food drive, and especially the members who assisted in sorting and putting away all the food we received.

Karen Vineyard will co-chair with Maureen Rehmer in serving the daily activities of the food pantry. Karen will handle the food and bills and Maureen will take care of the other aspects of Social Ministry.

The food pantry will again be closed on the 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday's of the month in 2020, which is February, May, August, and October. Food pantry will also be closed on July 4<sup>th</sup>, November 28<sup>th</sup>, and December 26<sup>th</sup>.

Happy New Year and may God bless each of you as He has blessed us.

## Evangelism

Happy New Year!

Well, even though it is not January 1<sup>st</sup>, it is still a new year---and we thank God for 2020!

Our Board of Evangelism has been unable to meet as previously scheduled. We hope that this new year will allow us to get back to our regular schedule.

However, we have made plans to celebrate our annual Friendship Sunday on March 29<sup>th</sup>. So please save that date and start praying for God to bless our plans. Especially for all of us to find someone to invite.

Thank you Jesus for promising to always be with us!

"The *Lord* will  
watch over your coming  
and going, both *now*  
and *forevermore*."  
*Psalms 121:8*

*Friendship  
Sunday*

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020**  
*Continental Breakfast to follow*



Here is a short preview of the latest Newsletter from the ministry of Zach Barz with the Mission of Christ Network

## ***Ripe for Harvest***

One of the things I love about living in Costa Rica is the abundance of tropical fruit available in every season. Equal to the joy of cutting into a perfect mango or watermelon, however, is the disappointment of realizing that the pineapple or avocado you just bought isn't yet ripe. The reality is that **ripeness can't be forced or brought about by our own efforts**, and I think the same holds true when talking about the fruit that we see in ministry.

As a missionary, I naturally want to see the fruit of my labor in terms of lives changed and hearts receiving the Gospel, but ultimately the timetable of such a harvest isn't up to me. The growth and change can be slow, especially in a culture like Costa Rica's where nothing happens quickly. It is God alone who knows when a person's heart is ripe to accept the life-changing news of salvation, and it is His Spirit who creates the growth and a heart of faith.

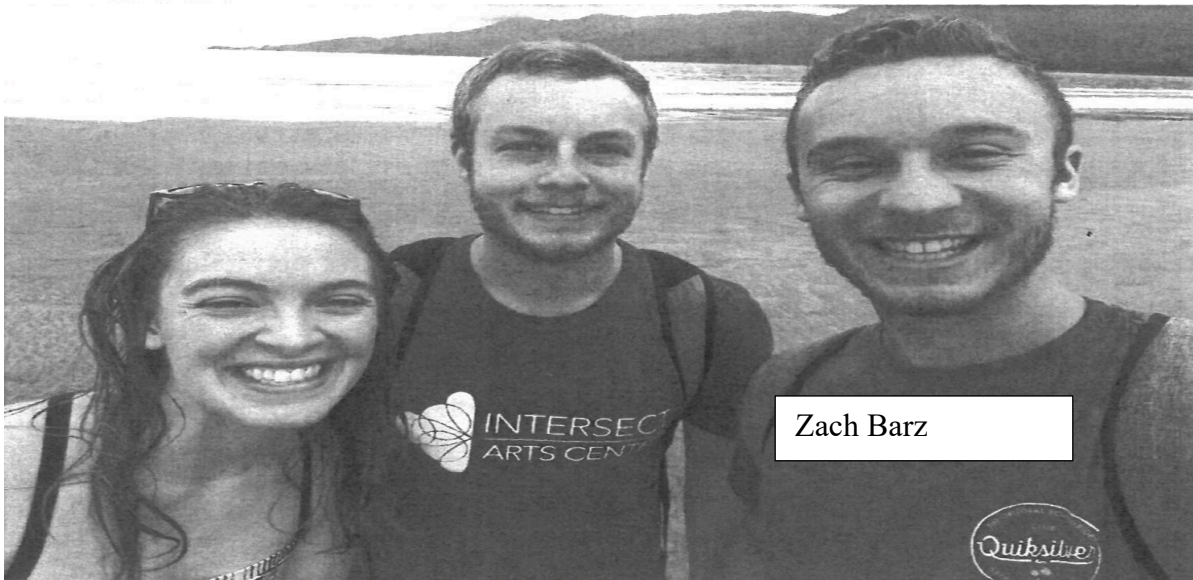
So what's my role? **As I walk in relationship with those around me - the neighbors I see and converse with every day, the teens of Esterillos that I hang out with weekly, the friend who's been studying English with me this past year, and the youth of Parrita that I've known for almost a year and a half - I'm called to trust in God's work and timing while putting myself in position to participate in the harvest when the time comes.** I'm called to love them and proclaim God's love to them. I'm called to test their "ripeness" with questions and invitations and challenges. And most of all, I'm called to *open my eyes* to the ways in which God is already at work in their hearts and lives.

**For Jesus is on a mission here in Esterillos and Parrita (he has been long before I arrived), and he has invited me to join him on *his* mission of redemption!**

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For more information about Zach and his ministry, you can follow Mission of Christ Network on Instagram or Facebook, as well as by email [zach.barz@missionofchrist.org](mailto:zach.barz@missionofchrist.org) or snail mail Mission of Christ Network, P.O. Box 533, Concordia, MO 64020



January 8, 2020

Rev. Michael Tanney  
St. Johns Lutheran Church  
3738 Morganford Road  
St. Louis, MO 63116

Here is the letter that Pastor mentioned in his article.

Dear Rev. Tanney:

In follow up to emails we exchanged last month, enclosed please find a check in the amount of \$26,000.00 from the estate of Doris Pratt. Doris and her mother, Marie "Mamie" Pratt, were lifelong members of the Lutheran Church. Doris was an active member of St. Johns in her younger days, and she fondly spoke of Pastor Kay and Pastor Dehnke. One of her last wishes was to make a donation to St. Johns to make up for earlier years when she and her mother were not able to financially contribute to the church like they wanted to.

If you need more information from me, please do not hesitate to contact me at 314-610-6866.

Sincerely,

  
Cathy Smentkowski

Here is Cathy's address if you would like to write her.

5747 Devonshire Avenue, Apt. 2E  
St. Louis, MO 63109





Make sure you check out the website and check Facebook often. There will be new material weekly



### Board Meetings for 2019

*All meetings begin after Bible Class*

#### Voters' Meetings

January 26

April 19

July 12 (Budget)

December 6

#### Executive Council

February 23

May 31

August 30

October 11



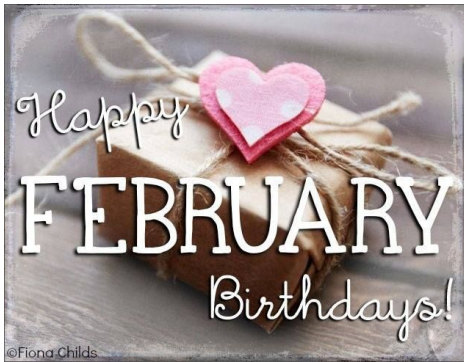
Spring Clocks  
Forward  
Sunday, March 8



If you ever have a question about something, a concern, or a suggestion, feel free to text me at 314-398-0196. As always, I'm also available by Church phone and email.



Please try to have articles in to me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month (March, May, July, September, November, January). Messengers will be made every other month.



**2/6 Pastor Tanney**  
3905 Tholozan  
St. Louis, MO 63116

**2/6 Jeanette Creamer**  
3639 Oak Hill  
St. Louis, MO 63116

**2/7 Tamarris Bohannon**  
4066 Taft  
St. Louis, MO 63116

**2/7 Carolyn Dickhoener**  
4635 Ridgewood Ave  
Apt# 226  
St. Louis, MO 63116

**2/12 Eunice Bain**  
4445 Osceola  
St. Louis, MO 63116

**2/17 Mabel Wilke**  
Alexian Brothers  
Serbrooke Village  
4005 Ripa Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63125

**2/20 Debra Meyer**  
5704 Potomac St  
St. Louis, MO 63139

**2/2 Earl Welch**  
3428 Missouri  
St. Louis, MO 63118

February 2020						
◀ Jan 2020						Mar 2020 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 8:00am Social Ministry 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>2</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Nepali Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study  Installation of Officers	<b>3</b> 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Scouts 7:00pm Elders	<b>4</b> 3:30pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Confirmation w/ Parents	<b>5</b> 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm ESL 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation 6:30pm Choir	<b>6</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>7</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>8</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>9</b> 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Nepali Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>10</b> 9:00am Pray for the City 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Scouts 7:00pm WOW	<b>11</b> 3:30pm Compass Chapel 5:30pm Leather Guild 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>12</b> 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm ESL 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation 6:30pm Choir	<b>13</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>14</b> 8:00am Bible Study  Pastor in Wisconsin	<b>15</b> 8:30am Food Pantry  Pastor in Wisconsin
<b>16</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Nepali Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study  Pastor in Wisconsin	<b>17</b> 6:00pm Evangelism  Pastor in Wisconsin	<b>18</b> 3:30pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>19</b> 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm ESL 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation 6:30pm Choir	<b>20</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>21</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>22</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>23</b> 9:00am Joint Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Adult Bible Study 11:30am Executive Council Meeting	<b>24</b> 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Scouts 7:00pm Ushers	<b>25</b> 3:30pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>26</b> 3:30pm Compass Choir 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	<b>27</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>28</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>29</b> No Food Pantry



**3/2** Lydia Hampel  
9823 Musick Rd  
St. Louis, MO 63123

**3/2** Don Osiek  
5052 Oleatha  
St. Louis, MO 63139

**3/5** Quentin  
Bohannon  
4460 Grace Ave  
St. Louis, MO 63116

**3/6** Louis Meyer  
5704 Potomac St  
St. Louis, MO 63139

**3/12** Riyan Samal  
3702 Phillips Pl  
St. Louis, MO 63116

**3/15** Kumari Samal  
4104 Debra Ct  
St. Louis, MO 63123

**3/27** Joe Strickert  
2022 Russel Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63014



March 2020						
◀ Feb 2020						Apr 2020 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Nepali Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>2</b> 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Scouts 7:00pm Elders	<b>3</b> 3:30pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>4</b> 3:30pm Compass Choir 6:30pm Lent Service	<b>5</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>6</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>7</b> 8:00am Social Ministry 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>8</b> 9:00am Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Nepali Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>9</b> 9:00am Pray for the City 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Scouts 7:00pm WOW	<b>10</b> 9:00am Winkle 3:30pm Compass Chapel 5:30pm Leather Guild 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>11</b> 3:30pm Compass Choir 6:30pm Lent Service	<b>12</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>13</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>14</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>15</b> 9:00am Worship 10:30am Nepali Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>16</b> 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Scouts 6:00pm Evangelism  Pastor Vacation to Creation Musuem	<b>17</b> 3:30pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>18</b> 3:30pm Compass Choir 6:30pm Lent Service	<b>19</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 3:30pm Compass 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>20</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>21</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>22</b> 9:00am Joint Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Adult Bible Study	<b>23</b> 5:30pm Scouts 7:00pm Ushers  EAGLE Spring Break	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Confirmation	<b>25</b> Choir 6:30pm Lent Service	<b>26</b> 2:00pm Ridgewood Apts. Bible Study 6:30pm Nepalese Confirmation	<b>27</b> 8:00am Bible Study	<b>28</b> 8:30am Food Pantry
<b>29</b> Jr High Youth Gathering 9:00am Worship 10:30am Nepali Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Study  Friendship Sunday	<b>30</b> 3:30pm Compass 5:30pm Scouts	<b>31</b> 3:30pm Compass Chapel 7:00pm Confirmation	The Website will be updated with new versions of the Calendar if anything changes.			
					Jr High Youth Gathering	Jr High Youth Gathering