

APRIL 12, 2026

# *The Crossbeam*

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS





## *From the Pastor's Desk*

FROM MATTHEW, CHAPTER 6:

WHEN YOU ARE PRAYING, DO NOT HEAP UP EMPTY PHRASES AS THE GENTILES DO, FOR THEY THINK THAT THEY WILL BE HEARD BECAUSE OF THEIR MANY WORDS. DO NOT BE LIKE THEM, FOR YOUR FATHER KNOWS WHAT YOU NEED BEFORE YOU ASK HIM.

“PRAY, THEN, IN THIS WAY:

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN,

MAY YOUR NAME BE REVERED AS HOLY.

MAY YOUR KINGDOM COME.

MAY YOUR WILL BE DONE

ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.

GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD.[C]

AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS,

AS WE ALSO HAVE FORGIVEN OUR DEBTORS.

AND DO NOT BRING US TO THE TIME OF TRIAL,[D]

BUT RESCUE US FROM THE EVIL ONE.[E]

FOR IF YOU FORGIVE OTHERS THEIR TRESPASSES, YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER WILL ALSO FORGIVE YOU, 15 BUT IF YOU DO NOT FORGIVE OTHERS,[F] NEITHER WILL YOUR FATHER FORGIVE YOUR TRESPASSES.”

THIS IS HOW WE PRAY AS A CHURCH. WE DO NOT PRAY FOR VIOLENCE. IN THE NEWS THIS PAST WEEK, WE HEARD THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SAY OTHERWISE. AS CHRISTIANS, WE MUST LISTEN TO JESUS’ WORDS AND TAKE THEM SERIOUSLY. WE PRAY THAT GOD’S WILL BE DONE, HERE AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.

THIS MORNING, AS A CONGREGATION WE READ MATTHEW’S PASSION, WHERE, IN THE GARDEN, AS VIOLENCE THREATENS, JESUS SAYS: “PUT YOUR SWORD BACK INTO ITS PLACE, FOR ALL WHO TAKE THE SWORD WILL DIE BY THE SWORD.” AND THEN JESUS GOES ON TO DIE A VIOLENT DEATH.

AS FOR THE CHRISTIAN NATIONALISM MOVEMENT, I REPEAT WHAT THE ELCA BELIEVES: IT IS A PERVERSION OF THE GOSPEL. GOD, THE FATHER OF JESUS, IS THE CREATOR OF THAT IS, SEEN AND UNSEEN, AND HIS WORKS INCLUDE THE UNIVERSE, NOT ONLY OUR NATION.

SO WHEN YOU PRAY, ASK FOR AN END TO NEEDLESS VIOLENCE, GIVE THANKS FOR WHAT WE HAVE AS A NATION, AND PRAY FOR A BETTER WORLD. AS WE ENTER HOLY WEEK, IT IS THE LEAST WE CAN DO AS WE REMEMBER GOD’S GREAT AND UNFAILING LOVE FOR US AND THE ENTIRE CREATION. MAY YOU BE FILLED WITH AWE AND WONDER THIS WEEK.

PASTOR VALERIE



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—  
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:  
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD  
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY  
9A.M.- IN-PERSON W/SCS  
10:30A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM  
BROADCAST ON OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\)](#)



SATURDAY APRIL 11 @ 5PM  
VICKY WIENKE - ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY APRIL 12 @ 9AM  
MARK SCHNITZER- ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY APRIL 12 @ 10:45AM  
SAM REILLY- ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY APRIL 12 @ 9AM  
LEE DELANEY- USHER

SUNDAY APRIL 12 @ 10:45AM  
SANDY STANGO- USHER  
GRAHAM VOSSELLER- ACOYLTE

ALTAR GUILD FOR APRIL:  
CONNIE ARNOLD  
CHARLIE ARNOLD



**ANNOUNCEMENTS &  
UPCOMING EVENTS**

**SOUP COOK OFF AND RAFFLE**

**APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> @ 11AM**

**BIBLE STUDY @ 6PM**

**APRIL 16TH**

**EARTH DAY CLEAN UP**

**APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> AFTER SECOND SERVICE**

**BOOK SALE**

**APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup> @ 5PM**

**APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> @ 9AM**

**HELP NEEDED APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup> AT 6 PM WITH SETUP  
AND APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup>, AFTER SECOND SERVICE WITH CLEAN**

**NEW MEMBERS INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

**MAY 17TH**

**UPCOMING AGAPE MEAL DATES:**

**MAY 3RD**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED STARTING FRIDAY APRIL 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 12PM  
THROUGH MONDAY APRIL 13TH**

**I WILL BE BACK IN ON TUESDAY APRIL 14TH**

# **THIS WEEK 4/12 - 4/18**

## **TODAY:**

9 A.M. WORSHIP W/SCS  
10:30 A.M. WORSHIP  
5 P.M. NA EVENT  
7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

## **MONDAY:**

10 A.M. SPROUTS  
1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP  
6 P.M. SPROUTS  
6:45 P.M. ZUMBA  
7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

## **TUESDAY:**

9 A.M. ZUMBA  
12 P.M. TAI-CHI  
6 P.M. ROCK VOICES  
6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

## **WEDNESDAY:**

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP  
6 P.M. PARKINSONS GROUP  
7 P.M. CHOIR REHEARSAL

## **THURSDAY:**

9 A.M. ZUMBA  
12 P.M. NA  
5 P.M. ZUMBA  
6 P.M. BIBLE STUDY  
7 P.M. NA

## **FRIDAY:**

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)  
10 A.M. SPROUTS  
7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

## **SATURDAY:**

9 A.M. ZUMBA  
10 A.M. GIRL SCOUTS  
5 P.M. WORSHIP



# Altar Flowers

**ALTAR FLOWERS RETURN THIS WEEK. WE APPRECAITE YOUR SUPPORT BY USING THE ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP SHEET IN THE FOYER**

## **ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL**

GET READY FOR SPRING!

WE WILL BE HOSTING A PROVEN WINNERS® PLANT SALE (THE SAME BEAUTIFUL PLANTS FOUND AT OUR LOCAL NURSERIES!) SALE BEGINS APRIL 15TH AND ENDS APRIL 26TH! PLANTS SHIPPED DIRECTLY TO YOUR HOME!

- BRIGHTEN YOUR HOME, PORCH, OR GARDEN
- SUPPORT OUR PRESCHOOL COMMUNITY
- PREMIUM PLANTS YOU KNOW AND LOVE

\*WATCH FOR MORE INFORMATION LATER THIS MONTH\*

## **BURRITO PROJECT**

THIS PAST TUESDAY, THE BURRITO PROJECT TEAM WENT INTO DOWNTOWN TO DELIVER BURRITOS ALONG WITH PERSONAL HYGIENE AND COMFORT ITEMS TO THE HOMELESS. THIS REMARKABLE GROUP OF PEOPLE WAS PREPARED FOR A TORRENTIAL DOWNPOUR. IT DID INDEED RAIN HARD AND FURIOUSLY BEFORE AND AFTER; BUT THE ACTUAL DISTRIBUTION HAD NO RAIN. WE DISTRIBUTED OVER A HUNDRED BURRITOS ALONG WITH OTHER ITEMS. THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE WONDERFUL PEOPLE THAT HELPED TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE, INCLUDING ALL THOSE IN THE CONGREGATION WHO CONTRIBUTED.

THE NEXT BURRITO PROJECT VENTURE WILL BE ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF JUNE. YOU WILL HEAR FROM US THEM.