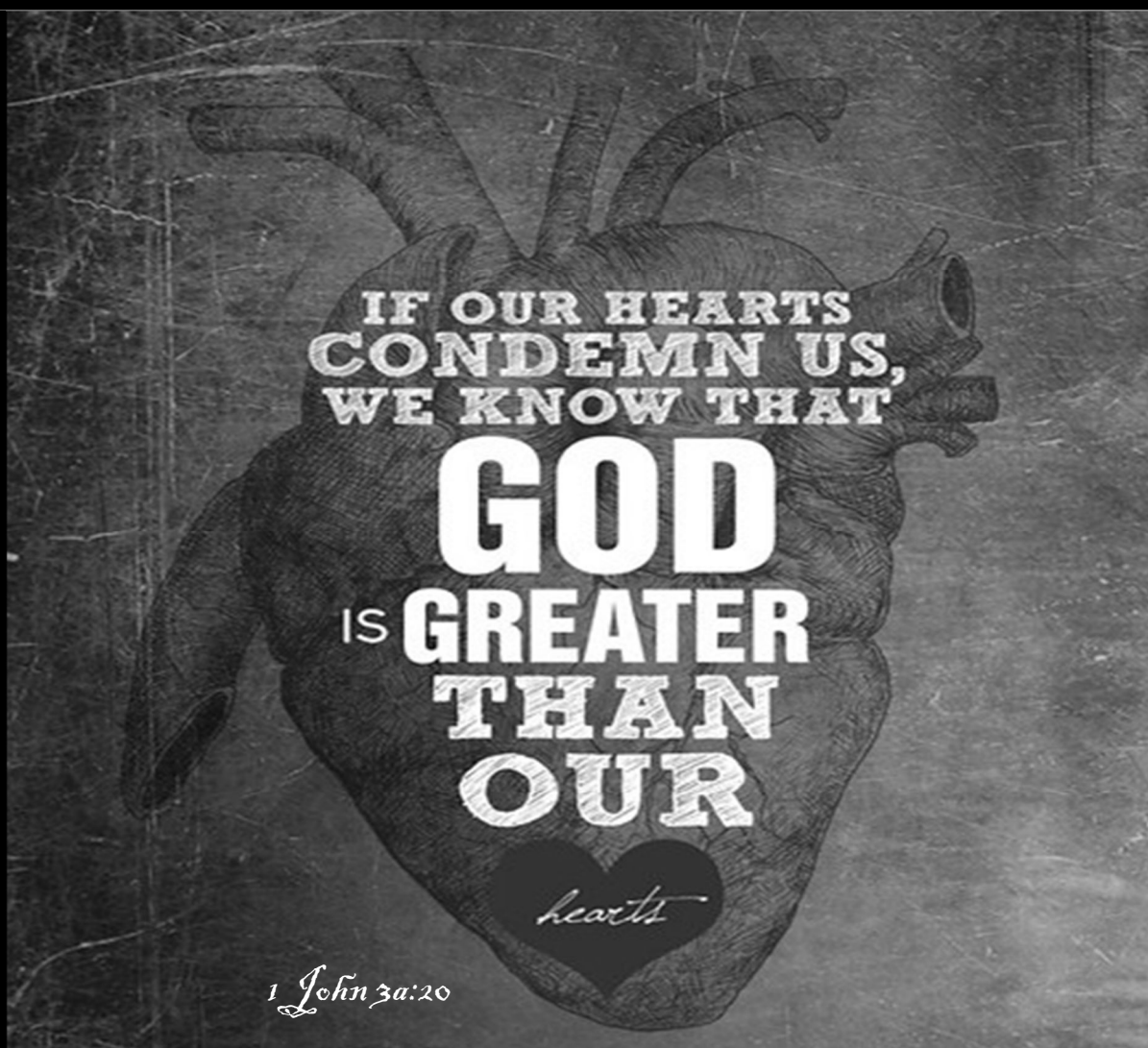


St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
627 South Washington, New Ulm, Minnesota



Fifth Sunday of Easter / Confirmation
April 27/28, 2024

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
revbovee@gmail.com
507-217-6364

www.stjohnsnewulm.com
office@stjohnsnewulm.com
 facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm
354-6744
 YouTube bit.ly/SJyoutube

Pastor Rob Guenther
pastorguenther@gmail.com
507-240-2433

Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am

Channel 3 - Nuvera: Mondays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 10 am

Prayer before worship: Heavenly Father, forgive us for the times that we have only expressed love in our words and not in our actions, when we have paid lip service, but have not been truthful. When our hearts condemn us, help us to trust in your promises that speak a better word than our hearts and to believe in Jesus' completed work for us that has won our full and free forgiveness. Then help us to love one another as you have loved us. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

Order of Service: *Christian Worship CW93 Service of the Word* page 38

OPENING HYMN

Welcome, Happy Morning

CW469

Stand

The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

And also with you.

We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen.

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take
ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e - ter - nal; it stands firm in the
heav - ens. Your faith-ful-ness con - tin - ues for - ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the
Lord is good. Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

Stand

GOSPEL

John 15:1–8

¹“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

³You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

⁸This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.



Be seated

HYMN of the DAY

May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill

CW697

SERMON

Be Confident in Christ

1 John 3:18-24

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

OFFERING

Stand

CONFIRMATION RITE - 11 am

ANTHEM - 11 am

Christ, the Sure and Steady Anchor

CW812

PRAYER of the CHURCH

Lord God, our maker and preserver, we praise and thank you for all that you give us day after day.
We are not worthy of all the mercies you show us.

You have given us your precious Word to nourish our souls and to protect us from the temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature.

We thank you for those who teach and preach your saving truth at this place and everywhere. Grant them a rich measure of patience, wisdom, and love.

Heavenly Father, we pray that you shield us from every kind of danger: sudden catastrophe, terrors of crime, and the pain of disease. Watch over those who travel by land, sea, and air. Keep our loved ones from whatever perils may threaten them.

Heal those who are sick, cheer those who are sad, calm those who are distressed, and comfort all who are old and infirm.

Bless our land, our people, and those who hold offices of high trust. Keep our government and schools upright and strong for the advancement of good citizenship and useful vocations, that we may enjoy your gifts of peace, security, and well-being.

Grant your blessing to every nation on earth. Where there are wars, may there be peace. Where there is hatred, let it be healed. Where there is poverty, danger, or disaster, come with your almighty power to help and restore.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. We bring these requests before you in the name of Jesus our Lord, and ask you to hear us. Take all that we have, our bodies and minds, our time and skills, our ministries and offerings, and use them to your glory.

We give ourselves to you that we may serve you in whatever way is pleasing in your sight. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and forever. Amen.

Be seated



1 Let me be yours for - ev - er, My faith - ful
 2 Lord Je - sus, my sal - va - tion, My light, my
 3 O gra - cious Ho - ly Spir - it, My com - fort -



God and Lord; Let me for - sake you nev - er
 life di - vine, My on - ly con - so - la - tion,
 er and guide, Grant that in Je - sus' mer - it



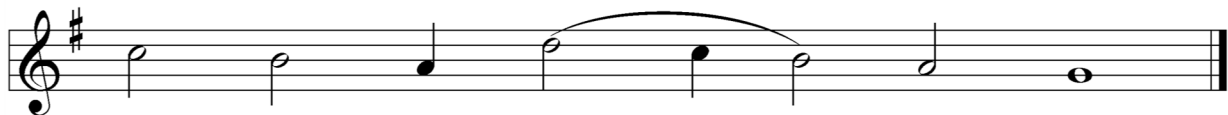
Nor wan - der from your Word. Lord, do not
 To you I all re - sign, For you have
 I al - ways may con - fide, Him to the



let me wa - ver But give me stead -
 dear - ly bought me With blood and bit -
 end con - fess - ing Whom I have known



fast - ness, And for such grace and fa - vor
 ter pain. Let me, since you have sought me,
 by faith. Give me your con - stant bless - ing



Your ho - ly name I'll bless.
 E - ter - nal life ob - tain.
 And grant a Chris - tian death.

Stand

O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

CW730

† † †

PREACHER

PRESIDING MINISTER

ORGAN

CANTOR

CONFIRMATION CHOIR

VIOLIN

MLC LECTORS Throughout the year, St. John's asks men who are studying for the pastoral ministry to read for a service. We are in a privileged position to see our Lord's answer to our prayers for future called workers.

Saturday	Elijah Wohling
8 am	Isaac Roeseler
9:30 am	Nathanael Hintze

Pastor Rob Guenther
Prof. Nick Schmoller (11 am)
Jon Roux
Jon Hermanson
Emily Stoering
Lydia Gohl

St. John's, Juneau, WI
Trinity, Watertown, WI
St. Paul's Muskego, WI

Welcome, Visitors!

Please scan the QR code to
sign our Guest Register.



Former St. John's Confirmands

1 year ago 2023

Tyler Fischer
Joey Gilman
Ethan Hanevik
Jonah Hermanson
Aiden Horner
Timothy Johnson
Madisyn Meyer
Miriam Schaefer
Malachi Schwark
Simon Peter Schwark
Solomon Stoering
Emily Ulicky
Aiden Weisensel
Carter Wels
Ziva Zahrt

5 years ago 2019

Hans Boeder
Drew Domeier
Austin Enter
Wesley Grob
Dora Grubbs
Natalie Hennig
Landon Karstens
Michael Kiecker
Becca Kuck
Joe Kowalke
Kaydence Smith
Estrella Strackbein
Amber Toltzman
Nathan Wels

10 years ago 2014

Matthias Borgwardt
Carl Bumgarner
Magdala Diersen
Sarah Dinse
Alex Gutzke
Hank Havemeier
Chip Hennig
Kelli Karstens
Brianna Nolte
Luke Scheid

25 years ago 1999

Emily Buck
Mark Carroll
Jacob Firle
Nathan Grunwald
Jonathan Hartwig
Drew Henderson
Charlotte Hoffmann
Rachel Kitzberger
Aaron Oldre
Rachel Olson
Nathanael Phillips
Dustin Reinhart
Jennifer Rieke
Sarah Schroeder
Jennifer Sonnenberg
Nicholas Stolt
Elyse Ziesemer

30 years ago 1994

Daniel Blaaid
Dianna Blaaid
Melissa Bode
Lance Buck
Charis Carmichael
John Caulk
Jennifer Firle
Jennifer Frederickson
James Gilman
Daniel Hermanson
Angela Lingl
Justin Mix
Anne Roman
Eric Schmidt
Kaydra Schroeder
Josiah Stoering
Travis Vogel
Laura Wagner

40 years ago 1984

Paul Backer
Lane Bode
Michelle Evers
Scott Evers
Jerome Gilman
Kelli Kokesch
Daniel Kramer
Amy Kuster
Martin LaGrow
Becky Marti
Phillip McClellan
Kelly Paulsen
Kristin Paulsen
Audrey Pitonak
Brenda Plagge
Nathan Slettedahl
Lori Stoll
Dana Tanley
Stacy Zahn

50 years ago 1974

Daniel Backer
Diane Berg
Jill Block
Thomas Dehn
Carl Denninger
Philip Hirsch
Gary Huebner
Paul Lokken
Wardell Lueck
Mark Luedtke
Karen Meyer
Steven Prokosch
Debrah Schroeder
Cathy Vogel
Mark Wessel

60 years ago 1964

Steven Blackstad
Lois Brick
Floyd Drill
Gary Gruber
Paul Hartwig
Linda Johnson
Cynthia Morse
Thomas Schwartz
Janet Steinhauer
Janice Stoering
Gloria Vogel
Patricia Vogel

70 years ago 1954

Jeanette Bruer
Carole Drill
Mary Gratz
Dorothy Hopman
Carol Kitzrow
Thomas Juhnke
Willard Kuester
Wallace Lueck
Lowell Plagge
Glenn Tanley

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sun	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Worship
	11 am	Confirmation
	2 pm	MVL Musical
Tue	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
Thu	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: Jude and 2 Peter
	7 pm	St. Paul's School Band Concert
Fri	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
Sat	3 pm	MLC Children's Theater
	5 & 8 pm	MVL Prism Concerts
	6:30 pm	Worship

† Upcoming Services †

Saturday: 6:30 pm
Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 5	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Worship
	6:30 pm	Elders Meeting
May 6	7 pm	Women of St. John's Meeting
May 7	4 & 6:30 pm	Ascension Services
May 9	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
	6 pm	St. Paul's School Dig-In Gala at Turner Hall
May 11	6:30 pm	Worship
May 12	8, 9:30 & 11 am	Worship
	9:30 am	Sunday School and Bible Class: Worship
	2 pm	Church reserved
May 13	6 pm	Evangelism Meeting
	7 pm	Education Meeting
May 14	4 pm	Oak Hills Living Center Service
May 16	10:30 am	Bible Class: The I AM Statements of Jesus
	7 pm	Bible Class: Jude and 2 Peter
May 17	7 am	Early Bird Bible Class: Paul's Letters to the Thessalonians
	9:30 am	Women's Bible Class: Mary: Mother of God
	7 pm	MLC Commencement Concert
May 18	9 am	Greeter / Usher Training
	10 am	MLC Commencement Service
	2:30 pm	MLC Call Service
	6:30 pm	Worship

Go to www.stjohnsnewulm.com/calendar for more events

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 643 with 501 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

\$14,121	Home Operations ~ <i>Needed to Date: \$282,018 / Received to Date: \$318,907</i>	
\$1,577	MVL ~ <i>Received to Date: \$19,468</i>	\$100 Technology Equipment
\$1,747	Missions ~ <i>Received to Date: \$28,275</i>	\$85 K-12 Education Assistance
\$642	Building Fund	\$16 Food & Fellowship
\$100	St. Paul's School Building Fund	\$15 Sanctuary Renovation

God Bless Our Confirmands ~ We commend into the hands of our merciful Savior all those who make the good confession before God's altar today:

Britta Ann Berg
Liza Beth Filzen
Judah Ryan Guenther

Jakobi Jace Olson
Mia Grace Schmoller
Rogan Phillip Scriver

Gabriella Catherine Smith
Eric James Ulicky

Memorials Gifts ~ Undesignated gifts for sanctuary renovation have been received in memory of Robert Dretske (\$20). A memorial gift of \$100 designated for DVD's was received in memory of Edgar Poehler. We thank the donors.

Stump the Pastor ~ Do you have any questions that you wish you could ask a pastor? Perhaps a question came to you in a Bible study and you thought it would take too long to answer, or seemed too off-track, or perhaps it's a question that you have wondered about from time to time and never asked. Tuesday, May 7, at 7 pm, the Women of St. John's are hosting a Stump the Pastors night, open to everyone. A box is available in the narthex to place your questions. A sign-up sheet is located next to the box for you to sign up to help us plan for refreshments.

Volunteers Needed ~ Many hands help make an outreach event go smoothly, and with 100-150 kids participating in Summer Soccer Camp, please consider joining the Soccer Camp team! There are a variety of ways you can help, from first aid tent to snacks to coaching! Sign up now at johnandpaulministries.com! Questions? Reach out to Beth Scharf (JPM event coordinator) at scharfbm@mlc-wels.edu.

Summer Soccer Camp 2024 Registration NOW OPEN! ~ Join John and Paul Ministries June 3-6, 2024, from 9-11:30 am at the MLC Soccer Fields as experienced leaders and coaches help children ages 4-10 improve their soccer skills through skill practice and scrimmages and learn the love of Jesus through daily devotions! \$30/child (\$20 additional children of the same family.) Register now at johnandpaulministries.com! Registration deadline is May 12. Questions? Reach out to camp coordinator Nick Schmoller at nick.schmoller@gmail.com.

St. John's Cancer Group ~ will meet on Sunday, June 2 at 3 pm in the church basement fellowship area. Our purpose is encouragement from God's Word and each other. Consider coming if you have experienced a cancer diagnosis of any kind, either recently or at any time in the past. Our gatherings are not just for the person diagnosed with cancer. Spouses, adult family members, or other support persons are also very welcome to attend. For more information contact Wayne Wagner at wwagner50@outlook.com.

Ministerial Student Scholarship Fund ~ We are pleased to report that for the 2024-25 school year there are 11 students from St. John's who are planning to attend Martin Luther College or Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary to prepare for serving in the public ministry. To encourage these students and assist in meeting the rising cost of their education, we plan to send MLC and WLS financial assistance to be applied to each student's account. As of April 14, \$4,760 has been contributed. Please consider making a special offering for this purpose. MLC's Congregational Partner Grant Program will match the support that a congregation provides up to \$1,450 per student. If you make a contribution for this purpose, please indicate whether you want your offering to go to the regular Ministerial Student Assistance Fund or to the Ministerial Student Assistance Endowment Fund. Offerings to the endowment fund are invested, and only the investment earnings are distributed each year. Offerings to the regular student assistance fund are distributed in the current school year.

Summer Church Softball ~ Our St John's slow-pitch softball team season runs from early June to early August. All St John's members age 12 and older are welcome to join! If you are interested in playing please fill out the survey at bit.ly/SJNUSB.



Church Campout 2024 ~ We are excited to announce that after taking a year off, the church campout is back on the calendar for June 21-23! It will be held again at the Sportsmen's Park in Sleepy Eye. Like in previous years, there will be a church service held at the campground over the weekend, and there will be several other fellowship opportunities as well. Reserve your spot at: bit.ly/ChurchCampout24. We hope to see many of you there!

You Are Invited to Usher/Greeter Training ~ Are you interested in serving at church in a different way? Consider joining an usher crew or greeter team. We will meet on Saturday, May 18th, from 9 - 10:30 am to review basic usher and greeter duties, such as greeting worshippers, lighting candles, and collecting the offering. Currently, the usher program serves as an entry point for male leadership at St. John's. With this in mind, the usher program is open to males in confirmation class in 7th grade and higher. Greeter teams are open to students in confirmation class, 7th grade and higher. Contact Deacon Brad Price at deacon@stjohnsnewulm.com if you are interested or if you have any questions.

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

MVL Spring Musical ~ Be sure to check out the crazy musical comedy, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, for some good laughs, great singing and dancing, (and a tap number to boot!) Show times are Friday and Saturday, April 26-27 at 7 pm, and Sunday, April 28 at 2 pm. All performances will be held at The State Street Theater Co., in New Ulm. Tickets are \$5 (K-12) and \$7 for adults and may be purchased at the door. Can't wait to see you there!

MLC Faculty Anniversary Service ~ On Sunday, April 28, at 3 pm, in Chapel of the Christ the MLC family will recognize milestones of faithful service for three faculty members at a special anniversary service: Professor Heath Dobberpuhl, 25 years of service, and Professors Brian Dose and Craig Hirschmann, 40 years of service. Please join us in honoring these faithful servants.

St. Paul's School Band Concert ~ The St. Paul school Raider Band program will be presenting its Spring Concert on Thursday, May 2 at 7 pm in the school gymnasium. The Junior Band will be rocking "Row Your Boat" while the Raider Band will entertain you with Tales of Sea and Sail. The Wellerman and Pirates of the Caribbean will conclude the program in mass band style! Come join us for an evening on the sea!

MLC Children's Theater ~ Join us on May 4 for Martin Luther College children's theatre production of *Alice in Wonderland*! In this endearing version of Lewis Carroll's memorable story, Alice's quest to find the Queen's missing tarts leads her through a maze of incredible and suspenseful adventures, along with familiar characters and events from the classic story. Tickets are \$3 for all attendees and will be sold at the door only, beginning 30 minutes before each show time. Visit mlc-wels.edu/forum for more information.

Teacher Appreciation Week at St. Paul's School ~ Howdy! This year, National Teacher Appreciation Week is May 6th -10th and we are celebrating our teachers with a whole rootin' tootin' western-themed Teacher Appreciation Week hootenanny! We're fixin' to show our gratitude bigger than a Texas two-step!

So, mosey on over to <https://signup.com/go/ekLOduS> and sign up to lend a hand, or donate what you can. Together, we'll make it a week the teachers won't soon forget!

St. Paul's School Dig In Gala ~ Wednesday, May 1, is the last day to get your tickets for this year's Dig In Gala, so don't delay! Our surprise guest emcee is sure to entertain as we thank God for his gifts to our school and our building project. Adult attendees to the Gala held at Turner Hall can expect food and fellowship, silent auction, live auction, other unique giving opportunities, and a program full of surprises and exciting information about Phase Three of the School Building Project Campaign! Dress can be casual, or feel free to dress to the Dr. Seuss theme. Reserve your tickets here <https://buytickets.at/digingala2024> or purchase them at the St. Paul's school office. Cost: \$25 each, or \$200 to reserve a table for 8.

"Camp Shetek" MN Valley Lutheran Camp ~ "Camp Shetek" will be held at the Group Center at Sibley State Park from June 16 - June 22. More information can be found in the narthex and online. Online registration is open at www.campshetek.org.

About the Cover ~ "Just follow your heart." That's terrible advice. Our consciences are broken. Sometimes they are so dulled by our sinful natures that they don't sound the alarm of the law and we need God's word to point out our sin. Other times they tell us that we can never be forgiven after that terrible sin or that recurring sin that we struggle with. Thank God we have his promises which speak a word far more powerful than our hearts. We are forgiven for the sake of Christ and his work for us. Trust in that Word. Silence your heart. Believe his promises. And find your confidence in Jesus. Then you can love others as he's loved you to show your gratitude and thanks.