

The Way of the Cross



April 2025

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Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. (Isaiah 53:10-11 NIV 1984)

New Ulm has a number of unique attractions: The Herman the German statue, Schell's Brewery, Black Frost Distilling, Sweet Haven Tonics, the historic downtown connected to the stories of the Sioux uprising, and the Minnesota Music Museum, just to name a few. But one interesting feature in New Ulm that is quite impressive is The Way of the Cross, located adjacent to the hospital. It is a series of fourteen scenes exhibiting statues imported from Bavaria in 1904 which depict various scenes from the passion of Jesus Christ as he made his way to the cross. Not all the scenes are Biblical. Some are apocryphal, such as St. Veronica wiping the face of Jesus, or Jesus falling numerous times under the weight of the cross. But my family and I try to make it a point to walk it, usually on the Saturday before Easter, as a reminder of the events of Lent. It summarizes what Jesus did for us as the Savior of the world.

During this Lenten season we walk the pathway which leads to the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. The road to the cross takes us past scenes which remind us that we are living in a sinful world. There is deceit, betrayal, anxiety, suffering, bloodshed and death. With each episode along the way – Judas' kiss of betrayal, Peter's denial of the Savior, the unjust trial of the chief priests, the venomous accusation of the Jews, the cruel abuse of the Roman soldiers, the morbid death of the innocent Christ – we are reminded of our own abominable sins. We are convicted by our own unfaithfulness to God. We are condemned by the failings of our own human frailty.

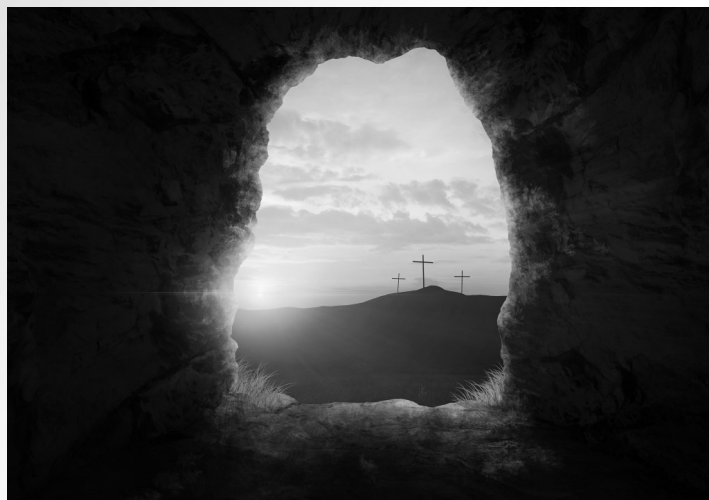
However, the road through Lent which takes us to the cross of Christ meets up with another path, just beyond the cross. It is the road to a garden where we find the tomb which Joseph of Arimathea had carved out of the rock. Originally, he had intended it for himself. But he was willing to make a sacrifice for the one who sacrificed himself for **the** world. In that tomb he laid the body of the Lord Jesus Christ. Beyond the cross where Jesus had died for the sins of the world Joseph and his friend Nicodemus wrapped the Lord of Life in funeral clothes and buried him in a grave with a stone which sealed the mouth of the tomb.

Just beyond the cross, a group of women, early in the morning, came down the Lenten path, the road which they expected to end at the tomb. But the tomb was empty. There, beyond the cross they were met by angels who proclaimed that Jesus was alive. Beyond the cross, Mary Magdalene would meet the risen Lord face to face. Beyond the cross Jesus would regroup and comfort his fearful apostles. Beyond the cross he would promise them life and salvation, and assure them that he would return in glory to take them to heaven. Beyond the cross he would ascend into heaven.

Today we walk the path of Lent and see before us the cross of Christ. There is the place where Jesus died for our sins. There is the place where Satan was defeated. There is the place where our debts to God were paid by the blood of Christ. But it is beyond the cross that we find what it all means for us. Let us go beyond the cross to the empty tomb and meet the



risen Christ. In the Resurrection we have the assurance that our sins have been atoned for, that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice for our sins, and that we too shall rise from death. Beyond the cross is the empty tomb. Beyond the cross, the Bible says of Jesus: After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. Beyond the cross he waits for us, with deep satisfaction, at the open gates of heaven. Beyond the cross...



In Christ,

Pastor Jeff Bovee

Church Softball League in New Ulm

Our St. John's slow pitch softball team needs players!! The season runs from early June through late July. Anyone age 13 and up are welcome to join the team! For more information please fill out the interest survey: bit.ly/SJChurchSoftball or scan the QR code:



April Sermon Texts

April 6	Isaiah 43:16-21	What Have I Given to the LORD?
April 13	Philippians 2:5-11	The King Adjusts Our Attitudes
April 20	John 20:1-18	The Great Four Hundred Yard Races of Resurrection Sunday A.D. 33
April 27	Acts 5:12, 17-32	The Great Escape

Bible Class meets in the Church Basement
The class can also be found online at bit.ly/SJBibleClass

Sundays at 9:30 am	Psalms	Pastor Jeff Bovee
Thursdays at 10 am	Proverbs	Pastor Jeff Bovee
Thursdays at 7 pm	Vices and Virtues	Pastor Rob Guenther
Fridays at 9:30 am	Vices and Virtues	Pastor Rob Guenther

Council Digest

The Church Council met on March 18, 2025. A summary of reports and actions from the meetings not reported elsewhere in the Fortress follows:

Membership Changes

A. Transfers In

Grace Weisensel

B. Transfers Out

Michael Bovee and Janet Holm

C. Baptism

None

D. Funeral/Deaths

Rosemarie Rich, Kurt Kartsens, Bruce Savoy

E. Adult Confirmation and Profession of Faith

None

Council Reports

The Deacon Reported on attendance, online viewing and Usher training on February 22nd, with 20 people in attendance.

The Board of Youth and Education reported on the following:

Tuition Assistance Model. The Chair and Pastor Guenther met with members of St. Paul's regarding our use of FACTS for tuition assistance which St. Paul's also hopes to implement.

Confirmation: Confirmation is scheduled for Sunday April 27 with Examination on Wednesday April 23. Practice Examination is April 16.

Summer Education and Outreach: Michael Wiechmann is interested in involving our youth group in Summer VBS. Promotions for the summer soccer camp have been produced. Camp is June 9-12.

Bible Classes: Sunday morning Bible classes are scheduled through the spring. 7th/8th grade Sunday school classes will start attending adult Bible study on Sundays once Sunday school has finished. There has been some discussion about adding a youth Bible study group but space limitations were noted.

The Board of Elders prioritized member care, worship, and fostering the congregation's spiritual growth. Key highlights include:

Member and Benevolence Support: Considering an intake form to fill out.

Active Member Care: Youth encouragement includes attendance at the last Bible study session and the chairman visiting with the Confirmation class.

Inactive Members and Discipline: Efforts continued to reconnect with inactive members, and preparing lists for

presentation to the voters in April for 1st reading and votes to release. A member will receive a letter from the Elders regarding inappropriate behavior. A second member has rebuffed approaches from our pastors regarding marriage matters.

Called Worker Care: Meetings are being scheduled with our called workers.

The Evangelism Committee focused on strengthening outreach, fellowship, and connections within the congregation and community. Notable activities included: Events: Conducted the annual pre-Easter canvass on Saturday, March 8th, 2025.

Ongoing Activities: Encouraging people to update their church photos for updated directories. The board is currently working to put a prospect nurturing plan into place and have each member of the congregation involved in evangelism and outreach.

The Stewardship Committee emphasized financial health and member engagement in giving and service. Major updates include:

Bible Class Stewardship Series: Pastor Guenther is presenting on "time, talent, teamwork and truth" in February and March and Prof. Thompson on "temple." Digital Giving Launch: Introduced Givelify to streamline online contributions, with rollout in March.

Estate Planning Seminar: Estate planning seminar on March 16th at 930am.

Offering Envelopes: Ordered for 2026 with "Building Fund" reintroduced.

The Board of Properties focuses on maintaining and improving church facilities. Key projects included:

Exterior doors power washed, ready for restaining
Sign restoration complete, new sign on display

Rental property:

replaced facets in lower restroom

New Tenants, Mr. and Mrs. Eli Dorn - starting July 1st, 2025

Will schedule outside cleanup day prior to Easter Sunday
Olympic Fire Protection inspection failed for "Sprinklers (visible) - Any quick response heads installed for more than 20 years?" - Testing 3 lots (12 heads) of Quick Response Sprinkler Heads that are over 20 years old. Testing 4 or 1% of each style of sprinkler heads. - \$2,556.00, no update on the testing.

Council Business

The Council received financial reports with giving to the general fund and CMO on target, while giving to MVL is slightly behind target. Bookkeeper Thom also introduced a new dashboard for measuring financial health of the congregation.

The Council received a recommendation from J. Zahrt for monthly review of portions of the Strategic Ministry Plan which will begin in April.

Plans for the joint SJ/SP council meeting in May were reviewed.

The April voters meeting was discussed, including the continued use of a consent agenda. Chairs were encouraged to complete their reports so that they are available in advance of the voter's meeting.

Volunteers from the Council will serve Lenten supper on April 9, headed by Jon Schaefer.

Future meetings:

Fortress deadline - First Friday following the Council Meeting

Next regular council meeting - April 15 @ 7 PM

Next regular voters' meeting - April 22 @ 7 PM

Next joint council meeting - May 20, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

J. Berg, Congregational Chairman

Consent Agenda

Q: What is a "Consent Agenda," and how does it make our meetings go faster?

At voters' meetings, at least a few items come to the agenda that do not need any discussion or debate either because they are routine procedures or are already unanimous consent. A consent agenda (Roberts Rules of Order calls it a consent calendar) allows the voters to approve all these items together without discussion or individual motions. Depending upon the month, this can free up anywhere from a few minutes to a half-hour for more substantial discussion.

What belongs on the consent agenda?

Typical consent agenda items are routine, procedural decisions, and decisions that are likely to be noncontroversial. Examples include:

- Approval of the minutes;
- Routine matters such as vacancy appointments to boards and committees;
- Reports provided for information only;
- Correspondence requiring no action.

How are items on a consent agenda handled?

A consent agenda can only work if the reports and other matters for the meeting agenda are known in advance and distributed in the agenda links or printed materials with sufficient time to be read by all members prior to the meeting, ideally two Sundays in advance. The St. John's Councils uses similar procedures. The voters' procedure is as follows:

1. When preparing the meeting agenda, the officers and chairs provide links to reports and items. Then the president determines whether an item belongs on the

consent agenda.

2. The president prepares a numbered list of the consent items as part of the voters' meeting agenda.

3. The list and supporting documents are included in the voter's agenda folder in sufficient time to be read by all members prior to the meeting.

4. At the beginning of the meeting, the chair asks members what items they wish to be removed from the consent agenda and discussed individually.

5. If any member requests that an item be removed from the consent agenda, it must be removed. Members may request that an item be removed for any reason. They may wish, for example, to discuss the item, query the item, or register a vote against the item.

6. Once it has been removed, the president can decide whether to take up the matter immediately or place it on the regular meeting agenda. The regular procedure is for the item to be placed under new business.

7. When there are no more items to be removed, the president or secretary reads out the numbers of the remaining consent items. Then the president calls for any objections. If no objections, then items will be adopted. After pausing for any objections, the president calls items adopted. It is not necessary to ask for a show of hands.

8. When preparing the minutes, the secretary includes the full text of the resolutions, reports, or recommendations that were adopted as part of the consent agenda, which may be completed by using links provided from the agenda.

How to start using a consent agenda?

The council adopted a rule of order allowing for the consent agenda process. St. John's Council adopted this rule on March 15, 2022. It is presented to the voters at their April 20, 2025 meeting:

“A consent agenda may be presented by the president at the beginning of a meeting. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any one member. Items not removed are adopted by general consent without debate. Removed items may be taken up either immediately after the consent agenda or placed later on the agenda at the discretion of the president.”

It is important to make sure that voting members know what items belong on the agenda and how to move items to and from the consent agenda. For this reason, instructions on using the consent agenda should be regularly shared with voters.

Church Librarian

This article is being written on the first day of spring. It has seemed like spring several times in March, then winter intervened. April should be spring for sure, although we can still get a blizzard.

“Moments in the Word for Moms” by Melissa Berg is a devotional for new and not so new Moms. Babies are miracles and a gift from God. As a mother herself, the author has divided her advice into 3 sections: Loving little ones, Watching children learn and grow, and Growing in faith and trusting in God’s promises. She weaves Scripture in with each devotion.

Another book was already on our shelves in the CSI section. “And She was a Christian” was written by Pastor Peter Preus after his wife committed suicide. What would have caused her to do that? She was only 41 and a mother of 6. After Pastor Preus studied Scripture and experts and about other Christian suicides, he found hopelessness was the basic cause. But how could a Christian lose hope? It could be the growth of the disease of depression to blot out hope. Suicide is a sin, but not necessarily unforgivable. God could and would keep the believer even through suicide. That gives the survivors hope.

The biggest book this month is Amish fiction by Suzanne Woods Fischer. The trilogy “Stoney Ridge Seasons” is really three books in one. It covers the Lapp family which includes Julia, Sadie, Menno, and Mary Kate, plus Amos (the Dad), and Fern (the new housekeeper.) The trilogy covers all of them with Julie’s romance in “The Keeper”, Sadie’s in “The Haven”, and M.K. in “The Lesson”. The author is a writer of heartwarming stories.

Have a good spring and Easter. He is Risen indeed!

LeiLani Rahn, church librarian

St. Paul’s School

The One Thing Needful

I will be retiring at the end of this school year after 32 years of teaching, 27 of which have been at St. Paul’s Lutheran School. I cherish my time teaching many children about Jesus their Savior, the one thing needful. My own children were taught this truth by many wonderful teachers during their time at St. Paul’s. Knowing Jesus is our Savior was a fact that my daughter Laura knew when she died in April of 2000 while she was an 8th grader here. I want to thank Mr. Dale Markgraf for all he did for me as my first principal here, and all of the principals following Dale. I was fortunate over the years to help in a variety of ways at our school such as in coaching, playing the piano, and helping with the musical. I loved watching my students grow academically and spiritually. I loved listening to all the stories and jokes children told me over the years. It was a huge blessing to be a part of this school for so many years. St. Paul’s is truly a special place. I look forward to spending time with my husband John, my children and their spouses, and my grandson Oskar. May God continue to bless St. Paul’s in the future, as He has in the past!

God’s blessings, Mrs. Cindy Ring

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Ella Hunter

Q: What made you decide to become a pastor or a teacher?

E: Teachers always surrounded me while I was growing up. My mom was a teacher, and I loved helping her set up her classroom. I have had lots of fun helping in classrooms throughout my grade and high school years. I want to give this fun chance to other children. I want to be a role model for them, as many were for me.

Q: How many years of school do you have left?

E: This year I am a freshman, so I have 3 more years left.

Q: What class do you enjoy the most?

E: I enjoy my choir class the most. It is so special to be able to give God's word to others in such a way.

Q: What class do you find the most challenging?

E: Literature Seminary is the most challenging class for me. There is a lot to read.

Q: Do you have a job while you're in school? If so, what do you do? How do you balance work and studies?

E: Yes, I have two (three) jobs in New Ulm. I work at Perkins as a server and Inspired as a customer service helper. I have also helped at Jefferson School, subbing as a Para as much as possible. I can balance work and studies quickly. It can be managed if you do your schoolwork throughout the day and do not leave it all for the night. It can also be very helpful to work ahead, and then you have time to go and work because your homework is already done.

Q: What are your hobbies when you're not in class or studying (or at work)?

E: I love to play the piano. This lets me calm down after a long day or week. I also enjoy playing sports, like basketball and volleyball, and being active.

Thank you for all of the support you have given us at MLC. It is also a blessing to have a strong community like this supporting us so we can serve as future ministers in such a short amount of time! I appreciate your efforts to make MLC a positive choice for us!

Thank you, Pastors, for all that you have done for us as well!!

Ella Hunter



ST. JOHN'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEW ULM, MN 56073

APRIL 2025
354-6744

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p align="center"><u>T.V. Service:</u> Mondays: 6 pm Tuesdays: 1 pm Thursdays: 10 am on Comcast Channel 14</p>		1 7 pm Women of St. John's	2 11 am Service 4 pm Service 5 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Service 6:30 pm Bible Information Class 7:15 pm Choir	3 10 am Bible Class 7 pm Bible Class	4 9:30 am Women's Bible Class	5 WORSHIP 6:30 PM
6 Lent 5 WORSHIP 8, 9:30 & 11 AM W/ COMMUNION 9:30 am Bible Class	7 6:30 pm Elders	8 6 pm Sunday School Teachers'	9 11 am Service 4 pm Service 5 pm Handbells 6:30 pm Service 6:30 pm Bible Information Class 7:15 pm Choir	10 10 am Bible Class 7 pm Bible Class	11 9:30 am Women's Bible Class	12 WORSHIP 6:30 PM
13 Palm Sunday WORSHIP 8, 9:30 & 11 AM 9:30 am Bible Class	14 6 pm Evangelism Meeting 7 pm Education Meeting	15 7 pm Council Meeting	16 3:30 pm Public and Homeschool Catechism 6:30 pm Confirmation Exam Practice	17 MAUNDY THURSDAY 11 am Service 4 pm Service 6:30 pm Service	18 GOOD FRIDAY 12 pm Tre Ore @ St. Paul's 7 pm Tenebrae	19
20 Easter WORSHIP 7 & 9:30 AM 8 am Easter Breakfast	21	22 7 pm Voters' Meeting	23 7 pm Examination	24 10 am Bible Class 7 pm Bible Class	25 9:30 am Women's Bible Class	26 WORSHIP 6:30 PM
27 Easter 2 Confirmation WORSHIP 8, 9:30 & 11 AM 9:30 am Bible Class	28	29	30 6 pm Handbells 7 pm Choir	31		

Looking Ahead

May 17th MLC Call Service
 May 21st St. Paul's Closing Service
 May 25th MVL Graduation

Correspondence

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 Church Office office@stjohnsnewulm.com
 Mike Thom bookkeeper@stjohnsnewulm.com

Stewardship of Temple

Your Body is a Temple of the Holy Spirit

“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” (I Corinthians 6:19-20)

The idea that our body is a temple is rooted deeply in Scripture, and we are urged to care for our physical health. Have you considered how this truth might influence how you treat your body? As believers we are encouraged to recognize that every action, what we eat, how we exercise, and the rest we take, should reflect our reverence for God’s presence within us.

When we look at ourselves we should see a reflection of God’s craftsmanship. This should move us to a higher level of care for our bodies, and move us away from unhealthy habits and neglect of our physical health. When we prioritize the stewardship of our body, it not only benefits our health but also enables us to serve others. If we neglect our health, we may limit our capacity to make a meaningful impact in other areas of our life.

Care for your body in a way that aligns with God’s purpose. Choose foods that promote health and energy. Stay active, movement is a gift that keeps the body strong and resilient, allowing us to serve and live fully. Rest well, Sabbath rest and regular sleep are essential for our physical and spiritual well-being. Seek balance in your life. Remember that body and spirit are interconnected, so your lifestyle should nurture both. Consider these principles and approach your health as an act of stewardship of temple.

“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.” (Psalm 139:14)

On The Front Line of Evangelism

Our ushers and greeters serve on the frontline of evangelism for guests attending St. John’s, ensuring that all worshippers feel welcome and safe during worship services. Ushers also ensure good order during worship. It is an important job! On February 22nd, twenty people attended the annual Hospitality Team Training for ushers and greeters. Attendees were split up into four groups led by Lead Ushers, Gerald Horner, David Rausch, Frank Kral, and Jesse Zahrt. The small groups spent dedicated time in the main areas of our campus including the sanctuary, narthex, Usher/AV Room, and entryways. The Lead Usher guiding each group covered the duties for each area along with the location of emergency response equipment and protocols related to each area. A training date specific to emergency response will be scheduled later this year. Several open usher slots were filled after the training. There are a couple openings for the 11am and Saturday night services. Contact Brad Price if you are interested in serving in these openings. Deacon@stjohnsnewulm.com My thanks to all who attended the training in February and volunteer to serve on our Hospitality Crews!

Brad Price
Deacon

LMSG Anniversary

Lutheran Military Support Group (LMSG) will celebrate its 10th anniversary on Saturday, May 3rd, at 10:00 am at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, MN. A brief service at Trinity Chapel will be officiated by ELS President Rev. Glenn Obenberger and WELS Civilian Chaplain to the Military Rev. Paul Horn will be followed by a ceremony at the ELS Military Monument. This ceremony will include presentations by past and present LMSG Directors, ELS Military Monument designer Jason Jaspersen, and will highlight the past and future work of LMSG in its mission to provide Christ-centered support to Military Service Members, Veterans, and their Families. All are welcome. Visit www.lutheranmilitary.org for more information. RSVP for the meal by April 17th.

Staff Minister

Updates needed for Church Directories - I went through the directory and found 70-80 pictures either missing or out of date so decided not to print new directories yet. Some families have new children, or children pictured as infants and toddlers and now in high school, so it would be great to update pictures, as well as check phone numbers, addresses, birthdays, anniversaries for all of our current members and their families. Please send updates to sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com You can also ask me or some other member to take your picture in the New Narthex or send a file with any changed information for your family. Being gone for a funeral in March, I missed being here to take updated pictures last month. I will continue to take the first couple weekends in April. I want to print new Pew Copies in April. Thank you!

Slide Advance Assistants Still Needed - If you can click a remote, you are qualified to assist with advancing slides during services, especially if you already are in the habit of watching the slides during the services. If you have served in the past but have not advanced slides for a while, please check your emails that I send out. New Confirmed or soon to be confirmed members—consider serving the Lord by serving the members in this way. If you have interest in assisting in this way, please send me an email at sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com to get on the list of people who receive notices when there is a need to fill a service for the coming weekend. I can meet with anyone to go through the processes to advance slides too. Easy! Thanks!

St. John's Tech Services - Use the following links or internet address shortcuts to reach our online resources: (Copy and Paste into Browser if these are not live links.)

- 1) <https://stjohnsnewulm.com> - Our church's Website - Check it out!
- 2) bit.ly/SJRecord-Stream - Record attendance or Give feedback about a streamed service.
- 3) bit.ly/SJBibleClass - Online Bible Class sign in with Google Meet
- 4) bit.ly/CommunionQuestions - Prepare for Communion watching this 6 minute video (SJ Maundy Thursday 2023)

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Dretske sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com

Women of St. John's

April 1 - New Beginnings - A Home for Mothers presentation by Ruth Westphal at 7 pm. We will collect items until that evening to send back with Ruth for the residents. Be sure to check out the display in the new narthex for additional information or visit homeformothers.com. All are welcome to attend and bring a friend!

May 6 - Christians Forward Southeast Asia presentation by Anne Press at 7 pm. Christians Forward is a non-profit organization providing spiritual and humanitarian aid around the world. Visit christiansforward.org for additional information. Everyone is welcome!

CAMM Collection - There will be an ongoing collection of empty, label-free, small pill bottles for our WELS Central Africa Medical Mission. However, we will also be collecting small, lightweight items until the LWMS Spring Rally on Saturday, April 5 that can be sent to Malawi and Zambia with the pill bottles. Check out the display in the new narthex for further details or visit camm.us.

Central Africa Medical Mission

In mid-February while many in the US were shivering from subzero temperatures, CAMM along with its partners - Lutheran Congregations in Missions for Christ or LCMC (our sister church in Kenya), The One Africa Team and the Committee for Aid and Relief held our second medical camp at St. Peters Church in Karima, Kenya.

We held a similar camp at the same location in February 2024 where we saw 1441 patients over a 4 day period. More importantly, the Holy Spirit has worked in the hearts of the people from that area and led the congregation to start two daughter congregations.

The original intent was to hold the 2025 camp in Nairobi but finding a plot of land large enough to hold the clinic, that was close to one of the church sites proved too problematic. It was decided to hold the camp at the same location as the 2024 camp.

One of the outcomes of the first camp at St. Peters is that we had built very good relationships with the Kirinyaga County Health Department, who is a key partner providing help with the purchase of low-cost medications, gaining government approval for the camp and arranging for the registrars, nurses, technicians, clinicians and pharmacists who make the camp such a success. Another strong relationship we have built is with our friends at the LCMC who arrange the logistics and ensure that the site is ready for the camp.

This year's camp was much like last year's in that it was mainly for health screening and was held over a 5 day period. When a patient entered the site, he or she first attended a small group devotion led by a pastor or evangelist, next they registered and then had blood pressure and blood sugar taken and their body mass index (BMI) calculated, After speaking with a nutritionist, patients would see a clinician to determine if meds were needed for high blood pressure (which there was a lot of) or be treated for any other condition. There was a truck on site each day with an initiative called Beyond Zero, where women could be examined and treated for cervical cancer.

HIV patients could also be tested and consulted on site and women were taught how to conduct a self-breast examination. Finally, patients would visit the pharmacy and receive any medications they may need, free of charge. Some patients were referred to the hospital for further testing or treatment and we did have to call the ambulance for one or two emergencies. Over a 5 day period we served 2,020 patients.

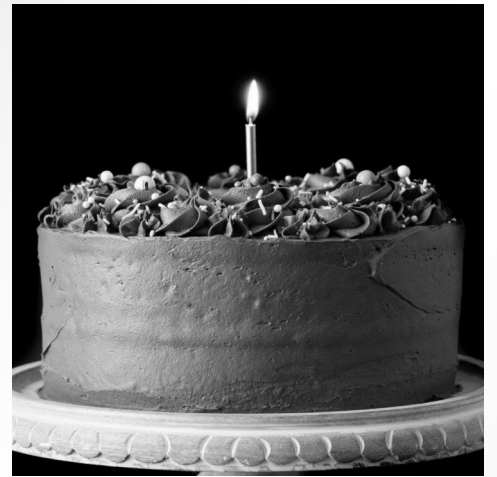
Visit our new website! CAMM.US

<https://www.facebook.com/camm.wels>

This year we were joined by 6 volunteers from the United States, four of whom were nurses. The volunteers spent their days working with Kenyan colleagues in the Beyond Zero truck, taking blood pressures and blood sugars, conducting BMI's, managing the pharmacy storeroom and working with Kenyan clinicians and HIV patients. Each day Pastor John Roebke, who attended the camp with his wife Nancy, would start the day with a devotion, so that we could keep our minds focused on the true reason for the camp which was to spread the good news of the Gospel. We already have a location picked out for another medical camp in early 2026. In June, Pastor Roebke and I will be travelling to western Kenya where we will meet church and government leaders in Chabera, Kenya to plan the next camp. Praise God for the success of this year's camp, and the opportunity to spread the Gospel in Kenya. Please pray for us as we plan the next camp while continuing the work at our clinics in Zambia and Malawi.

Gary Evans
Field Director

Happy Birthday!



- | | | | |
|----|---|----|--|
| 1 | Melissa Gieseke
Emily Rich | 17 | Kirstie Klug
Madeline Martin |
| 2 | Michael Bovee
Del Ulrich
Martha Weber
Elizabeth Wessel | | Timothy Meinert
James Schaefer
Miriam Schaefer |
| 3 | Judith Lemke
Sandra Reinke | 18 | Ella Hunter
Jeff Kiecker
Maverick Kiecker |
| 4 | Jennifer Johnson | | Kristy Wiechmann |
| 5 | David Gosdeck | 19 | William Behnken
Danielle Ecker |
| 6 | Daniel Fenske
Cheyenne Murdock | | Stephanie Kempenich |
| 7 | Estrella Strackbein | | Rebecca Kuck |
| 8 | Lee Fischer
Logan Fischer
Denise Karstens | | Tatum Toltzman |
| 9 | Brandon Hanevik
Charlie Iverson | 20 | Anne Flatau
Matthew Kiecker |
| 10 | Roger Hull | 21 | Waylen Thompson |
| 11 | DeWayne Blaalid | 22 | Thomas Wels |
| 12 | William Dinse
Earl Heidtke | 23 | Connie Micheel |
| 13 | Brian Dose
Greg Miller | 24 | Lisa Fenske
Cindy Wellner |
| 14 | Judith Zahn | 25 | Linnea Gunderson
Carol Meinzer
Dominick Olson |
| 16 | Dylan Hanevik
Hailey Miller
Nathanael Smith | | Erin Paulson |
| | | 28 | Emmalyn Price |
| | | 29 | Paul Willems |
| | | 30 | Emmitt Hunter
Glenn Minkel
Renee Schmit
Randy Shoen |

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church
627 South Washington
New Ulm MN 56073

Return Service Requested

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April 2025

FORTRESS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church • New Ulm, Minnesota

Welcome to St. John's!

627 S. Washington St.

507-354-6744

www.stjohnsnewulm.com

Worship Times

Saturdays: 6:30 pm

Sundays: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

and online at:

YouTube.com

Search: Saint John's New Ulm

Adult Bible Class

(In person and online at: bit.ly/SJBibleClass)

Sundays: 9:30 am

Thursdays: 10 am & 7 pm

Fridays (Women): 9:30 am

Sunday School

Sundays: 9:30 am

Staff

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee

revbovee@gmail.com

Pastor Rob Guenther

pastorguenther@gmail.com

Staff Minister Jim Dretske

sm.dretske@stjohnsnewulm.com

Church Office

office@stjohnsnewulm.com

Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@stjohnsnewulm.com