

## Being Rich Toward God

***" Watch out? Be on your guard against all kinds of greed: a man 's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 1 2: 15).***

The society in which we live tells us that more is better. We're told that in order to be happy we must have the newest and best things, and, because of our sinful selfish natures, we fall all too easily for this lie. Many people foolishly believe that money provides a lifetime of security, so they spend their time and resources chasing after it. Unfortunately, even if they are successful in their pursuit, their lives are often filled with loneliness and despair.

In the parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12: 13-21), Jesus warns us about the problem of greed. In this parable, Jesus tells about a wealthy and successful farmer who produced such a big crop that he made plans to tear down his existing barns and build bigger ones to store up his abundant harvest. Basking in his success, he had no worries about his future as he looked forward to in easy retirement of eating, drinking, and being merry. We might admire him for his success, but God called him a fool, because God saw him as selfish and greedy. He ignored God as well as his neighbors, and God called him to account for his greed. The Rich Fool forfeited his life. ***"This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God"*** (verse 21). Jesus said.

Jesus did not condemn the rich farmer because he had wealth, but he did condemn his selfish attitude toward his riches. His wealth had become the most important thing in his life. Through this parable, God is warning us about the problem of greed and our need to use our wealth properly.

Rather than being rich toward money, God wants us to be ***"rich toward God."*** In Luke 12:21, Jesus is telling His listeners that, if we store up things only for ourselves and are not ***"rich toward God,"*** we will have the same fate as the Rich Fool. In order to be ***"rich toward God"*** with our money, we need to acknowledge that God is the source of all we have. We must come to understand that money is to be used rather than to be hoarded. Our primary goal is not to amass more money for personal use and enjoyment, but instead to glorify God through the use of our money. We can use it in ways that glorify God by investing in the work of the kingdom of Christ. In this way we will be ***"rich toward God."***

Prayer: Dear Lord, help me to develop a right and proper attitude toward the money You have entrusted to me. Help me to see my money as Your gift to be used for your purposes. Through Christ I pray. Amen.

***" Wisdom is a shelter, as money is a shelter, but the advantage is this: that wisdom preserves the life of its possessor "*** (Ecclesiastes 7: 1 2).

### *Dear Friends in Christ:*

*St. John's monthly newsletter will contain a section called the "Steward's Corner" that the Stewardship Committee will use to keep you informed of the needs of our church and to publish articles and messages intended to lift your spirit and remind us of the great blessing and call we have from our Lord to advance His Kingdom through the use of our time, talents and treasure. Our goal is to encourage all of us to support and give to St. John and its many missions, especially our own school, in furtherance of Jesus' command concerning the "Great Commission". In so doing, we will secure for ourselves "treasure in heaven" as our Lord promised us. I want all of our members to be "rich" toward the Lord as he has been rich toward each one of us. The Stewardship Committee prays the Steward's Corner will richly bless you, uplift you, motivate you, and encourage each one of you to give and live up to your potential for Christ; and, in so doing, earn the many "crowns" the Lord will give to those that do His will.*

Yours in Christ,

Jon Dean, Stewardship committee

Happy Easter! I apologize for not writing sooner, please forgive me. It is a very busy quarter as usual. Let me bring you up to date with my last quarter studies. I took Pastoral Ministry, Lutheran Mind, Hebrew Readings, Theology of Missions, and Introduction to Historical Theology. All grades were in the A-B range, to God be the glory. I do not recall ever reading and writing so many books and papers, but Christ saw me through it all. Christ answered many prayers during tests and late night studies for classes. Sunday is time at my field work church assisting with the divine service. I was even given the privilege of assisting with the children's Sunday school one week. What a Blessing! Somewhere in all this, I was able to find some occasional quality time with the family.

This Spring Quarter I am registered in Biblical Hermeneutics, Old Testament Lectionary Readings, History of the LCMS, Worship, The Lutheran Confessions I, all for thirteen credit hours. I decided to take a slightly lighter load than last quarter. After this quarter, the seminary should allow me to do the liturgy for the service. This summer I hope to start preaching at my field work church. I'm excited to write my own sermons and present them to the field work congregation and the rest of my class. All of our sermons at the seminary are recorded during the class so that we can review and receive comments back from our professor and classmates. The intent is for constructive criticism to improve our preaching style and toughing us for the real world critique of the congregation we will one day serve.

The winter quarter was spent with family enjoying the snow with several snowmen, snow angels, sledding, and ice skating. I think we had our last snow for this winter on March 28. We got about two inches. It has all melted away, but it is still cold. The weather last week was wild, like nothing I have ever experienced before in my life. We had snow on Monday, sleet and cold rain on Tuesday, Wednesday cloudy and cold high in the mid 50's, Thursday sunny and in the sixties, Friday in the 70's, and Saturday in the 80's. I think we experienced just about every season except summer in one week. That is amazing. Often, as Spring makes it way in foul weather approaches. Back on February 26, we experienced late night Tornado warning sirens. My family and all the residence in the building went to the basement for safety. By midnight the storm passed. We did not notice any damage and counted our blessings. The morning news showed power poles and roof tops in the street about two tenths of a mile away. The Lord was watching over the seminary and many others with a hand of protection. Psalm 5:11 *"But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them that those who love your name may rejoice in you."*

We have good news on the family front as well. Melissa, my wife, has full-time work as a nanny. She takes care of two boys (one ten month old, and the other a two year old) along with our three year old daughter. The three of them get along great and have a wonderful time together. Melissa has found them to be *all boys*, short attention span, build and destroy, and love to be outside running around. Our youngest daughter, Abigail has a somewhat calming effect on the boys. They all get along well and enjoy wearing the nanny out. Our ten year old, Grace, went snow skiing with the fifth grade class in January for the first time ever. She thoroughly enjoyed herself and wants to go again. Grace fancies ice skating and violin, spending as much time as possible with each one practicing. She and her friends here on campus enjoy bicycle riding; flying kites, and Cheer leading for the Preachers basketball team. They cheered through the first half of the game and they did a half time routine. After that they were home and off to bed. The Preachers are the Concordia Seminary Basket Ball team that competes against other college teams in the area. She has been busy this spring quarter preparing for her school science fair and placed as one of the top final projects to present at the St. Louis science fair in May.

The Lord has truly blessed me as expressed in the words of 1 Timothy 1:12 *"I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service."* My family and I would look forward to hearing from you and your news that we can include in our prayers.

Easter Blessings to our St. John family,  
Gary Koltz

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## **Brittany Billmeier Wins at State Science Fair!**



The Florida State Science and Engineering Fair is a three-day display of science project exhibits prepared by aspiring scientists and engineers in grades six through twelve. Over 900 first place finalists from across the state of Florida displayed their projects illustrating their research.

During this event, students have the opportunity to share their ideas with one another, increase personal development in scientific and technological areas, gain self-confidence in problem-solving skills, and participate in academic competition. One of St. John's sixth graders, Brittany Billmeier, was selected to compete at this state level with her project "The Incredible Iso-pod." In the category of Zoology, **Brittany won an amazing 3rd place!**

Congratulations, we are very proud of all of your academic accomplishments and representing St. John Lutheran School at the State Science Fair!

Mrs. Jennifer Fontaine and Mrs. Sally Mennicke

## **Vacation Bible School**

**June 20-24, 2011**

**8:30–11:30 am**

**"Big Jungle Adventure"**

***Go wild on a  
faith journey with Jesus!***

Grab a vine, brave the rapids, and prepare for a BIG JUNGLE ADVENTURE! Kids (and volunteers!) won't want to miss a minute of this big adventure where they can go wild for Jesus!

Complete with interactive and engaging activities, kids will learn about Jesus' amazing love all day, every day, Vacation Bible School is scheduled for **June 20-24**, but there is planning and gathering of needed supplies to do.

**Mrs. Karla Cavalier** is our VBS coordinator and needs many assistants to help get the program up and running for this summer. Please prayerfully consider helping us this summer.

If you can help in any way and or you wish to register your child, please visit the new website: **[www.stjohnrocks.org](http://www.stjohnrocks.org)**. We cannot do this without your help!

Thank you for your interest in Vacation Bible School.

***"Start by doing what's necessary, then do what's possible, and suddenly you are doing the impossible."*** – St. Francis of Assisi

## May Activities and Events

This past month we celebrated the most Holy event in the church year; the foundation of our belief built on the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May we continue to keep those events in our hearts and our minds throughout the weeks, months and years ahead. During the month of May, there are many activities and events that provide each of us the opportunity to not only strength our faith but show our Christian love to others.

**May 1 (Sunday) - Rite of Confirmation and Installation of new members:** What a great opportunity to witness the newly confirmed members taking that next step in their Christian lives. We will also have the privilege to welcome new members into our St. John family. Note: At the Saturday evening service, April 30, the confirmands will be reading their 'Professions of Faith'.

**May 7 (Saturday) - Regular Service**

**May 8 (Sunday) -** This will be a day for us to remember not only our own mothers but many from scripture who had a great impact on our Christian faith: Mary (*mother of Jesus*), Eve (*mother of all mankind*), Sarah (*mother of Isaac*), Elizabeth (*mother of John the Baptist*) and many more.

**May 14 (Saturday) -** The Lutheran Hour Ministries—Equipping to Share Your Faith seminar will be held in the FLC—Fellowship room from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, sign-up and attend this one day training event. The service will serve as the Baccalaureate

Service for the schools graduating class. What a great opportunity to show our support and love to the class of 2011.

**May 15 (Sunday) - Regular Service**

**May 20 (Friday) -** Commencement ceremony held at First Baptist Church (7:00 pm). Another opportunity to support the graduates as they move from St. John student to that of being an alum and enter a new and exciting phase of their lives.

**May 21 (Saturday) - Regular Service**

**May 22 (Sunday) - Regular Service and Congregational Information meeting**

**May 28 (Saturday) - Regular Service**

**May 29 (Sunday) - Regular Service**

**May 30 (Monday) - Memorial Day Holiday:** A day for us to stop and remember those who gave their lives in service to their country. Although there will not be a service at church, I encourage everyone to watch for information on events throughout the county and to show your support by attending one of your choosing.

## High School and College Graduates

In June, the church wishes to recognize all those who have are will be graduating this Spring. Please notify the church office by May 15. We would also like to have a picture of each graduate, from which school you graduated, what your future plans are and/or the school you will be attending. E-mailing the picture to the church office would be great.

Thank you for your assistance.

Donald R. Kaufman

Spiritual Life and Worship Commission

## Easter Clean-up:

Thanks to all who came and helped clean-up the campus in time for Easter. As you can see there were many busy people working to make our church and school campus shine:



## St John starts a new "meet and greet" Initiative.

*All members are urged to become "meet and greet" members by looking for and introducing them selves to anyone they don't know at church every week, and inviting any visitor for refreshments at family life center and to their Bible Study.*

*Visitors are now being surveyed and asked to grade St John from " A to F" on whether they were made to feel welcome, and whether anyone introduced themselves and invited them to Bible Study and refreshments.*

*If we can't reach out in friendship and love to people who attend our church, to whom can we reach out? Please make a conscious effort to meet and greet others every week!*

*We can't afford to get an "F" on any visitor's report card.*

**Visitors will be grading St John as follows:**

Please Grade us A-B-C-D-F Grade

**1. Worship Experience**

- I was inspired, encouraged, strengthened and heard from God through the sermon —
- The liturgy helped focus my minds attention and heart's affection on Worship —
- The music touched my heart language —
- The Choir (if applicable) enhanced my worship experience. —
- I sensed God's presence during worship services —
- I left feeling better than when I arrived —

**2. Friendliness**

- I was warmly greeted and made to feel welcome —
- Someone introduced themselves and invited me to the after church fellowship and a Bible Study Class —

**3. I experienced some authentic, "contagious" Christianity** —

**4. I look forward to coming back** —

**5. I would have no problem recommending St. John to others** —

## Family Nite Adds New Features and New Name:

The growing popularity of ST. John's Wednesday Family Nite is going to get even more popular with the addition of several new features to go along with our regular Bible Studies and Ablaze meeting.

At **Wednesday Nite LIVE**, We will be offering an occasional classic faith based Movie, nursery, and supervised study hall for children, a long with **practical teachings on marriage, parenting, finances. etc.**

Our April 27 dinner will be followed at 6:00 pm by a 1 hour movie bringing the life and story of Joseph to life in a meaningful way for all ages.

On May 5, at 6:00 pm we will begin our nursery and study hall hosted by Jeff and Francesca Knutson, and begin a **new marriage enrichment seminar** featuring Chip Ingram. Hundreds of people have paid hundreds of dollars to learn how to "Experience God's Dream for their Marriage", and we are blessed to offer if free of charge, and especially encourage our school parents and younger couples to attend.

The fact that we have almost 50 people already coming regularly is a pretty good recommendation that you will be blessed if you come also reservations for the classes can be made with Lorna VanHoose at 368-2417 and you can also reserve dinners with her, or through the church attendance slip.

*Robert W. VanHoose*

### Christian One Liners

- Don't let your worries get the Best of you; remember, Moses started Out as a basket case.
- Some people are kind, polite, and Sweet-spirited until you try to sit in their pews.
- Many folks want to serve God, But only as advisors.
- The good Lord didn't create anything Without a purpose, but mosquitoes come close.
- Opportunity may knock once, but temptation Bangs on your front door forever.
- Quit griping about your church; If it was perfect, you couldn't belong.
- A lot of church members who are singing 'Standing on the Promises' Are just sitting on the premises.
- We were called to be witnesses, Not lawyers or judges.

- Be ye fishers of men.. You catch Them - He'll clean them.
- God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.
- God grades on the cross, not the curve.
- He who angers you, controls you!
- If God is your Co-pilot - swap seats!
- Prayer: Don't give God instructions – just report for duty!
- The task ahead of us is never as Great as the Power behind us.
- The Will of God never takes you to Where the Grace of God will not protect you.
- The best mathematical equation I have ever seen: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

Submitted by anonymous.

**Schedule of Volunteers:**

If you are not able to serve on the date (s) scheduled, please call the church office (352) 629-1794, #2 and leave a message. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

	<u>USHERS @ 6:00 pm</u>
05/07	Charles Sanders Marion Birkhimer
05/14	Larry Dexheimer Paul Heath
05/21	Bob & Linnea Saputo
05/28	Karl & Carol Raabe
	<u>USHERS @ 9:00 am</u>
05/01	Joan Cibock, Ginny Faw Earl & Joanne Otting
05/08	Bob Wagner, Sally Thompson Ruth & Andrew Westol
05/15	Joel & Liz Weiss Mike Porter, Tylar Van Gorp
05/22	Mike, Debbie, Michael & Kristen Wilkinson
05/29	Bill & Lilly Yocum Roger & Sherrill Danielson

DATE	<u>Saturday Nursery 6:00 pm</u>
05/07	Kim Permann
05/14	Tamara Kana
05/21	Sue Dean
05/28	Sally Thompson
	<u>Sunday Nursery: 9:00 am</u>
05/01	Martha Pinnow
05/08	Carol Davis-Wantz
05/15	Michelle Meunier
05/22	Vanessa Baxley
05/29	Meta Reese
	<u>Sunday Nursery: 10:15 am</u>
05/01	Shirley Webb
05/08	Magdalena Pitas
05/15	Kris Strouse
05/22	Nancy Baker
05/29	Elizabeth Fye

Altar Guild teams:  
Kim Van Gorp  
Sherrill Danielson

Officers & Commissioners:

Bill Reese	732-4129	President
Eric Williams	622-8013	Vice President
Sue Dean	351-9656	Secretary
Mike Wilkinson	694-1231	Treasurer
Don Kaufman	624-3728	Com.-SL/Worship
Jack Theus	732-8330	Com.-Phy. Properties
Patty Kull-Hertz	489-0957	Com.-Christ Ed.
Betty Haskins	622-9324	Com.- At Large
Bob Van Hoose	368-2417	Com.- At Large

Elders:

Henry Alberts	854-5507	Chris Reese	236-0847
Brett Higginbotham	351-3320	Jeff Reines	622-7092
Don Kaufman	624-3728	Ed Todd	629-5434
Steve Mennicke	690-1623	John Westol	629-5769
Dennis Strow	816-0408	Ron Nealis	694-3590

Sunday Fellowship Time Refreshment Sponsors & Hosts:  
10:00- 10:30 am. If your group would like to host one or more Fellowship times, please contact Mrs. Arlene Biggers @ 629-3378 or the church office @ 629-1794, #2.

5/01	Confirmation/New Member reception
5/08	Needs a sponsor
5/15	"
5/22	"
5/29	Bill Reese's ABC

<u>Birthdays!</u>			
Day	Names		
1	Mrs. Betty Lineberger	15	Mr. Terry Talsky
1	Mr. Josh Rajab	15	Mr. Donald Asleson Sr.
2	Mr. R. John Teller	16	Amara Kana
3	Mr. Larry Sauey	17	Mr. Jeffrey Knutson
3	Mr. Anthony Singh	18	Mrs. Kari Eary
4	Mr. Paul Burtzloff	18	Mr. Karl Raabe
4	Mr. Douglas Strouse	19	Tony Gray
5	Ms. Roseanne Moreland	20	Ms. Michelle Meunier
6	Mrs. Rebecca Reines	21	Ms. Pat Simpson
6	Anna Kulnieszewski	22	Mrs. Magdalena Pitas
6	Mrs. Gloria Stokes-Felton	23	Mr. Jeremy Hough
7	Mrs. Joanne Otting	23	Jane Todd
8	Miss Chloe Wilcox	24	Brandon Disimile
9	Mr. Larry Martin	24	Mr. Frederick Goins Sr.
9	Ms. Rebecca Schaffer	26	Mrs. Alice Sinclair
10	Mr. Andrew Gray	28	Mrs. Ruth Dexheimer
10	Mr. Steven Mendola	30	Mr. Richard Johnston
10	Ms. Kristen Wilkinson	30	Mrs. Lisa Runion
10	Mr. Scott Zellak	30	Mr. Steven Coates
11	Mrs. Dorothy Ritterhoff	<u>Anniversary Couples</u>	
11	Mrs. Ruth Talsky	Day	Names
12	Mr. Robert Selent	5	Mr./Mrs. Robert Mikler
12	Ian Cutich	7	Mr./Mrs. Tom Urban
13	Mrs. Sally Mennicke	15	Mr./Mrs. John Wall
13	Mr. Robert Van Hoose	19	Mr./Mrs. Carleton Hauser
13	Mr. Paul Kana	21	Mr./Mrs. Clayton Deines
14	Mr. Raymond Evans	23	Mr./Mrs. Karl Oltz
14	Mr. Robert Lindblom	25	Mr./Mrs. Michael Porter
		31	Mr./Mrs. Robert Van Hoose

Sunday:

- **Bill Reese's** leads a class in FLC—Conf. room.
- **Randy Priem's** leads a class in HS. Rm. 6.
- **Sally Mennicke** leads a class in M.S. Rm. 2-35.
- **Jim Webb begins** a new **Adult Information Class on May 21** in H S Rm. 5, Members and anyone interested in becoming a member of the Lutheran Church are invited to attend.
- **Bob Van Hoose** leads a class in COC, Rm. 24

Sunday Evening:

- **Dianne Wakeland** will begin the Priscilla Shirer series titled **"Can We Talk"** on May 15 at 6:30 pm in the COC. Call her to register 629-1794.

Monday:

- **Pastor Besalski** leads the study of the **Book of Acts**; in the COC-Rm. 24 from 11:00 - 12:00 noon.

Tuesday:

- **Bill Reese** leads a **Promise Keepers Bible study** in the FLC—Conf. room 6:30—7:30 am. All men are invited to attend .

Wednesday:

- **Bill Reese** leads an **Adult Bible Class** off-campus each Wed. morning 6:30—7:30 am. Contact Bill at 732-4129.

- **Liz Weiss** leads the **W-4 Study and Exercise** group at 4:30 pm in the COC, Rm. 24.
- **"Wednesday Nite Out" Dinner** from 6:00 - 6:45 pm. Then, Adult Bible Classes and Youth activities @ 7:00 pm in various classrooms.

Thursday:

- **Jim Webb** continues **EE Outreach visits** from 6:30 – 8:30 pm. This training course will equip you to effectively share your personal faith with anyone.

Friday:

- **Joe Regnier & Jim Webb** lead the Men's Network breakfast/Bible study **Momentum** on Friday, **April 29<sup>th</sup>** @ 7:00 am, in the FLC bring your friends.

Saturday:

- **Fran Spaeth** leads a Bible study series @ 5:00 pm on in the COC. Attending this Bible class is an excellent way to prepare yourself for the Saturday evening worship at 6:00 pm.

*Please select a convenient time to study God's Word, check the Bible study listing in the weekly worship folder and join a group as we explore His plan for our lives.*

*Jim Webb*

## Library News:

*I am grateful for helpers. Progress is happening.*

*Soon books written by great theologians on prayer, Lutheran doctrine, and other topics will be read. I look forward to writing you that we have enough organization for checking out books to begin.*

*Submitted by Linda Priem*

## NURSERY NEWS

*He is Risen! May the glorious message of our Easter season give us reason to celebrate and share the Good News!*

*Please make sure that you check the schedule printed in the newsletter monthly to see if you've been scheduled to work that month, and call Judy Meunier (732-8429) if there's a conflict as soon as possible. It would be extremely helpful if you could find a replacement for the time you've been scheduled (thanks to Eric Williams for doing just that!), and let Judy know. Also, if you know in advance of a time when you'll be away, it would be wonderful if you'd leave a message that you should not be scheduled for that weekend.*

*Our group has been asked to help with a Community Outreach Ministry, serving a meal at Interfaith Emergency Services on Sunday evening, June 19th. If you can help, either by preparing something or coming to help serve, please call Judy Meunier (732-8429).*

*We want to say a special thanks to those of you that have selflessly served in the past, especially during the busy Lenten and Easter season. God bless you all!*

*In His service,*



The Nursery Committee



### HATS OFF Luncheon

**Date:** May 21, 2011

**Time:** 11 AM – 2 PM

**Location:** St. John Family Life Center

May is always a special month because of Mother's Day. The LWML want to expand the traditional Mother/Daughter theme that so many church groups use for an event during May, so we are sponsoring a Hats Off to our Sisters-in-Christ Luncheon.

Every woman of the congregation and school is invited. Just who is your sister-in-Christ? Well, it might be your mother, your daughter, your grandmother, your granddaughter, your aunt, your niece, your cousin, your BFF (Best Forever Friend), your neighbor, the woman who sits next to you in the pew every Saturday night or Sunday morning. In other words, she is any woman who shares your love of our Lord. Invite her to this special celebration. The LLL is going to serve a delicious lunch for us. We will have a Spring Fling Hat Parade for those who chose to wear a hat (either your favorite Spring bonnet or a hat you have made for this occasion using whatever theme you desire). Fun, food, fellowship –and even prizes – that is what this is all about.

If you have a special sister-in-Christ who cannot attend (perhaps she lives out of town or is already with our Lord in heaven), bring her picture so that we can honor her with a special time of recognition.

Please sign up in the Narthex, or call Shelby Putansu at 351-3877. The cost is \$6, payable at the door. Please make your reservation by Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Submitted by Carol Alberts

### St. John Lutheran Laymen's League News:

The LLL of St. John will be hosting a River Boat Cruise on the Withlacoochee River in Dunnellon Fl. The Boat holds 30 people. We invite anyone interested to join us. The cost is \$17.00 per person for the boat. Then we will have dinner at the Blue Gator Restaurant, each person responsible for their own meal. The date and time is May 6th at 4:45 Pm. Reservations may be made by paying your boat fee of \$17.00 to: John Wall, Dick Rath or Tevis Fitzpatrick. There will be a bus leaving the Church at 3:45 PM to Dunnellon and back for those who need transportation.



Submitted by John Wall

## Education Commission

Debby Scherschel organized the palm cross service project. Some of the middle school and high school students, with Jeff Knutson's permission, along with their teachers made palm crosses for Palm Sunday. This was a school service project for the church. Michael Hertz (St. John Alumni) agreed to cut the palm branches for this project. Thank you to all who participated. The crosses were beautiful!

\* **VBS:** Karla Cavalier stated that the VBS BBQ was a success. 50 people were present. Most of the key areas are now filled but they are still in need of about 30 more volunteers. Thank you all for volunteering to help this year with VBS. I know this is going to be the best VBS program yet.

\* **KBF:** We will be looking into some new material for KBF over the summer months. If anyone would like to help or if you have suggestions please contact Shelley Goins – coordinator, or Patty Kull-Hertz. We are also going to be changing the name back to "Sunday School" because KBF is confusing for families that are new to our church and also for visitors. This name change will take place with the new program.

\* **St John Lutheran School:** This is a busy time of the year as we prepare for graduation. The Baccalaureate service is May 14<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 6:00pm

in the sanctuary. Graduation is Friday night is May 20<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 7:00pm in the sanctuary at First Baptist Church.

Here is a schedule of the different activities at St. John Lutheran School for May.

<b>May 18</b> (Wed.)	Last Day of School for Seniors
<b>May 18</b> (Wed.)	Senior Chapel/HS Honors Convocation, 9:30am
<b>May 18</b> (Wed.)	Saints Art Showcase, 5-7pm in the gym
<b>May 19-24</b>	(Thurs.-Tues) E X A M S for Grades 6-11
<b>May 19</b> (Thurs.)	Middle School Awards Ceremony, 10:30am in the church
<b>May 19</b> (Thurs.)	Graduation Practice for Seniors, 2pm at First Baptist
<b>May 20</b> (Fri.)	Elementary Awards Ceremony, 10am in the church
<b>May 20</b> (Fri.)	Graduation, 7pm at First Baptist
<b>May 23 &amp; 24</b>	(Mon. & Tues.) EARLY DISMISSAL for Grades K3-5
<b>May 23</b> (Mon.)	Elementary Water Day
<b>May 23</b> (Mon.)	8th Grade Celebration, 7pm
<b>May 24</b> (Tues.)	Chapel Day for the Week

Submitted by Patty Kull-Hertz

## Share Your Faith Workshop: Saturday, May 14th

**Course Title:** *Equipping to Share Everyday Evangelism—Mission U 101*  
**Time:** *10:00 am—3:00 pm (Lunch included for \$8.00 per person)*  
**Where:** *St. John Lutheran Church Family Life Center - Fellowship Room*  
**Facilitator:** *Joe Regnier, LHM Regional Representative (St. John member)*

**MISSION U** is Lutheran Hour Ministries' new witnessing-training program designed to provide lay people with the tools and training needed to confidently accept their mission of sharing Jesus Christ with unique people in diverse settings.

**MISSION U** provides a number of course options addressing topics that meet your congregation's specific witnessing-training needs. By participating in **MISSION U** courses, congregations will gain tools that sharpen their witnessing methods and enhance their outreach to people of all ages and backgrounds.

The style and format of **MISSION U** mirrors a 21st-century university classroom. Flexible and ongoing, it offers personal training from speakers and additional instruction via the Web.

At **MISSION U** the focus is equipping you – God's chosen ambassador – to carry His message of hope and salvation into a world urgently in need of good news.

Jesus said, *"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age"* (Matthew 28:18-20).

Therefore, you are invited to sign-up for this course using the sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or by calling the church office @ 629-1794, #2; or by sending us an email message requesting your name be added to the list of participants: [churchoffice2@stjohnocala.org](mailto:churchoffice2@stjohnocala.org).

Submitted by Jim Webb

**Our newest youth Confirmands:**

Let's all get to know them and welcome them as communicant members. They will be confirmed on Sunday, May 1st during the 9:00 service. After the service, let's meet them during the fellowship time in the Family Life Center. Also, we will officially induct new members joining St. John through Adult Information, Re-affirmation of Faith and by Transfer. Please use this opportunity to meet all our new members.



**Tara Dwyer**



**Evan Fye**



**Donnie Strouse**



**Eddie Todd**



**Alan Zeedyk**



**Alex Zeedyk**

**Newest Members of St. John Lutheran Church**

Officially inducted during the Sunday, May 1st Worship service:

**Acosta, Mrs. Yaima**  
 Sebastien  
 2655 NE 127th Place (352) 620-8862  
 Anthony, FL 32617  
 E-mail yacosta3015@yahoo.com

**Ryan, Mr./Mrs. Michael & Kimberly**  
 Michael & Nicholas  
 5063 SE 37th Ave (352) 629-2120  
 Ocala, FL 34480  
 Spouse (352) 402-5225  
 E-mail kiimryan@mrhs.org

**MacBlane, Mrs. Robin**  
 8477 SW 103rd Street Road, Apt A (352) 873-0007  
 Ocala, FL 34481-9617

**Sherouse, Mrs. Mary**  
 11756 SE 62nd Ave, #2 (352) 347-7956  
 Belleveiw, FL 34420

**McClutchey, Ms. Susan**  
 848 SE 23rd Street (352) 427-0297  
 Ocala, FL 34471  
 E-mail Jessie722@cox.net

**Smallwood, Mr. Brian**  
 PO Box 772781 (312) 837-9294  
 Ocala, FL 34477-2781  
 Work (352) 857-0204

**Ramp, Ms. Elaine**  
 848 SE 23rd Street (352) 732-0855  
 Ocala, FL 34471  
 E-mail Jessie722@cox.net

**Westfall, Mr./Mrs. Jason & Nicole**  
 2901 SW 41st Street Apt. 2007 (352) 514-7027  
 Ocala, FL 34474  
 E-mail jt-westfall@hotmail.com

# May2011

TIMES DISPLAYED ARE BASED ON A 24 HOUR CLOCK:

Locations of the Colored Coded Events: **BLUE**—Rm. 24—COC, **BLACK**—Sanctuary, **ORANGE**—Campus Classrooms, **PURPLE**— GYMNASIUM, **GREEN**—Off Campus; **RED EVENTS** - Special or Seasonal for the Church or School  
 EVENT TIMES ARE BASED ON 24 HOUR CLOCK STARTING AT MIDNIGHT; this gives room for maximum detail of the scheduled event.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <b>Confirmation Sunday</b> 0900 <b>Worship Svc.</b> 0900 <b>KIDS WORSHIP</b> 1030 <b>KBF/ABC Hour</b>	2 <b>NO SCH—TEACHER WD</b> 1100 <b>Bible Study</b> 1315 <b>Staff Mtg.-</b> 1830 <b>Elders Mtg.</b>	3 0630 <b>PK's A B Class</b> 1600 <b>Handbell Practice</b> 1900 <b>Choir Practice</b>	4 0630 <b>Men's ABC-Reese</b> 1300 <b>EE Visitations</b> 1630 <b>W-4 Bible Study</b> 1815 <b>WED.NITE OUT DINNER</b> 1800 <b>ABC &amp; YOUTH MTG.</b> 1900 <b>Phy. Prop. Comm. Mtg.</b>	5 <b>National Day of Prayer</b> Prayer Vigil 1830 <b>EE Visitations</b> 1830 <b>LLL-FLC</b> 1830 <b>LWML-FLC-CONF.</b>	6 0830 <b>CHAPELS</b>	7 1700 <b>Bible Study</b> 1800 <b>Worship Svc.</b> 1930 <b>MS Dance Courtyard</b>
8 <b>Mothers Day</b> 0900 <b>Worship Svc.</b> 0900 <b>KIDS WORSHIP</b> 1030 <b>KBF/ABC Hour</b>	9 1100 <b>Bible Study</b> 1230 <b>LWML Mtg.</b> 1315 <b>Staff Mtg.-</b> 1700 <b>Ch. Ed. Bd. Mtg.</b>	10 0630 <b>PK's A B Class</b> 1600 <b>Handbell Practice</b> 1900 <b>Choir Practice</b>	11 0630 <b>Men's ABC-Reese</b> 1300 <b>EE Visitations</b> 1630 <b>W-4 Bible Study</b> 1815 <b>WED.NITE OUT DINNER</b> 1800 <b>ABC &amp; YOUTH MTG.</b>	12 1500 <b>Finance Com. Mtg</b> 1830 <b>EE Visitations</b>	13 0830 <b>CHAPELS</b>	14 1000 <b>Mission U—Training</b> 1700 <b>Bible Study</b> 1800 <b>Baccalaureate Svc.</b> 1930 <b>Seniors Dinner—GYM</b>
15 0900 <b>Worship Svc.</b> 0900 <b>KIDS WORSHIP</b> 1030 <b>KBF/ABC Hour</b> 1700 <b>IFES—Meal</b>	16 1100 <b>Bible Study</b> 1315 <b>Staff Mtg.-</b> 1830 <b>Min. Council Mtg.</b>	17 0630 <b>PK's A B Class</b> 0835 <b>CHAPEL K3-8</b> 1730 <b>S.L./Wshp. Com. Mtg.</b> 1600 <b>Handbell Practice</b> 1900 <b>Choir Practice</b>	18 <b>NEWS LETTER DEAD-LINE</b> 0630 <b>Men's ABC-Reese</b> 0930 <b>CHAPEL Senior Honors</b> 1300 <b>EE Visitations</b> 1630 <b>W-4 Bible Study</b> 1815 <b>WED.NITE OUT DINNER</b> 1800 <b>ABC &amp; YOUTH MTG.</b> 1830 <b>Art Fair</b>	19 1030 <b>Middle Sch. Awards</b> 1800 <b>Phy. Prop. Com. Mtg.</b> 1830 <b>EE Visitations</b> 1830 <b>Art Fair</b>	20 1000 <b>Elem. Awards Ceremony</b> 1830 <b>Art Fair</b> 1900 <b>Graduation @ FBC</b>	21 1700 <b>Bible Study</b> 1800 <b>Worship Svc.</b>
22 0900 <b>Worship Svc.</b> 0900 <b>KIDS WORSHIP</b> 1030 <b>KBF/ABC Hour</b>	23 <b>Early Dismissal</b> 1100 <b>Bible Study</b> 1315 <b>Staff Mtg.-</b> 1900 <b>8th Grade Graduation</b>	24 <b>Last Day of School</b> 0630 <b>PK's A B Class</b> 1600 <b>Handbell Practice</b> 1900 <b>Choir Practice</b>	25 <b>Teacher Work Day</b> 0630 <b>Men's ABC-Reese</b> 1300 <b>EE Visitations</b> 1300 <b>MASTER CALENDAR</b> 1630 <b>W-4 Bible Study</b> 1815 <b>WED.NITE OUT DINNER</b> 1800 <b>ABC &amp; YOUTH MTG.</b>	26 <b>Teacher Work Day</b> 1830 <b>EE Visitations</b>	27 <b>Teacher Work Day</b> 0700 <b>MOMENTUM BRKFST.</b>	28 <b>5th Sunday Door Offering</b> 1700 <b>Bible Study</b> 1800 <b>Worship Svc.</b>
29 <b>5th Sunday Door Offering</b> 0900 <b>Worship Svc.</b> 0900 <b>KIDS WORSHIP</b> 1030 <b>KBF/ABC Hour</b>	30 <b>Memorial Day Holiday</b> 1100 <b>Bible Study</b> 1315 <b>Staff Mtg.-</b>	31 0630 <b>PK's A B Class</b> 1600 <b>Handbell Practice</b> 1900 <b>Choir Practice</b>	1	2	3	4

*The Saint John Courier— St. John Lutheran Church & School of Ocala, Florida, Inc.*

1915 SE Lake Weir Ave, Ocala, FL 34471

'Shepherding Individuals into the Family of Christ where each will embrace the Spirit of our Risen Lord, and grow into the fullness of Christ through Word and Sacrament, fellowship, education and service.'

Church Phone: 352-629-1794

School Phone: 352-622-7275

Fax: 352-622-5564

Church Office Hours:

Monday – Friday

8:00 am to 4:00 pm

www.stjohnocala.org

churchoffice2@stjohnocala.org

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**Rev. Robert Besalski – Interim Pastor**

**Mr. Jeff Knutson—School Principal**

**Jim Webb—Church Growth & Assimilation Director**

**Christina Asleson– Music Director**

*“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose!” (Romans 8:28)*

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### Prayer Needs:

**Serving in the Military:** Steven Jones [M/M Koch's son – National Guard, home now]; Robert Capazzi [Patti Kull-Hertz's son @ Ft. Hood, Texas];

**Special needs:** Beth Biggers; Kylie Collins [Don Kaufman's granddaughter]; Richard Johnston [Lavonne Behrmann's son]; John Landon Capazzi [Patty Kull Hertz's grandson]; Madison Pearsall [M/M Taylor's granddaughter]; Anne Marie Singh; Karl, Kayla & Kyle—[Millie Crowder's grandchildren];

**Pray for Shut-ins:** Hildegard Heger @ LifeCare; Eileen Penno, Carol Maurer, Gladys Weinspach [at their respective homes]; Lavonne Behrman, Chambrel; Larry Manthey @ Memory Lane; Walter Weiss @ Marion House; Ann Smith [Emeritis of Ocala], Marion Walker [The Windsor]; Adrian Howell @ Superior House.

**Monthly News-Letter deadline is 4:00 pm on the Wednesday after the Ministry Council Meeting in the church office. Please submit all articles in Microsoft WORD FORMAT on a CD, E-mail or media stick along with a printed copy.**

### Prayer Vigil:

**We will be holding our monthly Prayer Vigil in the Sanctuary on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> (National Day of Prayer). Please stop by and help us lift up to the Lord the needs we and others have here at St. John. We pray for the members and mission of our sister congregation Amazing Grace Lutheran Church, Oxford, FL.**