



# St. John Lutheran Church

*St. John Lutheran Church comes together to love God and one another, serve others and share God's word. We do these things by God's Grace that comes through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ*

St. John Lutheran, Ingomar  
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Pastor Paul Heine  
937-867-6411  
[pwhaine@yahoo.com](mailto:pwhaine@yahoo.com)

**Church Office Hours**  
**Mondays**  
**and**  
**Fridays**  
**10:00 AM–4:00 PM**

March 2021

Sunday Morning Worship  
10:00 AM



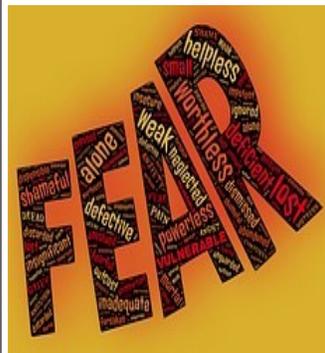
**LENT**

Holden Evening Prayer  
Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

## What Motivates You?

Fear is a powerful motivator. When Mrs. Trent ( my third grade teacher) smacked her ruler on her desk while demanding our attention, we were afraid. When my mother gave me the “evil eye” with her silent stare, I knew I should be afraid. One day, back when I bagged groceries at Roger’s Market, a colleague said to me, “The manager wants to see you,” I knew I should be afraid.

Some people’s lives continue to be motivated by the fear of what would happen if they didn’t comply with demands put upon them. The politics of today use fear as the primary motivator for people to vote for one politician or another. The message is, BE AFRAID!



They are going to take away your guns  
abolish your Social Security  
raise your taxes  
ruin the family  
ban religion  
monitor your internet  
start another war  
**BE AFRAID!**



According to network talk shows, the reasons for being afraid are legion. During the last election cycle I heard a candidate say, “If my opponent has his way, he will destroy America as we know it. Our nation will be a lost cause”. A steady litany of such statements will only help keep us divided and paralyzed by fear. I think our country deserves better than that.

The church has also used fear as a motivator. Some church denominations are better at it than others, but it is evident everywhere.



God is watching you  
The end is near  
You’re going to hell for that  
Repent or be damned.



Lent can be a season of the church where people are asked to wallow in their sins and God’s judgment of their lives. For some, it is a season to feel fearful about a God who equates them with Judas. For others, Lent is seen as time to feel the fear and judgment of God for six weeks in order to feel worthy of celebrating one day of joy on Easter Sunday. If that is the kind of message you associate with Lent, then the church has failed. Lent is not a season to make you face a disappointed God, but to help you discover a fulfilled life.

There is good news during Lent. Yes, we are by nature sinful and unclean. Yes, we do see ourselves in the actions of many Biblical characters in the Passion Story. That isn’t easy to hear, but it is a helpful dose of reality. However, the Passion of Christ has other messages that are of equal importance:

- Do you want healing and wholeness? Learn the power of forgiveness.
- Do you want to see the Kingdom of God? Learn the art of compassion.
- Do you want to live in harmony with others? Be an advocate for justice.
- Do you want to save yourself from hopelessness? Realize you need help.
- Do you want to belong to something larger than yourself? Remember your baptism.

There are lots of messages during Lent. Fear is not the primary theme. Here is the primary theme as stated in John’s Gospel:

**“For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.”**

In every dimension of your life, my prayer is that you move from fear to faith. When you do, Easter is truly a wonderful celebration.

Blessings,  
Pastor Paul W. Heine



\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* *Easter Flowers* \*  
 \* *Lilies—\$8.00* \*  
 \* *Mums—\$7.75* \*  
 \* *Sign up sheet in back of sanctuary.* \*  
 \* *Deadline for ordering is March 21* \*  
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### WEEKDAY LENTEN SERVICES

Every Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM Holden Evening Prayer

**THEME:**

#### **GOOD NEWS FOR ANXIOUS CHRISTIANS**

While focusing on the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we need to be free to rely on the Gospel rather than put our trust in a bunch of ideas that are actually doing us some harm.

MARCH 3

**WHY YOU DON'T HAVE TO HEAR GOD'S VOICE IN YOUR HEART**

MARCH 10

**WHY YOU DON'T ALWAYS HAVE TO EXPERIENCE JOY**

MARCH 17

**WHY YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIND GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE**

MARCH 24

**WHY YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP GETTING TRANSFORMED ALL THE TIME**

### SUNDAYS IN LENT

MARCH 7

**SERMON: JESUS' TABLE MANNERS**  
JOHN 3:14-21

MARCH 14

**SERMON: EVEN GOOD PEOPLE NEED SOME HELP**  
JOHN 2:14-21

MARCH 21

**SERMON: SEEING THE WORLD THROUGH GOSPEL-TINTED GLASSES**  
JOHN 12:20-33

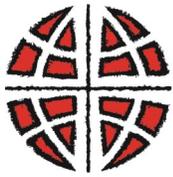
**PALM SUNDAY MARCH 28 PROCESSION OF PALMS READING OF PASSION STORY**

**MAUNDY THURSDAY APRIL 1 7:00 PM OBSERVANCE OF THE LAST SUPPER & STRIPPING OF ALTAR**

**GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 2 7:00 PM TENEBRAE SERVICE (SERVICE OF DARKNESS)**

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE 7:00 AM A FESTIVAL CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

Here at St John we realize the important benefits of regular in person worship attendance. There a still many members who are unable to return to Sunday services. We are considering recording and uploading the Sunday services and/or a live feed on Facebook. We are asking all of our church family if they or someone they know would be interested in this endeavor on a long term basis? If so, please contact our office on Mondays or Fridays between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Or you may leave a message anytime and we will return your call.  
937-839-5321



## Lutheran Disaster Response

### Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

You may donate to Texas Lutheran Disaster Response by marking your offering envelope "Texas". 100% of donations will go to Texas unless more funds are received than what is needed to fully fund a specific disaster response. If this happens, your gift will be used to address a similar effort.

Thank you everyone for all the cards and get well wishes after my little escapade with the ice and snow. They were all appreciated. Thanks to Pastor Paul for the shoe snow chains Let's hope I won't have to use them until next year!

Thank you all!  
AI

I have no use for cranks who despise music, because it is a gift of God. Music drives away the Devil and makes people joyful; they forget thereby all wrath, unchastity, arrogance, and the like. Next after theology, I give to music the highest place and the greatest honor.  
*Martin Luther*

Hello Friends!

2/25/2021

We can't believe it's almost March! It's been a crazy start to the year for us here in Cyprus. Basically, we have been on some form of a lockdown since the beginning of January. This has meant we are only allowed out for 2 outings per day and we have to send a text message to the government with the reason for our outing and receive permission. About 2 weeks ago, they began to ease the restrictions slightly as the elementary schools opened for in person learning and non-essential shops opened again. In the midst of these restrictions, we were still able to take walks, which was a big blessing for our family. Not only did we take lots of family walks, but we also were allowed to meet with one friend outside of our family to take a walk. So we have gotten a lot of exercise! :)

### **Revive Boutique & Espresso Bar**

During the month of January, we kept busy as we were preparing to open our little shop/ café in the center of town. This shop is located in the same building as our refugee community center, and the heart behind it is to raise funds and awareness for our work amongst refugees. Jon has been busy getting the coffee side of things ready to go and Michelle was very busy creating inventory to sell in the shop. We hope in the future that the handicrafts for sale will be made in part by our refugee community, but just to get started Michelle had to get the shelves filled. Jon also trained Michelle and our other teammate to make espresso drinks. When we prayed in January about when to open, both of us had the exact same date- February 18<sup>th</sup>, which we thought this was a neat confirmation. So we had our opening last week from Feb 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>! We had a good amount of business from the local community, which was encouraging. On one of the slower days, we also took coffee samples to the neighboring businesses and shared about what we are doing. We will be open a two mornings per week. We are looking forward to seeing how God continues to grow this initiative...small steps towards big dreams.

### **Beautiful Hope**

This has been a season of transition for the refugee women's program, as one of Michelle's co-workers moved from Cyprus in January. This was definitely sad for the community, but it has also felt like a season of new beginnings for Michelle and her other co-worker. They have begun their program once again, and in the next week or two (depending on restrictions) they will have a couple of new refugee women join their program. One of the ladies who has been a participant in their program over this past year will begin helping with the program, and will also participate in an internship program where she joins Michelle and her co-worker once a week at the boutique. The internship will focus on her unique purpose, and help to develop job skills, give her an opportunity to learn new handicrafts, and etc. It's been exciting to see this woman flourish over this past year and now have opportunities to multiply the values that she has learned to other refugee women who have experienced trauma. Please be praying for the Beautiful Hope community as they move forward in these new things!

### **Open Hearts**

During the lockdown Jon received special permission to leave the house more regularly. He has been helping out with food distribution/prayer/counseling for the refugee community. During this past month, many people have been open to the Gospel. Muslims and Christians refugees have asked for prayer and Bibles. In times of crisis, people are seeking understanding about life and are in need of hope. Jon has also been meeting regularly with a Kurdish Muslim for walks and talks about the Bible. This friend is currently reading through the book of Matthew. Please pray for continued open hearts amongst the refugee population.

### **Update on Michelle's Father**

Thank you for your continued prayers for Michelle's father. It has definitely been a roller-coaster the past couple of months, as he was in and out of the hospital. It seemed that one thing would get regulated and then something else would happen. We are thankful that right now he is not experiencing very much pain and things seem to be pretty regulated. The doctors are now making plans to remove his kidney with cancer, so this will most likely happen in mid-March. Please be praying for this!

Thank you for your continual prayers for our family! We are thankful that Lily and Eli have been able to go back to school in person, and for getting into somewhat of a normal rhythm of life again. Please continue to pray as we navigate this season with continued Covid restrictions and the desire for our family to be a blessing in this nation. Our prayer this week has been that the Lord will awaken us morning by morning to hear His Word and give out His Word to those who need it. (Isaiah 50:4)

Love and Blessings,  
The Voges

[See our bulletin board in the fellowship hall for current photographs of the Voges](#)

FINANCIAL		REPORT	JANUARY		2021
ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, INGOMAR					
CURRENT EXPENSE FUND					
BALANCE ON HAND 1.1.21			11436.86		
RECEIPTS			11708.24		
TOTAL IN CURRENT FUND			23145.1		
CURRENT EXPENSES					
TWIN VALLEY BANK			380.00		
G.E. CAPITAL-COPIER			86.87		
DPL		11/15-12/14	135.51		
KNOX ENERGY		11/8-12/16	384.66	24 MO CD-12/21-\$11,376.35	
TIME WARNER-PHONE/INTERNET			172.14		
SERV KEEPER			29.99		
RUMPKE			54.48	AMERIPRISE-\$308,097	
1517 MEDIA WORSHIP			365.74	1.31.21 - +2747	
SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX			42.90		
CHRIS INGRAM P WORKER			1235.50	CURRENT OFFERING	
BROOKVILLE FLOWER SHOP			140.00	Jan 20-7249.00	
PAUL W. HEINI-INTERIM/REIMB			3470.26	Jan 21-11,708.24	
ORGANIST/MUSICIAN			240.00		
USPS - MAIL PKG			11.55		
JAMES GLENN-SNOW REMOVAL			100.00		
<b>CASH FLOW</b>					
RECEIPTS- 11,708.24					
EXPENSES-6849.60					
<b>+4,858.64</b>					
TOTAL EXPENSES 6849.6					
<b>BALANCE IN CURRENT FUND</b>			<b>16295.5</b>		
BENEVOLENCE		MEMORIAL	DISCRETIONAR	W/HUNGER	STEPHEN MIN
BEG. BAL	0	7801	136.55	0	1649.18
RECEIPTS	940	2425	1010	210	0
PAID OUT	940	0	275	210	0
END. BAL	<b>0</b>	<b>10226</b>	<b>871.55</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1649.18</b>
Disaster-120					
S.SCHOOL		YOUTH	ACCRUED	MISSIONARY	ORGAN
BEG BAL	43.49	2664.87	37978.70	64	15035.33
RECEIPTS	0	0	0	170	160.00
PAID OUT	0	0	1000	200	0
END. BAL	<b>43.49</b>	<b>2664.87</b>	<b>36978.7</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>15195.33</b>
BENEVOLENCE PLEDGE		16933	G/WORKS PLEDGE		800
PAID OUT		720			100
UNPAID PLEDGE		16213			700
<b>1.31.21</b>					



## THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING

Family of Jim Banks

## MISSIONARIES

Jon & Michelle Voge and family and  
Michelle's dad, Brian

~~~~~  
 Father, we wait for you; you are our  
 help and shield.  
 For our hearts rejoice in you  
 Because we trust in your holy name.  
 May your faithful love rest on us, Lord,  
 For we put our hope in you.  
 AMEN  
 Prayer from Psalm 33:20-22  
 ~~~~~

## MEMBERS IN OUR PRAYERS

Marna Beneke	Al Souleyrette	Reenie Halsey
Mary Buettner	Cleo Eby	Helen Comer
Catherine Dafler	Janet Ferguson	Bob Combs
Dale Cotterman	Buzz Wright	Jan & Butch Spitler

## FRIENDS AND FAMILY OF OUR MEMBERS

Dean Gray	Diana Spencer
Butch Harper	Lilly Moore
Martha Watson	Roger Dawson
Andy Eck	Dick Campbell
Cynthia Foster	Eric Walker
Janet Hardin	Todd McKee
Macy Jaeggi	Sue Sewell
Ron Piatt	Connie Johnson
Stan Clark	Ashley Combs
Rachel Myers	Shauna Hebbeler
Linda Parks	Andrew Obst
Tom Schamel	Debbie Elmore
Susie Williams	Dorothy Chapman
Karen Ehler	Randy Ehler
Devin Sholly	Branson Bennett
Rick & Lori Wright	Jim Boyle
Idamae Kelly	John Bassler

In order to keep the prayer list up to date, nonmembers will remain on the prayer chain list for thirty days before being removed unless we are contacted otherwise. Please call the church office at 937-839-5321 or email at [stjohningomar@swohio.twcbc.com](mailto:stjohningomar@swohio.twcbc.com)