Saint John's Revelations

From the Pastor:

April 2015

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So... What Was Accomplished With the Resurrection?

"17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins... 20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep."
1 Corinthians 15

* "And so it is Easter" (Sorry... it actually is "And so it is Christmas.") So what? Most people still know that we will celebrate Easter on April 05, but do they know what it is all about? Well, there is the Easter bunny, there is chocolate, there is the Easter egg hunt... but is there Christ, the Resurrected Lord? Does it make a difference that Jesus was raised from the dead? I certainly hope it does! Why? Because what happens after this life depends on what happened on Good Friday... and on Easter morning.

* Well, let me tell you a story... fictional obviously... Here we go! One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting. "Yes, sir, I just caught myself two people and all their future descendents down there. Set me a trap(!), used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!"

* "What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked. Satan replied, "Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other, how to hate and abuse each other, to gossip, how to get drunk and addicted to drugs... and to curse and help them believe they are kings and queens of their own lives. I'm gonna teach them how to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!"

* "And what will you do when you get done with them?" Jesus asked. "Oh, I will torture them forever... and they will be as good as dead," Satan glared proudly.

* "How much do you want for them?" Jesus asked. "Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you'll take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you! You don't want THOSE people!!"

* "How much?" He asked again. Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your tears, all your blood... you know... YOUR LIFE!"

* Jesus said, "DONE!"

* Jesus paid the price. Yes, HE paid the price by dying on the cross for the forgiveness of the sins of mankind. He paid the price when He said, "IT IS FINISHED" on Good Friday – at that point the Father was satisfied and accepted us again as His children... And to prove that is was done, three days later the tomb was open and the Resurrection sealed the deal. Satan lost his grip and control over us. We have no need to be slaves of the devil anymore. In His resurrection Christ gives us the freedom to live a wonderful new life.

* So, what was accomplished you ask... EVERYTHING... LIFE, OUR FUTURE, HEAVEN! That is what the world needs to know. I certainly hope that Easter (and Good Friday) will again become the center of your Christian Celebration, after all that is where you and I received the certainly that we BELONG... not to Satan, but to our GOD... FOREVER!

* I hope, for your sake and the sake of your family to see you all at St. John's celebrating the most wonderful event in human History since the creation of the world. Come, join us for all the Holy Week worship services and for the Easter Resurrection Celebration!

Rev. Don Sonntag

Notes from the President:

As I sat down to write this months notes I was having trouble getting started. I looked outside and could see the trees starting to bud out and some flowers were poking their heads out of the ground. A new beginning again of the coming of spring and then summer with warmer temps and lots of sunshine. I then looked at the temp and it was only 41 outside with cloudy skies looking like rain. The forecast says we are to have freezing temps over night for the next few nights and even possible some **snow** by the weekend! Not a very promising forecast for the next few days to say the least! Then I recalled the old saying of "it is always darkest before the storm and then it's the sunniest of days'! I have always been a "**glass half full** "person or one who is always looking for the positive in all things. I then started to think about how all of the rain will help bring forth even more trees, flowers and grass. Just around the corner it will be warmer with sunshine and of course grass to mow! That is one thought I kind of put aside and went back to the warm sunny days with warm breezes blowing thru the house and outside. The thought of what is to come made my day brighter and put a smile back on my face. About this time I had a piece of paper fall on my desk that had this quote on it: **"Successful people build each other up, they motivate, inspire, and push each other to go more for the goodness in life! On the other side. unsuccessful people just hate, blame others, and complain!"** From this quote I quickly realized that I wanted to be positive and not think about the "**what** ifs?" and to enjoy the day that God has given me! I remembered reading some of Will Rogers words and they brought a smile to my face as I read: **"Never kick a cow chip on a hot day**!" or **"If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging**!!" Stop digging that hole that you are in!! If you are down in the dumps--stop digging!! If you look for the positive of what is coming, your day will be better. I then started to think about what God has told us and teache**s us,** that he is always by our side and there to help , all we have to do is ask! Why was I worrying about the gray day when the better days were coming? Palm Sunday and then Easter are almost here, what no better way to celebrate the coming of spring and summer! Put that smile on your face and enjoy the day that God has given us!

If you follow my monthly notes you know that I love the quotes. Here are a few more that I think are relevant to our days: **"Never miss a chance to shut up**!," **Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment**! **Don't squat with your spurs on!** or how about **Sometimes one must wait until the evening to see how splendid the day has been**! How true, sometimes we are having such a good time that we don't know it until it has already passed! Have you ever thought about a day that you had later on and told yourself "**Man that was fun!"** but you really did not know it till later? I know I have! I have reflected on the days past and then told myself that I really had a good time doing that and then wish I had realized it at the time!! We all are in the middle of a good time every day when we are with God, but do we take the time to realize it? Kind of like we say things at a certain time and then wish we could take them back? Will Rogers said it best with **"Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier that putting it back in!!** Take the time and days that God has given us to enjoy them to the fullest! Think before we speak and engage the brain before we engage the mouth! We are all Gods children and we are going thru the days that he has given us together! Did we thank Him for them? Did we take the time to help out our neighbor, friend, brother, sister, mother, dad or how about our wife or husband? Did you give that stranger a smile today, you just might be surprised to know that you just made their day!!

April Birthdays

1 Bob Hanke
3 Jackie Hanke
4 Kathleen Wilson
5 Shelly Carver
12 Laura Cash
14 Jill Brock
Kaitlyn Qualls
15 Melborne Kleinsorge
19 Connie Bousquet
Jerry Schwenk
20 Jerry Green
22 Ryan Miller
23 Patrick McClarey
24 Tom Reed
27 Bill Boelter
Payton George
29 John Abel
Paul Schott
Ray Flynn
30 Tori Blackburn

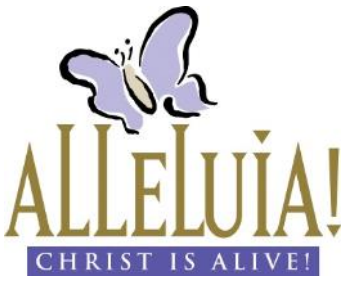
April Anniversaries

12 Mike & Robin Kleinsorge (34)
16 Donna & Eric M. Kreutz (10)
18 Joanna & Larry McClarey (17)
23 Charles & Mary Guthrie (62)

Easter is here, take the time to enjoy the time. Celebrate the time and reflect on the sacrifice that Jesus died for all of us on the cross! God is always with us, by our side each and every day. Did we take the time to thank Him for what we have? Have you asked for His help today? He will, all you have to do is to sincerely ask Him!

From my family to yours, have a great and blessed Easter!

God be with you all!
Gene Meuschke
President
St. Johns Lutheran
Mexico Missouri



The JOY Group

The JOY Group met on Wednesday, March11, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall, with 11 present. France Friday & Darlene George were the hostesses. Sack lunches were brought, and birthday cake & ice cream was enjoyed by all. Pastor Sonntag gave the devotion, "What do we receive that is free?". Next meeting is Wednesday, April 8, downstairs in the Fellowship Hall with Jerry Schwenk as the host.

The following is a schedule of the hosts for 2015 Joy Group meetings, which will be held downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

April - Jerry Schwenk
May - Ann Brooks & Dorothy Magnus
June - Bob & Jackie Hanke
July - John & Kathy Berkbuegler
August - Louis & Juanita Schmidt

APRIL, 2015: GALATIANS 5:22
"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness."

Do you know someone who is hospitalized or homebound? If you know someone who would like a visit from the Saint John's Visitation Ministry, please call Jenni Shoemaker at 473-0477 or email: stjohnsvisits@gmail.com

NEW WELCOME CENTER IN THE NARTHEX LOBBY MADE POSSIBLE BY MEMORIALS FROM RUSS UNGER AND REINHART BRANDT

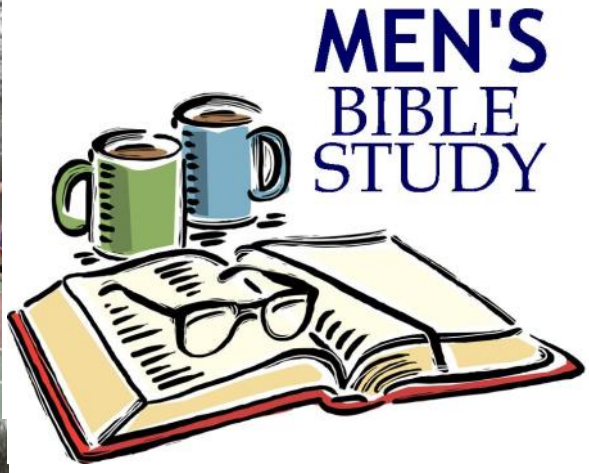
Lay Delegate Needed for LCMS District Convention June 14-16 in Springfield, MO

Please contact Pastor Sonntag

Mission of the Month Camp Barnabas

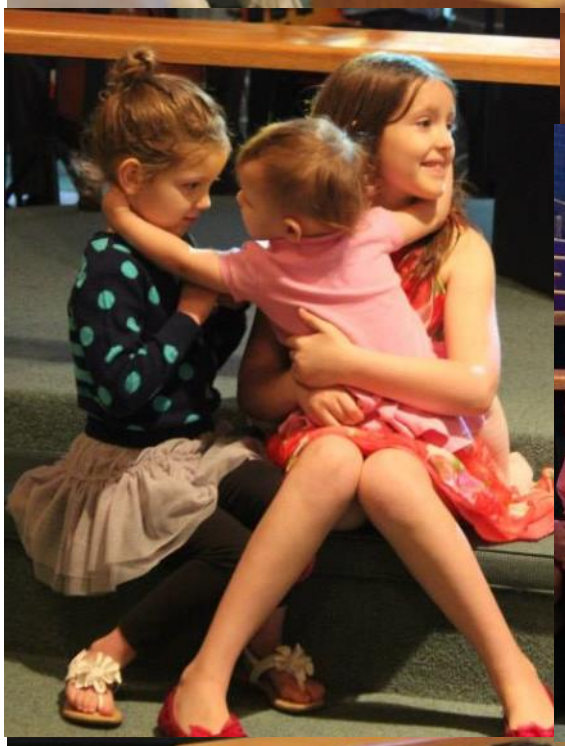
Camp Barnabas invites all people with special needs & chronic illnesses to embrace life as Jesus made them & reach their fullest potential. And they invite those who wish to serve them to come experience a life changed by the beauty of helping someone realize the value of their uniqueness.

Several families from Saint John's have volunteered their time to the camp as they recognize this important ministry. Please make check payable to Saint John's marked Mission of the Month. Thank you for donating to this valuable organization!



Men's Bible Study - meets 12-1 p.m. 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month - now meeting at Coach's Pizza.

NEXT MEETING APRIL 14



MERCIFUL, LOR

April 2015

Saint John's Lutheran Church
Office: 573-581-5655
E-mail: office@stjohnsmexico.org

Elder
Travis Miller
Greeters
Louis & Juanita Schmidt

Acolytes
5 Ryan Miller (7 a.m.)
Alexis Kelm (10 a.m.)
12 Mason Carver
19 Patrick McClarey
26 Ryan Miller

Lay Readers
5 Chris Newbrough (7 a.m.)
Barb Dlugozima (10 a.m.)
12 Bev Meuschke
19 Rachel Nelson
26 Larry McClarey

Music
5 Bev Borgeson
12 Praise Band
19 Praise Band
26 Bev Borgeson

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30 Veteran's Home No Confirmation No Wed. Worship	2 10a Quilters **7p Maundy Thursday Service**	3 **7p Good Friday Service**	4 8:30a Easter Extravaganza 10a Joy in God (JIG)
5 EASTER 7a Sunrise Service with Holy Communion 8a Breakfast 10a Festival Service with Holy Communion	6 10:30a Bible Study 7p Boy Scouts, FH	7 Elections - Voting 6:30p Electric Sliders, FLC 7p Church Council Meeting	8 Joy Group - meets downstairs in Fellowship Hall, hosted by Jerry Schwenk	9 10a Quilters 7-9p YUG	10	11 9a Friendship Circle Card-making
12 9a Kingdom Quest & Adult Bible Study 10a Worship	13 10:30a Bible Study 2p Dorcas Circle 7p Boy Scouts, FH	14 6:30p Electric Sliders, FLC	15	16 10a Quilters 7-9p YUG (Youth Underground) 7p Board of Elders 7p Board of Education	17	18
19 9a Kingdom Quest & Adult Bible Study 10a Worship & Communion	20 10:30a AARP - meeting 12 Noon Bible Study 7p Boy Scouts, FH	21 5:30p Men's Club 6:30p Electric Sliders, FLC	22	23 10a Quilters 7-9p YUG 7p Stewardship Board	24	25
26 9a Kingdom Quest & Adult Bible Study 10a Worship	27 10:30a Bible Study 5:30p Friendship Circle Card-making 7p Boy Scouts, FH	28 6:30p Electric Sliders, FLC 6:30 Evangelism Bd.	29	30 10a Quilters 7-9p YUG		

St. John's Lutheran Church
Easter Eggstravaganza

Saturday, April 4

Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.

Event starts at 9:00 a.m.

Music!

Puppet skit!

Egg hunt!

Crafts!

Snacks!

Easter Egg Hunt with over 3000 Eggs !

Open to all Toddlers thru 5th grade

JIG to follow at 10:00 a.m.

JOY IN GOD

St. John's Lutheran Church

Saturday, April 4, 2015

10:00 am

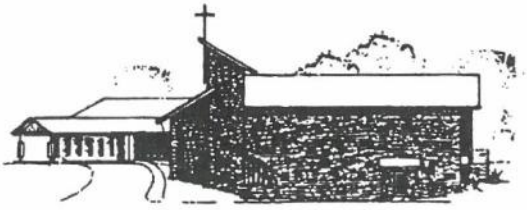
Celebrate Jesus!

Join us for

Easter Extravaganza Festivities

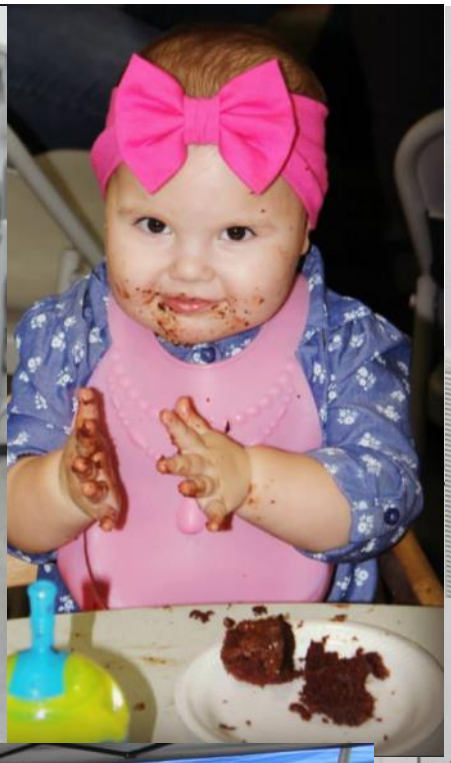
Puppets and Easter Egg Hunt

Ministry with the Developmentally Disabled



1000 Dorcas St. Mexico, MO
581-5655 or 473-6243

Fish Fry 2015



Saint John's
Lutheran
Church
P. O. Box 320
1000 Dorcas Street
Mexico, Missouri
65265-1129

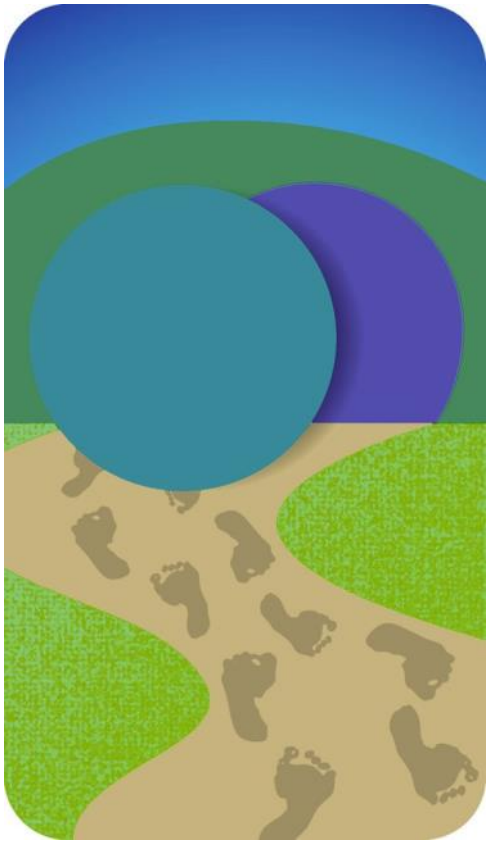
Office: 573-581-5655
E-mail: office@stjohnsmexico.org
Website: www.stjohnsmexico.com

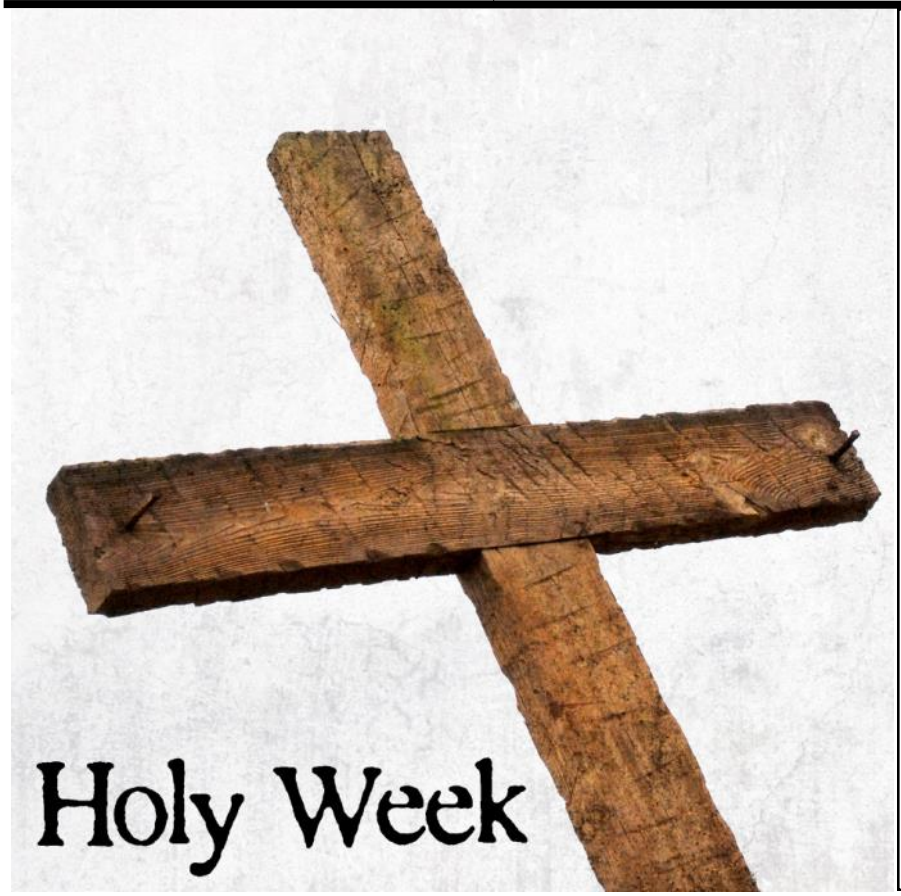
Sunday
9 a.m. Bible Study, all ages
10:00 a.m. Worship Service;
(includes Children's Message)
1st & 3rd Sundays - Holy Communion

Midweek Worship on Wednesdays 7 p.m.
(not on 4/1/15 during Holy Week)

"We are believers who share the teachings of Christ with all through Word and action."

Saint John's Revelations
April 2015





Holy Week Schedule
March 30 - April 5

You are invited! Please join us!

Maundy Thursday 4/2/15
7 p.m. worship with
Holy Communion

Good Friday 4/3/15
7 p.m. worship

Saturday 4/4/15
9 a.m. Easter Extravaganza
10:00 a.m. JIG

Easter Sunday 4/5/15
7 a.m. Sunrise worship
with Holy Communion
8 a.m. Breakfast
10 a.m. Festival worship
with Holy Communion