

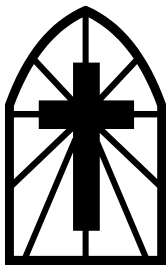


MARCH 2024 HAPPENINGS

Pastor Paul Thompson Cell: 507-273-8504 Email: pthomp821@gmail.com

Office Hours: 9:00 am–Noon (Monday & Thursday ... or by appointment) **Websites:** eaststolaf.org ...OR.... weststolaf.org

Gina Moser, Secretary: Office: 365-8222 - Cell: 507-951-4964 Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com



March Worship Schedule

LENT & HOLY WEEK SERVICES listed at bottom of page and other pages

WEST 9:00 am worship / West coffee at 10am

BOTH: 10:00 am at West – JAM Sunday school

EAST 11:00 am worship / East coffee after church

Except EASTER Day: EAST is 8:30 am / WEST is 10:00 am

OFFERINGS: Our congregational councils ask you to prayerfully continue your financial support for your church. Please be sure to make your check out to “West St. Olaf Lutheran Church” or “East St. Olaf Lutheran Church” and mail to...

West members mail to: Dave Peterson 25378 720th St., Hayfield, MN 55940

East members mail to: Bryan DeCook at 7583 80th Ave. SW, Stewartville, MN 55976

St. Olaf Lenten Services



Join East and West for a unique perspective during our Lenten Services. Our guest speaker is Kathy Chatelaine, Assistant to the Bishop of SE Mn Synod.

Based on the Gospels of Luke and Mark, Kathy is sharing writings that look at the event from the sidelines.

Last Wednesday, we heard from the boy who made the bread, and carried his family's lunch to the hill where Jesus preached. These stories, inspired by the Gospels, remind us that Christ walked among ordinary people, and he used what gifts they had to create extraordinary miracles... like he still does today.

A meal, beautiful music, and thoughtful meditations. Hope you can join us for a little country church Lenten Celebration. Dinners at 6:00pm, Services at 7:00pm.

March 6 LENT at EAST

Gospel: Mark 7: 24-30 Meditation: *The Woman who Persists*

March 13 LENT at WEST

Gospel: Mark 10: 17-22 Meditation: *The Man who Questions*

March 20 LENT at EAST

Gospel: Mark 15: 33-44 Meditation: *The Man whose Life is Disrupted*

St. Olaf Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Easter Day

March 27 PALM SUNDAY: WEST at 9:00am, 10 am Easter Egg Hunt at West, EAST at 11:00 am

March 28 at EAST - 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday service

March 29 at WEST: 7:00 pm Good Friday service

March 31 EASTER: EAST at 8:30 am, WEST at 10:00 am - No JAM classes, NO coffee hour

Membership Updates, WELCA News and More

MEMBERSHIP INFO

No updates at this time.

EAST WELCA NEWS

See East info/schedule on page 5.

WEST WELCA NEWS

We have begun the Lenten journey and this month will lead to Palm Sunday and on to the crucifixion and then celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday, March 31. We look forward to spring and are hopeful March will come in like a lamb and go out like a lamb. We have been blessed with such nice weather this winter.

Please pick up your WELCA calendars if you have not done so. There are some corrections. Graduation recognition is April 21, not the 20. Add Greer Tiegen to the list of graduates and in October add Wyatt Naylor to list of confirmands.

WELCA will serve for the coffee hour the third Sunday of the month. We will need two volunteers to serve each month. Please let Sharon or Nancy know if you are willing to serve. Cookies will be purchased unless you choose to bake something. The proceeds will be given to the church.

The Zumbro Spring Conference will be held on April 18 at St. John's in Kasson. The speaker will be Dan Fifield from The Landing in Rochester. The cost is \$15. and the deadline to sign up is April 8. We will have registration sheets at the March WELCA meeting. We hope you will consider attending.

We will complete the Max Lucado bible study in March with Carma presenting the lesson. Sheryl will order our new bible study called, "What Happens When Women Say Yes to God" by Lysa Terkeurst.

Thank you to Sue Hyland for serving as chairperson and WELCA hostess in February and Cindy Senjem and Donna Larsen for serving on altar guild. Our March chairperson is Sheryl Wohlers and altar guild servers are Mary B. and Sandy I.

We will quilt on March 12 & 13, 26 & 27. WELCA is at 1 PM on March 13 with Carma presenting the bible study and Heather Bamlet as hostess.

Easter blessings,
Sharon and Nancy



SERVING SCHEDULES

March at WEST

Ushers: Pete Danielson is organizing volunteers

Deacon: Sheryl Wohlers

Altar Guild: Mary Brand and Sandy Iverson

Stewardship:

1st Sunday – Luther League

2nd Sunday – Board of Ed.

3rd Sunday – WELCA

4th Sunday – Church Council

5th Sunday – Church Council

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March at EAST

Acolytes: Ushers covering

Altar Guild: Marilyn Carlson

Deacon: Lori Peterson

Typical Weekly Servers for East Coffee & Fellowship:

1st Sunday — Sarah Circle

2nd Sunday — Quilting Sisters

3rd Sunday — Servers vary

4th Sunday — Circle 4

5^h Sunday — SS group during the school year

WEST: WELCA Events, Lent, Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Mar. 6 – 6:00 pm East hosts soup supper (by Sarah Circle)

7:00 pm East hosts Lenten service

Mar. 12 – 9:00 am WEST quilt/sack lunch

Mar. 13 – 9:00 am WEST quilt/sack lunch

1:00 pm WEST WELCA meeting (study-Carma B., and host is Heather B.)

6:00 pm WEST has soup supper (by Luther League)

7:00 pm WEST has the Lenten service

Mar. 20 – 6:00 pm East hosts soup supper (by Circle 4)

7:00 pm East hosts Lenten service

Mar. 24 – PALM SUNDAY: 9:00 am at WEST (11:00 am at East)

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt for JAM students—at the WEST church

Mar. 26 – 9:00 am WEST quilt/sack lunch

Mar. 27 – 9:00 am WEST quilt/sack lunch

Mar. 28 – 7:00 pm East hosts Maundy Thursday service

Mar. 29 – 7:00 pm WEST has Good Friday service

Mar. 31 – EASTER DAY: 10:00 am at WEST... No JAM, No Coffee (8:30 am at EAST)

St. Olaf Kid's Corner: March

What is LENT?

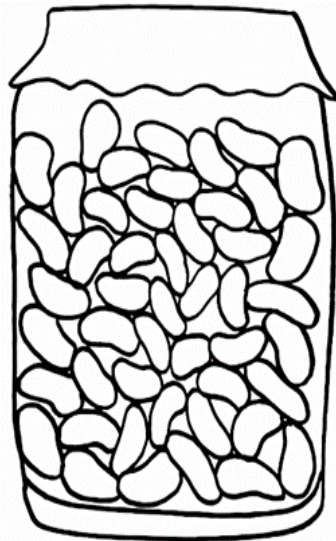
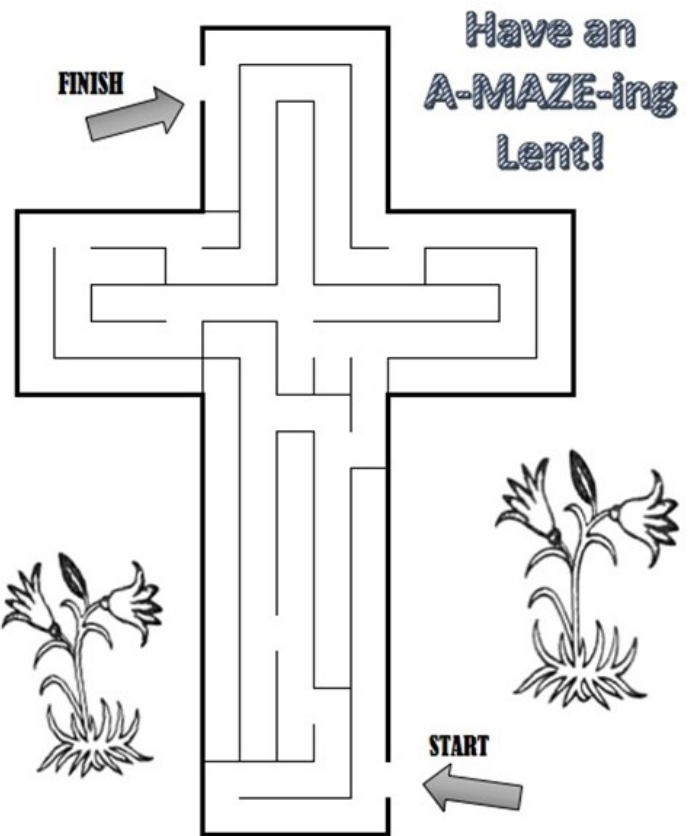
Lent is a season of 40 days when we think about what we can do to be better people and follow Jesus. Sometimes we even give something up or start doing something new that will help us to follow Jesus more closely.

Jesus started telling the good news that heaven was real and that God rules over the heaven and earth. He wanted people to know that baptism started a journey with God. He wanted us to remember to live our lives for God.

God was there from the beginning. God was there when Jesus was baptized, God was there when Jesus was in the wilderness, God was there when Jesus started his ministry. God brought Jesus home to heaven, with a promise that he will come again. And God is with us too, no matter where we are in our lives.

Lent celebrates the life of Jesus. His work, His death, and His Resurrection (Jesus came back from being dead). That is Easter, the celebration that God is all powerful and still rules over heaven and earth.

"God is with me in my home, God is with me on my own. God is with me in the car, God is with me near or far. God is with me here or there, God is with me everywhere."



Jellybean Prayer Jar

- Red is for the blood Jesus gave for us. ...
 - Green is for the palm's cool shade. ...
 - Yellow is for God's light so bright! ...
 - Orange is for prayers at twilight or bedtime. ...
 - Purple is for Jesus' days of sorrow (or His Passion). ...
- Pink is for forgiveness and each new tomorrow.

Lilies to Beautify Our Altar ~ Easter Will be Here Soon!



If anyone wishes to donate/share their Easter lily/lilies at church "in-memory of" and/or "in-honor of" someone... please inform Gina Moser know, (or at West: Sheryl Wohlers) by March 16, if you would like them listed in the Easter bulletin. **And please drop-off lilies at your church the day before Easter.**



Easter Egg Hunt

for East and West JAM students at
West church 10:00 am Palm Sunday, March 24

Bring a sack or your Easter basket for collecting eggs. *This event hosted by the Luther League.*



Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars

Your Thrivent "Choice Dollars" from 2023 can still be directed until March 31, by calling **800-847-4836**. When prompted, say "Thrivent Choice". Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars. *A representative will work with you to direct your Choice Dollars.*

March Birthdays East

- 1 Kathleen Herness
- 1 Rachel Pyfferoen
- 1 Ryley Pyfferoen
- 5 Jerome Nelson
- 11 Brandi Bakken
- 12 Laural Bauer
- 16 April Nemechek
- 17 Pat Cahill
- 19 Landon DeCook
- 20 Julie Quinn

Happy Birthday!



- 25 Lawrence Brandt
- 27 Elizabeth Carstensen

March Birthdays West

- 1 Benjamin Alrick
- 3 Aloma Eastlee
- 4 Robert Christopherson
- 5 Heather Bamlet
- 5 Linnea Borland
- 9 Cynthia Stoppel
- 9 Erin Olson
- 10 Ralph Kylo
- 11 Lillian Gulbransen
- 11 Elijah Gulbransen
- 21 Mary Bamlet
- 22 Brandon Schuck
- 22 Wilson Cahill
- 23 Diane Mittelstadt
- 24 McCayla Thoe
- 24 Katrina Thoe
- 25 Riley Phenix
- 27 Lana Martin
- 27 Lenora Bamlet
- 28 Jessica Lechnir
- 30 Denise Kylo
- 30 Lindsay Johnson
- 31 Jane Estby

EAST: Reaching Out to our Newly Baptized



Once again East St. Olaf will be sending Christian childrens' books to young ones who were baptized here in the last 10 years. This is a reminder of faith and a reminder that the East St. Olaf Family still holds them in their hearts. If you or a loved one is seeking baptism, please contact the church. We would love to help you and support your choice to be a child of God.

EAST: WELCA Meeting Information



President Amy Schwarz called the meeting to order. The team is completing the WELCA Booklet for all ESO Women. Dates for a "Shop Hop" event were discussed and put in an order of preference. Jane and Amy will start contacting other local rural churches to see if they would like to take part in the Shop Hop.

Discussion about a Chanhassen Dinner theater experience was discussed, but at this time, there is so much going on that we will plan to revisit this next Feb/Mar.

The Zumbro River Conference Spring Event is being hosted by St. John's in Kasson this year. Registration Deadline is April 8, and the Event is April 18. 4:30 is check in that day, 5:15 is dinner, and 6:15 is the program. Dan Fifield from The Landing, a homeless shelter in Rochester, will be the main speaker that evening. If anyone is interested, they can contact St. Johns and register.

The third Sunday Fellowship hour is up for grabs. If anyone would like to help serve that day, please contact Marylin Carlson. There is a sign up calendar in the kitchen. Proceeds will go to the Women's Shelter and Dodge County Food Shelf, as those are always in our mission area, and always in need. If there are any questions or requests, please direct those to our kitchen manager, Marylin.

Next meeting will be on Saturday, March 9, 10:00 AM in East Basement. ALL women of East are welcome! Please consider attending and see what is happening at East to enhance the worship experience. All voices are welcome!

Respectfully Submitted, Jane Williams.

EAST WELCA Events, Lent, Holy Week & Easter Schedule

Every Tuesday: -- Quilting/sack lunch at EAST church

Mar. 6 – 6:00 pm EAST has soup supper (by Sarah Circle)

7:00 pm EAST has Lenten service

Sat., Mar. 9 – 10:00 am EAST WELCA meeting- in church basement

Mar. 13 – 6:00 pm *West hosts soup supper (by Luther League)*

7:00 pm *West hosts the Lenten service*

Mar. 20 – 6:00 pm EAST has soup supper (by Circle 4)

7:00 pm EAST has Lenten service

Mar. 24 – PALM SUNDAY: 11:00 am at EAST (9:00 am West)

10:00 am JAM Easter egg hunt at West church—by the Luth. League

Mar. 28 – 7:00 pm EAST has Maundy Thursday service

Mar. 29 – 7:00 pm *West has Good Friday service*

Mar. 31 – EASTER DAY: EAST at 8:30 am (*West at 10:00 am*)

NO JAM classes, NO coffee hour on Easter Day.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3 Rev. Rushton 9:00 am WEST  Worship/Comm. 10:00 am Both have JAM at West Coffee at West 11:00 am EAST  Worship/Comm. Coffee after church	4	5 10:00 am East Quilting/sack lunch  JOINT Council at EAST church 6pm-Individual mtg 7pm-Joint mtg	6 Lent 6:00 pm BOTH at EAST Soup Supper <i>(by Sarah Circle)</i> 7:00 pm BOTH at EAST—LENT svc w/Kathy Chatelain 7:30 pm <i>Deadline</i> for bulletin info	7	8	9 10:00 am East WELCA meeting in the church base- ment
10 Rev. Rushton <small>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS</small> 9:00 am WEST Worship 10:00 am Both have JAM at West Coffee at West 11:00 am EAST Worship Coffee after church	11	12 9:00 am WEST Quilting/sack lunch 10:00 am East Quilting/sack lunch	13 Lent 9:00 am WEST Quilting/sack lunch 1:00 pm WEST WELCA meeting <i>Host-Heather B. Study-Carma B.</i> 6:00 pm BOTH at WEST Soup Supper <i>(by the Luther League)</i> 7:00 pm BOTH at WEST—LENT svc w/Kathy Chatelain	14	15	16
17 Rev. Rushton 9:00 am WEST Worship 10:00 am Both have JAM at West Coffee at West 11:00 am EAST Worship Coffee after church	18 NOON: DEADLINE to submit info for next <i>Newsletter</i>	19 10:00 am East Quilting/sack lunch	20 Lent 6:00 pm BOTH at EAST Soup Supper <i>(by Sarah Circle)</i> 7:00 pm BOTH at EAST—LENT svc w/Kathy Chatelain	21	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY Rev. Rushton 9:00 am WEST Worship-JAM sings during church 10:00 am JAM Easter Egg Hunt at West church Coffee at West 11:00 am EAST Worship Coffee after church	25	26 NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEER DAY 9:10 print 9:30 fold 9:45 collate/tape 9:00 am WEST Quilting/sack lunch 10:00 am East Quilting/sack lunch	27 9:00 am WEST Quilting/sack lunch	28 Maundy Thursday  7:00 pm Maundy Thurs. worsh/comm at EAST w/Rev. Matt Larson	29 Good Friday  7:00 pm Good Friday worship at WEST w/Rev. Matt Larson	30
31 EASTER DAY  No JAM, No coffee 8:30 am EAST  Worship/Comm. 10:00 am WEST  Worship/Comm.						

EAST Offerings/Contributions:

(01/28/2024) Current \$\$9,355. Benevolence \$50, and Reimbursement \$1,098.29.

In memory of Gary Rud \$60 Undesignated.

(02/04 & 02/11/2024) Current \$1,475 and Benevolence \$25.

(02/18, 02/21, and 02/25 of 2024) Current \$1,355, Reimbursement \$240, and Benevolence \$150.

EAST St. Olaf Council Minutes: February 2024

There was no East February 2024 council meeting... could not meet quorum (due to some people being ill).

2024 EAST St. Olaf Council Members And Committees

President: Bruce Peterson (2nd yr. of 2 yr. term)

Secretary: Tara Stewart (2nd yr. of 1st term)

Treasurer: Gary Kearns (for 1 yr. term)

Financial Secretary: Bryan DeCook (for 1 yr. term)

Board of Deacons:

Mary Madsen (1st yr. of 1st term)

Lori Peterson (2nd yr. of 1st term)

Open Position – No Candidate

Board of Trustees:

Danny Zieman (2nd yr. of 1st term)

Randy Robinson (2nd yr. of 2nd term)

Dan Williams (2nd year of 2nd term)

Education Committee:

Meghan Ohman (2nd yr. of 1st term)

Kelly Pyfferoen (2nd yr. of 1st term)

Parsonage Committee:

Bruce Peterson (2nd yr. of term)

Mel Schultz (2nd yr. of term)

Pete Exe (1st yr. of term)

Dan Zieman (1st yr. of term)

Cemetery Committee:

Mike Senjem (2nd yr. of term)

Chris Yennie (3rd yr. of term)

Doyle Jorgenson (1st yr. term)

Audit Committee:

Pat Nelson (2nd yr. of term)

Diane Severson (1st yr. of term)

Nominating Committee:

Pete Exe

Glenda Mueller

Synod Assembly:

(Delegate) Mike Senjem

(Delegate) Susie Senjem

Synod Assembly:

(Alternate) Pat Cahill

(Alternate) Deb DeCook

G.E.V. Representative:

No Volunteers

West St. Olaf Council Meeting Minutes – February 12, 2024

Attendance (P = Present)

Pastor Paul		Sheryl Wohlers	P	Clay Hazelmann	
Will Laxen	P	Mary Brandt		Greg Brandt	
Hans Estby	P	Sandy Iverson	P	Chad Thompson	
Cindy Stoppel	P	Carma Bjornson	P	Del Senjem	P
Jenny Twaddle		Deb Schuck	P	Ben Horejsi	P
Dave Peterson	P	Missy Olson	P		

The meeting was called to order by Will Laxen.

The devotions were skipped tonight due to the Pastor's absence.

Agenda: Motion to accept agenda was approved.

Secretary's Report: The January minutes were read. Motion made by Sandy & seconded by Hans to accept. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Report reviewed and discussed. Motion made by Deb & seconded by Sheryl to accept. Motion carried.

Financial Secretary's Report: Report reviewed and discussed. Motion made by Deb and seconded by Sheryl to accept the report. Motion carried. Missy has agreed to train/mentor and assist Jenny until she is ready to handle herself. Thank you, Missy.

Boad of Education Report: SS will sing at the Palm Sunday service and will serve supper at the February Lenten service.

Deacon's Report: Sheryl detailed cards were sent to Larry & Diane Himle (Larry's sister's passing) and Loretta Himle (hospitalization). The front sign listing service times needs repair, a temporary fix was done but we may want to think about a permanent fix in the future. Gina asked about printing the ballot of officers in the newsletter. After discussion, Will agreed to send the ballot to Gina for publishing. It was noted to add Billie Jean back on the Board of Education members. Dodge County historical society will be touring the church on April 11. Bibles for graduate recognition have been received. It was brought up that the fire extinguishers may need to be checked. It appears they do not have a 2023 date. A phone call will be made to verify and possibly schedule for a check. WELCA will serve for the week 3 coffee hour. Wednesday schedule for Lent services are as follows: at West church on 2/14, 2/28, and 3/13; East church on 2/21 and 3/6.

Trustees Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Copyright renewal, Missy gave Will a check to mail with the invoice.

New Business: Will provided an update on Pastor Paul's health. He does need surgery again and will be out for approximately 6 weeks. Barb Streed has agreed to cover or if unable will find a replacement. Thank you, Barb, for helping with this sudden need. An inquiry into the newsletter mailing list was discussed. It might be beneficial to review and update the list. Will to contact Gary Kearns for the list. Work at the Parsonage has been completed.

Motion to adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Missy & seconded by Sheryl, motion carried and we closed with the Lord's prayer.

Submitted by: Cindy Stoppel, West St. Olaf council secretary

2024 WEST St. Olaf Church Council & Committees

Elected Annually

PRESIDENT -

Will Laxen

ENDOWMENT FUND - 3 yr term

Ken Wohlers

Dave Peterson

Terry Gulbransen

Greg Brandt

Bill Bamlet

SYNOD ASSEMBLY May 11, 2024

@ Mankato, MN

Vote for 2 delegates

VICE PRESIDENT -

Hans Estby

Vote for 1 alternate

COUNCIL SECRETARY -

Cindy Stoppel

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Unlimited terms

Dave Peterson

Gene Gulbransen

Scott Iverson

Craig Steinfadt

Nancy Gulbransen

AUDITORS

2 year term

2 yr. term

Sharon Gulbransen

Dawn Steinfadt

TREASURER - 1 year term

Jenny Twaddle

FINANCIAL SECRETARY -

Dave Peterson

BOARD OF EDUCATION

2 year. term

Gail Laxen

Jenny Twaddle

Billie Jean Cocuzzi

OPEN

OPEN

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Alli Horejsi

Margaret Senjem

OPEN

DEACONS - 2 year term

Sheryl Wohlers

Mary Brandt

Sandy Iverson

Carma Bjornson

Deb Schuck

PARSONAGE COMMITTEE

2 year term

Wayne Iverson

Terry Gulbransen

Del Senjem

Don Alrick

TRUSTEES - 2 year term

Clay Hazemann

Greg Brandt

Chad Thompson

Del Senjem

Ben Horejsi

MEMORIAL SECRETARY - annual

Sharon Gulbransen

* Means newly elected

> Ushers now volunteers

East & West St. Olaf Lutheran



6200 County Road 3 SW
Byron, MN 55920

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Pastor Paul Thompson

Cell: 507-273-8504 Email: pthomp821@gmail.com

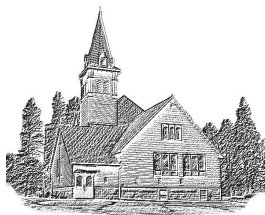
Church Office Hours: 9:00 am – Noon

Mon. and Thur. or by appointment

Office: 507-365-8222 Secretary: eastwest@kmtel.com

Websites: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

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HAPPENINGS

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