



Goodnewsletter

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

March 2009

In our busy, secular world, Lent is a time of renewal, a time to remember Jesus – to walk with him in study, prayer, and service to others, to engage in personal and family worship.

However, during Lent Christians as the body of Christ also need to come together to worship and study with others.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (February 25th) and ends on the Saturday before Easter (April 11th). Lent lasts forty days, not counting Sundays.

For me Lent has always been tied to the earth. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten*, which means “spring,” the time of the lengthening of days. Death attributed to “winter” is slowly

being taken over by the new life of “spring.” Likewise, the death of sin is given over to new life through the resurrection of Christ Jesus.

Lent dominates our March worship. Our Wednesday evening Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship will focus on “stones” as a metaphor in the life of faith. We’ll participate in a pastor’s rotation with four other congregations. The schedule for St. John’s Wednesday Evening Lenten Services are:

March 4 – “A Millstone as Metaphor for Punishment of Sin”

Pastor Dan Roschke, Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran



from Pastor

March 11 – “Jesus is a Stumbling Stone for Unbelievers and the Rock of Salvation for Believers”

Pastor George Ekeren-Moening, St.

John’s Lutheran

March 18 – “Jesus, the Foundation Stone for Life”

Pastor Richard Zuber, Ascension Lutheran

March 25 – “God’s Law Engraved on Stone and on Human Hearts”

Pastor Laurie Line, Lemon Grove Lutheran

April 1 – “Jesus the Living Stone Upon Which the Church is Founded”

Pastor Doug Knutson-Keller, College Lutheran

The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with a Lenten Soup Supper, then 7:00 worship using the Hol- den Evening Prayer Service.

Pastor George
Cell # 619-249-5224

Sunday Worship:

Traditional (1st & 3rd Sunday)	9:00 am
Contemporary (2nd & 4th Sunday)	9:00 am
Children’s Sunday school	9:15 am
Adult Forum	10:30 am

Tuesday:

Women’s Bible Study	9:30 am
2nd Tuesday: Council meeting	7:00 pm
4th Tuesday: Women’s Business meeting	8:45 am
Women’s Eve. Bible Study	7:00 pm

Wednesday :

Confirmation class	6:00 pm
Bible study	6:45 pm

Thursday:

Choir	7:30 pm
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Council Members:

Mona Anderson
Brian Cowan
Stephen Dietrich
Matthew Dippolito
Stuart Lindstrom
Bill Martin
Laura Stephens
Susan Shaddox

Financial Secretary: Judy Dietrich

St. John’s Mission Statement:

St. John’s is a congregation of believers in Jesus Christ, called by the Holy Spirit into a community of faith and love to be God’s instruments of love and grace.

St. John's Home Page



Women's News

Hello, remember the monthly PM Bible study is on the 4th Thursday of each month. This month it's on the 26 at 1 pm. Come and join us. We use the *Lutheran Woman Today* as our guide. If you would like to see the magazine there are multiple copies in the office, stop by.

Come learn the word of the Lord and share the work of the Lord.

CHOIR NEWS



All members are welcome to join the choir. Please contact the church office (444-1272) and leave your name and phone number, so our director, Breena, can get back to you. Choir practice is on Thursdays starting at 7:30 pm.

"Sing a glad song to the Lord"

March

- 4, 11, 18, 25
Lenten Soup supper & Lenten Evening service
- 10 Council meeting
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 20 Spring begins
- 21 SHARE pick up



Happy Birthday

- 2 Paula Pazo
- 4 Mildred Meyer
- 5 Justin Clark
- 6 Lois Krueger
- 11 Anita Sofranko
- 12 Pat Persiani
- 18 Mike LaValle
- 21 Linda Ross
- 23 Judy Dietrich
Sherie Mucia

Happy Wedding Anniversary



- 26 Paul & Anita Sofranko



We wish Dean Morris and Vicky Gay a
HAPPY WEDDING DAY
on March 7.

May your life together be filled with love, happiness and the Lord's blessings.

Council Committee chairs:

Christian Youth Ed.— Mona Evangelism — Brian
Negotiating — Stephen
Property — Laura, Bill
Social Ministry — Stuart
Stewardship — Brian
Worship & Music — Susan
To contact a council member: either speak to one of them or leave a note in their mailbox.

April

- 5 Palm Sunday
- 9 Maundy Thursday
- 10 Good Friday
- 12 Easter
- 14 Council meeting
- 18 SHARE pick up

From the Council Chairman's Desk
not exactly this is from the Evangelism Chair– Brian Cowan

Main Entry: **evan·ge·lism**

Pronunciation: \i-'van-jə-,li-zəm\

Function: *noun*

Date: circa 1626 when word was first used.

1: the winning or revival of personal commitments to Christ 2: militant or crusading zeal

Two old boys named Sven and Leroy were notorious for always catching lots of fish. Sven and Leroy never got skunked, in fact they always had a trunk full of fish every trip. And they were usually home by 8:00 a.m., every morning to boot!

Well this started getting the best of the new Game Warden, Caleb. So one day Caleb asked Sven if he could go fishin' with him and Leroy. Sven says, "Sure, you betcha, by golly!"

So bright and early the next morning (just before daybreak), Sven and Leroy come driving up to Caleb's house to pick him up to go fishing. They get out on the lake about daybreak, and it begins to turn light, just as Sven winds the old motor down and parks the boat.

Well Caleb looks around the boat and discovers there's not a single tackle box or fishing rod in the boat! So he asks Sven, "How are we gonna catch fish, with no tackle or rods?"

Sven says, "Vell, me und Leroy, we use dynamite!"

Caleb turns to Sven and says, "Sven! You can't fish with dynamite, that's against the law!"

About that time, Caleb feels a tap on his shoulder, and turns to see what's up. Leroy places a lit stick of dynamite in Caleb's hand and says, "You gonna fish, or are you gonna talk all morning?"

OK, so the above is only a metaphor for definition number two. Whereas it's funny, people just aren't allowed to use dynamite to win people to Christ. Of course, do people really win people to Christ or is Jesus the deal closer and we just stumble along with the help of the Holy Spirit?

Jesus said, 'follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' That really is the first iteration of the Great Commission. Yes it gets refined and then formalized, but the basics are there... We're to spread the Good News and use our lives as examples for others to see Christ living in us.

So how do we do that here at Saint John's? The easy answer is to continue what we're doing, but I haven't seen a dramatic increase in people attending worship services. So, I'm asking you the congregants, to help me, the new chair of the Evangelism Committee, come up with some ways to be 'Fishers of Men' and uphold our part in the Great Commission. In weeks don't be surprised if Stuart or I ask you for input and help on Saint John's food pantry.

Over the next few months each council chair will have an article about their committee.



Volume 7 Issue 3

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
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georgeekeren@live.com
Website: <http://www.stjohnslutheranelcajon.org>

Staff:
George Ekeren-Moening Pastor
Laura Stephens Secretary
Breana Loraine Choir Director
Jeane Lawrie Accompanist
Drew Peterson Accompanist

Office hours: Tuesday—Thursday
8 am—4 pm

Churches that meet here

East Hills Christian Church (Sunday - 10:30 am)(shares building)
Jesus Mi Senor (Sunday - 1 pm & Thursday - 6 pm)
Family of God Community Church (Sunday - 11 am)

Weekly Group Building Usage

<u>Sunday</u>	6:00 pm	A.A.—Sober Sunday	<u>Thursday</u>	6 pm	DBSA (Depression Bipolar Support Alliance)
<u>Monday-Friday</u>	7:30 am	A.A.- Coffee Clutchers		8 pm	NA Speakers
<u>Monday-Friday</u>	12 pm	A.A.—EC Daytime Group	<u>Friday</u>	7:30 pm	Al-Anon Open
<u>Monday</u>	6:30 pm	A.A.—Monday Steps	<u>Saturday</u>	3rd or 4th	6 am SHARE pick up
2nd	7 pm	4H Beef			
<u>Tuesday</u>	7 pm	Women's Al-Anon			
<u>Wednesday</u>					
Every Other	5 pm	GS Brownie troop			
2nd	6:30 pm	Girl Scout Leaders Circle			
3rd	4 pm	License 2 Freedom			
4th	7 pm	4H Golden Clover			

Sign up for SHARE during church office hours.