



The Buzz

February 8, 2024

WALK WITH GOD—TALK WITH GOD

"Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

"He forgives all my sins." -Psalm 103:3

The story is told of a husband and wife who had been married for fifteen years. During that time minor irritations sometimes grew into major arguments. In hopes of solving this nagging problem, the wife suggested that each take a box and label it "Fault Box." Each time the one would upset the other, a slip was added to the box. Hopefully at the end of the month they would compare complaints. During the thirty days, the wife was diligent in adding slips to her box. "Didn't put the lid on the jelly jar," "left his dirty socks on the floor again," "forgot to put gas in the car." By the end of the month her box was filled with complaints. After the thirty days were up, the two boxes were opened. First the wife pulled out her complaints slip by slip. When she was done, the husband opened his box filled with slips. But the wife soon discovered that on each slip were the same words:

"I forgive you," "I forgive you," "I forgive you."

Forgiveness is a very important part in the life of a child of God. That's why Jesus felt the need to mention it in the prayer he modeled for us. But did you notice, he mentions two types of forgiveness. First we ask God to "forgive us our sins." And what a long list that is! Can you imagine how many sins you have added to the list just this past week? The number might shock you. And that not only includes those things you should not have done, but also those things that you didn't do which you should have. That's why the psalm writer said, "If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?" But thanks to Jesus' death on the cross, our sins have been forgiven, all of them. That's why we call him our Savior. And not only are our sins forgiven, God will never look on them again. They are gone. The slate is wiped clean. And God will never bring them up again. So when the pastor announces on Sunday morning that your sins are forgiven, rest assured they are all gone.

Jesus also felt the need to add a second part on forgiveness in his prayer. He went on to say, "As we forgive those who sin against us." Peter must have been annoyed with someone when he asked Jesus how many times he needed to keep forgiving someone who sinned against him. "Do I have to forgive him as many as seven times? Even if he keeps on sinning?" Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Seven isn't enough times. You should at least forgive him seven times seventy times." That's over 490 times! Isn't that way too much? Jesus wanted Peter to see how many times God has already forgiven us for the same sins. No doubt those numbers are way beyond 490 times.

But forgiving someone who has severely wronged us is not an easy thing to do. Could you forgive the drunken driver who rams your car and causes you great injury? God says yes, no matter what the circumstances, we must be willing to forgive. Jesus once said, "When you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins" (Mark 11:25). What lessons in forgiveness we learn every time we pray the Lord's Prayer!

In Christ, Mike Allard, Principal @ St. John's

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Feb 8

BB Practice

B Team 3:30-4:30

A Team 4:00-5:15

Sunday, Feb 11

Worship 9:00 am

FSJ Pancake Breakfast

10:30-1:00

No Sun Sch or Bible Class

Monday, Feb 12

Dartball @ Globe-Christie

Tuesday, Feb 13

BB Practice

B Team 3:30-4:30

A Team 4:00-5:15

Wednesday, Feb 14

Chapel 8:20 am

Ash Wednesday Worship

7:00 pm

Thurs-Fri, Feb 15-16

No School-3K-8th

District Teachers Conf

Sunday, Feb 18

Worship 9:00 am

Sunday School 10:15 am

Bible Class 10:15 am

Monday, Feb 19

Dartball vs. Greenwood

Tuesday, Feb 20

BB Practice

B Team 3:30-4:30

A Team 4:00-5:15

Wednesday, Feb 21

Chapel 8:20 am

Supper 6:00 pm

Lent Worship 7:00pm

Gr. K-8 sing

Thursday, Feb 22

Home BB Games vs. St.

Mark of Eau Claire

B Team 4:00

A Team-5:00

BB Practice-Thursday, 2/8:

B Team: 3:30-4:30

A Team: 4:00-5:15

Pancake Breakfast: The Friends of St. John's will be sponsoring their annual Pancake Breakfast this Sunday, February 11, from 10:30-1:00 in the school gym. All are invited to attend. Free will offerings given will go toward tuition assistance.

Bake Sale: As you come to the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, please stop by our bake sale table where people will be selling baked goods by the 6th and 7th graders and their families. Students are raising money to help fund our next summer trip to the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter (summer 2025). Proceeds will help cover gas costs, lodging, admission costs, etc. If you do not have a sweet tooth and would still like to donate, that would be very much appreciated too! The students are excited to have this opportunity; please consider helping them. Thank You!

BB Practice-Tuesday, 2/13:

B Team: 3:30-4:30

A Team: 4:00-5:15

Ash Wednesday: The season of Lent begins next Wednesday, February 14th. We will be having a worship service at 7:00 p.m. that night, to which all are invited. Join us as we ponder again the great love of our Savior as He goes to the cross for us.

No School Feb 15-16: There will be no school (3K-8th) next Thursday-Friday, February 15-16. Our teachers will be attending District Teachers Conference. The ELC will be open both days for childcare.

Singing Schedule: Wed, 2/21: Grades K-8 sing for our Wednesday Lenten service at 7:00 p.m.

Penny Wars: Penny Wars has started up again. Please see page 4 of The Buzz for more details. Funds raised will go toward the school bathroom project.

Coffee Fundraiser: We are once again selling Berres Brothers coffee. Order forms were sent home and extras are available from the school office. Proceeds from coffee sales will go into our Camp Phillip tuition assistance fund. Order forms and money should be turned in by Friday, March 15th. The coffee should be here and ready to be picked up early in April.

Thank you: The organizers of the family tubing outing last Saturday would like to thank all who came. A fun time was had by all in spite of the lack of winter weather!

Winter Carnival: Our church's HIS Group (Hands in Service) is sponsoring a children's carnival on Saturday, February 24th as part of Neillsville's Winter Carnival. The children's carnival will be held here in our gym from 11:00-1:00. There will be bounce houses, a cake walk, face painting, balloon animals, a giant slide, concessions, crafts...activities for all ages! Parents are expected to stay while their children are here. Cost will be \$5.00 per child (ages 1-12). Infants and ages 13+ are Free! Cost for the cake walk is \$1. We hope many parents and children can attend!!

Volunteers are needed to help with the carnival. We also need bakers who would be willing to bake cakes or cupcakes for the cake walk. If you would be able to help, please talk to Mrs. Allard or contact the school office. Thanks!

State Tax Deduction: Families can deduct K-8 student tuition on their state tax return. Please let us know if you need a statement of your tuition payments for 2023.

Household Item Collection: We thank Eric Backaus for donating the use of his trailer for our collection of clothing and household items. Proceeds from this will go to our school bathroom fund. We are tentatively planning on collecting and delivering the items the last week in April; as soon as we have a firm date we will let you know.

In the meantime, you can begin saving clothing, household items, linens, shoes, books, etc. Watch for further details.



Jenny Smith

The student of the week is Jenny Smith. Jenny is in Kindergarten. She is a hard worker, is respectful and polite to her teacher and fellow classmates, and has been working on not being quite so chatty.



Congratulations Jenny!



St. John's Penny Wars!



Purpose: To help raise money for your school to update the old bathrooms next to the gymnasium!

Goal: For your class to gain the most points by collecting the most pennies. The winning classroom will get a pizza party! Our goal is to collect at least \$1500. If we do there will be a special reward which will be announced soon.

Scoring:

- Penny: +1 point (put these in your classrooms jug)
- Nickel: -1 points (put these in someone else's jug)
- Dime: -5 points (put these in someone else's jug)
- Quarter: -10 points (put these in someone else's jug)
- Dollar Bill: -25 points (put these in someone else's jug)
- 5 Dollar Bill: -100 points (put these in someone else's jug)
- 10 Dollar Bill: -200 points (put these in someone else's jug)
- 20 Dollar Bill: -400 points (put these in someone else's jug)

How to Play: Each classroom will have a jug that they are trying to collect the most pennies in. Other classrooms can put money into a different classrooms jug to make them lose points. (Ex. A 1st grade student can bring a \$1 bill and put it into Mr. Allard's milk jug and his class loses 25 points!) **Pennies are the only way you earn points for your room, anything else you want to put in other classrooms jugs.**

Who can Participate? EVERYONE, students, teachers, parents, church members...

How long does this last? The Penny Wars will start this week **Thursday @ 7:45 AM (Feb 1)** and will go until **Sunday @ 9:00AM (March 31)**.