



The Buzz

March 14, 2024

WALK WITH GOD—TALK WITH GOD

Hymns Make Wonderful Prayers

"Is any of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? He should sing songs of praise."

-James 5:13

We know that there are many ways that we can pray. We can bow our heads and say a prayer. We can stand up in church, fold our hands, and pray. We can also kneel beside our beds and say a prayer before we go to sleep at night. There may come times in an emergency when we don't have time to bow our heads, or kneel down, but rather we just blurt out a quick prayer for help. There are many different ways we can approach our loving Abba Father in heaven in prayer. But did you ever think of singing a prayer? That sounds like an odd way to pray, but you may have been doing it without ever knowing it.

We find many instances in the Bible of people who sang a prayer to God. Moses did it when the Children of Israel marched through the Red Sea on dry ground, and the Egyptians who followed them were all drowned. Moses prayed as he sang, "In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed. In your strength you will guide them" (Exodus 15:13). David loved to write prayer songs. You can find several of them in the book of Psalms. In one familiar prayer song David wrote, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4). Deborah, the only female Judge of Israel, wrote a prayer hymn after their army defeated the enemy. She wrote, "So may all your enemies perish, O Lord! But may they who love you be like the sun when it rises in its strength" (Judges 5:31).

But not all hymns and Bible songs are prayers. Songs that are just for the joy of telling about Jesus are not necessarily prayer songs. You can tell if a song is a prayer hymn if it is addressed to God. Here are some wonderful examples of songs that also serve as prayers:

(From "Away in the Manger")

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay, close by me forever and love me I pray.

Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

(From "Now the Light Has Gone Away")

Jesus, Savior, wash away all that has been wrong today;

Help me every day to be good and gentle, more like Thee.

(From "I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus")

I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus, trusting only Thee.

Trusting Thee for full salvation great and free!

Go to your Heavenly Father in prayer as often as possible. Go to your Heavenly Father in prayer about anything that is on your mind. Go to your Heavenly Father in prayer using a prayer you know, a prayer you make up, or one of these awesome hymns. Go to your Heavenly Father in prayer!

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

Upcoming Events

Friday, Mar 15

3K/4K & K-3rd Play Night
6:00 pm

Saturday, Mar 16

3K/4K/5K Open House
10:00-12:00

Sunday, Mar 17

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am
Bible Class 10:15 am

Monday, Mar 18

Dartball vs. Globe-Christie

Wednesday, Mar 20

Chapel 8:20 am
Pioneers serve supper
6:00 pm

Lenten Worship 7:00 pm

Thursday, Mar 21

Kindergarten Round-Up
8:30-11:00

Friday, Mar 22

End of 3rd Quarter
No Public School.
Alternate Bus Routes.
Faculty Mtg 3:15 pm

Sunday, Mar 24

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am
Bible Class 10:15 am

Mon-Fri, Mar 25-29

No Public School.
Alternate Bus Routes.

Wednesday, Mar 27

Chapel 8:20 am
Pioneers 6:00 pm

Thursday, Mar 28

Maundy Thursday Worship
7:00 pm

Lights, Camera, Action!-March 15:

This Friday our 3K-4K classes and our K-3 group will be putting on some school plays in the St. John's gym. 3K-4K will be presenting "The Very Hungry Caterpillar." The K-3 classes will be putting on the play "Stone Soup" (a fantastic fable about the great gift of sharing).

Invite your friends and family to our play night on March 15th at 6pm.

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.

School Yearbooks: Interstate Studio is no longer offering yearbooks free of charge to parents who ordered school pictures. **IF YOU WOULD LIKE A YEARBOOK, THE COST IS \$6.00 AND YOU WILL NEED TO ORDER IN ADVANCE.**

To place your order for school yearbooks, go to the following link: <https://inter-state.com/YearbookEntry/82205P> You may also return the order envelopes that were sent home, along with payment, to the school office. **Orders are due March 15.**

Science Fair: Students in grades K-8 will be participating in our Science Fair on April 26. K-5 students are supposed to let their teachers know what they are doing, ideally by March 15, so that we know they are thinking about it. Please return that form as soon as possible.

SAVE THE DATE & SPREAD THE WORD

3K/4K-Kindergarten Open House: We will have an open house for those families who have children who will be entering 3K, 4K, or Kindergarten in the fall of 2024. Open House will be held **this Saturday, March 16th** from **10:00 to noon**.

Kindergarten Round-Up: Kindergarten Round-Up will be held on **Thursday, March 21st**, from **8:30-11:00**. All current 4K students are invited. More information will be sent home to those families.

If you know of a friend, neighbor, or family member interested in a Christian education for their child tell them about these events!

Lent Supper & Worship-March 20:

All of you are invited for supper, which will be served starting at 6:00 in the school gym on Wednesday, March 20. The Pioneers will be serving a chili supper.

You are all invited to our worship service as well, which begins at 7:00.

Alternate Busing-3/22—3/29: The public school has off Friday, March 22nd through Friday, March 29th. We will have school as normal, with our alternate bus routes each day.

End of 3rd Quarter: The third quarter ends next Friday (3/22). Report cards will be sent home the following Friday.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: We will be having spring parent-teacher conferences only for those parents who request it or by teacher request (Grades K-3 and 6-8). If you don't hear from your child's teacher but you would like to have a conference, please don't hesitate to contact them.

4th-5th Grade Conferences: All 4th-5th Grade students will be having parent-teacher conferences, since Mrs. Leiterman was on maternity leave last fall and didn't have conferences then. Please watch for a sign-up sheet to come home with dates and times for you to choose

Upcoming School Schedule:

Good Friday, March 29: On Good Friday, March 29, we will have alternate busing in the morning. All children in grades K-8 will be singing for our worship service at 1:00 that afternoon. Following the service (2:00), children will be dismissed. There will be no buses at that time; please make plans to

transport your children home. **The ELC will close at 12:30 on Good Friday.**

Spring Break: There is no school Monday, April 1 through Friday, April 5, as we enjoy our spring break.

THE ELC WILL BE CLOSED on Monday, April 1st, but will be open the rest of that week for childcare.

School Band Online Voting Contest:

We are 1/3 of the way through the Heid's Music "Big 10 Contest." Thank You everyone who has voted so far. You can vote once a day to support our school. This contest goes through the month of March.

To vote, you will need to go to the link below. Then you will scroll down the page to the section "Vote For Your Favorite Photo." There you will enter your email address, first and last name. As you scroll down, please find the picture of our school students and vote.
<https://www.heidmusic.com/big10plus/>

Basketball Wrap-Up: As the basketball season has come to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our coaches, Mr. Allard and Mr. Backaus, for all their hard work during the season. We also want to thank our referees, Mr. Leiterman, Pastor Wilke, and David Harder for their time and efforts. Special thanks goes to all the parents who supported their players, all those who worked in the concession stand, drivers, fans who came to the games...thanks for helping to make this a successful season!

Pine Car Derby: We will be having a Pine Car Derby on Saturday, April 13th, starting at 1:00 in the school gym. Pine car kits are \$3 each. You can purchase those from Mrs. Shadrick. All children (and adults) are invited

to participate in the fun. If you'd like to bring snacks to share, please feel free to do so. Any questions, talk to Mrs. Shadrick.

St. John's Pioneer Chili Cook-off:

Calling all Chili Cooks!

St. John's Pioneers will host a Chili Cook-off contest during the Pine Car Derby on April 13th!

All are invited to compete for the Wooden Spoon! Please bring your crock of Chili to St. John's by noon. Voting will take place during the pinecar derby. The Winner will be announced during the awards ceremony after the race. Judging will be by popular vote.

Not a cook? Come and vote for the best Chili. Then purchase a bowl of your favorite for a donation to the Pioneers. All proceeds will help pay for the many activities the pioneers enjoy throughout the year.

FUNDrive: Clear your clutter for a cause!

Please bring your bags and covered boxes of unwanted household items to the collection trailer in the St. John's Lutheran School parking lot. Regular collection times are Sunday, April 21, 10:00-Noon, and Monday, April 22 through Friday, April 26, 7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Proceeds help make our original school bathrooms handicap accessible! **We**

Are Collecting--

Clothes

men's, women's, & children's clothes, coats, shoes, scarves, handbags, wallets, fashion accessories, belts, backpacks, etc.

Household Textiles

bedding, comforters, blankets, sheets, towels, linen, tablecloths, curtains, pillows, etc.

Small Household Goods

kitchen items (such as pots/pans, dishes, silverware, glasses, serving pieces and hand-held appliances), home decorative items, knick-knacks,

toys, games, and small electronics

Books & Media

paperback, magazines, hard cover - all genres; **media needs to be boxed separately *no encyclopedias or text books*

Please use bags for clothes and textiles and tightly pack boxes of small household goods. Separate books from household goods and media. All items must be clean and in sellable condition.

Summer School: Summer School informational packets and registration forms are available from the school office.

Do you know someone who is great at working with children?

St. John's Early Learning Center is NOW HIRING! We will be needing to fill a full-time caregiver position to work with ages 0-3 during the school day. Position options are flexible. Must be at least 18 years old, organized, a good communicator, and ready to share Jesus' love with little ones! Previous experience working with children is great but not required. We're happy to help with training. Stop by the St. John's school office or contact Megan Allard 715-937-7535 or preschool@stjohnsneillsville.com if interested.

Please share this information with those you know who may fit this position and consider it for yourself! St. John's has a wonderful working environment and it's a joy to see so many young children spend their days surrounded by God's Word. Thanks for considering!



Jett Hemp

The student of the week is Jett Hemp. Jett is in 5th Grade. He has been working hard on setting a good example in the classroom, has been treating his fellow students well, and is very helpful to the younger students in chapel.



Congratulations Jett!

2024-25 School Calendar: The calendar for next school year was recently approved by the school board. The entire calendar will be shared soon. For now, here are some important dates:

1 st Day of School:	Aug 21
School/Church Campout: <i>(one week later than normal)</i>	Sep 13-15
State Teacher Conf	Oct 24-25
Christmas Break	Dec 23-Jan 3
District Teacher Conf	Feb 20-21
Spring Break	Apr 21-25
Last Day of School	May 22



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)**.