



The Buzz

March 7, 2024

WALK WITH GOD—TALK WITH GOD

Why Do We Say AMEN?

“At this the whole assembly said, ‘Amen,’ and praised the LORD.” -Nehemiah 5:13

There is an old southern spiritual where the chorus is made up of only five words: amen, amen, amen, amen, and amen. We also use it every day. We put it at the end of every prayer. We often end our hymns with the word, and pastor always ends his sermon with an “amen.” However, as often as you’ve heard the word, do you have any idea what it means?

Amen is used throughout the Bible, which tells us that it’s been around a very long time. Did you know that this word is the very last word of the Bible? It also ends many of the books in the New Testament. If we go back into the history of God’s Word, we find it has the same meaning as when Jesus said “verily” or “truly,” or “I tell you the truth.” Although we find this term usually at the end of a statement like at the end of a prayer, Jesus often began with an Amen, or verily, or I tell you the truth. Over 75 times Jesus began speaking with the words, “I tell you the truth,” as in John 10:7 where Jesus says, “I tell you the truth, I am the gate for the sheep.” That is as if Jesus said, “Amen! I am the gate for the sheep.” Whenever any of these words are used, they say to everyone around, “Yes, I am saying that this is true,” “I agree with what was said,” “So shall it be,” or “This I believe to be the truth.”

So when we end a prayer with the word amen, we are saying that we believe that the words and thoughts of this prayer are true. And when a pastor ends his sermon with the word amen, he is saying that everything he preached about is true.

In the book of Deuteronomy, twelve times the people answered amen to what was being said. Three times a psalm ends with two Amens as in Psalm 41:13, “Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen and Amen.” Once when the Lord was speaking to Jeremiah, Jeremiah interrupted the Lord and shouted “Amen, Lord!” The apostle Paul often ended his books and comments in his books with the word amen. For instance, Paul wrote in Romans 11:36, “For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.” In the book of Revelation we find that Jesus calls himself the Amen, or the truth when it says, “These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God’s creation” (Revelation 3:14). And the last book of the Bible makes it very clear, “He who testifies to these things says, ‘Yes, I am coming soon.’ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. The grace of the Lord Jesus be with God’s people. Amen.” (Revelation 22:20,21).

So the next time you end a prayer or hymn with that little four letter word, remember that you are saying, “I believe this to be totally true!” Amen!

In Christ,

Mike Allard, Principal @ St. John’s

Upcoming Events

Friday, Mar 8

NO SCHOOL (3K-8th)

Fri-Sat, Mar 8-9

Luther Prep A Team
Basketball Tournament

Saturday, Mar 9

Daylight Savings Time
begins tonight

Sunday, Mar 10

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

Monday, Mar 11

Dartball @ Greenwood

Wednesday, Mar 13

Chapel 8:20 am
Supper 6:00 pm
Lenten Worship 7:00 pm

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

Pep Rally: We will be having a Pep Rally at 2:00 this afternoon. If you would like to come and watch you are more than welcome!

No School-Friday, Mar 8:

There is NO SCHOOL (3K-8th) tomorrow as our basketball team travels to Watertown to participate in the Luther Prep tournament. The ELC will be open for childcare.

Luther Prep Tournament: The Luther Prep Co-Ed Basketball Tournament will take place this Friday and Saturday, March 8-9. Our first game will be played at 12:30 Friday afternoon. Players should arrive by 11:30-11:45. We will be playing that first game at Trinity-St. Luke Western, 801 S Fifth St, Watertown, WI.

Lent Supper & Worship-March 13: All of you are invited for supper, which will be served starting at 6:00 in the school gym on Wednesday, March 13. The menu will include: ham and broccoli cheesy hotdish, fruit and veggie trays, buns and cake.

Singing-March 13: Grades 4-8 are singing for our Lenten worship service on the 13th, which begins at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see many of you there!

Lights, Camera, Action!-March 15:

This year, 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.

If you have any questions feel free to contact Mr. Leiterman:
(email: mr.leiterman@stjohnsneillsville.com)

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> **Orders are due March 15.**

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 **Saturday, March 16th** from **10:00 to noon**. More information will be sent home to those families.

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!

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.

School Band Online Voting Contest:

Heid's Music from Stevens Point does a "Big 10 Contest" each year that awards prizes for school music programs. We are participating this year to benefit our school's new music program. 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/>

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.

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.

Soup, Pie & Ice Cream: We would like to thank all who brought soup, pies, and other items for our supper this past Wednesday. Thanks also to all who helped with set-up, serving and clean-up, and all who attended. We appreciate all the support!

Spring Baseball: Spring baseball information and registration forms for boys currently in 3rd through 8th grades are available from the school office. First practice is Tuesday, March 12th, at 6:00 p.m.

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

Living Stones Youth Group: Our next planned activity is devotion, pizza and bowling on Sunday, April 14th, at 5:00 p.m. Watch for more details to come.

Refreshments: Our Living Stones Youth Group (Grades 8-12) is starting up again after a hiatus since Covid. To put some faces to the Youth Group name, the teens would like to serve you refreshments after the church service on Sunday, March 17th. Four girls and two chaperones are also planning to attend this year's International Youth Rally in Colorado in June. There will be an opportunity to support them with your encouragement, prayers, and free will donations if you so desire that day as well.

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!



Garrett Schoen

The student of the week is Garrett Schoen. Garrett is in 3rd Grade. He participates well in class, has been setting a good example for his classmates, and has been working hard on improving his handwriting.



Congratulations Garrett!



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)**.