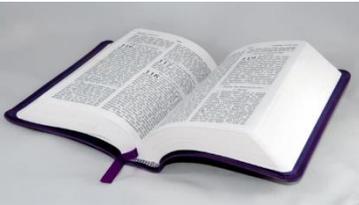


# CRY OF THE CARDINAL

February 21, 2020 • St. John Lutheran School Newsletter • Issue 14

## Pastor's Message



If God is all-powerful and if God is the very epitome of love, then why do so many bad things happen in this world? If God loves me, then why would he let bad things happen? If God is all-powerful, then why doesn't he do something about them? Maybe he doesn't love me as much as I think he does? Or maybe he's not as powerful as we might like to think? Ever hear someone voice those thoughts? Ever think them yourself?

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## Prayer

Dear Jesus, keep your promise to work all things - whether I call them "good" or "bad" - for my benefit. Give me strength to endure all things through you. Amen.

## Principal's Message

There is no new information this week. Check back next time.



**St. John**  
**LUTHERAN SCHOOL**  
Ignite. Infuse. Inspire.

## What's Happening?

### Birthdays

#### February

- 1 Lauren R.
- 10 Amelia C.
- 17 Kevin F.
- 22 Gavin F.
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### Upcoming Events

2/22- Chili Cook-Off and Game Day

12:00-2:00 p.m.

2/24- PTO Meeting at Church 6:00 p.m.

2/26- Ash Wednesday Worship at Church

1:45 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

2/28- Hot Lunch

Theme/Bible Passage: (God's Ways are Good) **Genesis 50:15-21** <sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "Your father left these instructions before he died: <sup>17</sup>'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept. <sup>18</sup>His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. <sup>21</sup>So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.

# School News

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## **Pastor's Message continued from p. 1**

The facts are clear: 1) God IS all-loving; 2) God IS all-powerful; 3) evil (bad stuff) IS real. But if the facts are so clear, then why do we ask those sorts of questions?

The fact is that evil / hardship / bad stuff happens because of the presence of sin in the world. Sin has consequences. And not necessarily direct consequences to things WE'VE specifically done, but because of sin(fulness) in general.

God's love and God's power aren't diminished because of the presence of evil in the world. Actually, they're highlighted. Because of sin, God exercised his greatest power in our greatest weakness. He put his unfathomable love on display in the person of his Son. Jesus obliterated the spiritual and eternal consequences of sin by living perfectly for us and dying sacrificially for us. God hasn't yet put a complete end to sin in this world. But that's not because he's somehow unloving or impotent. He promises to turn bad into a blessing. And he uses pain and suffering to direct our eyes heavenward to the perfect life he has in store for us. Trust him, for his promises are always YES in Christ! In his service and yours, Pastor Mike Gehl

## **Upcoming Church-Related Events (email [pastor.gehl@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.gehl@gmail.com)) for info:**

Midweek Lenten Worship - Wednesdays from Feb 26th through Apr 1st; meal at 5:00p and worship at 6:30p (plus 1:45p worship on Feb 26th ONLY)

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Accelerated Reader Challenge (Grades K-8)**

Each quarter we try to encourage high levels of independent reading with quarterly reading incentives. Reading skills are acquired first through quality reading instruction and then those skills need to be developed with a lot of practice. Accelerated Reader is a program that provides all the tools necessary to get kids into the right books so that they are getting enough reading practice in books at their reading levels. Each child is assessed on their reading level each quarter and is then assigned a challenging yet attainable reading goal based on their individual needs. If the child meets their goal, they get a prize at the end of the quarter. The first quarter we were "Scooping Up" good books to be part of an ice cream party. The second quarter we "Raced into Reading" to earn a racecar themed prize pack. The third quarter theme is "Cuddle Up/Warm Up with a Good Book". The students will be trying to earn mini stuffed animals and a bonus "pancake/pajama party". Talk to Mrs. Bunn or Mrs. Wicks if you'd be willing to donate reading incentive prizes. We're always looking for ideas/prizes. Right now, if you have any clean, gently used stuffed animals laying around your house, Mrs. Bunn would gladly accept them into her "stuffed animal adoption center".

Thank you to everyone who has donated stuffed animal toys for this quarter's incentive. There are some really neat things to choose from this quarter. Your support is appreciated in motivating our readers during these cold winter months!

Congratulations to these super-readers\*!

Half-Way Goal: Bryanna, Jake, Addie, Evelyn, Clara, Claire, Nathaniel, Lawsen, Jules, Cecelia, Bella, Hannah, Savannah, Daniel, Isaiah, Kaydince, Libby

Full Goal: Ximena, Camila, Lincoln, Bianca

200% of Goal: Barrett!!

\*Expect to see a lot more names next time. We have a number of students working on some large chapter books that they will soon finish.

## More Prayer Ideas for Your Family\*

### Friend of the Day

Each night as you pray with your child before bed, let him or her choose a friend to include in your prayers. Some children will enjoy selecting friends randomly while others may want to list their friends and do a different one each night. Here are a few ideas of how to pray:

- Pray for that child's spiritual growth. Pray that they have lots of opportunities to hear God's Word, that their faith will grow, that they share their faith with others, etc.
- Pray for specific needs like helping someone on a math test or to heal their injury or cure their cold.
- Pray for the relationship between your child and that child. If they are good friends, to strengthen the friendship or if they have conflict to help them peacefully resolve their differences.

### Sunrise Prayer

Wake early enough to view the sunrise. Take time to admire God's art in the sky. For each color that you see, thank God for something beautiful in your life. This is a powerful and positive way to start your day with what is most important in our lives.

\*adapted from *Creative Family Prayer Times* 2007

### Use Scrip To Save On Tuition!

St. John uses the scrip program to help families save on tuition. With scrip, thousands of retailers offer gift cards to schools at a discounted rate. In turn, you can buy the gift cards from us at face value. The percentage that we save can be used to help pay off your child's tuition, while you shop and dine without paying anything extra. Families who use scrip for all of their shopping, restaurants, and more can save hundreds of dollars. Grandparents and others can also purchase scrip cards to help bring tuition down. Speak with Mrs. Wicks to learn more about this exciting program!

### CAMM Missions

St. John families have collected \$954.25 so far this school year for the Central African Medical Mission (CAMM). With locations in Malawi and Zambia, CAMM provides an opportunity for rural Africans to hear God's Word and receive medical care that would not otherwise be available. All money donated will go directly to the mission to help provide medicine, medical equipment, salaries of the medical workers, food, and other basic needs. Please continue to keep this mission in your thoughts and prayers and consider supporting them financially. For more information on the mission, visit [camm.us](http://camm.us).



# Classroom News

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## Mr. Raddatz's Classroom

Mr. Raddatz has nothing new to report this week. Check back next time.

## Mrs. Bunn's Classroom

This week in our Christ Light lessons we were reminded of how the children of Israel often turned away from God and began to worship false idols. As we study these lessons, it was easy for us to judge the Israelites and wonder how they could continue to turn away from God after all he had done for them. However, we learned that we're not too different from the Israelites. We, too, put many other things before God. How easy it would be to find 5-10 minutes a day to give God in Bible study or in a devotion, yet we often fail. We seem to always find hours of time for our screen devices to watch YouTube videos, play games, watch Netflix, etc. It's scary how so much in our life takes priority over God. It has been our prayer this week that God leads us to find more opportunities for worship and Bible study. Please help your child to do this by setting the example in your home. All of God's children have room to improve in this area. Let's encourage one another to turn back to God and find more time to feed our faith.

I love to teach music class. The joy your children have in praising God is apparent in their beautiful and enthusiastic singing voices. They really seem to enjoy preparing our song for March 18. All parents are reminded of this date that was on the original singing schedule handed out at the beginning of the year. It is assumed that all student will be here at that date since unless I hear from you otherwise. We will sing at the 6:30 p.m. service on that day with a meal for everyone prior to the service at 5:00 p.m. Joining us for the meal is optional, but it is a great way to get together with other school families for dinner and meals at St. John Lutheran Church never disappoint. Please feel welcome to join us.

## Mrs. Wicks's Classroom

Kindergarteners were excited this past week to begin their spelling unit. They have been doing very well recently sounding out their words and attempting to write them independently. Parents may find that the Superkids workbooks are not coming home as frequently-- the rest of the letters are taught with two or three letters in one workbook, which will take us longer to get through. They have been showing the ability to be more independent in their basic work during the third quarter. Kindergarteners have also been hard at work practicing how to add, subtract, and put larger numbers in order.

First graders have been learning lots of new rules on how to read tricky letter combinations. The past couple of weeks have introduced y as a vowel, comparative prefixes (-er and -est), and regular and irregular contractions with the word *not*. In math, they have been learning to add two-digit numbers (without regrouping), use a ruler to make line segments, and eliminate unnecessary information to solve problems.

For both groups, Book Bucket Bingo will be wrapping up soon with the end of February. Please use this last week to help your child figure out whether or not they can earn any more bingos by the end of the month.

## Mrs. Buss's Classroom

Ms. Buss has nothing new to report this week.

## Mrs. Foelske's Classroom

Preschool is moving and grooving right now. We are continuing to work our way through the alphabet and have just finished Q and starting on R. As the month changes we will change to the color purple, the shape oval and the number 8.

We have been hearing of Jesus' miracles and are amazed by all the things He can do as God's son. We will continue these stories all the way through Easter when we hear about the best miracle of all.

Please remember to send back your Grandparents Day sheets so we have an accurate count for the meal that day. All family are welcome to attend the show, however just grandparents are invited to the meal.

Keep your eyes open for a sheet talking about the fun things to planned for our school Spirit Week, March 9-13th. As well as a form for the whole school field trip Friday, March 13th.

Finally, baby is coming soon! How has time gone so fast I just don't know. Needless to say Preschool will be in good hands. Mrs. Schmiel will be heading up Preschool as the lead teacher with some others coming in as her aide. It is such a blessing to have a teacher step in that knows all the procedures and knows the kids so well allowing for a smooth transition. That being said feel free to still contact myself, Mrs. Schmiel, Miss Buss or Mr. Raddatz with any concerns you no have during my maternity leave.



## God's Love

L	E	G	R	A	C	E	V	L	F	Y	L	O	H
P	U	P	I	Y	A	T	R	U	T	H	I	S	E
F	F	M	Y	P	F	R	E	E	D	O	M	U	H
E	E	F	R	V	V	C	E	A	L	T	E	S	L
S	A	I	O	E	V	N	A	E	U	C	F	E	G
N	N	E	H	R	R	E	E	L	N	U	Y	J	E
H	T	I	A	F	G	L	H	A	E	E	O	E	T
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A	E	N	E	E	H	N	V	A	A	I	V	F	R
A	L	I	F	E	E	E	A	E	F	V	U	V	N
F	E	S	G	P	G	I	L	G	N	E	E	H	A
Y	R	E	E	N	E	L	M	H	A	E	A	N	L
N	E	R	R	D	D	H	H	O	G	P	S	N	A
T	F	C	E	I	T	H	G	I	L	O	E	S	V

FORGIVENESS  
HOLY  
FREEDOM  
FAITH  
JESUS  
HEAVEN  
REPENTANCE  
AGAPE  
LIFE  
GRACE  
ETERNAL  
TRUTH  
JOY  
LIGHT