



APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

NO BODY

By Pastor Dan

I have been to Israel twice now (and Lord willing I'll go back some day). I have thoroughly enjoyed both trips; and one of the highlights of each pilgrimage was the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. This historic church is the traditional site of Jesus's burial and is run by seven different churches.

The story goes that after the Romans destroyed Jerusalem in 70 AD, Emperor Hadrian in 130 AD rebuilt the city as Roman colony. As part of his building project, he filled in the cave that had been the tomb of Christ and placed a temple to Jupiter (or Venus) on top of it. It stayed that way until the early 4th century.

Enter Emperor Constantine. Upon declaring Christianity the office state religion, his mother Helena went to Jerusalem. Upon asking where Jesus had been buried, the locals pointed to the temple of Jupiter. Emperor Hadrian, in his desire to destroy Christianity, had marked the very site of our Lord's resurrection for almost 300 years! Helena ordered the destruction of the pagan temple. The hill with the cave was excavated, and a church built over the site of our Lord's resurrection. There are a lot of other stories about Helena finding the "true cross", the bones of Adam and more, but this is the heart of the story of the sacred church.

Both times I have visited the church it has been a surreal experience. The Roman Catholics control part of the church, and in their section they have a shrine that is said to be Calvary. You can crawl under the altar and touch the rock where Jesus was crucified. There is the Stone of Anointing where it is believed Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus anointed our Lord's body for burial. There is the Chapel of Adam, the Chapel of Helena, the 1st century quarry marks at the very bottom, and countless crosses carved into the walls by the Crusaders.

But by far, the central focus of the church, is the Edicule...a free-standing, small chapel inside the larger domed rotunda that houses the limestone table where Jesus was laid. You typically get in a line that snakes around the small building, waiting an hour or more before going into the Edicule. As you enter, there is the Chapel of the Angels where the two angels met the women on Easter morning. And then there is the Burial Chamber. You have to almost crawl to get into it; and it is small enough that only 2-3 people can be inside at any one time. Once inside you'd like to stay for a while and either sing or pray, having waited an hour or more to get in; but after only a few moments the Greek Orthodox priest that is managing the site lets you know it is time to go. There are others waiting to see where Jesus laid. (continued next page)



APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

NO BODY, continued from page 1

By Pastor Dan

All the sights and sounds of the church, combined with the sacred history in that place, make it a visit of emotional and sensory overload. It is something that I truly wish everyone had the opportunity to see. But of everything I saw and experienced, there was one thing I never saw: A BODY! There was no body at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and no body in the Burial Chamber. There are crosses, chapels, altars, candles, incense, and people...lots of lots of people; but there was No Body!

Right now you are thinking “Well, Duh! This is where Jesus rose from the grave!” And you’d be exactly right. As Dr. Paul Maier points out, the absence of a body on Easter doesn’t PROVE the resurrection; but you can’t have a valid resurrection without the body being missing. Jesus’s body wasn’t there on Easter morning because He had risen from the dead...just as He said He would. He talked with the women on Easter. He discussed the Scriptures with two of the faithful on the way to Emmaus. He showed Himself to the disciples in the upper room...TWICE! And then He later appeared to over 500 of the early faithful.

Sceptics will say His body was stolen or come up with some other kind of nonsense; but our faith and our eternal hope are built on the historical fact that Jesus physically



rose from the dead never to die again. There was no body, because the Lord rose from the dead never to die again.

So, I would encourage you to visit Jerusalem if you ever have the opportunity. There is so much to see and explore, not the least of which is the Church of the Holy Sepulchre; but don’t go expecting to find a body because Jesus isn’t there. Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Happy Easter!
Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan

Words That Last Forever

A SERIES OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR LENT

Christ had no epitaph. Buried in a borrowed tomb, no words were emblazoned across his grave. Instead, during the final hours of his life, Christ mapped out his way of suffering with seven famous last words—seven final phrases, remembered and recited throughout the ages—tiny touchstones along his way of sorrows. We may find that these last words have a lasting impact, even now, for us.

February 18th – Ash Wednesday **FORGIVE**

In this service for Ash Wednesday, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are do,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

February 25th – Lent 1 **PARADISE**

In this service for Week 2 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross to the repentant thief, “Today you will be with me in paradise,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

March 4th – Lent 2 **BEHOLD**

In this service for Week 3 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross to his mother standing by John, “Behold, your son,” and to John, “Behold, your mother,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

March 11th – Lent 3 **FORESAKEN**

In this service for Week 4 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

March 18th – Lent 4 **THIRST**

In this service for Week 5 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “I thirst,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

March 25th – Lent 5 **FINISHED**

In this service for Week 6 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “It is finished,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

April 2nd – Maundy Thursday **FOR YOU**

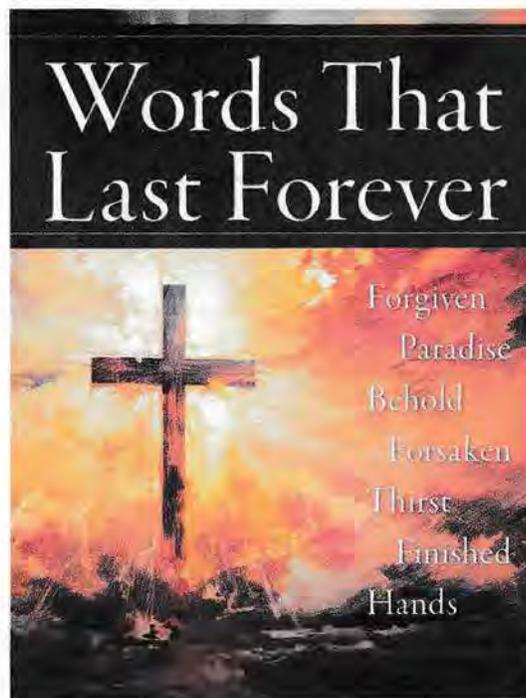
In this service for Maundy Thursday, we listen to Jesus say in the Upper Room, “Given and shed for you,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

April 3rd – Good Friday **HANDS**

In this service for Good Friday, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “Into your hands I commit my spirit,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

April 5th – Easter **ALLELUIA**

In this service for Easter Sunday, we sing, “Alleluia!” to Jesus who rose from the dead, and we ponder his words of life.



The Kletke Family's Meal Train Updates

Thank you for showing your love for the Kletke family by providing meals!

- **As much as possible, please direct any meal plan questions to Heather Pegors on Sundays or by calling or texting 218-820-3496 anytime.**
- The meal plan sign up will be the same paper sign up in the fellowship area and an online sign up option.* I will keep both frequently updated so the paper calendar and the online calendar match.
- If you want to participate but you need to keep it simple, consider dropping off a take out meal or a gift card from a local restaurant with healthy options. For example, Jimmy Johns, Subway, or Fremont Provisions. Please still sign up on the paper or online calendar and make a note of your plan.
- The online calendar will allow for friends and family beyond our congregation to be included and the paper calendar is helpful as well.
- The online calendar requires specific days to be selected. However, **if the selected days on the sign up calendar(s) do not work for you please let me know.** I can easily change the dates.
- When possible, please use either disposable containers or containers you do not need returned. This can help to ease the burden of any extra work.

Address: 1014 Phay Ave Canon City. Please drop off meals between 3:45-6pm. If you need to drop off at another time, please make a note to indicate this on the sign up calendar.

Requests: Please avoid spicy food and added sugar, Pastor Dan is trying to prioritize healthy meals. We will plan on two meals per week with no meals on Wednesdays during Lent. Thank you so much!

Links:

- **Find the online meal train at:** <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/6906gq>
- For recipe ideas check out pancan.org and search under the "Facing Pancreatic Cancer" tab and look for "Diet and Nutrition."

If you sign up on the paper calendar: when I match the calendars I will only add your last name to the online calendar, **not your number or email. This will allow the Kletke's to know who to expect or to contact if something changes on their part.*



APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

IN OUR PRAYERS

Shut-Ins: Lucy Brown, Dale Kletke

Sick and/or Recovering: Debbie Ledbetter, Rod Willard, Robert Tangkawarow, Elaine Emery (Snyders' friend), Zoey (Tangkawarow's family member), Cody Atkinson, Mary Richardson, Pastor Dan Kletke, Don Kirkegaard (Bob's brother), Toni Davidson, Steve Tabbe, Curtis Eulert

Prayer Chain: For prayer concerns please contact one of the following:

- Phone prayer chain: Mary Richardson, (719) 269-1426
- E-mail prayer chain: Sue Poehlein, cspoehlein@gmail.com

Military Service Members: Jake Langley.

Missionaries: JP & Aimee Cima - missionaries in Cambodia that St. John has adopted.



Elder Curtis Eulert acolyting on the 2nd Wednesday in Lent, February 25, 2026.



NEW MEMBER CLASS

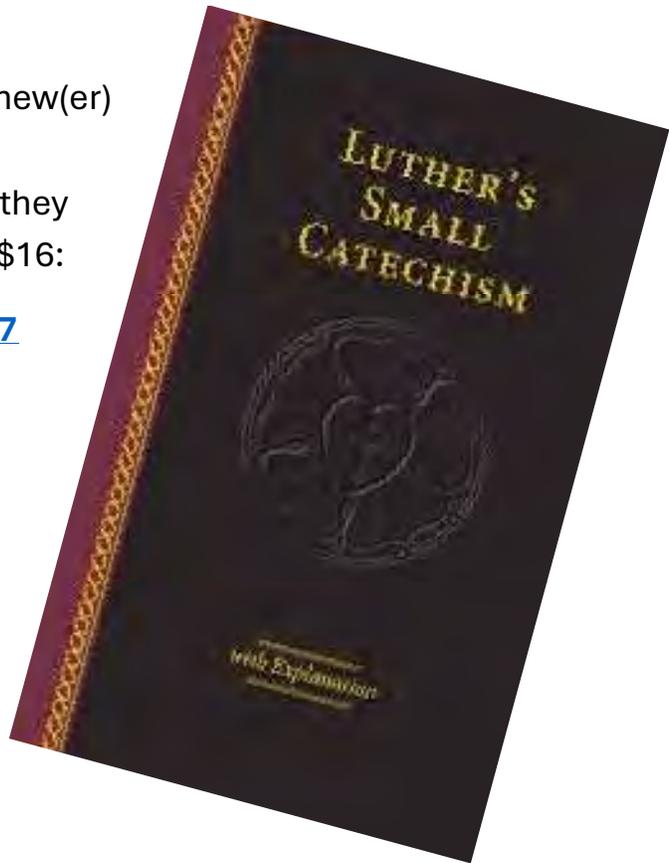
STARTING SUNDAY APRIL 12TH

We have several visitors who have asked about joining St. John. Rather than a one-on-one new member class, we will offer it for all potential new members during our Adult Bible Study on Sunday mornings @ 10:30am. BUT IT ISN'T JUST FOR POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS!!!

This class is also a refresher for those who haven't cracked their catechism in several years. So grab your catechism and come join us!

If you would like to order one of the new(er) catechism's from CPH, the ones we currently use in confirmation class, they can be ordered on Amazon here for \$16:

[LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM 2017](#)





APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

COUNCIL OFFICERS INSTALLED MARCH 1ST

Elders - Brandon Booth, Curtis Eulert, David Lehmpuhl, Allan Tormohlen, George Yeatts
President - Nathan Pegors
Secretary - Kerrie Leason
Education - Connie Willyard
Evangelism - Vacant
Youth - Sue Tangkawarow

Vice President - Vacant
Treasurer - Nichole Harms
Missions - Dawn Atkinson
Trustees - Bob Kirkegaard, Nate Harms, Cody Harms
Financial Secretary - Jerry & Donna Heldt





APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

ST. JOHN NEWS AND NOTES

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

Wednesday, February 25:	39
Sunday, March 1:	80
Wednesday, March 4:	30
Sunday, March 8:	83
Wednesday, March 11:	33
Sunday, March 15:	75
Wednesday, March 18:	24
Sunday, March 22:	66

ST. JOHN YOUTH: We will meet at 7 p.m. at church on Tuesday, April 14th. Sue T.

QUILTERS: For anyone who is interested in quilting, the Royal Gorge Quilt Guild will be making barn squares on June 20th from 9 to 4 at St. John Lutheran Church. The cost is \$140+. Limited availability. Contact Dawn Atkinson at (505) 377 – 4776.

St. JOHN SNAPSHOTS: You have probably seen Gail K. taking pictures here and there of special events at church, but she cannot be everywhere to capture all the activities. Please send her your pictures of activities. Also, let's celebrate members and share the life of the congregation inside and outside of church. Send pictures of athletic and academic accomplishments, etc. Pictures will be posted in the parish newsletters and on the church Facebook page. **(P.S. if you don't want them posted do not give them to Gail).** Add the names, photo caption, or details. Thank you! Gail, 720 - 201 - 8743.



Madelynn Thom's first gymnastics meet!

Cañon City High School's second quarter honor roll



Congratulations, Martha and Cody!



APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

ST. JOHN LWML ACTIVITIES



Thank you for your dimes in the Red Socks!
The suggestion for April is four (4) dimes per month.

Thank you for your dimes in the Red Socks! \$30.33 collected as of March 21. April is FOUR dime month. When you have a good mission recipient for the Red Sock Dimes, share your suggestion with Toni Davidson or me.

The **Southern Zone Spring Workshop** will be April 19 at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Colorado Springs. Registration begins at 9 am with the day's activities beginning at 9:30 am and ending at 2:30 pm. All ladies of the church are invited. We will carpool from the church. If you would like to attend, please reach out to Toni Davidson or me so that we can organize the carpool.

The **Rocky Mountain District's LWML Convention** will be June 4-7 in Colorado Springs. Please check the LWML website for details and registration form. Early registration is accepted thru April 1.

The **Ladies' Salad Event** is postponed to September 19. More information will be in the September newsletter. We decided May was a very busy month for everyone. See you all in September.

Blessings to All
Angela Bellantoni



APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

COLLEGE CHURCH WORK STUDENT REPORT

St. John member, **Alana Holt**, is completing a Bachelor's degree at Concordia University - St. Paul, Minnesota, with a double-major in Director of Christian Education (DCE) and Director of Christian Outreach (DCO). She now needs to serve a one-year internship, and has been called to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Marquette, Michigan. She will probably visit St. John once in a while, so tell her thanks for choosing to serve the LCMS and best wishes in her career!



ALANA'S PROGRAM:

- Director of Christian Education, DCE
DCEs serve as lifespans ("cradle to grave") Christian educators, who typically serve within congregations and their ministries. Through their leadership and service, they assist and support pastors as they teach the faith to children, youth and adults.
- Director of Christian Outreach, DCO
DCOs focus on witness and outreach. Through their expertise and guidance, they support their pastors by helping congregations witness to those outside of the church and share the Gospel in a relational and evangelical way so that people may have saving faith through Jesus Christ.



April 6 - Katherine Dacey



April 16 - Vickie Collins



April 5 - Torben Booth



April 16 - Nicholas Godwin



April 7 - Sandi Yeatts



April 24 - Ashley Thom



April 11 - Brenda Bosse



April 24 - Natalie Urban



April 11 - Arlene Stolp



April 25 - Colman Collins



April 12 - Soren Booth



April 27 - Dustin Kletke



April 16 - William Barrett



April 28 - Sue Tangkawarow



Happy Anniversary!

April 5 - Ken & Toni Davidson

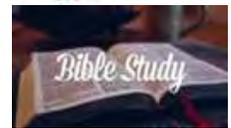
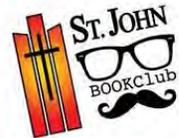


APRIL, 2026 PARISH NEWS

ST. JOHN TO-DO LIST

Ways to be involved at St. John Lutheran Church

- Acolyte** - Altar candle duty for boys and girls at worship services.
- Adult Bible Class** - Sunday mornings at 10:30am after our time of fellowship.
- Adult Choir** - Join your voice with others on special festivals.
- Altar Guild** - Prepare vestments, candles, banners, etc. for worship.
- Audio-Visual** - Operate the slides and video production during worship service.
- Book Club** - Discuss books about once a month in member homes or at church.
- Bulletin Help** - Print worship bulletins a few times per year as needed.
- Car Show** - Annual fundraiser on the church grounds that needs many helpers.
- Christmas Program** - Help or take a part in the Sunday School program.
- Church Council** - Serve on a church board, or as church president, etc.
- Communications** - Publish events on the Website, newsletter, and Facebook.
- Confirmation Class** - Teens meet with Pastor for Christian instruction.
- Door Keeper** - Open the door and welcome people arriving at church.
- Driver** - Provide transportation for those who cannot drive to church.
- Elders** - Men who assist the Pastor with the spiritual life of the congregation.
- Evangelism** - Carry out evangelism programs in the church and community.
- Fellowship** - Serve refreshments after worship, and assist with special events.
- Garage Sale** - Annual fundraiser at St. John that needs many helpers.
- Gardener** - Keep the flower beds in neat and weed-free condition.
- Greeter** - Welcome and offer Sunday bulletin and visitor packet to worshippers.
- LWML** - Women's Auxiliary of the LCMS supports LCMS missions.
- Men's Breakfast** - Men of St. John have breakfast about twice a month.
- Missions** - Direct monetary resources for LCMS missionaries and missions.
- Nursery** - Volunteers assist parents who need help in the nursery.
- Prayer Chain** - Receive notice of prayer requests and pray for those in need.
- Quilters** - Construct quilts almost weekly for charities and individuals.
- Readers** - Read assigned Scripture passages at the lectern during services.
- Shut-In Visitation** - Spend time with members who cannot attend church.
- Sunday School** - Classes for kids at 10:30am after worship and refreshments.
- Teach** - Help children learn about their Savior, Preschool through High School.
- Tidy the Pews** - Pick up trash and re-rack service books after worship services.
- Trail Mix** - Hike on local and other Colorado trails with members and friends.
- Trustees** - Oversee maintenance, repair, cleaning of buildings and grounds.
- Ushers** - Assist people with special needs, direct worshippers for Holy Communion.
- Vacation Bible School** - A children's short-term summer educational activity.
- Wednesday Bible Class** - Study at 10:00am Wednesdays with Pastor Dan.
- Youth Group** - Our youth discuss their faith as it applies to life's challenges.



Community Judges Wanted!!!



What? This is a local speech and debate club associated with the STOA Speech and Debate League. Students in middle school and high school practice their communication and persuasive skills by learning to present a variety of public speaking events. We need you to help them by giving them a willing audience and a listening ear. ***No experience required! (Training courses and meals & snacks are provided.)***

When? Thursday April 23rd through Saturday April 25th. Sign up for one or even multiple rounds if you have the ability to serve our community through this opportunity.

How? Scan the QR code with a mobile device or visit <https://stoahub.org/tournament/sword-challenge-2026> and click "Tournament Menu" and then scroll to select "Community & Alumni Judge Registration." And fill out the requested information. The link also gives your more info to the details of the tournament!



Questions? Call or Text Katherine Dacey at (970) 773-3857 or email Club Leader Amber Conover at swordspeech@gmail.com



FEB. 2026
CIMA NEWSLETTER Vol. 20 No. 2
SQUARED TWO

Praise: for the VBS in Kampong Thom and Siem Reap; for the team from Holy Cross; for a successful women's treat for OIM ladies; for a resolution to Isaac's health issues. **Prayer:** that kids who joined the VBS will continue to hear about Jesus; for another mission team arriving in March from Cary, NC; for the upcoming start of new projects with the CLC.

WANNA HELP US IMPACT THE PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA? Give [here](#) or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166 (payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia."

Our time with the team from [Holy Cross Lutheran Church](#) in Los Gatos, CA was amazing! Five of the seven team members were alumni of the trip [two years ago](#). After a [couple of days orienting in Phnom Penh](#), we traveled to [Kampong Thom](#) to begin the children's programs. Partnering with the Cambodia Lutheran Church (CLC), the team helped host a Vacation Bible School (VBS) at a local Lutheran church. [Pastor Leang Ly](#) gathered over 150 kids, most of whom were unchurched. On [day one](#), after initial [songs](#) and [prayer](#), the kids heard a lesson on [the lost sheep](#), identifying Jesus as the Good Shepherd who searches for and saves the lost. Each kid then made a [cotton-ball sheep](#) to remind them they are lost sheep. After a snack, kids had a chance to engage in [crafts](#) and [outdoor games](#). Even more kids came for [day two](#), which followed a similar pattern, but with the lesson of [the mustard seed](#), showing how God, by His Word, has planted the seed of faith in our hearts. That small seed can grow into a vibrant, strong faith in Jesus. At the end of the second day, Pastor Leang Ly closed with prayer and encouraged the kids to come to church each Sunday to keep hearing about Jesus. The CLC/Holy Cross team then traveled to [Siem Reap](#), where they were invited to put on a [mini-VBS](#) at two [Garuna Christian schools](#) for another 180 kids. Finally, they capped their time in Cambodia with a visit to [Angkor Wat](#).



All told, well over 300 kids heard the Gospel and had a lot of fun through these efforts! Doing a program like this took a [whole team](#) of people from the CLC, the local church (not least our awesome [local translators!](#)), and Garuna. Of course, none of it would have happened without the time and effort of Holy Cross, including those who traveled to Cambodia and the countless others who helped make preparations for the event and supported them in their travels. We are thankful for each of these people and groups, and most of all to God, through whom it is all possible.

APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH CAÑON CITY, COLORADO 790 Greystone Ave., Cañon City, CO, 81212 http://www.StJohnCanonCity.org 719-275-0111</p>			1 10:00 Bible Study	2 7:00p Lent Srvc. <u>MAUNDY THURSDAY</u>	3 7:00p Lent Srvc. <u>GOOD FRIDAY</u>	4
5 EASTER SUNDAY 6:30 Sunrise Service w/ Holy Communion 7:30 Easter Breakfast 9:00 Divine Service w/ Holy Communion	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00 Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:30 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:30 Council Meeting	13 6:30p Confirmation	14 <i>Circuit Pastors' Meeting – Pastor Out of Office</i> 7:00p Youth Group	15 10:00 Bible Study	16 7:00 Men's Breakfast	17	18 LWML Spring Workshop in Co Springs – Carpooling from the church
19 3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00 Divine Service 10:30 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class 11:30 Elder's Meeting	20 6:30p Confirmation	21	22 10:00 Bible Study	23	24	25
26 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00 Divine Service w/ Holy Communion 10:30 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	27 6:30p Confirmation	28	29 10:00 Bible Study	30 7:00 Men's Breakfast		