



THE BROADCASTER

MARCH 2026

LCOSJ EVENTS

at a glance



Communion Sundays

2nd, 4th & 5th Sundays

in March

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*“ Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low ”*

Isaiah 40:4

The Winter Olympics just wrapped up. The Olympics are a time of highs and lows - the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. Everyone is rooting for their favorite, which means you are rooting against the closest competitor. Along the way there are stories of triumph and moving examples of fierce competitors coming together.

In a way, that’s a microcosm of life. We all experience highs and lows, the good, bad and sometimes ugly. There are those who are rooting us on, our biggest cheerleaders, and sometimes those who are rooting against us. Hopefully, we can all look at our lives and see stories of triumph.

And even more than our lives, a similar drama is unfolding this season of Lenten into Holy Week. There are those who are rooting for Jesus as He enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and those rooting against, as they shout “Crucify Him!” The agony of the cross leaves the disciples stunned, but an apparent defeat is turned into a glorious victory in the empty tomb.

Just as we feel victorious when the person we are rooting for wins the gold medal, we are victorious in the victory of Jesus. It means that even though there are hills and valleys along the way, He is the God in charge of all it. And it means that one day, just like the prophet promised, the hills and valleys will be leveled out, making a clear path to the glory of God. Until then, this Lenten season and always, let’s celebrate the victory that is won for us in the work of Jesus our Lord.

Pastor Steve

PRAYER FOCUS

MARCH // ST. JAMES LUTHERAN SCHOOL

St. James Lutheran School continues to provide an excellent education while sharing Jesus with kids from our congregations and community. This month they host their annual Spring Fling fundraiser. Pray for the success of that event. Pray for the staff and students that they finish the school year well. And pray for their enrollment heading into next year that God would bring many to be part of St. James.

SERVING THE LORD

MARCH 2026

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 8:00 AM KIRK GAULDIN
- 10:30 AM DAVE LIKES

USHERS— 8:00 AM

- 1 // JOEL & ERIN DICKHUT
- 8 // GERRY & BETTY LUNT
- 15 // THOM HURLEY AND
RUTH FULLER
- 22 // MIKE & LYNDA HAPPEL
- 29 // GREG & CONNIE SCOTT

USHERS — 10:30 AM

- 1 // DIETRICH FAMILY
- 8 // LIKES FAMILY
- 15 // BAUMGARTNER FAMILY
- 22 // CRABTREE FAMILY
- 29 // SOLTWEDEL FAMILY

Easter Lily Orders

Easter Lily Orders may be submitted anytime this month up to Wednesday, March 25. Order forms are on the Information Counter.

ALTAR SERVICE

Volunteers are needed to help with Altar duties (Change Paraments, care of linens and flowers). You can sign up on the bulletin board by the office or contact Marilyn in the office. Email at secretary@lcosj.org.



Holy Communion will be served on Sundays, March 8, 22 and 29. Also on Wednesday, March 4.



SERVING THE LORD

The Lutheran Church of St. John

Phone number: 222-8579 and 222-1182

Emails: Pastor Steve Hayden – pastor@lcosj.org

Marilyn Humphrey – secretary@lcosj.org

Noah Boudreau — worship@lcosj.org

Stevie Bainter, Food Pantry Admin—openhands@lcosj.org

Website: www.lcosj.org Facebook YouTube

Church office hours: Mon.-Fri.: 8:00am-4:00pm, call ahead

WORSHIP HAPPENINGS

“Father Forgive Them”

Last fall we shared in the *Forgiveness Challenge*, we dive back into the topic of forgiveness throughout March with a series of messages titled “Father Forgive them—Stories of Grace.” Each week we will look at the words of the Gospel and stories of God’s grace in the lives of His people and challenge ourselves to share that grace with those in our lives.



For Us

This Lenten season we will journey through the history and hymn “O Love, How Deep” to see the depth, breadth and height of God’s love *for us*. There are two worship options each Wednesday at 12:15pm or 6:30pm. Come early for a meal at 5:15.

March 4—Pastor Steve “Healing from Demons”

Soups served by Ladies Aid

March 11—Pastor Hull from Macomb “For Us He Seeks”

Tacos served by Guatemala Mission Team

March 18—Pastor Riley “Done for Us

Pizza served by Youth Group

March 25—Pastor Steve “For Us Betrayed”

Meal served by Guatemala Mission Team

Holy Week Worship

Mark your calendars to join us for the celebration of Holy Week.

March 29—Palm Sunday with special music from SS Kids

April 2—Maundy Thursday & celebration of Early Communion

April 3—Good Friday Tenebrae worship

April 5—Easter Sunday



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Your kids are invited to join them in the Discovery Den on Sundays at 9:30 am. Kids from 2 year old through 6th grade are invited to join us for a great year of learning. In the month of March, the kids will learn "I Am Meant to Know God." Each week they will use a different story from God's Word to learn about His attributes and what they mean for our lives. Come learn about God's love.

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

All the kids of the congregation are invited to join us on Sunday, March 29, 9:30 am for a special celebration of Palm Sunday and Easter. We will gather in the Family Life Center for games and activities. Then to kick off the late service we will parade into worship waving palm branches and sing a special song. Those that want to be part of the song can get music from Melissa Clopper-Lord.

YOUTH GROUP

High School Event—Siloam Springs

All our high school youth are invited to join us for an afternoon at Siloam Springs on March 15. We will hike, hang out and share a meal together. Meet at St. James Lutheran Church at 3 pm and we will return about 7 pm.

Annual Family Fun Walk

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. We will host our annual Family Fun Walk on Saturday, April 18 starting at Bob Mays Park. All youth should pick up a packet at church to gather business sponsors and walkers. If you would like to walk or be a sponsor, speak to one of our youth.

Scrip Sales

The youth continue to scrip to help support their activities. You can purchase scrip before and after the 10:30am service on Sunday mornings or in the church office. Watch for them by the Sunday School stairs.

Spring Fling—March 21

Come out and support St. James Lutheran School at their annual Spring Fling on March 21 at the Holiday Inn. This is a great event for a great cause. Tickets available by calling the school.

CRADLE ROLL—There are 7 children enrolled.

Children receive materials until age 3, that parents can share with them about God's love.

Birthdays: Eloise Nierman: 3 yrs on March 3

Theo Meuth: 2 yrs on March 4

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

The Men's Club

The Quincy Area Men's Club will meet again on March 16 at St. John's. All men of the congregation are invited to join them anytime for fellowship and devotion.

Lutheran Women in Mission

All the women of the Congregation are welcome to visit with either of these two service groups.

Mary & Martha members will meet March 3rd a 6:30pm in the Oasis. Thank you to everyone that came to the Ash Wednesday supper and supported their mission activities.

Ladies Aid Society members will meet at 1:00pm on Wednesday, March 4th. Join us that evening for a variety of delicious soups, veggies & desserts at 5:15pm for the Lenten meal. Free-will Offering.

Prayer Chain

If you have a prayer request you would like to be lifted up by our prayer chain, complete a green prayer card and drop in the Prayer box on the Information Counter or in the office. Requested prayers are kept confidential. If you would like to be a part of lifting up the prayers of our Prayer Chain, contact the church office. You will receive an email when prayers are requested with all the necessary information.



Daylight saving time in begins at 2 a.m. on Sunday, **March 8**, when clocks "spring forward"

one hour. Don't be late for Church & Sunday School.

Horizon's— Monday meals at Horizon's (224 S.

8th Street) on the 2nd & 4th Mondays, March 9 & 23.

Volunteers are needed and you can sign up by the office. See Bill or Lynda Keller or Pastor Steve if any questions.

TREASURER REPORT

Income less expenses for month—to-date

February 27, 2026:

Income:	\$ 39,337.03
Total All Expenses:	\$ 42,194.63
Expenses over Income	\$ (2,857.60)

OPEN HANDS

OPEN HANDS FOOD PANTRY

The Food Pantry is open on Thursdays from 10am—2pm. In February we served 206 households that included 702 individuals and 270 of those were children.



The **Mobile Food Pantry** provided food at Bella Ease on Feb.18. They will be traveling to Harrison Hills Community Room on March 24, 5:00-6:00pm. If you would like to serve at a future Mobile Pantry, please contact Stevie in the church office or email openhands@lcosj.org.

Closet of Grace

Soon many will be doing a little spring cleaning. As you go through clothes, don't forget to bring your donations for the Closet of Grace. Kids clothes are always needed. Not only do people receive clothes, but our volunteers wrap them in God's love.

Baldwin School Service Project

Several times a year we serve the teachers and staff at Baldwin School to show them God's love. Our next event is a baked potato bar on March 18. If you would like to assist please reach out to Lynda Keller.

BLOOD DRIVE

Help us serve the community and meet our goal at our next blood drive on Tuesday, March 10, 12pm—5:00pm. A few minutes of your time can literally save the life of someone in need. To sign up to donate, go to <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>

The need is great.



BIBLE STUDIES

GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

The Monday night group is looking at the Gospel of Matthew. They gather in the home of Bill and Lynda Keller at 7pm.

GUT-LEVEL COMPASSION

TUESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible study group meets on Tuesday at 9:30am in the Oasis. They will continue a book study of Luke by Lisa Harper, "Luke: Gut-level Compassion". All ladies of the church and friends are invited to join.

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

When God poured His Holy Spirit on the Church, they boldly shared the Word and the Church experienced incredible growth. In this study of Acts we will see how God continues to bless the work of the Church and the spread of the Gospel. Join us Wednesdays at 10 am.

MEN OF FAITH

SATURDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

In March we will begin a study of Nehemiah, learning from him about leadership and faithfully carrying out the call of God in our lives. All men are invited to join us as for breakfast and study every Saturday in the Oasis at 8am. Will not meet March 28.

FOR YOU—A LENTEN STUDY

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

On Sunday mornings we will dig deeper into our Wednesday Lenten theme, celebrating all that Jesus has done "For You." Come on in on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Grab some coffee and donuts as we dive into God's Word together.

ONLINE OFFERINGS

Giving online is easy and secure! Click on the image on www.lcosj.org to make your donation online! You can make a one-time offering, or set up to make weekly, bi-monthly or monthly offerings, whichever fits your budget.

