

APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH

KNOW

- 1 in 7 children experience child abuse or neglect in the past year.*
- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 13 boys experience sexual abuse.*
- 3 in 4 high school students reported experiencing one or more ACEs**, such as emotional, physical, or sexual abuse.*

*CDC.GOV

**Adverse Childhood Experiences

REPORT

IMMEDIATELY

Contact Local Law Enforcement or Family Services

- Local Law Enforcement
651-257-4100
- Chisago Family Services
651-213-5672

If you believe a child is in immediate danger, call 911
You do NOT need proof to make a report!

Reasonable Suspicion of Abuse Occurring Can Include:

- Seeing signs of physical harm or changes in a child's behavior
- A child sharing that they've been hurt, neglected, or touched in an unsafe way.
- A child telling you about crossed personal boundaries, including messages or images shared online.

What Information Is Needed For A Good Faith Report?

- Child's name, age and where they live if you know it
- Parent or Caregiver Names
- What kind of harm you're worried about
- Who may be responsible, if known

SUPPORT

- **STAY CALM**
- **LISTEN WITH CARE**
- **SAY "I BELIEVE YOU" AND "IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT"**
- **OFFER COMFORT**
- **AVOID ASKING FOR DETAILS**



SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

St. John's Lutheran Church

A Member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
980 West Fourth Street
P.O. Box 368
Rush City, MN 55069

Secretary: Karen Peterson
Church Phone: (320) 358-3623
Church Email: stjohns@midco.net
Church Website: www.stjohnsrushcity.org
Normal Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8am-2pm

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

A Member of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
400 SE 8th Street
Braham, MN 55006



Secretary: Amanda Bruggman
Church Phone/Fax: (320) 396-3103
Church Email: ststephens1913@msn.com
Church Website: www.ststephensbraham.org

Normal Office Hours:
Thursday 8:30 am - 2:30 pm

Rev. Paul Anderson
Phone: (763) 412-7671
pda76@proton.me

April 2026

Humility is something that is in short supply in today's culture. People flaunt their money with their possessions, their looks, or the number of subscribers and likes. They put such great effort into showing that they are a success and ought to be admired. Even in our own hearts, the desire for recognition is powerful and can easily turn to resentment as a way of expressing their dominance over those who aren't as wealthy, good looking or popular.

Upon looking over his vast kingdom, King Solomon said, "All is vanity" *Ecclesiastes 1:2*. Upon the death of Solomon, his kingdom was torn from the hand of his son (*1 Kings 11*). Solman's indulgent exaltation was followed by a downfall. Today, basically the only thing that remains of Solomon's projects is a partition of the wall that once encircled around the temple. What will remain of the things you make? What will be remembered of the time and treasure spent on the vanity of our hearts. Will they not also be torn to bits as future generations argue and fight for them, or will those items simply lie in ruins? Our futile pursuits will be no more.

Unlike Solomon and us, Jesus - the Son of God, the King of kings came in humility. All that Christ did was in humble service to the Father will to save us. From the choice of Mary and Joseph to the place of his birth to his humble entry into Jerusalem, nothing had a hint of vanity. We read from Ephesians 2:8, "He [Jesus] humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! In the crucified Christ - vanity vanishes. In the person of Jesus, we find that the wall of separation between us and God is breached. Our access to God is through the humble crucified Jesus whereby our sins are paid not by Solomon's treasure or our vain work, but the previous blood from the vein of God's servant - Jesus. Jesus now the exalted king rules all things. On Sunday, we come humble to the altar. However, we do not kneel before the dead rock of a bygone temple in vain hope of an early kingdom. Instead, we come Jesus -the resurrected living temple (*John 2:19-21*). By his once ripped and torn body, now pours his exalted blood and transforms us into humble servants who are also exalted by Jesus the resurrected king. Jesus comes to serve us at His table, so let us humbly come craving the treasure of righteousness leave in exaltation that life of Christ goes with us.

Pastor Anderson

WE ARE CALLED

ACTS 1:18B

LWML Rum River Zone Spring Rally

APRIL 18, 2026

Note New Address

Joy Lutheran Church

33525 Jefferson St NE, Cambridge, MN 55008

For directions go to: www.joylutheran.net

Speaker: Candice Bicondoa

Project 24, a MN North District mission project building orphanages in Kenya

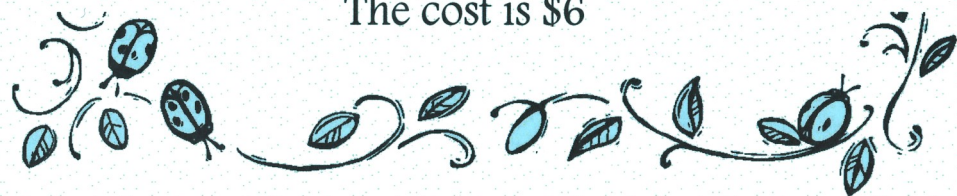
Ingathering:

Any brand of size 3,4, or 5 diapers, baby wipes, baby food, or baby formula for the Cambridge Crisis Pregnancy Center

Join us for fellowship, food, and fun!!

Registration is at 8:30 AM Program starts at 9:00 AM

The cost is \$6



April Birthdays & Anniversaries In Our Parish

St. John's Lutheran Church

- 2 Bonnie Swanson
- 8 Jeff & Jill Erickson
- 16 Mason Palmer
- 21 Judy Allen-Huston, Connie Heinrich
- 26 Jeremiah Skaj
- 29 Jill Erickson
- 30 Lee Nelson

St. Stephen's Lutheran Church

- 1 Cindy Svare, Dwayne Thomas
- 2 Hannah Olson
- 4 Rylee Sundermeyer
- 5 Nickie Nelson, Jim Svare, Jean White
- 8 Steve Baker
- 10 Bryon & Faliessa Hackler, Tanner & Aliina Olson
- 14 Susan Carew, Gary Hackler
- 15 Jay & LaTisha Pierson
- 16 Ken Lundahl
- 18 William Schmakel
- 20 Emily Peterson
- 21 Mitch Vidor
- 22 Pauline Johnson, Vern & Sandy Schusted
- 24 Royce Pierson
- 26 Dan & Rene Barn
- 28 Jameson Cooper, Lowell Jaques
- 30 Yvonne Leaf



Going on vacation? Are you not able to get out? You don't have to miss worship! Our services are on our website, always available for you. You can watch them anytime that is convenient for you. You can find them at:

<http://www.stjohnsrushcity.org/connect/watch-the-services>

The Fare For All low-priced food sale is returning to Rush City High School (at Door 5) on Friday, April 10, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm! A selection of Hot Buys will be available, as well as Mega Meat Packs (\$25) and Produce Packs (\$10).

Fare for All is open to ALL. There are no eligibility requirements and pre-registration is not needed, just show up and shop!

Please note that Fare for All accepts cash, credit, debit, and EBT cards, but they do not accept checks.

Worship Assistants at St. John's This Month

<u>St. John's</u>
Elder: Gary Wendorf Altar Guild: Bernice Moreau
April 2 — Maundy Thursday
Musician: PA Tech: David Haley Camera/PowerPoint: Arlen Peterson/Karen Peterson Counters: Susan Scheff & Lynette Downing
April 3 — Good Friday
Musician: PA Tech: Roxanne Orvis Camera/PowerPoint: Arlen Peterson/Karen Peterson Counters: Jill Erickson & Lynette Downing
April 5 — Easter Sunday
Musician: PA Tech: David Haley Camera/PowerPoint: Arlen Peterson/Karen Peterson Counters: Diane Buehring & Lynette Downing
April 12
Musician: PA Tech: Roxanne Orvis Camera/PowerPoint: Arlen Peterson/Karen Peterson Counters: Susan Scheff & Lynette Downing
April 19
Musician: PA Tech: David Haley Camera/PowerPoint: Arlen Peterson/Karen Peterson Counters: Jill Erickson & Lynette Downing
April 26
Musician: PA Tech: Roxanne Orvis Camera/PowerPoint: Arlen Peterson/Karen Peterson Counters: Sandy Minor & Lynette Downing



**A Measure of our Discipleship
Together in Christ**

Day of Worship	Attendance	Offering
2-22-2026	36	\$1,225.00
3-1-2026	42	\$7,530.00
3-8-2026	37	\$930.00
3-15-2026	snowstorm	
3-22-2026	49	\$5,950.00



If you have old eye glasses and want to get rid of them, the Rush City Lions have a donation box at St. John's in the narthex where you can drop them off. They will pick up the glasses periodically and they will help others to be able to see better!

Check out the seminary call days to see if we are

Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Matt. 9:37-38).



The seminaries of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod have announced plans for their annual assignment and call services.

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis (CSL)

- **Assignment of Calls — Tuesday, April 28, 7 p.m. Central**

Services will be held in CSL's Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus. Both services will be livestreamed at csl.edu/live as well as on the seminary's Facebook and YouTube pages. For more details, and a complete listing of assignments and calls following the services, visit csl.edu/call-day.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW)

- **Candidate Placement Service — Wednesday, April 29, 7 p.m. Eastern.**

Services will be held in CTSFW's Kramer Chapel. Both services will be livestreamed on CTSFW's Call Day and chapel pages and on the seminary's Facebook page. After the services, full lists of assignments and calls, along with photos of students and assignments by district and an interactive placement map, will be posted at ctsfw.edu/callday.

You are invited to join in the celebration of Call Day by sharing photos and video of your in-home celebrations on social media by using #callday2026.

Please pray the Lord's blessings on all the candidates and their families as they prepare for their first calls and assignments.