

March 2025



## St. John Journey Monthly Newsletter

[www.stjohnabingdon.org](http://www.stjohnabingdon.org)



### **Message from our pastor:**

Hello, St. John Lutheran Church!

What a month we have ahead of us! We are kicking off the month with new member Sunday where we will officially welcome new and familiar faces into our congregation. While church membership is not a requirement to be a part of this community it is a beautiful way to acknowledge the commitment made between the church and

her people, the promises made to continue to grow in spirit and continue God's work in the world together!

March also marks the beginning of the Lenten season. We will have our Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner on Tuesday, March 4th. This celebration is also known as Fat Tuesday and its origins are that before the fast of Lent would begin communities would gather for feasting and indulging in rich food and drink. We will be celebrating with pancakes and having a lot of fun together! The following evening, we will begin our Lenten journey with an Ash Wednesday Service. Lent is a time of reflection and personal growth, but we will be on the journey together with God.

I am also personally excited to be celebrating one year as your pastor! When I found my way to St. John I did so with a lot of hope that this would be the new start I needed to take on the next chapter of my ministry. I am so happy to say that looking back over the last year all those hopes I came in with have been reached. We have spent the last year accompanying each other through life, the ups and the downs, we have started new ministries, rekindled old ones, worshipped and learned together. I am so grateful that God created

the pathways that allowed us to come together and begin our ministry together. Here is to many more years to come!

Blessings all!  
Pr. Elise

## **March News**

***Be sure to look at our online calendar for the most up to date information on things happening this month at the church. (stjohnabingdon.org)***

**March 2nd:** Please join us after the service for a potluck lunch to celebrate our new members and Pastor Elise's one year anniversary with us! Please bring your favorite dish!

Altar Guild-An informational meeting will be for anyone interested in helping with this ministry. Please meet Edie in the sacristy at 12:30pm.

### **Mark your calendars!**

**March 4<sup>th</sup>** : Shrove Pancake Dinner at 6:00pm  
*for those who are cooking, please arrive by 5:00pm*

**March 5<sup>th</sup>:** Ash Wednesday service at 7:00pm

**Wednesdays in Lent:** The main street churches will again be holding noon services beginning March 5<sup>th</sup> at Abingdon Baptist Church. A full schedule is available on the table in the narthex and is on our online calendar. We will host on March 26th.

**March 16<sup>th</sup>:** The St. John's Women's Group (SJWG) will have their first quarterly meeting of 2025 on March 16 at 2pm. The topic will be Women's Health and Wellness. We will have experts in their fields of health to answer questions, and we will have Chair Yoga!

**Lent Well Spent-** Starting March 16th at 11:45am! Confirmation fun without the memorization or stage fright!

If you need a refresher on Lutheran history and theology or want to learn about it for the first time, this is the class for you! We will spend time talking about church history, Luther's antics, what makes us Lutherans different from other denominations and what makes us the same! It will be a fun discussion and all are welcome!

**Easter Lilies:** As our tradition, we will order flowers to decorate the church for Easter Sunday. Order forms are available on the table in the narthex or in the office. The deadline to order is **March 23rd.**

Spencer Wellenhoffer is selling discount restaurant cards to support Abingdon baseball. See him after the service if you're interested.

### **Choir News:**

Choir will meet every Sunday morning, at 8:45am. There will also be a also be a practice at 5:45pm on Ash Wednesday (March 5th).

### **Quilting News:**

Do you have sheets you no longer use or need? We use all sizes in most any condition and even pillowcases. Just drop them in the bin in the fellowship hall, on the right just inside the double doors. Thanks for helping us out.

The quilters meet Tuesday mornings from 9:30 to noon in the fellowship hall for community and assembling of the quilts. Come and lend a hand at tying knots, laying out quilt layers (back, batting and quilt tops} and fellowship.

**Tapestry Group:** Information will be sent out in a separate email. If you would like to be added to the group list, please let the office know.



**March**  
**birthdays**

3/4-Jill Morris  
3/5-Sarah Lovett  
3/7-Cheryl Carrico  
3/10-Linda Brumleve  
3/14-Louise Sansing  
3/19-Roger Nipper  
3/19- Dave Morris  
3/23-Gail Hoofnagle

*Please email Jill in the office know if we missed your birthday so it can be added to our database.*

**NexTrex Plastic Recycling Update**

We started a new cycle for collecting in 2025 and will again be aiming to collect 1000 pounds in a year! If so, we can get a bench for the preschool playground! We collected another 98 pounds in February, bringing our total to 406! Ask your friends and relatives to save their plastics and bring them in. **IMPORTANT!** Please be sure that the plastic is clean and dry before putting it in the box.

# RECYCLE BEYOND THE BAG

Recycle your household bags & wrap into Trex's Earth-friendly composite decking and railing!



## FROM THE STORE



✓ Produce bags

✓ Store bags

✓ Ice bags



## FROM YOUR PANTRY



✓ Ziploc® & other reclosable bags

✓ Cereal box liners

✓ Case overwrap

✓ Bread bags



## FROM YOUR FRONT DOOR



✓ Newspaper sleeves

✓ Dry cleaning bags

✓ Bubble wrap

✓ Plastic e-commerce mailers

Plastics must be clean, dry and free of food and organic residue



NexTrex

[trex.com/recycling](http://trex.com/recycling) 1-800-Buy-Trex

### Volunteers for March

If you are unable to serve or have changed with someone, please let Jill know as soon as possible.



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