



'Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love'



"TAKE A LONG LOOK..."

Last year, after thirty years away, Lynn and I briefly returned to Springfield, Illinois, the place we called home for some six years. We lived as "neighbors" to Mr. Lincoln, just four blocks south of his home on 8th street.

There is so much history in this city that I began to research it in the City/County history wing of the Springfield Library and in the State Historical Library. With the permission of both curators I was allowed into the deep history archives of both libraries. My own curiosity, led to challenges by the curators to expand my research of the existing old architecture and its significance to the life and history of the city. All this led to the production of a manuscript entitled: "PAST SITES OF SPRINGFIELD...A Historical Tour Guide". The Historical Society had interest in publishing it, but all such funds were redirected in 1976 for Bicentennial projects and not renewed thereafter. But, my unpublished manuscript, hard bound, does still reside in the collection of the Springfield Library and in the President Abraham Lincoln Library-Museum.

As a "Lincoln buff" and former "neighbor" ...allow me to share with you the following true "Lincoln" story. The story's told of how after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, while his body lay in state in the Old State Capitol in Springfield; a great procession of mourners passed by his casket. In the vast throng was an elderly black man together with his young grandson, who held tightly onto his grandfather's hand. When they finally arrived at the casket of the slain president, the aged man stood motionless for a long moment, looking at the lifeless form of the Great Emancipator, with tears running down his cheek. Then he stooped down and lifted his little grandson so that he too could see the body of the dead president. Wiping the tears from his eyes, he said to the lad: "Son, take a long look at that man. He died for you."

Indeed, Lincoln had done just that. He had given his life so that this little lad and millions of others like him in our nation, might live their lives in dignity and freedom. And, as few other men this little black lad would ever gaze upon in his life...in death, Lincoln deserved... "a long look."

This month each of us will have the opportunity to again "take a long look" at the One who gave His life so that all peoples of the world men might be free. Free not from an earthly slave-master, but free from the grip of Satan and from the slavery of sin.

The One who deserves this attention of ours during these coming weeks, is none other than the Son of God, our Savior, Jesus Christ. It was Jesus who so loved us and gave Himself unto death for us on the cross. It was no assassins' bullet, as with Lincoln, which took Jesus' life. Our Savior, as the Lamb of God, willingly and in love, allowed Himself to bleed and die, so that we might be emancipated...freed from the anguish of our sin. As the Bible states: *"He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities...and by His stripes we are healed."* (Is. 53:5)

As we move into this Lenten season, may we take the time to come to worship...take a long and quiet look of reverent contemplation. Not just a passing glance, but a long and thoughtful look at Jesus and see what He did for us. May we look at our Savior...with a look of repentance, a look of faith, a look of gratitude...and a look of love.

This Lenten Season come to the cross of Calvary as a devoted believer and "take a long look" at the man who in His love, died for you; your Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.


Pastor Jeff Gavin

THANK YOU

Lynn and I would like to thank all of our "Family" who have expressed their thoughts and concerns and prayers for Lynn following her recent fall and stroke.

Her fall did result in a fracture of her upper left arm (she is a "lefty") and a fractured right elbow. She is recovering well from her stroke and is now seeing several doctors as follow-up to her hospital stay.

Due to Lynn's health needs, I am now both Pastor and caregiver. Thank you for your understanding.

Pastor Jeff



LENT BEGINS ON ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Join us for our ***only*** Lenten Worship Service until **Holy Week** on **Ash Wednesday** on **February 14 at 7:00 PM.**

OUR WORSHIP SERVICE MUSIC

With the retirement and departure of our organist Marion after the Christmas Service, we again resumed our Digital Music Services.

We have become quite adept at these, as we employed this method for some seven months in 2023, when Marion had her health issues.

But . . . as soon as we resumed these Digital Music Services . . . we had an issue with the audio system. Joe Schubkegel and myself worked to try various ways to fix our problem. It was finally discovered that the mixer board needs replacement.

We are presently compensating for this with another audio device as we await further information from two audio / visual firms to enhance our system. Most importantly to have a system that I can operate by myself removevely.

I view this as very important, as I am very grateful to those volunteers who operate the laptop connected to the audio system; however I feel sorry for the few people who do this must be present every Sunday, sit off to the side, and cannot just worship as a part of the congregation, when they need to be alert for the cues to click on the laptop and start the music.

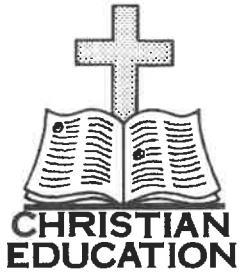
More to come on the changes and enhancements to our Audio System.

Pastor Jeff

HOSPITAL ADMITTANCE:

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU ARE ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL OR PASTOR WILL NOT KNOW YOU ARE THERE!
BECAUSE OF PRIVACY ISSUES THE HOSPITAL IS NOT ALLOWED TO NOTIFY US THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ADMITTED TO THEIR HOSPITAL.**





We hope you will come and join us on **Sunday mornings at 9:15 AM** for our **ADULT Sunday Bible Class** in the lower level of the school building . . . **open question forum**.

Please join us for our **Mid-Week Bible Class** on Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the lower level of the school building.

PASTOR . . . has resumed taking Fridays as his "Day Off". Even though he may sometimes be in his office, he is scheduling no work; so Please do not Visit him, or Phone him on Fridays. If there is a true Emergency, call him on his Cell: (630) 776-2382. Thank you.

ALTAR FLOWERS . . .

DUE TO NEW FLOWER PRICES...ALTAR FLOWERS CAN COST AS LITTLE AS \$20.

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, (**or confirm your "standing order"**) please contact please call the **CHURCH OFFICE** at **(847) 593-7670** or email Pastor at jeffgavin@sbcglobal.net **NO LATER THAN NOON ON THE PRIOR TUESDAY!**

Please Note: When you donate flowers for our worship services, you are welcome to bring the flowers home after the 10:30 service.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Along with "Birthday Greetings", we also wish a "Happy Anniversary" to those couples who were married during each month by printing their marriage date.

If you are unsure if we might have a record of your wedding date . . . please contact the church office (847-593-7670, ext 1) with this information. We would like to include all of our married couples and wish to them . . . **"Happy Anniversary"**:



Scott & Chrissy Harris
Peter & Holly Koeppen

February 4
February 24

VOTERS' MEETING



The next Voters' Meeting will be on **Monday, February 26 at 7:30 PM IN THE CHURCH.**

The Agenda for this Voters' Meeting will be:

Board and Committee Reports



Diane Jensen	February 1	Lawrence Hernandez	February 14
Michelle Clesi	February 2	Chrissy Harris	February 22
Carol Pfingsten	February 4	Samantha Klatka	February 23
Jacob Woods	February 4	Mark Christensen	February 25
Lily Weissgerber	February 7	Michael Pfingsten	February 26
Elaine Dodge	February 8	Scott Harris	February 27
Joey Nather	February 8	Jacqueline Ambrus	February 27
Kristi Brockie	February 9	Micheal Ocampo-Pugh Jr.	February 27
Carrie Pass	February 12		

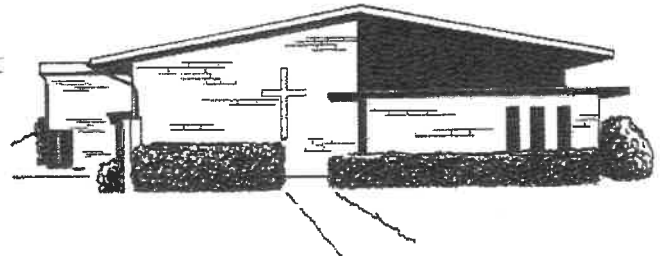
If your birthday has not been listed, please contact the Church office for a correction... Thank You!

May God Bless You on Your Birthday

St. John Lutheran Church



"Christ's Family Reaching Out In Love"



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1100 South Linneman Road
Mount Prospect, IL 60056

Sunday Services: 8 & 10:30 AM
Sunday Bible Classes: 9:15 AM
Mid-Week Bible Class: Wed. at 10 AM

Telephone: (847) 593-7670

www.stjohn-mpil.org

FEBRUARY 2024

MAIL
FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
1101 LINNEMAN ROAD
MOUNT PROSPECT IL 60056

The Contact NEWSLETTER