

On Eagle's Wings

St. John's Monthly Newsletter – February 2023

Pastor's Paragraphs

The Message Bible translates Matthew 5:5 this way: "You're blessed when you're content with just who you are – no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourself proud owners of everything that can't be bought."

Those words can be the center of and easy-to-do spiritual practice. Perhaps you already have an evening and morning prayer ritual. If yes, this would be easy to add. If not, this would make a good beginning of one. Just take a moment to say to yourself, "Be content with just who you are – no more, no less." Say it to yourself not only at the beginning, and at the end of the day, and also every time you are stressed; and every time you're about to make a decision.

There are lots of inspiring memes out there. This saying could be one of them. But I think it goes deeper when we keep it in the realm of faith. Being content with yourself means that you accept *God* has made you to be enough. The world all around will tell you otherwise. The world will tell you that you are lacking. But that is a lie.

Early this month we will read Matthew 13 where Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like:
a treasure hidden in a field
a single pearl of great value
a tiny mustard seed that grows into a great bush
a little yeast kneaded into a great measure of flour
In each case the kingdom's effect is far more than would meet the eye.

The same thing happens when we are content with just who we are. It does not become an excuse for laziness. Being content is another way of recognizing the kingdom of heaven within you. It will not solve your problems or protect you from the frailties of being human. No, being content in this way will inspire you to grow and to expand. Being content is a contentment that leads to discontentment! This will not be a discontentment within yourself, but a discontentment where you can't allow the world around you to stay the same broken way that it is. That will inspire you to grow, yet also realize that that growth is also being content with who you are.

May you find the kingdom of God within you. You will find yourself the proud owners of everything that can't be bought!

Blessings,
Pastor Jon



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 22 – 7:00pm

Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes

Mid-Week Lenten Series

Wednesdays 6:00 Soup and Bread Dinner,
6:30 Worship



At some point in every Christian's life, they discover a question.

You know the kind.

Not like, "How are you?" Or, "What kind of toothpaste should I buy?"

But, like, *What really happens when we die?*

Or, *Why does this terrible stuff happen to people who do their best to follow God?*

Or, *How could God forgive me after what I've done?*

Or, *How do I know what God wants me to do next?*

You know. That kind of question.

Each week we'll wrestle with these questions with responses (but not necessarily answers!) from God's word.

Febuary Worship Assistants

	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
Greeters & Ushers	Sue Kaufmann	Gary Wood	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Mary and Greg Zuege
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle	Owen Young	Thomas Bullwinkle	Creed White
Altar Care (10:30)	Mary Zuege		Mary Zuege	
Communion Assistants	Linda Flood		Mary Zuege	
Counters	Bill and Katy Stimmel		Mary and Greg Zuege	Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann
Coffee Hour				



Upcoming Bible Readings for Worship

February 5 - Matthew 11:20-30
 February 12 (Sunday School Children Lead Worship)
 – Matthew 13
 February 19– Matthew 16:13-17:13
 February 22 (Ash Wednesday) Matthew 6:1-6, 16-34
 February 25 – Matthew 17:14-27

You'll notice that we're not reading chapters 12, 14 and 15 in worship. We're pulling them out of the worship service. The service would just become too long. The weeks of February 5 and 12 you'll receive emails inviting you to read those chapters on your own. You'll also be given some questions and points to ponder.

10:30 Worship In-person and Zoom

10:30 is in-person worship in the sanctuary and also by Zoom. The Zoom link for 10:30 is emailed weekly. If you cannot connect to the 10:30 service with a computer you can still hear and participate in the service with any phone.

Dial (929) 436 2866 US (New York)
 Meeting ID: 894 6565 2592
 Passcode: 537281

Weather Cancellations

If we need to cancel a worship service or event due to weather we will post it on the church's Facebook page and send it to the email list. Please contact Pastor Jon if you have any cancellation questions.



- The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.
- Rev. Karen Anderson for her missionary work in Chile.
- David Storch as he lives in a memory care facility.
- Rev. Jennifer Phelps, former member of St. John's, as she slowly recovers from neck and back injuries.
- Sterling Smith, relative of Becky Nohe, who has bladder cancer.
- Edward Zavacki, husband of Marcia Zavacki, who is weak and in the hospital.
- Kelly Carlson, friend of the CiPollinas, whose liver function is failing.
- Ivan Shuler, who was diagnosed with cancer and is beginning hospice care.

Called to Care Fundraiser

Called to Care is a newly formed refugee resettlement program in our area. A fundraiser is planned for Saturday, February 11th at Crosswinds Wesleyan Church in Canandaigua starting at 7pm. The Canandaigua Academy Jazz Band will be performing along with two family friend comedians and a Ukrainian singer. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Tickets may be purchased at Mobile Music, Canandaigua National Bank, or by calling 315 447-0276



- Thank you to Gary Wood, Pete Gregory and Bill Stimmel for serving on church council.
- Thank you to John CiPollina, Linda Flood, Mark Wyman, and Gary Boisseau for beginning terms on church council.
- Thank you to Julie Stuart for organizing lunch for the annual meeting.
- Thank you to Mary Zuege for providing treats for coffee hour on several Sundays.

Thrivent Night at the Strong Museum of Play

February 19, 2023 4PM – 8PM

4:00 – 5:30 Thrivent Member Pre-event Gathering – Enjoy dinner and a Thrivent update. Each Thrivent member can bring up to three guests.

5:30 – 8:00 Open play. Thrivent members and friends from the community can enjoy all that the museum has to offer. This includes the Butterfly Garden and the Carousel. Light refreshments will be offered.

You do not need to be a Thrivent member to participate in Open Play, and you may bring up to 10 guests.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to a local food pantry.

Pre-event registration is required for all attendees: go to bit.ly/3FJ22Qg

Community Outreach Committee



The Souper Bowl started in 1990 and that year 22 churches raised \$5,700.00 to help their local charities. In 2022 more than 4,350 groups collected over \$3.5 million worth of food and contributions. 100% of the money collected is given to the charity of your choice. We have chosen to give our donations to WORLD HUNGER.

The soup pot will out on Feb. 12th for contributions this year....Thanks so much!

-Christmas Giving Tree –

Thank you from Victor Central School

“In helping others, we shall help ourselves, for whatever good we give out completes the circle and comes back to us.”

Thank you for helping others!

It seems that this program grows every year, yet every year each family is supported by your generosity. We are truly humbled by your kindness and caring shown to those in need.

This year, with your donations, The Giving Tree was able to assist 104 families which in turn helped 231 children.

On behalf of both of us, thank you! We hope this coming year brings you and your family peace, health and happiness!

Respectfully yours, with sincere gratitude,

Liz McLean and Jody Drew

New Neighbor Program

In an effort to encourage new families to worship with us at St. John's, we developed the New Neighbor Program. So how does it work? If you have a new neighbor you'd like to welcome, contact Katy Stimmel at (585) 298-6515 (call or text), or sign up using the sign up sheet posted in the gathering area. She will arrange for a lovely inkwell flower vase to be at church on a Sunday of your choosing. Each flower vase comes with a welcome not ready for you to deliver to your new neighbor! (Flowers arranged by Hopper Hills floral shop in Victor.)



Give Up Lint for Lent

This bizarre collection is becoming an annual tradition in our congregation's Lenten journey. If you have trouble giving something up for Lent, this will be your easiest discipline ever! There is a collection box in the Gathering Area for you to put your **dryer lint, used dryer sheets, old crayons and stubs of candles**. This worthless stuff (and somewhat gross) will be melted together and burnt on the fire at the sunrise service on Easter. This Lent give up your most worthless stuff so that God can turn it into heat and light!

Finances – End of 2022

2022 Income \$193,981.10
2022 Expenses \$201,763.47
Difference (\$7,782.37)



8:30 Breakfast Church during Lent

Our 8:30 worship service will explore a “breakfast church” model during the season of Lent. Tables will be set up in the back of the sanctuary. Worship will begin with a hymn and a prayer. Then worshippers will serve themselves whatever delicious breakfast foods have been prepared for that morning. As they eat the scriptures will be read. There won’t be so much of a sermon as an interactive reflection on the gospel reading. The service will wrap up with prayers and song. When there is communion it will be incorporated right into the meal.



Sponsor Accessories for the New Playground

The new playground has been ordered! It will be installed sometime in the spring. We have received several donations toward buying the accessories for the playground. Thank you to everyone who has given! There are still several things left to sponsor. Here’s the list:

Sm Rock Wall	\$249
Angled Climber	100
6’ Torpedo Straight Slide	599
Lg Rock Wall	399

Please talk to Julie Stewart or Pastor Jon if you’re interested in sponsoring an accessory.



Do you have questions about Family Promise of Ontario County? Do you wish we had more opportunities for direct contact with our families? Do you miss bringing a hot dinner to church or spending time with the families? Are you wondering if there is more for you to do as well as donating money for gas cards or grocery bills? The answers may be on the horizon

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COME TO THE 10:30 service on SUNDAY, JANUARY 29th (while Pastor Jon is away) Jay Garrett-Larsen, Community and Landlord Engagement Manager will be with us to present the new model of service that was developed in part as a response to the covid19 pandemic. In order for Jay to be better prepared to address our concerns, I would like to submit them to Jay ahead of time. Please send them to me at dushenkom@yahoo.com or write them down and pop them into the “Zuege” mailbox by January 22. You can submit anonymously if you prefer, and everything will go to Jay anonymously. There will also be the opportunity to ask questions in writing and aloud on the 29th.

Please plan to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about Family Promise of Ontario County and the diverse opportunities to serve.

Thank you,
Mary Zuege



Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Fat Tuesday is February 21 this year. On this day Christians traditionally celebrated by consuming all the fat in their pantries in preparation for the somber and penitential season of Lent.

Our annual pancake supper starts at 6:00 with all the pancakes, sausage and fancy toppings you can eat! We'll also show the hilarious "Songs of Praise" episode from the British comedy *The Vicar of Dibley*. For kids we'll show a Veggie Tales video in a separate room.



January Bible Trivia Answers

1. What did John the Baptist call the Pharisees and Sadducees who were coming to him? Answer: A brood of vipers (Matthew 3:7)
2. In what river was Jesus baptized by John? Answer: The Jordan (Matthew 3:13)
3. How many days does Jesus spend in the wilderness being tested by the devil? Answer: 40 (Matthew 4:2)
4. When Jesus moves away from Nazareth in what city/town does he start to live? Answer: Capernaum (Matthew 4:13)

February Bible Trivia Questions

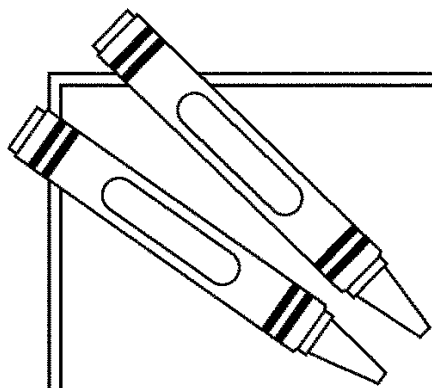
Hint: All of the answers can be found in the gospel readings we'll use in worship during February.

1. What did the disciples pluck on the Sabbath which caused them to be criticized by the Pharisees?
2. In the Parable of the Sower what happens to the seed that falls on the path?
3. In the Parable of the Pearl what does the merchant do when he finds the pearl of great value?
4. How many loaves of bread does Jesus use to feed the 5000?



February 2023

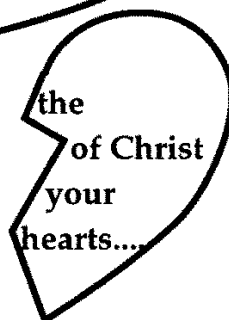
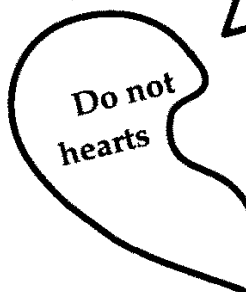
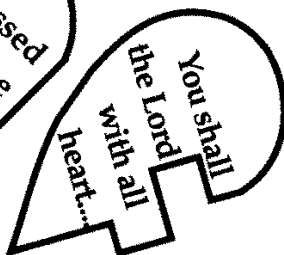
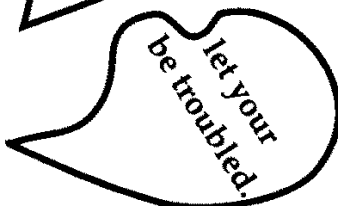
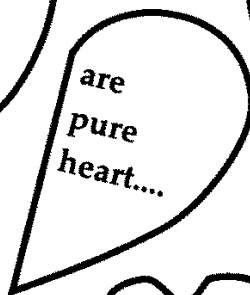
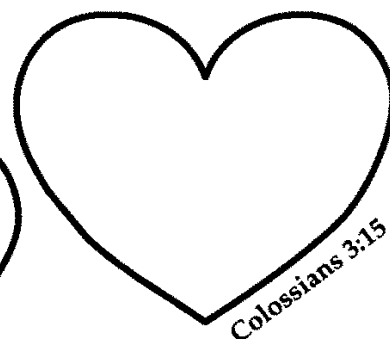
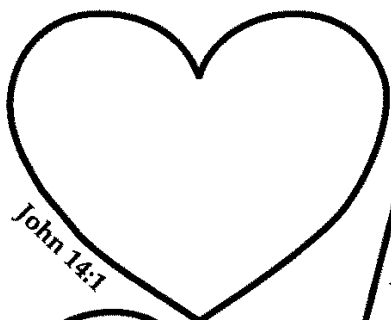
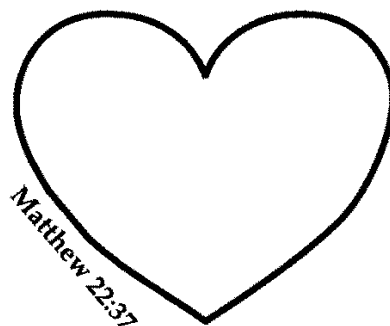
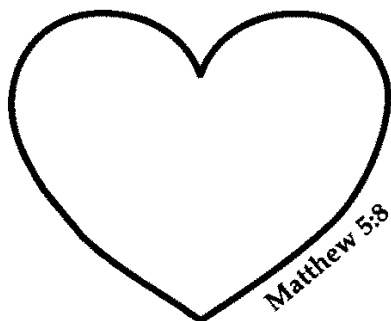
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons	2 <u>Presentation of Our Lord</u> 10:00 Bible Study (at Lyons) 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Cub Scout Pack 67	3 3-8 Cello Lessons	4
5 <u>5th Sunday after Epiphany</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	6 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	7 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus	8 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons	9 10:00 Bible Study (at Lyons) 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Cub Scout Pack 67	10 3-8 Cello Lessons	11
12 <u>6th Sunday after Epiphany</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Sunday School Service	13 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	14 9:30-12:00 Conference Ministerium 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus	15 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons	16 10:00 Bible Study (at Lyons) 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Cub Scout Pack 67	17 3-8 Cello Lessons	18
19 <u>Transfiguration of Our Lord</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 10:30 Holy Communion	20 <u>President's Day</u> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Church Council	21 3-7 Violin Lessons 6:00 Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper 7:00 Community Chorus	22 <u>Ash Wednesday</u> 8:30 Men's Breakfast 12:00 Worship (at Lyons) 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Holy Communion	23 10:00 Bible Study (at Lyons) 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Cub Scout Pack 67	24 3-8 Cello Lessons	25
26 <u>1st Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 10:30 Service of the Word	27 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	28 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Property Committee 7:00 Community Chorus				



Just for KIDS

Our heart is a most important part of us!
In the Bible, "heart" sometimes means the part of us that is
filled with special feelings.

Cut out the heart pieces below and fit them in the correct heart.
You will find verses from the Bible that are about the "heart."





St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Grace for Everyone
-Always-

*We are a community of faith
committed to living and sharing the love of God.*

St. John's Lutheran Church

888 County Rd. 9

Victor, NY 14564

The Reverend Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

(585) 924-5192

www.stjohnsvictor.com

Address Service Requested

February Newsletter

February 21 – Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 22 – Ash Wednesday Worship