

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – May 2021

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

It seems like a lot of the world is descending into chaos. We face serious ongoing racial tensions in our nation. We continue to deal with the coronavirus pandemic. Politics seem to always be in a state of turmoil. There are major international tensions with Iran, China, Russia, and others.

I could make a list of chaos and uncertain things that goes on and on. Sometimes I wonder if things are indeed worse than before. Or perhaps things are always that way and I just don't realize. Whatever is the truth it can feel overwhelming when so much seems uncertain.

I have been reading C.S. Lewis' book *Mere Christianity*. He has a section about God and time that I think can help us in all of this. He describes how we understand time as if it were a line. We see ourselves traveling on that line from event A to event B to event C. We live in the present. Let's call that point B. We can see clearly in the past. Let's call that point A. We can somewhat safely predict a little bit into the future, but if time C is too far we can't really predict it with any certainty. We tend to see the universe, and God along with it, moving from past to future just as we do.

However a line is only a one dimensional object. Lewis says, "If you picture Time as a line along which we have to travel, then you must picture God as the whole page on which the line is drawn." (Pg. 147, Macmillan 1960 edition) God, then from above, or outside, or all around, can see the whole line all at once. This can be hard for us to wrap our heads around, but it does get us to the idea that God is bigger than time. (Time is one of God's creations after all!) From this perspective we can see how God safely holds all of time all at once.

What does that mean when things in the world are descending into chaos? It means that God knows and holds the future securely. God is able to see (and be in) the past, present, and future simultaneously. We are truly safe and secure in God's care. Nothing that happens in the world can change that.

I invite you to live with confidence and boldness in the face of the world's many challenges. Act from faith and you are sure to be a constructive part of what God is

seeking to accomplish. To be sure you will do some things well. And with equal certainty you will make some blunders. But all of them will be done within God's sight. Ultimately rejoice that God has chosen you and equipped you for living in this moment in time, and that God will provide you with what this moment requires.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Worship



Upcoming Bible Readings for Worship

Our worship series on key themes from John's gospel continues and concludes in May. At the end of the month we'll begin a summer series on the Old Testament prophets.

May 2 – John 13: 31 – 14: 14 Church

May 9 – John 14:15-31 Spirit

May 16 – John 17 End Times

May 23 – Acts 2:1-21 (Pentecost)

May 30 – Hosea 1

Sunday Worship

8:30 In-person worship in the fellowship hall

10:30 In-person worship in the sanctuary, 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. 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 834 9025 1842

Password: 778805

Service



Food Cupboard News

Happy Spring! This month's news from the Food Cupboard includes:

March Numbers Served:

Adults 1176

Children 795

Seniors 252

Households 933

We will continue the drive through until mid-August and then switch Ontario County families to appointments.

We are working on getting healthy food on our shelves at this Saturday's food drive. Please publicize the attached flyer if possible.

We've had a couple churches respond to help clean the Food Cupboard twice a year. Thank you so much! A few more groups would be great! Give me a call at 924-5642 or text at 905-4207 if interested.

Thanks for encouraging your congregations to support our mission!

Blessings,

Lori Kay



Mary Zuege is hosting an online "party" for Pampered Chef to benefit Family Promise of Ontario County. Without cleaning the house or preparing yummy snacks it does not seem like much of a party, but 30% of all sales will be donated to Family Promise of Ontario County. The party will run from April 21 to May 10 and is totally online! To participate go to the Pampered Chef site ... find a party... type in her name, *Mary Zuege*. You will see the party with the FPOC designation. Hopefully, you will find something that will tickle your fancy or will be a lovely gift for a new bride, graduate, or new homeowner. Thank you for your consideration and on-going support for Family Promise of Ontario County.

April Blood Drive Results

The Red Cross collected **41** units of blood at the drive that we hosted on April 6. This is a record for us, and we have been designated a "Premier Partner". This makes 481 units that have been collected at St. John's over the years. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your support.

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.)



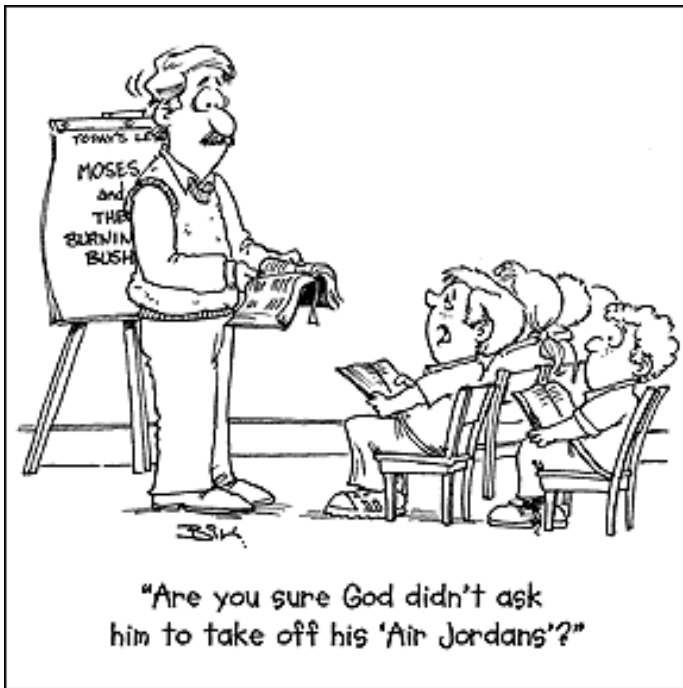
- Thank you to Boy Scout Troop 32 for building a garden cart for us to use to help with property maintenance.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with property clean up this spring.
- Thank you to Mary Zuege for her work arranging the April blood drive.
- Thank you to everyone who provided special music in worship during April.



- The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.
- Rev. Karen Anderson for her missionary work in Chile.
- Gary Myers who is being treated for multiple myeloma.
- Linda Ellis whose cancer issues continue.
- Knute Halvorson, who is living in Atria Nursing Home in Penfield.
- Eleanor Spawton, Jim Spawton's mother, who has a weakening heart valve.
- Karen Anderson, friend of Scott Flood, who has COVID which has caused serious heart failure issues.

Coffee Hour Resumes

Sunday May 2nd will see the resumption of coffee hour after the 10:30 worship service. All items will be prepackaged and drinks will be bottled. Julie Stewart will be arranging the first week. From there we'll seek volunteers. Volunteers won't be asked to provide food or drink. They will continue to be provided by the church. Volunteers will simply set up the items and put them away. When the pandemic reaches its end we will return to something more like the past for coffee hour. Please be in touch with Julie Stewart or Pastor Jon if you have any questions.



April Bible Trivia Answers

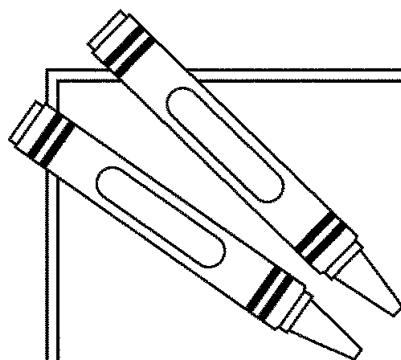
1. Which of Jesus' disciples betrayed him? Answer: Judas (Mark 14:43)
2. Where was Jesus when he was arrested? Answer: Gethsemane (Mark 14:32)
3. Who meets the women at the tomb when they come to on Easter? Answer: A young man (Mark 16:5)
4. Who said, "Truly this man was God's Son"? Answer: The Roman centurion overseeing the crucifixion (Mark 15:39)

May Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All the answers may be found in the Bible readings chosen for Sunday worship.

1. What is the "new commandment" Jesus gives?
2. Who said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?"
3. Where were the disciples on Pentecost when the Spirit came upon them in a dramatic way?
4. What is the strange name the prophet Hosea gives his first daughter?





Just for KIDS

"For everything there is a season..."

—Ecclesiastes 3:1

There are many signs that tell us spring is coming! Use your Bible to find words that are "signs of spring." Fit them in the boxes below. Pick one word from each Scripture verse.



Matthew 5:45	S						
Genesis 1:20	I						
Psalms 23:2	G						
Psalms 104:17	N						
	S						
Song of Solomon 6:11	O						
Psalms 103:15	F						
	S						
Psalms 104:14	P						
Isaiah 55:10	R						
Ecclesiastes 7:1	I						
Revelation 21:5	N						
	G						

MAY 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 <u>5th Sunday of Easter</u> Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, 373 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 11:30 Worship and Music Committee	3 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	4 Monica, Mother of Augustine, 387 3-7 Violin Lessons 6-8 Pipe Band	5 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00 Women's Bible Study	6 10:00-2:00 Monarch Homeschool	7 3-8 Cello Lessons	8 Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, c. 1416
9 <u>6th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	10 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	11 3-7 Violin Lessons 6-8 Pipe Band	12 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00 Women's Bible Study	13 <u>Ascension Day</u> 10:00-2:00 Monarch Homeschool	14 <u>Matthias, Apostle</u> 3-8 Cello Lessons	15
16 <u>7th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	17 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council	18 Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, 1160 3-7 Violin Lessons 6-8 Pipe Band	19 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00 Women's Bible Study	20 10:00-2:00 Monarch Homeschool	21 Helena, mother of Constantine, c. 330 3-8 Cello Lessons	22 Spring Saturday – Conference Youth Event
23 <u>Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Confirmation and Holy Communion	24 Nicolas Copernicus, 1543, Leonhard Euler, 1783, scientists 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	25 3-7 Violin Lessons 6-8 Pipe Band 7:00 Property Committee	26 8:30 Men's Breakfast 1:00 Women's Bible Study	27 John Calvin, renewer of the church, 1654 10:00-2:00 Monarch Homeschool	28 3-8 Cello Lessons	29
30 <u>The Holy Trinity</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	31 <u>Memorial Day</u> <u>Visit of Mary to Elizabeth</u>					



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

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Address Service Requested

May Newsletter