

# On Eagle's Wings

## St. John's Monthly Newsletter – November 2023

### Pastor's Paragraphs

Do you remember science classes in middle school (or junior high)? The experiments were simple and straightforward. The world appeared to work like clockwork. I remember the device called Newton's Cradle, like the one pictured here:

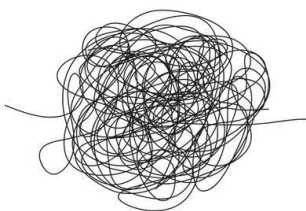


Swing one ball and it would cause the end one to bounce out. When it returned it would cause the one you swung to bounce out. Swing two balls and the end two would swing out, etc. Again, this like this made it feel like the world we lived in worked like clockwork.

But if you stayed in the field of science into college and beyond you know the world does not work in such a simple fashion. It doesn't even work as a complex series of individual events. It is an integrated complexity with indeterminacies, randomness, and impossibilities.

If you want simple answers to things you need to stay in middle school science. If you are going to grow into adulthood you have to accept the messiness of life.

As I am writing now (the morning of October 25) there is a plethora of things going on in the world without clear answers. There's a newly formed hurricane threatening Mexico. The Israeli/Palestinian situation is so complex I don't know who is right and who is wrong. There are waves of migrants trying to enter the United States, and there are scores of other things. Perhaps the only thing I do feel I can take sides on is the war in Ukraine. But even that has its messiness. I think the world looks more like this chaos vector:



I just attended an educational event organized by the synod for pastors. The keynote speaker was Deacon Ross Murray from The Naming Project. Among the things he taught is the way all the major news outlets develop their stories so as to create clear either/or divisions. People want things to be simple. And they want there to be clear good guys and bad guys. The problem is that the world does not work that way!

In the life of Jesus we see God's willingness to enter into the complex messiness of this world. Jesus did not teach much in the way of absolutes. The only absolute he taught was to love God and to love your neighbor as yourself. Such love is quite messy!

I encourage you to not see the current issues of the day in simplistic terms. Invest the energy needed to realize their complexity. And then in the midst of that complexity do not just shrug your shoulders and walk away. That is not an appropriate response. All of us having power and abilities. We should apply them as best we can in whatever way we can, despite our imperfections. We apply those things with humility; knowing not to boast if we turn out to be right, and being willing to admit mistakes when we are wrong. No problem in this world is too big or too complex that we cannot solve it.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jon

### Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday school has changed course will begin using the Netflix series *The Good Place* in November. The show will be shown in the first Sunday school classroom on the left-hand side. It is not a formal class time, even though the series will inspire discussion. Feel free to just step in at any time.

### Eclipse Party

The long anticipated total solar eclipse takes place on the afternoon of April 8, 2024. We're planning a mystery lunch prior to the eclipse. You can then view the eclipse from the church property. You are welcome to invite friends and family. More information will follow.

## November Worship Assistants

	November 6	November 12	November 19	November 26
Greeters & Ushers	Bruce and Connie Stevenson	Mary and Greg Zuege	John and Linda Thompson	Sue Kaufmann
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle	Alyssa Young	Thomas Bullwinkle	Alyssa Young
Altar Care (10:30)	Helen Crown		Helen Crown	
Communion Assistants	Rob Stroup		Adele Garvey	
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson	Linda Flood and Sue Kaufmann	John and Linda Thompson	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Coffee Hour			Thanksgiving Dinner	



### John's Gospel Worship Series Concludes

In November we'll look at these scenes as we continue in John's gospel:

November 5 – John 16:4b-33

November 12 – John 17:1-26

November 19 – John 18:1-27

November 26 – John 18:28-19:16a



### 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.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88302960070?pwd=ODJPKQ0UOL2IVdVVLC1FJZnZSZ2k3QT09>

Meeting ID: 883 0296 0070

Passcode: 612837

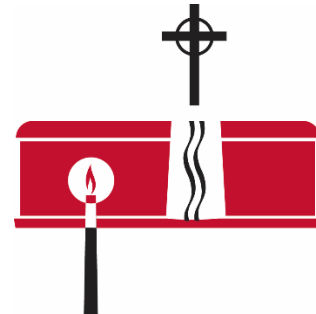
• +1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

### Pie Sunday



Reformation Sunday is October 29 this year. So, as is our tradition we will have pie for coffee hour! There will be pie after both worship services. In order to not go overboard with pies please sign up in the Gathering Area if you will provide a pie. That way we won't have far too many!

### All Saints Remembrance



All Saints Sunday is November 5<sup>th</sup>. As a part of worship services that day the names of all congregational members and friends of the congregation who have died during the past year will be read. If you have a friend or family member you'd like to have included in the prayers please give the name to Pastor Jon.



## 2024 Stewardship Drive

Our 2024 stewardship drive will run from Pie Sunday (Sunday, October 29) to the Parish Thanksgiving Dinner (Sunday, November 19). Your materials will include time and talent sheets for 2024, a proposed budget for 2024, and a pledge card. If you can't make it to the kickoff with Pie Sunday we'll mail your materials to you.



## Parish Thanksgiving Dinner

The annual Parish Thanksgiving Dinner will be held On Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 worship service. Please look for sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the gathering area to see what food items you can bring. Many of the dishes on the table this year will be from food grown in our own garden. Also be sure to bring a empty stomach ready to be filled!



## Prayer Requests

- 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.

-Kelly Carlson, friend of the CiPollinas, whose liver function is failing.

## Community Outreach Committee

### Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Thank you to everyone who gave to the Victor Farmington Food Cupboard Thanksgiving food baskets. Our help is always greatly appreciated!

### Christmas Mitten Tree

The mitten tree will be in the gathering area until Dec.17<sup>th</sup>. The tree is to collect new hats, scarves and gloves/mittens, which will be given to needy people in the area.

### Victor Holiday Giving Tree

The idea of giving gift cards instead of gifts has been well received by parents in previous years. So we are again asked to provide gift cards in the amount of \$25.00. The card can be to a store of your choice (Target, Walmart, Amazon, Kohls, etc.)

The sign-up sheet is currently posted in the gathering area. You are asked to sign your name, remove the slip attached to the line and leave your phone number. If you wish to give more than one \$25 gift card you can sign your name on another line. Please tape the slip(s) to the purchased card(s) before they are returned to church. If you don't want to get the gift card yourself you can give \$25 to Burdie Gillern or push cash in and envelope in the offering and label is for Holiday Giving Tree.

The cards need to be at the church by Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. (That is a week earlier than previously announced.) There will be a box on the usher's stand to put the cards in or you can give them to Burdie.

The Outreach Committee members thank you for your generous support as we try to do what works best for helping to provide our area families in need with a joyful Christmas.

## October Council Highlights

Church council held its regular monthly meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Major items on the agenda were:

- Made plans for the 2024 stewardship drive.
- Approved Pastor John's health insurance coverage for 2024.
- Made plans for various fellowship events in the coming months.

Thank  
you

-Thank you to Jim Spawton for organizing the chicken barbeque. And thank you to Jim Spawton and Gary Wood for cooking.

-Thank you to everyone who helped mow the church lawn in October.

-Thank you to Bruce Stevenson and John Cipollina for helping track down and repair the water leak.



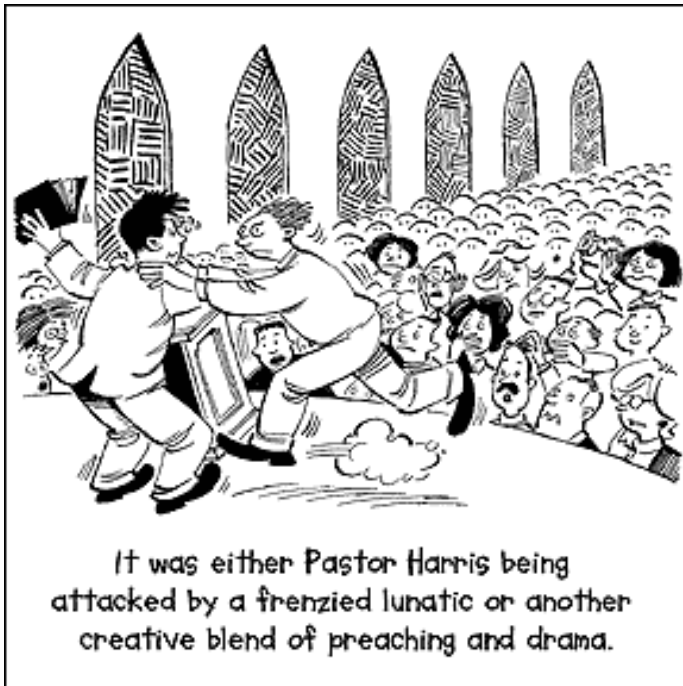
### October Bible Trivia Answers

1. Which disciple objected to having his feet washed by Jesus? Answer: Peter (John 13:8)
2. Which disciple betrayed Jesus for money? Answer: Judas (John 13:26-17)
3. Which disciple said to Jesus, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Answer: Thomas (John 14:5)
4. Which disciple said to Jesus, "Lord, show us the Father and we will be satisfied?" Answer: Philp (John 14:8)

### November Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All the answers may be found in the Bible readings we are using in worship during November.

1. What Roman governor orders Jesus' execution?
2. Where does Jesus go to pray after the Last Supper?
3. Who cuts off the right ear of the high priest's slave?
4. Who do the crowds shout to have released for them instead of Jesus?





# November 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <u>All Saints Day</u> 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>2</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool  10:00 Bible Study in Lyons	<b>3</b>   3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <u>All Saints Sunday</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 11:45 Worship and Music Committee	<b>6</b>  3-7 Violin Lessons  7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>7</b>  1:00 Women's Bible Study  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>8</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>9</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool  10:00 Bible Study in Lyons	<b>10</b>   3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <u>24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Service of the Word	<b>13</b>  3-7 Violin Lessons  6:00 Church Council 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>14</b>  1:00 Women's Bible Study  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus 7:00 Property Committee	<b>15</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>16</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool  10:00 Bible Study in Lyons	<b>17</b>   3-8 Cello Lessons	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <u>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 12:30 Parish Thanksgiving Dinner	<b>20</b>   3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>21</b>  1:00 Women's Bible Study  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus 7:00 Property Committee	<b>22</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>23</b> <u>Thanksgiving</u>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <u>Christ the King Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Service of the Word	<b>27</b>  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	<b>28</b>  1:00 Women's Bible Study  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>29</b> 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>30</b> 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool  10:00 Bible Study in Lyons		



# **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](http://www.stjohnsvictor.com)

*Address Service Requested*

### **November Newsletter**

November 19 Parish Thanksgiving Dinner