

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – October 2022

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

In the *Small Catechism*, Martin Luther wrote this about the part of the Lord's Prayer where we say, "Give us this day our daily bread":

"In fact, God gives daily bread without our prayer, even to all evil people, but we ask in this prayer that God cause us to recognize what our daily bread is and to receive it with thanksgiving."

He then goes on to say what daily bread is:

"Everything included in the necessities and nourishment for our bodies, such as food, drink, clothing, shoes, house, farm, fields, livestock, money, property, an upright spouse, upright children, upright members of the household, upright and faithful rulers, good government, good weather, peace, health, decency, honor, good friends, faithful neighbors, and the like."

That's a pretty inclusive list! If we think about it much we may also realize that it is more than just a little offensive. Many of the things on the list are things we are likely to think we earn and therefore deserve. Do we not have (or had) jobs where we made money to buy things like food, drink, clothes, shoes, etc? Yet Luther, in his endless quest to point all good things towards God, would say that God gave you ability to earn things. Therefore they are God's gift too.

Now that logic can easily lead us into a ditch. For example, what of the highly motivated person who works hard vs. the lazy person who exploits the work of others? Luther has responses to that. But the point remains, we are to see all that we have as a gift from God.

What then is our attitude towards it?

At the end of October we will begin our annual stewardship drive. (There's an article about it later in the newsletter.) I could make an easy argument that since everything is a gift from God then we should give generously to the church. And give of not only our money but also our time and abilities. That makes for a very tidy message; and a short one.

But I don't think Luther would be satisfied with that. Neither am I. And neither should you!

Thanksgiving to God for all the things in our lives means not only thanking God but also recognizing our

own incalculable value. God has given us gifts and abilities in abundance. I don't care if the world calls you talented and amazing, or boring and incompetent, you have abilities in abundance! As you receive and consider the stewardship materials you will be receiving I encourage you to consider not only how you intend to participate in St. John's in 2023, but also consider your job, your leisure activities, your participation in other civic organizations, and also... where you see your life going.

All of what you have and who you are is an amazing gift from God. What path to wholeness of life is God calling you to be on? If you feel lost, then it's time to start trying things! Explore yourself and the world around you. God has probably given you the ability to do any number of things in any number of places. And that path may change any number of times throughout life.

St. John's is only as strong as we give to it. But before we can give to it, we have to be strong in ourselves. That is not a personal ordeal or quest. It is a recognition of God's work in us; and then accepting the strength of who God created us to be.

Said differently, the stewardship drive is a time to do a whole life assessment. It is not about a strategy to get the most out of you for our ministries. It is a gift from St. John's to each of us for our own growth. Let us make use of it.

We are thankful for who God made us to be, for what God has done in and through us in 2022, and for what God will do in 2023!

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday school is off to a slow start, but it is starting! We'll use the 1517 Academy video course on the Lutheran understanding of vocation. Vocation is more than a career. It is about understanding who God created you to be and how you apply it in the world in which we live.

Worship

October Worship Assistants

	October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23	October 30
Greeters & Ushers	John and Linda Thompson	Sue Kaufmann	Helen Crown	Linda Flood	Tom and Carol Urbanic
Lector (8:30)					
Acolyte	Creed White	Thomas Bullwinkle	Owen Young	Creed White	Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care (10:30)	Mary Zuege		No communion		Mary Zuege
Communion Assistants	Mary Zuege		No communion		Greg Zuege
Counters	Bruce and Connie Stevenson	Bill and Katy Stimmel		Helen Crown	John and Linda Thompson
Coffee Hour					Pie Sunday



Upcoming Bible Readings for Worship

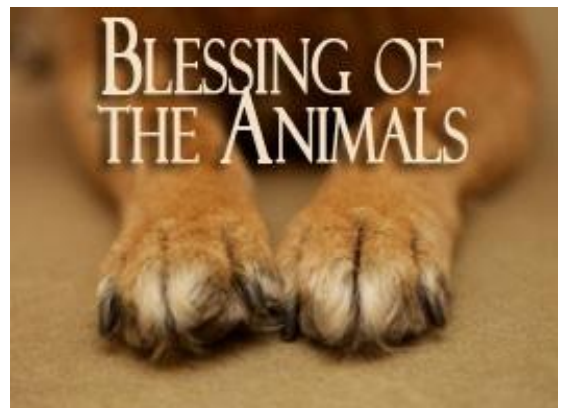
In October and November we will venture into the books called the Pastoral Epistles. They are 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, and Titus. In these books someone presenting himself as Paul writes advice to two of Paul's closest associates. These are highly controversial books of the Bible. They have been widely misused to justify all sorts of abuses towards women and to justify slavery. Even so, they are scripture and we are wise to deal with them.

10/2 1 Timothy 1
 10/9 1 Timothy 2-3:13
 10/16 1 Timothy 3:14-4:16
 10/23 1 Timothy 5-6:2
 10/30 (Reformation) 1 Timothy 6:3-21

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: 834 9025 1842
 Password: 778805



October 2 – 2:00

Our annual blessing of the animals service is inspired by the ministry of the 13th century saint, Francis of Assisi, who is recorded to have died on this day. Bring your pets, large or small. We'll meet in the Outdoor Chapel if weather permits.

Service

2023 Stewardship Drive

Our 2023 stewardship drive will run from Pie Sunday (Sunday, October 30) to the Parish Thanksgiving Dinner (Sunday, November 20). Your materials will include time and talent sheets for 2023, a proposed budget for 2023, and a pledge card. If you can't make it to the kickoff with Pie Sunday we'll mail your materials to you. If you have any questions get in touch with Bill Stimmel at wstimmel@rochester.rr.com

Service (Cont.)



- Thank you to everyone who helped to mow the lawn in September.
- Thank you to everyone who helped harvest potatoes for this year's God's Work Our Hands project.
- Thank you to everyone who provided food for the parish picnic.
- Thank you to Gary Wood and Joe Pow for organizing the parish picnic.
- Thank you to everyone who helped to pick apples from the church's trees on September 18.
- Thank you to Mike and Cassie Ross for letting us use their field for this year's garden project.
- Thank you to everyone who adopted a flower bed/garden at the church this year.

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.)

On Sunday, October 9th a sign-up sheet will be 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, October 31st. 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.

Family Promise

Our next support week for Family Promise is the week of November 13. Your generous cash and gift card donations to our St. John's Family Promise fund

are greatly appreciated. They will allow us to continue to support our families. Please place your donation in a clearly marked envelope (FPOC) in the offering plate, or in Pastor's mailbox, or Zuege's mailbox. For those of you who love shopping on Amazon, remember that Family Promise of Ontario County is one of the eligible "smile" charities. Those donations go directly to Family Promise of Ontario County.

FPOC is looking for and discussing alternate community fund-raising events. If you have a brainstorm, let me know. I'll pass it on. Or just send it directly to the Family Promise office.

There will be an informational meeting at the Victor Presbyterian Church at 6:30 on October 11 to discuss better ways to serve our families through volunteer opportunities and exciting new program plans.

Thank you,
Mary Zuege



Garden and Orchard Harvest

Our God's Work Our Hands Sunday potato harvest was rained out. But we were able to dig them out the next Thursday. The yield was poor this year but we still were able to send 938lbs. to the food cupboard. Thanks to everyone who helped!

The apple trees on the church property had their best year yet. The trees are still young but we picked seven 5-gallon buckets of apples for the food cupboard.

At this year's Parish Thanksgiving Dinner look for these things on the menu from the church garden: Pumpkin pie, apple pie, corn, mashed potatoes and applesauce.



-The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.

-Rev. Karen Anderson for her missionary work in Chile.

-David Storch as he shows increasing signs of dementia and moved into a memory care facility.

-Rev. Jennifer Phelps, former member of St. John's, as she recovers from neck and back injuries.

Nuts and Bolts

September Council Highlights

Church council held its regular monthly meeting on September 12th. Major items on the agenda were:

- Website and social media presence revamping
- Stewardship 2023
- Playground updates
- Approving Mark and Rachel Trova for membership.

Special Congregational Meeting Results

On August 28th we had a special congregational meeting after the 10:30 service to approve funding for two projects.

The congregation approved the project to repair and upgrade the insulation in the ceiling above the sanctuary. This project is expected to cost \$8723. This will be paid for with cash currently in our operating fund.

The congregation also approved funding for replacing the playground. At the time of the meeting we were unsure of the delivery and set up cost. Since then the builder has given us a special price of \$399. This is thousands less than the usual price. The playground will not be ordered immediately. It has to go through the permitting process from the town. Families in the congregation are invited to sponsor the various activities that will be possible on the playground. See the article elsewhere in the newsletter for details about them.

The current playground is located behind the building. This is not easily visible for adults to supervise children. We are in conversation with the town to install the new playground a little in front of the Fellowship Hall. We will relocate the existing safety mulch and borders.

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.)

Fun



Sponsor Accessories for the New Playground

The playground project we approved is for the base unit. Families and individuals are invited to fund the many accessories possible for the new playground. They are as follows:

Sm Rock Wall	\$249
Sm Crooked Log Climber	199
4' Wave Slide	499
Angled Climber	100
6' Torpedo Straight Slide	599
Tic Tac Toe Panel	299
Lg Rock Wall	399
Log Rope Climber	299
Steering Wheel	100
Swing Set	1499

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

Church Playground Can & Bottle Collection Continues

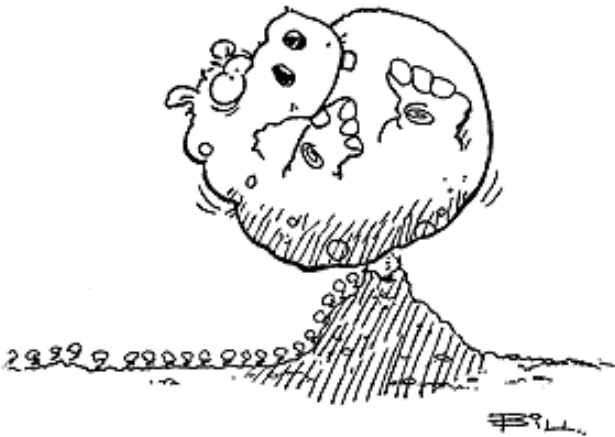
We continue collecting deposit cans and bottles for replacing the playground. The cans and bottles fund is up to \$2381!!

Fun (Cont.)

Pie Sunday



Reformation Sunday is October 30 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!



"Mahoney!! Don't you remember what God told Moses?! Just gather enough for today!!"



"Did I just hear you mumble, 'With the way you cook, I wish this was my 'Last Supper.'?'!"



September Bible Trivia Questions

1. Why did Zacchaeus climb a tree to see Jesus?
Answer: He was short (Luke 19:3)
2. What was Zacchaeus' job? Answer: Chief tax collector (Luke 19:2)
3. What did Jesus disciples do when people brought children for Jesus to bless? Answer: Ordered them not to (Luke 18:5)
4. Jesus said it was easier for what animal to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God? Answer: A camel (Luke 18:25)

October Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All the answers may be found in the gospel readings chosen for worship in October.

1. 1 Timothy was written by (or claims to be written by) who?
2. According to 1 Timothy what are rich people to do?
3. According to 1 Timothy how old does a widow have to be to be put on the list of widows?
4. According to 1 Timothy physical training is of some value, but what is of value in every way?



"Pastor, can you give me God's e-mail address?"

A Ministry Opportunity Led by Victor Presbyterian Church

Blessings 'n Blankets

We're making 10" x 10" squares to join together to make blankets. The blankets will be donated to one or more community organizations (TBD) that may have a need.

Use worsted weight (#4) washable yarn and weave in all ends. The finished square should be 10 inches by 10 inches and dropped off/sent to First Presbyterian Church in Victor, 70 E Main St, Victor, NY 14564.

In a few months we will begin joining squares together into blankets. Email, text or call Brenda Dean if you wish to be added to the list for our joining parties. , brenda.14450@gmail.com
585-259-5687

Join "Blessings 'n Blankets" on Facebook where you can upload pictures of the squares you've created or share additional patterns.

If you're not on Facebook, I've included links below to patterns I've found - or use any pattern you like!

Knit patterns

<https://www.wrapwithlove.org/knitting-patterns/>

<https://disleywi.wordpress.com/2017/02/26/how-to-knit-a-10-inch25-cm-square/>

<https://www.lovecrafts.com/en-gb/p/swedish-blocks-10-inch-square-knitting-pattern-by-diana-troldahl>

<https://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2007/05/18/1926872.htm>

<https://www.fiftyfourtenstudio.com/traveling-afghan-2020>



Crochet patterns

<https://marlybird.com/free-square-projects-to-crochet-and-knit/>

<https://www.smilingcolors.com/2019/07/basic-granny-square-pattern/>

<https://www.thestitchinmommy.com/2016/02/pick-a-square-make-a-blanket-20-free-crochet-afghan-square-patterns.html>

<https://pattern-paradise.com/2019/08/31/free-crochet-pattern-block-stitch-square/>

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 <u>17th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 11:30 Worship & Music Committee 2:00 Blessing of Animals	3 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	4 3-7 Violin Lessons	5 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons	6 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study	7 3-8 Cello Lessons	8
9 <u>18th Sunday After Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Service of the Word	10	11 3-7 Violin Lessons	12 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons	13 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study	14 3-8 Cello Lessons	15 9:00 Conference Fall Assembly (at Incarnate Word)
16 <u>19th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Service of the Word	17 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council	18 <u>St. Luke, Evangelist</u> 3-7 Violin Lessons	19 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons	20 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study	21 3-8 Cello Lessons	22
23 <u>20th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Service of the Word 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Service of the Word	24 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	25 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Property Committee	26 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3-7 Violin Lessons	27 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:15 Women's Bible Study	28 <u>Simon and Jude, Apostles</u> 3-8 Cello Lessons	29
30 <u>Reformation Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	31 <u>Reformation Day, All Hallows Eve</u> 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts					



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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The Reverend Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

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Address Service Requested

October Newsletter

Oct. 2 – Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 30 – Pie Sunday