

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – April 2016

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

"Real strength never impairs beauty or harmony, but it often bestows it; and in everything imposingly beautiful, strength has much to do with the magic." -Herman Melville (*Moby Dick*, Chapter 86) Would that our political leaders would take such advice! All too often people want to use strength to impose their will upon others. They seek to build themselves up at the expense of others. This leads to destruction and ugliness. It sets into motion a pattern of revenge.

Others seek strength for protection. This may feel like an innocent use of strength at first, but it is not. Those who build fortresses around themselves are filling their lives with fear. They invest everything in protection and are unwilling to take risks. Ultimately this is selfishness and it hoards resources that could be used in better ways. People like this end up living in fearful despair.

Jesus witnesses to us the right way to use strength, for indeed his strength creates beauty. Did Jesus ever use his power to overwhelm someone or to punish them? No. Did Jesus use his power to protect himself against harm? No. Jesus' power was always used to provide for others and to restore them to health. Thus he used his strength to create beauty.

As the Easter season stretches all through April and well into May we remember the great power of the miracle of the resurrection. That truly was an expression of strength that created beauty. It is an inspiration for all our lives as well. May we use strength as God does, to create beauty, to empower others, and to make them more complete. Using strength in this way is hard and takes some work, but it is worth it. In so doing we also discover our true and beautiful selves.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Nuts and Bolts

March Council Highlights

- Bruce Allen presented information regarding Insurance and Worker's Compensation Policies available through Utica National. Information will be reviewed by Finance Committee for approval.
- Moving forward with purchase of lawn mower.
- Continues to look into options for a Bell Tower.
- Looking into options for snow plowing for 2016-17.

2016 Church Directory Corrections and Updates

Please make these additions and corrections to your 2016 Church Directory:

Addition:

Amy Plouffe
Sebastian
3595 Flatiron Road
Bloomfield NY 14469
585 794-8466

Corrects:

Phone number for Robert and Sherri Lasky should be 585 705-7066

The correct entry for the Swigarts should be:

Cindy Swigart
AARON
6917 Silverton Glenn
Victor NY 14564
swigarts@aol.com
585 737-2234

Also correct the council member list at the beginning of the directory. Cindy Swigart should be listed and not Scott. And the correct phone number should be 585 737 2234

Worship

April Worship Assistants

	April 3	April 10	April 17	April 24
Greeters & Ushers	Gay & John Card	Mike & Cassie Ross	Jack & Pat Hortop	Paul & Babette Huber
Lector	Ellen Storch (8:30) Wilma Townsend (10:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30) Kelly Wilmot (10:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30) Linn Griffio (10:30)	Susie Maynard (8:30) Deb Gregory (10:30)
Acolyte	Sebastian Plouffe	Jaden White	Julia Bullwinkle	Kelsey Sackett
Altar Care	Beth Perdan		Beth Perdan	
Communion Assistants	Ivan & Nancy Shuler		Bruce & Connie Stevenson	
Nursery Care	Katy Stimmel	Kristi Bullwinkle	Laura Stroup	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Don Mansfield & Tim Brown	Nancy & Ivan Shuler	Linda Flood & Sue Kaufmann
Coffee Hour				

First Communicants

Five of our young people completed the First Communion study and 4 of them communed for the first time on March 13th. The girls were Hanna Stroup, Viala Wagner, Mary Ehrlinger and Molly Perdan. Katja Kurilovitch has been communing for a year or so but also completed the program.

Service

Meals at RIT

St. John's will be the cooks at RIT on May 1 for the LECM (Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry) Sunday Night Dinner and Worship. Keep watch in the bulletin for ways you can help or check with Pastor Jon or Linda Flood.

Missionary Update

We have a recent update from the Trozzos, the missionaries we are supporting in Malaysia. For those of you who receive this by email please look at the other attachment that came with this. If you receive a paper copy, their newsletter is attached at the end.

Community Outreach Committee



World Hunger Barns

Thank you to everyone who took a barn bank to buy goats for the ELCA Good Gifts program. We have received \$425 so far and more is coming in. That's 8 and a half goat's worth! If you haven't returned your barn please do so soon. We'll have final numbers for the May newsletter.

Sewing Day

"Sewing Day" will be at church on Wednesday, April 13 starting at 9:15 am. We plan to make faceless dolls for Strong's Children's Unit and everyone is welcome to attend. There are plenty of tasks to complete whether you are an experienced seamstress or a non-sewer.

Victim Resource Center Thank You

We received a thank you letter from the Victim Resource Center in Newark thanking us for the hats, bedding and blankets we gave last Christmas. Because of your generosity they are able to continue to help victims of domestic violence and unsafe homes.

Service (Cont.)

Church Orchard Planted

It was a damp and dreary afternoon – but perfect conditions for planting apple trees! On Tuesday March 22nd we planted a dozen apple trees on the church property. The fruit they eventually produce will be donated to the food cupboard. They should begin to bear fruit in three to four years, and then increase in production for the next several years. Thank you to everyone who helped plant! See the Thank You article later on in this newsletter.

Stewardship and Finance Committee Update

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Year to Date as of			
February 29	34,836.47	34,550.10	286.37

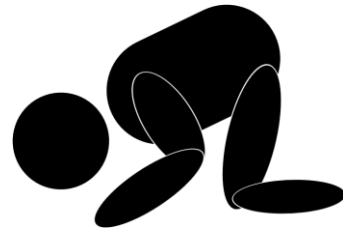
Bills not paid: Synod Payment of \$667 and Transfer from Checking to Savings to balance Allocated Funds for February in the amount of \$2,007.02.

Transfer was completed March 4 but no Synod Payment as of March 4.

Thank You

- Thank you everyone who helped cook the Sunday morning breakfasts during Lent.
- Thank you to Julie Stewart for organizing the fondue dinner fundraiser for the food cupboard and thank you to Jim and Karen Spawton for creating the food. Thank you also to everyone who attended.
- Thank you to Joy Lethbridge for delivering the Easter flowers to church and thank you to everyone who ordered a flower.
- Thank you to Pete and Deb Gregory, Mark Wyman, Kevin Christman, Dave Bullwinkle and Pastor John's family for planting the apple trees.
- Thank you everyone who sponsored an apple tree for the new church orchard.
- Thank you to everyone who provided soup, bread and desserts for the Lenten suppers.
- Thankyou to the Audit Committee for their work auditing the 2015 finances.

-Thank you to Nancy and Ivan Shuler for leading the First Communion class and providing coffee hour to celebrate the students.



Prayer Concerns

The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester. Also the Rev. Eric and the Rev. Wendolyn Trozzo as they work in Malaysia. Gordon and Gail Holbig as they both have health problems. Fred Trost as he lives with Parkinsons and was recently moved to a nursing home. Linda Ellis who has metastases on her spine and hip. Jim Lethbridge who is recovering from shoulder surgery. John Thompson who is recovering from back surgery. Jeanette Hare who is recovering from pneumonia very slowly and is now in a rehab facility. Amy Plouffe who was recently diagnosed with cancer in a couple areas of her body. She has had some surgery and begun treatments. So far she is responding well. The family and friends of Mary Lou Taylor, mother of Carole Fisher, as they mourn her death. Ariana Stewart, 6 month old acquaintance of the Spawtons, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer.



Blood Drive

The annual Red Cross blood drive will be happening on April 5. We need volunteers to help with sign-in and the canteen table. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area if you are able to help.

Election Day Bake Sale

On April 19 and November 8 our church building will be used as a voting site. If there is interest we may have a bake sale along with it. Possibly we could even bake bread throughout the day in the church kitchen to sell fresh hot loaves. Please talk to Pastor Jon if you're interested in helping.

Fun

April Birthdays

- 1 Nolan Fields
- 2 Bettina Kalish
- 4 Marilyn Mann
- 5 Luke Ashton Phillips
- 6 Michelle Wetter
- 7 Courtney Huber Maltman
- 8 Kelly Underwood Case
- 9 Dalton Krug, Joe Pow III
- 10 Russell Stark, Ellen Curtis, Viala Marie Wagner, Kevin Christman
- 11 Sandy Kase, Sean Kolczynski
- 12 Trudy Wyman
- 13 Molly Perdan
- 15 Helen Thiel
- 17 Laura Thompson, Chris Townsend, Mike Backus
- 18 Fred Kaufmann
- 20 Lori Ferguson
- 21 Lillian Sun Brown
- 22 Duane Edmunds, Jim Lethbridge
- 23 Cecil Mathews
- 24 Steve Huber, Dana Bell
- 25 Nancy Pape
- 26 Mark Friga
- 27 Sally Mansfield
- 28 Scott Bair, Sarah Kalish
- 29 Beth Schroeder
- 30 Pastor Jon



March Bible Trivia Answers – Crucifixion and Resurrection

1. Two whom did Jesus say, “Truly I tell you today, you will be with me in paradise”? Answer: One of the criminals crucified beside Jesus (Luke 23:43)
2. How many criminals were executed with Jesus? Answer: 2 (Luke 23:32)
3. What person at the foot of the cross said, “Truly this man was the Son of God”? Answer: The Roman Centurion (Mark 15:39)
4. According to Luke what sort of being (or beings) stood by the empty tomb in dazzling clothes when the women visited on Easter morning? Answer: 2 men (Luke 24:4)

April Bible Trivia Questions – Resurrection Appearances

1. How many people were on the road to Emmaus when the resurrected Jesus met them?
2. Who was the first person to encounter the resurrected Jesus?
3. How many days after the resurrection did Jesus appear to Thomas?
4. How many days was it between the resurrection and the ascension?



Youth Group Capture the Flag – Nerf Style

All high school and middle school youth are invited to play capture the flag – nerf style! We’ll play inside with one team in the youth room and one team in the fellowship hall. Bring your own nerf gun or there will be some extras. We’ll pick a Sunday afternoon in April for the event so look to your email for the date. Talk to Beth Schroeder or Pastor Jon for more information.

April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	2
3 <u>2nd Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	4 <u>The Annunciation of Our Lord</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 1:30-7:00 Blood Drive 4-8:30 Violin 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	7 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Worship & Music Committee 7:00 Girl Scouts	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	9 12:00 Mutual Ministry Committee
10 <u>3rd Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	11 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 9:15 Community Outreach Sewing 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	14 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study	15 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	16 1-9 Retrouvaille
17 <u>4th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	18 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 10:00 Holy Yoga 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	19 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9-9 Primary Voting 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4-8:30 Violin 5:30 WW 7:00 Community Chorus	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	21 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Girl Scouts	22 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	23
24 <u>5th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	25 <u>Mark, Evangelist</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 3:30-8:00 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4-8:30 Violin 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Property Committee 7:00 Community Chorus	27 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4-8 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	28 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12: Bible Study	29 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	30 Spring Clean Up