

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – February 2017



Pastor's Paragraphs

October 31, 2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Though legend suggests Martin Luther posted his famous 95 Thesis on the door of the church doors in Wittenburg on that date, this is most certainly not true. What did indeed happen is that he mailed the 95 Thesis to Albert of Brandenburg, the Archbishop of Mainz. Luther had made one very critical mistake. He thought Albert was unaware of the issues that were raised in the 95 Thesis. However, it appears that Albert was very much aware of what was going on! Albert's response to the 95 Thesis was deliberate and methodical; employing legal and religious experts. All was done in good order and according to proper protocol. Unbeknownst to the archbishop and to Luther big things were stirring that were far beyond their control.

Never underestimate or overestimate the consequences of your actions. You may do something that seems of monumental proportions but have it come to nothing. Or you may do something so ordinary that it doesn't stand out at all. Then in time it becomes a turning point in history. About 1500 years before Luther created the 95 Thesis an unknown Jew from Nazareth walked by the Sea of Galilee and invited four fishermen to follow him. It's hard to think of something more mundane than that! Yet no one doubts that that simple invitation of Jesus to Andrew, Peter, James, and John changed the world!

God's work is big and important every day. God has big tasks and small tasks to do, and he asks us to do them. We just don't normally realize what is going on! Some

things will make the news, but most will not. You might remember these verses from 1 Corinthians 1:26-31 because we recently read them at the 10:30 service: "Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. he is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord'."

The Church continues. The Reformation continues. God's work continues. Pick up every task with joy knowing that God is at work thought what you do. Blessings,
Pastor Jon



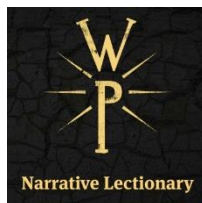
The Great Fondue Returns

Our third "Great Fondue" four-course fondue experience is planned for March 4th! It is an event to raise money for the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard. You'll start off with the cheese course, dipping bread and vegetables into a rich warm cheese sauce. Then cleanse your palate with a fresh salad. The main course will be a variety of meats and vegetables cut into bite-size portions that you'll cook to your preference in hot broth. Finish your meal with the s'mores bar. Our "chef," Jim Spawton, will be using his skills to delight your taste buds. There will be two sittings: 5pm and 7pm. Tickets will be available in the Gathering Area for the next few weeks. Cost is \$20 per adult and \$10 per child.

Worship

February Worship Assistants

	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
Greeters & Ushers	Paul & Babette Huber	Mike & Bettina Kalish	Don & Sally Mansfield	Lynne & Ethan Minkel
Lector	Ellen Storch (8:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)	Susie Maynard (8:30)
Acolyte	Sam Erhlinger	Ben Deibler	Scott Wilmot	Jaden White
Altar Care	Helen Crown		Helen Crown	
Communion Assistants	Ivan & Nancy Shuler		Bruce & Connie Stevenson	
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan	Kristi Bullwinkle	Katy Stimmel	Laura Stroup
Counters	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Ethan & Allyssa Minkel	Nancy & Ivan Shuler	Bruce Boncke & Art Fields
Coffee Hour	Karen Spawton	Lisa Kurilovitch	3 rd & 4 th Grades Sunday School Class	Rich & Kari Buch



Worship Bible Readings

Here are the gospel readings for February:

February 5: Matthew 13:1-53

February 12: Matthew 13:54-14:36

February 19: Matthew 15-16

February 26: Matthew 17:1-9

Pulpit Exchange

February 26th is a conference-wide pulpit exchange. Lutheran pastors will be trading churches for that day. Pastor Jon will be heading to the two-point parish of St. Paul's in Dansville and Zion, Cohocton. The Rev. Craig Swanson, pastor of Transfiguration Lutheran Church in Rochester is scheduled to lead worship with us.

Sunday School Leads Worship

On February 5th the Sunday school children will be leading the 10:30 worship service. In the article about you'll see that we're reading Matthew 13, which is a chapter of parables. Come and worship on that Sunday as the Sunday school children bring these parables to life as they act them out.



Ash Wednesday Worship

March 1 – 7:00pm

Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes

Service



A 500 Pound Reformation Challenge

You are certainly familiar with the personal care kits and school kits Lutheran World Relief distributes to needy people throughout the world. Lutheran World Relief also distributed bath soap. For the 500th anniversary of the Reformation we are hoping to collect 500 pounds of bath soap. New unwrapped soap bars of any brand are needed. Look for the collection box in the Gathering Area.



Souper Bowl Sunday

We'll again have a Soup Pot Offering on Super Bowl Sunday that will go to World Hunger.

Community Outreach Committee

The following is a retype of the thank yous received from the groups we supported with our Holiday Gift Program.

From Victor Central: Thank you so much for your assistance with our Holiday Giving Tree this year. Because of our efforts, we were able to assist eighty-five families in our community. We are always amazed and humbled by the generosity, kindness and caring shown to those in need.

What a rewarding experience to not only see gifts and packages arriving by the hundreds, but also to see the faces of all the families benefitting from the outpouring of giving. For many families, these were all the gifts they had this Christmas, and being able to have something under the tree for their little ones was overwhelming for them. Their faces lit up and many became emotional when bag after bag of beautifully wrapped gifts were special prepared for them.

It truly was a wonderful feeling to assist those who are going through struggles. From a handwritten note is this response: "This is very sweet of you guys! Thank you all so much for everything you all do! Happy Holidays!

Thank you again for your efforts and contribution to our Holiday Giving 2016. We hope you and yours have a wonderful holiday season. Respectfully yours, with sincere gratitude, Liz McLean and Jody Drew
From the Canandaigua Schools: To Carole and parishioners, Thank you for sponsoring families from the Canandaigua School District. Your generosity and kindness is appreciated by myself and the families I serve. Thanks again, Lynn Pierce Morey, CSD Social Workers.

From the Victim Resource Center: On behalf of the Victim Resource Center of the Finger Lakes, Inc., our board of directors, staff, and most importantly the survivors of sexual, domestic, stalking, family violence, and child abuse, we would like to thank you for the hats, gloves, mittens and scarves donated to the center.



- Thank you to everyone who helped with snow plowing and shoveling in January!
- Thank you to everyone who helped with taking down the Christmas decorations. A special thank you to Bruce and Connie Stevenson for organizing it.
- Thank you to the Sunday school teachers for the children's Christmas program on December 18th.
- Thank you to our church council members completing their terms: Cassie Ross, Sara DeMuzio, and Rob Stroup.
- Thank you to our new council members: Beth Bright, Pete Gregory and Cassie Ross.
- Thank you to everyone who helped with altar care in 2016.
- Thank you to all the musicians who helped with Christmas Eve worship, especially Wilma Townsend, Karen Spawton, and Emma Deibler.



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
Linda Ellis who has metastases on her spine and hip.
Amy Plouffe who has been receiving treatments for cancer in a couple areas of her body.

The family and friends of Jeanette Hare as they mourn her death.

Nuts and Bolts

Annual Meeting

The annual congregational meeting was held on Sunday January 22 after the 10:30 service. Here were the actions taken:

- Cassie Ross, Beth Bright and Pete Gregory were elected to serve on council.
- The 2017 budget as printed in the annual report passed without amendment.
- The congregation approved the bell tower design from Springline Engineering.

Financial Information

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Year to Date (as of			
December 31)	198,921.72	206,492.96	(7,571.24)

We ended the year with \$494.88 in the checking account but “owe ourselves” \$2,397.80 to balance our Allocated Funds in the Savings Account.

December Council Highlights

From Stewardship and Finance: Number of pledges from Stewardship drive was down compared to last year.

From Education: Look for changes in format for Adult Education in the near future. Sunday School students will be making “Birthday Bags” to donate to Food Cupboard. Students from the 5th-6th grade class will deliver these on 2/12/17. Students will be running worship service on 2/5/17.

From Music and Worship: Discussed plans for 500th Anniversary of the Reformation on 10/31/17 and plans to incorporate this into worship in the months prior to this date.

Made plans for Annual Meeting on 1/22 including 2017 budget and potential candidates for the 3 open church council positions.

Fun

February Birthdays

- 1 Justin Myers
- 3 Aaron Swigart
- 4 Tricia Kolczynski
- 5 Diane Boncke
- 6 Karen Underwood
- 7 Mark Bair, Nicholas Busby
- 13 Samuel Ehrlinger, Conrad Bremer

- 15 Marjorie Henderson
- 23 Sally Testa
- 24 Geoff Bright
- 27 Laura DeMuzio



Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Fat Tuesday is February 28th 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! Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Area so we know how many are coming.



January Bible Trivia Answers– More Encounters with Angels

1. What Roman official was visited by an angel who told him God had heard his prayers? Answer: Cornelius (Acts 10:1-8)
2. Who was commissioned by an angel to save Israel from the Midianites? Answer: Gideon (Judges 6:11-23)
3. What kind of angelic beings guarded the entrance to Eden? Answer: Cherubim (Genesis 3:24)
4. Who dreamed he had his lips touched by a live coal held by a seraph? Answer: Isaiah (Isaiah 6:5-7)

February Bible Trivia Questions

1. Who criticized the disciples for plucking grain on the Sabbath?
2. Why does Jesus give the disciples the Lord’s Prayer?
3. What is James talking about when it makes comparisons between this and a forest fire, a ships rudder, and the bit of a horse’s mouth?
4. What is the shortest book of the Old Testament?

FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous 4-8 Piano Lessons	2 <u>Presentation of Our Lord</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 7:00 Worship & Music Committee 7:00 Girl Scouts	3 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale 6:15-8:00 Girl Scouts	4
5 <u>5th Sunday after the Epiphany</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	7 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous 4-8 Piano Lessons	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers	10 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	11
12 <u>6th Sunday after the Epiphany</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council	14 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	15 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers	17 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	18
19 <u>7th Sunday after the Epiphany</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	20 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 10:00 Holy Yoga 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	21 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs \ 1:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Comm Chorus	22 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	23 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers	24 <u>St. Matthias, Apostle</u> 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Club 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	25
26 <u>Transfiguration of Our Lord</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	27 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 3-7 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	28 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:00 Pancake Supper 7:00 Property Committee 7:00 Community Chorus				



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

26 – Pulpit Exchange

28 – Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper