

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – January 2018

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

In worship on December 31st we'll begin reading through Mark's gospel. By Easter we'll have read the whole thing. Just like we did with Matthew's gospel some Sundays we'll read long passages and sometimes just a few verses.

Mark's gospel is my favorite of the four in the Bible. His writing is earthy and raw. Contrast him with Matthew, which has a sophisticated structure; or Luke which has a strong political/economic agenda; or John with his high Greek education. In Mark's gospel Jesus does things like spiting and making mud. He gets mad. He rejects some people. He destroys a huge herd of pigs. He curses a fig tree for not having figs. (Of course it didn't have figs! It wasn't fig season!)

Mark's gospel hits the ground running. He doesn't fool around with stars and stables and angels and wise men. We start off chapter 1 by suddenly meeting John the Baptist. Before the chapter is done Jesus has been baptized, spent time in the wilderness, called the first disciples, cast out demons, healed a bunch of people and completed a preaching tour. By the time chapter 2 is over Jesus is in conflict with the disciples of John the Baptist, Pharisees, and the forces of evil! That list will keep growing the farther we go. Yet we'll also find Jesus' love and generosity in full flow. We'll discover just how radical God's love is.

Mark is a playful writer. He's going to yank the rug out from under us many times. Every time we think we can predict how Jesus will act he does something different. It's all part of how he wants to teach you about Jesus. And just as Mark doesn't bother telling us about Jesus' birth, he also doesn't bother telling us about the resurrected Jesus! The story ends with an empty tomb and women running away not telling anyone.

The ending is so disturbing that other authors have added conclusions of their own. If you look it up in your Bible you'll probably find two or maybe three alternate endings included. But don't be fooled. Mark ended his

gospel exactly where he wanted. And I mean exactly! Not one word too few and not one word too many. You may remember me preaching about this before. The gospel ends with an incomplete sentence. The gospel also begins with the second half of an incomplete sentence. You don't have to be a literary genius to realize you're supposed to put the two halves together!

Mark's final twist is that the story is a circle. There is no beginning and there is no end. He wants your life to become caught up in the life of Jesus forever.

So, I invite you to enter the fast-paced and unpredictable world of the Gospel According to St. Mark. We'll explore many of its twists and turns, but there are so many we'll have to let many unexplored. For those Sundays you miss it's always easy to catch up. Just pick up your own Bible at home, or get it online! Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Church Constitution Update

At the annual meeting on January 28 we'll be voting on updates to our constitution. Most of the changes are small technicalities and clarifications recommended by the ELCA. Two changes could have an impact. First, we are changing the way we determine a quorum for a congregational meeting. The current constitution requires forty people. We are proposing that be changed to 30% of average worship attendance. That number will still be roughly 40 people, but it will adjust with the size of the congregation. The second change allows us to create a role of "Seasonal Members" if we choose. This is mostly for snowbirds who wish to be active in more than one congregation. The full description is in section C8.02 of the proposed constitution.

If you receive your newsletter by email you should have also received an electronic version of the proposed constitution. If you receive your newsletter by mail please ask Pastor Jon for a paper copy. The proposed constitution needs to be passed by a two-thirds majority at two congregational meetings, one of those being an annual meeting. This will be the first vote. Please talk to Pastor Jon if you have any questions.

Worship

January Worship Assistants

	January 7	January 14	January 21	January 28
Greeters & Ushers	John & Gay Card	Mike & Cassie Ross	Mike & Bettina Kalish	Nancy & Ivan Shuler
Lector	Kevin Maynard (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30)	Susie Maynard (8:30)
Acolyte	Molly Perdan	Katya Kurilovitch	Viala Wagner	Hanna Stroup
Altar Care	Helen Crown		Helen Crown	
Communion Assistants	Bruce & Diane Boncke		Gary Boisseau & Rob Stroup	
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle	Beth Perdan	Katy Stimmel	Lynne Minkel
Counters	John & Linda Thompson	Linda Flood & Sue Kaufmann	Ethan Minkel & Bill Hagerman	Nancy & Ivan Shuler
Coffee Hour	Burdie Gillern			



January Worship Texts

December 31 – Mark 1
 January 7 – Mark 2-3 (conflict begins)
 January 14 – Mark 4:1-34 (parables)
 January 21 – Mark 4:35-5:43
 January 28 – Mark 6:1-29



2018 Annual Meeting

The 2018 annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday January 21st after the 10:30 worship service. There will be the usual items on the agenda: review of reports, elections for church council, and the church budget. There will also be the first vote on revisions to the constitution.

Nuts and Bolts

Church Council Positions

Three positions on church council will be elected at the annual meeting. If you are interested in serving on the council or would like more information please talk to Tim Brown.

Annual Meeting Agenda

All items of business or theology for the annual meeting must be turned in to the church office by December 31st.

Annual Reports

All committee reports for the Annual Report are due to the church office by December 31st. Email or electronic versions are preferred. You can email your report to: sjlcvictor@gmail.com

Nuts and Bolts (Cont.)

December Council Meeting Notes

- Noted a recent increase in visitors at the 8:30 service
- Received an update on the Stewardship drive and Time and Talent survey - both progressing well
- Briefly discussed changes to the Continuing Resolutions that will be voted on at the next meeting
- Reviewed the charter and membership of the Mutual Ministry committee to be re-activated after the Congregational Meeting
- Established a procedure for the annual review of personnel
- Identified candidates for the Nominating Committee to be elected at the Congregational Meeting
- Discussed the annual review of the membership roster - communion cards will be made available more visibly in support of membership requirements
- Reviewed a preliminary budget with some pledges still outstanding - expecting more income when we review the final budget - planning a balanced budget for 2018
- Continued to identify Church Council candidates
- Submitted by Tim Brown

Nominating Committee

You may not be aware, but our constitution requires that we elect a Nominating Committee at our annual congregational meeting each year for a term of one year. This committee consists of six members who are not on Church Council. This committee shall consider men and women of all ages for representation on the Congregational Council, in an attempt to make membership on the council a cross-section of the congregation. In addition to council openings, this committee can also help select candidates to for leadership positions on committees and other congregational initiatives. If you are interested in serving on this committee, contact Pastor or anyone on the Church Council.

Submitted by Tim Brown

Financial Update

	Income	Expenses	Difference
Year to Date	\$183,013.15	187,403.19	(4,390.04)

Service



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.

Gail Holbig as she has recently been moved to hospice care.

Linda Ellis who has metastases on her spine and hip. Bob Stroup, Rob Stroup's dad, who has been suffering from dementia and other health problems.

Linda Roy, sister of Helen Crown, who has metastatic breast cancer.

Community Outreach Projects

Thank you, thank you, thank you for all the gifts you gave to our needy families in the Victor and Canandaigua school districts. They were so appreciated. Also for all the many items you brought in for the "Mitten Tree". These items go to the Victim Resource Center to help abused women and children in a 5 county area.

"Soup" Bowl Sunday is February 4. Our donations totaled \$232 in 2017; hopefully we can match or exceed that amount. The money goes to World Hunger.

RIT Campus Ministry

Our next date to provide dinner and fellowship with the RIT students is Sunday, February 11. Please mark your calendars to save the date. The sign-up will be posted mid-January. Questions, please talk with Beth Bright.

Thank you from the Victor Farmington Food Cupboard:

To all the members of St. John's we truly appreciated the use of the building for the Christmas Basket distribution on December 15 & 16; 400 baskets were given to clients which included ham, chicken, potatoes, squash, apples, onions, canned vegetables and rolls. Special thanks to John Thompson, Diane Boncke, Burdie Gillern, Nick Stewart, Julie Stewart, Tim Brown, Liz Brown and Linda Flood who worked to carry food to client cars, sorted food, recorded sign up tickets and cleaned up.

Service (Cont.)

Shopping on Amazon = \$ for Family Promise

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Family Promise of Ontario County. AmazonSmile is the same as Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

To begin:

- Start your shopping at smile.amazon.com
 - In the *Search for a charitable organization* box, type Family Promise of Ontario County, Inc.
 - Select Family Promise of Ontario County, Inc, located in Victor NY
 - Start shopping!
- Talk to Cindy Swigart if you have any questions. Thank you!



- Thank you to John and Pat CiPollina and John Thompson for their work renovating the fellowship hall and also for other miscellaneous repairs.
- Thank you to everyone who provided food for the parish Thanksgiving dinner. A special thank you to the Kurilovitches for overseeing the setup and to Joy Lethbridge for the decorations.
- Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the sanctuary and other rooms for Christmas.
- Thank you to Cassie Ross for making repairs to the nativity set.
- Thank you to everyone who provided food for coffee hour.
- Thank you to the Outreach Committee for organizing all the gifts for needy families.
- Thank you to Rob Stroup for the updates he made to the website.
- Thank you to everyone who returned a financial pledge card for 2018 and who took the Time and Talent Survey on Survey Monkey. Thanks to Beth Bright for getting that set up.
- Thank you to everyone who helped to shovel and plow snow in December.

Fun



Youth Group Sub Sale

The Youth Group will be making subs for the annual meeting on January 21st, so you don't have to worry about lunch. Youth group members will be taking orders in the Gathering Area after worship in the first few Sundays of January.

Sanctuary Tree Decorations

Thank you to everyone who provided an ornament for the Christmas tree in the sanctuary. You may pick up your ornament after worship on January 1 or any time after that.



December Bible Trivia Answers

1. Which two gospels contain a genealogy for Jesus?
Answer: Matthew and Luke (Matthew 1, Luke 3)
2. Who is the first human we meet in Mark's gospel?
Answer: John the Baptist (Mark 1:4)
3. What angel came to Mary to tell her of Jesus' conception? **Answer:** Gabriel (Luke 1:26)
4. Who was born first, John the Baptist or Jesus?
Answer: John the Baptist (Luke 1)

January Bible Trivia Questions –Mark's Gospel

1. In what river did John the Baptist baptize?
2. Who (or what) drives Jesus into the wilderness to be tested?
3. What tax collector does Jesus call to be a disciple?
4. What desperate measures do the four friends of the paralytic take in order to get their friend in the house to see Jesus?

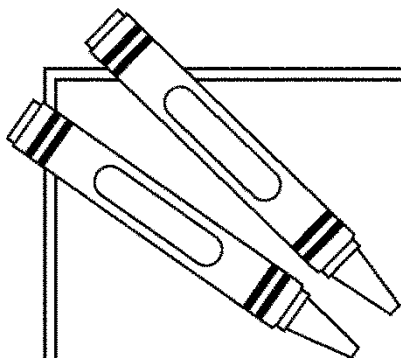
January Birthdays

1 Pam Mansfield Phillips
2 Kyle Christie
3 Rebecca Boisseau, Joseph Centola
4 Jeffrey Clarkson, AJ Pow, Jonathan Castellani,
Jeffrey Brownlee
5 Shana Henderson Wagner
7 George Perzel, Becky Morley, Dick Ellis
10 Liz Brown
12 Erika Henderson Busby
13 Corrie Murphy, Karen Hoefen

15 Sherri Lasky
16 Alan Morley. Allie DeLeon
17 Eric Bair, Beth Perdan, Beth Kravetz
19 Beth Kaufmann Cross
22 Art Fields
25 David Howland, Jill Erhlinger, Lisa Kuriilovitch
28 Jeffrey Townsend
29 Kyle Kalish, Michele Myers
31 Barbara Backus

JANUARY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <u>Name of Jesus</u> <u>New Year's Day</u>	2 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	3 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	4 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Worship and Music Committee	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	6 <u>Epiphany</u>
7 <u>Baptism of Our Lord</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 PM Church Council 7:00 Boy Scouts	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	10 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	11 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	13
14 <u>2nd Sunday after</u> <u>Epiphany</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	15 <u>King Jr., Renewer of</u> <u>Society</u> 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	17 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	18 <u>Confession of Peter</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study	19 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	20 8:00-5:00 Retrouvaille
21 <u>3rd Sunday after</u> <u>Epiphany</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 12:00 Annual Meeting	22 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	23 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	24 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	25 <u>Conversion of Paul</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	27
28 <u>4th Sunday after</u> <u>Epiphany</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	29 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	30 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus 7:00 Property Committee	31 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous			



Just for KIDS

In our world today, the rulers of nations have many titles. There are kings and queens, presidents and prime ministers, and many others.

In biblical times, there were also many kinds of rulers. Let's find some kings and queens in the Bible. Use the graph below to figure out their names. To find out more about them, look up the verses listed.

1. The first king on earth. $\frac{1,5}{1,6} \frac{1,7}{2,5} \frac{2,8}{2,7}$
(Genesis 10:8-12)

2. Anointed king by Samuel. $\frac{2,6}{1,8} \frac{1,9}{2,9}$
(1 Samuel 8-10)

3. Beloved king of Israel. $\frac{2,7}{1,8} \frac{3,5}{1,6} \frac{2,7}{2,7}$
(1 Samuel 16)

4. Very wise king of Israel; a writer. $\frac{2,6}{2,8} \frac{2,8}{2,9} \frac{2,8}{1,7} \frac{2,8}{1,5}$
(2 Samuel 12:24-25)

5. Jewish girl, became queen of Persia. $\frac{3,6}{2,6} \frac{3,7}{3,8} \frac{3,6}{2,5}$
(Esther 1-2:17)

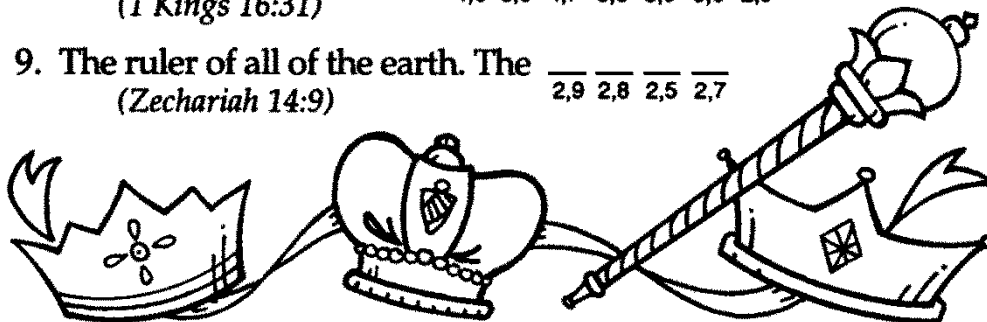
6. Xerxes' queen; means "beautiful women." $\frac{3,5}{1,8} \frac{2,6}{3,8} \frac{3,7}{1,6}$
(Esther 1:11)

7. David's wife; Solomon's mother. $\frac{3,9}{1,8} \frac{3,7}{3,8} \frac{2,6}{3,8} \frac{3,6}{3,9} \frac{1,8}{1,8}$
(2 Samuel 12:24)

8. Bad queen of King Ahab. $\frac{4,6}{3,6} \frac{4,7}{3,6} \frac{3,9}{3,6} \frac{2,9}{2,9}$
(1 Kings 16:31)

9. The ruler of all of the earth. The $\frac{2,9}{2,8} \frac{2,5}{2,7}$
(Zechariah 14:9)

1	N	I	M	A	U
2	R	S	D	O	L
3	V	E	T	H	B
4	K	J	Z	C	G
	5	6	7	8	9
Example: 1,5 = N					





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

January Newsletter

January 21 – Annual Congregational Meeting