

# On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – March 2018

## Growth

### Pastor's Paragraphs

We're in the midst of our journey through the Lenten season. You'll remember that Lent is based on the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness before he began his public ministry. It is common for people to give something up for Lent. Or sometimes people will add a new spiritual discipline, or maybe a discipline for physical health. These can be good things. If you're doing a Lenten discipline, great! Keep it up!

But let's not forget what happened to Jesus while he was in the wilderness. The Gospel of Matthew and the Gospel of Luke both record Jesus being tempted by the devil while he is there. There were a number of temptations. They all boil down to whether Jesus was going to let himself be defined by who God his Father called him to be, or be defined by the world's standards of success. Jesus' triumph over the temptations teach us that we should also let ourselves be defined by God and not by others.

That's easier said than done. The devil's temptations of Jesus were very clever, and evil remains clever. Our society today likes to create either-or situations: conservative/liberal, pro-life/pro choice, faith/science, and organic/conventional name just a few. I think it is a clever ploy on evil's part that divides us into different camps. We are forced into a category and we are then supposed to like the other people in that same category and reject those in a different category.

During the season of Lent I think we should make a special effort to reject such categorization. The Bible teaches us, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) That puts all of us in the same boat. We all need God's grace. Martin Luther's last written words were, "We are beggars. It is true."

When you see someone who is in a different category than you just remember that you have a common bond - you are both sinful and need God's salvation; something neither of you can earn. When we can see and accept each other as sinners we've gone a long way to also

seeing who God has truly made ourselves and has made each other person.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jon



### Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday school class will begin the series *Earthbound* on Sunday February 25. *Earthbound* is a video series created by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. It combines the thoughts of some of our best biblical scholars with the thoughts of some of our best scientists to suggest ways we can best be stewards of God's creation. The series does not romanticize nature, nor does it condemn industrialization. Instead it calls for thoughtful biblical reflection on how we use the earth's resources.

The series is six sessions. Each session includes a half hour video and a discussion guide. The group meets in the middle room on the left hand side of the Sunday school wing. Ask Pastor Jon if you have any questions.



### High School Sunday School

High school age youth are invited to begin watching the Netflix series *Stranger Things* during the Sunday School hour starting on March 4. Each week we'll view a different episode and explore the way Christian faith and the world view of this series overlap. This group meets in the pastor's office. Talk to Pastor Jon for more information.

# Worship

## March Worship Assistants

	March 4	March 11	March 18	March 25
Greeters & Ushers	Sara DeMuzio & Tricia Kolczynski	Karen & Jim Spwaton	Bill & Katy Stimmel	Phyllis & Dick Henderson
Lector	Judy VandDeVelde (8:30)	Susie Maynard (8:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)
Acolyte	Morgan Sackett	Jaden White	Julia Bullwinkle	Kelsey Sackett
Altar Care	Beth Perdan		Beth Perdan	Beth Perdan
Communion Assistants	Cindy Swigart & Adele Garvey		Helen Crown & Sally Mansfield	Tim & Liz Brown
Nursery Care	Judy VanDeVelde	Laura Stroup	Kristi Bullwinkle	Katy & Bill Stimmel
Counters	Babette Huber & Burdie Gillern	Tom Kurilovitch & Helen Crown	John & Linda Thompson	Linda Flood & Sue Kaufmann
Coffee Hour	Beth Perdan	Cindy Swigart, Linn Griffo, K. Spawton	Joy Lethbridge, Ella Schuller, Becky Nohe	1 <sup>st</sup> Communion



## America, Declining Society, and the Angry Prophet Joel

### Mid-Week Lenten Series

Are you fed up with the polarized politics of our nation, the anger on social media, and the decline of Godliness in people? During Lent we'll explore the words of the Prophet Joel in the Old Testament. Though his words are ancient, the issues are the same. Joel does not mince words. He will offend and frighten you. But those who listen also have the peace of God opened to them.

Each Wednesday in Lent we start at 6:00 with a soup and bread supper, then a half-hour worship service starts at 6:30.

2/21 What we're doing wrong. (Joel 2:12-17)

2/28 Exploring why it's wrong. (Joel 1:1-12)

3/7 What we have to change. (Joel 1:13-16)

3/14 God's blessings (Joel 2:18-29)

3/21 God's ultimate judgment (Joel 3)



## March Worship Texts

March 4 – Mark 10:32-52 (Blind Bartimaeus)

March 11 – Mark 11:1-19 (Jesus' Triumphal Entry)

March 18 – Mark 11:20-13:37

March 25 – Mark 14: 12-72 (Palm Sunday)

## Worship (Cont.)



### Give Up Lint for Lent

This bizarre collection is again part of our Lenten journey. If you have trouble giving something up for Lent, this will be your easiest discipline ever! There is a collection box in the Gathering Area for you to put your **dryer lint, used dryer sheets, old crayons and stubs of candles**. This worthless stuff (and somewhat gross) will be melted together and burnt on the fire at the sunrise service on Easter. This Lent give up your most worthless stuff so that God can turn it into heat and light!



Holy Week is the last week of Lent. This year it runs from March 25 to April 1. Here are the special worship services planned for that week:

March 25 – Palm Sunday, procession with palms at both services, children's Easter egg hunt

March 29 – Maundy Thursday, 6:00 covered dish dinner in the sanctuary with communion

March 30 – Good Friday, 7:00 worship, this service will be a U2charist service. More will follow as the date gets closer

April 1 – Easter, 6:00 Sunrise service of Holy Communion, 9:00 Pancake Breakfast, 10:30 Holy Communion

## Nuts and Bolts

### Directory Updates

If you didn't review and update your contact information for the 2018 church directory please take a look at your information in the current directory and send any changes to [sjlcvector@gmail.com](mailto:sjlcvector@gmail.com). The new directory will be printed in early March. A copy will be put in your mailbox at church.

### January Council Highlights

- Elected Officers - no changes from last year
    - President - Tim Brown
    - Vice-President - Tom Kurilovitch
    - Secretary - Tricia Kolczynski
    - Treasurer - Rob Stroup
    - Financial Secretary - Dave Bullwinkle
  - Set Confirmation date as 5/27/2018
  - Discussed reports from each committee
  - Received report about Family Promise fund raising and day center needs
  - Assigned Council liaisons to each committee
  - Reviewed committee chairs and identified candidates to take over those having served their 3 year term
  - Reviewed congregational metrics over past 18 years
  - Discussed personnel evaluations with action assigned to the Executive Committee
  - Heard about active shooter training class Pastor recently attended
  - Assigned Property committee to review Boy Scout trailer storage request
  - Took action to review Mutual Ministry membership and to set up meeting
  - Approved new members
- Submitted by Tim Brown  
Submitted by Tim Brown

### Financial Update

	Income	Expenses	Difference
January 2018	23,743.61	20,705.73	`3,037.88



## 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. Rebecca Boisseau as she recovers from a cardiac ablation and begins additional treatment. Amy Plouffe, whose cancer has spread into her brain. She is currently receiving radiation treatments. Gary Myers who was recently diagnosed with multiple myeloma and is in the midst of treatments. Linda Ellis whose health is declining as cancer continues to spread. 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. Jan Swigart, Scott Swigart's mother, whose mental health has steeply declined in recent months and has entered hospice care.



## Results

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Souper Bowl collection! The donation amount this year was \$206. The money goes to World Hunger.



Building communities, strengthening lives.

## Comfort Food Cook-Off

Family Promise of Ontario County is hosting an Ontario County Comfort Food Cook-Off! On March 3rd join us at three locations (for your traveling convenience) and taste home chef's favorite comfort food recipes. The location closest to us is Willowbrook Christian Church in Victor. The event runs from 3 to 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$10 with kids under 12 free. Get it touch with Cindy Swigart for more information or tickets, or go to the Family Promise of Ontario County page on Facebook.



-Thank you to everyone who helped with snowplowing and shoveling in February.  
-Thank you to everyone who provided food for the meal at the campus ministry at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Thank you to Beth Bright for organizing everything.  
-Thank you to the youth group for making subs for ha annual meeting. Thank you to Lisa Kurilovitch for organizing it.  
-Thank you to Tim Brown, Tricia Kolczynski and Ethan Minkel for their time of service on the church council.  
-Thank you to everyone who gave to the Souper Bowl collection.  
-Thank you to the Property Committee for their ongoing work in the Fellowship Hall.  
-Thank you to Beth Schroeder for organizing the Euchre night.  
-Thank you to Bruce Stevenson for making new frames to hold the stained glass windows removed from the Fellowship Hall.



## Lenten Coin Boxes

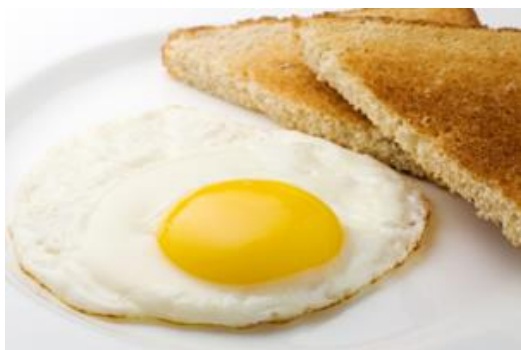
This year we're bringing back the "piggy banks" for our Lenten collection. The money will be donated to the Good Gifts program of the ELCA World Hunger appeal. If you'd like a goal for how much to put in, about \$30 buys a piglet to a family in need. The piggy banks are on a table in the gathering area.

## Serenity House Gala

Serenity House will be holding its annual Gala at Locust Hill Country Club on Saturday March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm. There will be silent and live auctions, dinner, dancing, and an inspiring presentation. As you may know, Serenity House does not charge its residents and their families for their care. It's funding comes primarily through fund raisers and memorial donations. For ticket information call 585 924-5840 or write to [serenityhousegala@gmail.com](mailto:serenityhousegala@gmail.com).



# Fun



## Lenten Breakfasts on Sundays

During Lent we'll have a breakfast of eggs toast and a pastry right after the 8:30 service. Enjoy a Sunday meal with your brothers and sisters in Christ! There's no need to sign up.



## February Bible Trivia Answers – More from Mark

1. What king had John the Baptist beheaded? Herod (Mark 6:14-29)
2. What does Jesus put on the eyes of the blind man in Bethsaida to cure him? His saliva (Mark 8:23)
3. What three disciples were with Jesus at the Transfiguration? Peter, James, and John (Mark 9:2)
4. In the feeding of the 4000 miracle how many loaves of bread do the disciples have? Seven (Mark 8:5)

## March Trivia Questions – Still from Mark

1. Jesus cures many people but in Mark's gospel only one of these people is named. What was his name?
2. What does Jesus tell the rich man he must do for eternal life?
3. What village does Jesus retreat to every night during Holy Week?
4. What does a woman do to Jesus in the house of Simon the leper?



## COMMUNICATION OR LACK OF!

Thoughts from Ivan Shuler

Before our recent cruise we stayed overnight in NY City. We decided to use Uber to get to the pier. While waiting for 20 minutes for our Uber man to arrive I stood with our suitcases on the sidewalk against the wall.

Trying my friendly communication skills I greeted the heavy stream of hurrying people! I received maybe one in 30 responses to my friendly "Good Morning"! Most of the rushing crowd had their head down looking at a thing they held in their hand!

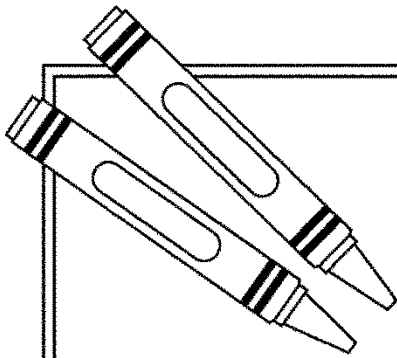
I also noticed that no one seemed to look at the homeless person lying on the sidewalk next to the building.

Then while on our happy little cruise we enjoyed a comic at one of the shows give a little humor. He said we had cave writing, smoke signals, telegraph, messaging with thumbs; then came a wonderful invention, and they called it telephone. A thing people could use to hear one another's voices and talk. What a wonderful way to communicate.

And it was good!

# MARCH 2018

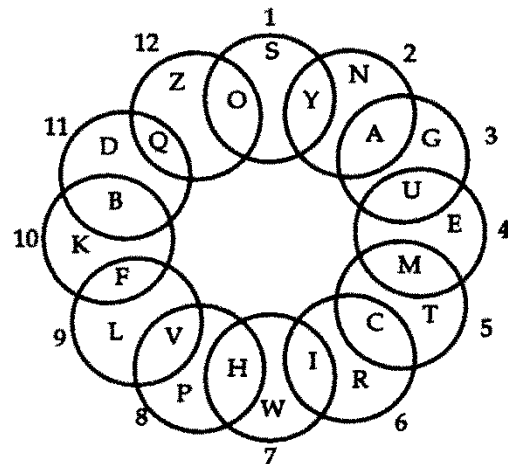
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>2</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> <u>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School, Lenten Breakfast 10:30 Holy Communion 12:00 Worship and Music Committee 12:30 Band Practice 2:30-4:00 Boy Scouts	<b>5</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons	<b>6</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>7</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 6:00 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship 7:00 Band Practice 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>8</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>9</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:30 Amadeus Chorale Spaghetti Supper	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> <u>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School, Lenten Breakfast 10:30 Worship 12:00 Band Practice 2:30-4:00 Boy Scouts	<b>12</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Church Council	<b>13</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>14</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 6:00 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship 7:00 Band Practice 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>15</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>16</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	<b>17</b>   3:30-8:30 Retrouvaille
<b>18</b> <u>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School, Lenten Breakfast 10:30 Holy Communion 12:00 Band Practice 2:30-4:00 Boy Scouts	<b>19</b> <u>Joseph, Guardian of Jesus</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons	<b>20</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	<b>21</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 6:00 Soup Supper 6:30 Worship 7:00 Band Practice 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>22</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  1:00 Women's Bible Study	<b>23</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <u>Palm Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Comm. 9:30 Sunday School, Lenten Breakfast 10:30 Holy Communion 11:45 Easter Egg Hunt 12:00 Band Practice 2:30 Boy Scouts	<b>26</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons	<b>27</b> 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	<b>28</b> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	<b>29</b> <u>Maundy Thursday</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  1:00 Women's Bible Study  6:00 Holy Communion	<b>30</b> <u>Good Friday</u> 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs  7:00 U2charist	<b>31</b> <u>Vigil of Easter</u>  Vipassina Meditation



# Just for KIDS

## Jesus worshiped in the synagogue in Nazareth.

Find out about worship in Jesus' time by using these circles.



The synagogue was a place to \_\_\_\_\_, to \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

and to \_\_\_\_\_

The service of worship included:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. Words of \_\_\_\_\_ from the people

5. \_\_\_\_\_





# **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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Victor, NY 14564

The Reverend Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

(585) 924-5192

[www.stjohnsvictor.com](http://www.stjohnsvictor.com)

*Address Service Requested*

### **March Newsletter**

25 – Palm Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt

29 – Maundy Thursday Worship

30 – Good Friday Worship – U2charist