

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – March 2020

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

Life in the suburbs can be great. Many people long for it. But it has serious drawbacks. Almost by design, suburbs hide the real cost of what really goes into life.

Suburban life is a life of money. Obviously you need to have enough of it to buy your way into the suburbs. From there: food is bought, clothing is bought, transportation is bought, entertainment is bought, communications are bought, and of course water, sewer, electricity, and heat are all bought.

What is hidden from the suburbs? The sewage treatment plant, the factories where goods are made, the slaughterhouse where animals are butchered, the power plant for the electricity, the drilling fields for the natural gas, and on and on it goes.

To live in the suburbs is to believe electricity comes from an outlet in a wall, hot & cold running water automatically come from a tap, food comes from a grocery store, and clothing comes either from the mall or by ordering from Amazon, and garbage... you just carry it outside once a week and it 'magically' disappears.

In the suburbs if you don't like your neighbors - or if the neighborhood appears to be going down the drain - you can use money to leave and buy into a new neighborhood.

Contrast the suburbs with an urban slum dweller who can't count on the building's plumbing system and can't afford to buy his/her way out. Or contrast the suburbs with a rural landowner whose family has owned a house or property for generations. The place carries with it a sense of heritage that will not be parted with. Contrast the suburbs with a migrant worker who knows first hand the labor involved in raising food.

We are on the doorstep of the season of Lent. Many a suburban dweller can believe that his/her life is a life of goodness. That he/she is: charitable, environmentally friendly, just and fair to others, a responsible consumer, and on goes the list.

But what is deliberately hidden from sight? The truth! Can you name the people who grew your food, made

your clothes, mined the minerals in your cell phone? I once heard an engineer from a third world country say that Americans are incredibly wasteful and arrogant because they think nothing of flushing their human waste with drinkable water.

Yes, suburban life hides the truth! It artificially makes us feel good about ourselves. So during Lent I have one very simple discipline I'd like you to take on. However, you probably won't like it!

Say a prayer of thanks every time you flush the toilet. I'm not kidding! In that prayer realize the resources it took to get the water out of the ground (or lake/river) and treat it. Think about the pipes that brought it to your bathroom. Think about the pipes that take all the waste away, the energy needed to treat it, and the release of the liquids and solids after treatment. Yes, I know I'm asking us to think about disgusting stuff. But all I'm really doing is asking us to be aware of just a tiny fraction of the truth of our lives. If nothing else, it will make us aware of how luxurious our lives are. That is a big step towards happiness.

While there is nothing theological in what I'm suggesting I do think it makes us better stewards of all that God's creation has to offer. God has done amazing work! That goes for all of creation: minerals, plants, animals, and other people. We should respect it all and delight in it fully. May Lent be a time to reconnect with the truth and rejoice in what God is doing.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon



Mid-Week Lenten Meals & Worship

This year's mid-week Lenten meals and worship will focus on the Apostles Creed and the Lord's Prayer. Using a video course from the Lutheran House of Study we will look again at these words we often use in worship. Do we really know what we mean when we say them? Do we know what they were intended to mean? Each week starts with a soup and bread dinner at 6:00 and worship at 7:00

Worship

March Worship Assistants

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Greeters & Ushers	Rob and Laura Stroup	Jim and Karen Spawton	Sally Mansfield and Helen Crown	Bill and Katy Stimmel	Tom and Carol Urbanic
Lector	Ann King (8:30)	Janice Lockwood (8:30)	Suzie Maynard (8:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)
Acolyte	Creed White	Olivia DeLeon	Joe Wyman	Tierney White	Morgan Sackett
Altar Care	Gary and Kim Boisseau		Gary and Kim Boisseau		Gary and Kim Boisseau
Communion Assistants	Paul and Babette Huber		Gary Boisseau and Rob Stroup		Bruce and Diane Boncke
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle	Laura Stroup	Judy VanDeVelde	Beth Perdan	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Counters	Nancy and Ivan Shuler	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Beth Perdan and Bettina Kalish	Linda Flood & Sue Kaufmann	Tom Kurilovitch & Helen Crown
Coffee Hour	Nic and Julie Stuart		Sunday School	Nancy Shuler	



March Gospel Readings

March 1 – Matthew 17:14-27
 March 8 – Matthew 18
 March 15 – Matthew 19-20
 March 22 Matthew 21-22
 March 29 – Matthew 23-25



Ash Wednesday Worship

February 26 – 7:00pm
 Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes



Give Up Lint for Lent

This bizarre collection is becoming an annual tradition in our congregation's 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!

Service



The food cupboard is launching a new food donation program for the local churches. Every month a specific item will be chosen to donate. Throughout the month, items will be collected at each church. On the last Sunday of the month at noon each church will choose a family to bring all the collected items to the food cupboard. The food will be weighed and the families will help stock the items.

The January/February food item is spaghetti sauce and hearty soups.

March's food item is protein: nuts, canned meats, oats, and non-refrigerated milk are some examples. Youth groups are encouraged to drop off items this month.

Family Promise

3rd Annual Comfort Food Cook-Off

Saturday, March 7, 2020, 3-5pm

Location and registration information coming soon! Start planning those recipes and revving up your taste buds—three simultaneous locations:

Willowbrook Christian Church of Victor,
Methodist Church of Clifton Springs and
Presbyterian Church of Geneva!

email Brenda Calabria at FPOCweb@fpocny.org for more information on becoming a cook or volunteering to bake goods.



“Souper” Bowl Collection Results

Thanks for your donations to this year's Souper Bowl Sunday collection. We received \$110.45 for World Hunger.



Lenten Coin Banks

ELCA Good Gifts - Goat and Chicks

With this gift a family gains access to an ongoing supply of eggs from their chickens and protein-packed milk from their goat. Even better, extra eggs and dairy products can be sold at the market for a steady income.

The combination costs \$60. We'd like to collect enough to send 6 of these. Look for this year's coin banks to appear in the Gathering Area late in February.



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

We will be hosting our annual Red Cross blood drive on Tuesday, April 7 from 2:00 – 7:00.

The volunteer sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in mid-March

We will need people to supervise **registration** and the **canteen**,

as well as to **bake** delicious goodies to rejuvenate our blood donors.

If you wish to donate blood, please go to the Red Cross website where you will be able to make an appointment that is convenient for you.

This will be our eleventh drive.

Over the years, we have collected 289 units of blood, providing support to a possible 867 patients! When blood is needed, there is nothing else that can take its place!

Any questions? Ask Mary Zuege.
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Service (Cont.)



- The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.
- Rev. Deborah and Joe Troester and their missionary work in Zambia.
- Gary Myers who is being treated for multiple myeloma. He is doing well and is responding to the treatments
- Linda Ellis who continues to monitor her cancer issues.
- Bob Stroup, Rob Stroup's dad, who has been suffering from dementia and other health problems.
- Knute Halvorson, who is living in Aria Nursing Home in Penfield.
- The family and friends of Lila Wood, Gary Wood's mother, as they mourn her death.
- The family and friends of Merry Lou Faett, mother of Katy Stimmel, as they mourn her death.
- Kip James Kaufmann, newborn son of Keith and Johanna Kaufmann. All are doing well!
- Howard Wilson, brother of Judy VanDeVelde, as he is improving from intestinal blockages.
- Charles Twitchell who is in a nursing home recovering from a fall.



- Thank you to everyone who plowed snow in February.
- Thank you to the Sunday school children and their teachers for helping to lead worship on February 2.
- Thank you to everyone who gave towards the Souper Bowl collection.
- Thank you to the high school youth who helped with cleaning the church building in February.
- Thank you to Gary Wood for his work cleaning in February.
- Thank you to the band members for helping to provide music while Nathan was away.
- Thank you to Dave Bullwinkle, our financial secretary for creating the year end giving statements and also for preparing the 2020 offering envelopes.

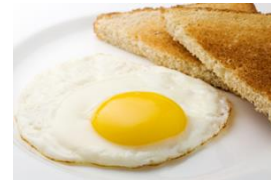
Fun



Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper

Fat Tuesday is February 25th 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!



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.



Hint: All the answers can be found in this month's gospel readings on Sundays.

February Bible Trivia Answers

1. Why did Herod arrest John the Baptist? Answer: John criticized his marriage (Matthew 14:4)
2. At the transfiguration what does the voice from the cloud say? Answer: "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him" (Matthew 17:5)
3. Where does Jesus get the coin he needs to pay the temple tax? Answer: A fish's mouth (Matthew 17:27)
4. What was the original name of the disciple Jesus renames Peter? Answer: Simon (Matthew 4:18)

March Bible Trivia Questions

1. How many times does Jesus tell Peter he should forgive?
2. What does Jesus tell the rich young man he must do for eternal life?
3. What is the pay for all the workers in the Parable of the Vineyard?
4. Who asks for James and John to sit at Jesus' left and right side in glory?

MARCH 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>1st Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	2 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	3 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	4 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 6:00 Lenten Supper and Worship 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:00 Women's Bible Study	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons	7
8 <u>2nd Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Daylight Savings Time Begins	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Boy Scouts	10 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	11 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 6:00 Lenten Supper and Worship 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:00 Women's Bible Study	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons	14
15 <u>3rd Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	17 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	18 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 6:00 Lenten Supper and Worship 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	19 <u>Joseph, Guardian of Our Lord</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:00 Women's Bible Study	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons	21
22 <u>4th Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	23 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	24 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	25 <u>Annunciation</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 6:00 Lenten Supper and Worship 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 1:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Church of Christ	27 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons	28
29 <u>5th Sunday in Lent</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	30 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	31 6:30-9:00 YMCA 9:00 Homeschool 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus 7:00 Property Committee				



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

March Newsletter

Wednesdays – Lenten Suppers
and Worship