

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – May 2015

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

What is your measure of success? How do you determine if a person has "made it"? In years past things like: having a good and stable job, being married, having children, and owning a home could be measures of a person's success. It used to be that once you had made it you were set for the rest of your life – barring some unforeseeable catastrophe. Jobs and employers were relatively unchanging. Family structures were stable. Community networks could be counted on.

Of course now things are different. Everything, everywhere seems to be in a state of flux. The idea that, 'the only thing that is permanent is change,' is all too real.

This state of change also goes for the church. It used to be that a church was considered successful if it owned its own building, had a full-time pastor, and had some paid staff like a music director and secretary. Such a church was considered solid and reliable, even permanent. That's not the case anymore.

Every year brings about a new reality for our congregation; every day in fact. We do a very good job of keeping up with the constant change, we are among the healthiest congregations around, but it also means that we can never seem to rest. Anything left to rest on its laurels quickly declines. There are no longer tried and true models to rely on.

Perhaps this reality is a good thing. Perhaps the stability we thought we used to have in the church and in our society was more of a myth than we realized. The calling of our God is not one that is static. You never really fully do "make it" in a life of faith. Every day is new. Every day carries new problems; and new opportunities. We need to be flexible enough to meet them – perhaps to even anticipate them.

One thing does not change. That is God's love for you. That was the same yesterday as it is today and as it will be tomorrow. When all seems to be changing and unstable remember that one permanent thing. Realize also that you are not alone in wanting something permanent; something unchanging to cling to. Everyone wants that. So be ready and willing to show that you have found something solid so that others can cling to it too.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

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Worship

May Worship Assistants

	May 3	May 10	May 17	May 24	May 31
Greeters & Ushers	Tom & Lisa Kurilovitch	Don & Sally Mansfield	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Ethan & Lynne Minkel	Linda & Alan Morley
Lector	Suzie Maynard (8:30) Gary Boisseau (10:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30) Linn Griffo (10:30)	Deb Veitch (8:30) Jeanne Christman (10:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30) Paul Huber (10:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30) Tim Brown (10:30)
Acolyte	Josh Albert	Conrad Bremer	Marlene Stimmel	Laura DiMuzio	Sam Ehrlinger
Altar Care	Linda Thompson		Linda Thompson		Linda Thompson
Communion Assistants	Don & Sally Mansfield		Ethan & Lynne Minkel		Nancy & Ivan Shuler
Nursery Care	Lynne Minkel	Kristi Bullwinkle	Beth Perdan	Laura Stroup	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Bettina Kalish & Beth Perdan	Sue Kaufmann & Linda Flood	Tim Brown & Don Mansfield	Burdie Gillern & Babette Huber	Ethan & Alyssa Minkel

New Music Director Hired

Heidi Griffith will be returning as our music director. Her first Sunday with us will be May 10th. Please welcome her back, and be interested in continuing to support our music ministry!

Growth (Cont.)

New Members

Congratulations to our newest adult members: Benjamin Carlson, Lori Chartier, Laura Stroup and Ella Schuller! They joined our congregation on April 12th. Also congratulations to Vincent Moore who was baptized on April 19th! We don't have pictures to put in this newsletter but be sure to see them on the photo board of members.

Sunday School Year

Reminder: June 7, 2015 is our last day of Sunday School until the fall.



5th Grade Communion Class

8 fifth graders attended this year's communion education class led by Nancy Shuler. In the photo they are (from left): Allison Buch, Benjamin Deibler, Scott Wilmot, Julia Bullwinkle, Sebastian Plouffe, Jaden White, Sarah Brownlee, and Kelsey Sackett. The class took communion together on April 19th. Congratulations to them and thank you to the Shulers for leading the class!

Confirmation

Confirmation is scheduled for May 31st this year. Several of our youth will be confirmed at the 10:30

service on that day. Be sure to support these youth as they move into adult membership.

Service



The Great Fondue!

You won't want to miss the four-course fondue experience we are planning for May 30th! 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. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to buy tickets.

We are still in need of a few fondue pots and several card tables for the event. If you have ones we can use please let Pastor Jon know.

Maggie's Kids Summer Day Camp

Thursday, July 16 will be our day again at the Geneva Spray Park. We're looking for ideas for breakfast and lunch and departure snack. As soon as our menus are set, you'll be hearing about the signup sheets for volunteers and supplies as well as a collection of funds to host this day.

We're especially looking for youth to volunteer at the camp; hopefully for the full week, so each youth volunteer can be assigned a camper for the week. What

a great bonding experience this could be! Any question please call Bettina Kalish @742-3152.

Outreach Committee



Thank you to everyone who took a "Piggy Bank" for world hunger during this Lenten season. We raised over \$1450, of 48 pigs; by far our best year ever! That money will be used to help raise families out of poverty and put them on a course toward self-sustainability.

Sewing Day was canceled in April and has been rescheduled to Tuesday, June 2 at 9:30. We will be making faceless dolls for Golisano Children's Hospital. Join us if you are available. There are activities that non-sewers can do to help with this project. If you have any questions contact Marlys Braunlich or Jeanette Hare.



Garden Project 2015

The Wymans are again letting us use part of their property in Bloomfield for the church's garden project. This year we plan to raise mostly pumpkins, corn and potatoes. The pumpkins and corn will be sold to the congregation in the fall. The potatoes will be donated to the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard for them to distribute. On the church property the strawberry patch continues. We'll again have fresh strawberries for sale in the months of July and August. All money raised will go to the World Hunger appeal. If you have any extra plants or seeds you are welcome to donate them and

we'll add them to the garden. There's always plenty of space. Talk to Pastor Jon for more information.

Give willingly as moved by the Holy Spirit. We have been prepared to give of ourselves. We give our time, talents, and resources freely. *"For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave..."* 2 Corinthians 8:3

Service (Cont.)



The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.

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.

Joan Knapp, aunt of Gary Boisseau, who is recovering from a broken hip and shoulder and has also developed pneumonia.

Dan Peters, neighbor to Linda Flood, who suffered a brain aneurysm while traveling in Europe. He has not yet regained consciousness.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who ordered Easter flowers to beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who filled a 'piggy bank' during Lent. The results are printed in the Community Outreach Committee article.

Thank you to everyone who came for the pancake breakfast on Easter. A special thank you to the Spawtons, Boisseaus and Kurilovitchs for their work making pancakes!

Thank you to Joy Lethbridge for delivering the Easter flowers from the florist to the church. Also thank you to joy for the decorations she provided for the pancake breakfast.

Thank you to the Bell Choir for their special music on Easter.

Thank you the 5th and 6th grade Sunday school class for their work on the Easter Egg hunt.

Thank you to Ivan and Nancy Shuler for leading the communion education class.

Thank you to Mary Ehrlinger for playing the flute in worship.

GIVE WILLINGLY



	Income	Expenses	Difference
Year to Date	50,077.33	51,621.98	(1,544.65)

We were not able to pay back any of the \$6,000 that was borrowed from the Capital Fund in February. We hope to be able to do that as soon as possible.

Snow plowing for the year so far is already over budget by \$1,375.50. Council would like to make another appeal that if anyone can give, over and above what they are currently pledged/giving, to help offset the huge winter expenses, it would be very much appreciated. Council is looking into alternate ways to control these expenses.

SACRIFICE PROPORTIONATELY

Sacrifice proportionately as Christ sacrificed for us. For our sake, Jesus gave up everything to make us rich through the cross and the resurrection. We are called to sacrifice so others may share in God's word and blessings. *"...gave according to their means, and even beyond their means."* 2 Corinthians 8:3

Stewardship and Finance Committee Update

Between now and our annual stewardship campaign in the Fall, we will present ten stewardship principles in the monthly newsletter. In the section where we summarize our finances, look for two messages per month that define important aspects of stewardship. We are using materials provided by the ELCA for this stewardship education program. Please look for these short lessons and build your understanding of this critical aspect of our faith.

The summary statement from the program materials: "Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions - grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and

challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ. '... you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.' 2 Corinthians 9:7"



April Bible Trivia Questions – Different Resurrection Accounts

1. Can you name what being(s) appear at the empty tomb to announce Jesus' resurrection to the women? (Hint: There are four answers. Each gospel is different.)
Answer: Matthew – 1 angel (28:2), Mark - 1 young man (16:5), Luke – 2 men (24:4), John – 2 angels (20:11)
2. Several endings have been added to Mark's gospel because the original ending is bizarre. What is the last thing that happens in the original ending? Answer: The women flee and don't tell anyone (Mark 16:8)
3. Where do Matthew and Mark say the disciples are to go to see the risen Jesus? Answer: Galilee (Matthew 28:7, Mark 16: 7)
4. In John's gospel where is the risen Jesus first seen?
Answer: By the tomb (20:11-14)

May Bible Trivia Questions

1. In what city were the disciples on Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came upon them in tongues of fire?
2. Which disciple gave a speech to the crowds on the day of Pentecost?
3. How many people were baptized on the Pentecost day the Spirit came upon the disciples?
4. In addition to the tongues of fire and sound of wind, what was the third miraculous thing experienced by the disciples on that Pentecost day?

May Birthdays

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Emmy Gelb |
| 3 | Burdie Gillern, Kari Buch |
| 4 | Creed White |
| 5 | Ruth Edmunds, Geraldine Grandin, Jenna Ratka, Nissa Deibler |
| 6 | Marcia Zavacki |
| 8 | Josh Albert |
| 9 | Ruth Perzel, Olivia Jane Henderson |
| 11 | Maura Reissig |
| 15 | Judy Sax |
| 19 | Samuel Stepanovich |
| 20 | Gary Underwood |
| 21 | Rebecca Domalski, Melissa Backus |
| 26 | Don Mansfield |
| 28 | Don Betsinger |
| 29 | Linda Flood |
| 31 | John Christie |

Nuts and Bolts

April Council Meeting Highlights

1. Approved Linda Flood & Pete Gregory to be St. John's representatives at this Spring's Synod Assembly in Rochester.
2. Discussed the importance of beginning to pay back the \$6000 we borrowed in March from the Capital Fund, in small monthly increments if need be, in order to balance our overall financial standing
3. Tim Brown & Ethan Minkel to review true definition & scope of the Mutual Ministry Committee
4. Reviewed & discussed current standing of Confirmation-eligible students
5. Reviewed & discussed current status of prospective Bell Tower project, and our need to proceed appropriately by properly informing Congregation that the Bell Tower construction, with or without Bells, is still contingent on a Congregational Meeting, where questions and concerns will be able to be heard by all members

May 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-8:15 Cello Lessons	2 Spring Fling
3 <u>5th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	4 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-6:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-7:00 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	7 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Holy Yoga 7:00 Cub Scouts	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-8:15 Cello Lessons	9
10 <u>6th Sunday of Easter</u> <u>Mother's Day</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	11 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-6:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Church Council 7:00 Boy Scouts	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-7:00 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	14 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Holy Yoga	15 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-8:15 Cello Lessons	16 Spring Cleanup 8:30-Lunch
17 <u>7th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	18 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-6:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	19 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-7:00 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	21 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Holy Yoga 7:00 Cub Scouts	22 7:00-6:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-8:15 Cello Lessons	23
24 <u>Day of Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	25 <u>Memorial Day</u>	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-7:00 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	27 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	28 <i>Synod Assembly</i> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study 1:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Holy Yoga	29 <i>Synod Assembly</i> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:15-8:15 Cello Lessons	30 <i>Synod Assembly</i> 5:00 & 7:00 The Great Fondue
31 <u>Holy Trinity Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion & Confirmation						