

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – May 2016

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

According to Acts 1:3 Jesus ascended into heaven 40 days after the resurrection. Thus Ascension Day is always celebrated 40 days after Easter. This year it falls on May 5th. I've said many times that Ascension Day is an important church holiday. Theologians rank its importance right up there with Good Friday/Easter and Christmas. Yet we, and most of the people in our culture, almost completely ignore it. I don't know why. Perhaps because it always falls on a Thursday and Thursdays are just not days that we do church things. Or perhaps because it is a purely Christian holiday and not filled with all sorts of pagan trappings the way Christmas and Easter are. (And let's face it. It's the pagan trappings that make those holidays fun.) Whatever the case, Ascension Day is an important holiday, and though we don't have plans to celebrate it as a congregation we do well to note it.

At first thought the ascension is a puzzling and perhaps sad thing. Why did Jesus have to leave? Why couldn't he stay? Wouldn't it have been easier for the church to grow if Jesus had stayed around? If Jesus was still around we could go and visit him and get answers to all sorts of questions. But this is not the case.

When we think about it a bit we realize that Jesus did indeed have to leave us if our faith was ever to mature. Christian faith is not based on Jesus sticking around on earth forever. It is about we ourselves being Christ in the world today. If Jesus had never left we would be like grown children who never move out of our parents' house. It would be like never getting a driver's license or completing school. We would be spiritual infants immaturely stuck to Jesus. Only by Jesus leaving us could we ever fully become us.

On May 5th I encourage you to do something to celebrate Ascension Day. It doesn't have to be elaborate. Perhaps

it can be as simple as including it in your prayer before supper. Or read the first chapter of Acts where we learn about Jesus' ascension and what the disciples did in response to it. Whatever you do, do something to recognize the day. I'll try to remember to post a reminder on our Facebook page.

May our resurrected and ascended Lord always be with you to inspire you and help you grow.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Nuts and Bolts

Special Congregational Meeting – May 22

A special congregational meeting will be held on May 22nd after the 10:30 worship service. The purpose of this meeting is to follow up on a couple property improvement projects. These include the parking lot and the fellowship hall. Look for displays in the gathering area in the weeks ahead about what is being proposed.

2016 Church Directory Corrections and Updates

Please make these additions and corrections to your 2016 Church Directory:

Correction:

Remove John and Pat CiPollina's home phone and add their cell numbers:

John 516 457-3498

Pat 516 457-3536

Worship

May Worship Assistants

	May 1	May 8	May 15	May 22	May 29
Greeters & Ushers	Mike & Bettina Kalish	Tom & Lisa Kurilovitch	Sally & Don Mansfield	Sue Kaufmann & Linda Flood	Ethan & Lynne Minkel
Lector	Ellen Storch (8:30) Gary Boisseau (10:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30) Nancy Bassett (10:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30) Diane Boncke (10:30)	Susie Maynard (8:30) Bruce Boncke (10:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30) Tim Brown (10:30)
Acolyte	Ally Buch	Kelsey Sackett	Nolan Fields	Emi Perdan	Marlene Stimmel
Altar Care	Liz Brown		Liz Brown		Liz Brown
Communion Assistants	Rob Stroup & Joe Pow III		Cindy Swigart & Joy Lethbridge		Tim & Liz Brown
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan	Katy Stimmel	Kristi Bullwinkle	Lynne Minkel	Laura Stroup
Counters	Bruce Boncke & Art Fields	Ethan & Lynne Minkel	Babette Huber & Burdie Gillern	John & Linda Thompson	Nancy & Ivan Shuler
Coffee Hour	5 th & 6 th Grade Sunday School	Men of the Church	Marcia Zavacki		

Nuts and Bolts (Cont.)

April Council Highlights

- Treasurer's Report noted that we are currently 2 months behind in our commitment to Synod. Council approved using funds from the Contingency Fund to meet our Synod commitment. The hope is that the current financial situation is seasonal (i.e. due to snow plowing bills) and the funds can be returned to the Contingency Fund in the next few months.
- Audit of Church finances is complete and positive. A few open questions are under review – nothing major in nature.
- Council approved Pete Gregory & Linda Flood to represent St. Johns at the Synod Assembly on 5/5-5/6.
- Council approved Ethan & Lynne Minkel to represent St. Johns at the Conference Assembly on May 14th.
- Council approved Confirmation Students for June Confirmation.

-Congregational meeting to be held in May (22nd) to review Property Capital considerations (additional details on the Fellowship Hall / repair needs of the Parking Lot)

Service

Meals at RIT

St. John's will be the cooks at RIT on May 1 for the LECM (Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry) Sunday Night Dinner and Worship. Keep watch in the bulletin for ways you can help or check with Pastor Jon or Linda Flood.

Service (Cont.)

Community Outreach Committee



World Hunger Barns

Thank you to everyone who took a barn bank to buy goats for the ELCA Good Gifts program. We have received over \$1051.00. That's 21 1/5 goats! Thank you to everyone who gave generously. Your generosity is helping people around the world to become self-sufficient.



Sewing Day

"Sewing Day" was at church on Wednesday, April 13. We made 19 faceless dolls for Strong's Children's Unit. The dolls will be/were dedicated at the 10:30 worship service on April 24.



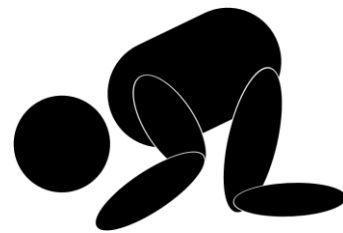
-Thank you to everyone who helped with cooking the pancake breakfast on Easter.

-Thank you to the Property Committee for their prep work for the special congregational meeting on May 22.

-Thank you to everyone who participated in the sewing day on April 13.

Thank you to all the special musicians who shared their gifts on Easter and throughout the month of March.

Thank you to those who volunteered to help with the blood drive and to those who donated cookies.



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 and is in a nursing home.

Linda Ellis who has metastases on her spine and hip.

Jim Lethbridge who continues to recover from shoulder surgery.

John Thompson who continues to recover from back surgery.

Jeanette Hare who has returned to the hospital with ongoing health problems.

Amy Plouffe who was recently diagnosed with cancer in a couple areas of her body. She has had some surgery and begun treatments. So far she is responding well.

Jim Nohe who was recently moved to the Wayne County Nursing Home.

The family and friends of Jim Huntington, Linda Morley's brother, as they mourn his death.

Fun

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 Joshua 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



April Bible Trivia Answers – Resurrection

Appearances

- 1. How many people were on the road to Emmaus when the resurrected Jesus met them? Answer: 2 (Luke 24:13)
- 2. Who was the first person to encounter the resurrected Jesus? Answer: Mary Magdalene (John 20:1)
- 3. How many days after the resurrection did Jesus appear to Thomas? Answer: 7 (John 20:26)
- 4. How many days was it between the resurrection and the ascension? Answer 40 (Acts 1)

May Bible Trivia Questions – Grapes and Vines

- 1. What did the Israelite spies sent into Canaan bring back?
- 2. What creature at the vine that gave shade to Jonah?
- 3. Who threshed wheat in a winepress to hide it from the Midianites?
- 4. What miracles did Jesus perform at Cana in Galilee?

May 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>6th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 6:00 St. John's Cooks at RIT	2 <u>Philip and James, Apostles</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga I 7:00 Boy Scouts	3 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	4 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	5 <u>Ascension of Our Lord</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12: Bible Study	6 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	7
8 <u>7th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Mothers' Day	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga I 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council	10 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	11 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous 4-8 Piano Lessons	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Worship & Music Committee 7:00 Girl Scouts	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	14 <u>Matthias, Apostle</u> Conference Spring Assembly at Zion, Cohocton
15 <u>Day of Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00 Holy Yoga 7:00 Boy Scouts	17 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	18 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	19 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	21 8-4 Retrouvaille
22 <u>The Holy Trinity</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Special Congregational Meeting	23 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 10:00 Holy Yoga 7:00 Boy Scouts	24 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	25 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00-1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Girl Scouts	27 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	28
29 <u>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	30 <u>Memorial Day</u>	31 <u>Visit of Mary to Elizabeth</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Property Committee 7:00 Community Chorus				