

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – May 2018

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

I feel like it's getting impossible for our nation to have a civil conversation about an important issue. It doesn't matter whether it is gun control, or the environment, or our elected leaders, or scientific thought, or health care, or on and on can go the list. People draw up lines and connect themselves to people who think like them. Then they stop listening and start condemning those who disagree with them. Civil debate is a great strength of our culture, but that seems to have gone out the window!

As a pastor it is easy to say that we should all remember to focus on the love of Christ and use that as the foundation of how we treat each other. Indeed that would be a theologically astute answer. However, that would also be pointless. When the church cries "Love, love, love," in our world today it sounds childish and weak. Telling people to be nice to each other is absurd. The world simply steps on 'nice people'.

There is a better way. I've brought that up in a couple sermons and I'm going to repeat it here. We are all joined in our sin – from the sweetest person you know to the most rotten scoundrel you've ever met. We all fall short of the glory of God. We all fail. No one deserves the love God has for us. I like to quote Martin Luther's last written words. They were found in a scrap of paper in a pocket of the clothes he was wearing when he died, "We are beggars. It is true."

For me at least, when I see someone I vehemently disagree with I remember the thing that joins us – that we both need God's grace. No matter how much of an idiot I think someone is, I know that both of us will stand before God unworthy and undeserving. There is no logic to God's grace. There is no controlling it or limiting it. God is God, and God has said that his ultimate nature is self-giving love. If God excludes someone from his grace, that is God's decision. It is no business of mine. My business is to turn to God for help, and to try to witness to the love I find in God.

Don't get the idea that I mean us to act all weak and underserving; and that would solve things. No, I think there is great strength and genuine humility in knowing your brokenness. You can still disagree with someone, and disagree vehemently. As Christians we are to stand up to hatred, greed, and anything that diminishes the value of what God has created. But when you know you need God's grace it takes away the arrogant edge and feeling of superiority that comes from winning an argument. It takes away the desire to step on someone else in order to move yourself up.

Let me conclude with these words from 2 Timothy: "Proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will have itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths." (2 Timothy 4:2-4)

This is truth – you need God's grace. Let that truth lead you always.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon



Our Current Christian Education for Adults

Adult Sunday School - Science and Faith video series from Luther Seminary.

High School Sunday School - Netflix series *Stranger Things* and Christian study guide.

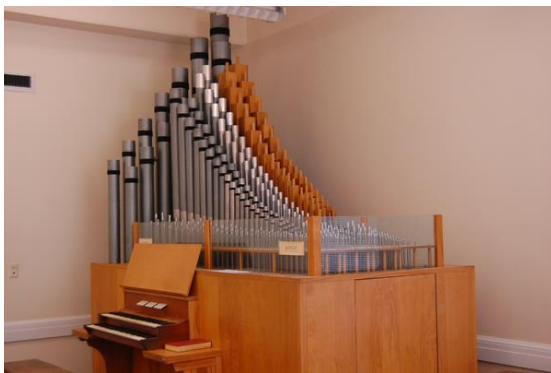
Men's Breakfast – *Earthbound* series about faith and ecology, meets Wednesdays at 8:30

Women's Bible Study – Articles and study guides from *Living Lutheran*, meets Thursdays at 1:00

Worship

May Worship Assistants

	May 6	May 13	May 20	May 27
Greeters & Ushers	Tom & Lisa Kurilovitch	John & Gay Card	Mike & Cassie Ross	Mike & Bettina Kalish
Lector	Susie Maynard (8:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30)
Acolyte	Abbie Bullwinkle	Hanna Stroup	Katya Kurilovitch	Molly Perdan
Altar Care	Linda Thompson		Linda Thompson	
Communion Assistants	Paul & Babette Huber		Nancy & Ivan Shuler	Tricia Kolczynski & Beth Bright
Nursery Care	Laura Stroup	Kristi Bullwinkle	Judy VanDeVelde	Katy Stimmel
Counters	Beth Perdan & Bettina Kalish	Tom Kurilovitch & Helen Crown	John & Linda Thompson	Tim Brown & Bill Hagarman
Coffee Hour				Church Council



The Trinity Organ

Several years ago Trinity Lutheran Church in East Rochester closed. Their small pipe organ was removed and placed in storage. Shortly before Easter we learned that Trinity's remaining members wanted to donate the organ to us. After doing some research we accepted the gift. The photo above is not the actual organ but it is one like it. In the coming months the organ will be installed in the back of the sanctuary. Our existing organ, a gift from Jim and Joy Lethbridge, will be relocated to the Fellowship Hall. Jim Spawton has experience working

on pipe organs like this and will oversee its reassembly. If you'd like to have a part in getting this organ playing again please talk to Jim!



May Worship Texts

We continue looking at the Seven Signs in John's gospel during May, with a couple exceptions!

May 6 – Feeding 5000, John 6:5-14
 May 13 – Walking on Water, John 6:16-24
 May 20 – Pentecost Day, John 15:26-16:15
 May 27 – Holy Trinity Day, Confirmation

Confirmation Day is May 27

Not all of our confirmands are available for Confirmation on May 27th. Two of them will be confirmed on June 17.

Nuts and Bolts

April Council Highlights

- Reviewed the Financial Secretary's report which shows we have 22 pledges that are under plan totaling \$5701. Quarterly reports should encourage those behind to catch up.
- Discussed garden project ideas including locating the venue on or closer to church property.
- Heard plan for a Fellowship outing of a Beer and Wine Tasting Tour in the spring.
- Learned that Family Promise has \$150,000 of funding toward their start-up costs.
- Identified actions to close gaps for our committee leadership positions.
- Determined the plan to evaluate the Pipe Organ from Pittsford that is available to us.
- Urged Council members to identify congregants not seen in a while and to invite them to church activities.
- Recognized the web site needs to be modernized with more pictures, blogs, calendar, etc.
- Considered Evangelism ideas, deciding door to door solicitation was not recommended, but instead bringing music to community centers and focusing on hands-on service projects.
- Decided to write a record retention policy and to take initial steps to get church records organized.
- Reviewed performance appraisals for Pastor Jon and Heidi.
- Identified main goals for 2018 to include focus on upgrading our sound and video systems.
- Submitted by Tim Brown

Financial Update

2018 YTD	Income	Expenses	Difference
March	53,652.61	52,201.56	1,451.05



"I won't be coming to church any more, Reverend - I've decided to convert to golf."

Copyright Rex May

Service

Community Outreach Committee

FUNDS RAISED FOR WORLD HUNGER

The "Pig Project" that we participated in during Lent collected \$600.00 for World Hunger. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Food Cupboard Fundraiser

MAMA'S TOMOTTO'S BIRTHDAY FUNDRAISER

The 8th annual fund raiser that supports the Victor Farmington Food Cupboard is scheduled for Monday, May 21 at Otto's on Route 96 in the Phoenix Mills Plaza. Pasta dinners will be available from 3 pm to 9 pm; \$5.00 purchases a spaghetti and meatball dinner including bread and butter and birthday cake.

Check the flyer in the Gathering Area.

Corporate Sponsorships are also available for this event that offer the sponsor individual lunches through July 31, 2018 as well as corporate recognition via Legends 102.7 radio on the day of the event, May 21, 2018. Info about these sponsorships are also posted on the bulletin board.

All proceeds from this fundraiser are given directly to the Food Cupboard.

Check with Linda Flood if you have questions.



Garden Project 2018

It's time to get this year's garden started! The garden is moving to the Mike and Cassie Ross' property, which is just down the road from the church. Hopefully this easier access will make it easier on our volunteers. We'll also have a test plot behind the church shed. If that goes well we may move the garden to the church in 2019. We'll again be planting potatoes, sweet corn, and pumpkins. Thrivent is funding the planting costs through their action team grants.

The ideal time to plant all of these things is the last week of May. Since weather conditions are unpredictable we can't set an exact date. Look to the weekly bulletin insert for specifics as we reach the end of May. Also, if you have plants or seeds from your own garden that you do not need, please consider donating them. As in years past we'll either donate the produce to the food cupboard or sell it to raise funds for World Hunger. Talk to Pastor Jon for more information.

Service (Cont.)



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.

Amy Plouffe, who is growing stronger. Cancer treatments may resume.

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.

Ethan Minkel as he recovers from liver transplant surgery.



-Thank you to our cooks for the Lenten breakfasts and the Easter pancake breakfast: Gary Boisseau, Jim Spawton, and Gary Wood

-Thank you to everyone who provided food for the Maundy Thursday dinner church.

-Thank you to everyone who made soup or bread for the mid-week Lenten services.

-Thank you to Heidi Griffith and all our musicians for their work on the U2Charist service on Good Friday.

-Thank you to Joy Lethbridge for making the labels for the Easter flowers.

-Thank you to everyone who ordered a flower to beautify the sanctuary for Easter.

-Thank you to Ted and Marilyn Bair for their work assembling the worship bulletins each week.

-Thank you to the Shulers for leading the communion education class and for the special cake for the 1st Communion coffee hour.

-Thank you to everyone who provided baked goods for the Red Cross blood drive.

-Thank to everyone who helped to staff the sign-in and canteen at the blood drive.



Family Promise Bed Race!

Last year our church didn't field a team for the bed race, but we don't want to make that mistake again! Please see the full page article on the next page for information about the race. Talk to Tim Brown, Cindy Swigart, or Pastor Jon if you're interested in being on our team.

Fun



April Trivia Answers – The end of Mark

1. What Roman governor (prefect) questioned Jesus?
Answer: Pilate (Mark 15:1)
2. Who carried the cross for Jesus? Answer: Simon of Cyrene (Mark 15:21)
3. What does the centurion at the foot of the cross say when Jesus dies? Answer: "Truly this man was God's Son." (Mark 15:39)
4. Where does the young man in the empty tomb tell the women to go to see the resurrected Jesus? Answer: Galilee (Mark 16:7)

May Trivia Questions – The 7 Signs in John

1. Which is the first of the seven signs Jesus performs?
2. How many people does Jesus feed with five loaves and two fish?
3. What does the man who was sick for 38 years do that offends the religious leaders?
4. Where were the disciples headed when they see Jesus walking on the water?



**Family Promise of Ontario County is proud to announce the
Second Annual FPOC 2018 Bed Race**

Saturday, July 28, 2018 on the Canandaigua City Pier
in partnership with the Canandaigua Lakefront Art Show Team
Registration 9:00 am
Parade and Race: 10:00 am

Registration Now Open and Team Registration Packet Available! Please download information and register ON-LINE at www.FamilyPromiseOntarioCounty.org HIGHLIGHTS The Bed Race is FPOC's major fundraising event. Teams of five (one rider and four runners) will construct an actual bed on wheels and decorate it with the theme of their choice. Teams enter the competition and race their beds, using manpower only, against other teams for awards and prizes. Each team raises money that will support the Family Promise program to help homeless children and their families become sustainably independent.

The racecourse is a straight run approximately 150 yards long along Pier Road.

Awards are given for the most money raised by a team, the fastest bed per division, and the best theme. Additionally, the Most Spirited team and the "Crowd Favorite" also win awards!

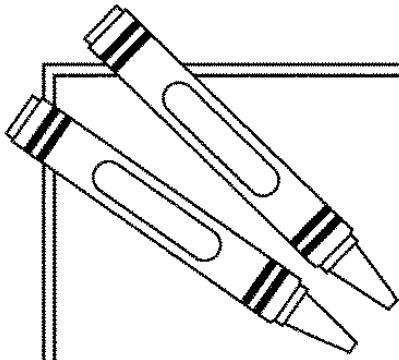
Team Divisions: (All teams may be combined into the Road Hog Division if not enough have entered separate divisions)

- Hot Wheels (ages 12 to 14 only) Rider must be at least 12 years old and weigh at least 75 lbs. EVERY team member MUST be between 12-14 years old.
- Lead Feet (ages 15 to 18 only) Rider must be at least 15 years old and weigh a minimum Of 100 lbs. EVERY member MUST be between 15-18 years old.
- Road Hogs (mixed ages 14+) Rider must at least 14 years old and weigh at least 100 lbs. Team members are of mixed ages 14+ years old.
- Sunday Drivers (runners ages 40+ only) Rider must be 14+ and weigh a minimum of 100 lbs. EVERY RUNNING team member must be 40+ years old.

ENTRY FEE \$100 per team. Payment can be done online while completing registration before Thursday, July 12th at www.familypromiseontariocounty.org.

MAY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	2 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	3 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:30 Amadeus Chorale	4 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:30 Amadeus Chorale	5
6 <u>6th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship 12:00 Worship and Music Committee 2:30-4:00 Boy Scouts	7 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	10 <u>Ascension Day</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 6:30 Jim Lethbridge Funeral	11 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:30 Amadeus Chorale	12
13 <u>7th Sunday of Easter</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School, 10:30 Holy Communion 2:30-4:00 Boy Scouts	14 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:00 Church Council	15 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	17 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study	18 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	19
20 <u>Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship 1:00 Kolczynski Eagle Scout 2:30-4:00 Boy Scouts	21 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 Holy Yoga 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons	22 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	23 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	24 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study	25 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3-8 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	26 9:00-12:00 Vipassina Meditation
29 <u>The Holy Trinity</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion & Confirmation 2:30-4:00 Boy Scouts	28 <u>Memorial Day</u>	29 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	30 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast 3:00-8:00 Music Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	31 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study		



Just for KIDS

"And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds' And God saw it was good."
-Genesis 1:24-25

Unscramble these words to find names of animals that are found in the Bible.

ntalepoe _____ Deuteronomy 14:5

cooircdle _____ Leviticus 11:30

prdleoa _____ Revelation 13:2

hpsee _____ Deuteronomy 14:5

zilrda _____ Leviticus 11:29

ttcael _____ Genesis 1:25

uomse _____ Leviticus 11:29

mealc _____ Genesis 12:16

oatg _____ Deuteronomy 14:5

rhsoe _____ 1 Kings 10:25

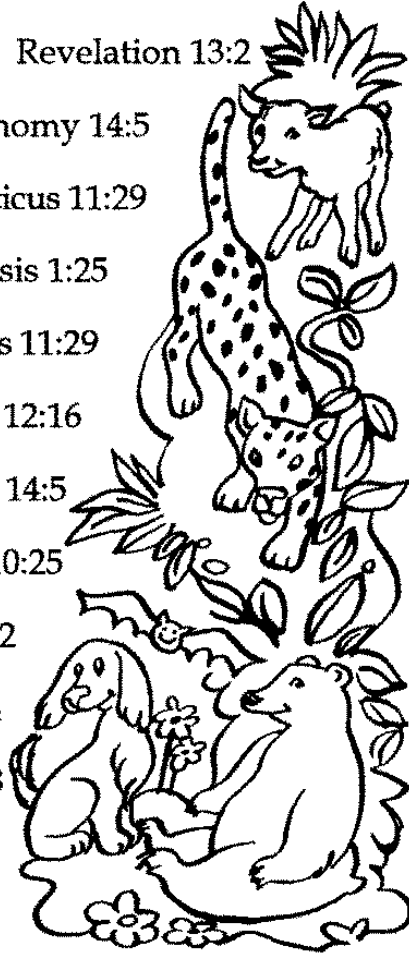
earb _____ Revelation 13:2

niol _____ 1 Samuel 17:34

abt _____ Deuteronomy 14:18

eap _____ 1 Kings 10:22

odg _____ Exodus 22:31





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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The Reverend Jonathan Deibler, Pastor

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Address Service Requested

May Newsletter

27 – Confirmation