

# On Eagle's Wings



## St. John's Monthly Newsletter – May 2020

### Growth

#### Pastor's Paragraphs

Ephesians 2:10 says, "For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." These words remind us of the purpose of our existence – to do good works. Those good works are not intended to earn God's favor or bring about our salvation. Those good works are the natural response to God's goodness. The challenge these days is, how do we do those good works?

Many people love the idea of leisure. But if you're a person who has been idled these last weeks, or you are retired from work and are now isolated, the idea of leisure may be getting frustrating. Work (and not just a paid job) makes us feel worthwhile. There is great satisfaction in accomplishing things.

When we can't accomplish things all sorts of things can go wrong. I've heard that depression, anxiety, and other mental health problems have gone up. People caught in abusive relationships are being hurt more than ever. Substance abuse is rising. Traffic to internet gambling and pornography sites are going through the roof.

Maybe you are coping well. Maybe you are not. Maybe you are loving the leisure that is before you. Maybe you are working harder than ever. We are a diverse group and experiencing different things. But there is a universal lesson for all of us. Remember these words from St. Paul to the Philippians:

"Beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about doing these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you." (Philippians 4:8-9)

Blessings,  
Pastor Jon

#### Children's Sunday School

Children's Sunday school is continuing with materials posted on the Sunday school's Facebook page. Please be in touch with Jen White if you have any questions.

#### Men's Breakfast

The Wednesday morning men's breakfast is continuing via Zoom. Instead of gathering in person the group is viewing and discussing a variety of YouTube videos. If you would like to join in please ask Pastor Jon for the Zoom link.

### Worship

#### Sunday Worship Using Zoom

Sunday worship continues at 10:30 via Zoom.

##### If you have a computer and internet connection:

The link to the service is emailed out and it is available on the website.

##### If you cannot connect with a computer:

You can still hear and participate in the service with any phone. Use the most appropriate phone number below and enter the meeting number when you are asked.

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 633 444 211

#### Baptismal Font on Tour

Last year during the Easter season we began worship with a remembrance of baptism, rather than the usual confession and forgiveness. The remembrance was read while water was poured into the font. Since we can't worship together in the sanctuary this Easter season the font is going to our houses. Each week a different family will have the bowl part of the font and lead that part of the service. If you would like to do it please be in touch with Pastor Jon.

## Worship (Cont.)



### Holy Communion

The Presiding Bishop, Rev. Elizabeth Eaton, and our synod bishop, Rev. John Macholz, are asking congregations not to have communion when we are unable to worship together. It is difficult, if not impossible, to truly have communion when we cannot actually gather. God's grace is bigger than our abilities or inabilities. God certainly prefers us to be safe rather than reckless.

For the Maundy Thursday service worshippers were encouraged to make a simple bread recipe and enjoy eating it along with some wine (or grape juice) during the service. While it won't be "communion" we will do that again on the first Sunday in May. So, make some bread, grab some wine or grape juice, and have it while we worship. Here's the bread recipe again:

1 cup flour  
2 Tbsp oil  
1/3 cup water  
1/8 tsp salt  
1 Tbsp sugar

Mix all ingredients, split into four balls, press each ball on a cookie sheet to the flatness of a sugar cookie, then bake 10-12 minutes in a 425 degree oven



### May Gospel Readings

May 3 – Matthew 5:1-16  
May 10 – Matthew 5:17-48  
May 17 – Matthew 6:1-18  
May 24 – Matthew 6:19-7:12  
May 31 (Pentecost) – 7:13-28

## Worship Candles



Just before worship begins we usually light the candles on the altar. Since we aren't worshipping together you are invited to light a candle in your home when we begin. Of course you may use any candle you wish, but we are making some special ones. Stubs of old altar candles, an old Paschal candle, and some new wax are being melted down and poured into toilet paper tubes to make new candles. These are available at church to pick up. There is a box with them outside the old entrance door. Please only one candle per family.

When we are able to worship together again you are invited to return your candle. It will be melted down yet again and used with the lint we collected during Lent.

## Nuts and Bolts

### April Council Highlights

Church council held its regular monthly meeting on April 20. Major items were:

- Update on finances; cash flow remains relatively good
- Feedback on using Zoom for worship
- Practices and policies for when we are able to return to worshipping together
- Improving internet signal in the sanctuary
- Sound system upgrades
- Building and grounds preparation for summer

### Finances

As of March 31

YTD Income \$48,071.30

YTD Expenses \$48,274.22

Difference (\$202.92)

Please remember to keep up with your offerings even as we are not meeting on Sunday mornings. If you have offering envelopes you know that they are designed to be put in the mail. Even better, if you haven't signed up for Simply Giving, please consider it. It is an automatic withdrawal from your bank account. Please be in touch with Dave Bullwinkle, our financial secretary, for more information. He can be reached at:

[dbullwinkle@frontier.com](mailto:dbullwinkle@frontier.com)

## Service



**May 8**

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The need for blood is constant. Due to Covid19 many of the planned blood drives have needed to be rearranged. St. John's has been asked to fill in for a bloodmobile drive where social distancing could not be observed. We will be hosting another drive on May 8 from 8:00-1:00! Once again, it will be run with a minimum of volunteers (2) and no yummy goodies (pre-packaged only). Every precaution will be taken to stop the vile virus. this includes; masking, gloves, temperature checks, social distancing, and wiping everything down with alcohol wipes (a lot). The Red Cross appreciates our ability to step up and fill in.



- Thank you to Bettina Kalish for counting the offerings and other income each week.
- Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to help with the food cupboard emergency food distribution.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped with music for our Zoom worship services.
- Thank you to Beth Schroeder, Beth Perdan, and Emi & Molly for repainting the Sunday school hallway and big room.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped in readings in our worship services and all who have provided feedback for improvements.
- Thank you to Tom Urbanic and Bruce & Connie Stevenson for their work with property clean-up this spring.
- Thank you to all our Sunday school leaders for developing the homeschool and Facebook models for our Sunday school children.
- Thank you to the Sunday school children for making art to display in worship and to send to shut-ins.
- Thank you to Joy Lethbridge for sharing the poem from her mother.

## Spring Clean-Up at Church

We will probably not be able to have our annual spring clean-up day this year. However, there is still work to do! If you are able to accomplish one of these tasks in the next few weeks please contact our property committee chair, Tom Urbanic.

### OUTSIDE PROJECTS

- Repair grass areas damaged by snow plowing  
Pick up branches from the grass areas to facilitate mowing.
- Clean up gardens- general cleanup of the bed & mulch where needed
- Garden by road sign - edge, remove large weeds & re-mulch
- Ponds- cut down cattails
- Memorial Garden - General cleanup of debris, purchase additional gravel for walkway (church will reimburse), edge the bed
- Apple trees - Weed around base, fertilize, mulch
- Round up gravel areas around the church building
- String trim the Outdoor Chapel and around pine trees

### INSIDE PROJECTS

- Wash all the windows inside and out
- Shampoo the blue green carpet in Gathering area

## From the ELCA:

### COVID-19 Response Fund

With congregations and ministries across the country, and a network of companion churches and partners in over 70 countries around the world, we anticipate this crisis will affect us all. Your gifts to the ELCA's [COVID-19 Response Fund](#) will provide funds to the ministries of the ELCA most in need and best positioned to help. This includes our congregations as well as local and churchwide ministries capable of reaching and assisting those in need. **If you are able, please help with a gift today.**

## Service (Cont.)



PRAYER IN ACTION IS LOVE.  
LOVE IN ACTION IS SERVICE.

### A Word of Gratitude from Family Promise of Ontario County:

These are trying times for everyone, more so for those most vulnerable in our community. FPOC wanted to take a moment and thank all of you, our volunteers and community partners for the immense outpouring of love in action! We have been blessed with *abundance* in all things. We have been able to support and care for our guests and graduates BECAUSE you have given so much. Thank you!

### Know a landlord?

FPOC is looking for permanent housing for our guests. We are looking to build relationships with landlords, establish solid business partnerships, cultivate connections that will build a healthier community as a whole.

Contact our director  
Brenda Spratt  
(585)410-4654

### Family Promise of Ontario County RELIEF FUND

This fund is money used to directly impact the lives of the families we serve. Whether through a security deposit, the fee to get a driver's license or new clothes to wear for an interview, this money is goes to support our families in overcoming that last barrier to independent living.

Please consider making a donation today.

Visit our website  
[www.familypromiseontariocounty.org](http://www.familypromiseontariocounty.org)  
or mail a gift to  
185 N Main St., Canandaigua NY 14424



- 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.
- Kevin Sackett as he recovers from surgery.
- Bonnie Ousey, sister of Pat CiPollina as she recovers from complications to surgery for her circulatory system.
- Judd Prozeller, friend of the Kolczynskis who has COVID-19 and is receiving treatments.
- Karen Underwood who has adrenal failure and isn't sure what comes next.



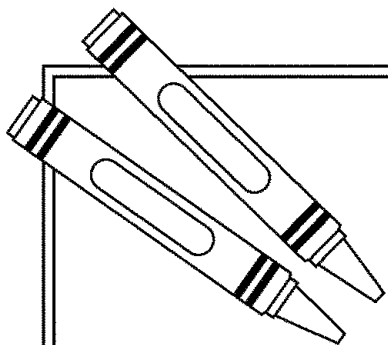
Hint: All the answers can be found in this month's gospel readings on Sundays.

### April Bible Trivia Answers

1. What (or who) meets the women at the empty tomb? Answer: An angel (Matthew 28:2)
2. What does Jesus authorize the disciples to do for the first time in the gospel when he gives the great commission? Answer: Teach (Matthew 28:20)
3. How much was Judas paid to betray Jesus? Answer: 30 pieces of silver (Matthew 26:15)
4. What is the name of the other prisoner Pilate offered to free instead of Jesus? Answer: Jesus Barabbas (Matthew 27:16)

### May Bible Trivia Questions

1. Where does Jesus say you *do not* put a lamp after lighting it?
2. Complete this sentence: "Where your treasure is..."
3. Jesus says he has not come to abolish the law but to what?
4. Jesus says if someone takes your coat to give what as well?



Just for

KIDS

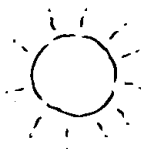
# "GROWING"



Peter, Jesus' disciple, wrote these words in about A.D. 67. He was telling how to grow as a Christian. Find the underlined words in the puzzle. The 19 letters that remain will tell you who Peter wrote the words for.

"...make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love .... grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

2 Peter 1:5, 3:18



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# **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**