

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – November 2015

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

It's that time of year again – the time we make plans for our ministries and budget for the next year. You either have received, or you'll soon be receiving your stewardship materials, including time and talent sheets and a request to make a financial pledge.

I hope you prayerfully talk with God about how to use your resources in the coming year. Those resources include your time, talents, and finances. And while it may sound counterintuitive, I believe your resources also include your wants and needs. Those places in your life where you feel discontent or frustration can also be God's Spirit nudging you. Even the things which anger us can be God calling us to put attention there. We forget that while the church needs our support in talents and finances, it also needs our needs. Without needs to address the church cannot be very effective.

I'm going to add two sections to our time and talent sheets this year. The first one is about what I've just mentioned – letting the church know your needs. Some needs could be simple things like a bit of help with fall clean-up of your yard. Some things could be deeply spiritual like developing a better prayer life or deeper Bible study. And some needs could be very practical, like providing a break from the high stress and fast pace of life. Whatever the needs are, I hope you will give them too.

The other section I want to include is to ask what your job or vocation is. I want to then include them in the Prayer of the Church we do in worship. The church often overlooks the spiritual importance of what we do on a daily basis to make a living. If you are retired, or a stay-at-home parent, or a student that is an important vocation too, and it should be prayed for.

Finally when talking about stewardship, I want to thank many of you for your commitment and flexibility this year. We approved a budget with a large deficit. We knew we'd have to be financially tight. Then we had some unforeseen issues like the big lawn mower failing. Through your creativity and flexibility we've engaged all of these problems well. And we've even had fun doing it too!

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

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All Saints Remembrance

All Saints Day is November 1st. As a part of worship services that day the names of all congregational members and friends of the congregation who have died during the past year will be read. If you have a friend or family member you'd like to have included in the prayers please give the name to Pastor Jon.

Worship

November Worship Assistants

	November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22	November 29
Greeters & Ushers	Kathy & Dana Bell	Gary & Kim Boisseau	Diane & Bruce Boncke	Liz & Tim Brown	Gay & John Card
Lector	Suzanne Maynard (8:30) Jeanne Christman (10:30)	Kevin Maynard (8:30) Linda Flood (10:30)	Jeff Carnrite (8:30) Phyllis Henderson (10:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30) Paul Huber (10:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30) Tricia Kolczynski (10:30)
Acolyte	Sarah/Hannah Brownlee	Nolan Fields	Emi Perdan	Marlene Stimmel	Nick Stuart
Altar Care	Linda Thompson		Linda Thompson		Linda Thompson
Communion Assistants	Nancy & Ivan Shuler		Connie & Bruce Stevenson		John & Linda Thompson
Nursery Care	Beth Perdan	Laura Stroup	Lynne Minkel	Katy Stimmel	Kristi Bullwinkle
Counters	Linda & John Thompson	Helen Crown & Tom Kurilovitch	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Don Mansfield & Tim Brown	Beth Perdan & Bettina Kalish

Questions About God and Faith

Last month the congregation was asked to contribute its questions about God, faith and the church to the Worship and Music Committee. The idea was to use these questions to create our worship services during October and November. However, very few responses were received, so we won't go forward with the idea. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Christmas Gift Lists will be up on Sunday, November 22 to Sunday, December 13. Gifts will be given to families in need in the Victor and Canandaigua school districts this year.

The Mitten Tree will be up by November 23. Your donations of scarves, mittens, gloves and hats will go to the Victor Resource Center in our area.

Service

Community Outreach Committee

Our collection for food to help fill **Thanksgiving Baskets for Victor Farmington Food Cupboard** ends on November 1. (See the full list on the next page.) There is a sign up list on the bulletin board if anyone can help sort food and help make up and distribute baskets on November 18 and 19. The food cupboard is also looking for volunteers to help with a similar distribution at Christmas. Thanks so much to everyone who helps with this project to get food to the people in our own community for this holiday.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who helped with lawn mowing in October.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the fall clean-up day on October 17.

Thank you to everyone who purchased pumpkins from the garden project.

Thank you to our youth for helping to harvest pumpkins. Thank you to our musicians for providing music while Heidi was on vacation.

Thank you to Rob Stroup and everyone who helped lead the hymn sing when Pastor Jon was on vacation.

Service (Cont.)

Lutheran World Relief Warehouse

The school kits and health care kits we recently created have been delivered to Lutheran World Relief's warehouse in Maryland. See the photos below, and thank you to everyone who contributed to the kits!



The holding area for incoming kits. Ours are on the cart!



One of the aisles in the warehouse with materials from Lutheran World Relief ready for shipment.

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.
Linda Ellis who has metastases on her spine and hip.
Jim Lethbridge who lives in poor health.
The family and friends of Beth Dutton, sister-in-law of Cassie Ross and Gay Card as they mourn her death.
Ron Pape who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and has decided not to receive treatments.

Thanksgiving Baskets



This year we will again be helping to fill baskets that the Victor Farmington Food Cupboard will give to their clients. Last year 582 baskets were distributed.

Items needed are:

- Turkey 15lbs. or more
- White potatoes
- Gravy 12 oz. jar
- Stuffing 6 oz. box
- Corn 14oz. can
- Cranberry sauce 14oz. can
- Fruit (any type) 15 oz. can
- Onions small bag of fresh
- Beans 4 cans of 15 oz.
- Mushroom soup 15 oz. can
- French Fried Onion 6 oz. can (like French's)



	Income	Expenses	Difference
Year to Date as of	152,385.27	152,698.51	(313.24)
September 30			

Bills Not Paid

Synod Contribution \$3,750.00 (5 months)

Owe to Capital Fund \$4,375.00

We were able to make a Synod Contribution this month, but we are still 5 months behind. We were also able to pay \$1,000 back to the Capital Fund!

Service (Cont.)

Stewardship and Finance Committee

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"

Stewardship Principals:

Live Genuinely

To Live Genuinely means putting your faith into action. This is the tangible demonstration of what is sincerely in our hearts and where our treasure is, not simply a verbal expression. "I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others." 2 Corinthians 8:8

Accept A Challenge

Accept a challenge means recognizing the dynamic nature of our faith. As our faith grows so will our blessings, and our responsibilities. "...the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." 2 Corinthians 9:6

Fun

Fun for Kids

Christmas Shopping for Grown-Ups

We're planning to offer our members and the surrounding community a kids activity day in December where kids can be dropped off for activities so the adults can go Christmas shopping. We'll have games, activities and movies for the kids. The date will be either Saturday December 5 or Saturday December 12. Right now we're looking for volunteers who can help with staffing. Look to the announcement insert in the bulletin for more information as this comes together, and if you can help please get in touch with Tricia Kolczynski.

Parish Thanksgiving Dinner



The annual Parish Thanksgiving Dinner will be held On Sunday, November 22nd starting at 5:00. Please look for sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the gathering area to see what food items you can bring. This is one of our most popular fellowship events of the year so be sure to bring a empty stomach ready to be filled! We are blessed with some great cooks in this congregation!

November Birthdays

1	Maureen Betsinger, Robert White
2	Emma Deibler
3	Phyllis Henderson
6	Michael Maynard
10	Linda Thompson
13	Andrew Stark
15	Nancy Shuler, Alexander Morley, Jaden White
17	Cindy Friga, Beth Bright
18	Erin Wilmot
20	Carol Phelps
21	Jeanne Christman
23	Hans Finke
24	Hannah Fields
28	Bruce Stevenson
29	Lindsey Clarkson



October Bible Trivia Answers – Strange Ways to Die

1. Who was killed for touching the Ark of the Covenant? Answer: Uzzah (1 Samuel 6:6-7)
2. What husband and wife dropped dead when it was revealed they had lied about the price of possessions they had sold? Answer: Ananias and Sapphira (Acts 5:1-10)
3. What two cities were rained on by fire and brimstone? Answer: Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19:24-25)
4. What was the last plague sent upon the Egyptians? Answer: Death of the firstborn (Exodus 12:29)

November Bible Trivia Questions –Unnamed Women

1. Who was forbidden to mourn the death of his beautiful wife?
2. Who urged her husband to curse God and die?
3. Who had an Israelite servant girl who told him about a cure for leprosy?
4. What city suffered such a terrible famine that two women made a deal to eat their sons?

Excerpts from the Autumn Newsletter from our Missionaries, the Trozzos



Exploring New Countries

This article of Borneo Briefings is coming to you from ... India! Our visas to work in Malaysia expired on September 1, and before we can apply for new ones we must be away from Malaysia for 90 days. With such a big block of time, we needed somewhere to go. Thankfully, Gurukul Lutheran Theological College offered us a place to stay during this time. Gurukul is a Lutheran seminary in Chennai, a large city in southern India formerly known as Madras. It works with the many different Lutheran churches in India, as well as a range of other churches, such as the Church of South India. The Church of South India is a union of Presbyterian, Anglican, and Methodist churches. We are in India until mid-December. We have tourist visas here, and not work visas. This limits what we are able to do somewhat, but we are still able to visit with churches, talk with students and pastors, and assist with some class sessions. The community here has been incredibly welcoming to us.

Prayer requests:

The boys are wearing a bit thin from travelling – their calendar went like this: July 10- finish school in Malaysia, July 11-August 27 cover 4 states in the USA, two days flying through Korea, 2 days in Malaysia to unpack/repack, 3 flights to get to a Christian retreat center in Thailand, 3 weeks there, and now 10 weeks in India. They have been living out of one suitcase each since July, and for friendships have had to start over every time we move. They are troopers – but your prayers would be appreciated. Dante also has an email address now: DanteDiver@tocomail.com. If you would like to send him a word of encouragement or a riddle for a 10-year-old, that could be fun. We return to Malaysia on December 12 so we will get to have our own Christmas tree in our own living room – and that will be wonderful!

Health Update for Wendolyn

What a year it has been. It was on August 13 of 2014 that Wendolyn was diagnosed with cancer. Treatment concluded in March but symptoms from the chemo lingered until August of 2015. This was a difficult time as there could be no guarantee of when the side effects would let up, if at all. Thankfully Wendolyn and the boys were able to return to the U.S. for six weeks this summer. The grandparents gave the kids wonderful attention (they needed it) and Wendolyn got rest and connected with a cancer support group (she needed it). Shortly before returning to Malaysia, Wendolyn's strength and energy returned (alleluia!) and it looks like, aside from routine screenings, cancer isn't in charge anymore. That is wonderful news indeed!

The full newsletter will be posted in the Gathering Area or we can send it to you electronically. Please ask!

November 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <u>All Saints Day</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	2 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	3 6:30-MCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4:00-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	4 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4:00-8:30 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:30- 1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Worship & Music Committee	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale 3:30 Synod Finance Committee	7
8 <u>24th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts 7:00 Church Council	10 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4:00-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	11 <u>Veterans Day</u> 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4:00-8:30 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	12 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	14 1:00-6:30 Retrouvaille Marriage Enrichment
15 <u>25th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 11:45 Choir Rehearsal	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	17 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4:00-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	18 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4:00-8:30 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	19 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:30- 1:00 Homeschoolers 12:00 Bible Study	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	21
22 <u>Christ the King Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	23 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	24 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 1:00 Women's Bible Study 4:00-8:30 Violin Lessons 5:30 Weight Watchers 7:00 Community Chorus	25 7:00-6:00 YMCA Fun Clubs 8:00 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	26 <u>Thanksgiving Day</u>	27	28
29 <u>1st Sunday of Advent</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	30 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts					

