

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – October 2015

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

We generally follow the Revised Common Lectionary for the Bible readings we use in worship on Sunday mornings. The Revised Common Lectionary is a three-year cycle of Bible readings used by many church denominations in our country and around the world. The great thing about this is that even though we worship in different churches we are united with our brothers and sisters in Christ by the scripture readings we hear. However, there is also a drawback. Not all churches are the same, and not all churches face the same issues. That means that sometimes issues unique to us and our community are never really a part of Sunday worship. We're going to do something about that in October and November.

I invite you to write down your questions about God, faith, or the church and submit them to the Worship and Music committee. If you'll be in worship there will be a special insert in the bulletin for you to use. Or, you can

submit them to our email account:

stjohnsvictor@juno.com The committee will see what our questions are, and then develop a worship service around an answer. (There are two church holidays coming up: Reformation Sunday and All Saints Sunday. We'll probably stick with the lectionary when we create those worship services.)

Some questions will be easy to answer. Some will undoubtedly be hard. And there will be some that won't have answers, but it may be worth exploring the issue anyway. I doubt that we'll get to all the questions. Don't be offended if we don't get to yours, but we'll see how far we get. We can do this in the future too, or the Christian Education committee may use some questions to make choices about Bible studies or other groups. Often a question that one of us has is the same question that many have. By exploring them together we grow as individuals and as a community of faith.

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

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Sunday School Project

The 2015-2016 Sunday School theme is "Joyful Journey with Jesus". Throughout the year, we will be weaving geography into our lessons. Each year the Sunday School offering is divided into a gift for our Church, a gift for our Community, a gift for our City and a gift for our World. For this year's gift for the Church, we would like to have the children compile a small care package for each of our students presently attending a college/university. We will discuss where they are geographically and that no matter where they are, Jesus is with them on their journey. If your college student would like to receive a care package from the Sunday School children, please provide their address/phone number to Sara DeMuzio (sara.demuzio@xerox.com) no later than September 27th. Care packages will contain letters from the children along with a few small snacks – if there are any allergies we should be aware of, please let us know.

Worship

October Worship Assistants

	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
Greeters & Ushers	Bruce & Connie Stevenson	Rob & Laura Stroup	Cindy Swigart & Marcia Zavacki	Linda & John Thompson
Lector	Suzanne Maynard (8:30) Diane Boncke (10:30)	Jeff Carnrite (8:30) Bruce Boncke (10:30)	Ellen Storch (8:30) Tim Brown (10:30)	Judy VanDeVelde (8:30) Dave Bullwinkle (10:30)
Acolyte	Jaden White	Julia Bullwinkle	Kelsey Sackett	Ally Buch
Altar Care	Liz Brown		Liz Brown	Liz Brown
Communion Assistants	Linda Flood & Sue Kaufmann		Paul & Babette Huber	Don & Sally Mansfield
Nursery Care	Kristi Bullwinkle	Katy Stimmel	Laura Stroup	Lynne Minkel
Counters	Bruce Boncke & Art Fields	Ethan & Allyssa Minkel	Nancy & Ivan Shuler	Babette Huber & Burdie Gillern

Blessing of the Animals

October 4 – 2:00

Our annual blessing of the animals service is inspired by the ministry of the 13th century saint, Francis of Assisi, who is recorded to have died on this day. Bring your pets, large or small. We'll meet in the Outdoor Chapel if weather permits.

Growth (Cont.)

Grow Group

Good God Questions – Sometimes questions about God are hard to ask and even harder to answer. Sometime we get stuck at the questions and sometimes we stumble. This short term small group study will use a video and book series from the faculty of Luther Seminary. The time and place for the meetings will be determined by those who sign up. Please see the sign up sheet in the Gathering Area or talk to Pastor Jon for more information.

Sunday School Travel Size Toiletries Collection



Our 2015-2016 Teachers

The Sunday school is up to a second collection for their “Joyful Journey with Jesus” theme. Do you have any small hotel bottles of shampoo, conditioner, lotion, soap, etc. hanging around the house? If so, Sunday school students are collected for a planned local project. If you have them, place them in the box in the Gathering Area. Nancy Shuler can answer any questions!

Service

Potatoes Potatoes Potatoes



Thank you to everyone who helped with the potato picking for our God's Work Our Hands project. The garden project produced somewhere between 1500 and 2000 pounds of potatoes this year. We don't have a final tally on the weight yet. They are going to the Victor Farmington Food Cupboard. Many will be given directly to clients, and many will be used for this year's Thanksgiving Baskets.

Middle/High School Pumpkin Picking



The Pumpkins in the garden project are doing great and are about ready for harvest. Harvesting depends a bit on the weather but we'll aim for Saturday October 3rd or Sunday October 4th. Look for an email from Pastor Jon in order to finalize the date and time. All proceeds from pumpkin sales will be donated to the Victor Farmington Food Cupboard.

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. Volunteers will be needed on Wednesday November 18th to make up baskets and Thursday November 19th to complete baskets and help with the distribution. There will be a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for both dates in case you are available to help.

Collection dates for food at October 4th - November 1st

Items needed are:

Turkey 15lbs. or more

White potatoes (but remember, we already have a ton of these [literally!])

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)

Some fresh produce will be included so if you would like to make a donation for those items please contact Burdie Gillern or Ellen Storch.

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.

Beth Dutton, sister-in-law of Cassie Ross and Gay Card who is suffering from cancer and considering end-of-life care options.

Ron Pape who was recently diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and has decided not to receive treatments.

Service (Cont.)

Thank Yous

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

Thank you to the Sunday school teachers for their work creating this year's theme and for all their work on Rally Day

Thank you to everyone who provided cookies for our Hang Around Victor Day booth.

Thank you to everyone who helped with staffing and set-up/tear-down for our Hang Around Victor Day booth.

Thank you to everyone who helped with the God's Work Our Hands projects: one house repair, one lawn project, and harvesting potatoes

From Linda Flood: Thank you – To Pastor Jon and all from the congregation of St. John's I want to say thanks so much for your visits, your prayers, your calls, your cards and kind words during my recent surgery and recovery. Your support has truly helped, and it makes me very proud and thankful to be a part of St. John's. Blessings to all, Linda Flood

Pay It Forward Capital Campaign:

Pledges of \$66,351

Received as of 7/31 \$37,444 (56%)

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"

Fun

Trunk or Treat 2015



Middle school and high school age members are invited to participate in our display at this year's Trunk or Treat at the Victor Municipal Park on October 24th from 5:00-6:30. We'll create our display in the afternoon of Sunday October 18th. If you have ideas for our display this year please share them with Pastor Jon. In previous years we've done: Elsa's Ice Palace, a castle, a haunted house and an '80's theme.

October Birthdays

- 1 Jim Nohe
- 2 Michael Kalish, Wendy Sackett
- 3 Jim Spawton
- 4 Maria Kusel
- 6 Ted Bair, Matt Bair
- 7 Patrick Maynard
- 9 Craig Morley
- 10 Joyce Twitchell, Jacob Kurilovitch
- 12 Rich Buch
- 13 Sarah Townsend
- 14 Robin Allen, Brian Busby
- 16 Karen Brownlee
- 17 Alex Brown
- 19 Bruce Boncke, Allison Stark, Cindy Swigart
- 20 Hanna Stroup
- 21 Bob Lasky
- 22 Annette Nohe, Dale Szydlowski
- 23 Anna Christman, Olivia DeLeon
- 26 Elliot Wilmot, Sarah Brownlee
- 27 Jeff Spawton
- 28 Tim Brown
- 30 Karen Spawton
- 31 Marie Kesel

Fun (Cont.)



September Bible Trivia Answers

1. According to Ephesians what is the purpose of our lives? Answer: To do good works (Ephesians 2:10)
2. What image does Paul use to describe a sin that he cannot overcome? Hint: He prayed three times to have it removed but God said no. Answer: A thorn in the flesh (2 Corinthians 12:7)
3. What three things/forces are eternal? Answer: Faith, Hope, and Love (1 Corinthians 13:13)
4. According to Paul our citizenship is where? Answer: Heaven (Philippians 3:20)

October Bible Trivia Questions – Strange Ways to Die

1. Who was killed for touching the Ark of the Covenant?
2. What husband and wife dropped dead when it was revealed they had lied about the price of possessions they had sold?
3. What two cities were rained on by fire and brimstone?
4. What was the last plague sent upon the Egyptians?

Pie Sunday



Our annual Reformation Sunday (October 25) tradition will continue with pie for coffee hour. We won't go overboard with pies this year though. We'll ask you to sign up in the Gathering Area if you will provide a pie. That way we won't have far too many!

Thrivent Night at the Strong Museum of Play



On Sunday, October 11, from 6-8:30 p.m, Thrivent will be funding another evening at the Museum of Play. A \$5 donation is asked per household. Since the donation are going to Food Link, it is asked that checks be made payable to Food Link. A sign up sheet is located in the Gathering Area and checks should be placed, enclosed in an envelope, in the mailbox of Ellen Storch. If you plan to pay by cash, see Ellen Storch. The deadline for signing up and paying is September 30th.

Nuts and Bolts September 20 Congregational Meeting Results

The congregation approved the construction of the proposed bell tower. Construction will probably not occur for several months. Funding for the tower will come from the memorial fund and other private donations. There is no intention to raise funds to purchase bells at this time.

The congregation also received information about the need to purchase equipment to replace the old mower, and information about the possibility of hiring a sexton/janitor. Look for more information about these things in this year's stewardship drive.

October 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Cub Scouts	2 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	3
4 <u>19th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion 2:00 Blessing of the Animals	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	6 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	7 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4:00-8:30 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	10
11 <u>20th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	12 <u>Columbus Day</u> YMCA Fun Clubs – 7:00-6:00 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Church Council	13 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	14 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4:00-8:30 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	15 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study 7:00 Cub Scouts	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	17 9:00-12:00 Conference Fall Assembly
18 <u>21st Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	19 <u>Luke, Evangelist</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	20 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	21 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4:00-8:30 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	22 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study	23 <u>St. James of Jerusalem</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	24 5:00-6:30 Trunk or Treat at Municipal Park
25 <u>Reformation Sunday</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:30-8:30 Violin Lessons 7:00 Boy Scouts	27 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	28 <u>Simon & Jude, Apostles</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:00 Men's Breakfast 4:00-8:30 Piano Lessons 7:30 Alcoholics Anonymous	29 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 12:00 Bible Study	30 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 3:00-8:00 Cello Lessons 3:30-6:00 Amadeus Chorale	31 <u>Reformation Day</u>

