

# On Eagle's Wings



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

### Growth

#### Pastor's Paragraphs

Since the pandemic began our congregation has been careful. We've made numerous changes that help to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Those changes include: the way we worship and have meetings, upgrades to the church's air handlers, the way we clean our building, the expectations we have of the organizations that use our building, and countless other small things. From my perspective it's been great to see everyone on board. We are fortunate that the total number of cases in our area has remained low. Because of all of that we have been able to resume in-person worship (including communion and some amount of singing). We've also been able to resume many of our ministries. Not all congregations have been so fortunate.

We must continue to be careful whenever we do things together. Becoming lax could lead to us being the cause of the virus' spread. We certainly don't want to do that! In-person worship has risks, although those risks can be managed.

When I think about the risks of worship I get the image of a farmer starting one of the Rumley tractors that were built early in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. If you've ever seen one started you know what I'm talking about. It takes strength, good reflexes, and more than a little bit of craziness! The farmer stands one top of the tractor's gigantic back wheels, stabilizes himself by holding onto one of the roof supports, then places one foot on a spoke of the engine's massive flywheel. The farmer uses his whole weight to turn the engine; all the while hoping not to fall off. If/when the engine starts he needs to get his body clear of the moving parts. (There are several videos on YouTube. The first two minutes of this one will give you the general idea:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bSJ1AWS7yZA>)

If done carefully it can be done relatively safely. If not done carefully... well that will quickly lead to a disaster!

We have been near the capacity of our sanctuary at the 10:30 service. Thank you to those of you who are watching by Zoom so that others can worship in-person. If you're used to 10:30 don't forget about the 8:30 service. We worship in the fellowship hall. Attendance is much lighter.

The church in Corinth that caused St. Paul a lot of headaches had all sorts of worship problems. You can read about them in 1 Corinthians 11 and 14. Paul writes to them that their worship should be orderly and done in love. They should be respectful of each other and recognize that God has gifted each of them uniquely. While our situation is different the same thoughts apply. Worship is a privilege and a gift from God. We celebrate that and do it safely.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jon

### Christian Education

#### Sunday School 2020-21

Sunday school is in session for younger children! We are operating with the same safety expectations that the schools are using. Contact Jen White if you have any questions.

#### Confirmation

Weekly confirmation classes resume during the Sunday school hour starting September 27<sup>th</sup>. Like the younger children, we are following the same safety guidelines the schools are using.

#### Men's Breakfast – 8:30 Wednesdays

The Men's Breakfast is beginning the Netflix series Messiah on Wednesday, September 30. Bring your own breakfast.

#### Women's Bible Study – 1:00 Wednesdays

The Women's Bible study has resumed, now meeting on Wednesdays at 1:00. The studies are being taken from the Gather magazine. If you get it bring your copy. If not talk to Phyllis Henderson, Burdie Gillern, or Pastor Jon to order it.

#### Adult Sunday School

The adult Sunday school class is on hold. It will begin meeting at some time other than a Sunday morning and will probably use Zoom. Talk to Pastor Jon to learn the plans as they develop.

# Worship

## Sunday Worship

- 8:30, worship in the fellowship hall.
- 10:30, worship in the sanctuary and online via Zoom.
- Communion is weekly, alternating services.
- If you are unable to get to worship for communion please be in touch with Pastor Jon. Other arrangements can be made.



## October Bible Readings for Worship

In October and November we will look at 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians. From these writings from St. Paul we get a glimpse into some of the issues the earliest Christians faced. Paul words carry several messages: advice, criticism, praise, and encouragement. We'll see where we are similar and where we are different from those people.

October 4 – Introduction, 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 1:1-17

October 11 – Wisdom/Gnosticism, 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 2:1-16

October 18 – “Collection” 2<sup>nd</sup> Cor. 8:1-15, 9

October 25 – Spiritual Gifts 1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 12 (Reformation Sunday)

## Connecting to Worship with Zoom

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

The link to the service is emailed out. For security reasons it is no longer directly 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)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 834 9025 1842

Password: 778805

# Service

## God's Work, Our Hands Sunday -Potato & Pumpkin Harvest Results-



Rain delayed our planned harvest from September 13 to Tuesday September 15. 2600 lbs. of potatoes were harvested. There were enough pumpkins to fill the wagon. The pumpkins sold fast and raised \$360. Thank you to everyone who helped with the garden this year! There are still apples to pick at the church property.



## Service (Cont.)

### **Food Cupboard Thanksgiving Baskets**

The Victor Farmington Food Cupboard will be doing Thanksgiving baskets again this year. They have not decided on a date as yet or if they will be able to have any volunteer help. We can help with monetary donations to buy items or buy instant mashed potatoes (as the real potatoes we raised in the garden will not last that long). Talk to Burdie Gillern if you'd like more information.

### **Victor Holiday Giving Tree**

We will again be collecting Christmas Gifts for the Victor Central School District. However because of restrictions wrought by the pandemic, we are asked to provide gifts **ONLY** in the form of gift cards, and in the designated amount of \$25. The card can be to a store of your choice (Target, Walmart, Amazon, Wegman's, Tops, etc).

On Sunday, October 4th, a sign-up sheet will be posted in the gathering area.

You are asked to sign your name, remove the slip attached to the line, and leave your phone number. IF you wish to give more than one \$25 gift card, you can sign your name on another line, again providing your phone number and taking the slip. Please tape the slip(s) to the purchased card(s) before they are returned to the church.

The cards need to be at the church by Sunday, October 25. A collection box for the cards will be in the secretary's office.

**NOTE:** Given these challenging times, if you are not comfortable entering the church, you can email Burdie Gillern, at [burdgil@aol.com](mailto:burdgil@aol.com) to sign up for a card. The purchased gift card(s) can also be mailed to Burdie at 175 Deseyn Dr. Canandaigua, NY 14424. The card(s) should be in the mail no later than Monday, October 26 as they need to be at the school by the end of the week.

In order to allow the families adequate time to do the necessary shopping with the gift cards before Christmas, the dates for our annual gift collection had to be moved up!

The members of the Outreach Committee thank you for your generous support and your patience as we try to do what works best for helping to provide our area families in need with a joyful Christmas.



### **Veteran's Day - November 11<sup>th</sup>**

We will be hosting the annual, area-wide Veterans Day blood drive on Wednesday, November 11 from 1:30-6:30. In order to limit social contact, we will be running with a minimum number of volunteers.

#### **HOWEVER**

If you wish to donate blood, please go to the Red Cross website where you will be able to make an appointment that is convenient for you. Making an appointment will help us be certain to have an adequate number of Red Cross staff. So make an appointment!!

This will be our 15<sup>th</sup> drive. Over the years, we have collected **406** units of blood, providing support to a possible **1218** patients! Don't take a knee on this one... come out and honor our Veterans with a donation. When blood is needed, nothing else can take its place!

Any questions? Ask Mary Zuege.

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-Thank you to Bettina Kalish for counting the offerings and other income each week. Thank you to Gary Boisseau and Jim Spawton for setting up and monitoring Zoom worship each week.

-Thank you to Mary Zuege for getting quotes on having the pews reupholstered.

-Thank you to John and Linda Thompson for steam cleaning the pews after the ordination on September 12. And that you to Jim Spawton for overseeing the online component of that service.

-Thank you to everyone who helped harvest potatoes and pumpkins from the church garden, also for helping to plant the rye seed cover crop.

-Thank you to Mike and Cassie Ross for letting us use their land for the garden project.

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

-Thank you the Sunday school teachers for getting things set up for Sunday school this year.

## Service (Cont.)



- The Rev. Matthew Nickoloff and the South Wedge Mission in Rochester.
- Rev. Karen Anderson for her missionary work in Chile.
- 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. Also for both Dick and Linda as they rebuild from a house fire.
- Bob Stroup, Rob Stroup's dad, who has been suffering from dementia and other health problems.
- Knute Halvorson, who is living in Atria Nursing Home in Penfield.
- Kevin Sackett as he receives chemotherapy.
- Emmy Gelb, who is recovering from a fall.
- Eleanor Spawton, Jim Spawton's mother, who has a weakening heart valve.
- Nancy Pape and Adele Garvey as they mourn the death of their mother.
- The family and friends of Harold Gillern, Burdie Gillern's brother-in-law, as they mourn his death.

## Nuts and Bolts

### New Church Sign



The church sign was replaced on September 21<sup>st</sup> by Ewing Graphics. The old sign and its frame were seriously deteriorated. (Did you notice that the variable letters were falling off frequently?) The design of the new sign was inspired by our letterhead and website. We now have a consistent appearance across all media.

## September Council Highlights

Church council held its regular monthly meeting on September 21. Topics and decisions were:

- how in-person worship is going and how to make improvements
- the resumption of Sunday school
- preparation for the 2021 stewardship drive
- renewing and updating the lease we have with the YMCA for their before and after school child care program

## Fun



### September Bible Trivia Answers

1. Who is the last king of Judah? Answer: Zedekiah (2 Kings 25:1-7)
2. What nation conquers Judah and destroys Jerusalem? Answer: Babylon (2 Kings 25:8-21)
3. Who is the governor the conquering nation puts in place after destroying Judah? Answer: Gedaliah (2 Kings 25:22)
4. What priest oversees the restoration of worship in Jerusalem after the exile? Answer: Ezra (Ezra 7:1-20)

### October Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All of the answers may be found in the readings appointed for Sunday worship in October

1. What is one of the people in Corinth Paul baptized?
2. Paul guilts the wealthy Corinthians to give more to his collection for the poor in Jerusalem by reminding them of the generosity of what poor church/region?
3. Paul says there are a variety of gifts but the same what?
4. Paul says, "...the eye cannot say to the hand..." what?

## Pie Sunday



Our annual Reformation Sunday (October 25) tradition will continue with pie for coffee hour. All the pies will be store bought. They will be cut and distributed through the kitchen pass-through window. That will allow us to continue this tradition in a safe way.

# OCTOBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 7:00 Worship and Music Committee (Zoom)	2 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons	3
4 <u>18th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion	5 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	6 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	7 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	8 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	9 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons	10
11 <u>19th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	12 7:00-5:00 YMCA Fun Clubs	13 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	14 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	15 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	16 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons	17
18 <u>20th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 8:30 Holy Communion 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship	19 <u>St. Luke, Evangelist</u> 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 7:00 Church Council	20 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	21 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	22 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	23 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons	24
25 <u>Reformation Sunday</u> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Holy Communion Pie Sunday Coffee Hour	26 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 9:00 -2:00 Classical Conversations Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	27 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care 7:00 Property Committee	28 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 8:30 Men's Breakfast  1:00 Women's Bible Study 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care Anonymous	29 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care 10:00-2:30 Monarch Homeschool 2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care	30 6:30-9:00 YMCA Child Care  2:30-6:00 YMCA Child Care  3-8 Cello Lessons	31 <u>Reformation Day, All Hallows Eve</u>



# **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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**October Newsletter**