

On Eagle's Wings



St. John's Monthly Newsletter – September 2020

Growth

Pastor's Paragraphs

If you're not in the habit of regular Bible reading let me suggest you crack open your Bible to Romans 14-15. There St. Paul writes about Christian freedom, and the appropriate use of it. His overall premise is that even though we are free in many regards we need to respect the thoughts and feelings of others. He's speaking mostly about religious practices like observing holidays and what you eat or don't eat. But I think the same thing can be applied to things like mask wearing these days. Regardless of how you feel about wearing a mask in public you do it to honor, respect, and protect those around you.

With election season fully upon us there is a full scale stirring of lots of divisive issues. While I believe there is quite a bit at stake in the upcoming election, I believe St. Paul's thoughts still apply. While the issues are more serious than personal piety the same honor and respect is due to our neighbors. Critical thinking, debate, and disagreement are all part of a healthy political process. But a Christian does all in a spirit of the grace of God.

Romans 14:7-8 contain a concise summary of the life of a Christian that is appropriate for today and every day:

"We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's."

Blessings,
Pastor Jon

Sunday School 2020-21

The Sunday school leaders are currently developing plans for the upcoming year. Most likely classes will be held online with a mix of crafts and lessons. Keep an eye on the weekly emails with the bulletins for updates about how this is going. Get in touch with Jen White if you'd like to help out or for more information.

Men's Breakfast – 8:30 Wednesdays

The Men's Breakfast will resume weekly in-person meetings on Wednesday September 2nd. They'll begin with watching the movie Ben Hur. Bring your own breakfast. The Fellowship Hall will be used so everyone can spread out. The meetings will also have a Zoom connection so anyone can participate from home. Talk to Pastor Jon for more information.

Confirmation

Weekly confirmation classes will resume online in September. This is the Bible year and much of the material can be done online. Confirmation parents, look for an email from Pastor Jon to determine the best time for the classes. Other confirmation expectations, like sermon notes, are continuing.

Worship

Sunday Worship

Victor:

-8:30, worship in the outdoor chapel. In case of inclement weather worship will be moved into the Fellowship Hall.

-10:30, worship in the sanctuary and online via Zoom.

As attendance grows in September we may require signing up so we can maintain appropriate distancing in the sanctuary.

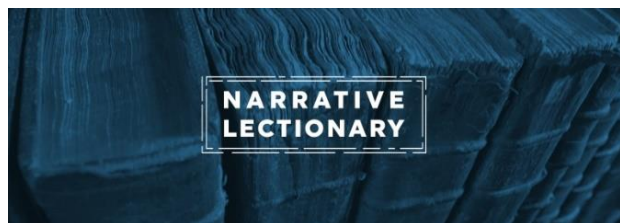
-Communion is weekly, alternating services.

-If you are unable to get to worship for communion please be in touch with Pastor Jon. Other arrangements can be made.

Lyons:

-4:30, worship. Communion the first Sunday of each month.

Worship (Cont.)



September Bible Readings for Worship (Victor Congregation)

In September we will wrap up our series of the kings of Israel. Studying the kings shows human leadership at its best and at its worst. Whether good or bad, God continues to hold true to the promises made to people.

September 6 – King Josiah, 2 Kings 23

September 13 – King Zedekiah and the collapse of the nation, 2 Kings 24:18-25:30

September 20 – Exile, Jeremiah 29:1-14

September 27 – Return, Ezra 3



Wayne Shipman Ordination at St. John's, September 12

Wayne Shipman is an area man who recently completed his seminary work. In September he will begin serving two congregations in Idaho. Before that, however, he needs to be ordained! Due to few churches in the area being capable of supporting a safe in-person worship service (plus provide good internet service for online worship) St. John's was asked to host the ordination. This is an honor for any congregation! It's the first we've hosted since 1999. Being asked in these times is also an affirmation of the leadership our church council is providing to keep the building operating safely. On September 12: bishops, church officials, pastors, theologians, seminary faculty, and musicians from throughout New York and the Mid-Atlantic region will be gathered at our church. Unfortunately due to crowd size the ordination is by invitation only. Keep Wayne in your prayers as he takes this big step in his ministry!

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



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

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday is coming up on September 13th. All churches in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are encouraged to do a hands-on service project on that day to benefit an individual or our community. We will again harvest the potatoes from our garden at the Ross's on this day. We expect to have just under a ton of potatoes this year. Harvesting will begin at 12:30. All of the potatoes will be sent to the Victor-Farmington Food Cupboard. Pumpkins will be sold to members and the community with proceed being donated to the food cupboard. Bishop Macholz also plans to help out with this year's harvest!

Maggie's Kids Summer Camp Community Outreach Committee

On July 29th Bettina Kalish and Burdie Gillern went to 942 Joseph Ave (Community Lutheran Ministry) to provide lunch to the children in their summer day camp program. These campers and their counselors usually come to Victor for one week in the summer. This year they could not do that so the Victor churches that were involved in other years provided lunch for one day a week for six weeks. They enjoyed pizza from Pizza D's, chips, and juice boxes.

Service (Cont.)



Veteran's Day - November 11th

This year we have been given the honor of hosting the 16th annual Veterans Day Blood Drive on November 11. Once again the drive will be run with maximum precautions: minimum number of volunteers; prepackaged snacks; social distancing; temperature checks at the door; everybody masked; and alcohol wipe-downs of all equipment between uses. Your last day to donate whole blood prior to November 11 will be September 14, if you wish to honor our veterans by donating blood at this drive. So conserve those corpuscles and plan to join us on Veterans Day! Contact Mary Zuege if you'd like more information.



- Thank you to Bettina Kalish for counting the offerings and other income each week.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped with music for our Zoom worship services. Thank you also to Karen Spawton for organizing it.
- Thank you to everyone who helped mow the church lawn in July and August.
- Thank you to Bettina Kalish and Burdie Gillern for helping out at this year's Community Lutheran Ministry (Maggie's Kids) summer camp. The camp did not move from place to place this year but stayed at their Rochester location of 942 Joseph Ave.
- Thank you to everyone who has helped work in the garden project this summer.
- Thank you to everyone who donated toward food for the Family Promise host week.
- Jim Spawton and Gary Boisseau for their work getting us set up to share worship services in the sanctuary via Zoom.
- Thank you to Mike Ross for his work preparing the new truck to plow snow this coming winter. for all the blood drives.
- Thank you to Beth Schroeder for creating COVID-19 guidelines for worship and building operation.



- 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.
- Bob Stroup, Rob Stroup's dad, who has been suffering from dementia and other health problems.
- Knut Halvorson, who is living in Aria Nursing Home in Penfield.
- Kevin Sackett as he receives chemotherapy and has the treatments adjusted. He is responding well to his current treatment!
- Emmy Gelb, who recently fell and is being evaluated for hospice care.
- Eleanor Spawton, Jim Spawton's mother, who has a weakening heart valve.

Food Cupboard News

Hi everyone

We are behind on collecting school supplies! There are two ways to help us:

1. We have set up an online registry at Target! You can go to [Target.com](https://www.target.com) and click registries on the top right and then type in organization name VictorFarmington Food Cupboard.
 2. The other option is to stop by BJ's Saturday morning with any donations. We'll be there with the van from 9-12 to collect food, school supplies and cans/bottles. The van will not be behind the Presbyterian Church on Tuesdays anymore so donations can be dropped off in the deck box near the side door at 6548 Anthony Drive in Victor.
- Thank you for announcing to your church members! We couldn't do this without your help!
- Lori

Nuts and Bolts

August Council Highlights

Church council held its regular monthly meeting on August 17. Topics and decisions were:

- how in-person worship is going and how to make improvements
- approved repairing the ventilation system in the Fellowship Hall
- approved replacing the church sign (just the inner part, not the bricks!)
- approved Centerway Church of Victor to begin using the building and grounds on Thursday evenings
- approved Classical Connections, a home school group, to use the building on Mondays

Finances

Thank you to everyone who is keeping up with their offerings! We do not have the exact numbers for August due to computer problems. However, our cash flow is good and we are keeping up with all our bills.

Fun



July/August Bible Trivia Questions

Hint: All the answers can be found in the chapters we'll be reading in worship during July and August.

1. Who was the evil wife of King Ahab? Answer: Jezebel (1 Kings 16:31)
2. What southern king "found" a book of the law and led a major reform movement? Answer: Josiah (2 Kings 22:8)
3. What southern king effectively warded off a major attack by the Assyrians without fighting at all? Answer: Hezekiah (2 Kings 18-19)
4. What does Solomon ask for when God offers him the chance to have anything he wants? Answer: Wisdom (an "understanding mind") 1 Kings 3:9)

September Bible Trivia Questions

1. Who is the last king of Judah?
2. What nation conquers Judah and destroys Jerusalem?
3. Who is the governor the conquering nation puts in place after destroying Judah?
4. What priest oversees the restoration of worship in Jerusalem after the exile?



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.*

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9/13 Potato Harvest