

## A Word from the Pastor for Lent and Easter...

"Jesus was accustomed to the crowds. He was always around crowds for the entire three years while he was teaching, preaching, healing and performing miracles.

Remember, there was a crowd around him when he delivered his Sermon on the Mount. He fed a crowd of 5,000 men besides women and children in Jewish territory. Later, he fed a crowd of 4,000 in Gentile territory. He called Zacchaeus down from the sycamore tree when the short tax collector climbed it to see Jesus in the crowd.

Having a large crowd of people around Jesus on Palm Sunday was no problem for him at all, but everyone in that crowd was not there for the right reason. ...

There were five distinct crowds that included people with five different agendas and five different motives. ...

*The curious crowd* had seen Jesus preach, teach, heal and perform many miracles over a three-year period. These people had a curious mentality. ...

*The confused crowd* is illustrated in Matthew 21:10-11, "When Jesus came to Jerusalem, everyone in the city was excited and asked, "Who can this be?". ... Even though they were following him, they were still confused about who Jesus was. ...

The third group included *the pretenders*. They were in the crowd on Palm Sunday pretending to be committed to Jesus. They were pretending, but they were not fully sold out. ...

The fourth group included *the opposers* like the Pharisees and the Sadducees. ... There are opposers today who promote their own interests and their own agendas. Opposers try to tear down God's people just like the Pharisees and Sadducees tried to do to Jesus. ...

*The committed crowd* is the last group and the one most people say they are in. However, this is the smallest group." — Margaret Minnicks, "5 types of people in the Palm Sunday crowd," LetterPile.com, April 21, 2018.

Pastor V.

Lenten Journey  
 "O for a closer walk with God"  
 Join us each week in Lent at selected area churches  
 listed below for Lenten Worship, Guest Preaching and  
 Fellowship  
 ALL Lenten Services begin at 7 PM  
 EACH WEDNESDAY IN LENT

DATE	CHURCH	ADDRESS	PREACHER
Apr 3	Saint Nicholas	539 Main Street West Seneca	The Rev. Al Robinson Pastor—Spirit of Truth
Apr 10	New Hope UMC Church	2846 Seneca Street West Seneca	TBD

**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE—'SEVEN LAST WORDS'**  
**Noon to 3 PM**

Saint David's Episcopal Church—3951 Seneca Street—  
 West Seneca

Sponsored by the West Seneca Community of Churches

**Monthly Community Dinner**  
**April 26, 2019**

**This month we will be serving a *Polish Sausage & Sauerkraut Potato Bake***

Dinner is served 4pm—6:30pm or until we run out,  
 whichever comes first.

We will offer drinks and dessert with the meal.

The meal is provided for ANYONE in need of food, fellowship or fun... As always, the food, the seat and the smiles are FREE but good will offerings are always accepted.

## **Women of the ELCA**

It was good to get together again and catch up with each other since we hadn't been together at a meeting since November. After the usual business, Sylvia led our evenings' program using one of the WELCA programs titled "Looking into the Mirror". It is a Lenten reflection which focuses on self-examination, renewal and reflection. We had a lively discussion as Sylvia caused us to think about how our past Lenten times were done at church and our homes. We reflected on what fasting really is and how we need not necessarily give up something but do something different to help ourselves and others. Thank you Sylvia for this Lenten message and our journals.

On April 9 we will not have our regular meeting, instead we will be hosting the Women of the ELCA's Niagara Frontier Conference Spring Assembly here. It will begin at 6:45 with registration and refreshments. We are pleased that Pastor Valerie will be presenting the program- "Listening to God, A Guide to Discernment". All are welcome to come. Half of the offering will be going to our West Seneca Food Pantry.

Our Thought for the month is a Springtime Message from an unknown source:

Every Easter time God sends the winter-worn world a new message of hope. He writes in colors of fresh green and varied hues of spring flowers. The message always reads the same: As new life stirs after the cold still death of winter, so you, after the fear and labor and weariness of this life, will rise with me to a new life- the life to which I have already risen to prepare your place. Let the warmth and beauty of Spring and the celebration of Easter be my yearly pledge of your resurrection.

Submitted by Connie Arnold

## Community Nights!

St. John's is proud to present our new monthly Community Nights. These nights will be filled with family friendly events that seek to foster a deeper sense of community within St. John's. All of the events are after our monthly Community Dinners unless otherwise noted. So come on out eat some good food and then stay for a fun time!

Below is a list of the upcoming Community Nights along with their tentative dates. As we get closer to each event more information will become available.

Apr 26<sup>th</sup> - BOARD GAME NIGHT

May 31<sup>st</sup> - MUSEUM NIGHT

Jun 28<sup>th</sup> - OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Jul (TBA) - BISON'S GAME

Submitted by: Megan Marrano  
(marrano92@gmail.com)



This is the QR code for the St John's website. If you're not familiar, a QR code will take a mobile device directly to our web site, just by taking a picture of it.

## WHAT IS A THRIVENT ACTION TEAM?

**Thrivent Action** Teams are groups of volunteers who donate time and effort to help a charitable cause of their choice. As a **Thrivent** Financial benefit or associate member, **Thrivent** Financial will arm you with \$250 of seed money for your project.

If you want to learn more you can contact your Thrivent representative (Brian Makey) or talk to Mark Koepfel or Nancy Kessler.

The funds can be used to help pay for a Community dinner, a Youth event, an Outreach program and more.

You can learn more by checking out the web site below.

[https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/files/CA\\_Conversation\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/files/CA_Conversation_Guide.pdf)

### **Food Barrel for WS Food Pantry**

Needed for Spring are canned pasta such as ravioli, SpaghettiOs and macaroni and cheese; jelly/jam, brownie mix and small bags of flour.



# HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY TO:

- 4/1 Mason Molnar
- 4/6 Betty Angelo
- 4/8 Daniel Leary
- 4/11 Evan Kozanecki
- 4/13 Benjamin Germano
- 4/18 Jim Steiner
- 4/19 Marie Basher
- 4/19 Heather Thauer
- 4/20 Thomas Mudd III "Tre"
- 4/21 Ryan Molnar
- 4/22 Brianna Tosetto
- 4/23 Alexander Molnar
- 4/26 Danese Dick
- 4/26 Stacy Fredericks
- 4/27 Ava Brown
- 4/27 Kye Czachorowski
- 4/27 Sharon Fredericks
- 4/30 Shirley Johnson



## Assisting Minister Schedule

	9 am	10:45 am
April 7	Dawn Corless	Evelyn Hicks
April 14 Palm Sunday	Al Kerner	Nancy Kessler
April 18 Maundy Thursday	7 pm: Karen Rothenberger	
April 19 Good Friday	7 pm: Adam Wolff	
April 21 Easter	Jim Steiner	Caroline Rackl
April 28	Pat Lipka	Evelyn Hicks

## News from the Pews

### Baptisms:

Rachael Weber 2/3/19

Graham Coder 2/17/19

Leonard Griffiths 2/24/19

### Funerals:

Leonard Forth 2/16/19

Be sure to check out the beautiful quilted wall hanging in the parish hall made and donated by Beverly Weixelman. Thank you Beverly for such a lovely addition to the parish hall.

## ST. JOHN'S DINING OUT CLUB

We invite all who are interested to join us:

**WHEN:** THURSDAY - APRIL 25 at 6:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** GARDENVIEW RESTAURANT

**MENU:** \$ 13.99 & up entrees + appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, burgers, pizza.

**DIRECTIONS:** 1744 Union Rd. West Seneca

PLEASE CAR POOL & MEET AT THE RESTAURANT.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DUE TO THE SIZE OF OUR GROUP. PLEASE SIGN THE SHEET ON THE COUNTER IN THE FOYER AND INDICATE IF YOU ARE WILLING TO DRIVE, RIDING WITH SOMEONE OR MEETING US AT THE RESTAURANT.

### RESTAURANT REVIEW:

**J. P. Fitzgerald's:** 23 of us dined in their garden room and, as always, enjoyed the company and great food! This is one of our favorites. The waitress was amazing - no complaints, definitely a keeper.

**How will we choose the next restaurant?** A list of prospective restaurants is passed around at each dinner, everyone places an "X" under their choice. The restaurant with the most Xs is the one we visit next. During nice weather, we travel farther away and during the winter months we stay closer to home. Here is your chance to try new restaurants, visit your old favorites, meet new people and enjoy good company. All members of St. John's, your family and friends are welcome. Questions? Call Carolly Huth @ 826-0506.

Submitted by Carolly Huth



## **Hands and Hearts Ministry**

The members of the Hands and Hearts Knitting Ministry of St. John's Lutheran Church would like to extend an invitation to everyone to join our small but dedicated group. We knit and crochet Prayer Shawls for those in need of healing warmth and christening caps to welcome newly baptized infant members. Throughout the year we also make items of outerwear for donation to groups in the community that pass them along to their clients.

We welcome everyone from those wishing to learn the craft to the expert. The first Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Room is our new meeting time. We have a small stock of tools to get new members started and look forward to welcoming you with a quiet evening of companionable conversation and needlework.

If interested please contact Linda Wetzler (716)512-8106. Thank you.

## **Ladies Aid**

It won't be long now before we meet. The date is Thursday, April 4 in the fellowship room. We will have a little business to go over and a lot of chatting and fellowship since we have not gotten together since our Christmas luncheon. It will be a good time. All you ladies are welcome to come. The officers will be supplying the refreshments. Hope to see you there! Remember, It is a good day for a good day!

Submitted by Connie Arnold

## Altar Guild

First, we would like to thank Marilyn Klein for helping out with the Altar duties during the month of March. Although she is not a member of the guild, she has so graciously stepped in to help when we need her. Our guild is always ready for anyone to step up, it really does not take much of your time and is a great way to help serve the church. Please come and join us, you can speak to Connie Arnold, myself, or any guild member.

As we approach Spring, I think of these 40 days of Lent that we are traveling through and of what lies ahead. EASTER and the Resurrection of our Savior Jesus! On this Easter, may we soak in the light of the Resurrection, sing songs of praise and power and marvel at the miracle of Jesus and the gift of His grace!!!

As the Guild does every Easter we will again be selling Easter Plants. Order forms can be found in the Sunday bulletins or one can be found in this Crossbeam. Lilies will cost \$8.00, White Hyacinths and Red Tulips are \$6.50 each. Please place your orders in the envelopes and box found on the counter in the foyer. If paying by check please make them payable to St. John's Altar Guild. EASTER services will be held at 6, 9, and 11AM. Again we will be hosting a breakfast from 7:30am --11am. We will be looking for donations of colored, hard boiled eggs, kuchen and pastries. A sign-up sheet can be found on the counter in the foyer. Thank you in advance for your support!

Submitted by Nancy Weber

## ***Easter Plants Order Form***

PLEASE PRINT

In loving memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Lilies @ \$8.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Tulips @ \$6.50 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Hyacinths @ \$6.50 each



Easter Flowers

Given By \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to the church office by April 14th.

Checks made payable to St. John's Altar Guild.

Thank you!



## Art Supplies Needed...

A young person in West Seneca, Rachel, has started a group called LaRussa's Legacy of Love. This group sends hand made cards with inspirational messages to nursing home residents, shut ins, people who are ill and those in need of a pick-me-up. Rachel is currently making 200 cards a month and she can use the following:

Construction paper

Stickers (smiley faces, hearts, etc.)

Colored envelopes

If you have supplies you would like to donate please place them in the box in the foyer labeled Legacy of Love. I will deliver them on St' John's behalf.

Thank you, Rick Lipka

**WANTED:** coupons from The Buffalo News Sunday paper. These coupons are mailed to Fort Bragg where our military personnel and their families can use them at their PX up to six months after the expiration date. Just drop them in the box on the counter in the Narthex and Sandy Stango will take it from there. Another way to support our troops and their families. Thanks, Sandy Stango

## Spring Fling

Clean out your closet and bag up  
the items you no longer want;  
We can turn them into cash!

Bring clothing, bed/bath/shoes  
and household items into church  
or call for your items to be  
picked up. (13gal.bag)

Call Bethann Hintzman 668-  
0833

Please support our building fund.

Collecting starts April 1<sup>st</sup> -May  
31<sup>st</sup>

Let's beat last year's total of  
4130 lbs!  
We raised \$1000.70

# ADOPT-A- PROJECT DAY

April 27, 2019 8:00 AM-4:00  
PM

**Adopt-A-Project Day** is a time for accomplishing prearranged work projects. By knowing in advance who's coming and for which projects, we're better able to get things done. Previous skill or experience in the project adopted is preferred.

**Projects available for adoption include:**

Painting the interior of Cabin 5/6

Replacing the windows in Cabin 9

Wood cutting and splitting

Spring gardening and raking

Trail clearing

Pressure washing

Other... have a special skill not listed above? - let us know

A complementary breakfast and lunch will be served for all volunteers. Please contact the office to adopt a project and RSVP today.

**Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center**

5013 Rt. 430

Bemus Point, NY 14712

716-386-4125

[contact@lclcenter.org](mailto:contact@lclcenter.org)

Time to sign-up for summer Camp!

We have a brand new registration portal which may look a little different than it has in the past. If you discover any errors or have any issues, please contact us as soon as possible so we can help.

**Returning Campers:** Your information has already been imported into our new system. To verify your E-mail account, simply follow the link below, enter your E-mail address into the "Sign In" tab, then select "Password reset." This will allow you to verify your E-mail address and create an account for your family.

<https://lclcenter.campbrainregistration.com/>

**First time LCLC Families & Campers:** Follow the attached link, then enter your information in the "New user sign-up" tab to create an account.

You are now ready to register for summer camp!

We would like to thank you for your patience through this transition, and we'd also like to thank you for your interest in sharing your children with us this summer at LCLC!

God Bless,  
Emily Whitney, LCLC Registrar  
Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, Inc.  
5013 Route 430  
Bemus Point, NY 14712  
Phone: (716) 386-4125  
Fax: (716) 386-5714  
[registrar@lclcenter.org](mailto:registrar@lclcenter.org)  
[www.lclcenter.org](http://www.lclcenter.org)

## Special Services for Holy Week (April 14)

**Passion Sunday:** Per tradition, we'll begin with a procession of palms, with the children leading at the 9 am service and the Choir leading at 10:45. The service will revolve around the reading of St. Luke's passion, with members of the congregation reading various speaking parts. We will celebrate Eucharist in the middle of the Gospel reading, where Christ institutes it at the Last Supper.

From **Monday to Friday of Holy Week**, we there will be a prayer and light breakfast each morning at 7.

**Maundy Thursday:** Service at 11 am followed by lunch. At the evening service at 7 pm, we will celebrate at tables in the Parish Hall, with the Children's Choir singing an anthem and Confirmation students assisting with distribution of Eucharist.

On **Good Friday**, we will have one service at 7 pm. The second year Confirmation class will assist with the bidding prayer and other parts of the service.

The **Holy Saturday** service at 5 pm will be a service of the word, with the Easter Gospel

**Easter Morning worship** will begin with a sunrise service at **6 am**, followed by breakfast. The Band and Children's Choir will lead music at the **9 am** service, and the traditional service will follow at **11 am**, with music by the Senior Choir.

Submitted by Adam Wolff



# CROSSES & CANDY

Friday, April 12, 2019



**WHAT:** *Have you ever wondered how to make the crosses that are blessed, distributed and worn on Palm Sunday? This year you have an opportunity to learn how to weave these crosses and help assemble the number needed for our worship on Palm Sunday.*

**WHEN:** **Friday, April 12, 2019**  
*Fellowship & Fun with Palms  
and candy molding*  
**7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

**WHERE:** **Parish Hall**

**WHO:** → **All congregational members, interested friends and relatives.**  
**If possible, please bring a pair of scissors labeled with your name.**  
**No experience needed, just a willingness to learn and help make Palm Crosses.**

# Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center

## Summer Camp Open House

### May 18, 2019, 10:00-3:00pm

**Free Event: *Rain or Shine!***

Join us for a day of FUN that highlights everything Summer Camp has to offer!

***Summer Camp Open House Includes:***

- Staff Led Camp Tours
- Crafts
- Archery
- Tree Fort
- Free Lunch
- Low-Ropes Course
- Q & A with our Directors
- Camp Games: GaGa Ball, 9-Square & More!



Bring the family, invite a friend, and come and see what makes LCLC so special! There will be special Summer Camp discounts available for First-time campers\* and returning campers who bring friends that are NEW\* to LCLC! You won't want to miss out on this chance to play, pray and save!

\*New & First-time campers are children who have never attended an LCLC Summer program before. No other discounts can be applied.



**LCLC**  
Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center



I.c.l.c



Lake Chautauqua  
Lutheran Center



Call (716) 386-4125 to RSVP before May 10, 2019

5013 Rt. 430, Bemus Point, NY 14712 \* Phone (716) 386-4125 \* Fax (716) 386-5714 \* [LCLCenter.org](http://LCLCenter.org)

I have been scheduling Ushers and Greeters for quite awhile and would pass this job to the highest bidder. Everything is set up on an excel computer program. See me if interested,  
Jim Steiner.

## Pastor Valerie's Bible Study for April:

**April 4: John 12:1-8, Isaiah 43: 16-21**

**April 11: Luke 19:28-40 and Luke 22 and 23**

### ***Crossbeam Deadline***

Articles for the **May** issue of the Crossbeam are due by **April 14<sup>th</sup>**. Please e-mail your articles to Sue Koepfel ([sekoepfel@gmail.com](mailto:sekoepfel@gmail.com)) or leave them in the Crossbeam mailbox outside of the church office. Electronic articles are preferred, if at all possible.

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