

A Word from the Pastor for October...

There is an old story about a West Virginia lad who was sitting on a fence at the crossing of two narrow roads. A man in a very large car with New York plates roared to a stop in front of him, let down the electric window and said, "Young man, I'm lost. Can you tell me where this road goes?"

He said, "No sir, I can't."

The man said, "Well, can you tell me where that road goes?"

The boy said, "No sir, I can't."

The man said, "Well, young man, don't you know anything?"

The boy said, "I know I'm not lost."

When you find Christ, you know this: You are not lost.

Luke 15 is all about what is lost and then found. The shepherd leaves his 99 sheep to find the one; the woman searches for one coin, and a lost son comes home. In each case there, celebration that what was lost has been found.

If that isn't the good news, I don't know what it. A blessed October to all of you.

Pastor V.

Altar Guild

Fall has arrived, time for beautiful colored leaves, Apple cider & donuts, raking up those beautiful FALLEN leaves, Halloween, meetings and busy schedules.

As the guild gets busy planning our schedule for 2020 we want to remind our members that our next meeting will be held on Nov. 10th. We are looking for more members. It would be nice to have some new faces join our group!!!! We only meet 4 times a year on Sunday mornings. between services . We prepare the Altar for worship and clean up after services. Usually only 1 month commitment is needed for a 2 member team, per year.

Please remember the flower calendar and purchase a bouquet to remember a loved one's birthday, an anniversary or any special event.

Caring for the Altar in Oct. are Connie Arnold and Rhonda Dryzek.

Submitted by Nancy Weber

LOST & FOUND

PLEASE NOTE!

The following items have been in the Lost and Found Cupboard since winter:

- ◆ TechGear olive green man/boy hoodie size M
- ◆ Lady's burgundy neck scarf lined in satin
- ◆ Ladies Dress gloves - 3 pair
- ◆ Ski hat, orange with green shamrocks
- ◆ Dagnet tape
- ◆ Baking pan
- ◆ Photo albums - 3
- ◆ Eye glasses, reading glasses, men & women
- ◆ Child's tin box of crayons
- ◆ Umbrella, blue, collapsible, left in church in August

If these items are not picked up by the end of October, they will be washed and donated to Goodwill.

If you find items around our complex, please place them in the lower cabinet in the Foyer, next to the Guest Book stand. Please do not leave them lying where you found them.

If you lose something please look in that cabinet first.

Items of value are kept in the church office

Please call Carolly Huth if you can't find what you are looking for at 826-0506.

Music Ministry

Dear congregation of St. John's,

Each week, the music is strategically selected by the music leaders and pastors, with assistance from the Worship and Music Committee, to not only reflect the worship theme of the day, but to also offer a variety of styles for the many interests within our congregation. In an effort to continue our growth, it is just as important to maintain and preserve our traditions as it is to explore new ideas.

With that in mind, we would like to extend a friendly reminder that we offer two different styles of worship. During the school year, the early service focuses on families and children with contemporary songs and liturgical text. The later service will continue to be a traditional style with hymns from the red hymnal and traditional liturgical text. During the summer weeks with one service, we alternate between contemporary and traditional styles.

Introducing the contemporary worship has drawn many families to St. John's to worship together with their children. Last year, both services were very well attended.

We are proud to have the talent and diversity to be able to offer different styles of worship. We hope to create something for everyone and we encourage your feedback so that we can continue to do so.

Respectfully submitted,
Music Ministry

Women of the ELCA

We were please to have had a member new to St. John's join us at our September meeting. We welcomed Laura Loehr and hope she will be able to come again as well as any other new faces who wish to come on the second Tuesday of the month.

Nancy Weber led devotions reflecting on her recent visit to the 9-11 memorial site in Shanksville , PA. She gave a very moving remembrance of her visit and the impact it had on her and how the site is such a memorable tribute to the passengers and crew who lost their lives there. We thank her again for sharing that experience.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, October 8, 7 PM, in the fellowship room. Our program will feature a Bible Study on Jonah and presented by Sylvia. It looks like a good one so we welcome you to join us. Leah will provide the refreshments.

Thought for the month:

Never mind trying to remember the names of the seven dwarfs or the eight reindeer. Just remember the 10 Commandments.

Submitted by Connie Arnold

Birthday and Anniversary Form

If you would like your birthday or anniversary listed, fill out this form, bring or send to church and put in the bag on the counter or email the information to church and Amy will get it to the right person.

Name _____

Birthday (month and day only) _____

Name _____

Anniversary date including year _____



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 Koeppl 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

Food Barrel for WS Food Pantry

Needed for October are soup and canned pasta (ravioli, spaghetti, etc.), also park and beans.

As always, paper products are useful as well.



HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY TO:

10/2 Edythe Fischer
10/3 Diane Marrano
10/5 Dave Gorman
10/5 Paul Napier
10/6 Melissa Germano
10/6 Grant Schindler
10/7 Chase Czachorowski
10/7 Emily Miller
10/9 Alex Woodard
10/13 Linda Altman
10/13 Maviis Patrick
10/13 Sue Springer
10/16 Karie Dunphy
10/18 Craig Cooley
10/19 Lena Patrick
10/22 Art Haase
10/25 Ruth Hilbert
10/25 Keith Lang
10/25 Nancy Weber
10/28 Dylan Lumb
10/29 Graham Coder
10/29 Thomas Mudd Jr. "TJ"
10/31 Roger McGill
10/31 Kathy Moody
10/31 Julie Storch



HAPPY OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY TO:

10/2/1965 Craig and Alice Cooley
10/4/2007 Ryan and Kristy Kozanecki
10/5/1985 Terri and Anthony Marrano
10/6/1990 Joe and Denise Brady
10/14/1967 Art and Sandy Haase
10/30/1992 Robert and Sadonna Wolf

Note from property:

In recent weeks, doors to the building have been left unlocked after hours. In some cases the door locks have been modified with the use of an allen wrench to hold the door lock in the open position.

Please, if you have a key to the building, it is your responsibility to see that the door you entered through is locked after leaving. In no case should a door lock be modified to remain in an open position.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Rick
Building & Property manager

LCLC Events

Blacksmithing Day

October 19, 2019

Location: LCLC Pavilion

We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events.

For more information call LCLC at 716-386-4125

Assisting Minister Schedule

	9 AM	10:45 AM
October 6	Jim Steiner	Nancy Kessler
October 13	Pat Lipka	Karen Rothenberger
October 20	Dawn Corless	Adam Wolff
October 27	Al Kerner	Caroline Rackl

Bible Study for October is a bit different. I will be out of town, so we will meet only two times, at 6 pm on Thursdays.

October 3: Habakkuk 1: 1-4, 2:1-4 and Luke 17:5-10

October 10: 2 Kings 5: 1-3, 7-15 and Luke 17:11-19

News from the Pews

The Blanch family wants to thank everyone for all the prayers, condolences and cards sent. They were very much appreciated during their time of grieving. Vernon Blanch passed on Saturday July 27, 2019

Save the date:
Christmas Cookie Exchange December 14th

Financial Highlights

July & August 2019 Regular Church Donations =
\$30,004 (an increase of \$1,839 or 6.1% over prior year)

Benevolence Expense = SYNOD General Mission Fund
\$2,000, World Hunger \$200, Community Dinner \$100

July & August 2019 Mortgage Reduction Fund Donations
= \$12,535 (an increase of \$1,374 or 11.0% over prior
year)

Mortgage Balance (Mission Investment Fund of ELCA) =
\$737,668 & Cornerstone Fund Loan Balance = \$225

Submitted by Mike Woodard

SAVE THE DATE:

October 5, 2019

6:00-9:00 PM

Leonard Post #6251 VFW

**2450 Walden Ave., Cheektowaga,
NY**

LCLC Meat Raffle

**Please join us for this very unique
and fun fundraiser for LCLC.**

Also Included:

Basket Raffles

Homemade Pie Sales

Specialty Items Silent Auction

**For more information call LCLC at 716-
386-4125**



ST. JOHN'S DINING OUT CLUB

We invite all who are interested to join us:

WHEN: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24 - 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: PASQUALE'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT

MENU: \$14.99 and up entrees + appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, pizza.

DIRECTIONS: 3720 Seneca St. West Seneca

PLEASE CAR POOL AND MEET US 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 whether you will drive, ride with someone or meet us at the restaurant.

Please Note! We will not be dining out in November and December due to the holidays. Dining Out will resume January 23. Watch for the sign up sheet!

RESTAURANT REVIEW:

Roman Cafe: 18 of us dined in this cozy restaurant. The food was very good with most entrees available in two sizes. The shrimp scampi was popular and all agreed that the drive was worth it.

How will we choose our next restaurant? A list of prospective restaurants is passed around and everyone places an X under their choice. The restaurant with the most Xs is the one we visit next. Here is your chance to try new restaurants, visit old favorites, meet new people and enjoy good company. All members of St. John's, your family and friends are always welcome to join us.

Monthly Community Dinner

Dinner is on 10/25/19 and is served 4pm—6:30pm or until we run out, whichever comes first.

This month we will be serving pulled chicken sandwiches, macaroni and cheese and baked beans... 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.

PLEASE CONSIDER A GIFT FOR THE DECEMBER COMMUNITY DINNER!!!

Each year we do a giveaway for the Christmas time community dinner. We are asking for gifts in the amount of \$10 for this year's meal in December. It can be a gift card, a small tchotchke or anything else that can be given to either a male or female. These items can be given to Mark or Sue Koepfel any time before December 15th. The items should be unwrapped gifts.

Thank you for your consideration...
Mark Koepfel

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.

Halloween Party

Sunday October 27th 2019

Trunk or Treating was a great time, so start thinking about your theme for your vehicle. Watch Sunday bulletins in October for time and other activities.

Thanks,
Membership

Just a reminder that the recycling "rules" have changed a bit in West Seneca. Recycling will now be picked up every other week and while most everything we have previously recycled is the same, please note that **ONLY NUMBERS 1 and 2** plastics can be recycled. Please make every effort to do this along with only other items that can be recycled since our containers fill up rapidly some weeks and having items in there that do not belong takes away from what we can properly recycle.

Items that can be recycled include: newspaper, office paper, phone books, paper bags, and junk mail. Also, paperboard, magazines and catalogs, cardboard and pizza boxes, jugs and bottles with small top openings(#1 and #2) only along with clear bottles and jars, aluminum cans, metal cookware and steel and tin cans.

Check out the list by the recycling bin in the kitchen for the list of what cannot be recycled. Thanks for doing your share to help out!

Fellowship Hour needs your help. It is so good to have so many share the time between worship services in the parish hall. This has posed a good problem to have. In order for the coffee hour clean up people to get to church on time, we need you to clean up your table space. Wipes are available or even your napkin will do as long as the table is cleaned up and ready for the next week.

Your Vision for Mission team has begun work on a Human Sexuality course planned for this fall. Did you know 2019 marks the 10th anniversary of the adoption of the 2009 Statement of Human Sexuality by ELCA? We are planning on celebrating the anniversary with this course and more activities in the future. If you have ideas for your VFM (long range planning) team, please let us know. We focus on the future - 2-5 years out.

The chili dinner is almost here (11/10/19) and we still have TRAVEL RAFFLE tickets available. The drawing will take place at the end of the night. The prize is a \$2000 AAA travel credit AND a \$500 Southwest gift card. Tickets are ONLY \$15 each and can be purchased from Mark Koepfel, at the Federal Meats in Southgate plaza or at Robertson & Bach Jewelers at 959 Union Rd. Tickets are limited so you have better odds of winning.

Mark can be reached at **(716)440-8173** if you have any questions...

In addition, we are always looking for donations for the auction the day of the **Chili Dinner...**

Anyone that wants to help at the event is more than welcome to volunteer as well. Just let Mark know...

Hospitality Committee

For many years Connie Arnold has been organizing volunteers to make coffee, juice and clean up during the worship services. The past few years, membership has been seeing to refreshments. Starting Sept. 8th Hospitality will be organizing coffee hour throughout the year.

NO MORE SIGN UP SHEETS!

We are asking for team leaders and individuals who would be interested in becoming a team. For this to be successful, we need 10 to 12 teams (or more). Coffee hour is an important gathering for our church family. It gives us a chance to share news and concerns with each other. Please contact BethAnn Hintzman 668-0833 or Diane Molnar 675-2481 if you wish to help.

Thank you, Hospitality

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

Ladies Aid

Mark your calendar for November 7 to get ready for our *Mystery Pound Sale Meeting*. It is always an especially fun time and we will be raising money for the Crop Walk or our local food pantry. All are welcome! More details in the next *Crossbeam*.

We are always keeping our church family in our thoughts and prayers but right now we want to send special thoughts to our member Arlene Semlitsch, as she recovers from her fall. We look forward to seeing her soon!

Submitted by Connie Arnold

Crossbeam Deadline

Articles for the **November** issue of the *Crossbeam* are due by **October 13st**. Please e-mail your articles to Sue Koeppel (sekoeppe@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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