

## **A Word from the Pastor for September and new beginnings...**

September is nearly upon us, and with it comes Rally Day and a new Sunday School year. I have always liked September; I guess it is the perpetual schoolgirl in me. You cannot deny the feeling of expectation and excitement.

For me, growing up on the farm, September marked the beginning of the harvest season, with the corn ready and the soybeans coming in after that. It marked cooler weather, chilly nights, the beginning of football season and church bazaars, along with new teachers and subjects, new lessons to be learned.

And we are never done learning, for that is why God put us on earth. While we would like to believe that we are doing just fine, that we have all the answers, the truth is...we don't. Life is a journey, and we are being molded and sculpted by the Author of all Life, God. And learning is a series of successes and failures, each one leading to the next.

A Hasidic story I like shows how a community learns together.

"Once several members of a Hasidic congregation had become hopelessly lost in a dense forest. They were delighted when unexpectedly they came upon their rabbi who was also wandering through the woods. They implored, 'Master, we are lost! Please show us the way out of the forest.'

The rabbi replied, 'I do not know the way out either, but I do know which paths lead nowhere. I will show you the ways that won't work, and then perhaps together we can discover the ones that do.'"

And so we move on. Blessings as Rally Day approaches!

Pastor V.

## **Ladies Aid**

It was a great time at the Haase's last month as we enjoyed each other's company and the tasty food. Thank you Sandy and Art for sharing your lovely home and yard with us. We look forward to seeing these friends again in November when we will be enjoying the Mystery Pound Sale event. More details in next month's Crossbeam. All ladies are welcome to come. There is not much business but a lot of fellowship and smiles. Come and bring a friend if you'd like.

Refreshments will be needed then so please tell Sandy if you would like to do them.

Submitted by Connie Arnold

## **Monthly Community Dinner September 28, 2018**

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

We will be serving Turkey Corn Chowder with sides and dessert

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.

## Assisting Minister Schedule

	9 am	10:45 am
Sept 2	9:30 am: Pat Lipka	
Sept 9	Sandy Gordon	Nancy Kessler
Sept 16	Roger McGill	Karen Rothenberger
Sept 23	Jim Steiner	Adam Wolff
Sept 30	Sue Springer	Evelyn Hicks

## PowerPoint Schedule

	Preparer	9 am Presenter	10: 45 am Presenter
Sept 2	Nick Barnhard	Lee Delaney	Matthew & Autumn Brown
Sept 9	Nancy Kessler	Lee Delaney	Trevor Godus
Sept 16	Nick Barnhard	Lee Delaney	Linda Altman
Sept 23	Nancy Kessler	Lee Delaney	Jean Stankowski
Sept 30	Nick Barnhard	Lee Delaney	Keith Lang

**SAVE THE DATE: Christmas Cookie Exchange! Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup>!**  
More details to follow in the fall!

## Altar Guild

Nothing new or special to report at this time, just hoping that everyone had a relaxing, enjoyable summer.

Please note that the next meeting is scheduled for September 16th at 9:30 am. Hostesses are Connie Arnold and Nancy Weber.

Caring for the altar in September are Barb Kwiecinski and Sylvia Delaney.

Remember to collect items for our Penny Sale on October 4th. More information will be available at our next meeting. Hope to see you there.

Submitted by Nancy Weber

Remember to add your name to the birthday list if you have not done so and would like to. There is cake to be shared the first Sunday of the month during fellowship time between services. All are invited to come each Sunday for fellowship and a shared treat.

Volunteers are needed to bring in a "goodie" each week. It can be bought or made. Fruit, Cheese and Crackers, Brownies, Doughnuts- whatever you might like to donate would be welcomed and enjoyed. The sign up sheet is on the counter by the coffee. Just ask Diane Molnar if you have any questions about this ministry.

# Weidner's Chicken BBQ

## And Gift Card Auction

September 8th, 2018

This event is to raise funds for the  
monthly **COMMUNITY DINNER,**  
**CHURCH BUILDING FUND** and **PRE-**  
**SCHOOL**

Tickets: \$10.00 pre-sale/ \$11.00 at door

\*Pre-Sale available until September 6<sup>th</sup> /

Dine in & Take out available / Serving

time: 12 noon - 3 pm

(Includes  $\frac{1}{2}$  chicken, Mark's Homemade

Baked Beans, Mac Salad, Dessert,

Costanzo's roll and Drinks / Also includes

a chance for the door prize)

Tickets for the Gift Card raffle will be

\$4 per sheet

NOTE: Advance sale also includes 1

additional chance at the door prize

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran  
Sunday Church School presents:**

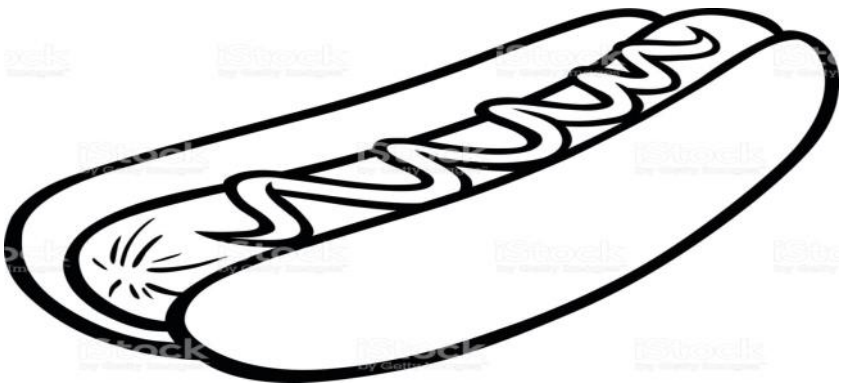
# **HOT DOG! IT'S RALLY DAY!**

**Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>  
After the 10:45 Service**

**Please plan to bring a side dish or dessert**

**Sign up sheet is on the counter in the  
Narthex.**

**Weather permitting we'll have bubbles, hula  
hoops and side walk chalk outside!**



## ***Women of the ELCA***

We will start our meetings up again after this lovely summer on Tuesday, September 11 at 7 PM in the fellowship room. It will be our planning meeting for the year so please bring any ideas you may have then. Marie Ramey will supply the refreshments and if you would like to do devotions just let Connie know. All are welcome to join us at any or all of the meetings. Each one has a different program and all have devotions, business and refreshments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any member and we will be glad to inform you.

Our conference this year will be held on Saturday, September 22 at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Ellicottville from 9:30-3:30. The guest speaker is Pete Hill from the Cayuga Nation/Heron Clan. We will discover our individual spirituality, explore Native American spirituality and worship with our sisters of the Niagara Frontier and Southwestern Conferences. \*\* Please note that if you are interested in going, registration deadline is September 10. The cost is \$20.00 and includes lunch. Please let Connie know as soon as possible if you will attend but no later than September 7.

All ladies are welcome to attend. The last conference was outstanding so join us if you can. We will discuss carpooling at our September meeting.

Thought for the month:

This church sign reminds us: "You are not too bad to come in. You are not too good to stay out."

Submitted by Connie Arnold

**HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:**

9/1 Phyllis Kerner  
9/4 Linda Barrows  
9/4 Thomas Kalinowski  
9/5 Mary Printzenhoff  
9/9 John Boldt  
9/11 Rob Germano  
9/13 Janet Hender  
9/14 Lowell Rothenberger  
9/17 Sandra Noyes  
9/21 Deborah Kerner  
9/21 Caden Miller  
9/23 Mary Ann Leary  
9/24 Rick Lipka  
9/24 Joey Molnar  
9/25 Amanda Altman  
9/27 Alan Kerner  
9/30 Clark Schindler



**HAPPY SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARY TO:**

9/2/2011 Alan and Tracy Lumb  
9/9/1967 Rick and Sharon Fredericks  
9/11/1971 Charlie and Connie Arnold  
9/20/1980 Alan and Deb Kerner  
9/20/2016 Daniel and Suzanne Schindler  
9/24/2007 Brian and Stacy Fredericks  
9/25/1988 Brandon and Sandy Noyes  
9/26/1992 Mark and Sue Koeppel  
9/30/2011 Adam and Stacey Poole

**Food Barrel for WS Food Pantry**

Needed for September are juice, one meal packages, peanut butter, small condiments, box dinners, soup, cereal, bathroom and paper products.



## **ST. JOHN'S ADULT CHOIR**

We are off to a good start! We don't have a new Choir Director yet but Pastor Roger and Nick Barnhard have been choosing anthems for us and are ready to go.

Our first practice will be Thursday, August 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Choir Room. Pastor Roger will be leading us until a new Director is hired. Nick, of course, will be our accompanist.

New members are always welcome and reading music is not necessary but does help. Please do join us.....

## **ST. JOHN'S BELL CHOIR**

Our Bell Choir will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m. and will be playing November 4 for All Saints' Sunday.

We are looking forward to hearing our bells again. Pastor Roger will be leading the choir as Nick is one of our bell ringers.

We do need additional bell ringers. If this is something you think you would like to do, come on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and try it.....

We all find our niches here at St. John's and singing or ringing with one of our Choirs could be your new niche.

Submitted by Carolly Huth

## ST. JOHN'S DINING OUT CLUB

We invite all who are interested to join us:

**WHEN:** THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 - 6:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** KODIAK JACK'S

**MENU:** \$ 12.25 & up entrees + appetizers, snacks,  
salads, wraps, burgers, sandwiches.

**DIRECTIONS:** 3481 Two Rod Rd, East Aurora  
Between Jamison Rd. & Rte. 20A

**PLEASE CAR POOL AND 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 WHETHER YOU WILL DRIVE, RIDE WITH SOMEONE OR MEET AT THE RESTAURANT.**

### **RESTAURANT REVIEW:**

**Mr. Bill's:** 20 of us dined in this cozy restaurant where the owner stopped to chat and thank us for coming. The food was great, salads looked tasty, spaghetti was good, cream of potato soup was excellent and a lot of foam went home as the portions were generous. Definitely a keeper. The meat loaf was excellent!

**Tavern at Windsor Park:** 21 dined in this favorite. The Shepherd's Pies, Fish & Chips were popular as always, salads were good sized and the company can't be beat!

**How will we choose our next restaurant?** We pass around a list of restaurants, everyone places an X next to their choice and the restaurant with the most Xs is the one we go to next. Here is your chance to try new restaurants, make new friends and enjoy good company. All members of St. Johns, your family and friends are welcome to join us. Please call Carolly Huth, 826-0506, with questions, if you forget to sign up, need a ride or to cancel.

Submitted by Carolly Huth

**Sunday Church School  
Begins on  
Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>  
at 9am!**

We'll meet in the sanctuary where we'll have our opening and meet our teachers and aides before heading to our classrooms!

Happening at both services is our **Backpack Blessing!**

**BRING your backpack, laptop bag or briefcase** and have it blessed as we begin the new school year. We will also be praying for and blessing students and educators, and installing our teachers and staff for the 2018-2019 Sunday school year.

No students in your house? You can help area children by donating a new backpack! Please bring it on the 9<sup>th</sup> to be blessed and we will add a bag tag so the student knows the backpack came from St. John's and is a symbol of our love and support for that student. Thank you! If you have any questions, please see or call Kathy Moody.

Following the second service is **HOT DOG IT'S RALLY DAY!**

Bring a side dish or dessert and join in the fun!

## ***Crossbeam Deadline***

Articles for the **October** issue of the Crossbeam are due by **September 9<sup>th</sup>**. Please e-mail your articles to Sue Koeppel ([sekoeppe@gmail.com](mailto:sekoeppe@gmail.com)) or leave them in the Crossbeam mailbox outside of the church office. Electronic articles are preferred, if at all possible.

## **LOST & FOUND**

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.

If you bring in goodies for our many receptions during the year, please take your dishes home. Those left in the kitchen will be placed on the pew next to the Classified Ads bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

We do thank everyone who brings in goodies but we just don't have room to store the dishes left behind. Please call Carolly Huth if you can't find what you are looking for at 826-0506.

## Coffee Hour

We have the following members to thank for setting up the coffee from September - May for your fellowship time between services. They are Diane Molnar, Maxine and Jim Steiner, Peggy Cramer, Ruth and Norm Merckel, Dick and Edie Fischer and Charlie and Connie Arnold.

The following members are thanked for cleaning up: Mark and Sue Koepfel, Janet Hender, Linda Wetzler, Bethann Hintzman, and Danese Dick.

We are so thankful to these folks and would love to have more members volunteer since it is only 10-15 minutes of your time either before the early service to set up or around 10:20 to clean up before the second service. As of now, each team is on every 5- 6 weeks, but if we get more volunteers, the spread would be greater. Please see or contact Connie 674-2409 or [kaketop@aol.com](mailto:kaketop@aol.com) if you would like more information or to volunteer.

Also, Diane Molnar is in charge of making sure her sign up sheet for refreshments is filled each week during fellowship time. Pastries, fruit, donuts, cookies, cheese and crackers are just some ideas of what can be brought in so don't be intimidated thinking you cannot contribute. We Lutherans love whatever is there to share and thankful for your contribution to the fellowship time.

The sign up sheet is on the kitchen counter, you cannot miss it! Just ask Diane if you have any questions, 675-2481.

# Save the Date: October 20, 2018 The LCLC Auction

Mark your calendars now for an exciting afternoon of fun and fellowship to benefit LCLC.

## **This Fun Event includes:**

- \*Live Auction for quilts, handmade artwork and crafts, and unique services
- \*Silent Auction for a wide variety of theme baskets
- \*Snacks and beverages
- \*Opportunity to connect with LCLC friends and alumni
- \*Closing Camp-Style Worship

**WHEN:** October 20, 2018 from 1:30 - 4:30

**WHERE:** St. John's Lutheran Church, 6540 Main Street, Williamsville, NY

For additional information please visit the [auction page on our website](#) or call [716-386-4125](tel:716-386-4125).

**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

**Adult Fall Retreat  
September 21-23, 2018**

Please join us for this special program designed for older adults. The Adult Fall Retreat provides singles and couples the opportunity to spend time together in Christian fellowship in the beauty of autumn at LCLC. Delicious meals and hotel-style lodging will be provided in our comfortable Retreat Center.

For more information or to register, please contact

**Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center**  
[5013 Rt. 430  
Bemus Point, NY 14712  
716-386-4125  
contact@lclcenter.org](mailto:contact@lclcenter.org)

The Fundraising Committee will be holding a Book Sale on Saturday, November 3rd from 9 am to 1 pm. All proceeds will go to the Building Fund.

Books will be accepted after October 7th.



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.

## ***News From the Pews***

### **Baptisms**

Charlotte Victoria Thompson - July 18, 2018

James Ling - August 4, 2018

### **Funerals**

Lawrence Keegan August 2, 2018

John Drzazga - August 4, 2018

### **In the Hospital—Julie Storch**

"St. Francis High School stating that for the 4th Quarter of the 2017-18 academic year that Brett M. Veiders received Second Honors."

"To my friends at St John's,  
Thank you for your generous support to my ride for the Ride for Roswell! I did the 30 mile early route. I was able to beat the rain that Saturday due to the 7:00am start time. Thank you one and all for your kindness in supporting me and the memory of my buddy, Matt!

Sincerely,  
Patrick Mudd"

"To all my friends at St. John's,

Words cannot express the joy and deep appreciation I felt as Mary and I read the steady flow of get well cards that found their way to our mailbox day after day. The words on the card were inspiring, but the sentiments you wrote touched our souls. My thanks to you from the bottom of my mended heart for your thoughts and prayers. Thanks, also, to Pastor V for her visits while I was in the hospital. I am doing well, getting stronger day by day.

With love and gratitude,  
Pastor Jack "



## ***News From the Pews***

"We just took the opportunity to read the latest Crossbeam. Miriam and I still miss St. John's after being gone for over twelve years. We are very happy to see that St. John's is very much alive and doing God's work. We live in Delaware Ohio, just outside of Columbus. Miriam and I are active in our church, All Shepherds Lutheran. Our daughter Debra is the church secretary. Debra's daughters, Emma and Abby attended the youth convention in Houston.

We noticed the names of many members who, after all of these years, like yesterday, are still active and involved in the work of St. John's. It is great to have such faithful servants. We wish Bernie success in her retirement. She certainly deserves it after being an important part of the church for many, many years. She will be missed.

May God continue to bless St John's.

Bill and Miriam Barker"

"I would like to thank both Pastor Valerie and Pastor Roger for the beautiful service on July 15th, and the reception that followed, recognizing my service as the Sect/Admin for the past 28 years. Special thanks to all the members for their gifts, wishes and hugs. The flowers were beautiful and Connie's cake was perfect. Thank you to Pastor Jack and Pastor John Klatt, Pastor Carol Lankes for their personal wishes. I would also like to thank the Council for their most generous gifts as well.

This day was filled with emotion and joy and one that I will always remember.

God Bless all of you, I will keep you in my prayers and ask you do the same for me." Bernie Bartkowiak

# OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION AT CHAUTAUQUA INSTITUTION

**We're joining Know How Tours on  
Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>,  
on a day trip to the Chautauqua Institute!**

We'll have a German Buffet Luncheon at the Athenaeum Hotel. There will be a live German Oompah Band and even a cooking class to learn how to make a favorite German dish. We leave West Seneca at 9:30am and return at approximately 4:30pm. Sign up on the Know How Tours website. ([www.knowhowtours.com](http://www.knowhowtours.com) OR 716-649-9694) Cost is \$115 per person. **Please mention St. John's West Seneca, we have reserved a place just for you! Sign up early to reserve your spot! Our seats will be released on September 1<sup>st</sup>.**

If you have any questions or would like help signing up see or call Kathy Moody.



# Branson Country Christmas!

We're joining Know How Tours on  
**Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>,**  
on a day trip to Macedon, NY

We're traveling to Macedon, located just outside of Rochester, for "**A Branson Country Christmas**" featuring the Ozark Jubilee, direct from Branson, MO. There will be country music and good clean family entertainment, including great comedians of yesteryear, like Archie Campbell, String Bean, Minnie Pearl and many more. The trip includes lunch and the show. On the way home there is a stop at Oliver's Chocolates in Batavia. We leave West Seneca at 9:30am and return at approximately 5:30pm. Sign up on the Know How Tours website.

([www.knowhowtours.com](http://www.knowhowtours.com) OR 716-649-9694.)

Cost is \$105 per person, \$99 for veterans. **Please mention St. John's West Seneca, we have reserved a place just for you! Sign up early to reserve your spot! Our seats will be released on October 1<sup>st</sup>.** This tour will sell out.

If you have any questions or would like help signing up see or call Kathy Moody.



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