

A Word from the Pastor for Easter...

"Madelene L'Engle's children's book The Summer of the Great Grandmother (New York: Harper & Row, 1986) tells of being with her grandchildren at bedtime for reading and song. Her grandchild Lena turned to her and asked, 'Is everything all right?'

She said, 'Yes, of course, everything is all right.'

Lena asked again: 'Gram, is everything really all right? I mean really?'

L'Engle says she 'looked at that little child in her white nightgown and realized that she was asking the cosmic question, the question that is out beyond the safety of this home full of light and love and warmth.'

Every Christmas we come to the manger child and ask the same question: 'Is everything really all right?'

Every Easter we come to the tomb and ask that same question: 'Is everything really all right?'"

Yes, everything is all right, now that death and the fear of death has been overturned. With so much in flux, the resurrection of Jesus is the one sure thing that is right and always will be. On our own journeys, we may struggle, then succeed, only to struggle again and again. But we can always lean and depend on this: that God sent His son into this world for us...that the resurrection is for us. That is the one truth we can hold onto, no matter what comes our way.

So, as we celebrate Christ's resurrection this year and every year, the answer to the question - Is everything really all right - is YES!

A Blessed Easter to all as we go forward into this new and abundant life.

Pastor V.

Our Monthly Community Dinner

**Time:4pm – 6:30pm or until we
run out- Whichever comes
first**

Date:4/27/18

**Mark's Sloppy Joe with Chips and Pickles
We will also have Desserts & Drinks
*** Menu subject to change *****

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.



Food Barrel for WS Food Pantry

Needed for April are jello, cake
mixes/frosting, pudding, instant
sides, paper products and canned
spaghetti sauce. No soup please.

**Congratulations to our 2018 First Communion
Class !**

Daniella Dunphy
Evan Kozanecki
Summer Lumb
Joseph Molnar
Danielle Odojewski
Sarah Reeve
Maddox Stelter
Emelia Surdej
Brianna Tosetto
Kylie Zinermon

**Pastor Valerie's Bible Study for April -
Thursdays at 6**

April 5: Acts 4: 32-35 and John 20: 1-31

April 12: Acts 3: 12-19 and Luke 24: 36b-48

April 19: Acts 4: 5-12 and John 10: 11-18

New and renewal subscriptions to LIVING LUTHERAN magazine are due for the May issue. At least twenty subscriptions are needed to qualify for a reduced rate. Copies are available in the library and several other sites so you can see what a fine publication it is. Details on exact cost will be available soon.

Submitted by Janet Hender

Assisting Minister Schedule

	9 am	10:45 am
April 1	7:30 am: Pat Lipka 9 am: Sue Springer	Karen Rothenberger
April 8	Sandy Gordon	Evelyn Hicks
April 15	Jim Steiner	Nancy Kessler
April 22	Sue Springer	Karen Rothenberger
April 29	Roger McGill	Adam Wolff

Power Point Schedule

	Preparer	9 am Presenter	10:45 am Presenter
April 1	Nick Barnhard	Lee Delaney	Matthew & Autumn Brown
April 8	Nancy Kessler	Lee Delaney	Trevor Godus
April 15	Nick Barnhard	Lee Delaney	Linda Altman
April 22	Nancy Kessler	Lee Delaney	Jean Stankowski
April 29	Dawn Tymorek	Lee Delaney	Keith Lang

Altar Guild

At this time, there is nothing to report from the guild, except to thank everyone for all your continued support with purchasing flowers to help us make the church look so beautiful.

Some Reflections:

Days go by, seasons change, but God's love remains the same. As each day passes, we become more and more aware of greening trees, budding flowers and warming sunshine. Fields, parks and gardens that have been still for months are beginning to teem with life. Change is in the air. Yet one thing that always was, always is and always will be without change is God. His love, grace, goodness and generosity do not come and go with the seasons. When He makes a promise, He keeps it. His words are as true today as they were from the beginning of time.

Year in year out, seasons will change, our circumstances will change. But God stays faithful and He remains constant in His love and care for each of us!

Taking care of the altar in April are Connie and Charlie Arnold. For May are Erma Fitzpatrick and family.

Submitted by Nancy Weber

News From the Pews

In The Hospital

Sharon Tyler

Baptisms

03-03-18: Nicholas Jon Ventura, Jr., son of Nicholas J. Ventura Sr. and Crystal Lynn Ventura

03-11-18: Kaydence Avery Kavanaugh, daughter of Phillip and Jamie (Hughes) Kavanaugh

"Our stop on the Lenten Journey this past March was a huge success. A heart felt Thank You to our bakers and all of our treat makers! Thank You to the crew that set up, staffed and tore down the event. We had over 155 people in attendance and they all enjoyed themselves in the hour long gathering after the service. Many people had never been to our new church and shared comments on how beautiful it was. We can all be proud, thanks to all of you!"

"Thank you to everyone who kept me in their prayers, sent a card or phoned me after my recent hospitalization and recuperation. I want to thank Pastor Valerie for her hospital visits and say a special thanks to Jill, Amanda & Rick Wolf."
Sharon Tyler



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.

Women of the ELCA

We held our first meeting of 2018 and enjoyed the fellowship that we always have when we gather.

Since it was March, Sylvia Delaney focused devotions on St. Patrick which were enlightening. St. Patrick was not Irish, he was born in the 4th century AD in Scotland. At 16 he was captured by pirates and taken to Ireland where he became a slave. For 6 years he prayed and then escaped from his captors and returned back to Britain a different person. He entered the monastery, became a priest and eventually a bishop. He went to Ireland as a missionary and converted thousands.

As you can now see, St Patrick's Day has lost a lot of its original meaning. St Patrick did not chase the snakes out of Ireland, instead, the Lord used him to bring to Ireland a faith in the one true God and to forever change the Irish people.

We then began our Caring and Sharing part of that meeting by doing a project led by Sandy Marzahn. We made about 72 bedazzling note or card holders for the folks at Greenfields. Our thanks to Sandy for this and to our other Sandy, Sandy Haase for delivering them on our behalf.

Just a reminder that the Spring Assembly will be Tuesday, April 17 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Registration and refreshments begins at 6:45. pm The program is titled "A Thoughtful Prayer Life: Making Time and Space for What Matters" and will be presented by their pastor, Rebecca Mentzer. All are welcome- you do not need to be a member to come and enjoy this evening. We will carpool from St. John's around 6:25 pm.

April 10 is the next meeting when Sandy H. will present a program on the History of Hymns. Barbara K. will provide the refreshments. All are welcome.

Thought for the month: An Irish Blessing which Sylvia gave to all of us.

"May your troubles be Less and your Blessings be More... and Nothing but Happiness come through Your Door."

Submitted by Connie Arnold

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
4/21 Ryan Molnar
4/23 Alexander Molnar
4/26 Danese Dick
4/26 Stacy Fredericks
4/27 Ava Brown
4/27 Sharon Fredericks
4/30 Shirley Johnson



*Anniversaries
and Birthdays*

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

Crossbeam Deadline

Articles for the **May** issue of the Crossbeam are due by **April 8th**. 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.

ST. JOHN'S DINING OUT CLUB

We invite all who are interested to join us:

WHEN: THURSDAY - APRIL 26 AT 6:00 P.M.

WHERE: ECKL'S RESTAURANT

MENU: \$ 18.00 & up entrees + appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, chicken, roast beef, seafood, pork, lamb.

DIRECTIONS: 4936 Ellicott Rd., Orchard Park NY on the S/E corner of Rte. 240 and Ellicott Rd. across from the Orchard Park Country Club. Parking in the rear can be accessed from Jewett-Holmwood Rd. or Ellicott Rd.

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:

Red Lobster: 10 of us enjoyed dinner together in a cozy corner. New menu with many choices came out in Feb. All found something they liked, Service was very good and we had a good time as always.

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

Sunday Church School

Welcome back from Easter break! We hope you all had a restful and blessed Easter. Our articles are due before the following events have happened, but we have Congratulations and Thank You' s to pass on.

Congratulations to our 1st Communion class that celebrated on March 18th! Thank you to everyone who helped guide this class through their lessons and through the special day of communion bread baking that led them up to a beautiful Sunday morning of celebration!

Congratulations also to our Kindergarten through 2nd grade classes that were recognized for learning the Lord's Prayer on Palm Sunday. These children and their families worked hard on memorizing the Prayer and we are so proud of them!

Submitted by Kathy Moody

**ATTENTION ALL GROUPS THAT HAVE
ITEMS STORED IN THE PARISH HALL
BOILER ROOM:**

We will be cleaning and organizing the parish hall boiler room starting in April 2018. Please label anything you want to keep with your name/ group name. We will be installing shelves to put smaller items on. Anything not labeled will be discarded.

Thank you—Sue and Mark Koeppel

ADOPT-A-PROJECT DAY
April 21, 2018 8:00-4:00

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 exterior of camper cabins

Re-roofing camper cabins

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](http://5013Rt.430)

[Bemus Point, NY 14712](http://BemusPoint,NY14712)

716-386-4125

contact@lclcenter.org

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.

Spring Fling

Clean out your closet and bag up the items you no longer want in a 13gal.bag; 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.

Call Bethann 668-0833

Please support our building and community dinner funds.

Collecting starts March 1st -April 30th

Spring Fling

HELP US RAISE \$\$ WITH OUR FUNDRIVE FUNDRAISER

ITEMS WE ACCEPT AND THE PRICE WE ARE PAID FOR THEM

SOFT GOODS
20¢ PER POUND

-  CLOTHING
-  SHOES
-  BEDDING / TOWELS

-  ACCESSORIES - HATS, MITTENS, SCARVES, TIES, SOCKS, PURSES, WALLETS, BACKPACKS, BAGS, BELTS, JEWELRY

HARD GOODS
10¢ PER POUND

-  ELECTRICAL ITEMS
-  TOYS & GAMES
-  KITCHEN ITEMS

-  KNICK-KNACKS
-  SPORTING GOODS - BALLS, BATS, FRISBEES, TENNIS RACKETS, BASEBALL GLOVES

BOOKS/CDS/DVDS
2¢ PER POUND



400 BAGS = \$1000!

CIINDrive

 savers

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).

Fundraising

The February 11th mystery gift of chocolate wine and lotteries was won by Debbie Kerner. It raised \$67 for the mortgage fund. The gift was donated by Sandy Haase.

We also counted the pennies (\$18.10) from the kitchen counter jar. It was added to the mortgage fund.

Thanks to all who continue to support these events and to Marie Ramey who works at the table each Sunday for the ticket sales.

Diane Molnar donated the March prize and the winner will be announced after March 11th.

Submitted by Sandy Haase

St. John's Community Preschool 4th Annual Toy Sale will take place May 4-5, 2018

Please consider donating to our biggest Preschool fundraiser of the year!

We are looking for

- * Gently used or antique Toys
- * Gently used or antique Books (kids books only please)
- * Baby items
- * Outdoor play items
- * Homemade items for children

All money raised to be used for new toys/equipment for St. John's Community Preschool & the classroom used by our littlest Sunday School Students (3 & 4 year olds). Donations may be dropped off upstairs in the educational building-room 203a.

Also, won't you please consider volunteering to help. I am looking for help with publicity and to set up and price during days on May 2 or 3 as well as on the sales days from 9-1 to cashier or assist. Please call or text me with any questions or to offer assistance. 901-6570 or tracylml@aol.com
Tracy Lumb

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.

INDEX

Assisting Ministers	4
Altar Guild	5
A Word from Pastor Valerie	1
A Word from Pastor Roger	See insert
Pastor Valerie's Bible Study	3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	8
Community Dinner	2
Dining Out Club	9
Food Pantry	2
Fundraising	14
Greeters	See insert
Lost & Found	11
New from the pews	6
Power point	4
Sunday Church School	10
Ushers	See insert
WELCA	7