

A Word from the Pastor for June...

"It has been a quiet week in Lake Wobegon. The children are back to school after a riotous week of Easter break. The weather was so lovely when the children were released from confinement, the fresh air went to their heads. Air has a different effect on children: what we merely breathe, children are ignited and launched by. At Our Lady on Sunday morning, Father Emil felt as if he was speaking to a convention of rabbits instead of the usual herd of turtles. Constant movement in the pews. The homily was on new life and it was all around to be seen. " -Garrison Keillor, "Easter," Leaving Home (New York: Penguin Books, 1989), 17.

We are in the season of Easter, and it will be celebrated until the Day of Pentecost. Just think of it - fifty days of new life to celebrate. I can't help but think the Keillor is on to something. Just think of the effect spring has on us, at times we are like those children, filled with energy and a lightness we just don't feel in winter.

And that is what Easter is all about. There is new life and it is abundant. It is time to move around more, and breath deeply,

There is a lot going on here, and in the future, you will be hearing about Visioning. There is a group looking at the future of St. John's, young and old, newer members as well as life-long members. There is energy all about, and I know that I am excited by it. So keep reading the bulletins and the CROSSBEAM and get ignited by the new life all around us. A blessed Easter Season!

Pastor V.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

(3512 Clinton Street @ Union Rd, West Seneca)

Presents:

Our Monthly Community Dinner

Date:6/30/17

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

We will be serving:

Hot Dogs and sides

We will also have Desserts & Drinks

*** Menu subject to change ***

This dinner is provided for anyone that needs a meal
AND it is family friendly event...

The meal is **FREE** but we will take any free will donations
that anyone wishes to make...

Coming Soon—Prize Raffle for the Chili Dinner

This year's raffle will be \$1,000 in gift cards to Splash Lagoon. The winning tickets will be drawn at the Chili Dinner on October 15, 2017. Watch the Crossbeam and bulletins for more details.

Summer Refreshments

The signup sheet for summer refreshments is on the kitchen counter.

In the past committees get together and sign up.

Families are also welcome to help out.

As a reminder, we are looking for 4 to 5 plates of goodies. Cold drinks are in the refrigerator. Committees are responsible for set up and clean up. Any leftovers that can freeze nice can be saved for the community dinners.

Thank you!
Membership



Food Barrel for WS Food Pantry

Items needed for June are paper products, jelly, jello, condiments, pudding, and personal care products.

Women of the ELCA

Sylvia presented a wonderful program from the Women of the ELCA programs titled- Pentecost, Prayer and Promise. We were given the task of committing to prayer for those who need empowerment in the areas of health, violence, and those working through systems that limit empowerment. There were 3 symbols used to remind us to pray. When you see a red heart, think about and pray for the health of women and girls. When you see red thread, think about the victims of domestic violence and abuse and pray for them. When you see a piece of red tape, think about and pray for those frustrated in their efforts to get help- immigrants, those seeking US asylum, women and children living in poverty, and those dealing with foreclosure and homelessness or struggling to get back on their feet after a disaster to name a few.

Even if you don't see any of these 3 things, please remember that through the power of the Holy Spirit you have been equipped to do this and if you can, do more than pray for those 3 areas- go for it!

Next, the ladies decided to support the collection for foster children in Erie County through the Care Cases community project. The article tells us that there are over 1,000 children currently in foster care in Erie County and they are looking for the following items to help the children ease into their transition with their new foster family. You can help by donating a new item through June. The box will be in the foyer or parish hall.

Continued on page 5

Women of the ELCA, continued

The items include:

Small suitcase or duffel bag
Fleece blanket (60"x 80")
Stuffed Animal (14-16' tall)
Toothbrush and Toothpaste
Books- Toddler thru Teens

Shampoo
Body Lotion
Soap/Body Wash
Coloring Books and Crayons

We thank you in advance for your consideration of this project!

Finally, we would like to welcome all ladies to join us for our annual dinner out. This year we will be going to Rick's on Main in East Aurora. We will car pool from church around 5 PM for 5:30 dinner reservation. The date is June 14. It is always a great evening of fun and fellowship so please consider coming along. The sign up sheet is on the foyer counter or you can call Connie at 674-2409, or email kaketop@aol.com. Reservations are needed by June 12. Hope to see you then!

Submitted by Connie Arnold

Thought for the month:

Thank the Lord for giving us the power of the Holy Spirit and the means to act on this witness with our prayers and deeds.

Power Point Schedule

	Preparer	9 am Presenter	10:45 am Presenter
June 4	Nick Barnhard	Lee Delaney	Matthew & Autumn Brown
June 11	Nancy Kessler	Lee Delaney	Trevor Godus
June 18	Nick Barnhard	Lee Delaney	Linda Altman
June 25	Nancy Kessler	9:30 am - Lee Delaney	

Crossbeam Deadline

Articles for the **July/August** issue of the Crossbeam are due by **June 11th**. 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.

Assisting Minister Schedule

	9 am	10:45 am
June 4	Roger McGill	Nancy Kessler
June 11	Jim Steiner	Karen Rothenberger
June 18	Sue Springer	Adam Wolff
June 25	Summer Schedule: 9:30 am—Pat Lipka	

Book Club

The Book Club will no longer be meeting due to lack of interest. However, I would encourage book reviews that you would like to share with others in this monthly CROSSBEAM. Jim Steiner

On Saturday June 17, 2017 from 11 am to 8 pm the Community Dinner Group is having a fund raising function at BUFFALO WILD WINGS on McKinley Pkwy in Blasdell NY. It is across the street from the McKinley Mall.

We will have a small auction as well as Caricature drawings...

Come in, order food and mention that you are supporting St John's Community Dinner and pay your bill... We will get 10% of that money donated back to us... So come out, Eat wings, Raise funds...

Special Congregational Meeting:

This is to inform you of a special congregational meeting to be held on **June 11th, 2017** immediately following the 10:45 service.

Unified in faith and acting as the call committee, the congregational council of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church moved to accept the executive appointment made by the Rev. John S. Macholz, Bishop of the upstate NY Synod of the ELCA and therefore recommends to the congregation to extend a pastoral call to Roger W. Griffiths to the position of full-time Associate Pastor of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. The effective date of this call would be September 1, 2017.

The sole purpose of the June 11th meeting, is to have a congregational vote on approval of a call to Roger W. Griffiths to be a full time Associate Pastor at Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Your council knows that this call is a leap of faith but also strongly believes that this will fill a huge gap currently missing in securing the future of St. John's through our youth and young families. Through Rogers full time presence and connection with the youth and young families of the congregation we are anticipating growth. We ask that you prayerfully consider this vote in the weeks ahead.

Submitted by Rick Lipka

Altar Guild

Our next meeting of the guild will be on Sunday June 11th at 9:30 am. Hostesses will be Erma Fitzpatrick and Danese Dick. June's altar preparations will be by Shirley Johnson and Janet McLeod. Again, ladies be sure to check around for missing altar linens!

A bit of altar information:

The altar is the center of the church's worship. It is not a piece of church furniture like the pulpit or lectern; it is a monument. God prescribed the altar for worship in the Old Testament, and in both the Old and New Testament era the church's worship has been around the altar. The altar is so central and so sacred that it has been said: "The altar is the church, the church is the altar." The altar is a symbol of God's presence in His church. Its significance is that of sacrifice, of our Lord Jesus Christ for the redemption of the world. It also signifies our sacrifice of self, prayer, praise, thanksgiving, and possessions to God through Christ, our Mediator and High Priest. The altar is also the Lord's table for the preparation, consecration and distribution of the bread which is the holy body and the cup which is the precious blood of Christ in the Sacrament of the Altar.

The guild is always looking for new members. Please consider coming and joining us.

Submitted by Nancy Weber

News From the Pews

In The Hospital - Kenneth Cendrowski

Baptism - Megan Kimberly Molnar, May 14, 2017
daughter of Jonathan and Erica Molnar

May 7th Pastor Valerie announced the engagement of Amanda Wolf, daughter of Jill & Rick Wolf to Nicholas Barnhard, son of Lee & Marylynn Barnhard. Our best wishes, Amanda & Nick, for a long and happy union.

"Thank you to everyone who sent cards and prayers following my knee replacement surgery", Maxine Steiner.

Vision for Mission

We have developed our St. John's prayer! We thoroughly enjoyed the process of developing the prayer! The journey was one of beginnings, endings, middles and our future! The contributions made by the St. John's community were thought provoking and instrumental in the words that were chosen.

Our next step: Presenting our prayer to council. We also have a meeting scheduled this month to reconvene with Pastor Norma Malfatti and Pastor Amy Walter-Peterson from our Upstate NY Synod. The session will revolve around our Congregational prayer, the Congregational survey results from several years ago and our next steps.

If you have any questions whatsoever, please ask any member of the committee. Thank you !

Submitted by Kathy Moody

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.



HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY TO:

6/7 Marie Ramey
6/12 John Anderson
6/12 Lorrie Whelan
6/13 Patrick Mudd
6/18 Renee Then
6/19 Rick Fredericks
6/20 Keith Altman
6/20 Dawn Corless
6/20 Travis Hicks
6/20 Tom Mudd
6/23 Rachel Storch
6/25 Matt Brown
6/27 Adam Noyes
6/29 Pat Lipka



HAPPY JUNE ANNIVERSARY TO:

6/7/2008 Dave and Pat Gorman
6/7/1975 Tom and Andrea Mudd
6/9/1998 Scott and Bethann Hintzman
6/20/2015 Rob and Ashley Coder
6/28/1969 Lowell and Karen Rothenberger

Remember, you can easily add your birthday and or anniversary date to the list by emailing the church office, kaketop@aol.com, or filling out the card by the birthday bag on the foyer counter.

DINING OUT CLUB

We invite all who are interested to join us:

WHEN: THURSDAY, JUNE 29 - 6:00 p.m.

WHERE: J & M'S WEST END INN

MENU: \$11.99 & up entrees + appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches, wraps, burgers, wings.

DIRECTIONS: 340 Union St. Hamburg, NY
Southwestern Blvd. to left on Camp Rd. (Rte. 75), to right on
Sunset Dr. to left on Pleasant Ave. Cross the RR tracks, to
right on Scott St., left on Union St.
Restaurant is on the right. Or follow Rte. 75 to right on Union
St.

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

RESTAURANT REVIEW:

Pane's Restaurant: 10 of us visited this favorite restaurant. We had a private room with an oval table so we could all converse with each other. Everyone enjoyed their food, service was good and so was the company.

HOW DO WE CHOOSE THE NEXT RESTAURANT? At each dinner, we pass a list around and everyone chooses a restaurant they would like to experience. The one with the most votes is where we go next. All members of St. John's, your family and friends are welcome. Please feel free to join us anytime. For more information, please call Carolly at 826-0506.

USHER UPDATE

Over the past year, the membership committee has gone back and forth about what to provide for our babies and toddlers until they can begin to attend our wonderful Sunday school program at the age of three. We all know that once an infant starts to crawl they want down.

We have designated the area between the 2 sets of doors for our youngest members and their parents, if they wish. This allows Mom and Dad to feel included in the service and give the little ones some freedom to move around. For this to work the doors need to be shut if the ushers see the children are getting loud or trying to escape.

This is a wonderful opportunity to provide ministry to our youngest members and transition them into the next phase of their faith journey.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment as ushers.

Membership

Sunday Church School

Congratulations to our 2nd year Confirmation class! The class will make their confirmation on June 4th at the 2nd service.

It's June, SCS has ended and we can say nothing but THANK YOU!

THANK YOU to our teachers and aides!

THANK YOU to the team that led our SCS openings!

THANK YOU to our leadership team!

THANK YOU to our parents, grand parents and all of our grown ups, for bringing your children every Sunday!

We have thoroughly enjoyed experiencing the church year with your children!

Submitted by Kathy Moody

APRIL 2017 Financial Notes (for Council & Crossbeam)

Regular Budgeted donations for the month of April 2017 totaled **\$21,627**, averaging **\$4,325** per week for that 5-week period which included Easter, compared to the Budgeted expenses requirement of **\$3,710** per week. Budgeted expenses of **\$15,661** for the month were average. Fiscal year **Budgeted Receipts** (Weekly Envelopes, Simply Giving and Plate Offerings) totaling **\$142,597** have decreased \$(1,872) or (1.3%) as compared to the prior year. Fiscal year **Budgeted Expenses** of **\$148,053** are below average and \$6,093 lower than the prior year. Outreach Donations from March totaling \$1,000 were voted by Council to be distributed as follows: \$250 to Rev. Grecious Moyo, \$250 LCLC and \$500 to the Upstate NY Synod general fund. In addition, the Fish Sales for the World Hunger appeal have totaled \$591 through April. Total Outreach YTD totals **\$13,528**.

There was a total of **\$5,450** transferred from Checking to Savings in April 2017. The Checking account ended 4/30/2017 with a positive balance of **\$31**. Total Savings ended the month with a balance of **\$55,542** split between both a new \$20,138 C.D. was opened Dec. 2016 through the Mission Investment Fund C.D. at 3.5% for 6 years, and also the regular Church savings account balance to \$35,404 at 4/30/2017.

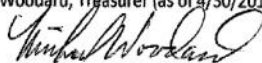
Building Fund donations totaled **\$7,887** for the month of April, inclusive of \$1,045 in Memorials and \$897 in Fundraising. In addition to the prior month's surplus in the account, there was enough to pay the regular loan payments (M.I.F. Mortgage, Cemetery and Cornerstone) plus an extra \$2,000 on the Cornerstone Loan. The balance in the Building Checking account equaled **\$17,387** as of 4/30/2017. YTD Building Fund donations are down by \$(12,182) or (11.9%) as compared to the prior year.

We are now into the 3rd three-year Mortgage Reduction Campaign focused on retiring the MIF Mortgage, the remaining Cemetery Loan and the Cornerstone Loan, which carry a remaining principal balance of **\$865,393** as of April 30, 2017.

Summation: For the 10 months of the fiscal year 2017 ended 4/30/2017:

- 1) In terms of the **Church account**, regular budgeted revenues are lower than the prior year, but offset by Special gifts of \$19,710 which are \$10,000 higher than the previous year, overall Budgeted Receipts of **\$177,473** reflect an increase YTD of **\$5,239** or 3.0%. All of the bills continue to be paid on-time, and the special projects have been paid from Church Checking. The Outreach commitment of \$1,000/month has been met and exceeded. We have transferred \$25,350 into the Savings account YTD, and a new \$20,000 investment C.D. has been opened at a great interest rate, bringing total savings to \$55,542.
- 2) In terms of the **Building Fund**, regular donations have been less than average, but we have benefited from a \$20,333 in Special gifts and Memorials of \$5,601 and Fundraising of \$1,985, bringing YTD total donations to **\$90,283**, but for a decrease of (11.9%). All of the Loans are paid as agreed, and now pre-paid by an extra \$24,000. Plus, after the first five years of payments, the primary mortgage loan through the Mission Investment Fund has now paid down its first **\$100,000+** of principal, with a remaining balance of **\$795,409**.

Respectfully submitted, Michael Woodard, Treasurer (as of 4/30/2017)



WE HAVE A DATE!!!!!!

**CHOIR CONCERT
OCTOBER 22, 2017
2:00 P. M.
RECEPTION FOLLOWING**

A free will offering will benefit our Building Fund. We have chosen 12 of our favorite anthems sung over the past year or two. We invite you to come and enjoy them again.

Finger foods will be served at our reception. If you would like to help us with providing goodies that we all will enjoy, your kindness will be appreciated.

Any adults 25 to 35 yrs of age who would like to be involved in planning a get together of some sort for this age group please talk to Jim Steiner, Membership Chairman. 897-1132

**Save the Date: October 14, 2017
LCLC Quilt, Art, & Pie Auction**

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

This Fun Event includes:

- *Live Auction for quilts, hand crafted art, pies, and more
- *Silent Auction for theme baskets
- *Congregational Chili Cook-Off Competition
- *Snacks and beverages
- *Opportunity to connect with LCLC friends and alumni
- *Closing Camp-Style Worship
- ***Special Auction Item:** Dinner with, prepared, served, and brought to your house by Bishop John Macholz of the Upstate NY Synod!

WHEN: October 14, 2017 from 1:30 - 4:30

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

COST: FREE! This is a fundraiser though, so come prepared to bid high and often!

Donations Needed: For information about making a donation to the auction.

For additional information please call [716-386-4125](tel:716-386-4125).

Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, 5013 Route 430, Bemus Point, NY 14712

Worship and Music

We're heading toward two significant worship events this month. June 4 is **Pentecost** -- the birthday of the Church -- and we celebrate Affirmation of Baptism with four Confirmands at the 10:45 am Service. Remember to wear something red! June 25 begins our **summer schedule** with one Sunday service at 9:30 am, while Saturday services continue at 5 pm. We'll stay with the current liturgical setting until Fall.

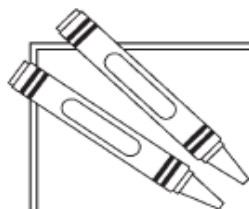
So far, we've been happy to receive several dozen responses to our **worship times survey**. If you haven't yet made your voice heard, you can pick a copy of the one-page survey up in the foyer area or just fill it out online at saintjohnsws.org. Please respond by June 4, and encourage your friends to participate, especially if they don't often have an opportunity to join us.

If you're missing worship due to illness, sports, travel or whatever reason, you can hear the lessons, prayers sermon and hymns each week through our new **live web video streaming**. Just look for the "Streaming" section on the home page at saintjohnsws.org. The videos are recorded, so you can "tune in" any time.

Submitted by Adam Wolff



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.



Just for KIDS

Fathers and Sons of the Bible

Proverbs 13:1 says,
 "A wise son heeds his father's instruction."

In the puzzle below, find and circle the names of these fathers and their sons from the Old Testament. Names may be forward, backward, diagonal, → ← ↓ ↑ ↘ ↙ up or down. Circle them.

ADAM	JAPHETH	ISHMAEL	JUDAH	JOSEPH
CAIN	ELKANAH	ISAAC	LEVI	MANASSEH
ABEL	SAMUEL	ESAU	GAD	EPHRAIM
SETH	AARON	JACOB	NAPHTALI	SAUL
NOAH	NADAB	REUBEN	SIMEON	JONATHAN
HAM	HUR	DAN	ISSACHAR	DAVID
SHEM	CALEB	ASHER	ZEBULUN	SOLOMON
	ABRAHAM		BENJAMIN	

M A N A S S E H E S A U A W
 I B I D O H S I S S A U L R
 A E A A L A E O N H E E E D
 R L C V O O T M I S U H V I
 H A M I M N H S L M S F I T
 P H R D O I M S A A R O N T
 E L K A N A H S T U U D A N
 C G A D H I O N H J U J D A
 I S S A C H A R P A H A A H
 T M R M C C K E A P A C B T
 O B E N J A M I N H D O E A
 A I S H M A E L R E U B E N
 N O E M I S S N O T J L S O
 C A L E B I T E O H E U K J
 J O S E P H E N U L U B E Z

M A N A S S E H E S A U A W
 I B I D O H S I S S A U L R
 A E A A L A E O N H E E E D
 R L C V O O T M I S U H V I
 H A M I M N H S L M S F I T
 P H R D O I M S A A R O N T
 E L K A N A H S T U U D A N
 C G A D H I O N H J U J D A
 I S S A C H A R P A H A A H
 T M R M C C K E A P A C B T
 O B E N J A M I N H D O E A
 A I S H M A E L R E U B E N
 N O E M I S S N O T J L S O
 C A L E B I T E O H E U K J
 J O S E P H E N U L U B E Z

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