

# THE GOOD NEWS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

July 2023



## Mission Statement



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church provides an inviting environment for spreading God's Word through worship, teaching and fellowship to address the spiritual needs of our congregation and community.



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person--questions, complexities and all. Join us as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

The Rev. Jamie Retallack  
jamesretallack@gmail.com

716-848-9683

## WORSHIP TIMES

**SAT. 5:30PM**

**SUN. 10:00AM**

**IN PERSON/ONLINE WORSHIP**

## OFFICE HOURS & CONTACT

**MONDAY-THURSDAY**

**10:00AM-3:00PM**

**716-683-8972**

**STJOHNSLANCASTER55@GMAIL.COM**

**STJOHNSLANC.ORG**

## IN THIS ISSUE

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

**MISSION MESSAGE**

**BOOK CLUB**

**CALENDAR**

**SCHEDULES**

**EVENTS**

**FLOWERS & PRAYER LIST**

**BIRTHDAYS**

**ST. JOHN'S 411**



## Pastor's Message



On Pentecost I wanted to spend some time preaching about all that the Spirit has done for us at St. John's, both throughout our history and today. The truth is that our history is a remarkable one, from early German settlers to the area founding the church, to the building being stolen, to reconciling with those who stole the building. The faith and courage shown by our fore-bearers to be led by the Spirit in bold and daring ways. Those moments of faith, courage and accomplishment aren't only relegated to the past however.

Oftentimes we have a tendency to focus on the negative. This is actually a survival technique that we as people have learned. By focusing on the negative, we can more quickly identify threats and potential problems. The drawback is that we can slip into a "glass half empty" mindset. We see the negative but miss the positive. If we take a step back, we can see that there are quite a few amazing things being worked by the Spirit.

We are exploring and moving ahead with a partnership arrangement with St. John's, Elma. What better way to show that the work of the Church goes beyond the walls of the building than by working with and helping another congregation? This sort of<sup>2</sup>partnership is truly an opportunity to extend our ministry in new ways. On top of that, it is not a one-way relationship. The partnership will also enhance our ministry as well. I've begun to think of the arrangement as St. John's . When you square a number in math, you do more than simply add the two numbers up, you multiply them, ending up with something far greater than the original number. I see that opportunity here.

It is also a special year as LYMA is celebrating their 150th anniversary. How wonderful is it that for a century and a half the young men (and young at heart) of this congregation have been doing all that they do? Just in this past year they had handrails installed leading to the ramp, have supported our youth and more. That is of course on top of the simple act of fellowship which they share together.

This year we were also blessed with an unexpected and awe inspiring bequest. One which the council will propose be used to start an endowment. The interest will allow for our future security, security which we will use to boldly do ministry and the work of the Gospel in our community and in the world. I can't wait to share with you the details of all of this when the time comes.

## Pastor's Message (cont'd.)

But the good news keeps on coming. The Synod has approached us with the proposal of being an internship congregation again. A ministry that was for many years a blessing to the congregation has a chance to be revived and begin anew. It would look a bit different, as this intern would be part-time, serving a few number of hours per week over a greater number of years. The council will be discussing this opportunity at our next meeting.

These are all signs that the Spirit is active among us, but they are not the only signs. The work of all of you who support the congregation with your time and talent is also a sign of the Spirit's activity. The council, musicians, Sunday school leaders, youth leaders, committee members, staff, ushers, altar guild and so many more are all signs that the Spirit is with us every day.

Finally I want to leave you with words from the prophet Jeremiah (29:11), the words speak to all of God's people but I want to make sure that you hear them:

*"For I know the plans I have for you,"  
declares the LORD,  
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you,  
plans to give you hope and a future."*

Peace

*Jamie*





# Mission Message

FROM "LIFELINES" SPRING 2023  
VIEW THIS ISSUE ONLINE  
[ELCA.ORG/HUNGER/RESOURCES](https://elca.org/hunger/resources)



*“Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength,  
they shall mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:31)*

In my first letter for a “LifeLines” newsletter, almost 15 years ago, I wrote that we were standing at the crossroads between hunger and hope. I was convinced then that hope is winning, and I continue to hold that conviction because of you — the faithful partners in our work toward a just world where all are fed.

**In 2022 gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response approached \$46 million, the largest combined total of all time. Thank you!**

We live in a time when hope might seem the road less traveled. Around the globe, climate change, political unrest, a record number of displaced people, and food systems taxed by a global pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine are all driving hunger and poverty. Yet closer examination reveals that the less-traveled road of hope is an ever-widening one that holds inspiring surprises we can celebrate together.

**Just in the last year, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response were at work in 76 countries and 43 U.S. states and territories.**

After many years of working in the church to address hunger, I am still confident in the promise that “hope abides.” Through the vocations and creativity of individuals, congregations, companions and partners around the world, your gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response are at work doing just that — providing fresh food through community gardens in Brazil, advocating for stronger policies to address the root causes of hunger here in the United States, improving incomes for families in Lebanon, providing fistula surgeries for women in South Sudan and rebuilding after the earthquake in Nepal five years on. Thank you for answering God’s invitation to share in this work.

With thanks for your ministry and partnership,

The Rev. Daniel Rift

Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Funding





# Book Club



Please join us in the Memorial Lounge on Thursday, July 20th at 7:00 PM to discuss Frieda McFadden's novel, *THE HOUSEMAID*.

“Welcome to the family,” Nina Winchester says as I shake her elegant, manicured hand. I smile politely, gazing around the marble hallway. Working here is my last chance to start fresh. I can pretend to be whoever I like. But I’ll soon learn that the Winchesters’ secrets are far more dangerous than my own...

Every day I clean the Winchesters’ beautiful house top to bottom. I collect their daughter from school. And I cook a delicious meal for the whole family before heading up to eat alone in my tiny room on the top floor.

I try to ignore how Nina makes a mess just to watch me clean it up. How she tells strange lies about her own daughter. And how her husband Andrew seems more broken every day. But as I look into Andrew’s handsome brown eyes, so full of pain, it’s hard not to imagine what it would be like to live Nina’s life. The walk-in closet, the fancy car, the perfect husband.

I only try on one of Nina’s pristine white dresses once. Just to see what it’s like. But she soon finds out... and by the time I realize my attic bedroom door only locks from the outside, it’s far too late.

But I reassure myself: the Winchesters don’t know who I really am.

They don’t know what I’m capable of...

Read this twisted, unpredictable story; then come (as your schedule permits) and share your thoughts and ideas. Friends and guests are always welcome!

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-housemaid-freida-mcfadden/1142009317?ean=9781538742570>



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>25</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Pastor Swanson's Anniversary Celebration 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Music Committee Mtg	<b>26</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 6:00pm Wheelchair Football 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>27</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>28</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>29</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>30</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>1</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>2</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	<b>3</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 6:00pm Wheelchair Football 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>4</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>5</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>6</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>7</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>8</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>9</b> 10:00am <del>Online</del> Baptism 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	<b>10</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 6:00pm Wheelchair Football 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>11</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>12</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>13</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>14</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>15</b> Good News Articles Due 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>16</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	<b>17</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 6:00pm Wheelchair Football 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>18</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>19</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>20</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>21</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>22</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>23</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Suarez Baptism 10:00am Sunday School	<b>24</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 6:00pm Wheelchair Football 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>25</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>26</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>27</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>28</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>29</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>30</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Music Committee Mtg	<b>31</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 6:00pm Wheelchair Football 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>1</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>2</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>3</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>4</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>5</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service

<https://www.stjohnslanc.org/calendar>



# Upcoming Schedules

## ALTAR GUILD

**07/02/2023**  
**CHERYL HELWIG &**  
**KATHY SNYDER**

**07/09/2023**  
**AMY PETRUNYAK &**  
**JOHN PETRUNYAK**

**07/16/2023**  
**TIMMY GIERLINGER &**  
**RAEANN JAKUBOWSKI**

**07/23/2023**  
**SHARON WALKER &**  
**CAROL GRAHAM**

**07/30/2023**  
**KELLY SIERACKI**

## DEACONS

**7/2/2023**  
**SAM MILLER**

**7/9/2023**  
**PAUL RUDZ**

**7/16/2023**  
**KATHY SNYDER**

**7/23/2023**  
**RAEANN JAKUBOWSKI**

**7/30/2023**  
**SAM MILLER**

## USHERS

**7/2/2023**  
**BEVERLY HESS**  
**PAUL RUDZ**

**7/9/2023**  
**SAM MILLER**  
**LINDA COSTA**

**7/16/2023**  
**VIRGINIA GRAHAM**  
**CAROL GRAHAM**

**7/23/2023**  
**LINDA COSTA**  
**TBD**

**7/30/2023**  
**BEVERLY HESS**  
**CAROL GRAHAM**





# **Upcoming Event**

## **St. John's Lutheran Young Men's Association (LYMA) 150th Anniversary Octoberfest Celebration**

**Sunday, September 10th**

**Noon-6pm**

**@ Bowen Rd. Pavilion, Lancaster**

**Music all day**

**Live German Band 2pm-5pm**

**German Food available**

**Snacks, Large pretzels**

**Dessert Contest - Prizes!**

**Soda, Water, Coffee**

**Beer/Wine provided (Donation)**

**MUST BE 21 !!!**

***All are Welcome!***





# Altar Flower Update

Arrangements for the altar are \$30 (for 2). You may request specific colors or flowers if desired, however there may be an additional charge if you would like larger arrangements or more expensive varieties of flowers. To dedicate flowers, please continue to use the envelopes provided at the church, Contact the church office by phone 716-683-8972 or by email at [stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com). All dedications must be submitted and paid for by the Monday before the dedication date in order to provide time to notify the florist.

## AVAILABLE ALTAR FLOWER DATES:

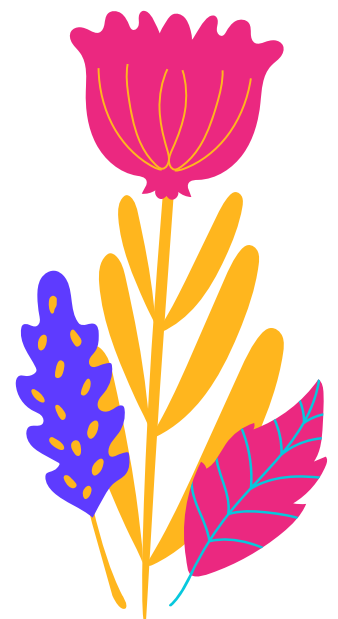
July 2, 9, 16, 23

August 6, 13, 20, 27

September 3, 10, 17, 24

## Prayer List

We lift up: Elliana Meyers,  
Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood, Edna  
Mann, Jackie Engelbach-Ugale,  
George Stubblebein, Brad Hueseke,  
Sarah Hermsmeyer, Ron Bennett,  
Barbara, Roger Stapleton Jr.,  
Richard Terry, Bruce Jacobs,  
Tom & Ruth Morse



# IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY

ADYLAN MILLER, JUL 1  
HEIDI POPEK, JUL 1  
MICHAEL GRAHAM, JUL 2  
ANDREW MITCHELL, JUL 2  
BETTY ROSENTHAL, JUL 2  
BRIDGET WILLADSEN, JUL 3  
SHIRLEY MAKI, JUL 3  
MEGAN REUKAUF, JUL 3  
KENDALL DECAIRE, JUL 4  
VICTORIA FREDERICKS, JUL 4  
RACHEL MAZUREK, JUL 4  
MICHAEL MCGUIRE, JUL 5  
CHRISTOPHER WISNIEWSKI, JUL 5  
MATTHEW IV RUSSO, JUL 6  
TIMOTHY CARNEY, JUL 6  
BEAU BURRY, JUL 6  
LAURIE O'NEILL, JUL 7  
HELEN DIEBEL, JUL 7  
FELICIA VALVO, JUL 8  
GREYSON BECKMAN, JUL 8  
PATRICA SIERACKI, JUL 9  
IAN DEWALD, JUL 9  
KEVIN KENNEDY, JUL 10  
NICHOLAS WAWROWSKI, JUL 10  
LINDA STAPLETON, JUL 10  
BRADLEY REITMEIER, JUL 10  
PIERCE ANDERSON, JUL 12  
DOUGLAS KAWALERSKI, JUL 12  
KAREN MCCLINTOCK, JUL 13  
FRANK KOTOWSKI, JUL 13  
BAILEY DEMBSKI, JUL 13  
HUDSON MARSH, JUL 14  
JEREMY TRIPP, JUL 14  
JACOB CERVI, JUL 15

CYNTHIA SMITH, JUL 16  
CHERYL REUKAUF, JUL 16  
RICHARD RICE, JUL 17  
MARY ANN POWELL, JUL 17  
TODD VERDI, JUL 17  
GLORIA RICHARDS, JUL 18  
DAVID SPETH, JUL 18  
ARCADIO KAWALERSKI, JUL 19  
MICHELE BURT, JUL 20  
FELICIA ROSENTHAL, JUL 20  
AMY GRAHAM, JUL 20  
CARTER GUARINO, JUL 21  
MICHELE FRONCZAK, JUL 21  
RAELYN STRANC, JUL 22  
ANDREA ROGACKI, JUL 22  
WAYNE III LAVIS, JUL 22  
ZENITH TOMASZEWSKI, JUL 24  
ELLEN HARDY, JUL 24  
PATRICIA SPANITZ, JUL 25  
SUSAN STRANC, JUL 25  
RACHAEL LANGERMAN, JUL 25  
CAROLANNA REINER, JUL 25  
SCOTT GILSON, JUL 26  
REBECCA TERRY, JUL 26  
JASON KAPPAN, JUL 27  
LINDSAY PORTO, JUL 27  
BENJAMIN BAYERBACH, JUL 29  
THOMAS BURGIO, JUL 30  
MATTHEW HINEMAN, JUL 30  
LOGAN BECKMAN, JUL 31  
JASON BURRY, JUL 31  
SHAWN NOWAK, JUL 31  
MICHAEL WALKER, JUL 31  
KATHLEEN PETERS, JUL 31

# TIME TO CELEBRATE

# **ST. JOHN'S 411**

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
55 Pleasant Avenue, Lancaster, NY 14086  
Office 683-8972 (Mon.—Thurs. 10am-3pm)  
www.stjohnslanc.org  
stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com**

**Rev. Jamie Retallack, Pastor 716-848-9683**

**Rev. John Swanson, Pastor Emeritus**

**Rev. John Scarafia, Pastor Emeritus**

**Dr. Vicky Chang, Director of Music**

**Cindy Jo Speth & Lucy Krupa, Housekeeping**

**Michael Walker, Sexton**

**Donna McGrew, Financial Secretary**

**Melissa Dwyer, Church Secretary**

## **Congregation Council**

**Janet Sincebaugh (President)**

**Carol Graham (Vice-President)**

**Karen McClintock (Secretary)**

**Kathryn Snyder (Treasurer)**

**Linda Dean**

**Sam Gierlinger**

**RaeAnn Jakubowski**

**Jamie Kloc**

**Jeff Miller**

**Samuel Miller**

**David Nester**

**Rich Rice**

**Kelly Sieracki**





ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
55 PLEASANT AVE  
LANCASTER NY 14086-2173

Find us on Facebook  
@stjohnslancaster



**Follow us on Facebook!**

**The Lord is the Spirit,  
and where the Spirit  
of the Lord is,  
there is freedom.**

**2 Corinthians 3:17**