

THE GOOD NEWS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

June 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

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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 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 \times . 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



YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION

The ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program invites ELCA young adults ages 21-29 into a transformative, year-long journey in international service. As they offer themselves in service, ELCA young adults are shaped by the witness of our global neighbors. They share in the journeys of companion churches and organizations in one of nine countries around the world.

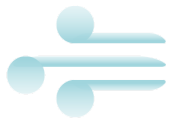
A year of service through the Young Adults in Global Mission program invites young adults to become the hands and feet of Jesus in the world, providing critical support to ministries and projects in communities of need. It also invites volunteers into a journey of self-reflection, providing space to consider their sense of identity, God's work in the world, and their place within it all.

Young adults serve in the spirit of accompaniment, walking alongside global companions in a manner that practices mutuality, interdependence and solidarity. Areas of service include, but are not limited to, health and development, congregational ministry, human rights, education, homelessness, addiction recovery, women's issues and children and youth. All site placements provide opportunities for young adults to confront issues of wealth and poverty, racial privilege, economic disparity and globalization, all through the lens of faith.

Candidates for Young Adults in Global Mission apply to the program at-large rather than to a specific country. Applicant preferences are taken into account but the final decision about where volunteers serve is made by Global Mission staff and YAGM country coordinators in mid-April. Current YAGM country programs include: [Argentina/Uruguay](#), [Jerusalem/West Bank](#), [Mexico](#), [Senegal](#) and [United Kingdom](#)

elca.org/Our-Work/Global-Mission/Young-Adults-in-Global-Mission

We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world - together. Come, imagine yourself in the world!



Book Club



Please join us in the Memorial Lounge on Thursday, June 22nd at 7:00 PM to discuss Kristin Hannah's. *THE FOUR WINDS*.

Texas, 1921. A time of abundance. The Great War is over, the bounty of the land is plentiful, and America is on the brink of a new and optimistic era. But for Elsa Wolcott, deemed too old to marry in a time when marriage is a woman's only option, the future seems bleak. Until the night she meets Rafe Martinelli and decides to change the direction of her life. With her reputation in ruin, there is only one respectable choice: marriage to a man she barely knows.

By 1934, the world has changed; millions are out of work and drought has devastated the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and their livelihoods as crops fail and water dries up and the earth cracks open. Dust storms roll relentlessly across the plains. Everything on the Martinelli farm is dying, including Elsa's tenuous marriage; each day is a desperate battle against nature and a fight to keep her children alive.

In this uncertain and perilous time, Elsa—like so many of her neighbors—must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or leave it behind and go west, to California, in search of a better life for her family.

The Four Winds is a rich, sweeping novel that stunningly brings to life the Great Depression and the people who lived through it—the harsh realities that divided us as a nation and the enduring battle between the haves and the have-nots. Read this testament to hope, resilience, and the strength of the human spirit to survive adversity. *The Four Winds* is an indelible portrait of America and the American dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation. Remember to grab your tissues!

Then come (as your schedule permits) and share your thoughts and ideas. Friends and guests are always welcome!

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-four-winds-kristin-hannah/1136968680?ean=9781250178619>





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00am In Person/ Online Service - Bayerbach Baptism 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Music Committee Mtg	29 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	30 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	31 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	1 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	2 7:30pm NA Meeting	3 5:30pm In Person Service
4 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	5 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	6 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm NA Meeting	7 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	8 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	9 7:30pm NA Meeting	10 5:30pm In Person Service
11 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	12 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	13 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	14 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:30pm LYMA Mtg.	15 Good News Articles Due 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	16 7:30pm NA Meeting	17 5:30pm In Person Service
18 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	19 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	20 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	21 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	22 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	23 7:30pm NA Meeting	24 5:30pm In Person Service
25 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Music Committee Mtg	26 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	27 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm NA Meeting	28 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	29 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	30 7:30pm NA Meeting	1 5:30pm In Person Service

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



Upcoming Schedules

ALTAR GUILD

DEACONS

**6/4/2023
SAM MILLER**

**6/11/2023
KATHY SNYDER**

**6/18/2023
PAUL RUDZ**

**6/25/2023
RAEANN
JAKUBOWSKI**

**06/04/2023
AMY & JOHN
PETRUNYAK**

**06/11/2023
TIMMY GIERLINGER
& RAEANN
JAKUBOWSKI**

**06/18/2023
SHARON WALKER
& CAROL GRAHAM**

**06/25/2023
KELLY SIERACKI**

USHERS

**6/4/2023
CAROL GRAHAM
PAUL RUDZ**

**6/11/2023
VIRGINIA GRAHAM
BEVERLY HESS**

**6/18/2023
LINDA COSTA
KATHY BURR**

**6/25/2023
LINDA COSTA**





Upcoming Event

Pastor Swanson's Anniversary

Any Ordination anniversary is a special occasion, a *65th anniversary* is truly extraordinary! Our esteemed Pastor Emeritus Rev. John Swanson is celebrating that momentous occasion on June 22nd. We will celebrate together on Sunday, *June 25th @ 10am*, recognizing him in the service, and then after the service with a reception. We are also asking you to join in the celebration. Throughout Pastor Swanson's ministry he has cared a great deal about world hunger. We are asking that you consider making a special donation to the ELCA World Hunger appeal in Pastor Swanson's honor. You can do so by making a donation and writing world hunger on the envelope. If you would like to make a \$65 donation in honor of 65 years, we would be grateful. We will let you know the total raised after the big event. Thank you in advance!



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. 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:



June 4, 11

July 2, 9, 16, 23

August 6, 13, 20, 27



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.,
Susan Thaesler, Rosemarie Roland,
Jonathan, Donna, & Greg Wildridge



HAPPY Birthday

ANNABELLE LUDWIG, JUN 3
JAMES DEWALD, JUN 3
FELICIA LINDAUER, JUN 3
ERIC KENNEDY, JUN 3
DANIEL MCHALE, JUN 4
DEBBIE ISHERWOOD, JUN 4
BETTY KRAUSS, JUN 4
LAURA RUDZ, JUN 4
NANCY SCARAFIA, JUN 4
ALANAH RZEZNIK, JUN 5
DONNA MCGREW, JUN 5
EVERETT ANDERSON, JUN 5
LINDA JEAN BUDD, JUN 6
OWEN WALKER, JUN 6
LEAH SCHERER, JUN 6
LANDYN ROGACKI, JUN 7
SAMI WNEK, JUN 7
ROBERT VALOIS, JUN 7
NORMAN ROSENTHAL, JUN 8
MCKENZEE JOOST, JUN 9
KIM MILLER, JUN 9
GLORIA KRAEMER, JUN 9
MIA COST, JUN 9
DANIEL REIF, JUN 9
GINGER BOOTH, JUN 10
LAURIE THOMAS, JUN 10
DENENE LARSON, JUN 11
AMANDA SIERACKI, JUN 11
COLLIN RICE, JUN 11
JENNA RICE, JUN 11
MARGARET NESTER, JUN 12
DONALD SPANITZ, JUN 12
COLLIN CARNEY, JUN 12
SHANNON KIENER, JUN 12
JUSTIN HAEFNER, JUN 13
BRADLEY LARSON, JUN 13
DESTINY ROSE, JUN 13
AMANDA REINER, JUN 13
ACRUBEY TOMASZEWSKI, JUN 14
MASON SCHERER, JUN 17

ZACHARY WOODILL, JUN 18
ALLYSON MITCHELL, JUN 18
VIRGINIA GRAHAM, JUN 19
LAWRENCE ARTH, JUN 19
REBECCA KENDALL, JUN 20
JOLENE CERVI, JUN 20
COURTNEY MANN, JUN 20
EMBER GORDON, JUN 21
KAREN BURRY, JUN 22
MARION HANSON, JUN 22
RHONDA TROMMETTER, JUN 23
THOMAS SIERACKI, JUN 23
THOMAS FREUND, JUN 23
ADAM MASSINO, JUN 23
ELLA GALANTE, JUN 23
DAKOTA REUKAUF, JUN 23
EMMA HARRINGTON, JUN 23
ARIANNA DURKIN, JUN 24
SAMANTHA MORSE, JUN 24
SIRKKA HARSTAD, JUN 24
VALERIE KENNEDY, JUN 25
JAKE KIENER, JUN 26
HAYDEN FULLER, JUN 26
MARK FRONCZAK, JUN 26
GARRETT GACZEWSKI, JUN 26
DONALD JR. HAUSER, JUN 27
RICHARD TOMASZEWSKI, JUN 27
KYLE KUSH, JUN 27
ELIZABETH BURRY, JUN 28
STEVEN SCHIAVONE, JUN 28
ALAN RUFFNER, JUN 28
LINDA DIROSA, JUN 28
DIANA RUDZ, JUN 28
GLORIA JAKUBOWSKI, JUN 29
MICHAEL STUTZMAN, JUN 29
PRESTON MATUSZEWSKI, JUN 30
ANNETTE MEYER, JUN 30
HUDSYN ROGACKI, JUN 30
GRANT PEITA, JUN 30

ST. JOHN'S 411

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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
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**AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME
SO I SEND YOU ~JESUS~**

John 20:21b

