



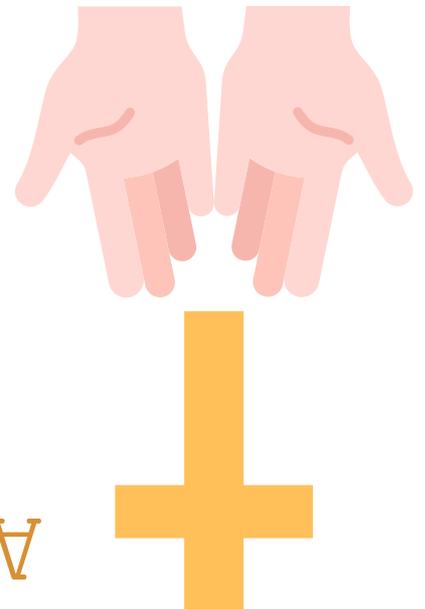
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
 55 Pleasant Avenue
 Lancaster NY 14086-2173
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Ask, and it will be given you;
 search, and you will find;
 knock, and the door
 will be opened for you.
 LUKE 11:9

THE GOOD NEWS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

August 2022



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. 9:30AM

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

I Just wrapped up a week at camp and it was a wonderful time. I was able to work with about 35 youth from the Buffalo area and beyond. It is so very heartening to get to see them grow in their faith and Christian identity. Every year there is a series of Bible studies that the youth partake in to grow in their faith and I wanted to share with you those themes and objectives so that you can better appreciate what it is that the youth do while at camp.

Day 1, Monday THEME:

God the Creator brings forth, out of darkness and chaos, a good and interconnected creation.

OBJECTIVES:

To better understand how all of God's creation is good, including us. For campers to have an increased sense of self-worth as a part of God's creation.

Day 2, Tuesday THEME:

In boundless love, God sent Christ to heal our broken world and renew all creation.

OBJECTIVES:

To better understand the meaning of "John 3:16." That God's immeasurable love and salvation are for the entire world. That Jesus is the flesh and blood incarnation of God's love and salvation.

That through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the power of death is forever broken, and we have life now and eternally.

Day 3, Wednesday THEME:

In God's household all are welcome and joined together through Christ.

OBJECTIVES:

To better understand how unity in Christ overcomes all divisions, differences, and estrangements.

To better understand how the family of God is woven together with such things as unity, reconciliation, peace, and inclusion.

Day 4, Thursday THEME:

God's mercy for the lost is extravagant. God is not about fairness but all about grace.

OBJECTIVES:

To better understand how the forgiveness we have from God is prodigal/extravagant and beyond measure. To better understand how God's forgiveness and love are equally shared with those who seem to be living appropriately and those who seem to be living inappropriately. There is no distinction in God's immeasurable forgiveness.

Day 5, Friday THEME:

God generously fills our lives "with God's very nature," producing an abundant harvest.

OBJECTIVES:

To better understand that when we serve others, we do so with God, who brings abundant result or "harvest."

I hope you can see what a powerful opportunity it is for our kids to learn about those themes and what a wonderful week they have at camp. Thank you for your support of them and me in doing this vital work

Peace

Pastor Jamie





Council Corner



When I was approached about joining Council I was hesitant. I didn't want to pull back the curtain and see the inner workings of the church. I wanted it to stay the special place I could go to shut out the messiness of "real life." Besides, we had enough messiness in our church. A few years ago we were in turmoil. There was more anger, frustration, and uncertainty in the pews than there were people. We were definitely a congregation divided for a time. In thinking about the last few years, and my own faith journey, I am reminded of the story of the mustard seed. Let me explain.

I was born into this church. My mustard seed was planted by my mother and my grandfather. I went through Sunday School and learned all the lessons, sang all the songs, and made all the crafts. I was confirmed at St. John's. I stopped coming to church after that, mostly out of "I know better than you" teenage hubris. I guess you could say I stopped fertilizing my mustard seed. Then I had my first child. He needed to be baptized and no way was I going to embarrass my family by having him baptized and never coming to church. So I started attending services again. I sat in the same pew my family sat it my whole life. But I wasn't really paying attention (sorry Pastor Scarafia). My son started Sunday school and it was just easier to stay for the hour. There were no parents in the nursery to sit and gossip with, so I stayed in the sanctuary. When Josh started confirmation classes, Pastor was looking for someone to help. Well – if I had to drop him off for class, I might as well help hand out books and papers. I was also asked to help with the Youth Group and thought it was a good way for my son and I to do something together. The mustard seed was breaking out of its shell and starting to grow.

Co-leading the Youth Group, and helping with confirmation class forced me to be more involved with Sunday services – I couldn't very well tell the kids they had to be in church if I wasn't there myself. And someone needed to show them how to light the candles in the correct order (thank you Pastor Swanson for drilling it into us)! I found myself sharing my faith journey with them. And I was excited to be a part of the church. I found myself wanting more. I truly felt most alive, joyful and at peace when sharing my faith with the younger members. I became a deacon because sharing the words of the Bible is so very powerful.

I said before, I was hesitant to join Council. What place do I have sitting on the Council of the church I had walked away from? What do I have to offer? I have been to a number of meetings now, and I'm still not sure I know the answers to those questions. What I do know, beyond all doubt, is that the tiny mustard seed that was planted in me when I was a child has been nurtured, fertilized and kept safe and growing by so many in this congregation that sitting on Council is the best way I can say thank you.

Faithfully,
RaeAnn Jakubowski
Council Member





Mission Message



Freedom/Justice

In July the United States celebrates its freedom, its independence from what was in the 1700's oppressive rule. But a quick look around the world reveals that many countries and peoples are not free. And not just politically. People are imprisoned by disease, hunger, violence, poverty. Women suffer from injustice. Palestinians lose their homes because of territorial disputes.

If our faith tells us to love, then justice is love applied to many neighbors. It means more than acting out of a sense of charity, or making a donation or volunteering our time.

"Doing justice" means addressing inequities in political, economic and social systems. It works to restore relations among people to the way God intended them to be. It means challenging ourselves to step outside our comfort zones.

Through programs, ministries, and in our daily lives, ELCA members are dedicated to understanding God's work for justice in the world. We advocate dignity and justice for all people and stand with people in poverty and who are powerless. We lift our voice from an ethic of discipleship and willingness to speak for others as a matter of faith. We participate in activities that relieve misery and result in peace and reconciliation in local communities and among nations. Read more at the ELCA website, click on "Our Work" then "Publicly engaged church."

We are church together for the sake of the world.

God's Work. Our Hands.





August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9:30am In Person/ Online Service	1 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	2 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	3 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	4 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study	5 7:30pm NA Meeting	6 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person/ Streamed Service
7 9:30am In Person/ Online Service	8 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	9 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	10 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	11 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study	12 7:30pm NA Meeting	13 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person/ Streamed Service
14 9:30am In Person/ Online Service	15 Good News Articles Due 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	16 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Council Cookout 7:00pm NA Meeting	17 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	18 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study	19 7:30pm NA Meeting	20 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person/ Streamed Service
21 9:30am BAPTISM-Kreher 9:30am In Person/ Online Service	22 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	23 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	24 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	25 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study	26 7:30pm NA Meeting	27 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person/ Streamed Service
28 9:30am In Person/ Online Service	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 1:00pm Bible Study	2 7:30pm NA Meeting	3 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person/ Streamed Service



Upcoming Events and Schedules

BIBLE STUDY

1pm Thursdays

LYMA GOLF DAYS

5:15 pm Mondays

@ Kis' n Greens Alden

BOOK CLUB

August 25th @ 7pm

ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

08/07/2022
KELLY SIERACKI

08/14/22
CHERYL HELWIG
KATHY SNYDER

08/21/2022
AMY PETRUNYAK
KAREN FREUND

08/28/22
TIMMY GIERLINGER
RAEANN JAKUBOWSKI

DEACON SCHEDULE

8/7/2022
SAM MILLER

8/14/2022
SAM GIERLINGER

8/21/2022
RAEANN JAKUBOWSKI

8/28/2022
KATHY SNYDER

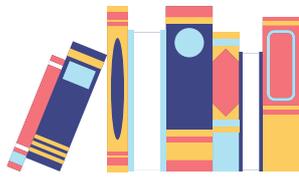
USHER SCHEDULE 9:30AM SUNDAY

8/7/2022
LINDA COSTA
KATHY BURR

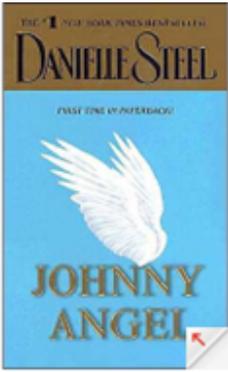
8/14/2022
RICH RICE
SAM MILLER

8/21/2022
BEVERLY HESS
CAROL GRAHAM

8/28/2022
GREG WILDRIDGE
KATHY BURR



Book Club



Please join us in the Memorial Lounge on Thursday, August 25th at 7:00 PM to discuss Danielle Steel's novel, JOHNNY ANGEL.

With a word or a smile, seventeen-year-old Johnny Peterson could light up a room, fill his mother's heart with pride, and inspire the best in those around him. A star athlete and class valedictorian, tall, lanky Johnny had a future filled with promise—until he stepped into a car on prom night, dazzling in his rented tux, and in an instant, it was all taken away.

In the months that follow, Johnny's family and high school sweetheart, Becky, struggle to put together the pieces of their shattered lives. No one is more devastated than Johnny's mother, Alice, whose oldest son owned her heart from the day he was born. But amid the heartache, something miraculous is about to happen to the Peterson family, something that will alter the course of each of their lives. When a sudden illness sends Alice to the hospital, a glorious vision comes to her in her dreams. There, standing before her, is Johnny himself, with that familiar twinkle in his eye, gently urging his bewildered mother to be strong for her splintered family. For Alice, seeing her marvelous lost boy is a miracle she can't quite believe but is more than willing to embrace. In the weeks to come, Johnny will appear in the most unlikely places, visible only to the two people who need him most: his nine-year-old brother, locked in a silent world, whose special needs Johnny always seemed to understand...and his mother, who has always nurtured her family, but who now needs a guardian angel of her own.

Through a season of hope and healing, Johnny will walk by his mother's side, leaving miracles in his wake, leading his parents, his girlfriend, his sister, and his brother out of their grief. But as Alice is about to discover, Johnny has returned not just to help those he loves, but to uncover a purpose even he cannot comprehend—one that will change them all forever.

An unforgettable story of loving and letting go, of mixed blessings and second chances, JOHNNY ANGEL is a celebration of life, hope, and forgiveness. It will make you laugh and cry...and hold your loved ones just a little bit closer. Read this novel. then come (as your schedule permits) and share your thoughts and ideas. Friends and guests are always welcome!

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/johnny-angel-danielle-steel/1100013026?ean=9780440236788>



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:

August 7, 14, 28

September 4, 25

October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30



Prayer List

We lift up: Elliana Meyers, Flip Roth, Beatrice Gill, Debby Taylor, Hans Kiener, Janet, Melvin Girardin, Bernie Lewis, Ed Monaco, Joann Thaesler, Edna Mann, Gary Basher, Richard, Marge Savash, & Tom Morse.





HAPPY BIRTHDAY



DAVID ANTHONY, AUG 1
KYLIE WHITE, AUG 1
COREY FUERST, AUG 1
JODY KOTOWSKI, AUG 2
JEREMY NANTKA, AUG 2
RENEE ANDRZEJEWSKI, AUG 3
AMANDA CODY, AUG 3
ASHLEY HAEFNER, AUG 3
ANTHONY CERVI, AUG 5
TIMOTHY GIERLINGER, AUG 5
KATHLENE GILSON, AUG 5
EMILY KUSH, AUG 6
JACOB ZUPPELLI, AUG 6
DONNA KOPERA, AUG 7
JACKIE SCOTT, AUG 7
DEEGAN JOOST, AUG 7
JANE GRUCELLA, AUG 8
MELISSA STUDLEY, AUG 8
ALICIA KOHLHAGEN, AUG 8
ALICIA COULTER, AUG 8
JOEL MARSH, AUG 8
ANTHONY POPEK, AUG 8
NATHAN TRAINA, AUG 8
NORMAN KLOC, AUG 9
RYAN ANDREWS, AUG 9
TRACY TOMASZEWSKI, AUG 10
MORGAN MITOLA, AUG 11
BARBARA BURR-NAGEL, AUG 11
JOSHUA ROGACKI, AUG 12
DAVID DUDKOWSKI, AUG 12
PENNY STRIKER, AUG 12
JEFFREY ENGELBACH-SCHAFFER, AUG 13
JEFFREY ENGELBACH-SCHAFFER, AUG 13
LOGAN MAYER, AUG 13
LEXY KLINGER, AUG 14
JAKE MILLER, AUG 14
ALLYNN SIEBERT, AUG 14
ELEANOR BEAL, AUG 14
WILLIAM HEIM, AUG 15

KARA VALVO, AUG 15
KYLE KJELDGAARD, AUG 16
RUTH MORSE, AUG 16
TRAVIS VALVO, AUG 17
HARVEY NAGEL, AUG 17
DAVID RICE, AUG 17
JACKSON ROSE, AUG 17
JAMES HESS, AUG 18
MARILYN FIORILLI, AUG 18
SHARON TAYLOR, AUG 19
CYNTHIA OSTROWSKI, AUG 19
MILA GORDON, AUG 19
ALEXANDRA QUILLEN, AUG 19
SUE ANN COBURN, AUG 19
BROGAN ZAK, AUG 19
GINNA CONNOLLY, AUG 20
PETER FRANGER, AUG 21
MARGUERITE MITCHELL, AUG 21
JUSTIN MILLER, AUG 21
NATHAN BURRY, AUG 21
JULIANNA FRONCZAK, AUG 21
DONALD HAUSER, AUG 24
EVAN JACOBS, AUG 25
DEXTER SPANITZ, AUG 25
MATTHEW III RUSSO, AUG 26
KATHARINE KLING, AUG 26
RENEE TRIPP, AUG 26
KEVIN TERRY, AUG 26
JUSTIN SCOTT, AUG 27
ANTHONY MAKI, AUG 27
ANTONIO FIORILLI, AUG 28
DANIEL O'NEILL, AUG 28
ELIJAH KWACZALA, AUG 28
PARKER ZIEMANN, AUG 28
IVAN STOWBUNENKO, AUG 29
ERIC HEINE, AUG 30
NICOLE KWACZALA, AUG 30
GARY RUDZ, AUG 31
PIPER FULLER, AUG 31



ST. JOHN'S YELLOW PAGES

SERVICES AND COMPANIES

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Julie Buccieri **Lancaster Lady Monsters** (youth lacrosse) 807-5732

Mike Durkin **HDE Electric** 674-7259

Darlene Kramer **Cleaning & Laundry, Errands** 937-4179

Rachel Poss **Partylite Candles & Gifts/Parties** 491-4393

Christine Ruffner **Usborne Children's Educational Books** 656-2056

Michael Sheehan **Computer & Software Sales** 937-9815

Tim Stranc (TSAir) **Heating & Air-Conditioning** 684-9854

Brian Makey **Thrivent Financial Representative**

Brian.makey@thrivent.com 714-9852

Anthony Santucci **Walden Auto Sales & Service** 683-2901

STAFF MEMBERS

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**



Pastor Rev. Jamie Retallack (716-848-9683)

Pastors Emeriti -Rev. John Swanson

-Rev. John Scarafia

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Office 683-8972 (Mon.—Thurs. 10am-3pm)

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Congregation Council

Kathy Konstabel, President (364-1044)

Janet Sincebaugh, Vice-President (651-4685)

Karen McClintock, Secretary (683-1808)

Kathryn Snyder, Treasurer (583-1061)

Linda Dean (683-5638)

Sam Gierlinger (309-9651)

Carol Graham (393-6559)

RaeAnn Jakubowski (474-1873)

Jamie Kloc (353-1613)

Samuel Miller (901-5523)

David Nester (681-9716)

Rich Rice (601-5325)

Kelly Sieracki (868-3023)