

# THE GOOD NEWS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

May 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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# We're Going Digital!

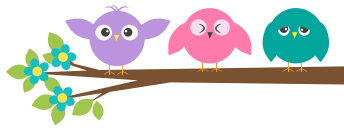
**THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST  
PAPER MAILING OF THE GOOD NEWS  
UNLESS YOU CONTACT US**

**Email: [stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com)**

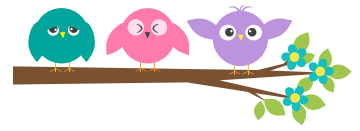
**Phone: 716-683-8972**

After careful consideration and discussion the Council has concluded that due to rising costs of...well, **everything** (postage, paper, copies, etc) we are going digital. The Good News will continue to be available on our website ([stjohnslanc.org](http://stjohnslanc.org)) or by email upon request (please call or email the office to be put on the email list). ***If you need to continue receiving the newsletter by mail, you must call the church office.***





# Pastor's Message



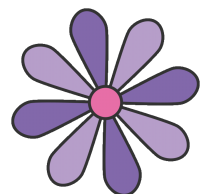
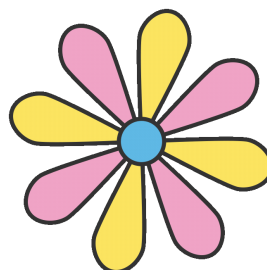
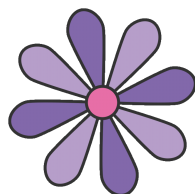
Spring here in western New York is quite an interesting thing. Spring is associated with green grass, chirping birds, blooming flowers and the chill of winter departing. But when it kicks off here in WNY its still frigid out, bodies of water are still frozen, piles of snow can still be seen and you aren't ready to put your shovel away just yet. Then out of the blue one day it will be 70 or 80 degrees, and you may be tempted to think that winter is over but two days later the snow is flying again. Winter always ends here in WNY, the warm weather eventually returns but the process is slow and with a lot of starts and stops. We may want it to be a smooth clean transition but its usually anything but. This same feeling can be found with resurrection and the promise of new life.

From the very beginning of the Church the followers of Jesus knew they were living a new life in Christ. The first verse of 2nd Timothy begins "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the will of God, according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus." They knew that things were different. The Messiah had come and that life had changed. At the same time however their struggles were plentiful. Early followers feuded with one another, they were arrested, Peter and Paul had some disagreements and most of the original 12 ended up being put to death. Those sorts of problems continued and continue to this day. Plagues, wars, crusades, have marked the centuries and to this day it is still outlawed in some places to be a Christian. In many ways the new life in Christ can feel like spring coming to Buffalo. It comes in fits and starts. It can feel like spring has arrived only for the cold of winter to return and it can feel like that new life is blooming only for a darker colder time to return.

Spring always does arrive however. It may be later than we like, it may be after several false starts but it does arrive. So too is the promise that Jesus gives us, it will arrive, it will come, that new life will overcome the darkness of this world. Thats why the timing of Easter is so paramount, it echoes the promise that Christ has given us. It may take some trust to see past the current situation but as sure as spring will come so too will the promise of new life in Christ. May we trust in the promises of Christ just as we trust that new life will break forth in the dawning of Spring.

Peace

*Jamie*





# Mission Message



## THE GIFT OF GOATS IN NEPAL

During the Easter season we celebrate new life — and all the ways our siblings in Christ experience it around the world. For Ram Kala Kadha in Nepal, new hope and new life arrived in the form of four goats.

After Ram Kala's husband died, she wasn't sure how she would support her four children. "I just did traditional farming," she says. "I worked hard, but the land only produced enough for four months." She worried about how she would keep food on the table and support her children in the future. She often went to bed on an empty stomach.

Then, a few years ago, Ram Kala connected with the Ekikrit Bikash Manch (EBM) organization. EBM partners with the United Mission to Nepal, which is supported by gifts to ELCA World Hunger. Through EBM's food security program Ram Kala received training in home garden management, financial literacy, climate change adaptation and more. Eventually she was selected to receive four goats and goat-keeping training.

Ram Kala's goats, along with the vegetables from her home garden, have increased her income and helped her create a stable future for her children. She has been able to pay for their schooling and support her daughter's work toward a bachelor's degree. Ram Kala now has six goats and plans to continue increasing her herd.

This Easter season you can share more hope and new life through ELCA Good Gifts. Your gift of a goat (or two or three) will help people such as Ram Kala care for their families and build stronger communities around the world. <https://goodgifts.elca.org/>

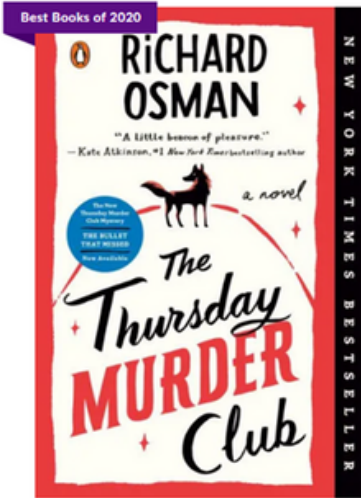
*We are church together for the sake of the world.*

*God's Work. Our Hands.*





# Book Club



Please join us in the Memorial Lounge on Thursday, May 25th at 7:00 PM to discuss Richard Osman's novel. THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB (SERIES #1).

Four septuagenarians with a few tricks up their sleeves...

A female cop with her first big case...

A brutal murder...

Welcome to... THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet weekly in the Jigsaw Room to discuss unsolved crimes; together they call themselves the Thursday Murder Club.

When a local developer is found dead with a mysterious photograph left next to the body, the Thursday Murder Club suddenly find themselves in the middle of their first live case.

As the bodies begin to pile up, can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer, before it's too late?

Read this fun mystery that is entertaining and full of surprises. At the same time, this novel is a loving tribute to getting older and the relationships we all form; from best friends to spouses. Then come (as your schedule permits) and share your thoughts and ideas. Friends and guests are always welcome!

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-thursday-murder-club-richard-osman/1136398985?ean=9781984880987>





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Music Committee Mtg	<b>1</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 6:00pm Mutual Ministry 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>2</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>3</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>4</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>5</b> Joint Youth Lock-In 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>6</b> Joint Youth Lock-In 12:00pm LYMA Chic BBQ - Takeout 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>7</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	<b>8</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>9</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>10</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:30pm LYMA Mtg.	<b>11</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>12</b> 7:00pm "Contra" Dance 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>13</b> 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>14</b> <b>MUSIC SUNDAY</b> 9:30am Youth Assist w/ Worship 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	<b>15</b> Good News Articles Due 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>16</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>17</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>18</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>19</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>20</b> 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>21</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 10:00am Verdi Baptism/Membership 5:00pm - 8:00pm Youth - Scavenger Hunt	<b>22</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>23</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>24</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>25</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:00pm Book Club 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>26</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>27</b> 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>28</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service - Bayerbach Baptism 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Music Committee Mtg	<b>29</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 5:15pm LYMA Golf 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>30</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>31</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>1</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study	<b>2</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>3</b> 5:30pm In Person Service

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

# Upcoming Schedules



## DEACON SCHEDULE

### USHER SCHEDULE

**5/7/2023 10AM  
PAUL RUDZ  
CAROL GRAHAM**

**5/14/2023 10AM  
YOUTH**

**5/21/2023 10AM  
KATHY BURR  
LINDA COSTA**

**5/28/2023 10AM  
RICH RICE  
BEVERLY HESS**

**5/7/2023 10AM  
SAM MILLER**

**5/14/2023 10AM  
YOUTH**

**5/21/2023 10AM  
PAUL RUDZ**

**5/28/2023 10AM  
RAEANN JAKUBOWSKI**



## ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

**05/07/2023  
TIMMY GIERLINGER &  
RAEANN JAKUBOWSKI**

**05/14/2023  
SHARON WALKER &  
CAROL GRAHAM**

**05/21/2023  
KELLY SIERACKI**

**05/28/2023  
CHERYL HELWIG &  
KATHY SNYDER**



# **Upcoming Events**

## **CHIAVETTA'S CHICKEN BBQ**

**Saturday, May 6, 2023**

**@ St. John's 12-5pm or sold out**

**Take-out ONLY, Drive-thru available**

**\$15 ea. (proceeds benefit LYMA)**

## **CONTRA DANCE**

**Friday, May 12, 2023**

**Contra dancing is easy to learn and fun to do.**

**All dances are taught, practiced and prompted**

**Come at 7 pm for introduction to the basic moves**

**Dance from 7:30 - 10 ish**

**Live band and a dance leader/caller to teach**

**\$8 for members of the church and Queen City**

**Contra Dancers; \$10 for all others**

## **YOUTH EVENTS**

**Music Sunday, May 14th @ 9:30am**

**Worship Assist**

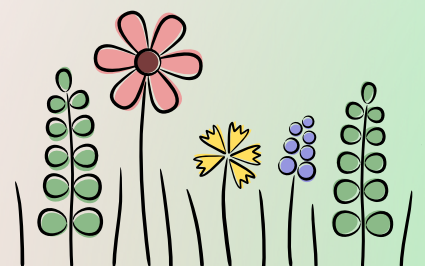
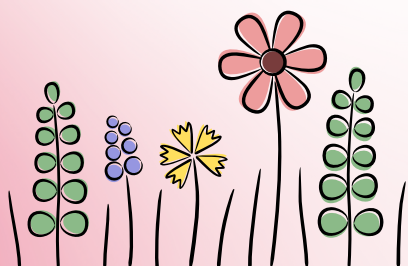
## **Joint Youth Lock-In**

**May 5th & 6th**

**Scavenger Hunt**

**May 21st @ 5pm**

**Pick-up @ 8pm**







# 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:



May 7, 14, 28

June 4, 11, 18



## Prayer List

We lift up: Elliana Meyers,  
Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood,  
Edna Mann, Jackie Engelbach-  
Ugale, George Stubblebein, Brad  
Hueseke, Sarah Hermsmeyer,  
Bernie Lewis, Ron Bennett,  
Barbara, Mike, Julie Curtis,  
and Susan Thaesler.



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

AVERY VANNORTWICK, MAY 1  
JAMES CRISP, MAY 1  
COLE FRITZEN, MAY 1  
SKYLA IRIZARRY, MAY 1  
KATHLEEN WEIBEL, MAY 2  
KAREN FREUND, MAY 2  
CRYSTAL BUSH, MAY 3  
THOMAS KRAMER, MAY 3  
KATE THOMPSON, MAY 4  
MEGAN MILLER, MAY 5  
ERIC GILLEN, MAY 6  
JENNIFER CUTTITTA, MAY 6  
HUNTER SNYDER, MAY 6  
CHRISTOPHER JR. HOFFMAN, MAY 6  
ISABELLA GRANATA, MAY 7  
JAMES TOMCZYK, MAY 7  
KATHERINE WALKER, MAY 7  
ANDREW ROGACKI, MAY 7  
KENNETH KLING, MAY 7  
ASHLEY FROST, MAY 8  
ASHLEY REINER, MAY 9  
CHRISTINA FUNK, MAY 9  
MARY DUGGAN, MAY 10  
ANDREW ENGELBACH-SCHAFFER, MAY 10  
BAILEY LARSON, MAY 11  
KIMBERLY ORBAN, MAY 12  
GERALDINE NOWICKI, MAY 12  
SAMANTHA DREWERY, MAY 12  
ALEXANDER SAGE, MAY 13  
MELISSA CINOTTI, MAY 13  
BUNNY BOTELER, MAY 13  
GRACELYN MADISON, MAY 14  
JAMES FROST, MAY 14  
WAYNE LAVIS, MAY 14  
SALVATORE SPINUZZA, MAY 14  
KATHY SWITZER-ROHL, MAY 15  
NOAH BARTOS, MAY 15  
IMANI DODLEY, MAY 15  
KAYLA TRAINA, MAY 15  
BRENNEN \* MARKOWSKI, MAY 15  
JOSHUA TRAINA, MAY 15  
ELIANA PORTO, MAY 15  
CONNIE SABATINO, MAY 15  
AIDEN WOJTUSIAK, MAY 16  
GENEVIEVE STUDLEY, MAY 16  
DIANA PRZYKUTA, MAY 16  
VICTORIA ALDINGER, MAY 16  
ROCCO STOWBUNENKO, MAY 17  
DAVID FRIEND, MAY 19  
JEANNE HAMANN, MAY 19  
NATALIE SMITH, MAY 20  
CAMERON WEBBER, MAY 21  
MICHAEL DURKIN, MAY 21  
EMMA JACOBS, MAY 22  
MARK SMITH, MAY 22  
JEFFREY BUCCIERI, MAY 22  
MARIE FREUND, MAY 22  
ELLA WEIBEL, MAY 23  
KELLY SIERACKI, MAY 23  
HAILEY MARSH, MAY 24  
WILLIAM NANTKA, MAY 24  
TIMOTHY BURT, MAY 24  
NICOLE LAYER-PARDI, MAY 24  
ANNALIESE ZIEMANN, MAY 25  
KELSEY KREBS, MAY 26  
JACOB WOJTUSIAK, MAY 26  
DIANA CARNEY, MAY 26  
RILEY CARNEY, MAY 26  
DAVID FRIEND, MAY 27  
RICHARD TERRY, MAY 28  
STACY ROGACKI, MAY 28  
KIAN BRAUN, MAY 28  
DENISE KRUEGER, MAY 28  
JACKSON PRESS, MAY 29  
MARK TRUDELL, MAY 29  
JAMES FREDERICKS, MAY 29  
AYLA WISDOM, MAY 30  
WILLIAM REFERMAT, MAY 30  
MEGAN HEINE, MAY 30  
LOUISE SAVIOLA-CORBETT, MAY 30  
LISA GOTTS, MAY 31  
RYKER RUDLONG, MAY 31  
MICHAEL ZIEMANN, MAY 31

# **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  
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@stjohnslancaster



**Follow us on Facebook!**

*So if anyone is in Christ,  
there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away;  
look, new things have come into being!*  
2 Corinthians 5:17