

THE GOOD NEWS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

MARCH 2024



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.

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



Every culture in the world shares one thing in common: rituals, traditions and observances related to food. When it comes down to it, food is a functional item, it is something that we consume to fulfill the purpose of staying alive. Yet there are many practices around food that go beyond that functional purpose. We use food in our courting rituals, what's a date without a meal. We use food as a means to share the details of the day, the family dinner table. We use food to communicate our affections in the form of boxes of chocolates, Christmas cookies and more. We also use food to communicate our condolences gathering for meals or bringing food when someone passes. It seems that food is one of our most powerful forms of non-verbal communication. Jesus regularly communicates with his followers, from the wedding at Cana to sharing fish by the sea after the resurrection food is always there. In fact when Jesus speaks to Peter for the last time a food analogy takes center stage

15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep." (John 21 15-17)

How is Peter to love Jesus? By feeding his lambs and tending his sheep. Peter had famously denied Jesus three times before the crucifixion and here he affirms Jesus three times, making amends for the past shortcoming. With that amends comes a fresh direction to care for Jesus followers and Jesus uses feeding them to illustrate that point. Peter would go on to be a leader of the disciples as they shared all they had with those in need. I imagine a lot of lambs were fed. There are many ways in which we communicate our care, concern and Christian love for one another, one of those nonverbal ways of communicating that is through food. That is why, since the beginning of the Church, we have been feeding people.

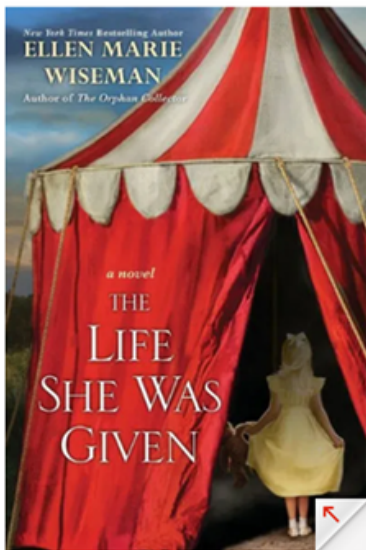
At St. John's we have a new ministry starting. In the Vicar's office is a freezer and every so often we will be getting together to cook food to stock that freezer. The first meals will be lasagna and chicken pot pie. The idea is that if you or someone you know could benefit from a meal, from that nonverbal message of love then feel free to grab a meal. We are hoping that these meals are used when someone is sick, when a loved one passes, when new babies are born or in any other moment where a message of love is needed. If you would like to donate your time to help prepare food or donated ingredients to make the meals please contact Vicar Teresa. Help us to feed God's lambs and tend to God's sheep.

Peace,

Pastor Jamie



BOOK CLUB



Please join us in the Memorial Lounge on Thursday, March 21st at 7:00 PM to discuss Ellen Marie Wiseman's novel, *THE LIFE SHE WAS GIVEN*.

On a summer evening in 1931, Lilly Blackwood glimpses circus lights from the grimy window of her attic bedroom. Lilly isn't allowed to explore the meadows around Blackwood Manor. She's never even ventured beyond her narrow room. Momma insists it's for Lilly's own protection, that people would be afraid if they saw her. But on this unforgettable night, Lilly is taken outside for the first time—and sold to the circus sideshow.

More than two decades later, nineteen-year-old Julia Blackwood has inherited her parents' estate and horse farm. For Julia, home was an unhappy place full of strict rules and forbidden rooms, and she hopes that returning might erase those painful memories. Instead, she becomes immersed in a mystery involving a hidden attic room and photos of circus scenes featuring a striking young girl.

At first, The Barlow Brothers' Circus is just another prison for Lilly. But in this rag-tag, sometimes brutal world, Lilly discovers strength, friendship, and a rare affinity for animals. Soon, thanks to elephants Pepper and JoJo and their handler, Cole, Lilly is no longer a sideshow spectacle but the circus's biggest attraction...until tragedy and cruelty collide. It will fall to Julia to learn the truth about Lilly's fate and her family's shocking betrayal, and find a way to make Blackwood Manor into a place of healing at last.

Moving between Julia and Lilly's stories, Ellen Marie Wiseman portrays two extraordinary, very different women in a novel that, while tender and heartbreaking, offers moments of joy and indomitable hope.

Read this saga of strength and reinvention as two young women come of age and uncover the mysteries of their families, and find their own ways in the world. Then, come (as your schedule permits) and share your thoughts and ideas. Friends and guests are always welcome!

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-life-she-was-given-ellen-marie-wiseman/1125051751?ean=9781617734496>

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class 11:00am Worship & Music Committee Mtg 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth - Game Night	26 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	27 9:30am Quilters 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 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	1	2 3:00pm Youth - Baked Goods Prep 5:00pm Baked Goods Sale 5:30pm In Person Service
3 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am - 12:00pm Baked Goods Sale - Youth	4 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	5 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	6 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	7 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	8	9 5:30pm In Person Service
10 8:00am Fastnacht Sunday 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class 11:30am Property & Grounds	11 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	12 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	13 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Lancaster Garden Club 7:30pm LYMA Mtg.	14 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	15 Good News Articles Due	16 5:30pm In Person Service
17 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am - 1:00pm St Patty's Day Meal	18 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	19 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	20 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	21 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	22 6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth - Color Eggs & Set-Up	23 5:30pm In Person Service
24 PALM SUNDAY 7:45am YOUTH - Breakfast Prep 8:00am - 10:00am Pancake Breakfast 9:00am Bible Study 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class 11:00am Easter Egg Hunt	25 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	26 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm - 7:30pm YOUTH - Zion Burrito Project 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm NA Meeting	27 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	28 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship @ Elma 7:30pm Choir Practice	29 7:00pm Good Friday Worship	30 5:30pm Easter Vigil
31 10:00am Resurrection/Easter Sunday	1 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	2 9:30am Quilters 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 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	5	6 5:30pm In Person Service

UPCOMING SCHEDULES

ALTAR GUILD

03/03/24
Cheryl Helwig
Kathy Snyder

03/10/24
Amy & John
Petrunyak

03/17/24
Timmy Gierlinger
RaeAnn Jakubowski

03/24/24
Sharon Walker
Carol Graham

03/31/24
Kelly Sieracki

DEACONS

3/3/2024
RaeAnn Jakubowski

3/10/2024
Kathy Konstabel

3/17/2024
Paul Rudz

3/24/2024
Kathy Snyder

3/31/2024
RaeAnn Jakubowski

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

March 10th & 24th
April 7th & 21st
May 5th & 19th
June 2nd & 16th

USHERS

3/3/2024
Linda Costa
Kathy Burr

3/10/2024
Bev Hess
Janet Sincebaugh

3/17/2024
Rich Rice
Rick Tomaszewski

3/24/2024
Linda Costa
Paul Rudz

3/31/2024
Rich Rice
Janet Sincebaugh

MEETINGS

Property & Grounds - March 10th @ 11:30am
Lancaster Garden Club - March 13th @ 7pm
Church Council - March 26th @ 7pm

ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUTH

Sat March 2nd @ 3pm: Bake Sale Prep. Sale before & after 5:30pm service.

Sun March 3rd: Bake Sale before & after 10am service.

Fri March 22nd @ 6-8pm: Egg coloring & Palm Sunday Set-up

Sun March 24th @ 7:45am: Pancake Breakfast Prep

Sun March 24th @ 8-10am: Pancake Breakfast

Sun March 24th @ 11am: Easter Egg Hunt

Tues March 26th @ 4:30-7:30pm: Burrito Project @ Zion

OTHER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Congregational Care Cooking: March 8th @ 10am-2pm

Fastnacht Sunday: March 10th @ 8am

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawls are available for many occasions, as well as for those who are ill, in the hospital, or just in need of some comfort from this caring congregation. See Cindy Jo or contact Melissa if you know someone who could use that blessing! The ministry is also in need of yarn donations.

If you have extra, or run across a great sale or coupon, keep the prayer shawl ministry in mind. Thank you!

WOMEN'S LUTHERAN GROUP BREAKFAST

Wednesday, March 13th @ 9am @ Olive Tree Family Restaurant, 5240 Broadway, Lancaster. Sign-up sheets are located at the entries to the church. The sign-up deadline is March 4th. The cost is based on your order. If you have any questions, please call Pauline Bauer @ 716-901-4816.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

We are gathering a list of people interested in serving on the Endowment Committee. If you are interested, please contact Pastor or the Church Office by March 31st.

CALL FOR DEACONS AND USHERS

If you are interested in either of these forms of service please add your name, email and phone number to the list.

We appreciate all who volunteer.

Baked Goods Sale

St. John's Youth Fundraiser



Saturday, March 2nd

(Before & After 5:30pm Service)

Sunday, March 3rd

(Before & After 10:00am Service)

St. John's Lancaster, 55 Pleasant Ave



ST. PATTY'S DAY DINNER

**@ St. John's Lancaster: 55 Pleasant Ave.
Corned Beef/Cabbage/Vegetables/Bread & Butter**

Sunday, March 17th @ 11am

\$5 Dinner Reserve - Takeout Only

**Must Have Ticket! Limited to 100 Tickets
Sales ends March 10th or Sold Out**

Contact: Gary Rudz — 716-829-9618

Lenten Collection Challenge



**NOW COLLECTING
NEW SOCKS**
for those in need
thru Palm Sunday

Pancake Breakfast

Palm Sunday

**March 24th
from 8-10 am**

Free will donations accepted

All are Welcome



LENTEN/EASTER SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY ~ MARCH 24TH

Pancake Breakfast @ 8am-10am

Worship @10am

Easter Egg Hunt @ 11am

MAUNDY THURS ~ MARCH 28TH

Worship @ 7pm @ St. John's Elma
2131 Woodard Rd, Elma NY 14059

GOOD FRIDAY ~ MARCH 29TH

Worship @ 7pm

EASTER VIGIL ~ SAT MARCH 30TH

Worship @ 5:30pm

EASTER SUNDAY ~ MARCH 31ST

Worship @10am



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:

March 10, 17, 24, 31

April 7, 14, 21, 28

EASTER FLOWER SET-UP:

Please join us for Easter Flower set-up on Sat, March 30th @ 10am if you are available.

PRAYER LIST

We lift up: Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood, Edna Mann, George Stubblebein, Sarah Hermsmeyer, Ron Bennett, Roger Stapleton Jr, Patricia Kostecky, Tom & Ruth Morse, Donald Weibel, Bob Valois, Sherry Campell, Gloria Richards, Pat Spanitz, Don Spanitz, Theresa & Savanna Rose Sable, Marlene Baumgartner, and Ed Dekarz.



Happy Birthday

BETSY KAMPHUIS, 03-01
Maxwell SALGE, 03-01
SARAH FORBES, 03-01
DAVID SMITH, 03-01
MELISSA VERDI, 03-01
ANTHONY SANTUCCI, 03-02
ROGER GUARINO, 03-02
KATELYN DECAIRE, 03-03
MICHELLE RICE, 03-03
Matthew Sherman, 03-04
Alicia ROGACKI, 03-04
BEVERLY FEHR, 03-04
Leah MYERS, 03-04
DIANE WNEK, 03-04
MICHAEL SHEEHAN, 03-05
Maraxus MAYER, 03-05
STEPHEN SCHOTTMAN, 03-05
Anja SCHIAVONE, 03-06
Dillon SNYDER, 03-06
ELIZABETH SIERACKI, 03-06
ARIANNA WECHTER, 03-06
MIKAYLA DURKIN, 03-06
KYLE RUFFNER, 03-07
DANIEL BOOTH, 03-07
AIDAN CARNEY, 03-07
THOMAS PORTO, 03-08
WILLIAM HARDY, 03-08
IRENE HAEFNER, 03-09
ANTHONY SANTUCCI, 03-09
KATHERINE SAGE, 03-09
BRUCE MEYER, 03-10
Michael SHEEHAN, 03-10
Miriel JACOBS, 03-10
Grace SHEEHAN, 03-10
MATTHEW MARTIN, 03-11
Lillian BOERSCH, 03-11
Ella BOERSCH, 03-11
SARA VanNortwick, 03-12
SARAH GAGLIARDI, 03-15
DARLENE KRAMER, 03-15
THOMAS WNEK, 03-15
DAVID SAGE, 03-15
Quintin CALHOUN, 03-16
Ethan GALANTE, 03-17
Claire BUCCIERI, 03-17
BRANDON RUFFNER, 03-17
JENNIFER STACHERA, 03-18
MEGAN POWERS, 03-18
ELIZABETH WALKER, 03-18
JAMES HALE, 03-18

SONJA DEMBSKI, 03-18
GERARD CORBETT, 03-18
JACOB* PUDLEWSKI, 03-19
DAVID KUNSELMAN, 03-19
MATTHEW ORBAN, 03-19
RONALD JR. KJELDGAARD, 03-19
JASON TROMMETTER, 03-19
Mason RUSSO, 03-20
James ENGELBACH-SCHAFFER, 03-20
DALTON BUSH, 03-20
TOM BURGIO, 03-20
THOMAS KRAMER, 03-20
Cedar WILLADSEN, 03-20
JEROME MAYER, 03-21
ASHLIE KOHLHAGEN, 03-21
MARIE RUSSO, 03-21
Taylor KIENER, 03-22
MEGAN KREHER, 03-22
TIMOTHY STRANC, 03-22
MEGAN LINDAUER, 03-22
PAUL DYKSTRA, 03-22
Kristoffer SCHIAVONE, 03-22
KENNETH REITMEIER, 03-22
Rowan BRAUN, 03-24
STEVEN BRANKA, 03-24
KURT STUTZMAN, 03-24
CHRISTINE RUFFNER, 03-25
Holly SMITH, 03-26
LEO GRUCELLA, 03-26
SARALYNN NANTKA, 03-26
BRUCE JACOBS, 03-26
JEAN CONKLIN, 03-27
CASEY BROCK, 03-27
Addison COST, 03-27
CANDIS O'MEARA, 03-27
Norah HARRINGTON, 03-27
KATHRYN WILDRIDGE, 03-28
Aubree LaCORTE, 03-28
Sara BAYER, 03-28
Emilia REFERMAT, 03-28
JULIE BUCCIERI, 03-29
TRACEY FROST, 03-29
SYDNEY BROCK, 03-29
KEVIN McHALE, 03-29
MARGARET SAVASH, 03-29
VICKY CHANG, 03-29
DANIELLE ZAK, 03-30
DEBORAH MASTRANGELO, 03-30
GRETCHEN SNYDER, 03-30
DIANE MENICHELLI, 03-31

ST. JOHN'S 411

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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www.stjohnslanc.org
stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com

Rev. Jamie Retallack, Pastor 716-848-9683

Rev. John Swanson, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. John Scarafia, Pastor Emeritus

Teresa O'Connor, Vicar

Dr. Vicky Chang, Director of Music

Cindy Jo Speth, 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)

Sam Gierlinger

RaeAnn Jakubowski

Jamie Kloc

Marjorie Kruger

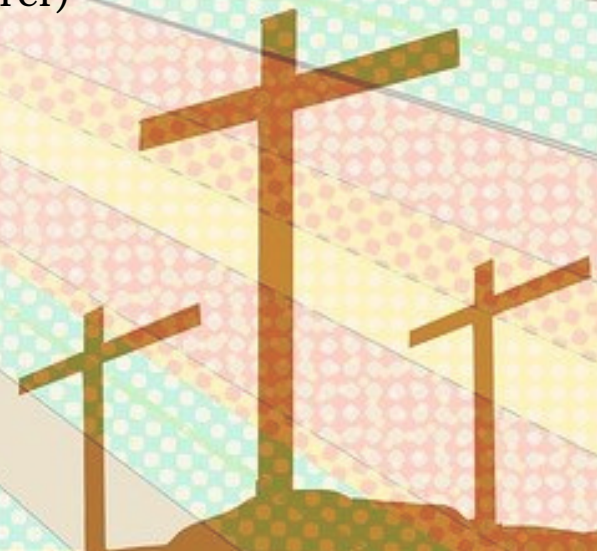
Jeff Miller

Samuel Miller

David Nester

Rich Rice

Kelly Sieracki





ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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