

# THE GOOD NEWS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

September 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



Sometimes one day can seem an awful lot like the next. When I think back to my schooling, there are some days that stand out, but for the most part as I look back, they are all very similar. They are a healthy mix of school, spending time with friends, and doing schoolwork. I think that is one reason why kids look forward to the summer vacation and are often not excited for the school year to begin, the summer seems so full of variety and adventure. Of course, kids can't spend their lives on perpetual summer vacation, they need to learn and grow at school. For the average kid, a dream may be to learn and grow like at school, while still experiencing the fun, adventure and variety of summer vacation. For many adults this may be a dream as well, but with work in place of school. I imagine that when the disciples first met Jesus it felt like that dream was coming true.

*As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." At once they left their nets and followed him.*

*When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him. (Mark 1: 16-20 )*

They went from their normal lives fishing to following Jesus. They learned, they grew, and they also had variety. I'm sure it felt like an adventure. Each day looked different than the last, and the spirit led them into all sorts of unexpected circumstances. The life Jesus called them to was one of purpose and meaning. So, too is our life as a congregation.

Ever since our congregational meeting this past Sunday, I've been thinking how blessed we are. The partnership agreement and the endowment are both such amazing blessings to our congregation. They will both help us to grow in our faith and ministry, and continue to learn about the blessings of God in this world. I don't know what exactly the future holds, neither did the disciples, but I know that God is good and I can't wait to find out where exactly God leads us.

Peace,

*Pastor Jamie*





# Mission Message



## LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE MAUI WILDFIRE RELIEF

Dear friend,

The significant loss of life and damage caused by the wildfires in Hawaii have turned our prayers and attention to mourning those lost, supporting the survivors and how Lutheran Disaster Response can assist with recovery.

Exacerbated by strong winds, wildfires on Maui have claimed dozens of lives and have destroyed homes, businesses and lines of communication. The Big Island of Hawaii has also been impacted by wildfires, and more islands remain vulnerable to additional fires this season.

Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to accompany our neighbors in Hawaii impacted by these wildfires. Will you consider a gift today?

Lutheran Disaster Response is coordinating with the Pacifica Synod and other partners to assess the needs of people impacted by the wildfires. We will work with them to provide for immediate needs and long-term recovery amid the widespread destruction. Lutheran Disaster Response is committed to accompanying recovering communities in the years ahead.

By standing with Maui's wildfire survivors, we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.

With gratitude,

The Rev. Daniel Rift

Director, ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response Fund  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



### WAYS TO GIVE

*Checks or money orders can be sent to:*

Lutheran Disaster Response

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

*Give by phone at 800-638-3522*

Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Central time

*Give online @*

<https://community.elca.org/uswildfires>



## Book Club



Please join us in the Memorial Lounge on Thursday, September 21st at 7:00 PM to discuss Patricia Falvey's novel, **THE TITANIC SISTERS**.

This touching saga of sisterhood follows two young Irish women yearning for independence and adventure, as they set sail on RMS Titanic—the “ship of dreams”—only to be faced with the tragedy of that fabled maiden voyage...

Delia Sweeney has always been unlike her older sister—fair and delicate compared to tall, statuesque Nora, whose hair is as dark as Donegal turf. In other ways too, the sisters are leagues apart. Nora is her mother's darling, favored at every turn, and expected to marry into wealth. Delia, constantly slighted, finds a measure of happiness helping her da on the farm. The rest of the time, she reads about far-off places that seem sure to remain a fantasy. Until the day a letter arrives from America . . .

A distant relative has provided the means for Delia and Nora to go to New York. Delia will be a lowly maid in a modest household, while Nora will be governess for a well-to-do family. In Queenstown, Cork, they board the Titanic, a majestic new ocean liner making its maiden voyage. Any hope Delia carried that she and her sister might become closer during the trip soon vanishes. For there are far greater perils to contend with as the ship makes its way across the Atlantic . . .

In the wake of that fateful journey, Delia makes an impulsive choice—and takes Nora's place as governess. Her decision sparks an adventure that leads her from Fifth Avenue to Dallas, Texas, where oilfields bring unimagined riches to some, despair to others. Delia grows close to her vulnerable young charge, and to the girl's father. But her deception will have repercussions impossible to foresee, even as it brings happiness within reach for the first time . . .

Read this captivating and extraordinary tale of persistence and bravery, then come (as your schedule permits) and share your thoughts and ideas. Friends and guests are always welcome!

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-titanic-sisters-patricia-falvey/1138184624?ean=9781496732569>



# September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 11:00am Congregational Meeting 11:00am Music Committee Mtg	<b>28</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>29</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>30</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>31</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>1</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>2</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>3</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service	<b>4</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>5</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>6</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>7</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>8</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>9</b> LYMA Octoberfest TBD 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>10</b> God's Work, Our Hands @ Bowen Rd Pavilion 11:00am Worship @ Bowen Rd Pavilion 12:00pm - 6:00pm LYMA Octoberfest 150 Years	<b>11</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>12</b> 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>13</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Lancaster Garden Club 7:30pm LYMA Mtg.	<b>14</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>15</b> Good News Articles Due 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>16</b> 9:00am LYMA - Mem Breakfast 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>17</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship & Music Committee Mtg	<b>18</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>19</b> 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>20</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>21</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Book Club	<b>22</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>23</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>24</b> 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School	<b>25</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>26</b> 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>27</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>28</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>29</b> 7:30pm NA Meeting	<b>30</b> 11:00am Wheelchair Football 5:30pm In Person Service

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

# Upcoming Schedules

## ALTAR GUILD

09/03/2023

Kelly Sieracki

09/10/2023

Cheryl Helwig  
& Kathy Snyder

09/17/2023

Amy Petrunyak  
& John Petrunyak

09/24/2023

Timmy Gierlinger &  
RaeAnn Jakubowski

## DEACONS

9/3/2023

Paul Rudz

9/10/2023

Kathy Snyder

9/17/2023

RaeAnn Jakubowski

9/24/2023

Sam Miller

## USHERS

9/3/2023

TBD

Rich Rice

9/10/2023

Paul Rudz  
Bev Hess

9/17/2023

Linda Costa  
Rich Rice

9/24/2023

Kathy Burr  
Linda Costa

## Sunday School

This is an invitation to our children from age 3 thru Grade 8 (up through Confirmation) to join us on Sunday mornings at 10:00am for Sunday school, beginning Sunday, September 17th. We also invite our Youth who join us to do a variety of things such as Bible studies through discussions and games and also to support the Sunday school teachers by running copies, assembling materials and helping with younger students and other things that may be needed each Sunday. Sunday school students and our Youth helpers are encouraged to bring family and friends to join us. If you are not available every Sunday, join us when you can. Our lessons generally follow the church lectionary but we also use that time to prepare for the Annual Christmas Pageant and other special occasions such as Youth Sunday. You do not need to sign up ahead just join us on Sunday 9/17 in the Sunday school room across from the Sanctuary at 10:00-11:00am. If anyone is interested in being a teacher or helper please contact the church office.

We hope all our Sunday school friends and Youth have had an exciting summer and we are looking forward to seeing you all soon!





St. John's, Lancaster  
Lutheran Young Men's Association  
150th Anniversary Celebration

**September 10th, 2023**  
**@ Bowen Rd. Pavilion, Lancaster**  
**Worship @ 11am**  
**Festivities after Worship**

**MUSIC THROUGHOUT THE DAY**

Live Bluegrass band - *Heart to Heart*  
Live German band - *Captain Tom & the Hooligans*



**GERMAN FOODS FOR SALE**



(\$5 voucher provided to all who attend)  
Bratwurst, Knockwurst, Fried Bologna, Hot dogs,  
Mac-n-Cheese, Pretzels



**BEVERAGES PROVIDED**

Water, Coffee, Pop, Beer & Wine  
(Must be 21 for alcohol)



**ALL ARE WELCOME! FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT!**

Bring your chairs. On-site playground, open areas for games  
Shelter includes tables, kitchen area, restroom facilities

**GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SERVICE PROJECT TO BE COMPLETED**

Winter Kits for the Homeless being assembled

For More Information Contact  
Paul Rudz 716-364-6810 or Tony Santucci 716-310-6418





**“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday**



**September 10, 2023**

Our congregation will soon engage in service work right here in our community. We are one of over 8,700 congregations participating in **“God’s work. Our hands.”** Sunday, on Sept. 10. Across the country, thousands of members will engage in service work to make a positive change in our communities, build and deepen relationships and share God’s love. Join us as we do God’s work with our hands! Contact us for more information:

**St John’s Lutheran Church in Lancaster**

**Will be assembling Winter Essentials Kits to be distributed to those in need**

**If you are interested in supporting this ministry we will be accepting donations of winter hats, gloves, and socks until September 1, 2023**

**Drop off at 55 Pelasant Ave (10-3 M-Th)**

**or Contact RaeAnn @ 474-1873 for pick up**







# 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:

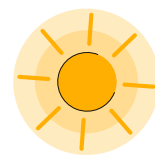


September 3, 17, 24  
October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29  
November 5, 12, 19, 26



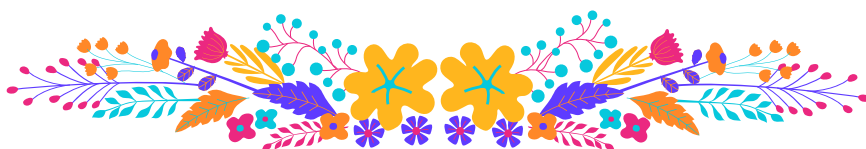
## Prayer List

We lift up: Elliana Meyers,  
Beatrice Gill, Brianna Wood,  
Edna Mann, George Stubblebein,  
Sarah Hermsmeyer, Ron Bennett,  
Roger Stapleton Jr, Patricia Kostecky,  
Spencer Kennedy, Terry Ricottone,  
and the family and friends of  
Jenna Macdiarmid Beal  
and Amy Olmstead McCoy



# Happy Birthday

ASTACIE DUDKOWSKI, 09-01  
ALIVIA FUNK, 09-02  
COLT BURRY, 09-03  
JOANN THAESLER, 09-04  
HARVEY BEAL, 09-04  
GARTH KRAEMER, 09-06  
BONNIE SCHRAUFSTETTER, 09-06  
JAMES HEINE, 09-06  
MARCIANNA ROGACKI, 09-06  
ANNA PRIESTER, 09-06  
ANDREW GORDON, 09-07  
MARK HARDY, 09-07  
LILA FECHER, 09-08  
CYNTHIA KRATHAUS, 09-09  
ALEXA MITOLA, 09-09  
ADAM WOJTUSIAK, 09-10  
MARYLYNN CAMERON-KEMNA, 09-11  
ALEXANDRA ALDINGER, 09-11  
RAE ANN JAKUBOWSKI, 09-12  
SANDRA HAUSER, 09-13  
MELVINEA BUMMER, 09-13  
RUSSELL GRANATA, 09-13  
EMMA LUDWIG, 09-13  
MELODY JONES, 09-13  
LINDSAY MILLER, 09-14  
ARNO KONSTABEL, 09-14  
SAMANTHA GIERLINGER, 09-14  
NICHOLAS REIF, 09-15  
J. RICHARDS, 09-15  
JANET ENGELBACH-SCHAFFER, 09-16  
JENNA DRAKE, 09-16  
JOHN HAEFNER, 09-16  
KYLE GRAFF, 09-17  
ZOEY HARRINGTON, 09-17  
PATRICK MCGUIRE, 09-17  
KAYLA ROSE, 09-17  
JAMES SALGE, 09-18  
KAYDENCE LAVIS, 09-18  
THOMAS FORBES, 09-19  
KAREN ROSE, 09-19  
RUSSELL GRANATA, 09-19  
KATHY KONSTABEL, 09-19  
GREGORY KWACZALA, 09-19  
DANIEL RICE, 09-19  
MIIA DEMBSKI, 09-20  
JUDY FIORELLA, 09-21  
KODIE BURNS, 09-21  
ERIN SHEEHAN, 09-21  
QUINN SALGE, 09-21  
GERALDINE LONG, 09-22  
JAMIE LARSON, 09-22  
GAYLE SCHRUTT, 09-23  
CHRISTINE HOFFMANN, 09-23  
STEVEN III KOHLHAGEN, 09-23  
JONATHAN GILLEN, 09-24  
KAREN MCGUIRE, 09-24  
SUSAN MCHALE, 09-24  
AMY SHEEHAN, 09-25  
JOHN SWANSON, 09-25  
ANTHONY MAKI, 09-27  
MADALYN MAYER, 09-27  
KATHRYN SNYDER, 09-28  
ALEX LINDAUER, 09-29  
CORINNE RUDZ, 09-29  
GENIE MADISON, 09-30





# 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](http://www.stjohnslanc.org)  
[stjohnslancaster55@gmail.com](mailto: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, 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

**Follow us on Facebook!**

@stjohnslancaster



**Let us not become weary  
in doing good,  
for at the proper time  
we will reap a harvest  
if we do not give up.**

**GALATIANS 6:9**