

# THE GOOD NEWS

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lancaster

APRIL 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



Drake's 12th birthday is a month away. It means that I have precious little time left before I'm the father of a teenager. I honestly can't believe that the time has passed so quickly. It seems like only the other day he needed me for everything. Now each day makes it clearer that he's growing up. I know that a parent's job is never truly over and that no matter the age, kids still need their parents. The relationship changes though, it becomes more about support, guidance and someone to share the joys and sorrows of life. It sure was easier when the tragedy of the day was that he couldn't work the tv remote, and he saw me as a hero because I could chop up a hot dog for him. I feel as though I'm on the base of a hill. I haven't started up, but I can see the path ahead. He hasn't begun those teenage and adult challenges, but they are inevitable and close at hand. I imagine it's how the prophet Isaiah felt.

Isaiah lived around 700 years before Jesus was born. The nation of Israel had split in two: Israel in the north and Judah in the south, including the great city of Jerusalem. The northern kingdom had drifted away from their faith in God, sided with the Assyrian empire and had consequently been conquered by the Assyrian Empire. The Assyrians, who had much more economic and military strength than the Kingdom of Judah, were threatening to move south and sack Jerusalem as they had the northern kingdom of the Jews. Isaiah was preparing people for that. For the frightening times that lay ahead. He was encouraging them to keep the faith, to rely on God, and when the struggles came God would be by their side and support them. That after the challenges God would lift his people up once again. Isaiah was looking ahead and preparing himself and God's people for the challenges that were sure to come. But he also promised them Victory in God at the end of the struggles:

*In that day you will say: "I will praise you, Lord. Although you were angry with me your anger has turned away and you have comforted me. 2 Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation." 3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. 4 In that day you will say: "Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. 5 Sing to the Lord, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world. 6 Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel among you." Isaiah 12*

Throughout the challenges and changing seasons of life God is there for us. Like the needs a child has for their parent change, so do our needs change. But just as the parent does their best to continue to be there for their child, so too does God stand by us and our changing needs. What's more is that though parents are flawed and limited, God is perfect. His love stands with us without blemish through all that life has to offer.

Peace,

*Pastor Jamie*

**LOVE**

# BOOK CLUB



Please join us in the Memorial Lounge on Thursday, April 25th at 7:00 PM to discuss Ariel Lawhon's novel, *THE FROZEN RIVER*.

Maine, 1789: When the Kennebec River freezes, entombing a man in the ice, Martha Ballard is summoned to examine the body and determine the cause of death. As a midwife and healer, she is privy to much of what goes on behind closed doors in Hallowell. Her diary is a record of every birth and death, crime and debacle that unfolds in the close-knit community. Months earlier, Martha documented the details of an alleged rape committed by

two of the town's most respected gentlemen—one of whom has now been found dead in the ice. But when a local physician undermines her conclusion, declaring the death to be an accident, Martha is forced to investigate the shocking murder on her own.

Over the course of one winter, as the trial nears, and whispers and prejudices mount, Martha doggedly pursues the truth. Her diary soon lands at the center of the scandal, implicating those she loves, and compelling Martha to decide where her own loyalties lie.

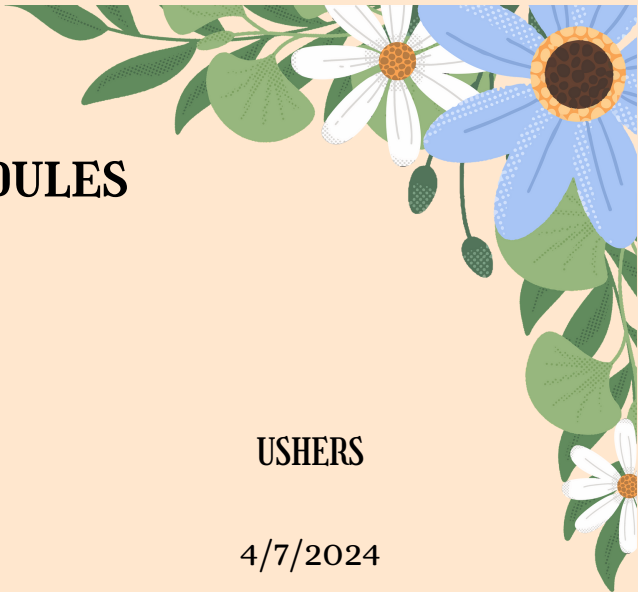
Clever, layered, and subversive, Ariel Lawhon's newest offering introduces an unsung heroine who refused to accept anything less than justice at a time when women were considered best seen and not heard. *THE FROZEN RIVER* is a thrilling, tense, and tender story about a remarkable woman who left an unparalleled legacy yet remains nearly forgotten to this day.

Read this gripping historical mystery inspired by the life and diary of Martha Ballard. Then, come (as your schedule permits) and share your thoughts and ideas. Friends and guests are always welcome!

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/the-frozen-river-ariel-lawhon/1143072871?ean=9780385546874>

# April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> 10:00am Resurrection/Easter Sunday	<b>1</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>2</b> 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Council Meeting 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>	<b>6</b> 1:00pm Congregational Care Committee 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>7</b> 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Confirmation Class	<b>8</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>9</b> 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>10</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm Lancaster Garden Club 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>	<b>13</b> 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>14</b> 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Worship & Music Committee 11:30am Property & Grounds	<b>15</b> <b>Good News Articles Due</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>16</b> 9:30am Quilters 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>	<b>20</b> 4:00pm - 7:00pm SoupFest 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>21</b> 9:00am Bible Study <b>9:00am Youth - Luncheon Prep</b> 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School 11:00am Coffee Hour 11:00am Confirmation Class <b>11:00am - 12:00pm Spaghetti Luncheon Fundraiser</b>	<b>22</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 4:30pm Guiding Eyes Mtg 7:30pm Chordsmen Mtg	<b>23</b> 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 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 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>26</b> Contra Dance Youth - Spring Retreat	<b>27</b> Youth - Spring Retreat/Work Day 5:30pm In Person Service
<b>28</b> Youth - Spring Retreat 9:00am Bible Study 9:30am Joysingers 10:00am In Person/ Online Service 10:00am Sunday School <b>6:00pm - 8:00pm Youth - Tapestry</b>	<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> 9:30am Quilters 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 7:00pm NA Meeting	<b>1</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours	<b>2</b> 10:00am - 3:00pm Church Office Hours 1:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm Handbell Practice 7:30pm Choir Practice	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 12:00pm - 5:00pm Chic BBQ 5:30pm In Person Service



# UPCOMING SCHEDULES

## DEACONS

### ALTAR GUILD

04/07/24  
Cheryl Helwig  
Kathy Snyder

04/14/24  
Amy Petrunyak  
John Petrunyak

04/21/24  
Timmy Gierlinger  
RaeAnn Jakubowski

04/28/24  
Sharon Walker  
Carol Graham

4/7/2024  
Paul Rudz

4/14/2024  
Kathy Snyder

4/21/2024  
RaeAnn Jakubowski

4/28/2024  
Paul Rudz

### USHERS

4/7/2024  
Bev Hess  
Linda Costa

4/14/2024  
Paul Rudz  
Rich Rice

4/21/2024  
Rick Tomaszewski  
Rich Rice

4/28/2024  
Janet Sincebaugh  
Linda Costa

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES

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

## MEETINGS

Church Council - April 2nd @ 7pm  
Congregational Care - April 6th @ 1pm  
Lancaster Garden Club - April 10th @ 7pm  
LYMA - April 10th @ 7:30pm  
Property & Grounds - April 14th @ 11:30am  
Coffee Hour - April 21st @ 11:00am





# ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



## YOUTH

### CONFIRMATION

SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH AND 21ST @ 11:30AM

### SPRING RETREAT @ LCLC

APRIL 26TH-28TH

LCLC WORK DAY: APRIL 27TH

### SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER

SUNDAY, APRIL 21ST

SET-UP/PREP @ 9AM

SERVICE FROM 11AM-2PM

### TAPESTRY

APRIL 28TH FROM 6PM-8PM

## OTHER EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

### Soup Fest

Saturday, April 20th from 4-7pm

### Quilt Blessing

April 20th and 21st @ Worship Services

### Spaghetti Luncheon Youth Fundraiser

Sunday, April 21st from 11am-2pm

### AED Training

AED Training - Wednesday, April 24th @ 7pm

AED & CPR Training - Wednesday, May 22nd @ 7pm

## 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!



## 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:

April 7, 14, 21, 28

May 5, 12, 26



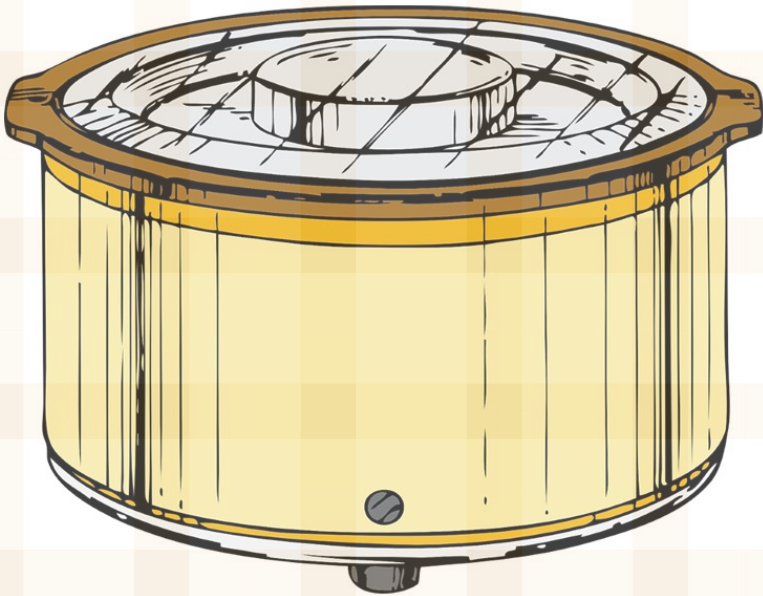
## PRAYER LIST

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,  
Frances Gilbert, Tom Andrews,  
Geraldine Nowicki, Sandra  
Forrest, and Jim Kenline.



# SOUP FEST

## FELLOWSHIP EVENT



April 20<sup>th</sup>

4pm~7pm

To Make Soup:  
Limited Spots Available  
**Please Sign Up**

To Sample Soup:  
Join us April 20<sup>th</sup>!

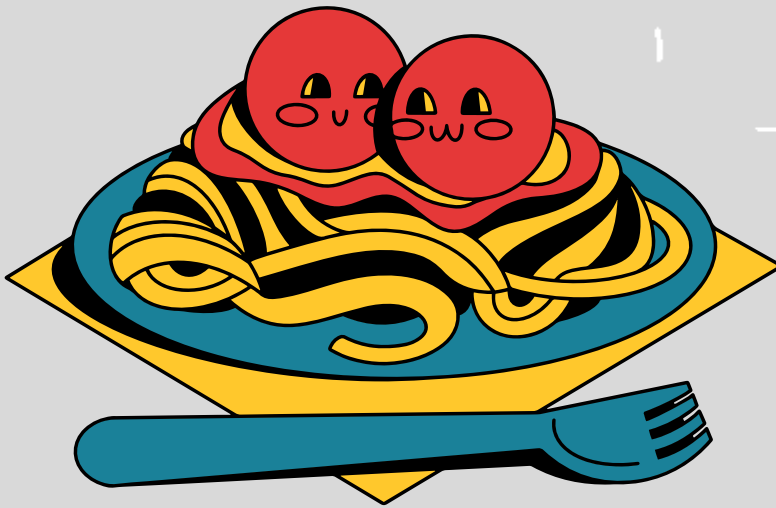
St. John's Lutheran Church - 55 Pleasant Ave - Lancaster NY 14086



# Spaghetti Luncheon

## Youth Fundraiser

**Sunday, April 21st**  
**from 11am-2pm**



**St. John's Lutheran**  
**55 Pleasant Ave Lancaster**



# HAPPY Birthday

JOSEPH NICPON, Apr 1  
Wade TOMASZEWSKI, Apr 1  
TRACY GUARINO, Apr 1  
ANDREA GORDON, Apr 1  
PAUL RUDZ, Apr 4  
DAVID PEITA, Apr 6  
JASON NICPON, Apr 8  
Regina CINOTTI, Apr 8  
Devin CONNOLLY, Apr 8  
TRACIE TOMCZYK, Apr 9  
KENT LANGERMAN, Apr 9  
JOSHUA HAEFNER, Apr 10  
SANDRA GAGLIARDI, Apr 11  
WILLIAM HELWIG, Apr 12  
NICOLE GALANTE, Apr 14  
MARLENE BONAROWSKI, Apr 15  
MICHELLE VALOIS, Apr 16  
BEVERLY BRATEK, Apr 16  
Annalisa CUTTITTA, Apr 16  
GARY SCHWERTZ, Apr 17  
ROBERT SHARPE, Apr 18  
JOSHUA NANTKA, Apr 18  
DIANE WOODILL, Apr 18  
TARA ZIEMANN, Apr 18  
Aiden BUSH, Apr 19

MICHAEL WAWROWSKI, Apr 19  
LUCAS MANN, Apr 19  
Kayley KREHER, Apr 19  
Alexander FREUND, Apr 20  
DAVID MAKI, Apr 20  
JENNIFER SCARAFIA, Apr 20  
Gavin KERWIN, Apr 20  
IAN GRANT, Apr 21  
ELLEN GRUCELLA, Apr 22  
LAUREN DEMBSKI, Apr 23  
CHRISTOPHER HOFFMAN, Apr 24  
APRIL PRESS, Apr 24  
BARBARA DECAIRE, Apr 25  
BETH FORBES, Apr 25  
STEVEN PRESS, Apr 25  
KRISTEN KENNEDY, Apr 25  
SCOTT PRIESTER, Apr 26  
HANNAH WAWROWSKI, Apr 26  
CHRISTOPHER BURGIO, Apr 26  
Teagan BRAUN, Apr 26  
EMMA SHEEHAN, Apr 28  
Lakota STRIKER, Apr 29  
JILL DRAKE-SCHOTTMAN, Apr 29  
TARA SALGE, Apr 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

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

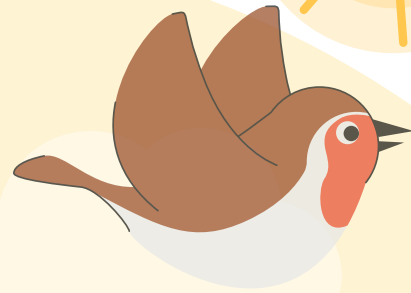
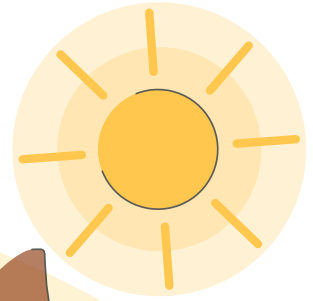
Rich Rice

Kelly Sieracki





ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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